National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Grand Junction, Colorado



Historic Resource Study

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COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
HISTORIC RESOURCE STUDY

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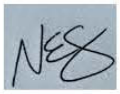
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the results of a Historic Resource Study (HRS) conducted for Colorado National Monument (the Monument). The Monument preserves more than 20,000 acres of scenic, erosional, geological, and historical landscapes on the northern Colorado Plateau in western Colorado's Mesa County. Each year over 400,000 people visit the Monument's canyons, mesas, and sandstone formations.

The HRS was conducted to assist the National Park Service (NPS) in meeting its obligations under Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, which requires that federal agencies establish a program for the identification and protection of historic properties and ensure that such properties are maintained and managed with due consideration for preservation of their historic values. The HRS was prepared in accordance with the requirements and standards set forth in *Cultural Resource Management Guideline (NPS-28)*. Its purpose is to provide an overview of the Monument's history, identify and evaluate historic resources within their appropriate historic contexts, and update the status of historic properties already listed in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). By identifying significant historic contexts and related historic properties, the HRS serves as a planning and resource management tool that guides the Monument's preparation of National Register nominations, completion of Historic Structure Reports (HSRs), updating records in the Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS), and preparation of interpretive programming. While the HRS does not evaluate historic landscapes specifically, its contexts and recommendations concerning historic properties are intended to provide a basis for future identification and evaluation of cultural landscapes through the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) and preparation of Cultural Landscape Reports (CLRs).

The HRS encompasses all resources over 50 years of age and addresses any resources less than 50 years of age that are exceptionally significant. The NPS identified five themes as a framework for the HRS evaluations:

- Native American Lifeways in the Grand Valley and Uncompahgre Plateau;
- Exploration and White Settlement in Colorado National Monument, 1776–1911;
- Initial Development of Colorado National Monument, 1911–1945;
- The Mission 66 Era, 1946–1972; and
- Conservation/Wilderness Movement, 1972–1978.

These themes directly informed the five historical contexts developed in the HRS. The completed HRS inventory is a comprehensive listing of historic properties in the Monument. The HRS evaluates over 140 Monument resources, including 3 historic districts and 4 individual properties currently listed in the National Register and 3 historic districts and 1 individual property that are determined or recommended eligible for listing in the National Register.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The completion of this Historic Resource Study (HRS) required substantial contributions by NPS cultural resource management staff and facility managers at Colorado National Monument. The HRS project was managed at the NPS regional level by Angela R. Sirna, Historian and Program Lead for Park History Program in NPS Regions 5–9, who shepherded the project from contracting through completion. Jessica Resnik, Chief of Resource Stewardship and Science, served as the Monument's project manager, heading a team that contributed a great deal of time assisting in PAL's research and field survey efforts and reviewing several drafts of this report. Park Archeologist Adam Brinkman spent many days in the field guiding the PAL team to historic resources throughout the Monument. Mary Jane Naone, Planning Coordinator Archeologist, provided direction for aspects of the study based on her institutional memory of cultural resource management investigations at the Monument. Kevin Dowell, Facility Manager, provided GIS and other information that helped in the identification of resources.

Research assistance was provided by Katie Yashiro, Archivist with the NPS Denver Service Center's Technical Information Center; Amber D'Ambrosio, Special Collections and Archives Librarian at Colorado Mesa University's Tomlinson Library; staff of the Mesa County Library; and staff of the National Archives and Records Administration – Denver. We also thank NPS Regions 6–8 Cultural Anthropologist Kim Greenwood and Regional Archeologist and Program Manager Jim Kendrick NPS Regions 6–8 for their review and comments on the HRS.

Colorado National Monument is committed to working in partnership with its affiliated tribes. NPS staff made multiple unsuccessful attempts to consult with the tribes during the HRS project and awaited comments on the final report for nine months. Due to contract obligations, the HRS had to be finalized without tribe review and input. However, the Monument remains open to feedback from the tribal partners and can revise the HRS if comments that merit an update are provided in the future.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE OF THE HISTORIC RESOURCE STUDY

This report presents the results of a Historic Resource Study (HRS) conducted for Colorado National Monument. The HRS identifies and evaluates historic resources within the Monument and is intended to serve as a tool for planning, resource management, and development of interpretive programs at the Monument. The HRS was conducted to assist the National Park Service (NPS) in meeting its obligations under Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended, which requires that federal agencies establish a program for the identification and protection of historic properties and ensure that such properties are maintained and managed with due consideration for preservation of their historic values. As custodian of the National Park System, the NPS is the steward of many of America's most important natural and cultural resources, and under its enabling legislation, the Organic Act of 1916, is charged with the special responsibility to preserve them unimpaired for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The NPS Management Policy regarding cultural resources states that the agency "will protect, preserve, and foster appreciation of the cultural resources in its custody and demonstrate its respect for the peoples traditionally associated with those resources through appropriate programs of research, planning, and stewardship."[1] The policy is carried out through the implementation of Cultural Resource Management Guideline (NPS-28), which in concert with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation establishes the various types of documentation required to inform and maintain NPS cultural resource management programs.

Within the framework of NPS-28, the HRS serves as the basic source of information about the nature and extent of cultural resources within a unit of the National Park System. Its purpose is to provide an overview of the unit's history and identify and evaluate historic resources within their appropriate historic contexts. The HRS synthesizes cultural resource information from various disciplines in a narrative that is designed to serve managers, planners, interpreters, cultural resource specialists, and the interested public as a reference for the history of the resources within an NPS unit. It forms the basis for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places (National Register) nominations, Historic Structure Reports (HSRs), and Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) entries for those properties that meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Additionally, the historic contexts and significant historic properties identified in the HRS provide a foundation for the identification of related cultural landscapes. While the HRS does not evaluate the constituent elements of cultural landscapes such as vegetation, it does identify landscapes that may require inventory or further study through the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) and/or Cultural Landscape Reports (CLRs). The HRS may also make recommendations for special history studies or other NPS efforts to enhance resource management and interpretation.

This HRS report was prepared in accordance with the requirements and standards set forth in Cultural Resource Management Guideline (NPS-28). Existing National Register listings and determinations are summarized in Chapter Eight of this HRS. The Management Recommendations in Chapter Nine present the findings of this study and include

[1] National Park Service, *Management Policies 2006* (Washington, DC: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2006), 59.

recommendations for updates or amendments to existing National Register documentation and for new National Register listings. Appendix A provides a compilation of National Register registration forms and Determinations of Eligibility. Appendix B provides a comprehensive listing and descriptions of all historic resources surveyed within Colorado National Monument and a table of the resources listed in, determined eligible for listing in, or recommended eligible for listing in the National Register.

The information contained in this HRS report can be used in conjunction with the Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission (MPS) approved in 1994 and its accompanying Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) to evaluate the eligibility of resources within the Monument for listing in the National Register.

PROJECT SCOPE

The scope of the Colorado National Monument HRS was developed by NPS regional staff in conjunction with Monument staff. Its goals were to produce a multi-chapter narrative history and context for identifying, evaluating, and interpreting the significance of the historic resources associated with the Monument. As noted above, the current study provides recommendations for future studies of cultural landscapes but does not attempt to comprehensively evaluate component cultural landscapes contained within the Monument. Such evaluations address biotic features and landscape structures and are beyond the scope of this study. Each identified historic landscape in the Monument should be studied and evaluated at a level to be determined through consultations between Monument management and the managers of the Cultural Landscapes program.

METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach to identifying and evaluating resources involved a series of steps consisting of research, field investigations, data analysis, historic context development, and the production of this report.

Documentary Research

The research conducted for the HRS met NPS standards for a thorough investigation and included a review of readily accessible published and documentary sources of known or presumed relevance to the study. The archives of the Colorado National Monument Library were consulted to identify existing cultural resource management reports and other available primary and secondary sources. Staff from The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) also conducted a review of pertinent information available through the NPS Technical Information Center (E-TIC) system and obtained information available through other online sources. PAL reviewed background literature (e.g., published histories) about western Colorado and Colorado National Monument in the Mesa County Public Library in Grand Junction, Colorado, and materials in the Special Collections and Archives of the Tomlinson Library at Colorado Mesa University, also in Grand Junction. PAL also reviewed provided finding aids for the NPS administrative records pertaining to Colorado National Monument at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) office in Denver, Colorado, and the Museums of Western Colorado's Loyd Files Research Library in Grand Junction. However, based on the review of

these materials and on the extensive body of information available through other sources, PAL determined that trips to those institutions were unnecessary.

Indigenous information presented in Chapter Three comes primarily from a 2010 Ethnographic Overview of Colorado National Monument that was written by Sally McBeth and prepared in consultation with members of the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, the White Mesa Ute Indian Community, and the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe.[2] The objectives of that project were to re-establish connections with the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, the White Mesa Ute Indian Community, and the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe, whose ancestral homelands include Western Colorado, and to provide an overview of the history of the Grand Valley focused on the forced Ute removal in the 1880s.[3] The study included historic and ethnographic research, interviews with tribal members and the collection of tribal oral history, and visits to the Monument with tribal members to identify and document cultural and natural resources. McBeth's study documented Ute habitation and subsistence practices, including plant and animal resources within the Monument that are important to the Ute. PAL incorporated information provided to McBeth by Ute tribal members into Chapter Three. However, much of the material falls outside the scope of this HRS, and PAL encourages Monument staff to read McBeth's study for a better understanding of Ute ceremony, traditional gender roles, and Ute connections to the environment.

Another ethnographic source consulted is the 2010 report *Perspectives on Ute Ethnohistory in West Central Colorado* prepared for the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and the Bureau of Land Management Colorado State Office.[4] The 2010 report includes the results of archival research at regional and state repositories, literature and archeological research reviews, and information gained from close collaboration with Ute historians Clifford Duncan and Betsy Chapoose. *A History of Utah's American Indians*[5] presents Ute history from collaborative indigenous/non-indigenous perspectives, and the chapter on the Northern Ute of Utah was written by tribal elder Clifford Duncan, a consultant to McBeth's study of the Monument.

Review of Previous Archeological Research and Investigations

Regional cultural resource contexts have been developed for Colorado for both the pre-contact and historic periods, and these studies are used by most archeologists as a baseline for describing patterns in human activity over the ancient and more recent past.[6] The Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation at the Colorado State Historical Society published most

[2] Sally McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness: An Ethnographic Overview of Colorado National Monument* (Report on file, Fruita: Colorado National Monument, 2010).

[3] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, xi.

[4]Richard Ott, Betsy Chapoose, Clifford Duncan, Terry G. Knight, Sr., Lynn Albers, and Carol Patterson, *Perspectives on Ute Ethnohistory in West Central Colorado* (Dominguez Archaeological Research Group, Inc. report prepared for Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and the Bureau of Land Management Colorado State Office, http://www.dargnet.org/Publications/ute_ethno_perspectives.pdf, 2010).

[5] Forrest S. Cuch, ed., *A History of Utah's American Indians* (Salt Lake City: Utah State University Press, 2003).

[6] For example, Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*; William G. Buckles and Nancy B. Buckles, *Colorado Historical Archaeology Context* (Denver: Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, 1984).

of these studies with a focus on physiographic and environmental zones: The West Central Zone report covers the Monument's generalized pre-contact history, while the Colorado Plateau Country report covers the historic period. *Reviews in Colorado Archaeology* is a semi-regular series published through the Online Resources for Colorado Archaeology and Historic Preservation (ORCA) site, hosted by the non-profit Paleocultural Research Group.[7] Studies and reports available through the website provided useful background information about the broad patterns of Native American land use in the Grand Valley region.

Information about previously identified Native American resources within Colorado National Monument comes from archeological and cultural resource studies since 1963, including several large-scale baseline surveys that identified sites within geographic sections of the Monument primarily through walkover surveys and recordation of surface finds;[8] compliance projects conducted within relatively small and/or physically bounded areas within the Monument in advance of construction and maintenance projects, including prescribed burns;[9] periodic survey and site documentation completed by NPS cultural resources staff; and studies conducted to inventory and evaluate cultural resources in the Monument that may be affected by visitor use.[10]

One of the most recent projects is a 2015 Class III Cultural Resource Inventory completed across 2,573 acres within 19 survey areas at the Monument.[11] The study identified 238 previously undocumented archeological sites and 480 isolated artifact finds, which more than doubled the count of known archeological resources in the Monument and suggests the likelihood that more Native American resources are present in the unsurveyed locations within the Monument. The 2015 report includes a comprehensive and extremely useful summary of all previous archeological studies conducted in the Monument (up to that date), which combined have covered approximately 1,133 acres. When added to the acreage covered by the 2015 survey, approximately 3,706 of the Monument's 20,533 acres have been surveyed for archeological resources, representing just over 18 percent of the total land area.[12]

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[7] Alan D. Reed, *West-Central Colorado Prehistoric Context* (Denver: Colorado Historical Society, 1984); Michael B. Husband, *Colorado Plateau Country Historic Context* (Denver: Colorado Historical Society, 1984); Online Resources for Colorado Archaeology and Historic Preservation (ORCA), database, Paleocultural Research Group, Arvada, CO, https://www.archaeologycolorado.org/.

[8] George Stroh, Jr. and George H. Ewing, *Archaeological Survey of the Colorado National Monument* (Ms. on file, Colorado National Monument, 1963).

[9]For example, Grand River Institute, *Cultural Resources Inventory Report on a Proposed 2.3 Mile Long Boundary Fence Alignment in Mesa County, Colorado, for Colorado National Monument* (Report on file, Fruita: Colorado National Monument, 1988); Forest Frost, *Ute Mesa Survey: Inventory of Three Prescribed Burn Locations at Colorado National Monument. Cultural Resources Assessment of Effect* (Report on file, Fruita: Colorado National Monument, 2007); Tate and Associates, Inc. *A Cultural Resources Inventory of the US West Communication, Inc. Grand Junction/Glade Park Telephone Line, Colorado National Monument Segment, Mesa County, Colorado* (Report on file, Fruita: Colorado National Monument, 2000).

[10] For example, RMC Consultants. Inc., *Cultural Resources Inventory for Trail Management Plan, Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado. In Three Volumes* (Report on file, Fruita: Colorado National Monument, 2004).

[11] Patricia Stavish, Lisa Smith, Greg Nunn, and M. Steven Shackley, *Class III Colorado National Monument Cultural Resource Inventory, Mesa County, Colorado* (Report on file, Fruita: Colorado National Monument, 2015).

[12] Stavish et al., *Class III Colorado National Monument Cultural Resource Inventory*, 46–51.

The Monument's GIS-based data set, including accompanying metadata and inventory forms (formally called Colorado Cultural Resource Inventory Management Data and Prehistoric/Historic Archeological Component Forms), is the most up-to-date and comprehensive one about known archeological sites in the Monument. A review of the site forms and data, and the cultural resource reports prepared for projects within the Monument, indicates that the majority of the known Native American resources from a time before contact with European peoples were documented as surface finds during reconnaissance and pedestrian surveys. The review also shows that lithic materials such as quarried raw materials, chipped- and ground-stone tools, and debitage (stone flakes or discards, the by-product of stone tool making) make up the bulk of the material that identifies those sites. Archeological features such as structural remains; hearths, fire rings, and pits; rock art; and other non-lithic cultural material have been documented in much fewer locations and in much lower numbers in the Monument, in large part because they are not easily visible on the ground surface. These are discussed in Chapter Three, as are the few detailed site-specific studies or excavations within the Monument's boundaries. The known Native American cultural resources within the Monument likely represent only a fraction of the archeological sites that exist, and only a small number of the resources that Native people used over millennia have been documented to date.

Field Investigations

Field investigations were carried out by a team of architectural historians and archeologists who possess extensive experience in surveying and documenting historic properties. The team visited a selection of Monument resources identified in the NPS Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) and inventoried in the NPS Facility Management System Software (FMSS) to examine their existing conditions. Each surveyed resource was located on a base map, and the following information about its current appearance was recorded: setting, physical condition, character-defining architectural features, and integrity. Where possible, at least one high-resolution digital photograph was taken of each resource. For existing or potential historic districts, the photography included general context views that show the resources in relation to one another and their surroundings.

Determination of Historic Contexts

The development of the historic contexts presented in Chapters Three through Seven constituted a major element of the HRS. Historic contexts are designed to describe the important historical themes, trends, and events related to the development of the Monument and serve as the basis for evaluating the significance of the resources identified during the fieldwork. The HRS is intended to provide historic contexts for extant historic resources within the Monument. The following five contexts were identified by the NPS:

Native American Lifeways in the Grand Valley and Uncompahgre Plateau summarizes the Native American history in the region from its earliest peopling through the arrival of non-indigenous travelers and settlers and up to the ongoing relationship-building and consultation among NPS personnel and Indian tribes. Chapter Three describes oral histories from the Ute tribes, ethnographic studies, and cultural materials and features identified through archeological research.

White Settlement in Colorado National Monument, 1848–1911 describes the patterns of early white settlement of the region before and after the displacement of the Ute Indians in the 1880s. Chapter Four focuses on the establishment and growth of the communities that developed around the Monument and the use of the Monument land for agricultural and commercial purposes.

Initial Development of Colorado National Monument, 1911–1945 describes the events leading to the creation of this national monument in 1911, the acquisition of Monument property, and the planning and development undertaken by the NPS using funding and labor assistance through the various economic relief programs of the New Deal, particularly the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Chapter Five describes the contemporary visitor's experience of the Monument as, in large measure, shaped by the 1933–1942 development work that reflects the maturation of the NPS planning process and the implementation of naturalistic design by NPS architects, planners, landscape architects, and engineers. This context incorporates information from the historic contexts documented in the 1994 Colorado National Monument MPDF: National Park Service Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933–1942, and Development of Automobile Routes and Access in Colorado National Monument, 1912–1950.

The Mission 66 Era, 1946–1972 describes the system-wide Mission 66 program designed to address deferred maintenance of the National Park System and to upgrade facilities for visitor comfort, education, and enjoyment. Chapter Six summarizes the massive program that resulted in fundamental changes to the visitor experience and the construction of hundreds of new visitor centers, museums, administrative buildings, and other types of facilities that used modern architectural designs. Mission 66 development at Colorado National Monument included a new visitor center, park housing, and scenic overlooks.

Conservation/Wilderness Movement, 1972–1978 describes the changes in twentieth-century conservation policies following the Wilderness Act of 1964 that have impacted Colorado National Monument. Chapter Seven also describes the NPS's proposed 1972, expanded in 1978, designation of large portions of the Monument as wilderness. Although Congress has not formally approved the designation, the NPS manages approximately 15,000 acres of the Monument as wilderness.

Analysis of Research Material and National Register Evaluations

After completing the research and field investigations, PAL analyzed all collected data and evaluated the recorded resources for their potential eligibility for listing in the National Register. The evaluations were conducted in accordance with guidance contained in National Register bulletins, including, *How to Apply National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Bulletin 15); *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* (Bulletin 16A); and *How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes* (Bulletin 18). The historic contexts, resource-specific research, and field notes regarding the condition and integrity of the resources were used to determine whether the resources met any of the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. PAL determined the areas, period(s), and level(s) of significance for the resources and applied the National Register criteria for significance. The integrity of the resources was evaluated to determine if they retain a sufficient amount of their historic appearance to be considered for listing in the National Register.

CHAPTER TWO: DESCRIPTION OF COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Colorado National Monument encompasses 20,533 acres in Mesa County in western Colorado (Figure 2-1) and is managed by the NPS. Established by presidential proclamation on May 24, 1911, the Monument is approximately four miles west of the city of Grand Junction on the northeastern end of a geological zone known as the Uncompahgre[13] Plateau, an uplift within the broader Colorado Plateau that straddles the area where the four corners of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Arizona meet. The Monument has an average elevation of 6,000 feet above sea level (asl) at the rim and is known for its magnificent canyons and mesas that can be viewed along the 23-mile Rim Rock Drive (Figure 2-2). Visitors also experience the Monument by hiking along its 43 miles of trails. The Monument has two entrances, one at each end of Rim Rock Drive: the East Entrance is 3 miles from Grand Junction on Monument Road, and the West Entrance is 3 miles from Fruita on Colorado State Highway 340 (Figure 2-3).

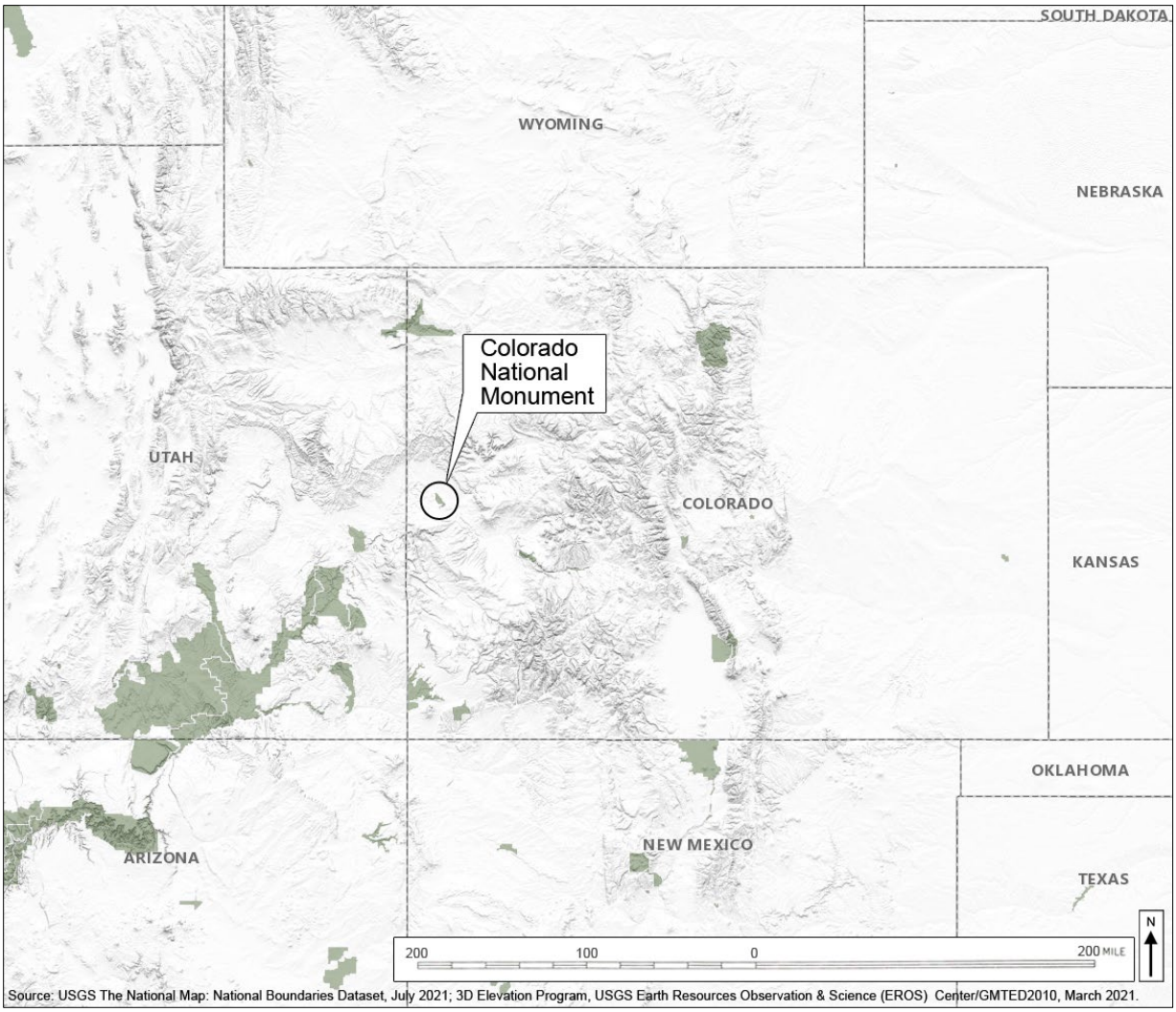


Figure 2-1. Map of Colorado and Four Corners (Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona) area showing the location of Colorado National Monument (USGS 2021).

[13] Uncompahgre is a Ute word loosely translated to "where water makes rocks red," likely referring to the Ouray River. Elaine Hale Jones, "Where We Live: *Montrose," Montrose Daily Press*, November 29, 2001.

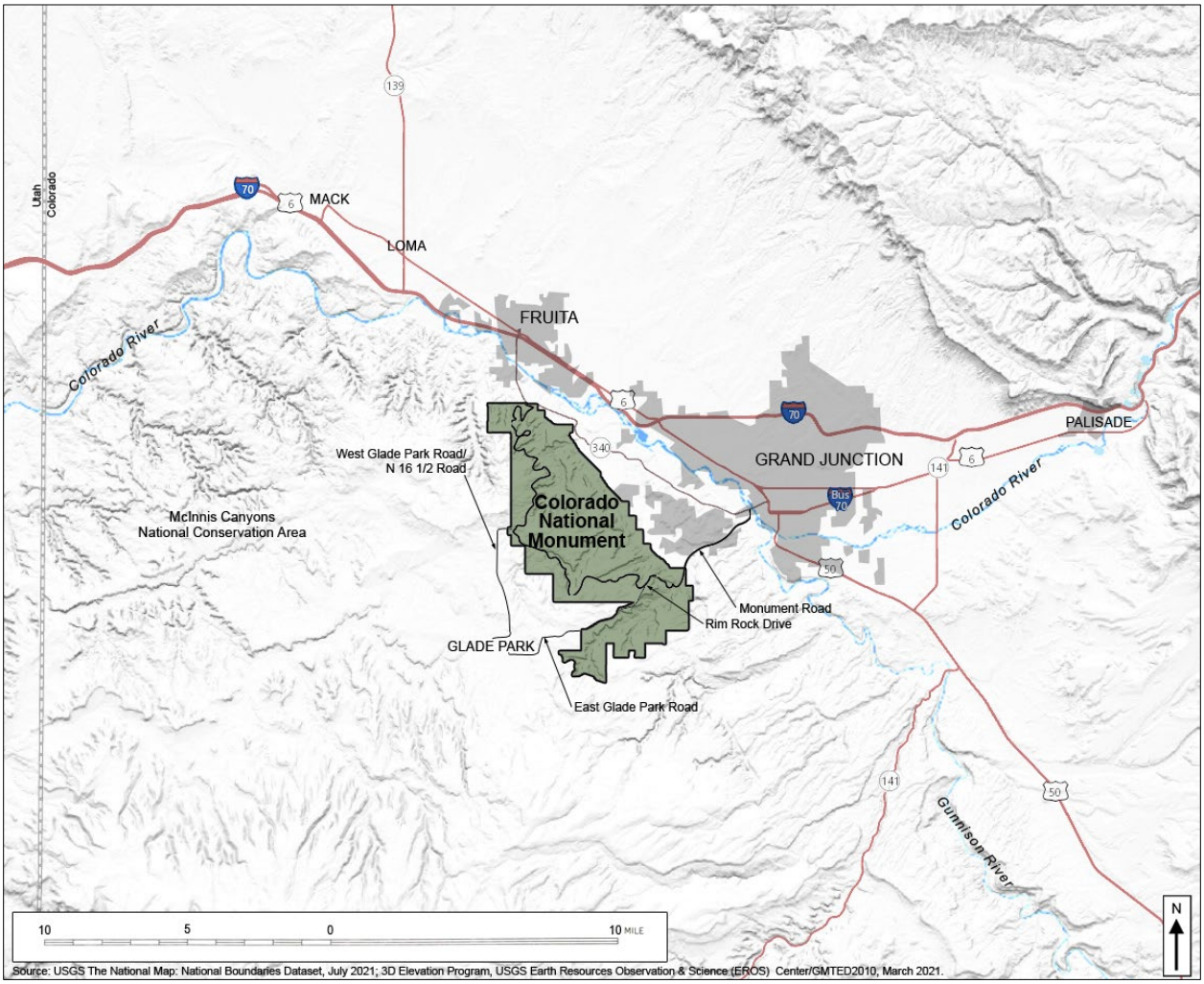


Figure 2-2. Map of the area surrounding Colorado National Monument showing its location west of Grand Junction and its location near Interstate 70 and State Routes 6 and 50 (USGS 2021).

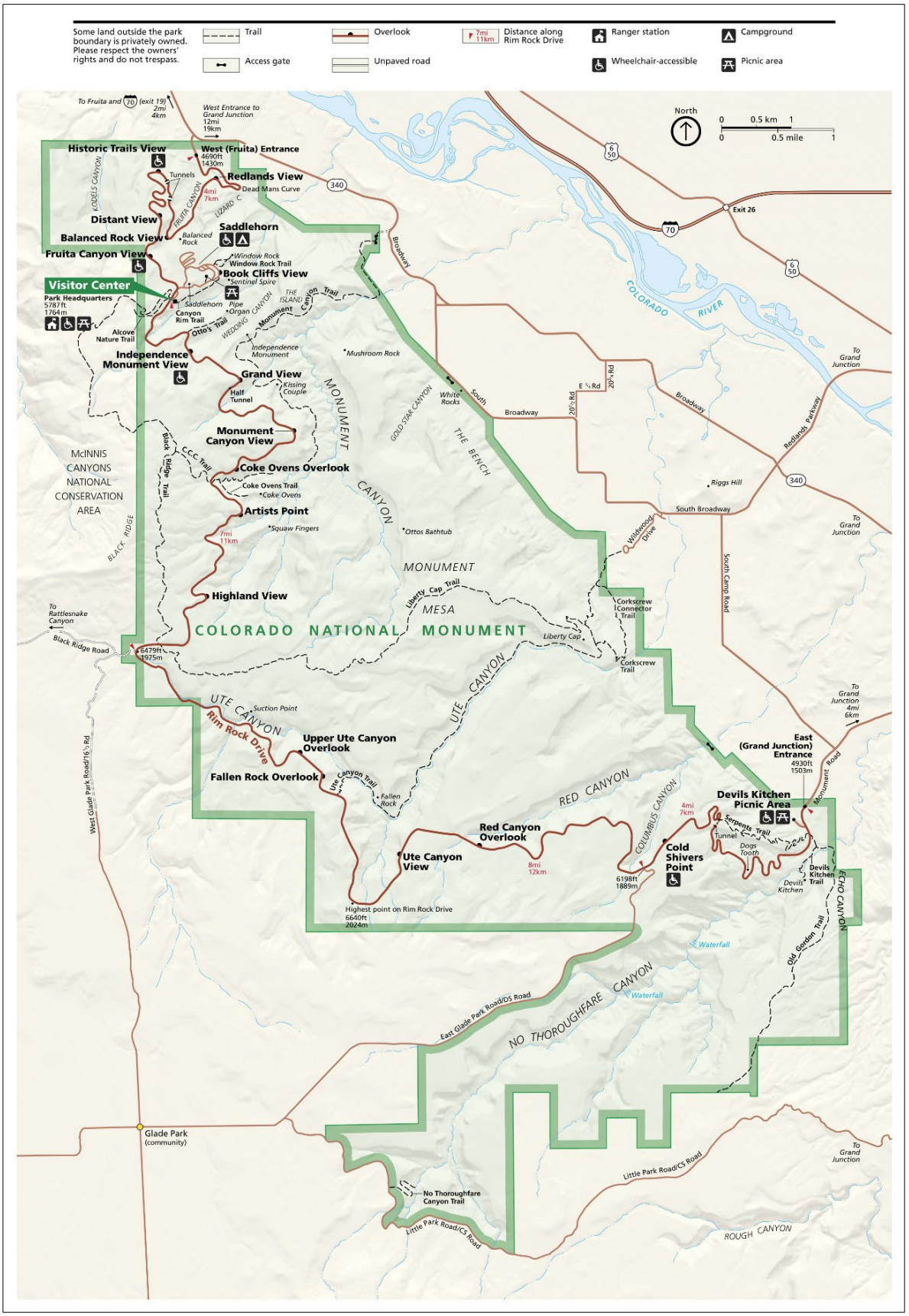


Figure 2-3. Map of Colorado National Monument showing the locations of trails, overlooks, and canyons (NPS 2021).

The 32-square-mile Monument features a remarkable landscape of plateaus and deep, rugged canyons punctuated by towering monoliths and massive sandstone formations. Pinyon and juniper trees reach across the bare soil. Rim Rock Drive is a two-lane, paved roadway that winds through the Monument and connects the major viewpoints and trailheads. The Monument is one of western Colorado's most popular attractions, with almost half a million annual visitors who enjoy hiking, biking, wildlife viewing, scenic driving, and other recreational activities.[14] Along with scenic overlooks and wayside exhibits, Rim Rock Drive leads to the four areas of the Monument: the West Entrance Station; the Saddlehorn Headquarters area, encompassing the Saddlehorn Campground and Picnic Area, Saddlehorn Utility and Residential areas, and Visitor Center Complex; the Devils Kitchen Picnic Area; and the East Entrance Station. The Mission 66-era Colorado National Monument Visitor Center, completed in the 1960s with a panoramic view of Wedding Canyon, serves as an anchor for the sites along the drive. The Monument also has more than a dozen NPS administrative, maintenance, and residential buildings, some of which are listed in the National Register. These resources reflect the Monument's historical periods of development.

GEOLOGY

The Monument is a unique geological landscape on the northeastern rim of the Colorado Plateau, a 15,000-square-mile geological province extending across a broad area where Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico meet. With over 1,000 canyons, the plateau is home to more than a dozen national parks and monuments. Seismic activity 330 million years ago created a subsection of the plateau known as the Uncompahgre Highland, a chain of mountains similar to today's Rocky Mountains. Wind, frost, scouring streams, and other natural forces eroded these peaks to form the Uncompahgre Plateau.

The Monument consists of banded layers of rocks that gradually slope or fracture to expose various types of formations.[15] The colorful and diverse rock formations were created by millions of years of shifting earth and battering natural forces.[16] At the base of the canyons, approximately 4,700 ft asl, is the black Precambrian strata, formed from gneiss and schist approximately 1.5 billion years ago. Moving up, the next layer consists of the steep, reddish-brown slopes of the Chinle Formation, which formed in the Late Triassic Period (237–201.3 million years ago). The *billion* year difference in age between the Precambrian and the Chinle rock layers is evidence of the geological Great Unconformity.[17] Blocks of younger sandstone,

[14] National Park Service Public Use Statistics Office, NPS Stats, Annual Visitation (All Years) Park Report, Colorado National Monument, accessed June 30, 2021, https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/SSRSReports/Park Specific Reports/Annual Park Recreation Visitation (1904 - Last Calendar Year)?Park=COLM. Note: Annual visitation statistics available from the Integrated Resource Management Applications (IRMA) Portal likely reflect changes in visitor use counting procedures over the years. Some visitation numbers may include motorists passing through the Monument on the way to Glade Park.

[15] Stanley William Lohman, *The Geologic Story of Colorado National Monument* (Washington, DC: Geological Survey Bulletin 1508, 1981), 16.

[16] Jim Van Loh, Keith Landgraf, Angela Evenden, Tom Owens, Steve Blauer, and Marion Reed, *Vegetation Classification and Mapping Project Report, Colorado National Monument* (Fort Collins, CO: National Park Service, 2007), 10–14.

[17] A geologic unconformity exists where there is a gap in the geologic record. The missing geologic layers are the Younger Proterozoic, the Paleozoic, and much of the Triassic period. Lohman, *Geologic Story*, 20.

including some that fell from the high canyon walls hundreds to thousands of years ago, often cover the slopes. The Wingate Formation, a sandstone deposited in the Late Triassic and Early Jurassic (201.3–174.1 million years ago) periods, forms some of the Monument's most stunning features and at times appears orangish-pink. The Kayenta Formation derives from the Early Jurassic Period, and its harder sandstone forms the protective tops of such prominent sites as Independence Rock and Kissing Couple. Slabs, benches, and cliffs throughout the Monument are part of the Jurassic Period (199.6–145.5 million years ago) Entrada Formation, which consists of wind-deposited, slick rock sandstone with a prominent white top layer that often resembles a stack of boards. The Monument's extensive Jurassic Period rock exposures also include the green shale and red mudstone slopes of the Wanakah Formation and the red, green, purple, and gray mudstone slopes and cliffs of the Morrison Formation. Black Ridge, at the Monument's far western edge, is the only area of the Monument where Cretaceous Period (145–66 million years ago) rocks are found as Dakota Formation sandstone and Burro Canyon Formation mudstone slopes. The canyons that cut into these layers were formed by thousands of years of erosion and weathering. Extensive Holocene deposits such as sheet wash, rock falls, valley fill, eolian sands, and stream channel deposits are along the Monument's eastern boundary, where the elevation is approximately 4, 931 ft asl.[18]

CLIMATE, FLORA, AND FAUNA

A semi-arid climate prevails in the Monument. Annual precipitation averages 18 centimeters (cm) or 11 inches, with a generally even distribution throughout the year except in spring and late summer, when monsoon (convective) thunderstorms occur. Snowfall, prevalent in December and January, averages 81 cm (32 inches). Climate change is causing temperatures to rise at a faster rate in western Colorado than elsewhere in the United States.[19] In 2020, daily summer temperatures in the Monument averaged 90°F and reached as high as 110°F, while winter days averaged a maximum temperature of 37°F and a minimum of 20°F; the coldest days were rarely below 10°F.[20] Temperatures are generally cooler in the valleys, where the steep, tall canyon walls limit sun exposure, and hotter on the exposed open mesas, which also offer extensive views of the surrounding landscape. Freshwater sources within the Monument are limited to seeps and springs with volumes that fluctuate seasonally and after heavy rainstorms and snow melt. Most of the freshwater sources are at the heads of the canyons, although several springs exist at the ends of several mesas.[21]

Generally, vegetation in the Monument is characterized as semi-desert. Biological soil crust, formed from microfungi, cyanobacteria, algae, moss, and lichen, holds soil in place and allows

[18] Robert B. Scott, Robert B., Anne E. Harding, William C. Hood, Rex D. Cole, Richard F. Livaccari, James B. Johnson, Ralph R. Shroba, and Robert P. Dickerson, *Geologic Map of Colorado National Monument and Adjacent Areas, Mesa County, Colorado, US Geological Survey, Geologic Investigation Series I-2740* (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 2001), 1–16.

[19] Juliet Eilperin, "This giant climate hot spot is robbing the West of its water," *The Washington Post*, August 7, 2020.

[20] National Park Service, Colorado National Monument: Weather and Climate, https://www.nps.gov/colm/learn/nature/weather.htm, updated April 10, 2020.

[21] Nancy Lamm, Summer Igo, and Mike Davlantes, *Report of the 2014 GeoCorps Springs and Seeps Assessment, Colorado National Monument* (Report on file, Colorado National Monument, 2014).

vegetation to grow.[22] The dominant vegetation types are dwarfed woodlands and sparse shrublands. Shrubs and trees often grow in the fissures of gneiss and sandstone. Woodlands of two-needle pinyon, Utah juniper, and Wyoming big sagebrush are common in the canyon bottoms, along with prickly pear cactus shrublands and James' galleta grasslands. Utah serviceberry, mountain mahogany, and fendlerbush shrublands exist among the reddish Chinle slopes.[23]

In 2019, NPS biologists identified 20 invasive exotic plants in the Monument, including cheatgrass (*Anisantha tectorum*), field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), flixweed (*Descurainia sophia*), and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*).[24] These plants, transported by a variety of means including air freight, seeds transported on visitors' shoes, and inclusion in restoration seed mixes, present a challenge to Monument operations. They are a threat to ecosystem function and the health of native species and animal habitat and diminish visitor enjoyment by altering landscapes, increasing trail maintenance needs, and reducing native plant and animal communities. NPS staff and volunteers regularly work to eradicate these invasive exotic plants.[25]

The Monument supports a variety of wildlife. The side-blotched lizard, western whiptail, and yellow-headed collared lizard find homes among the rocks. Though common in western Colorado, the midget-faded rattlesnake is rarely seen in the Monument. Amphibians include the canyon treefrog and the Great Basin spadefoot. Raptors such as turkey vultures, red-tailed hawks, golden eagles, and American kestrels soar through the canyons. Various hummingbirds, titmice, vireos, and sparrows also appear among the birdlife. The caves and crevices provide habitat for almost all the species of bats that live in Colorado. White-tailed jackrabbits, desert cottontails, rock squirrels, kangaroo rats, porcupines, and an array of other lagomorphs and rodents inhabit the Monument, although prairie dogs have been absent since the early 2000s.[26]

By the late nineteenth century, settlers in the Grand Junction/Fruita area had decimated wolves. Surviving carnivores in the Monument are coyotes, kit foxes, gray foxes, black bears, ringtails, badgers, spotted skunks, striped skunks, mountain lions, and bobcats. Grazing herbivores include elk and mule deer; the desert bighorn sheep, introduced to the Monument in 1979, is the Colorado state mammal and appears in the Monument logo. In the 1920s, John Otto (see below), working with local and state entities, introduced American bison; however, the population struggled in the environment and the NPS gradually removed the animals.[27] Nearly a

[22] Colorado National Monument, "Natural Features & Ecosystems," https://www.nps.gov/colm/learn/nature/naturalfeaturesandecosystems.htm, accessed October 2021.

[23] Van Loh et al., Vegetation Classification and Mapping Project Report, 10–14.

[24] Luke Gommerman, Dustin W. Perkins, and Amy Washuta, *Invasive Exotic Plant Monitoring in Colorado National Monument: 2017 Field Season* (Fort Collins, CO: National Park Service, 2017), 1–3.

[25] Dustin W. Perkins, *Invasive Exotic Plant Monitoring at Colorado National Monument: 2019 Field Season, Natural Resource Report NPS/NCPN/NRR-2021/2268* (Fort Collins, CO: National Park Service Northern Colorado Plateau Network, 2019), 1.

[26] National Park Service, *Final General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement* (Fruita, CO: National Park Service, 2005), 82.

[27] Alan J. Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument* (Boulder, CO: Roberts Rinehart, 1983), 107.

dozen endangered or threatened species are believed to inhabit or pass through the Monument, including the Canada lynx (threatened) and black-footed ferret (endangered).[28]

SUMMARY HISTORY OF COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Native Americans inhabited the Uncompahgre Plateau and the surrounding region for more than 10,000 years before the arrival of Europeans. Ute Indians sustained trade with the Spanish and French beginning in the sixteenth century and, by the start of the nineteenth century, with white American fur traders. The Ute remained autonomous in their homeland well into the nineteenth century, but the westward expansion of white settlers influenced the federal government's forced removal of the Ute from their land by 1881. The towns of Grand Junction, Glade Park, and Fruita, Colorado, were formed as the railroads extended and the flourishing agriculture and ranching encouraged further settlement.[29]

At the start of the twentieth century, stock drivers used the Monument area as a shortcut to or from Grand Junction. Otherwise, few people knew about or explored the canyons of the Colorado Plateau. John Otto, an explosives handler with the crew that built the Fruita Pipeline, became enthralled with the area in 1907. When his employment ended that year, Otto settled there and became known locally as the "hermit of Monument Cañon" who wanted to open the landscape to others and began surveying and clearing trails through it.[30] An avid letter writer, Otto led the push for national recognition of the landscape and, in 1911, President William H. Taft designated 13,853 acres of the territory as Colorado National Monument.[31]

The Monument's isolation and minimal infrastructure compared to that of other national parks and monuments limited the number of early visitors. Management of the Monument was initially taken on by Otto for an annual salary of $1.00. In 1912, Otto began construction of a 2.5-mile primitive road (Serpents Trail) to connect Glade Park and Grand Junction but was unable to obtain the funds to complete it. The project was restarted in 1920 with funding from Glade Park residents. Glade Park engineer and rancher Bruce Claybaugh oversaw teams of local workers who completed the road's construction in 1921.[32] When the Great Depression began in 1929, the Monument was one of many parks that benefited from jobs created as part of the New Deal. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), with oversight from the NPS, built administrative facilities and, most notably, Rim Rock Drive, which superseded the more sinuous Serpents Trail as the Monument's primary tour road. The strenuous and dangerous 1931–1950 road project was an engineering feat that unified the

[28] National Park Service, *Final General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement*, 83–85.

[29] Michael B. Husband, *Colorado Plateau Country Historic Context* (Denver, CO: Colorado Historical Society, 1984), 1–13; Lisa Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel: A History of the Road Controversy at Colorado National Monument* (Denver, CO: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Intermountain Region, 1997), 3–4.

[30] Kania, *John Otto*, 24–25; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 17.

[31] The Monument was enlarged in subsequent decades. Kania, *John Otto*, 30–37.

[32] R. Laurie Simmons and Thomas H. Simmons, with Kathy McKoy, *National Register Nomination: Serpents Trail*, Mesa County, Colorado, NRIS 94000307, 1990/revised 1994, 2–4; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 39–41.

Monument's primary views and allowed millions to access the Monument in the ensuing decades.[33]

Annual visitation rose from 39,316 people in 1940 to over 200,000 in 1956, but the Monument had a permanent staff of only two. In 1956, at the urging of the NPS, Congress and President Eisenhower agreed to create and fund a ten-year project known as Mission 66 to expand visitor services and modernize park facilities throughout the National Park System. The Mission 66 program was able to help meet the needs of visitors and management at the Monument, which increased staffing in the 1960s. The Visitor Center was completed by 1965 with interpretation that focused on geology, human habitation of the Uncompahgre Plateau, and ecology. Into the 1970s, half a million visitors experienced the Monument each year, cementing its place as one of western Colorado's most popular attractions.[34] The Monument's boundaries were extended in 1976 to include the 3,000-acre No Thoroughfare Canyon, which is part of the almost 15,000 acres within the Monument that are managed as a wilderness area under the 1964 Wilderness Act.

The stated purpose of Colorado National Monument today, according to the NPS, is "to provide for the preservation, understanding, and enjoyment of its natural and cultural resources as showcased by its extraordinary erosional, geological, and historical landscapes reflective of the northern Colorado Plateau and of great scientific interest."[35]

DISTRIBUTION OF HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Historic and cultural resources are present throughout the Monument. Resources associated with the Ute Indians and ancestral groups of Native Americans (see Chapter Three) or with the ranching, mineral extraction, irrigation, and transportation activities that occurred before the Monument's establishment in 1911 (see Chapter Four) consist mainly of archeological sites. Facilities constructed during the initial NPS development period (1911–1945; see Chapter Five) and the Mission 66 Era (1946–1972; see Chapter Six) are concentrated in the northern part of the Monument, with some near the southeast entrance. Almost all the resources are along or accessible from the 23-mile-long scenic Rim Rock Drive (Figure 2-4), which is the primary route through the Monument.

Rim Rock Drive, listed in the National Register as a historic district in 1994, was constructed by CCC, WPA, and NPS laborers between 1931 and 1950 to allow access to the Monument's sweeping vistas.[36] The road winds along the rims of the major canyons in the Monument between the East (Grand Junction) and West (Fruita) entrances. It ascends a series of switchbacks from No Thoroughfare Canyon, then follows a sinuous westerly route onto the plateau that separates No Thoroughfare Canyon from Red Canyon to the north. After reaching the plateau, the road travels generally westward along the southern edges of Columbus Canyon and Red Canyon, turns northwest along the mesa overlooking Ute Canyon to the northeast,

[33] R. Laurie Simmons and Thomas H. Simmons, with Kathy McKoy, *National Register Nomination: Rim Rock Drive Historic District*, Mesa County, Colorado, NRIS 94000310, 1990/revised 1994, 6–9.

[34] National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument Master Plan, 1976* (Government Printing Office: Washington, DC, 1976), 4, 12.

[35] National Park Service, *Foundation Document* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 2015), 4.

[36] Simmons and Simmons, *Rim Rock Drive*.

then runs north along the western edges of Monument Canyon and Wedding Canyon. It crosses the mesa southwest of the Saddlehorn, a sandstone geologic feature north of Wedding Canyon, then descends 3.5 miles through Fruita Canyon along tight switchbacks to the Fruita entrance. On its route, Rim Rock Drive travels through three tunnels that were blasted through the monolithic walls of the No Thoroughfare and Fruita canyon faces during construction in the 1930s and 1940s. Mile markers run west to east, and small overlooks and pull-offs are intermittently spaced along the road. The overlooks provide views across the canyons and of other geologic formations within the Monument such as Balanced Rock, Window Rock, Independence Monument, Kissing Couple, Coke Ovens, and Cleopatra's Couch. The highest point on the road is near Mile Marker 15 at an elevation of 6,640 ft asl.

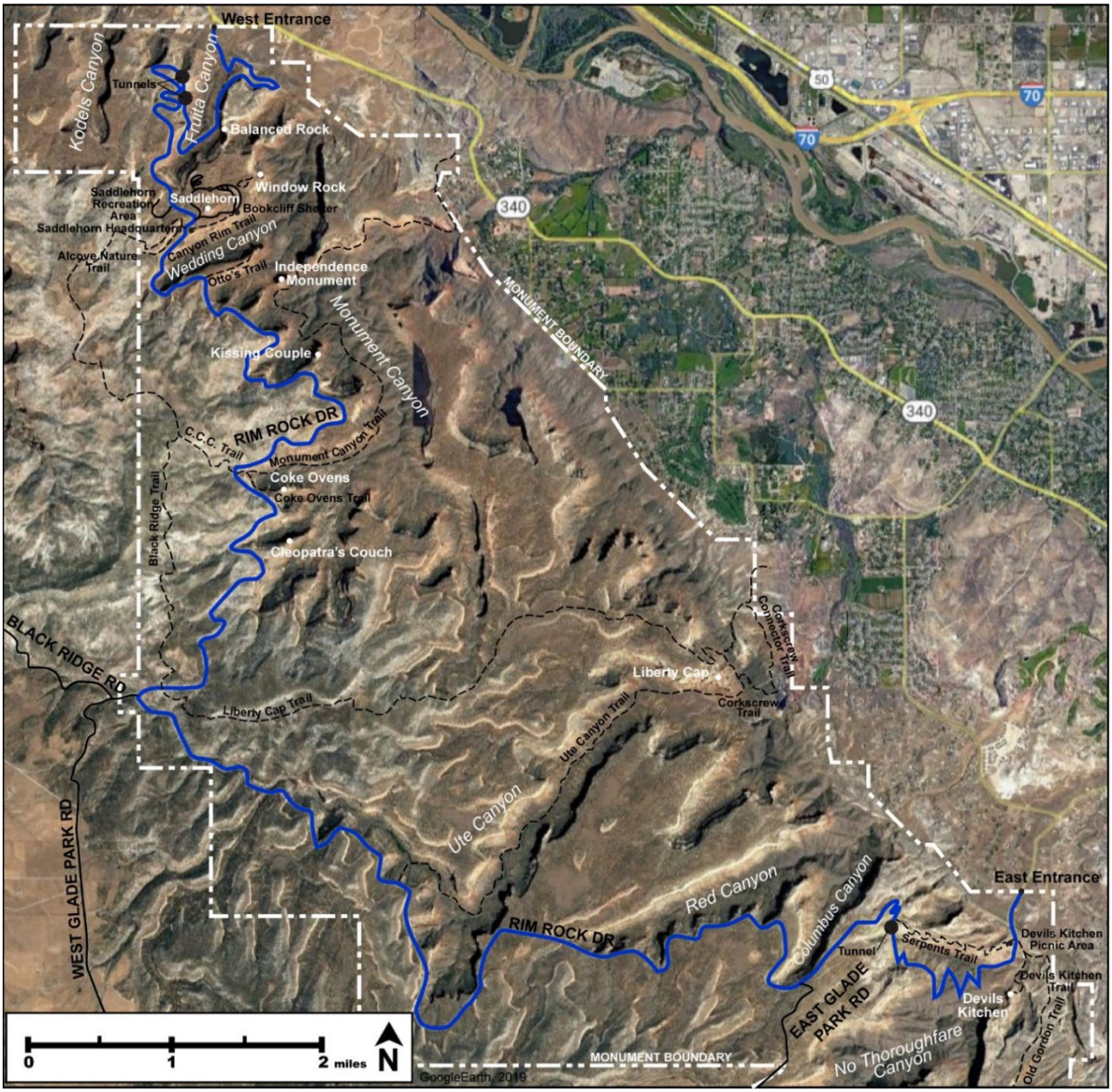


Figure 2-4. Aerial map of Rim Rock Drive (Google Earth 2019 with author edits).

Trailheads along Rim Rock Drive provide access to a network of maintained trails and unmaintained routes within the Monument. The trails tend to follow the valley floors of canyons or plateau ridgelines and use switchbacks where they ascend and descend the canyon walls. Some trails connect to trails and trailheads outside the Monument boundary. Seven trails overlay historic roads, cattle drive routes, and paths established in the early twentieth century likely along earlier Native American trails. For example, the Serpents Trail follows the route of the lower portion of Otto's 1921 motor road from the east entrance to Rim Rock Drive, which overlays the upper portion of the earlier road. The Black Ridge Trail follows the Fruita Dugway, an historic mule path and aqueduct that had been built upon an earlier Ute trail, along the Black Ridge and gradually descends the western slope above Fruita Canyon. Other historic trails within the Monument include those constructed by the CCC and WPA during the 1930s and by the NPS after World War II and during the Mission 66 Era. Two non-historic trails have been built by the NPS since 1978.

Two historic roads provide access from Rim Rock Drive to Glade Park to the southwest (see Figure 2-2). East Glade Park Road (also known as DS Road) is a two-lane, asphalt-paved road built in 1921 along a portion of the Serpents Trail that leads south from Rim Rock Drive between Mile Markers 18 and 19 and follows the Monument boundary southwest and parallel to No Thoroughfare Canyon. West Glade Park Road (also known as 16½ Road), built in 1935, begins at the west edge of the Monument on the plateau between Ute Canyon and Monument Canyon and turns south just west of the Monument boundary. Black Ridge Road, extant by 1920, branches off West Glade Park Road just outside the Monument and continues west toward McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area west of Grand Junction.

NPS facilities in the Monument are primarily in four developed areas: the West Entrance and Saddlehorn Headquarters in the northern part of the Monument and the Devils Kitchen Picnic Area and East Entrance at the toe slopes of No Thoroughfare Canyon. The West Entrance, near Fruita, consists of a Mission 66 entrance station altered in the 1980s and 2008, a 1980 pump house, and a ca. 1906 abandoned reservoir formerly associated with the Fruita water system. The Saddlehorn Headquarters area spans both sides of Rim Rock Drive near the Saddlehorn and includes recreational and administrative facilities. The Mission 66 Visitor Center and its parking lot and designed landscape are on the east side of Rim Rock Drive, south of the Saddlehorn geological formation. Recreational facilities are arranged around a loop road east of Rim Rock Drive and consist of a campground and picnic area, originally constructed in the New Deal era and expanded under Mission 66, and two short trails to scenic overlooks and the Mission 66 Bookcliff Shelter. A dead-end road leads west from Rim Rock Drive to the administrative area, which contains NPS utility buildings and residences from the CCC and Mission 66 eras. The Devils Kitchen Picnic Area is west of Rim Rock Drive and consists of a CCC pavilion with restrooms, a designed landscape, and a parking lot that was altered during Mission 66. The East Entrance has a Mission 66 entrance station altered in the 1980s and 2008 and a Mission 66-era building used as offices.

CHAPTER THREE: NATIVE AMERICAN LIFEWAYS IN THE GRAND VALLEY AND UNCOMPAHGRE PLATEAU

This chapter presents a Native American history of the Grand Valley/Uncompahgre Plateau region (hereafter referred to generally as the Valley/Plateau) within which Colorado National Monument is located. The summary covers the earliest peopling of the region approximately 13,500 years before present, through the period of forced Ute Indian removal in the late 1800s, and up to the present. Most archeological reports in the region present dates using the B.C. terminology (Before Christ); in this chapter, dates are also presented in years before present (B.P.) to relate timelines more easily for the reader.

For thousands of years, human history was not recorded in writing or on maps, so the information about Native American lifeways comes almost exclusively from archeological data and from oral and remembered history that has been shared by tribal members. These sources have limitations: some indigenous history is kept within tribal communities and is not knowable to all people. Archeological information is also incomplete and represents only what is known about the physical remains of identified sites. Taken together, however, these sources offer the best means to develop a cultural context within which to evaluate Native American resources within the Monument.

PLACE-BASED INDIGENOUS HISTORY

Native American history is place-based and inextricably tied to the natural world. It is impossible to separate indigenous cultural history from that of the surrounding environment, so the geology, geography, water, soil, plants, and animals that did and do exist in the Valley/Plateau are all connected components of the Native American resources within the Monument. This also means that while the HRS is limited to historic resources within the present-day physical boundaries of the Monument, the cultural context covers the more inclusive Grand Valley/Plateau geographic region that is the homeland of Ute and Navajo tribes and their ancestors. Native American tribes consider their history and sense of identity to be inextricably tied to the land and the environment.

The Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation considers the Glenwood Springs-Grand Junction areas of Colorado to be in the heart of its aboriginal territory and acknowledges that its sister tribes, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and Southern Ute Tribe, recognize this area as well.[37] Citing ethnographic and archeological data, McBeth notes that the Uncompahgre and White River Ute bands were probably the only indigenous groups to consider the Grand Valley area their homelands over many generations.[38] Ute elder Clifford Duncan, now deceased, more specifically described the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation homelands as a roughly 225,000-square mile area extending from Fillmore, Utah, east to Colorado Springs,

[37] Betsy Chapoose, cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 5.

[38] William G. Buckles, "The Uncompahgre Complex: Historic Ute Archaeology and Prehistoric Archaeology of the Uncompahgre Plateau" (PhD diss., University of Colorado, 1971); Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

Colorado, and from Baggs, Wyoming, south to Abiquiu, New Mexico, although people moved beyond these boundaries to hunt.[39]

Mr. Duncan described the connection between people and place in this way: "These rock formations were made in a sacred time; they are a gift from the spirit" and "… when they [Ute] want to connect with the spirits of this place, they would go to the bottom of the canyon to connect with the sacred in that way."[40] Betsy Chapoose, Director of the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation Cultural Rights and Protection Office, explained the Ute connection to the Monument as follows:

> We must try to understand the comprehensive picture of what this Monument is. We must look at all aspects, not just selected archeological sites. Air, water, the plant communities, the animals, everything from the sky and high spires to the bottom of the canyon must be investigated as a whole sacred space. We do not distinguish between cultural and natural resources: they are all one in our view of this place. We [Ute] live our religion, and what the ancient Ute utilized and created here was an instrument of that religion. This is what we call home.[41]

The Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation historian Roland McCook said that "The beauty of this place would have been a part of Utes' everyday life. They would likely have used the prominent stone features as landmarks—places to meet or to pray."[42]

McBeth's 2010 ethnographic study highlights an obstacle to understanding the ancient Native American history of the Monument and surrounding areas. The federal government forcibly relocated the Ute from their homelands in Colorado in 1881, and there is little available ethnographic or documentary information about Ute history before then. Archeological sites and the material remains of the preceding more than 10,000 years are the primary (and extremely incomplete) source of available physical information about the Native Americans who lived within and moved through the area of the present-day Monument. Some oral history was recorded by Anne Smith who interviewed tribal members on the Uintah Ouray Reservation in Utah in 1936 and 1937, although she admitted the Ute participants were understandably suspicious of her motives as a non-indigenous person.[43] McBeth's research with Ute elders, historians, and scholars identified gaps in historical knowledge that were created when the Ute were separated from the land they knew and forced to adapt to different locations and environments. As a result, the indigenous history of the Monument is told by living Ute tribal members whose ancestors have not physically resided in and may not have returned to the Monument or region for almost 150 years. Ongoing efforts to consult with Ute tribal members about sites and objects may lead to more indigenous-based interpretations of the Monument's Native American resources. Tribal members, working collaboratively with Monument staff, may also suggest research questions for future archeological projects.

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[39] Clifford Duncan, "The Northern Utes of Utah," in *A History of Utah's American Indians*, ed. Forrest S. Cuch (Salt Lake City: Utah State University Press, 2003), 174.

[40] Cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 6.

[41] Cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 6.

[42] Cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 6.

[43] Anne M. Smith, "Ethnography of the Northern Ute," *Papers in Anthropology* 17 (1974).

ARCHEOLOGICAL CONTEXTS

Native American archeological site types in the region for the pre- and post-European contact periods have been defined by the presence or absence of certain types of cultural materials and features and by the location of a site. Site types include lithic scatters, camps, architectural sites, quarries, and rock art sites. These types are further classified as "open" (in areas exposed to the elements) or "sheltered" (in an alcove, overhang, rockshelter, or some other protected area). Another archeological classification consists of isolated finds (known as IFs), which consist of spatially distinct surface finds that may or may not be associated with a larger or more complex site that is not visible on the ground surface.

Most of the identified Native American sites in the Monument consist of open lithic scatters, and many of these do not contain diagnostic artifacts or features (those that do are described below). Possible subsurface materials and/or features that may be associated with many of the sites identified only by surface finds could broaden our understanding of Native American land use and activity across the Monument. Ott et al. pointed out that the frequently identified "isolated finds" and "open lithic scatters" in the region may deserve closer attention because they possibly document Ute-era activity areas where the ephemeral evidence of wooden and brush structures or other surface features may no longer be present, at least on the surface.[44] NPS personnel have been told that Ute traditions include "walking lightly on the land," which may account for less visible sites and less material culture at indigenous sites compared to non-indigenous sites, and to the difficulties in interpreting Ute land use based solely on archeological deposits.

A total of 516 archeological sites have been recorded within the Monument, many of which contain cultural deposits from multiple periods of Native American and European American/non-indigenous use. This total includes 236 sites classified as having a "prehistoric" (or pre-contact) component, meaning they contain pre-European Native American components, and 136 sites have a "historic" (post-contact) period Native American and/or non-indigenous component.[45] A total of 179 sites are classified as open camps or lithic scatters of unknown temporal association, meaning the date for Native American land use has not been determined. Two sites contain diagnostic PaleoIndian Era (see below) diagnostic projectiles; 26 sites include Archaic Era tools and/or features; 7 sites include Formative Era artifacts and/or features; and 10 sites have components or materials that have been associated with Ute land use based largely on the presence of wickiup or other wooden structures and/or rock art depicting horses, cattle, and/or buffalo.[46]

[44] Ott et al., *Perspectives on Ute Ethnohistory*.

[45] An archeological property may be pre-contact (or prehistoric), post-contact (or historic), or contain components from both periods. *Pre-Contact* and *Prehistoric* refer to indigenous American societies as they existed before substantial contact with Europeans. *Post-Contact* and *Historic* refers to time periods after the first significant contact between Native Americans and Europeans. Many archeologists and most Native Americans consider *Prehistoric* to be an outdated and inaccurate term; however, it still appears in official NPS policy documents.

[46] These numbers of sites come from NPS archeological data tables and GIS data provided to PAL in July 2020 and do not include Isolated Find Spots.

Pre-Contact Period

The following descriptions of identified Native American archeological resources within the Monument do not include specific locational information due to the sensitivity of the sites but do provide context for understanding the material evidence from each time period. Most archeological surveys within the Monument have included only limited subsurface testing, often designed to identify thermal features, hearths, and subsurface deposits. The lack of systematic archeological survey across the Monument's lands and the relatively limited excavation done at many sites likely skews the interpretation of cultural resources within the Monument (see Chapter One for additional background on archeological research).

PaleoIndian Era (13,500–8400 B.P.[47])

The earliest periods of human history in the Valley/Plateau are only partially understood and are generally interpreted through very limited archeological components (primarily lithic artifacts). Looting in the Monument may have affected the survivability of these often ephemeral sites, further reducing their archeological potential. The available information indicates that indigenous people were in the area up to 13,500 years ago, soon after the last of the glacial ice in the region receded. Archeologists subdivide this era into four temporal traditions (Clovis, Folsom or Goshen, Plano, and Foothill Mountain) based primarily on the types of tools found at sites dated to this period.48 Few identified sites from this period contain storage pits or evidence that groups of people stayed in or returned to one place over time. Groups may have followed game and food sources over wide territories and may not have settled permanently or even seasonally in one place. This is supported in the archeological record by a general uniformity in tool and site types across the entire region and little documentation that distinct cultural groups were associated with a specific territory or area.

Archeological data for the earliest human activity in the region is connected to the manufacture and use of large, fluted and unfluted, lanceolate spear points that have been found in association with mammoth and megafauna remains.[49] While the geography and environment of the Monument may not have been favorable to support large populations of megafauna (see below), in eastern Utah archeologists have identified PaleoIndian sites at lower elevations and along major river drainages.[50] The Eagle Rockshelter, a multi-component site near Delta, Colorado, contains charcoal from a hearth feature dated to the PaleoIndian Era. These sites suggest that the riverine wetlands around the confluence of the Colorado and Gunnison rivers just east of the Monument may have been a hospitable environment where these animals could have been hunted. Other studies in the Northern Colorado River Basin identified a high density of PaleoIndian sites at high upland locations and suggest that groups camped in the uplands during the warmer seasons and moved into the more protected and temperate valleys during the warmer months.[51] In addition to megafauna, berries, nuts, and roots, smaller animal species

[47] Pre-Contact Period date ranges represent radiocarbon years before present (B.P.), with the present defined as A.D. 1950.

[48] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[49] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[50] Alan R. Schroedl, "Paleo-Indian Occupation in the Eastern Great Basin and Northern Colorado Plateau," *Utah Archaeology* 4, 1 (1991):1–15.

[51] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

were almost certainly collected, processed, and eaten to supplement the diet. These behaviors related to diet are represented archeologically in the presence of stone grinding implements.[52]

Evidence of megafauna species that were present during the earliest periods of human occupation include mammoth, ground sloth, horse, bison, cheetah, mountain sheep, and ox.[53] A mastodon tooth was reported to have been found in a canyon in the Monument. Radiocarbon dating of sediments in the canyon indicate that about 10,000 years ago the physical environment of the Grand Valley may have resembled that seen today.[54] This also supports the archeological understanding that mastodons and other large cold-weather fauna may have been present during the earliest human presence in the valley. The post-glacial landscape was sparse with little vegetation, and the climate was considerably colder and generally drier than it is today. Although most of the megafauna species listed above became extinct during this period, mammoth and mastodon were still present in some areas as ca. 11,000 B.P.[55]

Other PaleoIndian sites in the Northern Colorado Basin include a late fall/early winter bison kill site represented by the remains of multiple animals in a bone bed.[56] Bison, deer, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn were probably increasingly hunted later in the period as other species of megafauna became extinct. Remains of extinct species of ground sloths, mammoth, horse, bison, cheetah, mountain sheep, and musk ox have been identified in west-central Colorado in geologic deposits with dates that overlap with the PaleoIndian Era, suggesting that these animals may have been hunted.[57] Sites dating to late in the era also contain local lithic material, especially quartzite, which suggests that groups may have spent longer periods of time within smaller hunting and gathering territories.[58] This could indicate that environmental resources were becoming more abundant and/or available over longer periods of the year.

Three recorded archeological sites in the Monument, including two sites above one canyon, contain diagnostic PaleoIndian tools. A mastodon tooth was reportedly collected within the same canyon, although not in association with any cultural deposits.[59] An open camp site in the southern portion of the Monument on a canyon rim was identified as a large surface scatter of lithic materials, including several concentrated high-density areas, but no features or other types of cultural material were observed. A single white quartzite Clovis projectile point fragment was

[52] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[53] Schroedl, "Paleo-Indian Occupation."

[54] Stavish, *Scope of Work*, 8.

[55] Donald K. Grayson and David J. Meltzer, "Revisiting Paleoindian Exploitation of Extinct North American Mammals," Journal of Archaeological Science 56 (April 2015):177–193.

[56] George C. Frison and Marcel Kornfeld, *Interim Report on the 1994 (to be 1994?) Testing, Data Recovery, and Analysis at Three PaleoIndian Sites in Grand County, Colorado and Summary of Current Investigations* (Department of Anthropology, Technical Report No. 6b. Laramie: University of Wyoming, 1995).

[57] Schroedl, "Paleo-Indian Occupation."

[58] Carl E. Conner, Nicole Darnell, Brian O'Neil, Richard Ott, Curtis Martin, Dakota Kramer, James C. Miller, and Barbara Davenport, *Class I Cultural Resource Overview for the Grand Junction Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management, Volume 1* (Grand Junction: Grand River Institute, 2011).

[59] Robert B. Scott, Anne E. Harding, William C. Hood, Rex D. Cole, Richard F. Livaccari, James B. Johnson, Ralph R. Shroba, and Robert P. Dickerson. *Geological Map of Colorado National Monument and Adjacent Areas. Mesa County, Colorado* (US Geological Survey, Geologic Investigation Series I-2740. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 2001).

identified at the site, which also contained a Durango Notched Point dating to the Transitional/Terminal Archaic Era (see below) and several projectiles temporally diagnostic of the Formative Era. These findings suggest that people returned to this area over thousands of years, and that the piñon/juniper sagebrush community on the mesa top provided a consistent natural environment that drew people back over generations, although the older projectiles possibly were kept and brought to the site by the Formative Era occupants.

Another site was identified on a mesa above the southern side of the same canyon. It was also overlooking the canyon from the rim and in a similar piñon/juniper sagebrush community. Unlike the larger, multi-component site described above, the visible surface elements of this site include two PaleoIndian projectiles (a dark gray obsidian Clovis fragment and a large section of a quartzite point) and five pieces of chert debitage. The archeological site form notes that there are deep soil deposits in the area of the site, indicating the potential for other belowground cultural resources to be present. The obsidian point was analyzed using x-ray fluorescence and was determined to be from a source in the Wild Horse Canyon/Mineral Mountains section of central Utah.[60] The raw material for the projectile was probably quarried at the source and carried to Colorado. This research supports the interpretation that PaleoIndian groups were likely highly mobile and traveled over a large territory on the post-glacial landscape.

Archaic Era (8400–2400 B.P.)

The Archaic Era spans a long period of Native American history in the region that archeologists have subdivided chronologically into the Pioneer/Settled and Transitional/Terminal periods.[61] Although characterized by large-scale changes to the environment and plant and animal communities, The Archaic Era was also a time when groups began to settle within semi-permanent locales, specialize food procurement to localized resources, and develop distinctive cultural identities. The overall warming of the climate resulted in the extinction and loss of large, thick-furred megafauna, and plant and smaller animal communities were available in more environmental zones for longer periods of the year. The results of more than a dozen radiocarbon dated charcoal samples from soils within the Monument provide an environmental context for sites dating from this period, although there have been relatively few radiocarbon dates tied to specific archeological sites in the Monument.[62] One of the recent large-scale archeological surveys tied charcoal from a thermal feature at one site to Archaic Period site use, and the authors noted that radiocarbon dating additional samples as funding was available could connect additional sites to this temporal period.[63] Archeologically, the physical artifacts associated with this era were more diverse than those from previous eras and included a wide range of chipped-stone tool projectiles; ground-stone food processing implements; basketry; and a variety of features used for shelter, cooking and heating, and storage. These artifacts may represent human adaptations to a changing environment, the presence of multiple cultural groups with different and distinct tool traditions, the evolution of projectile styles over a long period of time, or some combination of these.

[60] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*, 274–280.

[61] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[62] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*, 9; 281.

[63] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*, 9; 143.

Some archeologists have suggested that within the Valley/Plateau region, people living during the Archaic Era moved over the landscape through patterned seasonal rounds. They made their winter camps in the piñon/juniper uplands and mesas and spent the warmer summer months in the vegetated highlands and valleys.[64] Individuals and groups may also have planned short trips to and from residential camps to acquire specific resources from specific environments. Archeological deposits at Archaic Era sites include the remains of food sources such as deer, elk, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, bison, rabbit, and fish. Food resources also included nuts such as piñon, juniper berries, mustard, cactus, Mormon Tea, and pigweed (goosefoot). A variety of grasses were likely used for matting, lining baskets and structures, and sometimes as food sources (including Indian ricegrass). Wood from trees, especially the piñon, was used for cooking and heating and as structural support.[65] Archeological research suggests adaptation to a wide variety of environments and different settlement and subsistence practices included mobile hunting and gathering as well as more sedentary habitation. Evidence of early horticulture varies and has largely been documented through the recovery of grinding artifacts, including one-handed manos and informal basin-shaped metate, that may suggest the processing of cultigens at the end of the era. In general, the adoption of horticulture is interpreted as the end point of the Archaic Era.[66]

Formal and informal architectural features identified within the Monument and the surrounding area provide information about how Archaic people lived. Pit and basin structures are closely tied to the Archaic Era (although they were used by Fremont communities well into the Formative Era; see below) and are the most common house type in the Northern Colorado River Basin.[67] These features are identified by oval, circular, and amorphous shallow basins or depressions that may have low walls and sometimes contain smaller features or postholes around the perimeter.[68] Fire pits, fire-cracked rock hearths, slab and rock-lined pits, and ash stains also are common features at Archaic Era sites and can help explain how foods were processed and prepared. These sites also have the potential to provide information about the season(s) of occupation, how long people stayed there, and residential patterns.[69] Research projects conducted in the past 20 years in northern Colorado suggests that since Archaic groups were primarily mobile foragers, the structures they created were intended for use for only a short time within a specific landscape, and there was a high degree of variability and design styles.[70]

A representative Archaic Era open camp site within the Monument is in one of the canyons. The site includes a hearth feature; two slab-lined cist storage features; and numerous lithic artifacts including utilized cores, a hammerstone, and utilized flakes. A limited data recovery completed in 2015 focused on the excavation of the two stone features. One was a trapezoid-shaped, three-sided, sandstone slab-lined storage pit for grass seeds or a roasting pit, based on the elevated

[64] Brian O'Neil, *The Archaeology of the Grand Junction Resource Area: Crossroads to the Colorado Plateau and Southern Rocky Mountains* (On file, Bureau of Land Management, Grand Junction Office, 1993).

[65] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*, 18.

[66] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[67] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[68] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

[69] Kelly J. Pool and Charles A. Reed, "Archaic-Age Architecture in Northwest Colorado," *Reviews in Colorado Archaeology* 3(1) (2020):1–22.

[70] Pool and Reed, "Archaic-Age Architecture," 17.

Poaceae pollen frequencies, subangular starches, and charcoal staining. The second feature was a four-sided, U-shaped, sandstone slab seed storage cist or roasting pit, which was radiocarbon dated to 3760–3630 B.P. (1740–1610 B.C.).[71] Plants were collected, processed, and used by Ute groups as food sources, teas, and medicine and for utilitarian purposes such as basket-making, hide tanning, dying, and clothing.[72] Ute ethnohistorical sources indicate that large cuts of meat were placed on a fire to slowly roast and fish could be dried on a rack or boiled over a fire, suggesting two possible uses for these Archaic Era features.[73]

A wider variety of types and styles of projectiles was used during the Archaic Era than during the PaleoIndian Era, making it difficult to date sites using projectiles alone.[74] As noted above, additional radiocarbon dating of features at identified sites could provide important new information about the types and locations of Archaic period sites in the Monument. In general, the chipped-stone projectiles that characterize the Archaic Era are smaller than those from the PaleoIndian Era and reflect a transition from the long, broad lanceolate spear needed to pierce thick megafauna hides to dart-like points, often with shoulders and hafted stems, used with a weighted spear thrower. Archaic Era sites have been documented in all the surveyed sections of the Monument.

Sites dating to the first half of the Archaic Era, known as the Pioneer/Settled Period, have been identified in many sections of the Monument. This period is characterized by archeological deposits that suggest groups established seasonal camps within a specific territory, sometimes returning to the same general ecozones at different times of the year for the seasonally available plant and animal resources. Some sites containing diagnostic tool forms also contain components from later periods. A sheltered camp site identified under a boulder overhang contained a diagnostic quartzite Pinto Point, a granite one-handed mano, a chert core, and lithic debitage. The site is on first and second terraces above and on the east side of the main drainage through one of the canyons. There is a site above the north rim and one above the east rim of the same canyon; both contain diagnostic chert Pinto points and are classified as open lithic scatters. The Archaic components at another site across an upper canyon rim are within a larger, diffuse open camp and include San Jose, Pinto, and Elko-Eared projectiles; more than 20 chipped-stone tools including bifaces and retouched and utilized flakes; more than 500 pieces of debitage; and a sandstone mano.

The second half of the Archaic Era is known as the Transitional/Terminal Period, and many of the known sites may also contain materials from other periods. Recovered materials are more varied than those from the Pioneer/Settled Period and may indicate less sedentary settlement and more use of higher elevations, and there are indications of a shift from spear to bow-and-arrow use, experimental efforts in corn horticulture, and a higher reliance on seeds and plant foods near the end of the Transitional/Terminal Period.[75] A number of sites are at or near canyon rims where lithic scatters, bifaces, knives, cobble tools, and one-handed manos have been documented together with diagnostic San Pedro, Elko Corner-Notched and Side-Notched, and Gypsum points. Many of these sites contain tools made from chert. One site also

[71] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

[72] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 21–48.

[73] McBeth, T*alking About a Sacredness*, 52.

[74] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*, 19.

[75] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

contains a Desert Side-Notched point, suggesting this location was re-visited during the Protohistoric Era (see below).

An Archaic Era site was identified by the recovery of a chert Elko Corner-Notched point on an upper level of a stepped mesa, and the site form describes a large open lithic scatter with chipped-stone tools and debitage, cores, and bifaces, most of which are made from the quartzite that naturally occurs in the rock in that area. The artifacts represent all stages of lithic reduction, suggesting a camp where rock was quarried and made into tools for hunting. More than 300 artifacts were recovered from a second site (a high-density lithic scatter) along the upper west rim of a stepped mesa top. The recovered materials include a chert Datil point, cobbles, bifaces, utilized flakes, and debitage of chalcedony and quartzite. This site is also at a source of naturally occurring quartzite, and eight recovered quartzite cores document quarrying, toolmaking, and a probable hunting camp.

A large, open, Archaic Era camp in the bottom of a canyon included a chert Elko Corner-Notched point, manos and metates, a hammerstone, bifaces and unifaces, a scraper, cores, and debitage. The variation in the artifact assemblage and the presence of grinding tools suggest that this site may have functioned as a camp where plant and animal foods and materials were processed.

An Archaic site on a low slope near the Monument's eastern boundary includes a small wash and gully and a landscape covered with juniper, salt brush, grasses, prickly pear, and fender bush with larger junipers along the site margins. This large, multi-component site contained an Elko point and other projectiles, scrapers, blades, utilized flakes, one-handed manos, and debitage of different material types.[76]

Using the current inventory of archeological sites within the Monument, the Archaic Era is the most commonly identified and material/feature-rich temporal association. The Archaic sites contain diverse material culture, including a wide variety of chipped- and ground-stone tool types, and a range of architectural features. This diversity probably reflects adaptation to a changing environment, including one that gradually warmed, which meant different plants and animals were available. More than 200 generations of Native Americans lived within and moved through the Monument area during the Archaic Period, using its natural resources across the canyons, mesas, and ridges that make up the landscape.

Formative Era (400 B.C.–A.D. 1300/2400–730 B.P.)

The Formative Era is characterized by increased evidence of the development of horticulture and/or farming as a practice supporting semi-sedentary lifeways. Native Americans tended and cultivated plants during the preceding periods, so the more formal adoption of agricultural practices was not a sudden or new practice. The cultivation of corn and other seasonal crops is often considered by archeologists as the hallmark of a horticultural lifestyle. The Formative Era is subdivided into the Ancestral Puebloan, Fremont, Gateway, and Aspen traditions based on changes in material culture and land-use patterns over time.

[76] Allison Aakre and Tracy Hoose, *Phase I Survey: Reclaim the White Rocks Project, Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado* (On file, Colorado National Monument, 2016).

Many of the Formative sites identified in the Grand Valley contain elements of more than one of the four cultural traditions, which suggests that different indigenous groups could have lived in and moved through the area at the same time, using different environmental zones for cultivating plants, hunting, resource gathering, storage, and shelter.[77] The people who lived in the region during this period may have been the ancestors of the Ute, may have passed out of the region prior to the arrival of Ute groups, or may be some combination of the two. It is difficult to associate the material culture from this time period with a particular group or cultural affiliation.[78] Ethnohistorical and tribal sources generally refer to only the last approximately 1,000 years perhaps because some Ute creation stories (see below) describe their presence in the region as the last people to be given a homeland.[79] Other Ute tribal histories indicate that they have always been in the region.

In the broader region, sites dating to early in the Formative Era are not common. They are often identified through the presence of grayware, whiteware, redware, and polychrome ceramics and rock art. Early Formative Era residential sites consist of room blocks, pit houses, and middens and are observed in other parts of the Southwest. The kivas that are common at Ancestral Puebloan sites in the Four Corners region are absent in west-central Colorado.[80] Future archeological research may help to better understand the intersection of Puebloan cultures to the south and the Fremont Tradition to the north and west early in the Formative Era.[81]

The Fremont Tradition describes groups of people whose homelands were north of the Ancestral Puebloan lands. The Valley/Plateau region likely was on the eastern edge of the Fremont homelands based on a comparison of archeological sites that often include evidence of horticulture, coiled pottery, a coiled basketry referred to as "one-rod-and-bundle," a distinctive moccasin style made with a deer or mountain sheep hock, clay figurines, and rock art depicting trapezoidal anthropomorphic figures. Fremont pottery styles, color, and decoration vary among geographic area.[82] The use of large, heavy, and two-handed manos has been interpreted as an indication of a greater reliance on agriculture and the processing of plant materials for food.[83] Some Ute tribal members and archeologists believe that Fremont cultural groups may have Ute influences and could be pre-Ute ancestors.[84]

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[77] Conner et al., *2016 Documentation of Selected Ephemeral Wooden Features*.

[78] Ott et al., *Perspectives on Ute Ethnohistory*.

[79] Duncan, *Northern Ute*.

[80] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[81] Judson Byrd Finley, Erick Robinson, R. Justin DeRose, and Elizabeth Hora, "Multidecadal Climate Variability and the Florescence of Fremont Societies in Eastern Utah," *American Antiquity* 85(1) (2020): 93–112.

[82] For example, David B. Madsen, *Exploring the Fremont*, Occasional Publication No. 8, Utah Museum of Natural History (Salt Lake City: University of Utah, 1989); Rex E. Madsen, *Prehistoric Ceramics of the Fremont* (Flagstaff: Museum of Northern Arizona Ceramic Series No. 6, 1977); Steven R. Simms, "New Evidence for Fremont Adaptive Diversity," *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* 8, 2 (1986):201–216; Jerry D. Spangler, "Site Distributions and Settlement Patterns in Lower Nine Mile Canyon: The Brigham Young University Surveys of 1998–91" (Master's thesis, Brigham Young University, 1993); Marie H. Wormington, *A Reappraisal of the Fremont Culture* (Denver: Proceedings of the Denver Museum of Natural History No. 1, 1955).

[83] Robert J. Hard, Raymond P. Maudlin, and Gerry R. Raymond, "Mano Size, Stable Carbon Isotope Ratios, and Macrobotanical Remains as Multiple Lines of Evidence of Maize Dependence in the American Southwest," *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 3, 4 (1996):253–318.

[84] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 4.

Identified Fremont Tradition sites in the region have been identified in the Douglas Creek/Dinosaur area north of the Monument, in western Montrose County south of the Monument, and the Glade Park area adjacent to and near the Monument's western boundary, although this pattern may be more a result of archeological survey locations than site selection preferences. Almost all the Fremont sites in and around the Monument contain rock art or are identified by rock art only. Fremont petroglyphs are characterized by trapezoidal anthropomorphic figures, often decorated.[85] Archeological studies at sites in the Douglas Creek/Dinosaur area have documented other identifiable components of Fremont sites, including the use of bow-and-arrow technology, "one-rod-and-bundle" basketry, maize horticulture, pithouse settlements and granaries, and gray ware ceramics.[86]

Some Fremont sites in other parts of western Colorado contain hearths with an abundance of chenopod (goosefoot) and amaranth seed, suggesting that large quantities were harvested and cooked to keep as surplus.[87] The tradition is also associated with a variety of structure-building technologies, including ephemeral brush structures and beehive-shaped granaries consisting of sandstone slab or adobe brick walls entered through the top.[88]

Fremont projectile points include Rosegate types, Uinta, Bear River, and Desert side-notched styles, and Cottonwood triangular points. Numerous sites dating to this tradition have been found within and near the Monument that contain rock art likely created at that time, as well as cists and stone-lined features that may have been used for food storage and/or processing (see below). A concentration of Fremont sites has been identified just south of the Monument in Glade Park, so this may have been a focal point for activity during the period, or this patterning may reflect more focused archaeological investigations. The majority of the sites appear to be short-term camps identified through lithic scatters and/or rock art panels.

The Gateway Tradition is not as well documented as the Fremont in the region and appears to combine some components from the Puebloan and Fremont traditions. Gateway sites include small arrow points, few if any ceramics, rock art that blends elements of Puebloan and Fremont designs, individual or small groups of short-term use structures, and granaries and storage features in rockshelters.[89] Few Gateway sites have been identified in the Valley/Plateau. The Aspen Tradition was identified to differentiate between horticultural and non-horticultural groups in the Northern Colorado River Basin but may not truly represent a distinct period or group(s) of people.[90]

Few sites within the Monument (excluding the general White Rocks area) have been dated specifically to the Formative Era, and those that have were interpreted largely by diagnostic ceramics or radiocarbon dates. There is little archeological documentation of horticulture-related features such as planting fields or gardens within the Monument; although corn cobs and kernels have been collected from some sites (see below) and are in the Monument's

[85] Aakre and Hoose, *Phase I Survey*.

[86] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[87] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 33.

[88] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[89] Alan D. Reed, *West-Central Colorado Prehistoric Context* (Denver: Colorado Historical Society, 1984); Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[90] Conner et al., *2016 Documentation of Selected Ephemeral Wooden Features*.

collections, future analyses likely could identify botanical remains for radiocarbon and/or other types of dating that might help interpret the era in more detail. Stavish suggests that two documented sites may date to this era and that additional study of collected soils could help understand horticultural activities within the Monument.[91]

One site initially identified during the 1963 Stroh and Ewing survey was interpreted as a large rockshelter camp on a small bench approximately halfway up the slope of a canyon.[92] This site also contained two slab-lined storage cists, sandstone metates, two corncobs and 25 kernels of corn, two bone fragments, several projectile points and cobble tools, and lithic debitage. One of the corn cobs was radiocarbon dated to (calibrated) A.D. 80–240. The site was reassessed by in 2000, and archeologists identified three additional metate fragments and two grinding stones, as well as three depressions or potholes in the floor of the rockshelter that may relate to use during the Formative Era use, creation by looters, or creation or use in later periods.[93]

A Formative site classified as an open camp is on a mesa top near a canyon rim in an area of piñon/juniper with sagebrush, prickly pear cactus, and yucca. In addition to a diagnostic chert Dolores Expanding Stemmed point, the site consisted of two one-handed manos and a variety of lithic chipping debris and worked lithic tools suggesting it was used for stone tool manufacture and/or maintenance. Another large open camp site is on a bench east of the mouth of a canyon in an area of piñon/juniper, various grasses, greasewood, ash, and yucca. This site contained diagnostic projectiles and partially complete tools, more than 200 pieces of lithic debitage, and an ashy soil stain that suggest a range of activities may have occurred there.

The White Rocks area includes a large, multi-component habitation site with areas of bedrock and rockshelters on a level valley floor. The general area includes juniper, sagebrush, salt desert brush, Mormon tea, prickly pear cactus, yucca, and a wide variety of grasses. The site includes five rock art panels; numerous open camps dating from the Archaic Era onward (see above), several possible pit houses, thermal features, middens, and concentrations of ground-stone processing implements, lithic materials, and tools. The observed lithic debitage includes different types of chert; red, white, red-orange and gray quartzite; and metamorphic rock that includes materials that would have been brought to the site from outside the area.[94] The White Rocks area also includes a cluster of nine individually designated sites and five Isolated Finds that date to the Formative Era and after and include Native American and European American deposits. It is likely that information about the full extent of human activity in this area has been lost due to artifact theft and vandalism.

The White Rocks landscape is one of the most intensively studied Native American activity areas within the Monument, due at least in part to its location in an open, easily accessible area adjacent to residential development along the Monument's boundary and to threats to the site from vandalism and recreational activity. A 2016 re-documentation of one site in the area identified a number of archeological features clustered around the bedrock formation and associated with the five rock art panels that indicate this was a habitation site. Two of the rock

[91] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*, 182.

[92] Stroh and Ewing, *Archaeological Survey of the Colorado National Monument*.

[93] Tate and Associates, Inc. *A Cultural Resources Inventory of the US West Communication, Inc. Grand Junction/Glade Park Telephone Line, Colorado National Monument Segment, Mesa County, Colorado*, 2000.

[94] Aakre and Hoose, *Phase I Survey*.

art panels are petroglyphs depicting anthropomorphic figures in the classic vernal style of Fremont petroglyphs. The other panels are not clearly associated with the Fremont tradition: one panel includes a snake-like petroglyph, one features a deer-like petroglyph, and one is incised with charcoal-stained lines across a protected boulder face within a rock shelter.[95]

Another site from this period consists of an open camp and rock art panel with linear incised petroglyphs, numerous tools, and charcoal stains that may represent hearths. The site is on a mesa with the petroglyph panel at the base of a cliff face that rises up from the mesa. The petroglyphs include pecked and ground grooves and lines on a rock face; flakes, cores, scrapers, and other chipped-stone tools; and a mano. Like some of the other rock art sites, the lack of diagnostic materials indicates that this site may date to the Archaic Era or the Protohistoric Era.

Another rock art site is east of a canyon along the interior of a mesa top. It contains not only a Transitional Archaic projectile and lithics but also two rock art elements on an outcrop face near several historic structures. One panel is parallel incised lines and small pecked dots, and the second panel is incised crisscrossed lines. The cultural affiliation and age of the rock art are unknown and may represent two different periods of use since one of the panels is within a non-indigenous historic period structural site.

UTE HISTORY: PROTOHISTORIC ERA TO FORCED REMOVAL (A.D. 1300–1881)

Ute creation stories begin with Sinauf, a god who was half man and half wolf, and his brothers Coyote and Wolf. Sinauf created people from different sticks of the same size all placed within a magic bag that he carried on a long journey from the south to the north. As the bag filled, the people inside made loud noises that attracted Coyote; because he was curious, Coyote cut a small hole in the top of the bag with his flint knife. Sinauf did not know his bag had a hole, and as he walked from south to north different people jumped out along the way and created the different tribes in the West. When he reached the northern mountains, the only people left were those in the bottom of Sinauf's bag. As he took them out, he told them they would be called the Utikas and placed them in different parts of the mountains.

Clifford Duncan related a creation story in which his Ute ancestors likely traveled into the region from the south, possibly from the Sonoran Valley in Mexico and then California. Over a period of several hundred years, groups spread out to the north, northeast, and east into the Great Basin, forming new tribes and adapting language variants as they separated. The groups that moved into present-day Utah, Colorado, and parts of Wyoming and New Mexico continued to gather and interact often enough to maintain a common language.[96]

Archeologists refer to this period of Native American history as the Protohistoric Era, meant to capture the time at and after the arrival of non-indigenous people in the region and up to the 1881 forced removal of the Ute from Colorado. Changes noted in the material culture at archeological sites suggest that early in this era the Ancestral Puebloan and Fremont groups left the area due in part to a decades-long drought in the Southwest at the end of the thirteenth century.[97] Clifford Duncan noted that the common language family (Numic speakers of the

[95] Aakre and Hoose, *Phase I Survey*.

[96] Duncan, "Northern Ute," 167–168.

[97] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

Uto-Aztecan) spoken by the Goshute, Paiute, Shoshone, Ute, Bannock, and Comanche provides a connection between these peoples and helps to inform migration and movement over time.[98] Archeologists believe that the ancestors of the present-day Ute may have begun to migrate in groups into the Colorado Plateau from the Death Valley area of California ca. A.D. 1300.[99] These groups lived within a large geographic area that includes portions of western Colorado, eastern Utah, southern Wyoming, and northern Arizona and New Mexico (Figure 3-1).[100]

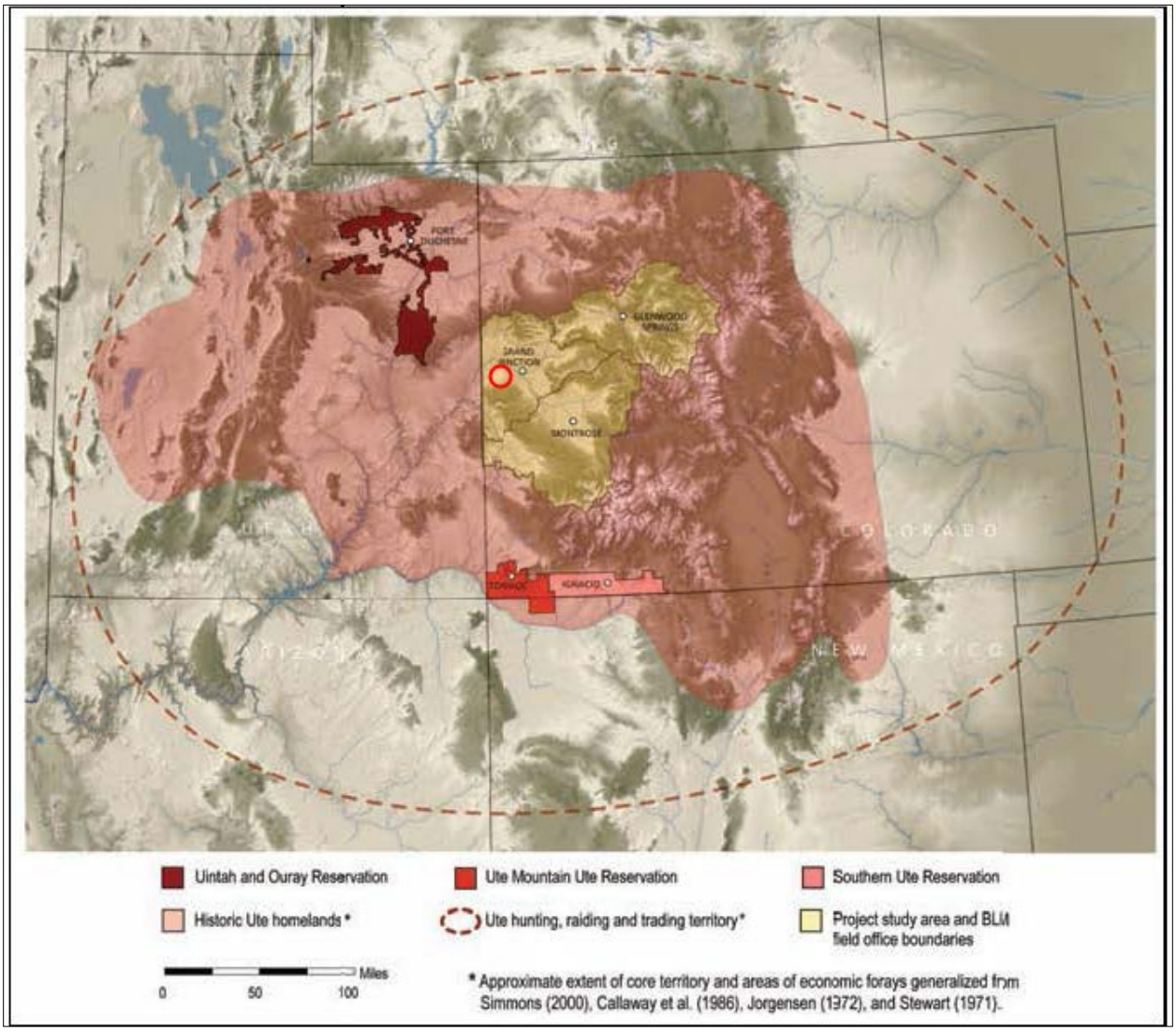


Figure 3-1. Approximate area of Ute homelands and territory with modern reservations and the approximate location of Colorado National Monument (Ott et al. 2010:viii).

[98] Duncan, "Northern Ute," 173.

[99] Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[100] Donald G. Callaway, Joel C. Janetski, and Omer C. Stewart, "Ute," in *Great Basin*, edited by Warren L. D'Azvedo, pp. 336–367 (Handbook of North American Indian, Vol. 11, William C. Sturtevant, general editor, Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution, 1986).

The early part of the Protohistoric is sometimes referred to as the Canalla Phase (ca. 1100–ca. 1650), and is characterized at archeological sites by Uncompahgre Brownware ceramics, Desert Side-notched and Cottonwood Triangular points, and brush structures, including wickiups.[101]

The Ute did not use lakes and rivers for transportation, but main camp sites were near waterways, which were an important source of fish and other resources in addition to the plants that grew along their margins. In places where resources were more abundant and available over longer periods of the year (such as Utah Lake), larger and semi-permanent camps were established, while areas with extreme seasonal temperature or weather changes were occupied for shorter amounts of time and by smaller family groups.[102]

Before the adoption of horses, the Ute lived in independent family groups or bands with no formal or organized political hierarchies. Each band or group moved with purpose, traveling seasonally within one geographic area that they knew intimately and returning to the same locations year after year to hunt and gather resources. Typically, this involved moving to warmer flatlands and valleys in the winter and the hills and mountains in the summer. During the spring and summer, families would travel from the winter camps into the hills, where Ute women would gather cactus, roots and tubers, and bark and seeds, some of which were dried and stored in baskets within underground storage pits covered with earth. Men assisted with gathering resources or hunted small animals. They also would set fire to areas of brush to flush out animals that were then killed for food and skins. In the fall, seeds would be dried and stored, meat dried or smoked on willow racks or hung from wickiup poles, and clothing and containers made and repaired. Willows were prepared and stored for basket-making and cordage, and large quantities of rabbit skin cordage for blanket-making were prepared and stored. Fall was when buffalo and large game were hunted, and families would occasionally gather into larger groups to prepare for these hunts with feasting and celebrating afterward. During the winter, men hunted for birds and small animals using traps and bows and arrows and made use of all available resources if fresh foods became scarce. The winter was also when family groups would sit around a fire listening to elders tell creation stories and teach children about why the Ute lived as they did.[103]

Groups did not interact often due to the mountainous geography of the region, although they would travel over great distances for group hunts, trading, raiding, and religious practices such as the Bear Dance. When resources were plentiful enough to sustain larger groups, a temporary village would form. Horses became a regular part of the Ute lifeway after the 1680 Pueblo Revolt, when many herds were released. Horses provided quicker travel over long distances and better access to foods and resources and allowed bands to gather in villages for longer periods of time and support more people.[104]

The Ute describe different ecozones and elevations as “Lower Earth” for low-lying valleys and canyons such as along the Colorado River and in much of the Grand Valley; “Middle Earth” for mountain valleys and foothills, including the canyon areas within the Monument; and “Upper

[101] Reed, West-Central Colorado; Reed and Metcalf, *Colorado Prehistory*.

[102] Duncan, “Northern Ute,” 174.

[103] Duncan, “Northern Ute,” 168–172.

[104] Duncan, “Northern Ute,” 168–169.

Earth" for mesa tops, ridges, and peaks.[105] In the Lower Earth areas of the Monument, sedges, flowering plants, and roots served as food and were used for matting and containers. Fish, including trout, white salmon, and sucker fish taken from the rivers and streams near the Monument, would have been eaten fresh or dried/smoked for later or when away from the river. At elevations of 4,000–5,000 feet (the Middle Earth), willows, alders, cottonwoods, and berries were available and animals such as pronghorn, mule deer, and grouse could have been hunted. The piñon, juniper, aspen, fir, and spruce trees found at higher elevations on the mesas and ridge lines provided firewood and nuts and seeds and were used for construction, and other utilitarian purposes. The forested elevations of the Upper Earth were incredibly diverse and supported many different food sources, including goosefoot (lamb's ear or wild spinach), prickly pear cactus, wild onion, yampah (wild carrot), and a tuber known as "Indian potato."[106]

McBeth notes that pine nuts were a particularly important and special food source for the Ute in Colorado, possibly because they are not a reliable or abundant crop every year.[107] During the piñon harvest, women used long wooden poles to knock the cones from the trees; the cones were sometimes roasted in a fire and the seeds removed after. The pitch was used for sandals and to waterproof containers.[108] Medicinal plants (used in many different applications) included bear root or osha, yarrow, sagebrush (used in sweat lodges, smoked, and made into tea), juniper berries and leaves, cow parsnip, and Indian tobacco or bearberry.

Ute tribal consultants for McBeth's 2010 ethnographic study indicated that rituals probably accompanied the collection of some resources. These may have included prayers and offerings before harvesting; gathering certain resources only during specific times of the year; or collecting done only by women or certain community members.[109] Women were responsible for most food-related activities, including collecting nuts, seeds, and plants in baskets; curing fish and meat over fires and on drying racks; skinning and butchering animals and cooking the meat; grinding seeds and plants on stone metates; and roasting or cooking food in woven waterproof baskets filled with hot stones.

DOCUMENTED UTE SITE TYPES IN COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Ute tribal members have identified examples of cultural heritage site types important to them as sacred sites/places, burial and reburial sites, cultural landscapes, rock art sites, wickiup and associated wooden feature sites, tipi pole sites, tree platforms, temporary hunting camps, seasonal campsites, rock-sheltered camps, traditional plant gathering places, vision circles, cairns, culturally scarred trees, eagle traps, game drives, trails, and quarries.[110] The various Ute

[105] James Goss, "Traditional Cosmology, Ecology and Language of the Ute Indians," in *Ute Indian Arts and Culture*, edited by William Wroth, 27–52 (Colorado Springs: Taylor Museum of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 2000); Virginia McConnell Simmons, *The Ute Indians of Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico* (Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2000).

[106] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*.

[107] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 32.

[108] William W. Dunmire and Gail D. Tierney, *Wild Plants and Native Peoples of the Four Corners* (Santa Fe: Museum of New Mexico Press, 1997).

[109] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*.

[110] Ott et al., *Perspectives on Ute Ethnohistory*, 64–5.

site types described below are those that have been identified in the Monument; other site types may be present but not yet documented.

Brush and Wood Structures

The Ute lived in portable or non-permanent shelters because of their frequent movement across large areas and selected their structures based on what was available around them. In desert environments and where materials were sparse, Ute made shelters out of brush or grass. Brush and willow structures that were ventilated or permeable provided cooling airflow in the summer but could be kept warm with a fire outside the perimeter. One family might make several of these structures over the span of a year as they traveled from place to place. In forested areas, lodge poles were harvested and used for wickiups and tipis covered in large animal hides that were sewn together with animal sinew. The structures with animal hides could be portable, with lodge poles transported or the hides removed for transport and the poles left behind for use when the family returned. These structures were also cool in the summer, because the hides kept out the sun, and warm in the winter with an interior fire.[111]

The 1776 Escalante expedition documented brush structures made of three or four joined poles and tipis covered in hides.[112] Ute wickiups may have been lined with animal skins (or later with canvas) with a central fire pit that vented through an opening in the top. Other structures made in a similar manner included sweat lodges and menstrual huts.[113]

Brush and wood structures and features constructed by the Ute are one of the most visible Native American cultural resources in the Grand Valley area. Documentation of these features is ongoing as of 2020; the comprehensive Colorado Wickiup Project (CWP) has documented more than 450 primarily on the Uncompahgre Plateau and along the Colorado River and White River drainages.[114] Researchers primarily from the Dominguez Archaeological Group, Inc. (DARG) have published more than a dozen survey and site reports, including a study of these features within the Monument.[115] Ute architectural features include wickiups; tree platforms and beams; menstrual huts and sweat lodges; lean-tos and windbreaks; utility poles, tripods, and pole caches; animal enclosures; and culturally modified trees, including those with the outer bark removed for use and/or to collect inner bark and sap.[116]

Wickiups and Pole Structures

Archeologists have interpreted wickiups and other pole structures as small shelters that were relatively quick and easy to build with materials that did not have to be intensively processed (e.g., available fallen tree limbs). This type of construction suggests that the Ute people who built and used these structures visited them seasonally and for short periods as they hunted and

[111] Duncan, "Northern Ute," 171–2.

[112] William Buckles, "The Uncompahgre Complex: Historic Ute Archaeology and Prehistoric Archaeology of the Uncompahgre Plateau" (PhD diss., University of Colorado, 1971).

[113] Smith, "Ethnography of the Northern Ute."

[114] http://www.dargnet.org/wickiup_project.html

[115] Conner et al., *2016 Documentation of Selected Ephemeral Wooden Features*.

[116] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

collected materials and plant foods such as roots, seeds, and berries. The piñon/juniper woods on the flat mesas in the region may have provided protection during the winter; in the summer, different resources could have been obtained in these areas. During the spring, the rivers and streams in the valleys were likely at their highest levels and plant species were most abundant, which also would have attracted animals. Ute groups may have set up habitation structures in the Monument's canyons during this time of the year to make the best use of available resources.[117]

In 2016, DARG completed documentation of brush and wooden structures at four previously recorded sites in the Monument that were considered ephemeral, endangered, and/or poorly documented. The four sites are primarily on high terrain/mesa tops in juniper/piñon woods and open sagebrush. (A wooden structure at one of the four sites was determined to be modern so it is not described here.) The related components at these sites include hearths and fire rings, as well as a mix of Ute ceramics, chipped and ground-stone tools and flakes, and historic period objects such as glass bottles.

The first site is a particularly complex open architectural site including a possible lean-to structure or pole cache, three hearth features, ground-stone tools, more than 1,000 pieces of debitage, and 45 sherds of Uncompahgre Brownware ceramics.[118] The site is on a mesa top ridgeline near the head of a canyon and has been interpreted as an intensively used Ute camp site with distinctive activity areas. Originally identified by Stroh and Ewing in the 1960s, this site had been examined and assessed several times with additional site components recorded each time. The 2016 DARG investigation documented the identified structure as the collapsed and deteriorated remains of a free-standing wickiup containing four poles that was considered average-sized. No axe cuts were visible, and examination of the base indicated two of the poles likely were collected as previously downed or dead wood.[119] The second site in the same general area was interpreted as a large dispersed open architectural site with a possible lean-to feature, a hearth, a charcoal scatter, and approximately 5,000 artifacts.[120]

A third site was identified near the northwest corner of the Monument and initially was recorded as an open architectural site north of a large sandstone monolith. It contained a collapsed free-standing lean-to with seven long juniper branches. Four of the branches were intertwined and leaned against a juniper trunk that rests on a live juniper tree. Three other branches on the ground were interpreted as having once been part of the structure, and all the branches have rough snapped ends. The DARG team interpreted the structure's size to have been approximately 9 feet, 8 inches high and 9 feet, 7 inches in diameter. Based on the size, the presence of a forked pole, and the construction technique, the DARG team interpreted the structure as a Navajo "forked-stick" or male hogan. Examples of these have been recorded at a site in northwestern New Mexico in association with historic period metal artifacts that suggested site use ca. 1910.[121]

[117] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

[118] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

[119] Conner et al., *2016 Documentation of Selected Ephemeral Wooden Features*.

[120] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

[121] Conner et al., *2016 Documentation of Selected Ephemeral Wooden Features*.

The 2015 Cultural Resource Inventory (CRI) survey identified possible wooden structures at three sites: one with what may be a collapsed brush ramada and an alignment of upright slabs; one on a gentle mesa slope that is a possible wickiup made from a live juniper with a pulled down branch and two leaning poles; and one on a mesa top that includes a lean-to structure "in good condition."[122]

Tree Platforms and Brush Structures

Ute tribal consultants visited a tree platform site on Black Ridge that includes multiple features on a bench below the ridge line in the northwestern portion of the Monument. The remains of four tree platforms are on the bench along with at least one additional feature made from two axe-cut logs leaned against a live juniper. The Ute consultants thought the log feature might be a wickiup remnant that may have been related to the tree platforms. McBeth's research indicates platforms were used by Ute for food storage and as hunting blinds, although the Black Ridge site location was not an area where game would have been plentiful.[123]

According to McBeth, former Chief Ranger Hank Schoch had seen a topographic map labeled "Ute burial tree?" at that location and mentions other non-indigenous accounts of tree platforms that were interpreted as part of Ute burial rituals.[124] Although the site was known to archeologists and Monument personnel, it was not included in the 1963 Stroh and Ewing report. Schoch revisited the site in the late 1980s and reported that the trees holding the platforms had all come down, but part of the scaffolding was still visible and interwoven in the branches, and a mat of juniper bark was also visible at one of the trees.[125] Archeologists who visited the site with Schoch interpreted the platforms as made by Ute people and suggested they might have been used as pre-burial structures. While the use of platforms as temporary resting places for the dead before final burial is considered a Plains Indian tradition, the archeologists noted that contact between Ute tribal groups and those outside the region may have influenced Ute traditions. A Ute consultant who visited the site with McBeth identified the platform components (described as "scaffolds") as burial features and thought that the four features should be interpreted as one site, similar to a cemetery. In addition, the deterioration of the feature over time was not a concern because "the remains of those gone will not be forgotten." [126]

The documentation for site with the burial features includes additional information about the large area, which also contained more than 1,000 pieces of lithic material dominated by white quartzite, a fire-related feature consisting of reddened and cracked rock, and historic period materials that may be related to Ute site use or to later European American activity in the area. The structural features are recorded as four tree platforms in various states of articulation and one possible lean-to, wickiup, or pole cache.

One additional brush shelter example is a shelter built in a granite boulder outcrop on the west side of a steep drainage cut on a mesa bench above a canyon. The structure consists of piñon and juniper branches and trunks as well as granite cobbles layered over an opening into the

[122] Stavish et al., *Class III Inventory*.

[123] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*.

[124] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 18–20.

[125] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 18–19.

[126] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 19–21.

stacked granite boulders. Two tree trunk support posts are on the northwest and southeast sides of the structure and support a third trunk placed horizontally across them to create an opening. Additional trunks and branches form a roof. The interior floor is granite bedrock, and no features or evidence of fire were noted inside. No artifacts were visible in association with the feature, although the DARG team noted that because modern trash was found, artifacts could have been removed or moved. No axe or saw marks were visible on any of the wooden beams or supports, so the structure has preliminarily been associated with possible Ute construction.[127]

Peeled Trees

Peeled trees are considered cultural features and have been associated with the Ute at sites in Colorado. They are often indicated by scars on living or fallen trees and are sometimes referred to as "culturally scarred trees" or CSTs.[128] These features document the practice of peeling off the outer bark of the ponderosa pine (and other species) to extract the inner bark, which was used as a carbohydrate- and protein-rich food resource and for teas and poultices. These features have been identified and protected as Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) in areas near the Monument, including at the nearby Bureau of Land Management Mud Springs Campground. One Ute consultant indicated that peeled trees may be the most important connection between the ancestral and present-day Ute because the practice of using the inner bark as a medicinal resource continued into the 1950s and 1960s by the last medicine people.[129]

Brush Fences

A brush fence is a resource type that has been difficult for cultural resource managers to associate with a particular time period or group. Ott et al. note that the construction of brush fences and "horse trap" corrals in the region has sometimes been attributed to European American ranchers, when they may be of Ute construction.[130]

Rock Art Sites

Various archeological interpretations of rock art sites, some based on ethnographic interviews, make it difficult to associate a particular style, location, purpose, or motif to a particular group.[131] One archeologist has observed that more rock art sites in the region are at canyon entrances and exits than along the interiors, which may suggest they represent places of ritual significance where an individual or group would stop to reflect or pray.[132] This hypothetical interpretation fits with the perspective of Ute members who note that prominent features on the

[127] Conner et al., *2016 Documentation of Selected Ephemeral Wooden Features*.

[128] Robert H. Brunswig, *Prehistoric, Protohistoric, and Early Historic and Native American Archaeology of Rocky Mountain National Park: Volume 1. Final Report of Systemwide Archaeological Inventory Program Investigations by the University of Northern Colorado (1998–2002)* (Denver: Rocky Mountain Region National Park Service, 2005); Lawrence De Ved and Byron Loosle, "Culturally Modified Trees in the Ashley National Forest," *Utah Archaeology* 14, 1 (2001):1–13.

[129] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 38–39.

[130] Ott et al., *Perspectives on Ute Ethnohistory*.

[131] Buckles, "The Uncompahgre Complex;" Sally J. Cole, *Legacy in Stone: Rock Art of the Colorado Plateau and Four Corners Region* (Boulder: Johnson Publishing, 1990).

[132] Cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*.

landscape were gathering and ceremonial places. (Rock art resources within the Monument also date to the Archaic Era and the Fremont Tradition of the Formative Era and are mentioned above in these sections.)

McBeth and the Ute consultants visited several rock art sites in the Monument in 2007–2009. One site is a large petroglyph panel on a boulder with multiple images that include anthropomorphic, animal, and abstract symbols. The Ute who visited the site with McBeth thought the art was possibly created over a long period of time by the same or different individuals or groups who added to the original work on the rock face. Clifford Duncan believed the panel might tell the story of a family who revisited or passed by the rock on a regular basis.[133] A red ocher pictograph in the same general area was interpreted by Ute who visited the site as a possible sun symbol or a shield and an image that may have been used in ceremony or for spiritual purposes.[134]

The Large Animal with Rider Petroglyph is at the eastern end of a canyon and depicts a large animal with a person sitting on top of it. Although it appears to more closely resemble a cow, Ute visitors noted that the animal's exaggerated shape may represent a horse, and one person thought the depiction of the human riding "side saddle" might be significant. The Mounted Hunter and Big Horn Sheep Petroglyph is a series of pecked images depicting a hunter on a big horn sheep. Two pecked figures at the same site appear as skirted, and three of the Ute consultants thought they might represent women in buckskin dresses. McBeth noted that they might also represent "kachina-like" males in ceremonial coverings.[135]

One site is a series of Ute rock art panels on a northern sandstone cliff face near the mouth of a canyon. One panel appears to represent two zoomorphic figures, and the second a bison or cow, which suggests the art dates to a time when the Ute were present.

Camps

Many of the sites described above can be classified as camps where distinctive features (e.g., wooden structures and rock art panels) have also been identified. As noted above, Ott et al. consider that some of the sites identified as "open lithic scatters" that lack visible temporally diagnostic cultural materials may represent Ute seasonal camps. According to the Monument's current inventory, 55 known sites are classified as "open camps" with no specific temporal association.

At least seven sites in the Monument have been classified as Ute camps based on the presence of temporally diagnostic cultural material, typically a scatter of lithic materials, including chipped- and ground-stone tools, and sometimes evidence of a hearth or other fire-related features. McBeth's ethnographic study identified side canyons, overhangs, and rock shelters as the likely locations of Ute winter camps in the Monument. The mid-level forests also may have been used as winter camps because they typically remained warmer than the canyon floors (where cold air would settle) or exposed upper mesas, and the living trees in this ecozone could have provided materials for wood and brush structures.

[133] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 15.

[134] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 14–16.

[135] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 16–17.

Ute family groups of 20 to 100 people would have moved seasonally within an area as big as several hundred square miles. This type of subsistence strategy required an intimate knowledge of the landscape and the natural resources that would have been available at different times of the year, as well as a social system in which the exchange of surplus among and between groups was well organized. This information would have been passed down from one generation to another, enhancing the connections between people and the land. This generational knowledge also led to the development and use of well-known trails that connected across large landscapes. Smaller groups likely interacted as needed to share food and supplies, while larger groups likely came together for annual or semi-regular ceremonial activities such as the Bear Dance or for communal hunts or harvests.[136]

Quarries

Quarry locations can be assumed at camp and lithic scatter sites where there is often a large amount of lithic material that indicates various stages of use. Typically, this material includes large blocky cores or nodules, flakes of various sizes, preliminary tool forms such as bifaces and unifaces, and sometimes ground-stone tools or cobbles that may have been used to extract raw material from bedrock veins. Within the Monument, archeological survey has identified many large areas where white quartzite and chert were gathered as source material. These quarries are where Native peoples extracted and partially processed lithic materials, taking some of the materials with them as they moved to other camps and hunting grounds.

One quarry is along the northeastern slope of a ridge line and across several other ridges and benches. It includes an expansive scatter of lithic material and many concentrations of lithics at and surrounding naturally occurring quartzite and chert outcrops. This lithic quarry is estimated to be over 3,000 acres in size and have more than 100,000 pieces of lithic debitage (including many different colored cherts, chalcedony, quartzite, and mudstone). Archeological surveys have captured components of this lithic landscape, but identification of its true extent has been limited by project scope and the sheer size of the quarry. Another site within the Monument may also be a lithic extraction and processing site based on the presence of more than 1,000 pieces of quartzite lithic material and a visible natural source of this material.

Trails

Ute bands traveled seasonally within a given territory, returning to the same resource areas year after year, so a well-developed trail system would have existed to link these camps together. In the late nineteenth century, John Wesley Powell documented Ute trails (see *European Contact* below), writing

> It is curious to notice with what tenacity an Indian clings to a trail; a path which has been followed by his forefathers is sacred to him, and though in the constant and rapid erosion of the gulches and sides of the hills and mountains these trails have become very

[136] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 23–24.

> difficult yet he never abandons them when they can by any possibility be followed, even though a shorter and better road is very perceptible.[137]

Powell also described "lodge pole trails" that were used for moving camps and were much more visible on the landscape, while hunting trails left much less of a physical impact.

In an ethnographic overview written for the U.S. Forest Service, Sam Burns, describes a segment of the historic Ute Uncompahgre to Elk Mountain trail near Delta, Colorado, that was visible in a field that had been plowed for more than 70 years because the corn was stunted along its route.[138] He notes that some Ute trails can be identified on USGS topographic maps (including some marked with "Indian Trail") and in Government Land Office records, while others have become modern roads. One of the longest trails in the region that has been documented archeologically and by Ute representatives is the 57-mile-long Ute Trail segment across the Flat Top Mountains on the White River Plateau.[139]

The Black Ridge Trail has been documented as part of the Fruita water pipeline, completed in 1907 (see Chapter Four). This trail, which is also part of the Monument's recreational trail network, runs between several clusters of Ute-era archeological sites, including wooden structures and tree platforms, near the broad quarry lithic landscape described above. The Ute were officially removed from the area only 20 years before the start of the Fruita pipeline construction and had used their trails year after year, so the trails were easily recognizable even after regular use ceased. Therefore, the pipeline workers likely used many of these cleared foot trails in the area. Additional research and archeological investigation along the Black Ridge Trail may be able to identify specific deposits that mark it as a Ute route and could help to identify the locations of other Ute trails, possibly along canyon floors and near rock art panels that may have been intentionally placed along regularly used transportation corridors.

Baskets and Woven Objects

Baskets were used for a variety of gathering, storage, and transport activities. The most common Ute forms are berry baskets and water jugs, although baskets were also used for mixing, and serving. Skunkbush and willow were the most desirable materials, and some were made with willow frames wrapped in rawhide. Woven and coiled water jugs were lined with piñon sap to make them waterproof. Cradleboards were also made with a combination of woven basketry, wooden frames, hides, and decorated beadwork. Although these objects may not commonly survive at archeological sites, basketry fragments and potential basket-making tools have been recovered from archeological sites in the Monument.[140]

[137] Sam Burns, "The Ute relationships to the lands of West Central Colorado: An ethnographic overview prepared for the U.S. Forest Service," https://www.fortlewis.edu/finding_aids/inventory/UteLands.htm, accessed December 1, 2020.

[138] Burns, "The Ute relationships to the lands of West Central Colorado."

[139] Burns, "The Ute relationships to the lands of West Central Colorado."

[140] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 48.

EUROPEAN CONTACT AND INTERACTIONS WITH THE UTE

The earliest European and EuroAmerican people to enter the region were Spanish and possibly French explorers and traders who did not establish settlements or try to dispossess the Ute from lands. When the first non-indigenous people came into the region in the early seventeenth century, the Ute were grouped into ten bands; those in the Monument's general region were known as the Uncompahgre (Tabeguache) and White River bands (Yamparika and Parianuche). The Uncompahgre territory included the Gunnison and Uncompahgre rivers and the Elk Mountains, with the present-day Grand Junction area as their western boundary.[141] Other bands and tribes likely moved through the area and used its resources, notably the Yamparika Comanche who were recorded as north of the Colorado River when the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition passed through in 1776 (see below).[142]

By the mid-seventeenth century, the Ute had incorporated horses into their lifeways, which greatly enhanced mobility and expanded the areas in which they could hunt, gather resources, and interact with other Ute groups. Horses were initially acquired from the Spanish and from the Plains Indian tribes to the southeast. Ute groups were among the first tribes in the region to use horses, and it is estimated some bands had herds by 1640–1650.[143] Horses became more plentiful in the region after Spanish herds were released into the wild during the 1680 Pueblo Revolt; however, the Northern Ute did not fully adopt them until the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, as indicated by horse tack and hardware found at Ute archeological sites.[144] Archeologists refer to this period as the Antero Phase (ca. 1650–1881), with diagnostic European material and trade goods such as glass beads and metal cone "tinklers" mixed with traditional Ute cultural materials.

Spanish and Ute interactions were complicated. The first recorded conflict between the two groups occurred in 1638 with the capture of approximately 80 "Utacas" who were forced to work in Santa Fe.[145] In strategic response to this and other aggressions, Ute bands launched counterraids against settlements of Spanish and Pueblo peoples throughout the seventeenth century. At the same time, the Spanish also became important trading partners for the Ute; in exchange for metal tools and weapons needed to compete against the Apache and Navajo, the Utes traded food, enslaved peoples, horses, skins, and hides.[146] To acquire enslaved peoples for trade with the Spanish, the Utes launched frequent slave raids on Great Basin tribes, such as the Paiute, who lacked horses.

The Ute had temporary periodic alliances with the Spanish, Navajo, Comanche, Apache, and Pueblo during the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Their Spanish alliance in the 1750s helped them to firmly establish their territory in Utah and Colorado, forcing the Comanche and Apache tribes to move south and west. Their horse-based hunting patterns brought Ute bands to other territories and into contact and occasional conflict with distant tribes, including the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Pawnee, Sioux, and tribes to the east. Raids on other

[141] Duncan, "Northern Ute," 175–6.

[142] Warner, *The Dominguez-Escalante Journal*.

[143] S. Lyman Tyler, "The Yuta Indians Before 1680," *Western Humanities Review* 5(2) (Spring 1951):153.

[144] Duncan, "Northern Ute;" McBeth, Talking About a Sacredness.

[145] Duncan, *The Northern Utes of Utah*, 180.

[146] Duncan, *The Northern Utes of Utah*, 181.

tribes sometimes resulted in captives who were typically incorporated into Ute society but were sometimes traded to the Spanish for horses and European goods, including metal pots, knives, and guns.[147]

By the mid-eighteenth century, reports of vast mineral deposits in the San Juan Mountains in southwestern Colorado led to various Spanish and French exploration parties who would have encountered and probably traded with Ute bands. Juan de Rivera, an experienced frontiersman, explored southwestern Colorado several times between 1761 and 1765. Pedro Mora, Gregorio Sandoval, and Andres Muniz followed the Gunnison River northward to its junction with the Grand River, also known as the Colorado River, in 1775.[148] In 1776, a Spanish expedition led by Catholic priests Francisco Dominguez and Silvestre Velez de Escalante entered the region as they attempted to establish a new trail from New Mexico to California that avoided the hostile southwestern territory of the Hopi and Apache. The group followed the San Juan, Dolores, San Miguel, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison rivers before crossing the Colorado and heading west along the White River into Utah. This missionary group likely interacted with Ute bands in the region, recorded them as the "Yuta" in their diaries, and passed within about 15 to 30 miles of the Monument's boundaries, including passage over Grand Mesa. The missionaries noted that at one stop along the Gunnison River a Ute band from Utah Lake, 240 miles to the west, was visiting a local Ute band.[149]

Mexico's independence from Spain in 1821 led to an intensive European American effort to explore and expand into northern territories. A fur trade was established between the Ute and other Northern tribes with Spanish-speaking groups to the south, and Ute participated in a yearly summer "fur rendezvous" from 1825 to 1840. American and French fur traders became familiar with western Colorado as they sought beaver, buffalo, mountain sheep, and other hides. George Yount and other fur traders connected old Spanish trading routes, including portions of the Dominguez-Escalante route, with newly opened ones to establish what was known as the Old Spanish Trail, a 700-mile route between Sante Fe, New Mexico, and Los Angeles, California. The Trail passed through the area of present-day Grand Junction at the confluence of the Gunnison and Grand rivers.[150]

In 1828, French Canadian Antoine Robidoux established Fort Uncompahgre on the Gunnison River near present-day Delta, Colorado, as a trading post where regular interaction between Ute and non-indigenous people occurred. In 1832, Robidoux built Fort Uinta near White Rocks, Utah, and identified himself as the only person authorized to trade with the Ute for beaver and otter pelts and tanned buffalo, deer, elk, and mountain sheep hides.[151] While furs and horses were the most commonly traded items, Robidoux also engaged in illegal gun and liquor trade and may have also forced captured Ute women and children into slavery and prostitution.[152] The overtrapping of beaver and otter, the decline in fur consumption, and an increasing Ute

[147] Duncan, "Northern Ute," 182–3.

[148] Steven F. Mehls, The Valley of Opportunity: A History of West-Central Colorado (Colorado: US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office, 1982), 9–10.

[149] Warner, The Dominguez-Escalante Journal, 71–2.

[150] Mehls, The Valley of Opportunity, 19–22.

[151] Duncan, "Northern Ute."

[152] Steven G. Baker, "Historic Ute Culture Change in West-Central Colorado," *In Archaeology of the Eastern Ute: A Symposium*, edited by Paul R. Nickens, 157–189 (Denver: Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, 1988).

dependence on alcohol have been considered as reasons for deteriorating relations at the posts.[153] In 1844, a group of Utes destroyed Fort Uinta and Fort Uncompaghre in response to Robidoux's actions.[154]

The United States gained control over the area that includes western Colorado in 1848, when the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo officially ended the Mexican-American War (1846–1848). While a number of early explorers and traders documented trips through west-central Colorado, their impressions of the Ute were limited to notations about trade.[155] Major John Wesley Powell, an Army veteran, scientist, and representative of the federal government, was the first non-indigenous person to record detailed information about the Ute. Powell spent time with the Northern Ute in 1868–1869 when he camped in northwestern Colorado, and photographs taken by his companion John Hillers provide some visual documentation of the Ute at that time.[156] Powell's observations were colored by his western preconceptions, but he did record some details about Ute lifeways. He described an elderly woman named Tsauwiat, the wife of a chief, who was included in council meetings as a respected elder; he wrote about tilled fields that contained wheat, turnips, beets, and potatoes; and he described what he referred to as medical practices involving cutting the skin with stone knives and placing hot coals on the body to produce blisters.[157] Powell observed three Ute groups in western Colorado in the 1860s collectively identified as the "White River Ute." Clifford Duncan noted that explorers like Powell and John C. Fremont of the US Army Corps of Topographical Engineers, who widely published reports of their trips, preceded the white invasion of Ute territory.[158]

A 1999 archeological study in the Montrose area south of the Monument has documented some of the material culture at sites dating to ca. 1840–1880 that appear to have been Ute camps. Using historical records for comparison and analysis, the archeologists documented large and small trade beads in a variety of colors but mostly light blue and white; canned or tinned food containers; Spanish horse bits; brass decorative tacks; beaded and silver concho hair plates; metal arrow points; metal utensils; and harmonica parts. Many of the non-indigenous metal items had been modified or disassembled for use as raw materials. Among these are earrings made from scrap brass, pounded and decorated brass pieces, and cans and sheet metal cut into irregular shapes and/or made into cone tinklers. Scissors appear to have been used as the primary cutting tool, replacing traditional chipped-stone knives. The study results suggest that by the early to mid-nineteenth century, the Ute may have largely replaced some of their pre-contact material culture, including clay pottery and chipped-stone tools, in favor of European- and American-made goods.[159]

[153] Duncan, "Northern Ute."

[154] Husband, *Colorado Plateau Country Historic Context*.

[155] Husband, *Colorado Plateau Country Historic Context*.

[156] Duncan, "Northern Ute."

[157] Donald Worster, *A River Running West; the Life of John Wesley Powell* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001), cited in McBeth, Talking About a Sacredness, 55.

[158] Duncan, "Northern Ute."

[159] Jonathon Horn, "Ute Material Culture During the Historic Period as Represented by Sites in the Montrose Area." Paper presented at the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists Annual Meeting (Glenwood Springs, CO, 1999).

Official US geographic territories were established in Utah in 1850 and in Colorado in 1861, and regional Indian agencies staffed by white men were created to control trade, prevent violence, and, in theory, to oversee the welfare of Indian tribes in the West. The federal government sought to systematically remove Native peoples from their homelands, which were becoming or were already populated with non-indigenous people, and to move the Indians to unpopulated and/or less favorable locations often past the "frontier" boundary. Some tribes were forced to relocate multiple times into increasingly smaller reservations as westward settler/colonial expansion continued.

The Yamparika Band (also known as [aka] Yamparka or "root eaters") was referred to as the White River Band after an Indian Agency office of the same name was established near present-day Meeker, Colorado. The Parianuche Band (aka Parianuc, Parasanuch, Grand River, elk people, or people by the water) is thought to have joined with the White River Band. The Tabeguache Band (aka Taviwach, Taviwac, Tabehuachis, or people on the sunny side) later became known as the Uncompahgre because of their association with the Indian Agency office of the same name, and some White River Band groups joined with them.[160] These names and band affiliations in many ways were also a product of non-indigenous conventions including associating Native people with the agency office where they received goods and services. The US Indian Agency had been established by the federal government in the early nineteenth century to control trade between Native and non-Native peoples, with satellite offices along the frontier. This federal agency became one of many tools the federal government used to attempt the dispossession and acculturation of Indian tribes. Ute ethnographer Omer Stewart noted that the bands were not strictly organized; because of intermarriage and family movement, Ute groups were spread across and lived within a wide geographic area on either side of the Colorado/Utah border.

By the late 1860s, the Ute in western Colorado were finding it difficult to maintain their traditional land-use patterns as white miners and settlers began to claim territory (see Chapter Four). They erected fences and established permanent agricultural lands. Massive amounts of piñon were cut for firewood and building materials; livestock destroyed much of the plant understory; animals were driven from settled and developed areas; and available water resources were diverted. McBeth notes that the Colorado Ute were involved in nine treaty negotiations with the federal government, while the Utah Ute were involved in only one, likely due to the influence of ranchers and miners in Colorado who wanted the lands there.[161]

In 1868, the Hunt Treaty established the approximately 16- to 20-million-acre Consolidated Ute Reservation across one third of Colorado (including the future Colorado National Monument land) for all Ute people in Colorado and New Mexico (Figure 3-2). The federal government designated Ute leader Ouray as the representative for all Ute people and he had the power to sign the treaty. However. there is little evidence the reservation boundaries were ever acknowledged, and subsequent treaties took away the same lands.[162] The government's record of broken treaties was so prolific that the local *Gunnison Review* reported, "Every treaty yet

[160] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*.

[161] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 57–8.

[162] Simmons, *The Ute Indians of Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico*.

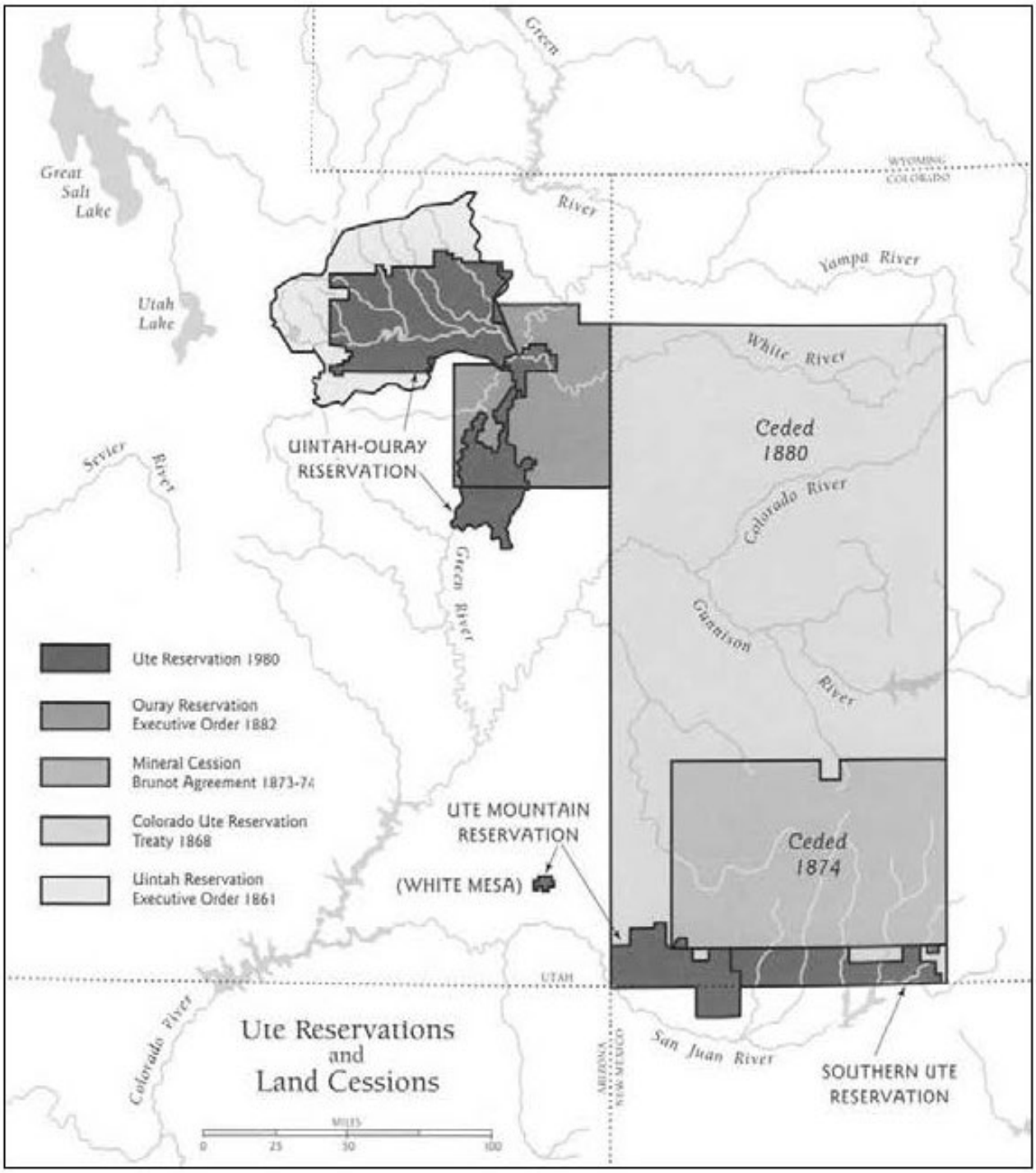


Figure 3-2. Map showing Ute land cessions and reservations and the approximate location of Colorado National Monument (Wroth 2000:2).

made with the Indians has been a burning lie stamping itself upon the nation—a disgrace to the boasted civilization of a free people."[163] When Colorado became a state in 1876, its second governor Frederick Walker Pitkin was elected based on his "Utes Must Go" platform (Figure 3-3).[164]



Figure 3-3. Image of newspaper ad displaying "Utes Must Go" propaganda (Herald Democrat 2020).

While the forced Ute removal from Colorado was preceded by years of non-indigenous encroachment and dispossession, the 1879 murder of Indian Agent Nathan Meeker and what became known as the "Meeker Massacre" are viewed as the tipping points that spurred official federal action. Meeker oversaw the White River Agency office in northern Colorado, approximately 100 miles north of the Monument area. Meeker, who was also a journalist and founder of the Union Colony agricultural settlement (later known as Greeley) north of Denver, had taken the job to help pay off his debts and had no experience with Native Americans before his assignment. Historians and ethnographers note that Meeker approached his role from a common racist Euro-centric perspective and insisted that the Ute would become "civilized" only by abandoning their traditional lifeways. Meeker's actions were aimed at forcing the Ute to give up their horse-based hunting subsistence and fully engage in agriculture. His frequent

[163] Gunnison Review, August 7:1, 1880, cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 65.

[164] Duncan, "Northern Ute."

letters and articles denigrating Native people were published widely, and the Ute in the region were certainly aware of his behavior.[165] As a journalist for the *New York Tribune*, Meeker reinforced white supremacy by writing, "The extension of a fine nervous system is impossible in the Indian, because he is without brain to originate and support it."[166] Meeker's attitudes were supported by federal policies, some deadly, which were designed to limit Native movement across their wide ancestral homelands, force them onto reservations, and make it easier for white settlers to claim and develop the land.

By September 1879, the Ute had dealt with eight Indian Agents in ten years, and the man who immediately preceded Nathan Meeker had kept a large Ute food and supply ration in a warehouse in Wyoming for 18 months. Meeker moved the White River headquarters into an area of culturally significant Ute horse pasturage and plowed the land, which escalated tensions to the point where Meeker requested help from the US Cavalry. More than 200 Cheyenne and Arapaho men, women, and children had been murdered in their village by Cavalry soldiers at Sand Creek in eastern Colorado in 1864, and the Ute had reason to believe the military would do the same thing again. When the soldiers crossed into the Ute reservation, it was seen as an act of war. On September 29, 1879, Colonel Thomas Thornburgh and 13 of his soldiers were killed and others held captive. Meeker and 10 Agency men were also killed in White River, along with 37 Ute men. A Ute group kidnapped Meeker's wife, daughter, another woman, and her two children and held them at Grand Mesa for 23 days.

Some Ute remember these events as part of a conspiracy, in which Meeker was intentionally placed in his position by the government to escalate tensions, push the Colorado Ute to a breaking point, and legitimize the taking of Ute lands across the region.[167] The well-publicized Meeker incident was undoubtably used to support claims that the "Ute problem," as it was described in an 1880 *New York Times* editorial, needed a permanent solution.[168]

In January 1880, a Ute delegation that included Ouray traveled to Washington, DC, with commissioners of the White River and Uncompahgre agencies. The Uncompahgre Agency (also known as Los Piños #2) had earlier relocated south of the Monument near present-day Montrose within the hunting grounds of the Uncompahgre Ute, who also received government rations there. A new treaty stated that the White River Utes would relocate to the Uintah Agency in Utah; the Uncompahgre Ute to lands at *or adjacent to* the confluence of the Colorado and Gunnison rivers, *if* enough agricultural land was located there for their use (italics added); and the Southern Ute to the Four Corners area. Congress approved the terms of the treaty but stipulated that three-fourths of the adult male Ute population needed to ratify it to be finalized.[169]

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[165] Peter R. Decker, *"The Utes Must Go!" American Expansion and the Removal of a People* (Golden, CO: Fulcrum, 2004); Robert Emmitt, *The Last War Trail: The Utes and the Settlement of Colorado* (Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2000); Joseph G. Jorgensen, "The Ethnohistory and Acculturation of the Northern Ute" (PhD diss., Indiana University, 1964); Marshall Sprague, *Massacre; the Tragedy at White River* (Boston: Little Brown and Company, 1957).

[166] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 59, quoting Sprague, *Massacre; the Tragedy at White River*, 18.

[167] McBeth, Talking About a Sacredness, 63.

[168] Robert G. Hays, *Race at Bay; New York Times Editorials on "the Indian Problem," 1860–1900* (Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 1997).

[169] Decker, *"The Utes Must Go!"*.

The Uncompahgre Ute withdrew their support of the treaty after Ouray's death in August 1880 and because of the ambiguous language. Their mistrust was well-founded. The Indian Agency commissioners determined that the Uncompahgre reservation lands lacked proper irrigation and that irrigation systems would be expensive to build. In reality, the land around present-day Grand Junction was sought after by settlers, and the commissioners used the language of the ruling to deny the Ute their reservation. They also interpreted the "adjacent to" clause to apply to Utah, which was adjacent to the Colorado territory border, and supported a plan to relocate the Uncompahgre to Utah. Removing the Ute entirely from Colorado was seen by many officials as justified in response to the Meeker incident. Others felt that the Ute were in danger of retribution if they remained.[170] Regardless of the reasons, the majority of non-Indians agreed that the Ute must leave Colorado.

The Ute initially refused to leave their homelands, but as money and supplies were withheld by the government, small groups gradually began the 350-mile journey west to the Uintah-Ouray Reservation in Utah after the official treaty declaration on August 28, 1881. They left Colorado by various routes—traveling overland and by some water routes. Indian Agents and military personnel accompanied some groups, but the journeys are not well documented in written historical sources. Several historians estimate that 1,500 people with their material possessions; 10,000 cattle, sheep, and goats; and 8,000 horses and ponies moved from Colorado to Utah in 1881.[171]

Cavalry troops were assigned to keep white settlers away from the evacuated lands until the Ute had completely left, and the territory was not officially opened for settlement until June 1882, but there are numerous accounts of white encroachers in the Grand Valley before that time (see Chapter Four).[172] The land in the valley that had been deemed unsuitable for the Ute was described in other government documents as containing "several thousand square miles of the finest coal beds … some of the richest gold and silver mines … and … large tracts of fine grazing, agricultural, and timber lands."[173]

The government believed the Ute "removal" was accomplished by treaty and legitimized the purchase, development, and settlement of Ute homelands across the Grand Valley and throughout Colorado. The Ute did not abandon their homelands, however. Tribal knowledge, historians, and the Indian Agents themselves all document the seasonal return of Ute groups to Colorado during the fall hunting time and their return to Utah with their resources for the winter.[174] Some government officials stated that many Ute were dissatisfied with the treaty agreement and noted that, while the treaty formalized the Ute resettlement, it did not explicitly state that the Ute, nor did the Ute agree to, give up their hunting and gathering rights in Colorado. Most historians who have reviewed the documentary record from this period believe that Colorado officials and government agents tacitly acknowledged the Ute presence as long as there were no violent incidents with white settlers. One Ute historian described the belief that, while the Ute gave up their right to live on the land, they did not give up hunting rights, because

[170] Decker, *"The Utes Must Go!"*.

[171] Buys, Christian, "Fort Crawford: A Symbol of Transition," *Journal of the Western Slope* 8, 2 (1993):2–29.

[172] Decker, *"The Utes Must Go!"*; Kathleen Hill Underwood, "Town Building on the Frontier: Grand Junction, Colorado, 1880–1900" (PhD diss., University of California, 1982).

[173] 1882 US Senate Document, cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 70.

[174] Decker, *"The Utes Must Go!"*; Wilson Rockwell, *The Utes: A Forgotten People* (Denver: Sage Books, 1956).

wild animals are not owned (and therefore cannot be given away) and move freely across the landscape.[175]

McBeth provides examples of numerous newspaper accounts beginning in 1882 that describe tense encounters between white settlers and Ute who were returning to or still in western Colorado, including Fruita.[176] The Colorado Wickiup Project has documented examples of Ute structures that date to the "removal period" and into the early twentieth century, including wickiups with metal axe-cut poles that have been dated to as late as 1915 using dendrochronology, with more than half of the dated post-contact (historic) period structures built and used after 1881.[177] These findings have important implications for wickiup and other Ute site types within the Monument that contain overlapping historic period sites with late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century cultural materials. Additional research and documentation may help determine if these locations were used separately first by Ute and later by non-indigenous ranchers, workers, or others, or if some of these sites were built and used exclusively by Ute groups returning to the area seasonally into the early twentieth century.

Several local histories of life in the Grand Junction area document Ute people in the twentieth century. Don Roth, a local resident born in 1905 whose father owned a ranch and store in the Fruita area, remembered playing with Ute children as a child and reported that he had been gifted with a Ute blanket when he was an infant. He also described a Ute camp at Bitter Creek just over the state border in Grand County, Utah, and a summer pasture and Ute house sites near Baxter Pass, also just over the border.[178] Roth's photographs of the Bitter Creek camp including the Ute Leader Atchee are in the collections of the Fruita Historical Society.[179]

McBeth's 2010 ethnographic study report includes an image from a series of 1905 photos that are displayed in the Fruita City Hall. The photos, also donated by the Roth family, depict Ute individuals and were taken by Don Roth in Grand County, Utah.[180] One of her tribal consultants wondered if the Ute men were employed as ranch hands or worked on a railroad crew. Another thought they could potentially be tribal members who refused to relocate.[181]

The Teller Institute, also known as the Grand Junction Indian School, was established in 1885–1886 and was open until 1991 as one of many Indian boarding schools established across the country in the late nineteenth century. Together with reservation creation, boarding schools were designed to force Native Americans to give up their traditional lifeways. Boarding schools tried to "civilize" Native American children by removing them from their kin and prohibiting Native clothing, activities, and language. Ironically, the Teller Institute was established in Grand Junction after the government's Ute removal from Colorado and was intended for the children whose families had been forced to leave the same area. Numerous interviews and records

[175] Roland McCook, cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 73–74.

[176] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 74–76.

[177] Curtis Martin and Richard Ott, "The Colorado Wickiup Project; Volume IV: Recordation and Re-evaluation of Twenty-seven Aboriginal Wooden Features Sites in Garfield, Mesa, Moffat, and Rio Blanco Counties, Colorado" (On file, Colorado State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, Denver, 2009).

[178] Roth, cited in McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 77.

[179] Mary Jane Naone, personal communication, 2021.

[180] Mary Jane Naone, personal communication, 2021.

[181] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 78.

archived at the Museum of the West in Grand Junction indicate that most Ute families refused to allow their children to go to the Teller Institute and that the school ultimately boarded mostly Apache and Mojave children.[182]

By the beginning of the twentieth century, white settlers and officials were becoming increasingly agitated by the Ute presence in western Colorado, pressing claims of illegal trespass and violation of gaming regulations. After 1916, a homestead rush occurred, the once open land and plentiful game that had drawn the Ute back year after year were limited.[183] Even so, McBeth cites interviews with white residents who remembered several Ute individuals regularly visiting family, shopping, or receiving medical care in the Grand Junction area in the 1920s and one Ute family living on a rancher's property in Colbran, Colorado.[184] In 1956, Monument personnel selectively thinned some of the bison herd that John Otto had introduced in the 1920s (see Chapter Five). Navajo Indians were invited to the Monument to butcher the animals, and it is unclear why they, rather than the Ute, were selected.[185]

In response to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, the Northern Ute Tribe voted to create a new tribal government in 1937. All bands were granted equal rights as part of the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. Today, the reservation covers more than 1 million acres and, as of 2013, had an enrollment of approximately 3,000 members. Three recognized bands make up the membership: the Uintah, Uncompahgre, and White River. Most Ute live in Whiterocks, Fort Duchesne, or Randlett, Utah.

Colorado National Monument includes lands that are traditionally associated with the federally recognized Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe and the White Mesa Community, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and the Navajo Nation. The NPS consults with all traditionally associated tribes for advice and assistance with projects and interpretation at the Monument.

[182] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 79.

[183] Val FitzPatrick, *Red Twilight: The Last Free Day of the Ute Indians* (Utah: Yellow Cat Fats, 2000), 134.

[184] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 81–82.

[185] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 82.

CHAPTER FOUR: WHITE SETTLEMENT IN AND AROUND COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT, 1848–1911

The lure of mineral wealth and virgin agricultural land drew American settlement westward across the Continental Divide in the mid-nineteenth century. After acquiring the western territories from Mexico in 1848, the US government sent explorers and surveyors to map the region's terrain and report on its resources. The first non-indigenous settlements in the area around what is now Colorado National Monument emerged after the forced removal of the Ute Indians from the region by 1881, as described in Chapter Three. White settlers, including ranchers and railroad developers, established claims that resulted in the new communities of Grand Junction, Glade Park, and Fruita (originally called Fairview) by 1882.[186] Land company representatives traveled across the eastern United States and in Colorado selling farm tracts in the Grand Valley. Those who did not purchase land directly acquired it under the federal Homestead Act of 1862 or the Ute Reservation Law of 1882.[187] The railroad and large-scale irrigation efforts played key roles in the establishment of the early farms and communities of western Colorado, as did entrepreneurs.

The white families who settled in western Colorado, as in many areas of the western United States, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries primarily established farms and raised livestock, although some were lured by gold, silver, and coal mining prospects. Most who settled in the Grand Valley/Uncompahgre Plateau were born in the United States and had lived in other settled parts of Colorado, such as the declining silver-mining communities of the San Juan Mountains and the emerging cities in the eastern part of the state. Others came from Ohio, Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. Small numbers were from England, Canada, France, and eastern Europe. Groups of Volga German beet farmers settled in the Grand Valley in 1910–1913 but found the terrain less suitable for their crops than the eastern slopes of the Rockies.[188]

LAND SURVEYS

The US government funded multiple explorations of the western territories, including western Colorado, in the mid-nineteenth century. John C. Fremont of the US Army Corps of Topographical Engineers led an 1843 expedition out of Independence, Missouri, that aimed for California and unsuccessfully sought the source of the Grand River en route. In 1848 and 1853, expeditions under his lead followed similar routes to identify a feasible alignment for a transcontinental railroad from St. Louis to San Francisco. In 1853, US Army Captain John Williams Gunnison led a similar expedition. Fremont and Gunnison passed near today's Grand Junction. Their reports, which did not result in a promising path for the railroad, nevertheless spread knowledge of the Grand River area and other parts of western Colorado. Major John Wesley Powell's geological research and survey expeditions across the West in 1867–1881 contributed valuable information, and detailed surveys by the American geologist Ferdinand

[186] McBeth, *Talking About a Sacredness*, 65, 72; Mehls, The Valley of Opportunity, 42–43.

[187] Mehls, *The Valley of Opportunity*, 131.

[188] Mehls, *The Valley of Opportunity*, 132–133.

Vandeveer Hayden in the 1870s on behalf of the US Department of the Interior resulted in the most accurate maps of the region up to that time (Figure 4-1).[189]

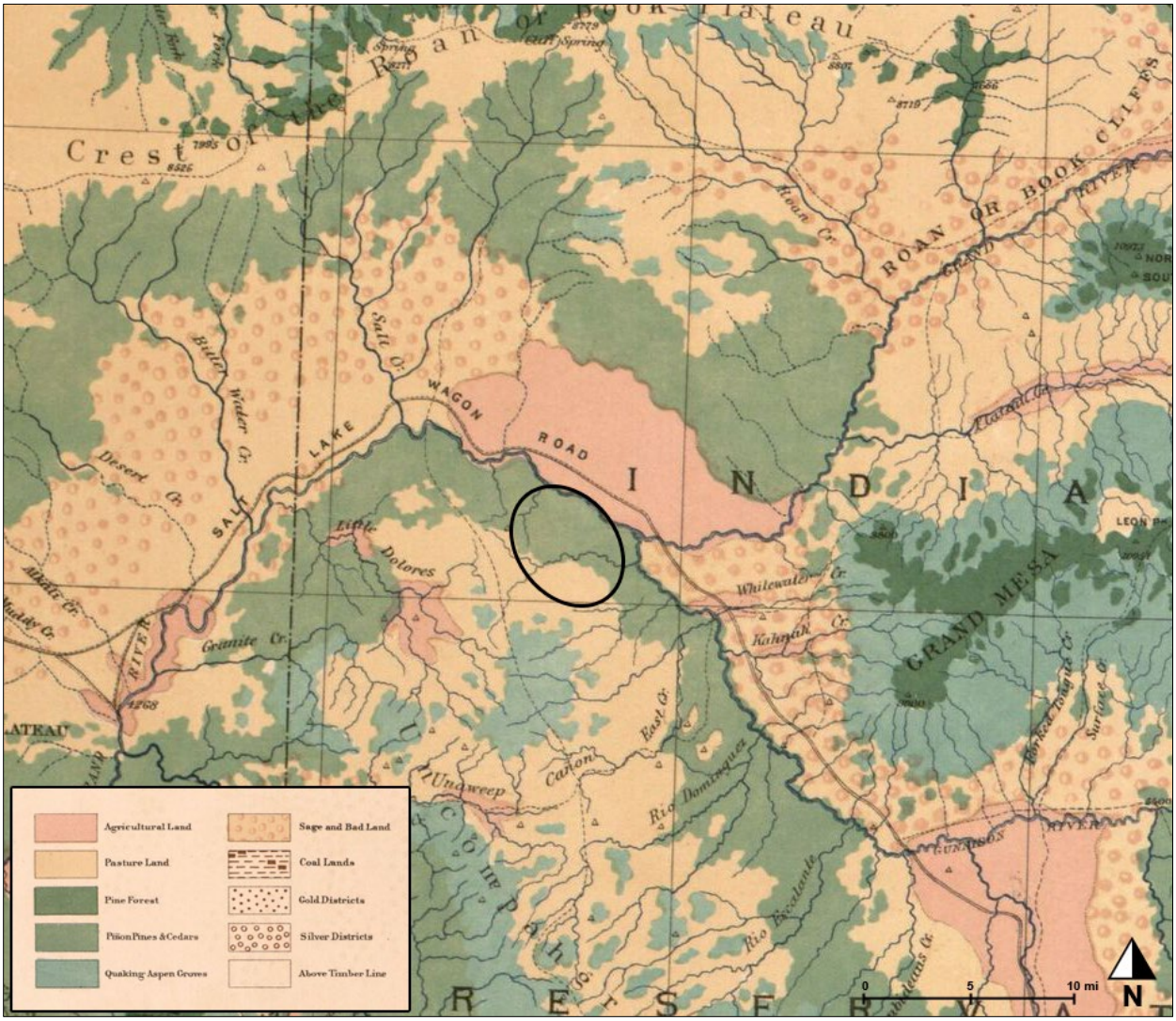


Figure 4-1. Section of 1877 (Hayden) map of Colorado showing the approximate location of future Colorado National Monument.

RAILROADS

Railroad development opened the Grand Valley to a wave of new settlement and agricultural development. Colorado was without a railroad into the 1860s, when Governor John Evans's efforts to attract the construction of a transcontinental railroad through the state failed. However, in 1870, William Jackson Palmer chartered the Denver and Rio Grande Railway and planned a narrow-gauge (i.e., 3-foot-wide) line westward across the Continental Divide to Gunnison and what is now Grand Junction and then to Utah. As construction commenced, the promises of agricultural development in the Grand Valley were advertised, and homesteaders

[189] Mehls, *The Valley of Opportunity*, 24–28.

and other investors began exploring the area.[190] After reaching Gunnison in 1881, a construction crew of 1,000 laborers continued the line into Grand Junction. At the same time, the railway owners created a new company to build a connecting line from Salt Lake City, Utah, east to the Colorado border. Known as the Denver and Rio Grande Western and, alternatively, "the Western," the line was completed in 1883. By this time, Grand Junction had been established as a railroad hub with a roundhouse and repair shop.[191]

While these rail lines converged at Grand Junction, Colorado Springs businessmen founded the Colorado Midland Railway Company to develop a standard-gauge (i.e., 4-foot-8½-in-wide) line. Beginning at Colorado Springs, the tracks reached Leadville and Aspen in the mid-1880s. The company ultimately united with the Denver and Rio Grande, which desperately needed to convert from a narrow- to standard-gauge line to remain current with the prevailing trend in railway development in the West. In 1890, the updated line was completed to Grand Junction and into Utah.[192]

IRRIGATION

Irrigation was essential to the success of agriculture in western Colorado. Like much of the state, the Colorado National Monument area has a semi-arid climate with an average rainfall of about 11 inches each year.[193] The types of agriculture practiced by white settlers in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Colorado relied on the control of water sources via ditches, canals, and, to a lesser degree, pipelines. Hispanic settlers who entered the San Luis Valley in south-central Colorado in the 1840s and 1850s were the first Euro-Americans to use drainage ditches for the benefit of agriculture. As American settlement pushed into Colorado after the discovery of gold in the mid-nineteenth century, small farming and ranching operations opened short ditches to irrigate their tracts. As the century progressed, agricultural interests established larger communities requiring more extensive irrigation systems. Nathan Meeker's Union Colony agricultural settlement (see Chapter Three) was one of the first such communities and a model for Grand Junction, Fruita, and many others. By the late 1870s, Meeker and his investors developed several large irrigation ditches at Union Colony that fed a broader system encompassing more than 10,000 acres of farm lots. Railroad development led to more agricultural communities. By 1890, Colorado had more than 1 million acres of irrigated agricultural land and extensive canals, often financed with British capital, carried water dozens of miles in some locations.[194]

Several irrigation projects were underway in the Grand Junction-Fruita area by the time the Denver and Rio Grande Railway was completed. The sources of the water were the Grand River and a tributary known as the Big Salt Wash, which swelled from melted snow in the spring. A group of ranchers from the Palisade area (about 10 miles northeast of Grand Junction) embarked on the Grand Valley Ditch in 1881 to carry the water 12 miles from its source to the

[190] Mehls, *The Valley of Opportunity*, 82–84.

[191] Mehls, *The Valley of Opportunity*, 82–84.

[192] Mehls, *The Valley of Opportunity*, 85–87.

[193] National Park Service, Colorado National Monument, Weather and Climate, https://www.nps.gov/colm/learn/nature/weather.htm, April 10, 2020, accessed October 2021.

[194] Michael Holleran, *Historic Context for Irrigation Water Supply Ditches and Canals in Colorado* (Denver, CO: Colorado Center for Preservation Research, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, 2005), 7–23.

area that became Grand Junction. Early in the process of digging, the work stalled. A new investor, rancher Matt Arch, bought the incipient ditch and renamed it the Grand River Ditch. The project progressed under his leadership and evolved into a much larger system of two canals: one running 24 miles to the Fruita area and another running 25 miles to Grand Junction. The intensive labor involved in constructing this ditch and in other irrigation projects created numerous jobs. The Grand River Ditch was completed in 1884, by which time William E. Pabor, founder of Fruita, was a partner in the organization.

Other, less substantial, irrigation systems in the Valley/Plateau region were also important to settlement and agricultural development. The 10-mile Pacific Slope Ditch, completed in 1882, was dug to provide domestic water to Grand Junction. The Ranchmen's Ditch Company started its own project in 1882 to carry domestic water from the Grand River several miles to Fruita. Finally, the Pioneer Ditch Company was formed in 1883 to irrigate farmland and supply water for manufacturing and milling in Grand Junction.[195]

As settlement increased, the systems of irrigation ditches proved expensive to maintain and often failed to supply adequate water for domestic and agricultural use. Standing water in the ditches also presented a significant contamination risk to cattle and sheep. A new arm of the Grand River Ditch, known as the Kiefer Extension, was added in the 1890s. Ultimately, the owners of the Grand River Ditch transferred their rights to the users of the water.[196] By 1902, area residents began planning for a pipeline to carry water from the high country into Fruita in place of the ditches (see below).

MINING

Mining of gold, silver, and coal was the most significant industrial activity in Colorado in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Beginning with gold discoveries near Pike's Peak in the late 1850s, a gold rush swept the Denver area and spread into the Rocky Mountains, leading to new settlements that contributed to the formation of the Colorado Territory in 1861. Initially, a technique known as placer mining was used to collect gold deposits through the relatively inexpensive and simple processes of panning and sluicing. Hardrock mining, which involved extracting ore from shafts driven into the ground and then processing it to remove the metals, began in the 1860s and required capital investment and railroad transport. After the Civil War, a focus on silver-lead ore mining occurred, and silver production came to surpass gold production. In the Rocky Mountains, Leadville in Lake County, Colorado, became the silver-lead smelting center of the world in the late nineteenth century after deposits were discovered in the California Gulch region in the 1870s. The San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado also became a focus of silver mining, leading to new settlements and growth that influenced Colorado's statehood in 1876. Coal mining first occurred outside Denver in the 1860s, but the relative lack of railroads in Colorado and the general focus on metal mining meant that coal was not mined on a large scale in the state until the 1880s.[197]

[195] Davidson, "The Grand River Ditch," 2–27.

[196] Holleran, *Ditches and Canals in Colorado*, 35; Don Davidson, "The Grand River Ditch: A Short History of Pioneering Irrigation in Colorado's Grand Valley," *Journal of the Western Slope* 1(4), 1986, 2–27.

[197] James E. Fell and Eric Twitty, *National Register of Historic Places Multi-Property Documentation Form – The Mining Industry in Colorado* (2008), 1–49.

Mining of any kind was not extensive in the area surrounding Colorado National Monument in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Prospectors likely traversed the region in search of deposits for gold and silver in the mid- to late nineteenth century; however, they found few, if any sources. Concerted efforts to prospect faced the challenge of the Ute, who inhabited the area and often came into conflict with the white prospectors. Also, the area had only primitive transportation routes until the arrival of the railroad in the 1880s. Even after the Ute were removed and the railroad was completed into Grand Junction, prospectors did not strike any substantial deposits of gold or silver. Some unsuccessful mining reportedly occurred at Devils Canyon, northwest of the future Monument, and miners also explored Kodels Canyon in the same geographic area. An inscription panel dated 1905 is associated with four prospecting pits and states that it was relocated by "Eugen Grosjean," who may have owned the pits or been an independent observer. John Kodel, a miner and experienced stone mason, built a more developed mine shaft with basic infrastructure (stone check dams and retaining walls) southwest of the prospecting pits in the early twentieth century. He built a cabin and possibly other structures on the mine, which he aggressively protected by shooting at anyone who drew near. Ultimately, Kodel was institutionalized because of his aberrant behavior. The shaft, within the current Monument boundary and sealed with foam by NPS staff for safety, remains visible along with mine claims carved into rocks and tailing piles identifying test shafts. Other structures on the site were salvaged or destroyed long ago.[198]

As in other mining areas across the western United States, bogus gold discoveries were reported in the land that ultimately became the Monument. Grand Junction newspaperman Whipple Chester, prospector Ray Kennedy, and several members of the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce claimed to have discovered gold in No Thoroughfare Canyon in 1909. The group reportedly was searching for evidence of ancient cliff dwellers when they stumbled upon gold nuggets. After the Grand Junction newspaper reported the find, prospectors flooded into that canyon, but the precious yellow metal was nowhere to be found.[199]

SETTLEMENTS

The late nineteenth-century communities of Grand Junction, Glade Park, and Fruita that surround Colorado National Monument (Figure 4-2) focused on raising livestock and farming. Railroad development and irrigation helped to fuel the growth of Grand Junction, which became the largest of the three communities by the twentieth century; livestock ranchers from Glade Park historically drove their cattle through portions of the Monument to market in Grand Junction or to pasture beyond Fruita, the closest community to the Monument. These stock driveways were the earliest non-Native passageways through Monument land, which also provided some of the right-of-way for the Fruita Pipeline that carried Fruita's early water supply. As will be discussed in Chapter Five, these communities promoted the establishment of the Monument and provided funding and labor for the early roads within it.

[198] By 1990, the NPS had installed a safety gate at the shaft to prevent people from entering. John Burghardt, "Trip Report: Colorado National Monument - Investigation of Abandoned Mine Sites, January 13–14, 1990," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series VII - L Files, Box 5, Land Use Mining and Mineral 1949–1990. See also Lohman, *The Geologic Story of Colorado National Monument*, 12–13; Andrew Hawkins, "Did John Kodel find gold in the Monument or was it a dream?" *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, June 23, 1974, 34.

[199] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 32.

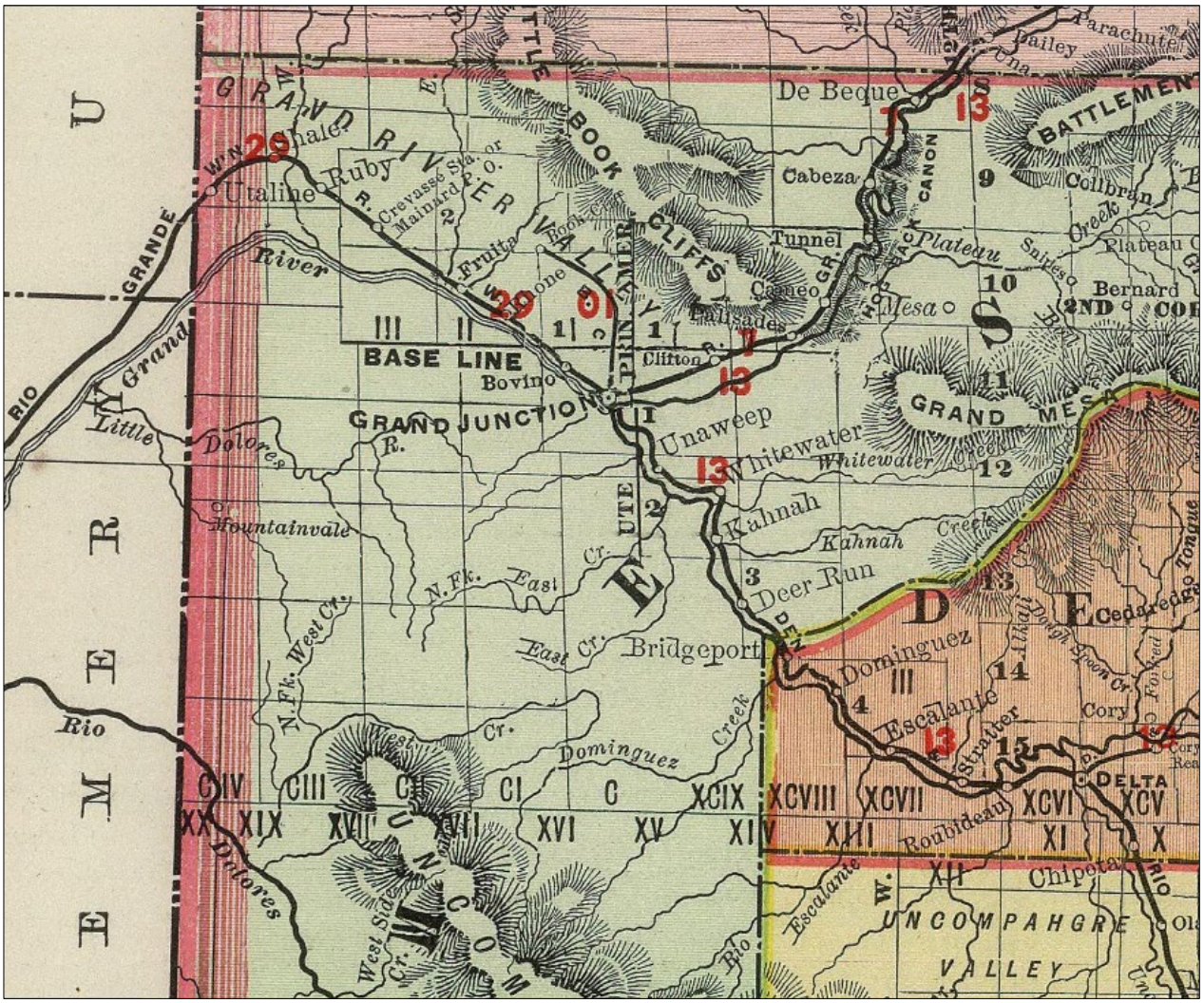


Figure 4-2. Section of 1903 Rand McNally map of Colorado showing Grand Junction and Fruita.

Grand Junction

As the US Army drove the Ute from the Grand Valley, George A. Crawford (1827–1891) acquired several hundred acres of land that would become Grand Junction about six miles east of the Monument. Born in Pennsylvania, Crawford had settled in Kansas and worked as a newspaper editor. He developed the town of Fort Scott in Kansas and was involved in politics at the state level. The excitement surrounding the westward push of settlement enticed him to move to Colorado and the Grand Valley, which he believed could become an agricultural empire through irrigation and railroads. At the time of his purchase in 1881, the route of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway through the area had not been conclusively determined. Crawford helped the railroad company choose the route by offering them some of his acreage and half an interest in his land company, the Grand Junction Town Company. The railroad agreed, and soon Grand Junction, which had a post office and railroad by 1882, was advertised as the "future metropolis of Western Colorado."[200]

[200] Alan J. Kania, *Grand Junction* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2010), 30–34.

Grand Junction became a market center for the farms and livestock ranches of the surrounding area. Agricultural development initially focused on apple and peach cultivation. Several years after its founding, the town had almost 900 residents and about 70 businesses. By the end of the 1880s, the opening of the Colorado Midland Railway influenced further growth. Grand Junction was selected as the county seat when Mesa County was organized in 1883. At the start of the twentieth century, the town's population was 3,500. Business and political leaders in Grand Junction influenced steady settlement by advertising the surrounding area's agricultural opportunities and the town's amenities, which included schools, churches, newspapers, and railroad connections. In addition to fruit, farmers in the area grew sugar beets, which were processed at the town's Colorado Sugar Manufacturing Company established in 1899.[201] Grand Junction also realized that a tourist industry could be built by showcasing the natural wonder just beyond its boundaries: the so-called "Monument Cañon," as the area that became Colorado National Monument was known in the early twentieth century. The Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce played an important role in advertising and took part in efforts to designate it a national monument (see Chapter Five).[202]

Glade Park

The small, scattered community of Glade Park, first known as Big Park, was founded on the broad mesa to the west and south of the future Monument in the late nineteenth century. Cattlemen, who benefited from the range land the mesa supplied, were the first residents. Homesteaders followed, staking out claims under 200 acres that they then had to improve to obtain title from the United States. Many homesteaders developed farms on their acreage. The Glade Park Store, which doubled as a post office, was the central landmark of the community, which spread several miles in each direction.[203]

Cattle ranching, sheep raising, and dry farming characterized Glade Park's early economy. Because most of the West was considered open range for livestock, Glade Park was attractive to cattlemen. The area offered ideal pasturage for summer ranging of cattle. Cattleman Charles Sieber settled in the vicinity in 1885 and soon expanded his herd of cattle from several thousand head to over 30,000. He drove his stock into Grand Junction, where they were marketed and shipped via the railways. Cattle ranchers competed with sheep ranchers for grazing lands. The Goslin Sheep Company was established in the community in 1908 with about 40,000 sheep. The dry farming involved cultivating corn, grains, potatoes, and other crops but was not very successful due to water issues and poor roads leading from Glade Park to the nearest markets in Grand Junction and Fruita.[204] Much of the water supply was derived from the mountain springs of the Piñon Mesa and carried by the Fruita Pipeline (see below). Farmers would haul water in barrels from the pipeline to their homesteads and ranged their livestock in the lower country

[201] Holleran, *Ditches and Canals in Colorado*, 26–27.

[202] Henry Gannett, *A Gazetteer of Colorado* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1906), 78; Lisa Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel: A History of the Road Controversy at Colorado National Monument* (Denver, CO: US Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, Intermountain Region, 1997), 5–7.

[203] Albert Ozbun, *A Glade Park History Remembered* (Grand Junction, CO: Lynn Research, 1995); Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 5–8.

[204] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 8–9; Denise Hight and Steve Hight, Fruita (Charleston, SC: Arcadia, 2011), 34.

near Fruita in the winter. The Fruita Dugway (see below) through the future Monument and other passageways provided a connection to crucial grazing lands.[205]

Residents of Glade Park, who were connected to outside communities by little more than livestock trails, petitioned the Mesa County government to open better roads in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. One of the first was Little Park Road, which skirts the eastern side of the Monument. Completed in 1883, it connected Glade Park with Grand Junction. Other roads opened by the county and other entities at the turn of the century were Gordon's Toll Road, Deer Pass, Jacob's Ladder, Billy Goat Trail, and the Fruita Dugway.[206]

Fruita

About 4 miles from the northern section of the Monument, Fruita was founded in 1884 by William E. Pabor, who had settled in the area in the early 1880s. Pabor, a veteran of the Union Colony irrigation system in Greeley, had developed fruit orchards by 1883 and sought to bring new settlement and investment to the area by establishing the Fruita Town and Land Company to sell lots to farmers and investors. The tract was enticing because it was irrigated and had direct railway access via the Denver and Rio Grande Railway. In addition to fruit, the early settlers of Fruita cultivated potatoes, beets, and wheat. The railroad provided the means to ship produce beyond the region and brought new settlers and supplies for farms, businesses, and homesteads. By the early twentieth century, the town of Fruita had evolved from a rough assortment of farms with a railroad connection to a small town with telephone and electrical services as well as schools, churches, and a newspaper. There were 126 people living in Fruita in 1900.[207]

Several ranchers outside Fruita raised cattle and sheep, using the land for winter grazing and driving their stock southwestward in the summer to the higher country around Glade Park and Piñon Mesa. The primary passage for the drive was the approximately 20-mile Fruita Dugway from the environs of Fruita to Piñon Mesa via future Monument land and Glade Park. However, the route through the Monument skirted cliffs and was exceptionally dangerous (Figure 4-3).[208]

Leaders in Fruita and the neighboring Redlands district conducted a land survey in 1902 for the Fruita Pipeline, which was constructed in 1906–1907. In 1905, the federal government reserved land at Piñon Mesa about 25 miles south of Fruita as the main watershed for the pipeline.[209] From Piñon Mesa, the pipeline route passed through Glade Park and entered a nearby section of the future Monument land that was roughly parallel to the western boundary of the

[205] Ozbun, *A Glade Park History Remembered*; Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 5.

[206] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 8–11.

[207] Gannett, *A Gazetteer of Colorado*, 73; Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 11–12.

[208] Ranchers continued to use the Fruita Dugway into the early 1990s, according to the NPS Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS). See also Hight and Hight, *Fruita*, 32–34.

[209] The federal reservation at Piñon Mesa was known as the Fruita Forest Reserve.



Figure 4-3. Ca. 1900 image of cattle drive along Fruita Dugway (courtesy NPS).

Monument and followed part of the earlier Fruita Dugway. The route exited the Monument via Fruita Canyon and then continued over the Colorado River into Fruita.[210]

The construction of the pipeline through such mountainous terrain was a challenge. Pipes and other construction material were brought to Fruita by rail, ferried across the Colorado River, and then hauled to construction sites for installation. To clear rock for the pipeline, dynamite blasting was necessary. The Fruita Bridge was completed over the Colorado River in 1907 to carry the pipeline and other traffic into Fruita.[211] An explosives handler on one of the work crews for the pipeline, John Otto, became acquainted with the Monument Cañon during the pipeline's construction. He soon made it his home and became its promoter (see Chapter Five).[212]

[210] National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument* (1932), Map, Maps and Drawings Collection: Subseries 1.2: Boundary Surveys, File Unit 2, Map Folder 8. Fruita, CO: Colorado National Monument; Preston Walker, *Scrap Book Picture Story: Colorado National Monument Water System* (Grand Junction, CO: Colorado Mesa University Special Collections, ca. 1937), 15.

[211] Ozbun, *A Glade Park History Remembered*; Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 11–12.

[212] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument* (Boulder, CO: Roberts Rinehart, 1984), 24–25.

The pipeline also required several reservoirs.[213] Two reservoirs (one inside the Monument boundary and the other just outside) were near the current west entrance to the Monument. Both were known simply as Fruita Reservoir and likely were completed at the same time the Fruita Pipeline was built (1906–1907). The reservoir first appears on the 1934 US Geological Survey map of Colorado National Monument (Figure 4-4). The Fruita Pipeline helped agriculture in Fruita and other places along its route. However, an adequate supply of water

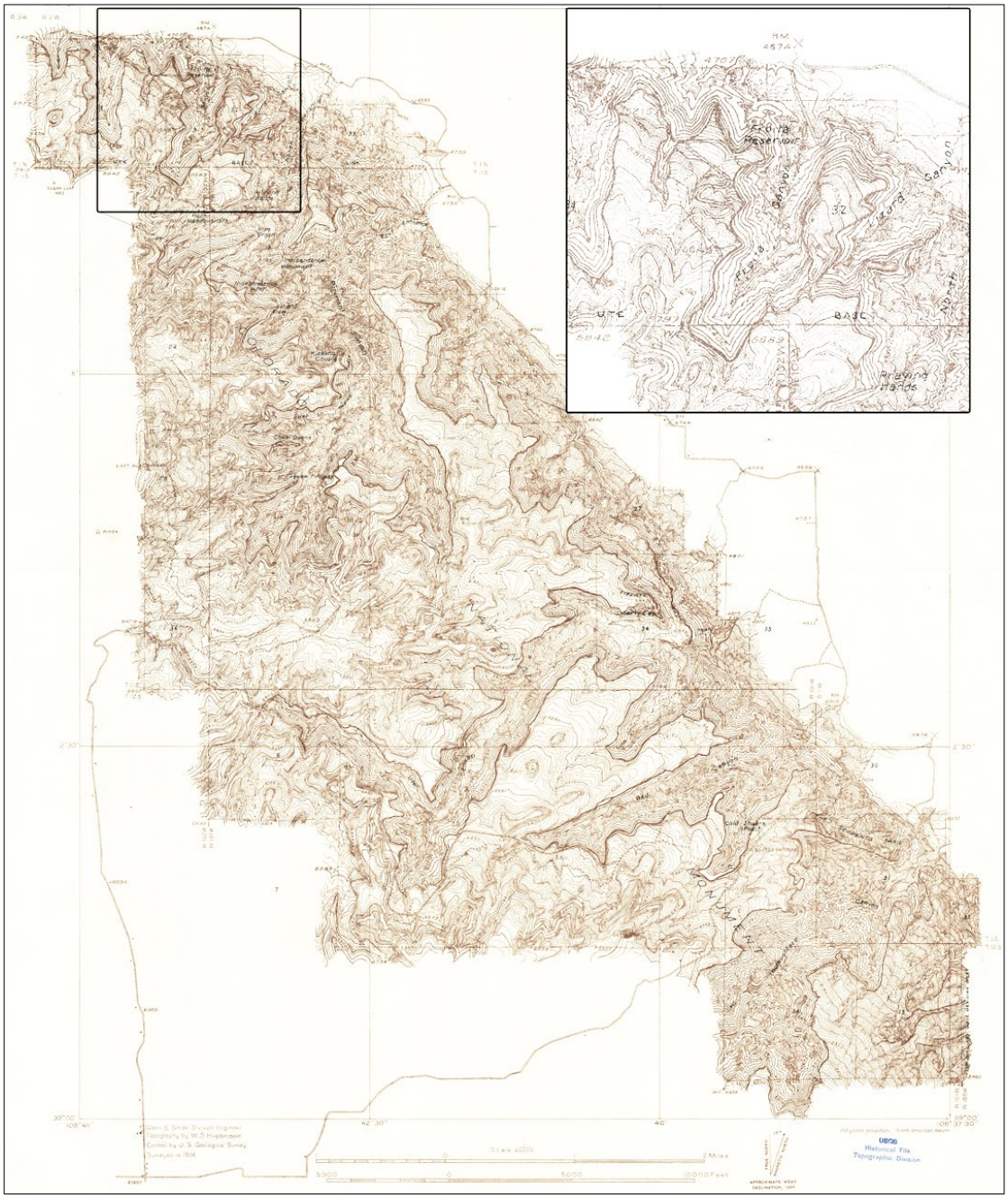


Figure 4-4. Section of 1934 USGS map of Colorado National Monument area showing Fruita Reservoir.

[213] Ozbun, *A Glade Park History Remembered*; Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 11–12; C. H. Jex, *Report on Water System Town of Fruita* (Grand Junction, CO: Colorado Mesa University Special Collections, 1955), 5.

could not save the fruit industry that gave the town its name. By the 1910s, moth infestations decimated the area's orchards and led many residents to abandon fruit growing. Other agricultural pursuits fared better, but Fruita remained a small community into the twentieth century.[214]

KNOWN RESOURCE TYPES

Four major resource types are associated with 1848–1911 settlement in the area that is now Colorado National Monument: cattle-ranching and sheep-grazing resources, irrigation infrastructure, mining resources, and county roads.

Cattle-Ranching and Sheep-Grazing Resources. This resource type consists of sites and structures associated with the ca. 1883–1930 use of land within the Monument by early white settlers for grazing and driving livestock. These resources include the routes used by ranchers from the surrounding communities to drive livestock through the Monument, some of which were later repurposed as trails or secondary access routes within the Monument. It also includes fences built by ranchers to mark boundaries or to restrict the movement of livestock and archeological sites that document small, temporary camps used by ranchers as they herded or checked on livestock. These sites typically contain a small scatter of historic artifacts (such as cans or bottle glass) and are sometimes associated with a fire pit or other temporary structural features. Several larger, more permanent homesteads have also been documented in the Monument, including a site with structural remains and extensive middens that appears on a 1921 General Land Office (GLO) map.

Irrigation Infrastructure. This resource type encompasses the infrastructure associated with the construction of the Fruita Pipeline in 1906–1907. These resources include extant components of the original pipeline and reservoirs built to store water along the route, as well as identified archeological sites that contain drainage ditches, stone retaining walls, and pipe remnants.

Mining Resources. This resource type consists of sites and structures associated with the limited amount of mining on Monument lands in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, particularly in Kodels Canyon. These resources include mine shafts, tailing piles, and archeological sites.

County Roads. This resource type encompasses current and former roads constructed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries by Mesa County and other entities through what are now Monument lands. Some of these roads have been repurposed as trails or secondary access routes within the Monument. These resources also include several former auto roads documented as archeological sites and the retaining walls, paving, and other visible features associated with their construction.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

Resources of the above types may be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for their associations with white settlement in the area before the Monument's

[214] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 11–12.

establishment in 1911. Such resources have been identified within the Monument in isolation or in historically affiliated groupings that are remnants of larger camps and extractive systems. These groupings are now missing a substantial proportion of their original design, and many cannot be readily identified without a detailed site evaluation or landscape analysis. Areas surrounding visible remains may contain archeological deposits associated with the historical activities pursued at each location. The fragmentary and clustered nature of the resources indicates that they should be evaluated as historic districts within an industrial-archeological framework that takes into account the visible landscape features and also the information potential of the resources. These archeological resources should be identified and evaluated according to the NPS *National Register Bulletin 36: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archeological Properties*. Additionally, NPS *National Register Bulletin 42: Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering Historic Mining Properties* should be used for identification and evaluation of mining sites. If evaluated for National Register eligibility individually, resources are unlikely to convey their associations with the historic industries that they supported.

Roads may be eligible under Criterion C as a work of nineteenth- or early twentieth-century engineering if they were constructed prior to the establishment of the Monument and retain integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling such that their period of construction is conveyed. Roads and trails that have been widened and/or resurfaced may be eligible if they maintain their original alignments and provide the same sequence of visual experiences as when first constructed.

CHAPTER FIVE: INITIAL DEVELOPMENT OF COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT, 1911–1945

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Grand Junction, Glade Park, and Fruita were growing as a result of cattle and sheep ranching, railroads, and large-scale irrigation efforts such as the Fruita Pipeline. Grand Junction residents, in particular, realized that tourism, conservation, and recreation could play an important role in development. The historic resources related to the creation and development of Colorado National Monument date to 1911–1945 and represent the completion of designs created then and resources developed in accordance with aesthetic principles from that period.

BACKGROUND: EARLY RECREATIONAL USE OF THE REGION

The creation of the first federally owned park in the United States, the 2-million-acre Yellowstone Park in northwestern Wyoming, by the US Congress in 1872 established tourism as an important facet of the economy of the American West. As historian Richard West Sellars has written, the establishment of Yellowstone largely served the owners of the North Pacific Railway, a transcontinental line constructed through Montana.[215] Influenced by the railroad companies and by an emerging wilderness preservation movement, Congress established 13 more parks between 1890 and the creation of the NPS in 1916. Two of the new parks were in Colorado: Mesa Verde (1906) and Rocky Mountain (1915).

Park boosters interested in conservation and tourism led the efforts to protect the stunning structures of cliff-dwelling peoples and other archeological sites at Mesa Verde in southwestern Colorado and the scenic Rocky Mountains in north-central Colorado. Many Americans traveled mostly by rail to the remote destination of Mesa Verde by the 1890s to photograph the sites and collect specimens, and the nearby towns of Mancos and Cortez arose as gateways to the area in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.[216] However, archeologists were outraged as visitors continued to take artifacts from the area, and they exerted consistent political pressure to protect the resources that resulted in Mesa Verde's designation as a national park in 1906.[217] Influenced by the famous naturalist John Muir, nature writer Enos Mills believed the Rocky Mountain range between Pike's Peak and his home near Longs Peak should be reserved from exploitation by timber companies, miners, cattle owners, and irresponsible tourists. Mills established Longs Peak Inn in 1901 as a place for visitors to experience the beauty of the range. He wrote extensively for Denver newspapers and national publications and gained supporters for national park status among Denver's Chamber of Commerce, car touring clubs, and civic organizations. Their efforts contributed to the creation of Rocky Mountain National Park in northwestern Colorado in 1915.[218]

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[215] Richard West Sellars, *Preserving Nature in the National Parks: A History* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1997), 7–11.

[216] Duane A. Smith, *Mesa Verde National Park* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia, 2009), 18–30.

[217] Sellars, *Preserving Nature in the National Parks*, 12–13; Richard W. Sellars, "A Very Large Array: Early Federal Historic Preservation – The Antiquities Act, Mesa Verde, and the National Park Service Act," *Natural Resources Journal* 47, no. 2 (2007), 298–302.

[218] Lloyd K. Musselman, *Rocky Mountain National Park Administrative History, 1915–1965* (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1971).

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Mesa County's primary city was Grand Junction, with a population of 3,500. The former rangelands of the Grand Valley had evolved into expansive orchards and farms. The extension of the railroad from Denver to Salt Lake City, passing through Grand Junction, supported this agricultural growth and brought new residents and visitors. Grand Mesa, the world's largest flat-topped mountain, was a popular destination for Grand Valley residents to camp, hunt, and fish. Southeast of Grand Junction, the mountain initially was accessible only by wagon, horseback, or burros and offered primitive accommodations around its lakes.[219] In 1901, the *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* pitched the future of Grand Mesa to prospective investors:

> The Grand Mesa belongs naturally to Grand Junction as a resort. Its frowning front stands as an eternal sentinel over the valley. With the natural increase in population this city is bound to have in the next few years, it is imperative that steps be taken to provide the resort now proposed. If the hopes of the projectors of this resort find fruition the people of this city will not have to seek recreation and comfort in other Colorado resorts.[220]

As an example of the "steps" taken to develop the area for tourism, private resort investors funded the construction and improvement of roads with subsidies from Mesa County. In 1912, the quality of area roads and bridges was so poor that it took 11 days to drive from Salt Lake City to Grand Junction.[221] By the 1910s, a road connected Grand Junction southeast to Delta then north to Cedaredge at the base of Grand Mesa. Wealthy residents of the Grand Valley frequently spent their summers on the Mesa's lakes.[222]

LOCAL MOVEMENT FOR MONUMENT NATIONAL PARK, 1906–1911

The efforts of local promoters to boost tourism in southwestern Colorado combined with ambitious road-building programs in the region ultimately enabled the creation of Colorado National Monument in 1911 under the Antiquities Act of 1906.

Antiquities Act of 1906

The same concerns about looters and vandals that led to the establishment of Mesa Verde National Park arose with respect to other archeological sites across the country in the late nineteenth century. A national movement of educators and scientists succeeded in persuading Congress to pass the Antiquities Act of 1906, which was signed by President Theodore Roosevelt on June 8, 1906. The act gave the president the authority to protect historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest on lands owned or controlled by the federal government. It also made it a crime to take antiquities from federal lands without a permit. The protected areas were to be known as national monuments and would be overseen by federal agencies. An important stipulation of the

[219] David Fishell, *The Grand Heritage: A Photographic History of Grand Junction*, Colorado (Brookfield, MO: The Donning Company/Publishers, 1994), 12–13, 65, 69.

[220] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "[Local News]," August 17, 1901, 2.

[221] "Grand Junction History," Museums of Western Colorado, https://museumofwesternco.com/grand-junction-history/page/1/.

[222] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Mesa County Summer Resorts," May 4, 1903, 21.

act pertained to how subject lands would be established. Unlike national parks and reserves, the establishment of national monuments would not require an act of Congress in addition to presidential approval but would require a presidential proclamation only.[223] The first national monuments were Devils Tower (1906) in Wyoming, Chaco Canyon (1907) in New Mexico, Muir Woods (1908) in California, Mount Olympus (1908) in Washington, and Grand Canyon (1908) in Arizona. Colorado National Monument (1911) and Dinosaur National Monument (1915), both in Colorado, followed. Initially managed by the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, or the War Department, most of the monuments were under the NPS when Congress established that agency in 1916.[224]

John Otto

No individual was more important to the creation of Colorado National Monument than John Otto (1879–1952), a laborer on the construction crew for the Fruita Pipeline through the future Monument land (see Chapter Four).[225] Born in Missouri and briefly educated at Elmhurst College in Illinois, Otto sojourned through California, Oregon, Washington, and other Western states through his twenties, when he worked as a miner. From September 27, 1902, to May 20, 1903, he was an inpatient at a California psychiatric hospital, where doctors diagnosed him as "suffering from a recurrent attack of mania."[226] Later in 1903, Otto was arrested in Denver, Colorado, for allegedly attempting to assault the governor after sending several threatening letters regarding labor problems in the state's mines. In 1907, Otto returned to Colorado and joined the Fruita Pipeline crew as an explosives handler.[227] He fell in love with the sweeping vistas, canyons, and monoliths of the canyon country. After he completed his work on the pipeline, he took up an itinerant residence in the so-called "Monument Cañon," where he lived in a tent.[228] For the next 30 years, Otto occasionally worked as a ranch hand but spent much of his time exploring the landscape, naming its features, and clearing trails (Figure 5-1).

Otto was a relentless promoter of the geological wonder he inhabited. According to one biographer, he promoted the area "with all the timidity of P. T. Barnum."[229] Verbose and often handwritten in all capital letters, Otto's missives landed on the desks of newspaper editors, Colorado's governors and legislators, and even presidents.[230] Otto invited them all to visit the canyon, which he proposed as a national park in 1907. Newspaper editors who initially considered Otto insane soon changed their minds as they saw the potential of such a proposal. A 1909 account describes him as "tall, lithe, black-haired, good-looking face, well versed in

[223] Francis P. McManamon, "Antiquities Act of 1906," *National Park Service*, accessed May 13, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/archeology/tools/laws/AntAct.htm; Sellars, "A Very Large Array," 267, 270, 282.

[224] Sellars, *Preserving Nature in the National Parks*, 13–14.

[225] Biographies of John Otto include Al Look, *John Otto and the Colorado National Monument* (Grand Junction, CO: Sandstone, 1962), Alan J. Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument* (Boulder, CO: Roberts Rinehart, 1984), and Alan J. Kania, *John Otto: Trials and Trails* (Niwot, CO: University Press of Colorado, 1996).

[226] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 23–24.

[227] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 10–25.

[228] The name "Monument Cañon" appears in local newspapers by 1906. Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 16.

[229] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 9.

[230] President William H. Taft accepted Otto's invitation and visited Grand Junction in 1909 as part of a Western tour, but his itinerary did not include the Monument Canyon.

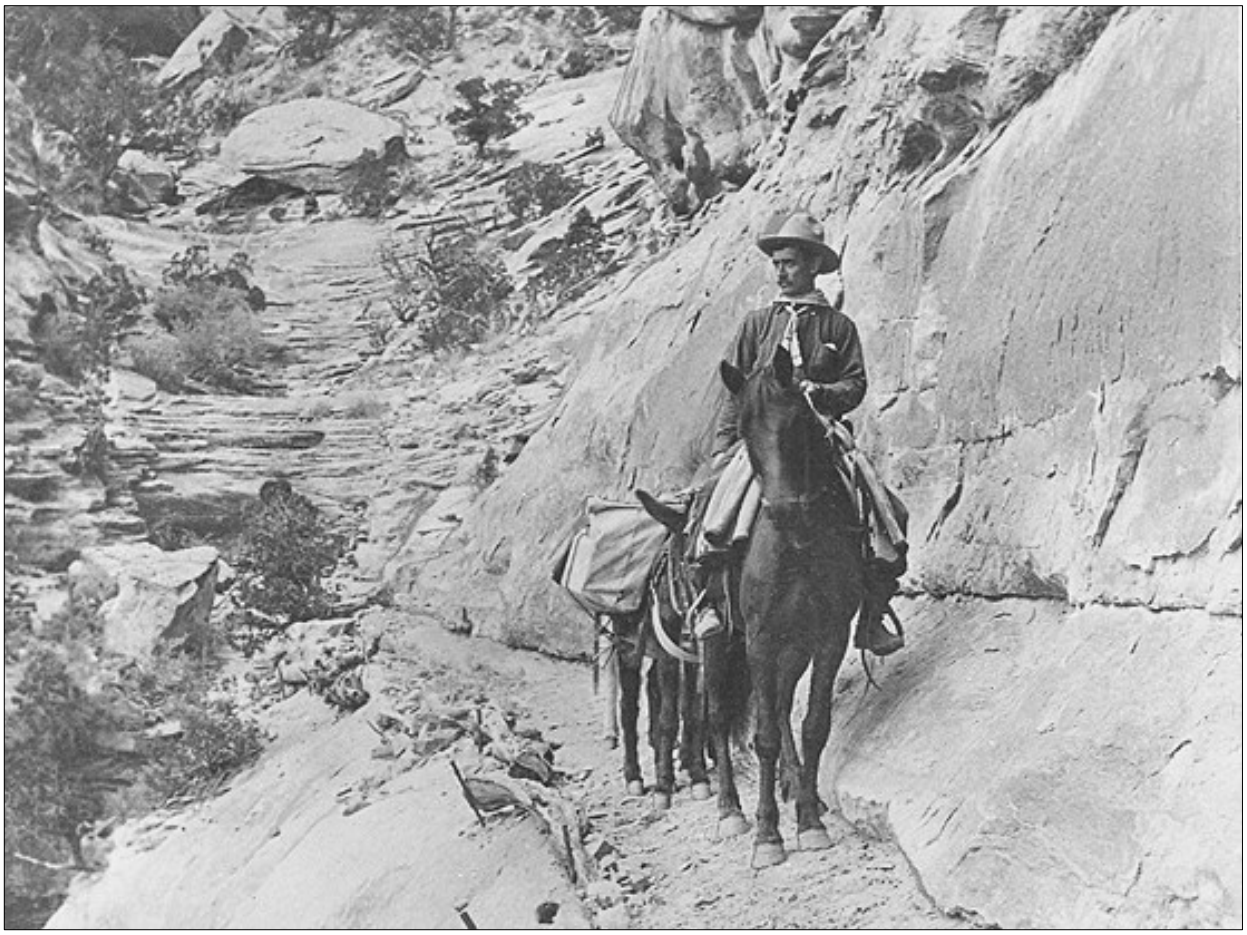


Figure 5-1. Undated photograph of John Otto on a trail in the Monument with a typical retaining wall (courtesy NPS).

current events, and possessing more than a considerable amount of education."[231] Other accounts paint him as a passionate promoter who was introducing the country to a natural treasure.[232]

Otto believed that hiking and horseback riding trail were crucial to introducing the public to Monument Canyon's beauty. In July 1909, he opened the first trail, known as the Corkscrew Trail. The Grand Junction and Palisade chambers of commerce and residents of nearby communities contributed some funds to the effort, but Otto provided the arduous manual labor necessary to make the trail a reality.[233] He had experience building roads in Fruita and working on ranches. With ample experience and knowledge of the canyons, Otto surveyed the trail alignment and engineered its ascent.[234] Using a small team of burros and ponies to move tons of boulders under the hot sun, he completed the work in September. The trail zigzagged up the side of the canyon near a rock formation known as Liberty Cap along the central-eastern border

[231] Walter Walker, quoted in Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 2–3.

[232] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 33.

[233] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 3–6, 70–73.

[234] W. W., "Investigation Made of Great Scenic Spot near this City," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, April 19, 1909, 4.

of the current Monument.[235] The *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* reported that a group of local business owners were the first visitors to use the Corkscrew Trail: "The grandeur of the scenes which met their eyes have made all who took the trip sincere champions of the self-sacrificing hermit, who, they say, has performed the work of five men."[236]

Tourism Campaigns/Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce

The Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) was incorporated in 1915 and superseded the Grand Junction Board of Trade that had been founded in 1885. The Chamber was instrumental in developing Grand Junction from a crossroads town into a bustling city. It supported "improved marketing facilities, increased and improved transportation, expanding of manufacturing, and [encouraged] better relationship between the business owners and the rural producers and between Grand Junction and other communities in the state."[237] The Chamber recognized Monument Canyon as an important asset that would attract visitors and local investment. Fruita residents and its Chamber also recognized the area's remarkable scenery, the economic benefits of a national park, and the need for public access and interest to develop the park and finally joined in Otto's promotional efforts. The chambers of commerce in Grand Junction, Fruita, and Palisade contributed financially to his projects. The Grand Junction Chamber began a public relations campaign in April 1909; its secretary, Frank H. Mahoney, met with an agent from the Colorado Midland Railroad, who promised to have a professional photographer take promotional pictures of Monument Canyon. With Otto's undeniable knowledge of the canyon and the Chamber's community support and political prowess, they were able to garner support from state politicians for the proposed park.[238]

In June 1907, Mesa County submitted a petition to the Department of the Interior requesting that 17,000 acres of Monument Canyon be set aside for use as a national park. The Department's General Lands Office (GLO), the predecessor to the current Bureau of Land Management (BLM), withdrew the land from consideration for homesteads and other land transfers.[239] However, only Congress could designate the land as a national park. US Senator Simon Guggenheim and US Representative Edward T. Taylor of Colorado, led the push for park status over the next several years, assisted by Otto, the local chambers of commerce, and the *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*.[240]

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[235] The configuration of the Corkscrew Trail constructed in 1909 is not consistent with the current Corkscrew Trail. Otto's original Corkscrew Trail included a 0.9-mile section of the current Liberty Cap Trail along the eastern edge of the Liberty Cap rock formation. See Christine Whitacre, *Colorado National Monument Historic Trails, Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report* (Prepared for Colorado National Monument, Fruita, Colorado, September 2001), 5; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 20; Matt Heinritz and Mariah Walzer, *Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of Portions of the Liberty Cap and Corkscrew Trails in Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado* (Fruita, CO: Division of Resource Management, National Park Service, Colorado National Monument, 2019).

[236] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Otto's Trail Completed," September 27, 1909, 1.

[237] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce," November 21, 1943, 9.

[238] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 23–24.

[239] The GLO was created in 1812 to survey and plat public lands in the West and was placed under the Department of the Interior upon that agency's establishment in 1849. The GLO merged with the US Grazing Service to become the BLM in 1946.

[240] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 17–18, 24–25.

Automobiles and the Road-Building Lobby

Increasing automobile ownership and travel led to several transcontinental roadway movements in the United States in the early twentieth century. The Midland Trail was envisioned as a scenic automobile route that would take drivers from the Atlantic coast in Virginia to the Pacific coast in California. Towns and cities along the route, local and national automobile clubs, business owners, and auto manufacturers formed a consortium known as the Midland Trail Association to build what would be the most influential highway in western Colorado by 1913. In the absence of federal interest, the Association planned sections of the road and raised money to construct it by partnering with local businesses along the route. Prominent boosters included C. F. Ferbrache of Grand Junction and many of his colleagues in the Chamber, who believed the transcontinental road would open the region to automobile tourists and stimulate economic growth.[241] The Colorado State Legislature backed the movement with promises of funding in 1913.[242]

The *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* maintained that the Midland Trail in western Colorado

> occupies the most strategic position in the world for the reason that it is the only feasible route that will reach the wonderful scenery of Colorado and the climate of California and these are the twin lodestones that promote transcontinental touring. No road across the continent would be considered which did not make the Rockies accessible to the traveler and, it may be assured, none will be built.[243]

Those who supported the new road envisioned it as a national scenic route that would bring tourists to communities and attractions along the way. The growing Colorado resort towns of Idaho Springs, White Sulphur Springs, and Glenwood Springs would greatly benefit from new visitors. Promoters envisioned tourists traveling "down the Grand River to Grand Junction, the beautiful city situated in the heart of the great fruit growing section of Colorado where the hotel accommodations are excellent."[244]

Within Colorado, the planned Midland Trail would run from Denver to Grand Junction and then pass through Fruita toward Utah. Road boosters in Mesa County welcomed the news of Colorado's interest in funding the highway, and the Grand Junction Chamber put its full support behind the trail. However, John Otto was determined that a scenic highway traverse the Monument to showcase its majesty.[245] He campaigned to have another proposed transcontinental highway known as the Union Trail follow his plans for a scenic road that would ascend Piñon Mesa from Grand Junction, pass along the canyon rim in the Monument, and continue westerly toward Utah. Otto's advocacy for the Union Trail never took hold, and he abandoned that project in search of alternate funding for his scenic road through the Monument (the Serpents Trail, see below).

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[241] *Salt Lake Tribune*, "Grand Junction Man is Midland Trailer," March 25, 1913, 13.

[242] *New York Times*, "Road Work Active on Midland Trail," May 18, 1913, 12; "The Midland Trail in Colorado and Utah," *The City of Denver*, 1 (no. 14), April 1913, 5–6.

[243] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Midland Trail in Most Favorable of Positions," September 1, 1913, 6.

[244] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "*New York Times* Urges Tourists to Use Midland Trail this Year," April 20, 1915, 1.

[245] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 78–93.

The Midland Trail project received consistent funding from varied interests in 1914–1915, when its construction pushed through Colorado and into Utah (Figure 5-2). Sections of roadway between Denver and Utah were simultaneously under construction during these years. Colorado used convict laborers for work on sections of the road. The section through Grand Junction was built in the spring of 1915, and the road was completed through western Colorado, including Mesa County, in May.[246] Initially maintained by the local interests that helped open it, the Midland Trail became a Colorado state highway in 1923. The route between Washington, DC, and San Francisco, California, via St. Louis, Missouri, was completed in the early 1920s. In 1937, with the extension of the highway from Denver to Long Beach, California, the road was

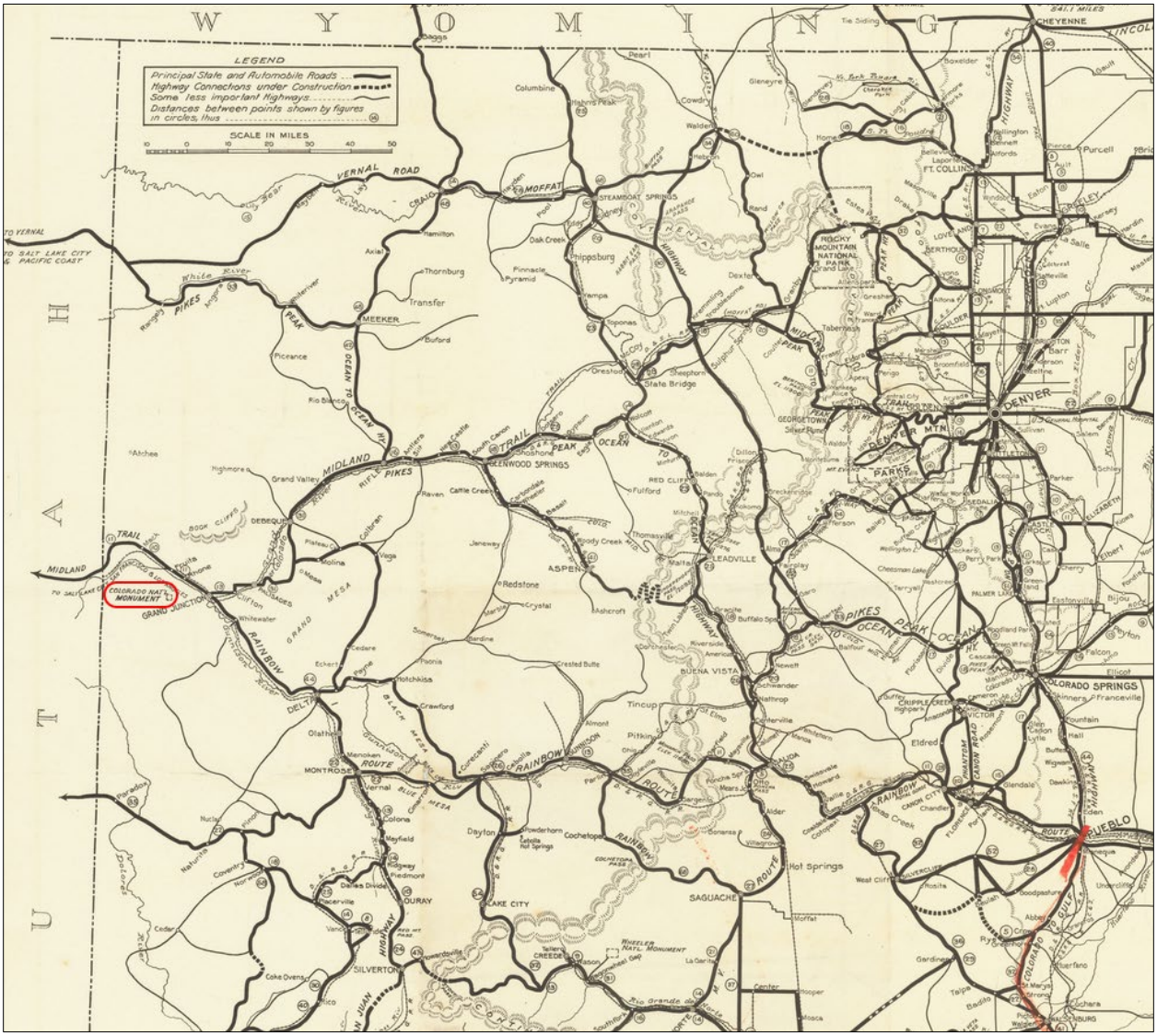


Figure 5-2. Portion of 1916 State Highway Commission Map Showing System of Main Roads in Colorado Now Open to Travel.

[246] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "*New York Times* Urges Tourists to Use Midland Trail this Year," April 20, 1915, 1; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Road Problems in Utah Solved," May 25, 1915, 1; State Highway Commission of Colorado, *Map Showing System of Main Roads in Colorado Now Open to Travel* (Denver, CO: Clayton Map Company), 1916.

added to the federal highway system as US Route 6. Paving of the route was finally completed in 1952, and the road was dedicated as the "Grand Army of the Republic Highway" in 1953.[247] While it did not pass directly through Colorado National Monument, the roadway was important in bringing motor tourists to the area and eventually onto Interstate 70, which was completed in the 1970s and parallels the Midland Trail.

Creation of Colorado National Monument

On January 6, 1910, Senator Guggenheim, with the aid of Representative Taylor, had presented Congress with a bill to establish Monument National Park. The bill outlined that the Department of the Interior would manage the proposed 17,000-acre park and would have the authority to develop trails, bridle paths, roads, and facilities. Larger debates over the federal government's conservation and land management policies, including the first suggestions for a central agency to administer the country's national parks (11 at that time), preoccupied Congress, which did not pass Guggenheim's bill in 1910 or when he reintroduced it in 1911. At the same time, however, the GLO conducted a survey of the proposed park land and determined that it was unsuitable for agriculture, mining, or any activities other than scenic enjoyment. Its inspection report dated April 26, 1911, recommended that 13,967.22 acres be set aside as a national monument by presidential proclamation under the Antiquities Act.[248]

Guggenheim, Taylor, and park promoters encouraged the Secretary of the Interior to advise the White House to accept the GLO's recommendation. The Grand Junction and Fruita chambers of commerce suggested various names for the proposed national monument, including Otto National Monument, Grand River National Monument, and Centennial Monument Park. Congressman Taylor chose to recommend Colorado National Monument, the name proposed by his wife, Etta Tabor Taylor, because it aligned with his own fervent hope of getting the Grand River's name officially changed to the Colorado River (he finally succeeded in 1921). On May 24, 1911, President Taft signed the proclamation that created the Monument—the nation's sixth national monument—and reserved 13,883.06 acres "from all forms of appropriation, under the public land laws."[249]

John Otto expressed his enthusiasm for the creation of the Monument in the *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, writing

> There is only one real story that goes with the Colorado National Monument, it is the story without an end. … My aim from the beginning of my work has been to advertise, to make known the Monument Canon Park Proposition. Since the proclamation, it is forever to be known as 'The Colorado National Monument.' The trails were built to take people into the rim rocks so they would bring back a story. It is a story without end.[250]

[247] Richard F. Weingroff, "U.S. 6 – The Grand Army of the Republic Highway," General Highway History (Federal Highway Administration, 2017), https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/us6.cfm, accessed October 2021.

[248] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 25–28; Robin W. Winks, "The National Park Service Act of 1916: "A Contradictory Mandate"?", 1997, National Park Service History eLibrary, http://npshistory.com/publications/winks.htm.

[249] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 34–37; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 20–30.

[250] John Otto quoted in Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 38.

EARLY MONUMENT DEVELOPMENT, 1911–1933

At Representative Taylor's suggestion, the Department of the Interior appointed Otto as the Monument's first custodian, a job that initially entailed working on new trails and placing a flag atop Independence Rock. His salary of $1.00 a month was a formality that allowed him to fulfill duties in the Monument as a representative of the federal government. Otto remained custodian even after the formation of the NPS in 1916, when Colorado National Monument came under that agency's purview. Using the authority invested in him by the federal government, he also regularly drove off sheep herders and others he considered trespassers. When the summer temperatures prevented him from building trails in the Monument, Otto relocated to Grand Mesa, where he worked as a seasonal employee for the Forest Service constructing trails, including the Wild Rose Trail (now Land's End Road).[251] Through the 1910s, Otto tirelessly advocated for opening the first automobile route (the Serpents Trail) through the Monument (see below).

Otto consistently hoped to elevate the Monument to a national park and worked with Representative Taylor to expand the Monument boundary.[252] He believed the addition of bison, elk, mountain sheep, or other ungulates might increase the Monument's interest to visitors and thereby facilitate its designation as a national park. Taylor introduced a bill to add bison to the Monument in 1916, but it was not approved until 1925. Otto found allies in Grand Junction's Chamber and its Elks Club, which both provided funds to introduce a small herd of elk to the Monument in 1918; however, the animals had mostly migrated outside the boundary in less than a year. Aided by the State Game and Fish Department and, as usual, the Grand Junction Chamber, Otto was able to bring three bison (a bull and two cows) into the Monument in 1924, but the herd struggled to thrive.[253]

In the mid-1920s, the Fruita and Grand Junction chambers of commerce worked with Otto to install a fence around the Monument that was requested by the NPS to contain the introduced animal herds.[254] Frank Merriell, mayor of Fruita and president of the town's Chamber, used the occasion to criticize the "hermit" of the Monument for what Merriell said was not fulfilling the custodial duties for which he was paid.[255] In addition, the Grand Junction Chamber had tired of hearing about Otto's grand ideas for the Monument and recommended that the NPS replace him as custodian. Rather than allow the NPS to fire him, Otto resigned his position in early 1927,

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[251] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 74–75.

[252] Horace Albright, *Creating the National Park Service: The Missing Years* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1999).

[253] Through the 1920s and 1930s, the introduced bison population suffered casualties due to inbreeding and to the Monument's inadequate grazing land. In the 1940s, the NPS approved the reduction of the herd. Some were slaughtered and offered to Southern Utes and, in the 1950s, to Navajos. See Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 103–117. In 1983, the NPS relocated the entire herd to Badlands National Park in South Dakota. See Peter A. Dratch and Peter J. P. Gogan, *Bison Conservation Initiative* (Fort Collins, CO: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Natural Resource Program Center, 2010).

[254] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Buffalo for Monument Will Be Shipped from Denver Late Tomorrow," December 11, 1925, 1.

[255] The Grand Junction Chamber had subsidized Otto's nominal government salary with $25 per month for at least six years. Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 45–46; Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 119.

claiming an interest in entering politics, but continued to communicate with the NPS about Monument affairs over the next few years.[256]

The NPS appointed the Grand Junction Chamber as the local Monument administrator after Otto's resignation and offered Otto the opportunity to remain involved in some other capacity, such as Chamber staff member. However, Otto had no interest in working for the Chamber.[257] He referred to himself in correspondence as "in-name Superintendent" of the national park he hoped the Monument would become.[258] After unsuccessfully petitioning the NPS to hire him as a consultant for the planned extension of the Serpents Trail (see discussion below) through more of the Monument in the early 1930s, he became critical of the project. Otto moved to California in 1931 and lived there until his death in 1952.[259] The Grand Junction Chamber continued to manage the Monument for the NPS through 1933.

Roads and Trails

The first automobile route through the Monument, known as the Serpents Trail, was completed in 1925 with private and county funds. The road had been laid out primarily by Otto and was an important predecessor to Rim Rock Drive, begun in 1931.[260] The Serpents Trail entered the Monument boundary at the present-day east entrance, zigzagged along the rim of No Thoroughfare Canyon, and exited the Monument southward after passing Cold Shivers Point.[261] It provided the only vehicle access to the canyon until 1937, when the Fruita portion of Rim Rock Drive opened.

The Serpents Trail

In June 1911, just one month after the Monument was established, Representative Taylor submitted a bill to Congress for a roadway in the Monument, but the legislators were unwilling to support the project. Taylor unsuccessfully resubmitted the bill during every congressional session for the next six years. In the meantime, John Otto used his own money and a small amount of money he had raised from Grand Junction businesses to begin blasting granite for a Monument road in 1912. He had previously planned the route in 1910 with civil engineer J. F. Sleeper to connect with the county road out of Grand Junction and then wind its way through the southern part of the Monument for an estimated cost of $1,000. Mesa County engineer James Fisk needed only three days of review to decide that Otto had picked a beautiful route but one that would cost an estimated $6,500. Congress continued to refuse any funding, and the GLO refused any in response to a request from Otto in 1913. The Mesa County Commission

[256] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Two Bison Herds Will Be Placed in Buffalo and Monument Canons," June 14, 1928, 9; Kania, J*ohn Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 119–126; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 46–49.

[257] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 126–127; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 46–49.

[258] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 133.

[259] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 134–135.

[260] During construction, the Serpents Trail was called by many names, including Rimrock Route, Glade Park Road, Grand Rimrock Boulevard, and Otto's Road. Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 78.

[261] US Geological Survey, *Topographic Map of Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado* (Denver, CO: Technical Information Center, National Park Service, 1934 [edition of 1942]).

favored a northern route for the scenic road to connect with the Midland Trail, and the Grand Junction Chamber preferred an alternative road project to Moab in eastern Utah.[262]

After World War I, a growing number of Glade Park residents who wanted a better connection to Grand Junction joined the County Commission, the Chamber of Commerce, and others in Grand Junction who supported Otto's proposed route through the southern part of the Monument. Glade Park ranchers, businesspeople, and residents raised several thousand dollars and combined that with funds raised in Grand Junction to hire a road contractor, J. S. Shaw, in 1920 to complete what Otto had started. Glade Park rancher and engineer Bruce Claybaugh oversaw the work crew that drilled, blasted, and hauled rock along the circuitous, steep route through the Monument that Otto called "The Trail of the Serpent" for its winding, snake-like alignment. Most of the construction was finished by 1921; however, the final tread surface was not completed until late 1924 or early 1925. The long-awaited road was 19 feet wide and featured 27 switchbacks.[263] A 2.5-mile section was within the Monument boundary.[264] Wide enough for one car in each direction, the Serpents Trail not only welcomed motorists touring the West but also served Glade Park residents who needed to seasonally drive livestock between the high country and the low country. For Otto, the Serpents Trail was the realization of his dream to open the doors of the Monument to visitors. He hoped the Serpents Trail could be extended through other sections of the Monument.[265]

Rim Rock Drive (First Section)

Beginning in 1924, Congress granted annual appropriations for the development of roads and trails through national parks and monuments. Road work was a means to create jobs and foster economic growth while bringing more Americans to the parks. Congressional interest in building roads in parks increased during the Depression. In 1930, it allocated $3 million for NPS road work across the nation; in 1931, it was $100 million, including $7,500 to start working on the first section of the proposed Rim Rock Drive at Colorado National Monument.[266]

In November 1931, NPS Engineer Thomas W. Secrest, who had developed a trail system at Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming, visited Colorado to determine the Rim Rock Road route and developed a general plan in eight days.[267] Rim Rock Drive would zigzag 23 miles through the Monument along the rims of the canyons. It would allow motorists to travel out of Grand Junction and pick up the Serpents Trail on the south side of the Monument. From there, the road would wind northward, taking in scenic overlooks and other geological landmarks before exiting at Fruita Canyon. The work would include improving the upper portion of the 1920s' Serpents Trail and the earlier Fruita Dugway/Black Ridge Trail constructed to

[262] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 86, 116; Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 35–38.

[263] Simmons and Simmons, *Serpent's Trail*, 2–5.

[264] The present East Glade Park Road/DS Road follows the section of the Serpents Trail west of the Monument boundary (about 5 miles), and the current Monument Road follows the section east of the boundary (about 2 miles). See Plate I in Gould, *Geological Report on Colorado National Monument*.

[265] Kania, *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*, 93; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 40–42; Simmons and Simmons, *Serpent's Trail*, 3–4.

[266] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 52.

[267] Simmons and Simmons, *Rim Rock Drive*, 5.

accommodate the Fruita Pipeline at Fruita Canyon.[268] The road between the two older corridors would be entirely new. Secrest submitted the plan to the Washington, DC, office of the NPS, which then forwarded it to the San Francisco office. With NPS approval, the work was set to begin, but it was immediately clear that the complicated construction project would have to be completed gradually in sections.[269]

The first 5-mile section of the ultimately 23-mile Rim Rock Drive was built in 1931–1933 with funding from Congress and local interests, including the Grand Junction Chamber and the Mesa County Commission. The NPS, in cooperation with the local government, hired laborers from Mesa County to perform the arduous work (Figure 5-3). Otto was boldly opposed to the plan. He thought the route, selected by an NPS engineer in consultation with the Grand Junction Chamber, bypassed the best views and destroyed too much of the noteworthy scenery. The NPS did not consider Otto's recommendations.[270] As work on other sections of Rim Rock Drive continued through the 1930s, the NPS intended to incorporate the Serpents Trail into the new road, but it ultimately chose a different route.



Figure 5-3. Ca. 1931 photograph of laborers at Cold Shivers Point on east Rim Rock Drive (Colorado National Monument Archives).

Along with the NPS, the Grand Junction Chamber influenced the development of the first section of Rim Rock Drive. It worked steadily to acquire local funding to contribute to the project. Via Representative Taylor, the Chamber asked the NPS to appoint Secrest to oversee the work and to hire unemployed residents in the Grand Valley to be laborers. Fifty men were

[268] The Serpents Trail ultimately was abandoned in favor of a new route that went through No Thoroughfare Canyon.

[269] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 52–53.

[270] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 56.

initially hired when road building began and, in 1932–1933, Secrest timed the construction work to accommodate as many workers as possible. Their wages made their way to local stores in Grand Junction, Fruita, and Glade Park.[271]

From the start of construction until May 1932, the NPS directed $17,000 to the project and the Grand Junction Chamber provided $1,500. Congress appropriated an additional $15,000 in July 1932. The Emergency Relief Fund, a national agency targeting unemployment and economic recovery, provided $50,000 in August 1932. The Mesa County Commission contributed $10,000 and loaned equipment. The NPS completed the first section of Rim Rock Drive in 1933; it extended about 5 miles from the current Grand View overlook southward to the intersection with North 16½ Road.[272] The road gradually opened to motorists as it was built, with about 18,000 visitors using it in 1932 and 20,000 in 1933.[273]

Park Expansion

When the first section of Rim Rock Drive was under construction in the early 1930s, NPS engineer Secrest and others involved in delineating the overall route determined that 3,800 additional acres would be needed to accommodate the project. Most of the desired acreage was at No Thoroughfare Canyon, with some around Fruita Canyon (Figure 5-4).[274] Approximately 3,100 acres of the total were public lands; 200 acres were owned by the Town of Fruita for park purposes; and approximately 500 acres were privately owned.[275] President Herbert Hoover signed a presidential proclamation to acquire the needed acreage in 1933 with the stated purpose to include within the Monument "features of historical and scientific interest and for the protection of the Rim Road and for administration purposes."[276] The expansion of the Monument also included portions of two access roads used by Grand Valley ranchers to drive livestock twice each year: the Fruita Dugway and additional sections of the Serpents Trail. In 1935, Mesa Verde National Park became the administrative unit overseeing Colorado National Monument and Black Canyon of the Gunnison.[277]

THE NPS AND THE NEW DEAL

Colorado National Monument benefited from some of the public works programs of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. Because the NPS's landscape design principles and master

[271] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 52–55.

[272] A 1932 plan (with notations from 1933) details the extent of the road's completion as of 1933. Office of the Chief Engineer, "Colorado National Monument (June 1932)," Plan, Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, Denver, CO.

[273] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 56–58.

[274] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Area of Colorado National Monument Increased to 18,000 Acres by Order," March 5, 1933.

[275] Letter, Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur to President Herbert Hoover, March 1, 1933. On file, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative History and Litigation Records 1883–1987.

[276] Simmons and Simmons, *Rim Rock Drive*, 58–59; Herbert Hoover, "Colorado National Monument: A Proclamation by the President of the United States," US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative History and Litigation Records 1883–1987, Box 2.

[277] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 77.

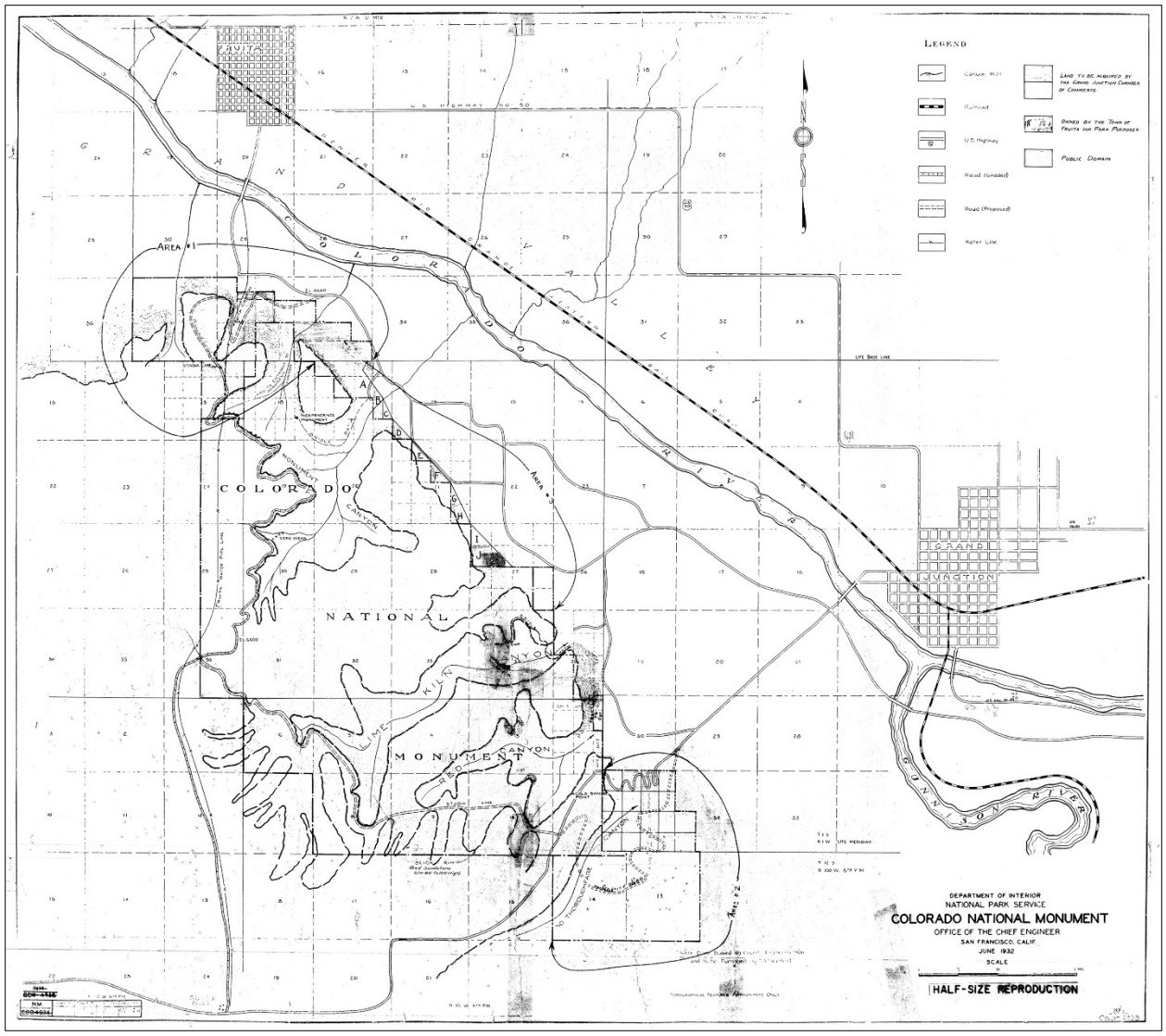


Figure 5-4. Colorado National Monument Land Status Plat Map (NPS 1932).

planning process were well established by 1933, the agency was able to make maximum use of the labor and funding that the New Deal programs provided.

President Roosevelt took office in March 1933 determined to substantially expand federal government programs for reviving the moribund national economy and helping the unemployed. Roosevelt also had a longstanding commitment to conserving America's land and water resources. At the time of his inauguration, the national economy was half the size it had been in 1929; unemployment was estimated at greater than 25 percent; and the country was gripped by a banking crisis. Decades of short-sighted farming and resource exploitation practices had ravaged many areas of the countryside. In the first 100 days of his administration, Roosevelt submitted 15 major bills to Congress addressing banking reform, regulation of the securities industry, improvement of industrial conditions and the depressed farm economy, and unemployment relief through public works projects and direct aid. Frequently reorganized and reauthorized under different federal agencies, the public works programs remained a cornerstone of Roosevelt's economic recovery program through the end of the decade. Of the

public works agencies created under the New Deal, the most important for the national parks were the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Public Works Administration, and the Works Progress Administration. Almost all NPS conservation and park development projects from 1933 to the start of World War II served multiple purposes: to put people to work, reclaim land, provide recreation, and boost the economy.[278]

Shortly after taking office, Roosevelt submitted legislation to Congress to create the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC),[279] an agency with the dual purpose of providing work and training for unemployed young men and accomplishing much-needed conservation work on America's public lands. Congress authorized the CCC for two years as part of the Federal Unemployment Relief Act of March 31, 1933, which gave the president wide discretion in establishing wage rates, enrollment periods and requirements, and other administrative details of the CCC using whatever executive departments he deemed appropriate.[280]

Roosevelt wasted no time in using his authority to have 250,000 young men at work as part of the CCC by July 1, 1933. His April 5, 1933, executive order assigned program responsibilities to four executive departments: the Department of Labor would recruit men nationwide; the Army would enroll, condition, and transport them to work camps; and the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, through the US Forest Service and NPS, would plan and supervise work projects and administer the camps. Almost immediately, the Army's role was expanded to include running the camps. The target for each camp was 200 unmarried men aged 18 to 25 years who were willing to live away from home for at least six months and send at least $22.00 dollars of their $30.00 monthly wage home to their parents. The CCC soon expanded its ranks to include limited numbers of World War I veterans, Native Americans, and local experienced men (known as LEMs). Enrollees in these three additional categories were exempt from the standard age and marital status requirements and could live outside the camps. The LEMs usually had forestry or other specialized skills to teach to inexperienced recruits, known as "juniors." Roosevelt chose General Vice President of the International Association of Machinists Robert Fechner as CCC director; an advisory council with representatives of the four executive departments assisted him.[281]

The 1933 legislation authorizing the CCC stipulated that "no discrimination shall be made on account of race, color, or creed."[282] In practice, however, local and state enrollment processes

[278] Samuel E. Morison, *The Oxford History of the American People* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1965), 942–43, 954–56 ; Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., *The Crisis of the Old Order, 1919–1933* (Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1957), 3; Harlan D. Unrau and G. Frank Williss, *Administrative History: Expansion of the National Park Service in the 1930s* (Denver, CO: National Park Service, 1983), 75–77; Donald C. Swain, "The National Park Service and the New Deal, 1933–1940," *Pacific Historical Review* 41 (1972), 327.

[279] From 1933 to 1937, the organization's official name was Emergency Conservation Work. The program was commonly referred to as the Civilian Conservation Corps from the start; in June 1937, Congress made the popular name the official name. John C. Paige, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933–1942: An Administrative History* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1985), 24 (hereafter cited as the *The CCC and the NPS*).

[280] John A. Salmond, *The Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933–1942: A New Deal Case Study* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1967), 13–23 (hereafter cited as *The CCC, 1933–1942*); Paige, *The CCC and the NPS*, 9–10.

[281] Salmond, *The CCC, 1933–1942*, 26–34; Paige, *The CCC and the NPS*, 10–15.

[282] *An Act for the relief of unemployment through the performance of useful public work, and for other purposes*, 48, *U.S. Statutes at Large 55* (1933).

often resulted in blatant discrimination. Although Black unemployment was twice the national average in 1933, Black enrollment in the CCC lagged far behind that of other races. Direction from the program's federal administrators further restricted opportunities for Black participation. In September 1934, Fechner ordered that Black enrollees had to be placed in Black-only camps, but local opposition and low Black enrollment prevented the creation of separate Black camps in many places. Even in Black or mixed camps, Black enrollees were often not assigned to positions of authority.[283]

Most CCC work projects were designed to be accomplished within one six-month period with the first period from April 1 to September 30, 1933. CCC projects in national parks involved forest conservation; soil erosion control; firefighting; building roads, trails, bridges, utility lines, and recreation structures; and providing services to park visitors. Eventually, the CCC allowed recruits to re-enlist three times, for a total of two years (four six-month periods). Congress re-authorized the CCC several times but rejected Roosevelt's proposals to make the program permanent. As private-sector job opportunities increased nationally in the late 1930s, CCC recruitment became more difficult, and Congress terminated the program in June 1942 because it did not support the important mobilization required for World War II. Approximately 2.5 million American men served in the CCC from 1933 to 1942, and it has remained one of the most enduringly popular New Deal programs. The CCC experience provided those Americans who had access to the program (primarily white males) with opportunities to gain self-respect, learn how to work with others, and acquire marketable job skills. The CCC and its impact on the national landscape also broadened the conservation movement's reach in the United States and influenced the post-World War II environmental movement.[284]

The NPS also benefited from the New Deal's Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which aimed to put the unemployed back to work and to revive local economies through wage and construction expenditures. Established under the National Industrial Recovery Act of June 1933, the PWA was administered by Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes. Although the PWA was funded mostly through grants and loans to states and local governments for construction projects, it could initiate its own projects and make allotments to other federal agencies. It used mainly private contractors and was not restricted to hiring the unemployed. From 1933 to 1937, the PWA allocated $40 million for NPS projects, including road and trail construction, campground development, museum construction, and restoration of historic structures.[285]

President Roosevelt established the Works Progress Administration[286] by executive order in May 1935 under the authority of the Emergency Relief Appropriations Act of 1935. The WPA

[283] Salmond, T*he CCC, 1933–1942*, 88–101; Dr. Wayne K. Hinton with Elizabeth A. Green, *With Picks, Shovels, and Hope: The CCC and its Legacy on the Colorado Plateau* (Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company, 2008), 8.

[284] Conrad L. Wirth, *Parks, Politics, and the People* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980), 105; Paige, *The CCC and the NPS*, 17–18, 21–24, 30–34, 79; Salmond, *The CCC, 1933–1942*, 145–61, 192–93, 210–17; Neil M. Maher, *Nature's New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008), 10–11.

[285] Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., *The Coming of the New Deal* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1959), 284–88; Unrau and Willis, *Administrative History*, 96–101; Swain, "The National Park Service," 324.

[286] In 1939, the name was changed to Works Projects Administration.

was essentially a work relief program, and WPA employees had to meet a means test. The program funded not only many traditional construction projects but also agricultural, industrial, and demographic research; the Federal Arts Project; the Federal Writers' Project; and the Federal Theater Project. Through fiscal year 1937, the WPA allotted $24 million to the NPS for park development, road and trail construction, beach erosion control, and supervision of WPA work camps. Beginning in 1938, the NPS reported only the aggregate of funds it received from various federal public works programs; the total for fiscal years 1938–1940 was $69 million.[287]

The CCC and other public works programs came at a time of rapidly changing responsibilities for the NPS. In August 1933, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 6166 giving the NPS jurisdiction over all historic sites, battlefields, monuments, and parks previously administered by the War Department, the Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capitol. With this one order, the NPS became responsible for 161, instead of 63, sites.[288] During the 1930s, the NPS was also developing large new parks east of the Mississippi River, including Great Smoky Mountains, Shenandoah, Mammoth Cave, and the Blue Ridge Parkway. It also assumed important new responsibilities for planning and supervising the creation of state park systems. The infusion of funds and manpower from the CCC was critical in helping the NPS accomplish its expanded mission. Responsible for planning and supervising CCC projects on state lands as well as federal, the NPS used CCC funds to greatly increase its staff of landscape architects, engineers, and foresters. During the Depression, the NPS was able to hire accomplished professionals who had few opportunities for private employment. Many of the temporary jobs paid for with CCC funds eventually became career positions with the NPS.[289]

NPS LANDSCAPE DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

By the early 1930s, the NPS had a comprehensive, service-wide philosophy emphasizing naturalistic landscape design, development that harmonized with the landscape, and a commitment to master planning. This philosophy was articulated as early as 1918 in a policy statement issued by then Secretary of the Interior Franklin Lane. He established the principle that all roads, trails, buildings, and other development within national parks should be in harmony with the landscape.[290] In the 1920s, the NPS Landscape Division refined and elaborated this broad policy through an evolving program of comprehensive park planning and the development of specific design standards and construction practices.[291]

The NPS approach to landscape design evolved from well-established naturalistic landscape design principles with origins in the English landscape gardening tradition of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This naturalistic design used various techniques to artfully replicate "natural," pastoral landscapes rather than impose a formal, geometrically inspired order on the

[287] Unrau and Willis, *Administrative History*, 75, 99–101; Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., The Politics of Upheaval (Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1960), 270, 434–47.

[288] Unrau and Willis, *Administrative History*, 43; Swain, "The National Park Service," 323.

[289] Wirth, *Parks, Politics, and the People*, 111; Unrau and Willis, Administrative History, 59–62.

[290] Linda F. McClelland, *Presenting Nature: The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service, 1916 to 1942* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1994), 80. The summary of NPS landscape design philosophy and practice presented here relies heavily on McClelland's study.

[291] The Landscape Division became the Branch of Plans and Designs in 1933.

land.[292] In the second half of the nineteenth century, American landscape architects, led by Frederick Law Olmsted Sr., adopted the naturalistic English gardening tradition and greatly expanded its application to public parks in America. As the twentieth century neared, landscape designers planned increasingly larger parks, while their developing understanding of ecological relationships led to an emphasis on native plant species. Transportation advances, notably the electric streetcar and the automobile, forced landscape professionals to consider questions of access to parks and adequate circulation systems within them.[293]

From the Service's creation in 1916, NPS designers adapted well-established principles of naturalistic park design to the practical needs of national parks. Although often viewed as designing visitor access without compromising natural scenery, NPS landscape architects essentially created the visitor's experience of natural wonders. Every development decision—the route of a road, the site of a campground or comfort station, the massing of a building—influenced the visitor's aesthetic reaction to a park. Frequently, NPS designers modified accepted landscape design principles to suit the larger national park properties. NPS practitioners also consulted frequently on general policies and specific projects with leaders in the landscape architecture profession, including Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., John Nolen, and Henry Hubbard.[294]

By the 1920s, park designs routinely accommodated automobile use in planning for roads, campgrounds, and other park facilities. The siting and construction of motor roads became a critical component of NPS designs. A 1926 interagency agreement between the NPS and the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR), a predecessor to the Federal Highway Administration, helped ensure that naturalistic design principles would guide park road design. Under the agreement, the BPR provided technical engineering skills while the NPS retained control of aesthetic decisions. In building roads, NPS landscape engineers strove to provide scenic views, follow natural contours, minimize cut and fill, avoid steep grades and sharp turns, and restore banks to a naturalistic appearance.[295]

The NPS Landscape Division gained experience in the 1920s in developing western parks for motor tourists, and NPS landscape architects and engineers steadily increased their influence on the location and appearance of all development in parks. In 1927, the NPS established a field headquarters in San Francisco that served as the home of its Landscape Division. Landscape Architect Thomas C. Vint, head of the division in 1927, stayed with the NPS until 1961, eventually becoming assistant director for design and construction and providing unparalleled continuity and consistency in NPS landscape designs.[296] Striving for landscape preservation and harmonization, Vint established a program of master planning and design review in the late 1920s with a master plan for each park to coordinate all development. Under Vint's direction, the Landscape Division developed design standards and detailed construction guidelines for

[292] McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 6–7, 34.

[293] Norman Newton, *Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape Architecture* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1971), 267–79, 325–32, 558.

[294] Newton, *Design on the Land*, 535; McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 33–34; Phoebe Cutler, *The Public Landscape of the New Deal* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985), 57, 64.

[295] McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 109.

[296] Vint took the title of chief landscape architect in October 1927 and later became chief architect (McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 116, 196–97).

guardrail, bridge abutments, culverts, tunnel portals, and small recurring recreation facilities such as comfort stations (restrooms).[297] Stonework received particular attention, with detailed guidance provided on selecting and dressing stones and breaking joints to avoid a monotonous, machine-like effect.[298]

NPS architects also worked to integrate necessary park visitor and support facilities with the surrounding landscape by developing the concepts of "visual harmonization" and "cultural harmonization." Visual harmonization relied on careful siting of buildings, horizontal massing, plantings, and the scaling of individual building members to the surrounding terrain. Thus, in rugged western mountain areas, building members often were over-scaled. Cultural harmonization meant designing structures that appeared to have been handcrafted from local, rough-hewn materials, usually logs or quarry-faced stone, and/or employing a vernacular architectural mode, usually one indigenous to the region of the park. NPS architects avoided using severe straight lines and often employed or simulated "pioneer" or "primitive" construction techniques.[299] This approach came to be known as the NPS "rustic style" of architecture, something of a misnomer because it was less a style with a definable set of elements than a broad design philosophy.

Naturalistic landscape design and rustic architecture were the twin guiding principles of NPS park development in the 1920s and 1930s.[300] By 1933, hallmarks of the widely implemented NPS approach were 1) preservation of the existing natural landscape; 2) provision of easy visitor access to major scenic features; 3) a master plan for each park to guide all development; 4) a design review process to ensure that individual projects harmonized with the landscape and did not conflict with the master plan; 5) road and trail designs that followed the topography and lay gently on the land; 6) landscape restoration to erase construction scars; 7) use of rustic and vernacular architectural styles employing local materials and "pioneer" construction methods; 8) standardized plans and specifications for recurring features such as guardrail and comfort stations; and 9) guidelines for stone masonry, road bank restoration, campground design, etc., to ensure landscape harmonization.[301]

NEW DEAL DEVELOPMENT AT COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT, 1933–1945

In the early twentieth century, John Otto seeded the vision of what Colorado National Monument could become and, under the New Deal, some of his ideas became reality. The first substantial campaign to develop infrastructure and visitor amenities at the Monument occurred in the 1930s and 1940s and involved public works programs (Figure 5-5). The Monument's administration shifted frequently until the late 1930s, when the opening of more sections of Rim Rock Drive drastically increased visitation.

[297] McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 115–16, 181–85.

[298] McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 126–31.

[299] Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures* (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1938), 5–8; William C. Tweed and Laura E. Soullière, *National Park Rustic Architecture, 1916–1942* (San Francisco, CA: National Park Service, Western Regional Office, 1977), i, 35.

[300] McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 50–64; Tweed and Soullière, National Park Rustic Architecture, 3–8.

[301] McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, 2–4, 181–85.



Figure 5-5. Plan of the Monument (NPS 1939).

US Representative Taylor of Colorado, the NPS, and officials in Grand Junction lobbied for CCC camps at the Monument. The first camp, NM-1-C, was established in May 1933 with 26 LEMs and 50 enrollees from the surrounding area designated Company 824. It opened as a temporary tent camp on a narrow ledge near the Coke Ovens along the completed portion of Rim Rock Drive (Figure 5-6). Men from neighboring counties joined the company, which reached the typical size of 200 enrollees by the summer of 1933.[302] In November 1933, the company moved to a permanent camp, NM-2-C, established at the Saddlehorn and, in the words of Engineer Secrest, "hastily built by hired labor" under the direction of the Army (Figure 5-7).[303] Through the close of 1933 and the early spring of 1934, further work was done to complete the camp facilities, which consisted of barracks, a mess hall, and a bath house.[304]

Another CCC camp was established at the Monument in late 1933, when Company 825 arrived and set up a temporary camp on Piñon Mesa overlooking the town of Glade Park. In June 1934, the company moved to a temporary tent-frame camp, NM-3-C, at the mouth of Fruita

[302] Hinton and Green, *With Picks, Shovels, and Hope*, 46, 103–107.

[303] T. W. Secrest, "General Report for Camp NM-2-C at Colorado National Monument for the Second Enrollment Period (April 18, 1934)," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative History and Litigation Records 1883–1987, Box 6; Jesse L. Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum to Mr. A. H. Furr (History of Colorado National Monument) (1937)," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 1.

[304] Secrest, "General Report for Camp NM-2-C," 1–2; Hinton and Green, *With Picks, Shovels, and Hope*, 46.



Figure 5-6. Undated photograph of temporary CCC Camp NM-1-C at Colorado National Monument (Colorado National Monument Archives).

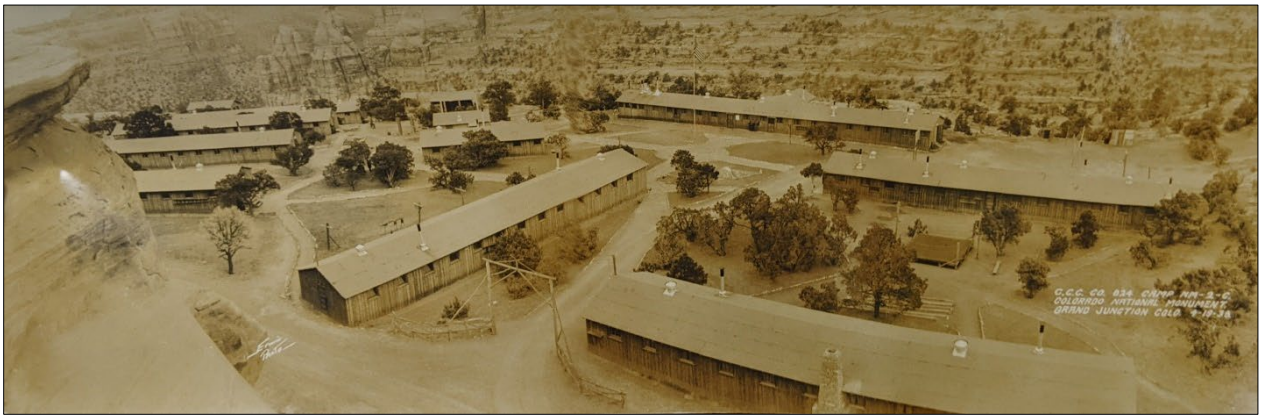


Figure 5-7. Photograph of CCC Camp NM-2-C at Colorado National Monument, April 19, 1938 (Colorado National Monument Archives).

Canyon.[305] This camp was expanded to include a military-style arrangement of hard-sided barracks on the north side of Highway 340. Both companies at the Monument worked on construction of the second section of Rim Rock Drive and of NPS and visitor facilities. The enrollees at both camps were almost entirely white. Colorado had no Black or mixed CCC camps, and most of the state's few Black enrollees were sent to a Black camp in New Mexico.[306]

In August 1935, the Army created east and west administrative divisions for the over 40 CCC camps scattered across Colorado. The headquarters for the Western Slope camps (those west of the Continental Divide) was in Grand Junction and employed 26 Army officers and 61 civilians in an office building, commissary, garage, and supply warehouses.[307]

The WPA also established camps in the Monument at two different times. The so-called "transient camps" employed transient men from Grand Junction and occupied the site of the abandoned NM-1-C CCC camp, the first from January to May 1934 and the second from October 1935 to July 1937. The first transient camp worked on construction of the Coke Ovens Trail, but NPS Landscape Architect Howard W. Baker reported that "most of the men consider it a vacation and are usually not inclined to work."[308] The WPA removed the camp after only six months per NPS request. The second WPA transient work crew consisted of approximately 185 men who, according to the Monument's acting superintendent, were mostly "hobos" found at railyards in the area. The crew worked on 3 miles of Rim Rock Drive and installed 5 miles of cast-iron water main to replace the wood Fruita Pipeline (see below).[309]

In August 1937, PWA and NPS funds could support only a "skeleton crew." News also arrived that the NM-3-C (Fruita Canyon) CCC camp was to be closed. Federal projects such as roadbuilding through national monuments were put on hold with the United States' entry into World War II after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The CCC camp at the Saddlehorn (NM-2-C), which had been renamed NP-8 (or Camp No. 8) in the summer of 1941, closed in March 1942.[310] The NPS removed all the CCC camp buildings by 1946 and returned the areas around the camp sites to their natural condition.[311]

Rim Rock Drive (Remaining Sections)

By the start of 1933, the "Scenic Rim Rock Road" in Colorado National Monument was 5 miles long. While the notable accomplishment was already luring motorists, the road was only one-fifth completed, and the initially allocated $87,000 had been spent on construction of the first

[305] Office of the Chief Engineer, "Colorado National Monument (June 1932)"; Secrest, "General Report for Camp NM-2-C"; Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum"; Hinton and Green, *With Picks, Shovels, and Hope*, 207.

[306] Hinton and Green, *With Picks, Shovels*, and Hope, 8.

[307] Hinton and Green, *With Picks, Shovels*, and Hope, 27.

[308] Kathy McKoy, "Colorado Cultural Resource Survey: Monument Canyon Trail & Coke Ovens Trail" (Denver, CO: Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, 1997).

[309] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Transient Camp in Glade Park is Closing Out," June 27, 1937, 7; Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum," 3–4, 8.

[310] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Ban Fireworks Over Monument; Oiling Road," June 26, 1941, 3; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Monument CCC Camp to Close," March 3, 1942, 3.

[311] Hinton and Green, *With Picks, Shovels, and Hope*, 211.

section.[312] Extensive funding, labor, and determination, amidst the backdrop of the ongoing Depression and the onset of World War II, was necessary to complete the road northward from Grand View to the west entrance at Fruita Canyon and southward from the 16½ Road intersection to the east entrance. The northward route would require the opening of two tunnels, and the southward route through No Thoroughfare Canyon would require one tunnel.

Representative Taylor, who had been a strong advocate for the Monument since the beginning, was influential in securing federal funding to continue construction of Rim Rock Drive.[313] Taylor had the support of Grand Junction's Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club, and local government, which viewed the continuation of the scenic road project as vital to creating jobs for men in the Grand Valley.[314] The federal government's funding was to come through multiple agencies and programs: the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the Emergency Conservation Work program (or ECW, which oversaw the CCC), the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), the NPS Emergency Roads and Trails, and NPS congressional appropriations.[315] From 1933 to 1937, approximately $530,000 from the various agencies supported the road work.[316]

The source of labor varied in the 1930s and early 1940s. The NPS directly hired men; laborers also were provided by the federal unemployment and economic recovery-related agencies initiated by President Roosevelt's New Deal, including the PWA, FERA, and WPA. However, most of the laborers and the work performed to complete Rim Rock Drive were again from the CCC, and most of them were aged 18 to 25.[317] The work was arduous and, at times, very dangerous. On December 12, nine CWA workers, all from Glade Park, were killed by a rockslide in what became known as the Half Tunnel Accident. Some of the men were crushed, while others jumped 300 feet to avoid the falling debris. An inquest opened by the NPS determined that nothing could have been done to avoid the accident.[318]

Secrest, who had served as engineer since the beginning of road construction, continued to fulfill this important role on the project through several changes in Monument leadership. Secrest and Park Ranger Clifford Anderson, who had served as custodian of the Monument since 1932, had a tense relationship. The NPS transferred Anderson in July 1935 and the following month placed the Monument under the authority of Mesa Verde National Park. Through the winter of 1935–1936, Secrest planned the next stage of roadwork for the Fruita Canyon area, and WPA workers joined the road construction work. New funding for the road arrived from the ECW and from the PWA in January 1936.[319]

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[312] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Area of Colorado National Monument Increased to 18,000 Acres by Order," March 5, 1933.

[313] Simmons and Simmons, *Rim Rock Drive*, 6.

[314] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 62–63.

[315] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 64.

[316] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 64.

[317] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 65.

[318] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 67–70.

[319] Paul Franke, "Scenic Rim Rock Road Revised Alignment (January 1936)," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 2; Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum"; Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 77, 84.

CCC and WPA workers and those from other agencies made considerable progress on the road by 1935. Jesse L. Nusbaum (1887–1975),[320] the superintendent at Mesa Verde, took on the additional role of acting superintendent at the Monument in early 1936. By March 1936, Nusbaum reported that 15 more miles of the road had been "improved."[321] Guardrail was laid along the route to prevent vehicles from running off the dangerous edges, but the tunnels remained to be completed. The NPS established a stone quarry in the Monument to supply stone for the guardrail and other building projects.[322] In March 1936, a stone mason was supervising the work of quarrying, cutting, and laying the stone and instructed CCC men in the techniques involved.[323]

During the summer of 1937, the Rim Rock Drive construction project paused as funds became low, which may have influenced Chief Engineer Secrest's resignation in October. In November 1937, Nusbaum reported that 16 miles of new roadway had been opened to create a united roadway from the west entrance at Fruita Canyon to the interior of the Monument at Cold Shivers Point. The two tunnels at Fruita Canyon (Tunnels No. 1 and 2) had been completed. There were "daylighted areas" along the completed road for future overlooks, and workers had installed 600 cubic yards of stone as guardrail. Nusbaum declared it essential to complete the scenic road from Cold Shivers Point southward to the East Entrance.[324] Moreover, a hard surface and oil had to be placed on the road, and the NPS had to decide whether to upgrade the sinuous Serpents Trail and incorporate it into Rim Rock Drive.

Through 1938 and the early years of World War II, the NPS and various federal work relief programs continued to work on Rim Rock Drive. From the summer of 1938 to the spring of 1939, the WPA provided new funding and labor toward completing subgrade, bank sloping, landscaping, drainage, and gravel along the length of the existing roadbed.[325] The NPS concluded that the old Serpents Trail would not be incorporated into Rim Rock Drive, which would instead run for about 3 miles through No Thoroughfare Canyon.[326] Four hundred men from the FERA and the CCC, under the overall direction of Assistant Engineer Horace Miller of

[320] Nusbaum, the first archeologist hired by the NPS, was superintendent at Mesa Verde National Park (NP) for 17 years (from 1921 to 1946 with interruptions for various temporary assignments) and took on the additional role of lead archeologist for the Department of the Interior in 1927. From 1946 to his retirement in 1957, he was the senior archeologist at the NPS regional office in Santa Fe, New Mexico. National Park Service, Jesse Nusbaum, https://www.nps.gov/people/jesse-nusbaum.htm, 2018; Schoch-Roberts, A Classic Western Quarrel, 77.

[321] Jesse Nusbaum, "Work of the CCC at Colorado National Monument (September 1936)," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 1.

[322] Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum," 7–8.

[323] Auburn R. Nowels, "Camp NM-2-C (May 16, 1936)," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 1.

[324] Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum," 5–10; Simmons and Simmons, Rim Rock Drive, 5.

[325] Preston Walker, "36,697 Project Ok'ed." *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, May 1, 1938, 1; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Allotment for Highway Monument," July 24, 1938, 16; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Approve Job on Monument," August 26, 1938, 1; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "More Funds for Monument Canon," March 25, 1939, 1.

[326] National Park Service, "Plan of the Monument (1939)," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Maps and Drawings Collection, Map Folder 1.

the NPS, labored on the road as of March 1940.[327] Through 1940 and 1941, the key projects were oiling the surface and completing the No Thoroughfare Canyon route.[328] Tunnel No. 3, the last of the tunnels on Rim Rock Drive, was an important component of the route through No Thoroughfare Canyon. Work on the 530-foot-long tunnel began in 1940; the following year, only trimming of the structure remained.[329] In 1940, with work still underway on the road, over 39,000 tourists drove along the passable sections, and Monument staff estimated that 250,000 per year would come once Rim Rock Drive was finished and museum exhibits were built.[330]

In December 1941, two weeks after the Pearl Harbor attack, the *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* reported the section of road through No Thoroughfare Canyon, including the tunnel, was complete, except for oiling the roadway, but further work would have to wait. Although the WPA received nearly $60,000 to complete the remaining tasks in 1942, no further work was done until after the war (see Chapter Six).[331]

Stone House (Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence or Custodian's Residence)

The Stone House, alternatively known as the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence or the Custodian's Residence, dates to the 1930s and was built near CCC camp NM-2-C. It is at Rim Rock Drive and Saddlehorn Loop Road about 5 miles west of the Monument's West Entrance. To the rear of the house stands a two-car garage from the same period. The CCC completed the Stone House in 1935 and the Garage in 1936 based on NPS designs. Workers constructed the buildings of sandstone blocks quarried during Rim Rock Drive construction activities or from the aforementioned stone quarry. The Stone House, a residence for the Monument custodians and superintendents, and the Garage were the first permanent buildings in the Monument.[332] An Administration Building planned for the Saddlehorn entrance plaza opposite the Stone House was never built (Figures 5-8 and 5-9).

Saddlehorn Utility Area

The Saddlehorn Utility Area, off Rim Rock Drive west of the Stone House, consists of several buildings completed by the CCC in the 1930s to serve the Monument's construction and

[327] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "No Thorofare [sic] Road Approval Believed Near," June 5, 1939, 9; Frank H. Reeds, "Wonderful Road is to Replace Serpent's Trail," Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, March 18, 1940, 4; Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, "October WPA Quota is 863," October 8, 1940, 2.

[328] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Monument Road Will be Oiled Early in Year," January 21, 1940, 8; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Ban Fireworks Over Monument; Oiling Road," June 26, 1941, 3.

[329] Simmons and Simmons, *Rim Rock Drive*, 5.

[330] Simmons and Simmons, *Rim Rock Drive*, 19; Colorado National Monument, unattributed memo from March 1940, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I – Historic Records, Box 1, Folder 1.

[331] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Ban Fireworks Over Monument; Oiling Road," June 26, 1941, 3; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Allot $58,111 Fund for Work on Monument," December 19, 1941, 12; *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "May Finish New Monument Road by Mid-Summer," April 12, 1942, 10; B. R. Finch, "Memorandum for the Coordinating Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park (September 21, 1946)," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 1.

[332] Kathy McKoy, *National Register Nomination: Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage*, NRIS 94000306, 1992/revised 1994, 2–4; Jesse L. Nusbaum, 1937 Superintendent Report, 8.

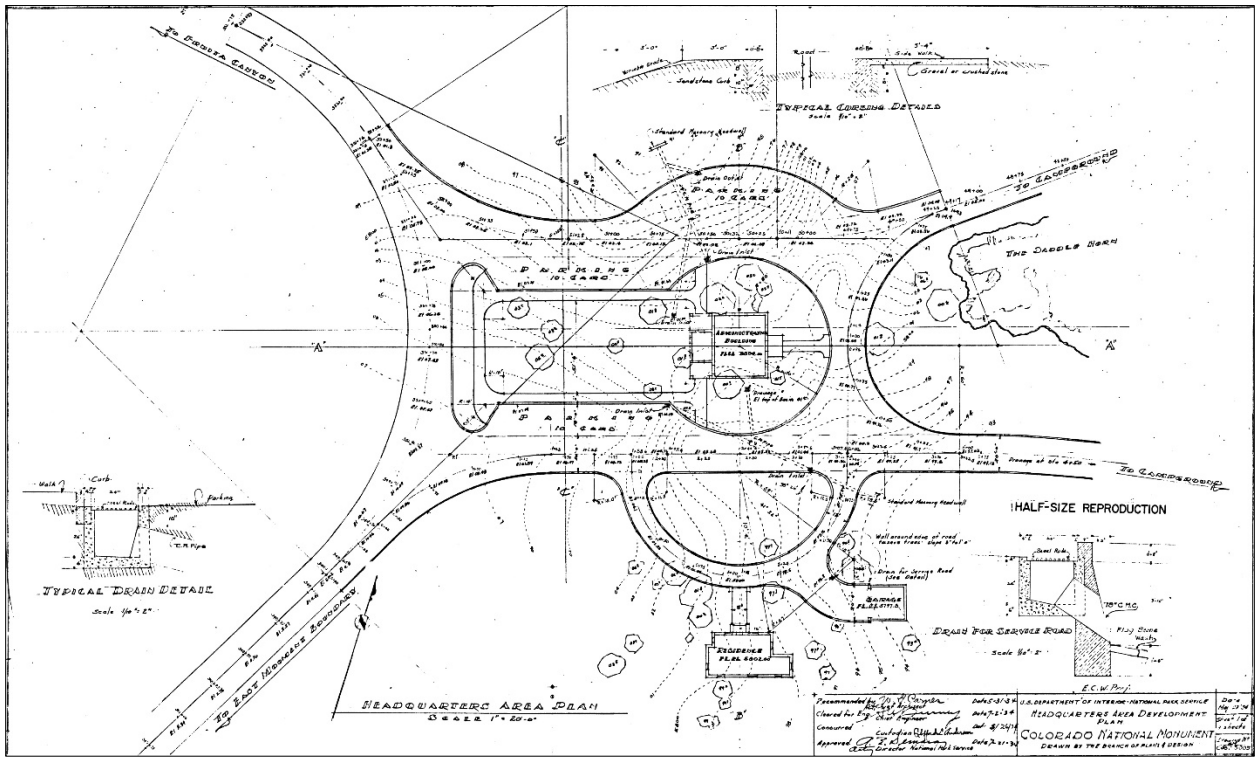


Figure 5-8. Headquarters Area Development Plan (NPS 1934).

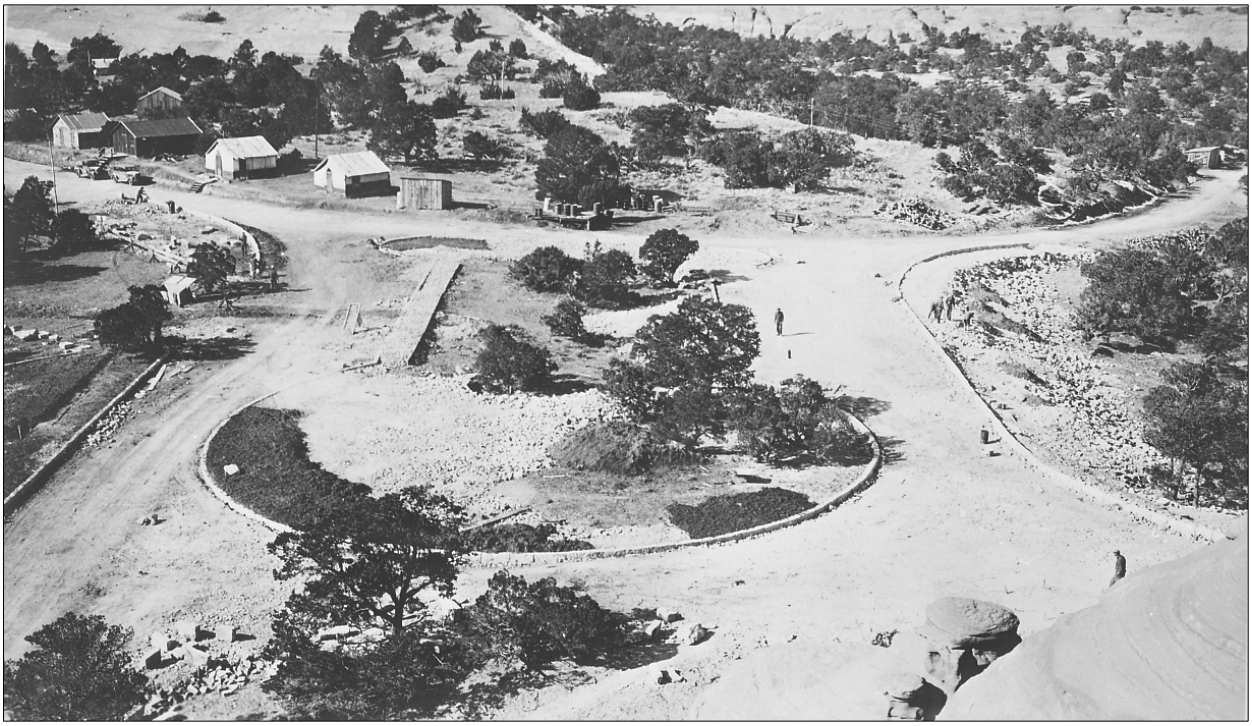


Figure 5-9. Ca. 1935 photograph from Saddlehorn rock formation of entrance plaza at Rim Rock Drive and Saddlehorn Loop Road (Colorado National Monument Archives).

maintenance needs. NPS records note that the Utility Area was under construction by February 1936; however, by November 1937, only five buildings of temporary wood construction (an office-warehouse, garage, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, and oil storage) were complete.[333] Permanent buildings were completed thereafter that prominently feature native stone. The Utility Area consists of a Roads and Trails Shop (1937); an Oil House (1938); an Open Storage Building (1941); and a Building and Utilities Shop (1941).[334] A 1946 description of the Utility Area notes that an 8-foot-high, woven wire fence with barbed wire at the top surrounded the area.[335]

Saddlehorn Campground and Comfort Station

The CCC developed the Saddlehorn Campground and associated Comfort Station (restroom) under contract with the NPS in the 1930s to accommodate visitors who came in increasingly large numbers as Rim Rock Drive opened. The NPS later expanded the campground during the Mission 66 era (see Chapter Six). The campground is in the northwest portion of the Monument off Rim Rock Drive about 5 miles from the West Entrance, near a sandstone outcrop known as the Saddlehorn that juts above the surrounding landscape. The CCC camp known as NM-2-C was south of the campground in the 1930s and 1940s.[336]

The NPS completed the earliest plans for the campground in 1934 and 1935. The 1934 "Campground – General Plan" illustrates a picnic area, an amphitheater, several camp sites, access roads, several parking areas, and three comfort stations. It also identifies an area to the north as a "future campground."[337] Many of the features of the 1934 plan persist in the 1935 "Camp Ground Areas" plan.[338] The 1935 plan, however, indicates only one comfort station and fewer roads with the camp sites individually depicted as pull-offs along the roads. The later plan, which was largely adopted and existed through World War II, also details the setup of the individual camp sites.[339]

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[333] None of the temporary buildings are extant. Jesse L. Nusbaum, "Memorandum for the Coordinating Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park, September 21, 1946," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 1, 3–6.

[334] Eunice Fedors, *National Register Nomination: Saddlehorn Historic District, Mesa County, Colorado*, NRIS 94000308, 1990, 1–2.

[335] Nusbaum, "Memorandum for the Coordinating Superintendent."

[336] Kathy McKoy, *National Register Nomination: Saddlehorn Comfort Station, Mesa County, Colorado*, NRIS 94000305, 1992/revised 1994, 1–11.

[337] "Campground – General Plan Colorado National Monument" (1934), US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Plans and Design. Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, Denver, CO.

[338] "Camp Ground Areas" (1935), US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Plans and Design. Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, Denver, CO.

[339] The plan from 1938 proposed a large parking lot for 104 cars and other features that do not appear to have been developed until after 1945. The plan from 1941 proposed an additional access road and other features that do not appear to have ever been implemented. "Picnic Area: Saddle Horn – Colorado National Monument" (1938), US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of Landscape Architecture. Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, Denver, CO; "Preliminary Layout Plan: Headquarters Area – Colorado National Monument" (1941), US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Plans and Design. Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, Denver, CO.

Nusbaum reported that the CCC was working on the "camp ground" in tandem with other developments in the Monument by February 1936.[340] By November 1937, he estimated that about 5 acres of the campground, including the comfort station, were complete and that the campground consisted of about three-quarters of a mile of access road and 30 spaces for campers to park. Each camp site had a picnic table, space for tents, and a fireplace. The site also had wood and garbage receptacles and a drinking fountain.[341]

The CCC completed the Saddlehorn Campground Comfort Station, a modest, one-story restroom, in 1937. After the ECW program provided funding, the NPS developed a design for the comfort station in 1936 that featured restrooms for men and for women as well as a utility room. The CCC used native sandstone quarried in the Monument to build the comfort station, which cost $2,600.[342]

Fruita Pipeline

The WPA rebuilt the old, wooden Fruita Pipeline in cast iron in the 1930s. The pipeline crossed Rim Rock Drive and the Saddlehorn Campground on its 23-mile journey from Piñon Mesa to Fruita. In October 1932, the Town of Fruita agreed to supply water to the work camps for an annual fee of $10. In January 1933, recognizing the importance of the project to the town and surrounding communities, Fruita agreed to supply the Monument's CCC camps with water from the pipeline, up to 10 percent of the flow. In return, the NPS would replace 6 miles of existing wooden water line with 6-inch cast-iron pipes without charge. The pipeline continued to store water in three reservoirs: two in the Fruita Reserve (west of the Monument) and a small reservoir in Fruita Canyon (near the West Entrance Station). Later in 1933, Fruita deeded the land surrounding the pipeline to the Monument but reserved "an easement for the maintenance and operation of a reservoir." The deed also stated that this easement would not interfere with NPS operations.[343]

The pipeline project employed 185 WPA workers and 6 supervisors and was funded by the NPS and the WPA. The allotted funding amounted to $35,000 for supplies.[344] Challenging terrain made it necessary to construct access roads and use temporary structures to position the pipeline in place. Each segment of cast-iron pipe weighed 400 pounds and was laid in trenches cut into the topography to maintain a uniform slope (Figures 5-10 and 5-11). Fill collected locally was used to cover the pipeline. In a few places, concrete retaining walls were constructed to retain the earthen fill. A truss structure was built across a steep crevice using steel girders.[345]

[340] Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum," 3.

[341] Nusbaum, "Informal Memorandum," 8.

[342] During the Mission 66 era (see Chapter 6), the NPS added additional camp sites and comfort stations at the Saddlehorn Campground. Russel L. Mahan, "Saddlehorn Area Comfort Station" (1949), Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 4; McKoy, *Saddlehorn Comfort Station*, 1–6.

[343] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 11–12, 58–59.

[344] Nusbaum, 1937 Superintendent Report, 4, 7.

[345] Walker, *Picture Story, Colorado National Monument Water System*.

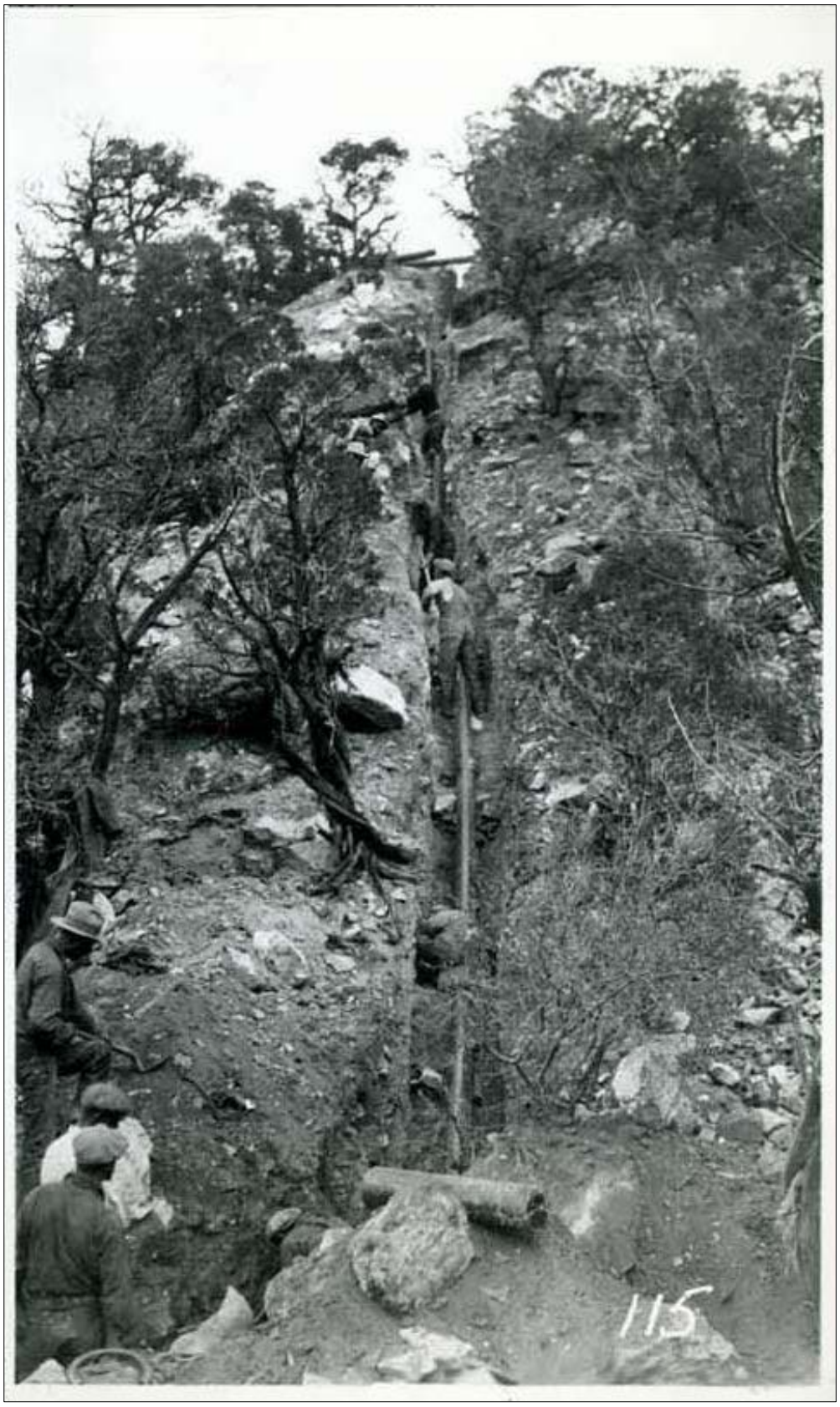


Figure 5-10. Ca. 1937 (Walker) photograph of CCC workers on Fruita Pipeline, captioned "Laying pipe up steep slope. Looking back from station 220."

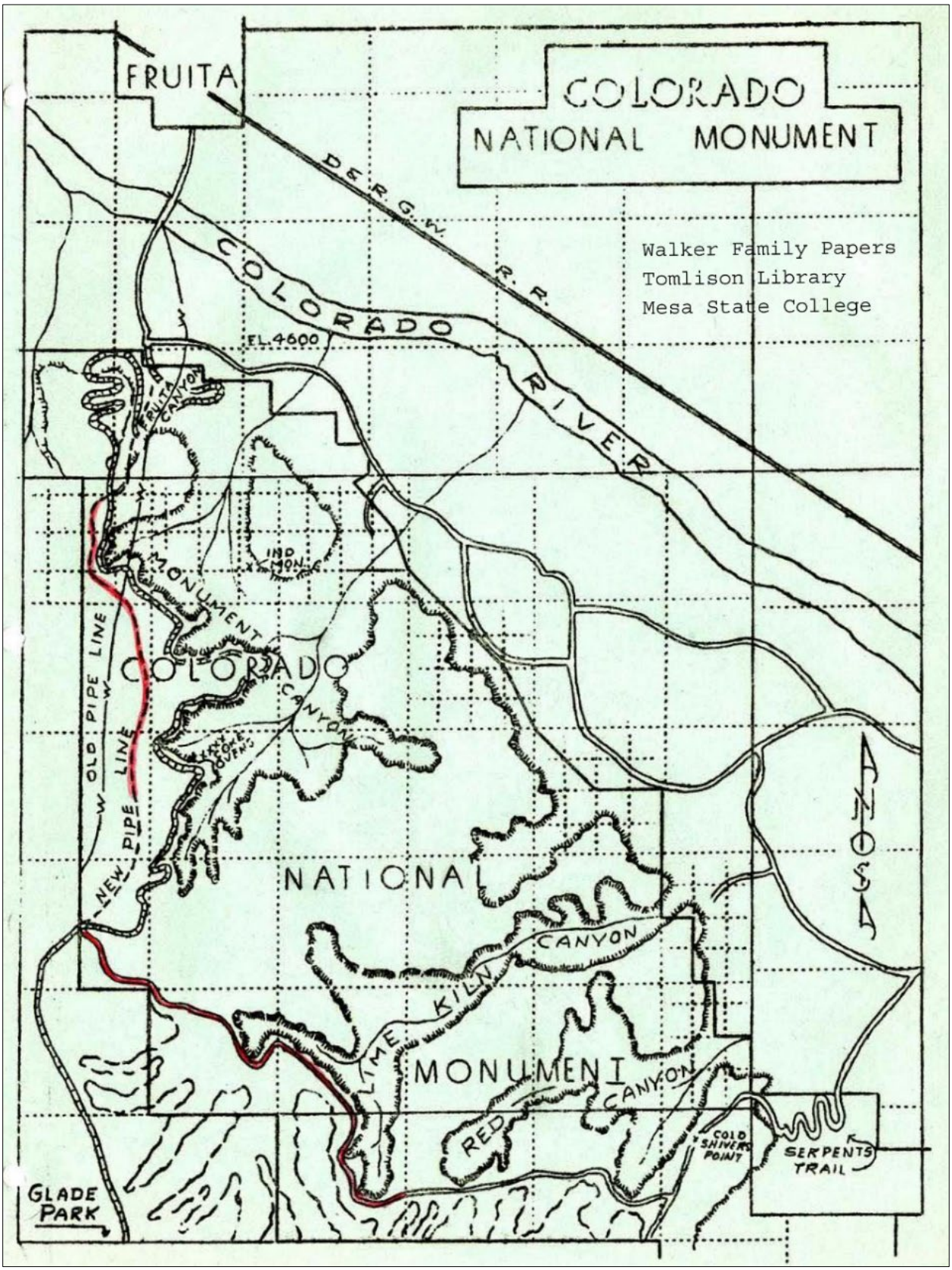


Figure 5-11. Ca. 1937 map showing route of new pipeline built by CCC (Walker ca. 1937).

At the Saddlehorn Campground, additional lines were installed to service buildings and fire hydrants.[346]

Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter

The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter is off Rim Rock Drive less than 1 mile from the East Entrance to the Monument.[347] The one-story building constructed of native sandstone has two wings with a central comfort station and a chimney. CCC or WPA laborers built the structure from 1940 to 1941 based on an NPS "rustic style" design.[348]

The public began to use the Picnic Shelter in the fall of 1940, although the building was not yet complete.[349] In June 1941, the new attraction was described as "modern in every respect" with landscaping underway and the water supply yet to be established. Vandalism was a problem from the beginning, as visitors often scratched their initials into the walls of the building.[350] By 1949, Monument Superintendent Russell L. Mahan assessed the building to be in "fair" shape and in need of deferred maintenance. Local residents frequently used the building, but the somewhat isolated site continued to be vandalized. All the picnic tables had been destroyed, and roof shakes had been removed for campfires. In 1959, the *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* reported that the "run down" building had been "closed some seasons back due to vandalism" and invited local civic groups to raise funds for its renovation.[351] The NPS finally received funding to restore the building and reopened it in May 1961 (see Chapter Six).[352]

KNOWN RESOURCE TYPES

Seven major resource types are associated with the development of Colorado National Monument in 1911–1945: motor roads, trails, CCC camps, viewpoints/overlooks, campgrounds, administrative/visitor contact areas, and fences. Each of these resource types, except fences, has associated features mentioned below. Trees, understory shrubs, ground cover, and lawns are integral parts of the landscapes associated with these resources. Further study and evaluation of these resource types as cultural landscapes should be undertaken by qualified historical landscape architects.

Motor Roads. This resource type includes the motor roads in the Monument's circulation system that reflect the principles of naturalistic design developed by NPS landscape architects and engineers. It includes the major roads designed to provide entry to the Monument and access to its scenic features and recreational areas. These roads connect other areas within the Monument: campgrounds, pull-offs and overlook areas, and administrative and

[346] Nusbaum, 1937 Superintendent Report, 8.

[347] The site often is identified as the "picnic shelter" and the "shelter house" in historical documents.

[348] Eunice Fedors, *National Register Nomination: Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter, Mesa County, Colorado*, NRIS 94000309, 1994, 1–6; Russel L. Mahan, "Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter" (1949), Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 4.

[349] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Picnic Monday Night," October 8, 1940, 2.

[350] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "One of District's Most Popular Outdoor Spots," June 10, 1941.

[351] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Awaiting Renovation," September 30, 1959.

[352] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Shelter House Open," May 18, 1961; Fedors, *Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter*, 6.

visitor contact areas (see below). This resource type encompasses associated features such as bridges; culverts and drains; tunnels; guardrail and barriers; tree wells; and pull-offs, including curbing, retaining walls, and sidewalks. Some archeological sites in the Monument document the routes and construction techniques of these roads.

Trails. This resource type covers the hiking trails within the Monument initially laid out and constructed by John Otto and/or developed by the NPS to provide access to the scenic natural geologic features of the landscape. This resource type includes associated features such as overlooks, retaining walls, culverts, check dams, drainage ditches, and steps. While the Monument's trail system has been improved over the past 100 years, elements of John Otto's original construction survive in several areas, and archeological sites and features document sections of the Liberty Cap, Corkscrew, and Gold Star Canyon trails constructed in the early twentieth century. These include chiseled steps, pipe ladders and handholds, water catchment features, and retaining walls constructed with iron pipes sunk into bedrock to hold cribbing (juniper logs) and stone or soil (see Figure 5-1).

CCC Camps. At least three temporary CCC camps established within the Monument in the 1930s have been documented archeologically through structural features, trash middens, landscape modifications (e.g., temporary access roads, and borrow pits), and water storage and drainage features. All CCC camps were demolished after their use, and the surrounding landscape was rehabilitated to a degree.

Viewpoints/Overlooks. This resource type includes viewpoints and overlooks (minor roads, parking areas, paths, bridges, benches, and other facilities) developed to present scenic views to visitors. The resources also include any related parking plazas, comfort stations, retaining walls, sidewalks, and memorials.

Campgrounds. This resource type covers campgrounds developed within the Monument by NPS designers according to nationally recognized principles of campground planning. It includes related loop roads, campsites with parking spurs, comfort stations, and drinking fountains.

Administrative/Visitor Contact Areas. This resource type includes the areas within the Monument designed to provide essential administrative and visitor facilities. It includes headquarters and administration buildings; ranger stations; circulatory roads and associated features; parking areas, including curbing; sidewalks; and garages.

Fences. This resource type includes wire and wood structures built to keep animals in or out of the Monument or to mark the Monument boundary.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

Individual resources of the above types would be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A because they represent the efforts of conservationists, state officials, Congress, and the Roosevelt Administration to provide recreational opportunities; conserve natural resources; and, in the case of the New Deal programs, revive the economy through public works. They would also be eligible under Criterion C if they embody the distinctive design philosophy and qualities of craftsmanship perfected by the NPS in the New Deal period.

Trails constructed by Otto may be eligible under Criterion B for their associations with the Monument's earliest and most vocal proponent and under Criterion C if they embody the distinctive characteristics of his construction and engineering techniques.

To qualify for National Register listing under this context, resources must be associated with the initial development of the Monument as described in this chapter and have been constructed in 1911–1945. If constructed after 1945, the resource must be congruent in design and execution with work from 1911–1945 and must be a logical extension of the original development campaign. Resources eligible under Criterion C should either reflect the early construction methods used by John Otto or adhere to the NPS design philosophy prevalent in 1933–1945 that emphasized visual and cultural harmonization. Particular consideration should be given to the character-defining elements of spatial organization, circulation, and vegetation. Resources should retain most, if not all, aspects of integrity. Roads and trails that have been widened and/or resurfaced may be eligible if they maintain their original alignments and bank treatment and provide the same sequence of visual experiences as when first constructed.

CHAPTER SIX: THE MISSION 66 ERA, 1946–1972

After World War II, increased leisure time and automobile use led to more Americans visiting the national parks. NPS Director Conrad L. Wirth (1889–1993) created the ambitious system-wide improvement project known as Mission 66 to address the deferred investment in park maintenance and to improve visitor facilities. The end of the decade-long program coincided with the 50th anniversary of the NPS in 1966. Wirth's successor, George B. Hartzog Jr. (1920–2008), initiated the 1966–1972 "PARKSCAPE U.S.A." program as an extension of the Mission 66 program. The planned and constructed historic resources in Colorado National Monument during the post-World War II era of national park development represent the design aesthetic and planning principles from the Mission 66 period.

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND MISSION 66

The Mission 66 development program essentially redefined the role of the country's national park system for a post-World War II society. It enabled hundreds of construction projects, implemented new planning procedures and design concepts, expanded the system in size and scope, and reshaped the NPS identity in American culture. The comprehensive and top-down nature of the program, disseminated to individual parks through the regional offices, resulted in overall consistency across the park system with respect to facilities and infrastructure, even as the diversity of the parks warranted individual solutions to some issues.

Origins of Mission 66, 1941–1955

As discussed in Chapter Five, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs focused on economic recovery after the Great Depression in part by providing work for the unemployed and significantly contributed to the rapid development of national parks. When the United States entered World War II in 1941, federal priorities shifted to supplying the war effort. By 1942, the New Deal programs that had sustained the parks during the Great Depression were discontinued and wartime budgets for maintaining the system were slashed. A substantial number of NPS employees joined the armed services, leaving many parks with skeleton staffs. The lack of funding and labor forced most parks to defer maintenance and improvement projects. Park infrastructure consequently deteriorated, sometimes to dangerous extents. These conditions persisted during the decade following the war as national resources were dedicated to rebuilding Europe under the Marshall Plan and the exigencies of the Cold War.

At the same time, more Americans than ever before had the opportunity to travel. Increased wages and leisure time as a result of the nation's general prosperity, combined with the increasing popularity of the automobile, led to large increases in the number of visitors to national parks. From 1946 to 1955, annual visitation more than doubled from 21,752,000 to a record 50 million.[353] Colorado National Monument visitation nearly quadrupled, from 38,366 to 162,300 annually, during the same period.[354]

[353] Linda Flint McClelland, *Building the National Parks* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998), 463.

[354] National Park Service Public Use Statistics Office, NPS Stats, Annual Visitation (All Years) Park Report, Colorado National Monument.

The demands placed on the already stressed facilities of the National Park System threatened its integrity. NPS leadership and conservation groups were unsuccessful in gaining Congressional support for more funding. Prominent historian Bernard DeVoto's "Let's Close the National Parks" in the October 1953 issue of *Harper's Magazine* scathingly indicted the federal government for its failure to support the National Park System.[355] Other newspaper and magazine articles published in 1954 and 1955 such as "National Parks: Tomorrow's Slums?" and "Twenty-four Million Acres of Trouble" followed.[356] Americans who treasured national parks expressed their dissatisfaction to their Congressional representatives.[357]

Conrad L. Wirth's Vision, 1955

After his inauguration in 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower supported public works programs to stimulate the economy and address the state of the national parks. NPS Director Conrad L. Wirth proposed "Mission 66," a massive system-wide planning and development program to be completed by the 50th anniversary of the NPS in 1966. Wirth, a trained landscape architect, began his career with the NPS in 1931 as assistant director of the Branch of Lands. By 1933, he oversaw CCC work at 560 state parks and administered the New Deal's CCC program in national parks. He served as director of the NPS from 1951 to 1963. His autobiography *Parks, Politics, and the People*, mentions that the idea for Mission 66 was conceived during a weekend in February 1955 after considering it from the perspective of a congressperson. Knowing the program would require a large sum of money, and in lieu of a yearly budget, Wirth requested funding from Congress for a 10-year program to begin in fiscal year 1956.[358]

Wirth established a steering committee and a working committee to plan and execute the Mission 66 program and appointed long-time NPS employees who represented different branches of the agency and had been involved in park planning in the 1930s and 1940s. Wirth's instructions were to "disregard precedent, policy and present operating and management procedures" and to "remember only the fundamental purpose of national parks and in this basis develop operating and development plans that would best meet the problem of parks today and the future."[359] In eight months, the Mission 66 working committee prepared a comprehensive proposal with policy guidelines, cost estimates, and data analyses for national park sites. Park superintendents were asked to prepare park "prospectuses" describing individual park needs. Mission 66 prospectus reports and budget estimates were created for 194 national parks and historic sites (not including Yellowstone National Park, which had internal conflicts with a concessionaire). The specifics of the program (including the "Mission 66" name) were intentionally kept secret; however, the public was aware that a major program to improve national park properties and potentially their surrounding communities was being planned.

[355] Bernard DeVoto, "Let's Close the National Parks," *Harper's Magazine* 207 (October 1953), 49–52.

[356] Ethan Carr, *Mission 66*, 6–7.

[357] Larry M. Dilsaver, ed., *America's National Park Service: The Critical Documents* (New York, NY: Rowman and Littlefield Press, 1994), Ch. 4.

[358] Sarah Allaback, *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, 2000); Ethan Carr, Elaine Jackson-Retondo, and Len Warner, Rodd L. Wheaton, John D. Feinberg, and Carly M. Piccarello (Carr et al.), *National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form: National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, 2015, E-6–7.

[359] Wirth, *Parks, Politics, and the People*, 238.

On September 20, 1955, Wirth introduced Mission 66 in his keynote address at the NPS Public Services Conference at Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which was attended by approximately 200 superintendents and other officials. In defense of the large budget requests required for Mission 66, Wirth stressed the economic value of the National Park System as an "important factor in the national economy." He reported the American Automobile Association's (AAA) and the National Association of Travel Organizations' statistics and observations about increased tourism in parks: "Pleasure travel is big business today." He argued that "to the extent that we preserve them … and use them for their own inherent, noncommercial, human values, to that same degree do they contribute their part to the economic life of the nation." Although he framed the Mission 66 plan as an investment in the US economy, he did not present any cost estimates at the conference but connected the financial investment to an emotional one: "The way we use leisure will determine the kind of Nation we are tomorrow," and the National Park System sets "a national pattern for the most wholesome and beneficial kind of recreation."[360] The National Park System fosters Americans' "pride in their government, love of the land, and faith in the American tradition," that is "worth all that we need to spend."[361]

The Mission 66 Program, 1956–1966

Following a personal endorsement by President Eisenhower and approval by the Bureau of the Budget, federal appropriations for Mission 66, the largest investment ever initiated for the National Park System, were distributed in early 1956, and the program launched at the beginning of fiscal year 1957. Initially, Congress approved a 10-year budget of more than $700 million by increasing the 1957 fiscal year budget to $68 million (a significant increase from the 1955 budget of $32 million). By 1962, yearly NPS budgets exceeded $100 million; by 1966, the NPS had spent a total of more than $1 billion.[362]

Through Mission 66, the NPS brought national parks up to modern standards by initiating construction projects; hiring new employees; encouraging the development of campgrounds outside park boundaries; improving visitor access through interpretation; purchasing land for new parks; and creating a new identity for the agency, which involved increasing the use of its "Arrowhead" logo (created in 1951) and updating park staff uniforms. The new program involved every park in the system and dramatically improved facilities at most of them. Construction included new and improved roads, trails, campgrounds, comfort stations, amphitheaters, administration buildings, and employee housing. Adequate water, sewer, and electric service were installed for the first time at many sites. The creation of "training centers" improved education for NPS staff.

The system-wide construction of visitor centers was one of the most visible and important efforts undertaken during Mission 66. The NPS erected more than 100 such buildings nationwide in 1956–1966. The term "visitor center" emerged to identify a new type of NPS building designed to provide the primary introduction point for park visitors. Exhibiting modern architectural designs, the buildings provided a variety of amenities, including interpretive exhibits, museum space, theaters, public restrooms, and administrative offices for

[360] Carr, *Mission 66*, 68, 87, 106–110.

[361] Carr, *Mission 66*, 108.

[362] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-3–9.

park staff. The centers replaced the buildings usually referred to as administration and museum buildings. A visitor center's key functions were to introduce the story of the park and to orient visitors to the landscape and sites they were invited to explore. Owing to their importance to the visitor experience, considerable thought was given to their placement. The NPS usually chose prominent locations that allowed for extensive views of the park or site that helped visitors to understand the interpretive exhibits in the context of the entire site. Since most visitors arrived in automobiles, consideration was also given to placing the buildings as close as possible to the primary roadways leading to the parks and connecting them to the overall park circulation to efficiently manage visitor traffic.[363]

Mission 66-era architecture is characterized by its Modern design (termed "Park Service Modern") and the use of readily available materials such as steel, concrete, aluminum, plywood, and fiberglass.[364] Design elements included low-pitched, gabled roofs, wide overhanging eaves, and irregular fenestration (arrangement of windows and openings). Park Service Modern was adapted from existing, popular mid-twentieth-century architecture. Like shopping centers and urban cultural centers, visitor centers made centralized services accessible to large numbers of people in cars.[365] The newly developed interstate highway system largely dictated Mission 66-era road design, which heavily influenced the location of each park's developed areas.

The Mission 66 program also focused on campground development and improvement. The number of campgrounds in national parks doubled as hundreds were built, providing 17,782 new campsites nationwide. Campgrounds established in the 1930s were improved to accommodate larger automobiles and recreational vehicles (RVs) with longer parking spurs (typically 25 feet). The state-of-the-art campgrounds minimized their impact on vegetation by keeping camping groups within tightly confined designated areas, with individual campsites organized on alternating sides of one-way loop roads. The newer campgrounds generally incorporated a greater number of sites within a single developed area to accommodate more campers. Mission 66 campsites tended to be more irregular and less dense than earlier ones. Mission 66 funding was used for extensive sewer and water systems that supported new comfort stations and electrical and water connections for trailer campers. Many Mission 66 campground designs also included covered or open amphitheaters for ranger-led interpretive programs. Landscape elements often included planting beds and signboards.[366]

Due to the rise in automobile tourism and day trips, 743 picnic areas were constructed, thousands of existing picnic areas were expanded, and many existing campground sites were modified into picnic areas. Picnic areas (newly built or converted campgrounds) were designed to lessen environmental impacts by reducing visitor activity to day use only. Often, these areas were built alongside new and existing campground sites, the visitor center, interpretive displays, and circulation routes. Natural barriers such as ravines or creeks often separated picnic areas from adjacent campgrounds. Mission 66 picnic areas were constructed intentionally at a lower density than earlier ones by increasing the size of each area. They resembled campgrounds in

[363] Allaback, *Mission 66 Visitor Centers, 25–26; Carr, Mission 66, 195; Olausen et al., Saratoga National Historical Park*, 68–69.

[364] Mission 66-era architectural descriptions in this section are adapted from Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*.

[365] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, F-64.

[366] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-16, E-22–23, E-38.

their layout, with paved loop roads, parking areas, and extensive sewer and water systems. Picnic sites typically consisted of a single fireplace and three picnic tables. Landscape features were often constructed with concrete, instead of the stone used in earlier picnic areas.[367]

The extensive Mission 66 visitor accommodation construction projects nationwide included 584 new comfort stations, 82 new amphitheaters or campfire circles, and 1,116 roadside or trailside interpretive exhibits. The comfort stations employed a common form of separate sections for women and men separated by a shared, externally accessible plumbing chase. Some designs included an external privacy screen, while others contained an interior privacy panel immediately inside the entrance. Standard comfort station designs included low-pitched, gabled or hipped roofs. Fenestration typically consisted of continuous rows of jalousie, hopper, or awning windows just under the eaves. Stations were built in the most publicly accessible locations and typically were surrounded by a paved apron accessed by paved pedestrian paths.[368] Amphitheater designs typically followed the examples published in Volume II of Albert H. Good's *Park and Recreation Structures* (1938), which offered several variations on the form and overall encouraged designs "outstandingly representative of park character."[369]

Mission 66 campgrounds sometimes included ranger stations (also called camptender residences) within the developed area. Ranger stations were also built near more remote areas within parks to provide visitor contact points along with an office and/or housing for law enforcement rangers. Like other employee housing constructed within national parks, ranger stations often followed standard housing designs based on elements of an established vocabulary for modern residential architecture. The low-profile, rectangular buildings featured flat or shallow gabled rooflines, wood-frame construction with wood lap or vertical-board siding or concrete masonry construction, slab-on-grade foundations, aluminum-frame windows, and low masonry retaining walls. The stations typically were divided into two or three separate areas for each function. Comfort stations and maintenance areas sometimes were also built near the stations.[370]

To accommodate the large number of new employees at national parks (many in rural areas), 743 new single and double housing units and 496 multiple housing units were constructed. Congress set maximum construction costs for the new buildings, which were made using readily available materials and standard plans. Although design modifications occurred throughout the Mission 66 era, standard housing designs were issued in 1957 for one-, two-, three-, and four-bedroom buildings with low, rectangular-shaped, horizontal plans and built-up, flat and low-pitched roofs similar to residential architecture outside the park system. Many single-family units had carports or attached, enclosed garages. Aluminum-frame picture windows with sidelights were often used in the living room areas, with smaller windows in the bedrooms. Materials ranged from wood-frame to fiberglass to masonry based on what was available in the area surrounding the park. Residential areas were built away from public view and included

[367] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-8, E-16.

[368] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-38, F-77–78.

[369] Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, Volume II, 197–212.

[370] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-19, F-73.

curvilinear access roads and cul-de-sacs with short, paved driveways or aprons leading to each residence.[371]

Under Mission 66, approximately 218 utility buildings were constructed to house equipment and associated vehicles within centralized maintenance areas. Although constructed near employee housing areas, these maintenance areas were intentionally screened from public view by dense vegetation or natural topography. The larger maintenance buildings typically followed a standard rectangular form with a large equipment storage area and an attached shop, restroom, and tool room often constructed of concrete masonry units.

Before Mission 66, national park roads were often congested with automobile traffic. To accommodate the steady rise in visits, existing roads were widened, parking areas were expanded, and bridges were replaced. Within the context of the environmental movement of the 1950s and 1960s, which focused on pollution concerns and lobbied for clean air and water, Mission 66 was a controversial program. Environmentalists were concerned that road construction would compromise the integrity of the parks that contained wilderness areas, an issue that eventually led to the passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (see Chapter Seven). Wirth and Vint argued that the laws that enabled the creation of national parks clearly stated that these properties were created "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people" and that public access was necessary to provide this service. Though he argued on behalf of the construction of roads for public accessibility, Wirth was adamant that Mission 66 should be viewed as a "conservation" program that preserved areas of wilderness.[372]

Despite significant road improvements, Mission 66 policy was to minimize the public opposition to construction by building retaining walls, tunnels, bridges, and natural-colored road surfaces. Standard Mission 66 designs for major and secondary roads were two-way and 22 feet wide, with, at maximum, a 3-foot paved shoulder. One-way roads were 12 feet wide with 2-foot shoulders, at maximum. Vegetation was used to screen ditches and shoulders from public view, and cut-and-fill slopes were rounded to look natural. During the Mission 66 era, 1,570 miles of park roads were reconstructed. In most parks, a large portion of the budget was dedicated to road construction and repairs.[373]

George B. Hartzog Jr.'s "PARKSCAPE, U.S.A," 1966–1972

In 1964, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall (1920–2010) appointed George B. Hartzog Jr., an NPS concessions lawyer and former superintendent of Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, as NPS director after Wirth's retirement. At the "Golden Anniversary Dinner" celebrating the 50th anniversary of the NPS in 1966 (which coincided with the completion of Mission 66), Hartzog announced his own park development and expansion program, "PARKSCAPE, U.S.A." (Parkscape) or the "Centennial Challenge," to be completed by Yellowstone's centennial celebration in 1972. Though the name was new, the program was essentially a continuation of Mission 66 to develop and expand the National Park System. Hartzog initiated the program to extend the increased funding from Mission 66 and to restore the NPS image after environmental controversies (see Chapter Seven). According to Ethan Carr's *Mission 66*, "the [Parkscape]

[371] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-19–22.

[372] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-35–36.

[373] Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*, E-36, F-90.

program had five major goals: 'completing' the park system by 1972; developing 'cooperative programs with other agencies'; 'utilizing the national park concept' to improve life in American cities; better 'communicating the values of park conservation'; and developing an international assistance program in anticipation of the second World Conference of National Parks, scheduled to be held in Yellowstone and Grand Teton in 1972."[374]

MISSION 66 PLANNING AT COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

NPS Development, 1942–1955

Almost no new development occurred at Colorado National Monument during World War II, with work generally limited to continuing the construction of Rim Rock Drive based on pre-war plans by the Roads and Trails division. In the early post-war years, as public interest in the Monument increased, the NPS recognized the need for a museum, an outdoor amphitheater, and self-guided nature trails. Some of these trails would be created by converting former truck routes to pedestrian paths.[375] The visitor contact stations that closed in November 1941 were reopened in June 1946 as Monument staff reported a 785 percent increase in traffic over the previous year.[376] With staffing still limited to only maintenance and law enforcement, an estimated 75 percent of visitors never reached the Saddlehorn Headquarters contact station, which meant few staff were available to prevent unleashed dogs; the removal of trees, rocks, and flowers by visitors; and an increased risk of fire in the Monument.[377] In February 1946, the two CCC camps within the Monument began to be demolished, with a small number of buildings retained for housing NPS staff at the Saddlehorn Campground.[378] New permanent quarters, consisting of five residences and a combination dormitory and recreation hall, were planned to be built in the Saddlehorn Headquarters area.[379] The campground had 25 camp sites with fireplaces and tables. Thirty-five additional camp sites were planned, along with the amphitheater and two group picnic areas, one with a capacity of 150 and the other 400.[380]

A small number of trails, predominantly backcountry ones, were constructed during and immediately after World War II. The Ute Canyon Trail, consisting of a series of switchbacks along the south canyon wall to the floor of the canyon, was established in 1942–1947. At the south end of the Monument, the Devils Kitchen Trail in No Thoroughfare Canyon was converted from a truck trail to a hiking trail in 1942–1953.[381]

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[374] Carr, *Mission 66*, 324–327, 326, 330.

[375] Robert H. Rose, *Development Outline – Colorado National Monument, Colorado, 1947* (Fruita, CO: Colorado National Monument, National Park Service, USDOI, 1947), 1–4 [Saddle Horn Area], 5–6 [Natural History]; Whitacre, *Colorado National Monument Historic Trails Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report*, 1.

[376] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 81, 84.

[377] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 81–82.

[378] Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 5, Historical Notes 1940–1944.

[379] Rose, *Development Outline*, 10–11.

[380] Rose, *Development Outline*, 4–5 [Saddle Horn Area].

[381] Whitacre, *Colorado National Monument Historic Trails Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report*, 5–6. Existing NPS documentation does not provide information about the earlier uses of the truck trail, although it was likely associated with stock driving through No Thoroughfare Canyon.

In 1947, 8.3 miles of Rim Rock Drive still needed to be paved, and another 2.5 miles were yet to be built. Numerous minor roads in the Monument consisted of the original Saddlehorn Campground loop (built 1933–1941), the road to the Saddlehorn Utility Area (built 1933–1941), the Glade Park Access Road (now DS Road), a spur road to the Devils Kitchen Picnic Area, the West Boundary Truck Trail (now Black Ridge Trail), and the Monument Mesa Truck Trail (now Upper Liberty Cap trail). Hiking trails consisted mainly of Monument Canyon, Liberty Cap from the lower trailhead, Window Rock Trail at the Saddlehorn Campground, and No Thoroughfare Stock Drive (now No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail).[382]

By 1950, relations between Monument staff and the surrounding communities were strained as the NPS attempted to enact stronger protections for Monument resources. The NPS closed the Serpents Trail in 1950, concurrent with the completion of the south end of Rim Rock Drive (see Chapter Five), and attempted to regulate traffic through the Monument, including on the stock driveways and the spur road to Glade Park to the west, which resulted in complaints from cattle ranchers and other local residents.[383] Some in Glade Park resented having to show proof of residence to avoid paying the entrance fee. Stockmen, who traditionally had driven their herds to summer pastures on the mesas along the Fruita Dugway and the Serpents Trail, became frustrated as they were forced to find different routes due to road closures and a 1943 order from the Secretary of the Interior that prohibited livestock grazing within the Monument boundary except on the Fruita Dugway. Ultimately, these stockmen had to drive their herds along the Old Gordon Toll Road on the edge of No Thoroughfare Canyon, which was an unpleasant, predominantly slick-rock route with no water holes or forage. Other cattlemen loaded their herds into trucks and drove them along Rim Rock Drive, which had not been designed to accommodate heavy trucking.[384] In 1948, Colorado State Route 340, linking Fruita and Grand Junction, opened east of the Monument and reduced the distance between the Saddlehorn Headquarters area and the East Entrance.

Outside the Monument boundary, uranium mining funded by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) drew prospectors and uranium processors to the Grand Valley southwest of Grand Junction after World War II.[385] The uranium boom lasted until the early 1960s, when the AEC and other government agencies determined a sufficient supply of uranium had been stockpiled and no further mining or processing activities were necessary in the Grand Valley.[386]

Despite external stressors and conflicts, improvement projects within the Monument boundaries continued and, in 1951, the planned group picnic area was completed at the Saddlehorn Campground. The picnic area, which could accommodate 300 people, consisted of

[382] B. R. Finch, "Memorandum for the Coordinating Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park," File No. 101, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records, Box 1, History General 1936–1962.

[383] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 83.

[384] B. R. Finch, "Memorandum from Custodian Finch to Coordinating Supervisor at Mesa Verde, September 21, 1946," Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 1.

[385] Dave Fishell, *The Grand Heritage: A Photographic History of Grand Junction, Colorado* (Norfolk, VA: The Donning Company, 1994), 178–179.

[386] Fishell, *The Grand Heritage*, 182.

45 concrete picnic tables arranged in linear groupings, with potable water spigots and 10 fireplaces.[387]

In June 1953, Colorado National Monument and Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park were removed from the administration of Mesa Verde National Monument, and Colorado National Monument became a primary administrative unit with oversight of Black Canyon.[388] Before this split, the Monument had largely been overseen by a head ranger (the superintendent) and two assistant rangers. Superintendent Russell L. Mahan, who became superintendent in 1949, prioritized the improvement of roads and visitor facilities, believing that the national parks were "for the people's use and enjoyment."[389] Under Mahan, 16 miles of Rim Rock Drive were sealcoated, and a year-round maintenance crew was hired for road upkeep and other maintenance needs.[390] Mahan also recognized the need for community support of the Monument's mission and worked to maintain relationships with local organizations by giving speeches to update them about NPS plans and priorities.[391] Mahan's plans also included expanded camping facilities and adding a new checking station at the Grand Junction end of Rim Rock Drive, housing for a ranger, and a museum.[392]

In January 1956, Dwight. L Hamilton (1927–2002), formerly of Mt. Rainier National Park in Washington, became the first permanent interpretive ranger at the Monument. His initial programming was modest and consisted largely of experimental guided hikes to Window Rock twice a day on weekends. The hikes were ultimately canceled due to low attendance, but hikes for special groups could be arranged in advance and were generally successful.[393]

Local recognition of John Otto's contributions to establishing the Monument and his significance as a pioneer (see Chapter Five) increased at the end of World War II, concurrent with Mahan's master planning and the lead-up to Mission 66. A feature article about Otto's life appeared in the Denver Post's Empire Magazine in September 1951, and Otto died the following June.[394]

Initial Planning for Mission 66

To prepare the Mission 66 prospectus for the Monument, Park Naturalist Hamilton and Superintendent Mahan compiled lists of development priorities for review by the regional NPS office beginning in 1952 and ending in early 1957. The final version of the Mission 66 prospectus for the Monument, completed in June 1956 and approved in February 1957, emphasized the Monument's geological and archeological resources and proposed strategies for protecting those resources while accommodating increased use. It called for additional permanent NPS

[387] Colorado National Monument, *Mission 66 Master Plan, Saddle Horn Area* (Fruita, CO: National Park Service, 1959), 4.

[388] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 85.

[389] Quoted in Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 84.

[390] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 84–85.

[391] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 85.

[392] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 85.

[393] NPS, *Mission 66 Master Plan, Volume 3* (Fruita, CO: Colorado National Monument, 1961), 6.

[394] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 85.

staff; residences for permanent and seasonal staff; a new visitor center and expansion of camping facilities; entrance stations at each end of Rim Rock Drive; adjustments to the Monument boundary to include or exclude portions of the mesa and canyons; and an extensive system of pull-offs, wayside exhibits, and hiking trails. A campground near the junction of the Glade Park Access Road, where a CCC camp had been, had been suggested but was not included in the prospectus.[395]

The document resembled Mission 66 plans for other national park units in its treatment of the Monument infrastructure of roads, campgrounds, picnic areas, museums, and waysides as a circulatory system for cars, with developments planned to spread out use and encourage the even flow of movement throughout the Monument. Unlike park plans that included new tour routes or thoroughfares, however, the Monument prospectus did not propose major expansions of the Monument's existing road system. Instead, plans were made to complete Rim Rock Drive and convert the southernmost section of the Serpents Trail to a hiking trail. Additional road-related plans included the construction of new and improvement of existing pull-offs and overlooks along Rim Rock Drive with new interpretive signage and the reconfiguration or rehabilitation of access roads to visitor amenities.[396] The plan also suggested expanding the northwestern Monument boundary to create a protective buffer zone between lands where hunting was permitted and Monument lands.[397]

In the first quarter of 1955, the Monument was the second most popular park in Colorado, after Rocky Mountain National Park and ahead of Mesa Verde National Park.[398] The 1961 Mission 66 Master Plan, which resulted from the earlier prospectus work, anticipated that the construction of Interstate 70—authorized in 1944 to connect Denver, Colorado, and Kansas and in the 1956 Interstate Act to extend west to Utah—would increase visitation throughout the Colorado River Valley, including through the Monument.[399] In January and February 1962, the *Fruita Times* and *Rocky Mountain Motorist* reported that the Monument had set an all-time annual visitation record of 243,484 visitors in 1961, which beat the previous record of 207,300 in 1958. The reports credited the increase to publicity by the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce and the improvements made to the Monument as part of the Mission 66 program, specifically the new and updated overlooks and the expanded Saddlehorn picnic area.[400]

[395] NPS, *Mission 66 Master Plan*, Volume 1, 7.

[396] NPS, *Mission 66 Master Plan*, Volume 1, 6.

[397] NPS, *Mission 66 Master Plan*, Volume 1, 6.

[398] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "National Monument 2nd Most Popular Park in Colorado," May 27, 1956, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series VI-K Files, Box 2, News Clippings 1941–1956.

[399] Colorado Department of Transportation, "The History of I-70 in Colorado," https://www.codot.gov/about/CDOTHistory/50th-anniversary/interstate-70, accessed October 2021; Colorado National Monument, *Mission 66 Master Plan Saddle Horn Area*, 1959.

[400] *Fruita Times*, "1961 was all-time record year for Monument visitors," January 3, 1962; *Rocky Mountain Motorist*, "Colorado Monument sets visitor record," February 1962, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection.

DEVELOPMENT UNDER MISSION 66, 1956–1964

Mission 66 projects at the Monument during the Mission 66 period involved its four areas (Figure 6-1). The East and West entrance stations were constructed, and the Devils Kitchen Picnic Area was rehabilitated and reopened to the public. At the Saddlehorn Headquarters area, the Saddlehorn Visitor Center, Bookcliff Shelter, and connecting Canyon Rim Trail were constructed; visitor accommodations (campground and picnic areas) were expanded and improved; NPS support facilities were constructed; and roads were rerouted to improve visitor safety. Superintendent Homer W. Robinson, who replaced Mahan in 1955, oversaw the work through 1958, followed by Fred Bussey (superintendent from 1958 to 1964). Concurrent with the Mission 66 building campaign were changes to the Monument's boundary. In November 1958, the draft for Presidential Proclamation 3307 was submitted. Accepted on August 7, 1959, it eliminated 211 acres of unwanted land from the Monument and added 120 acres for the new administrative facilities at each entrance.[401]

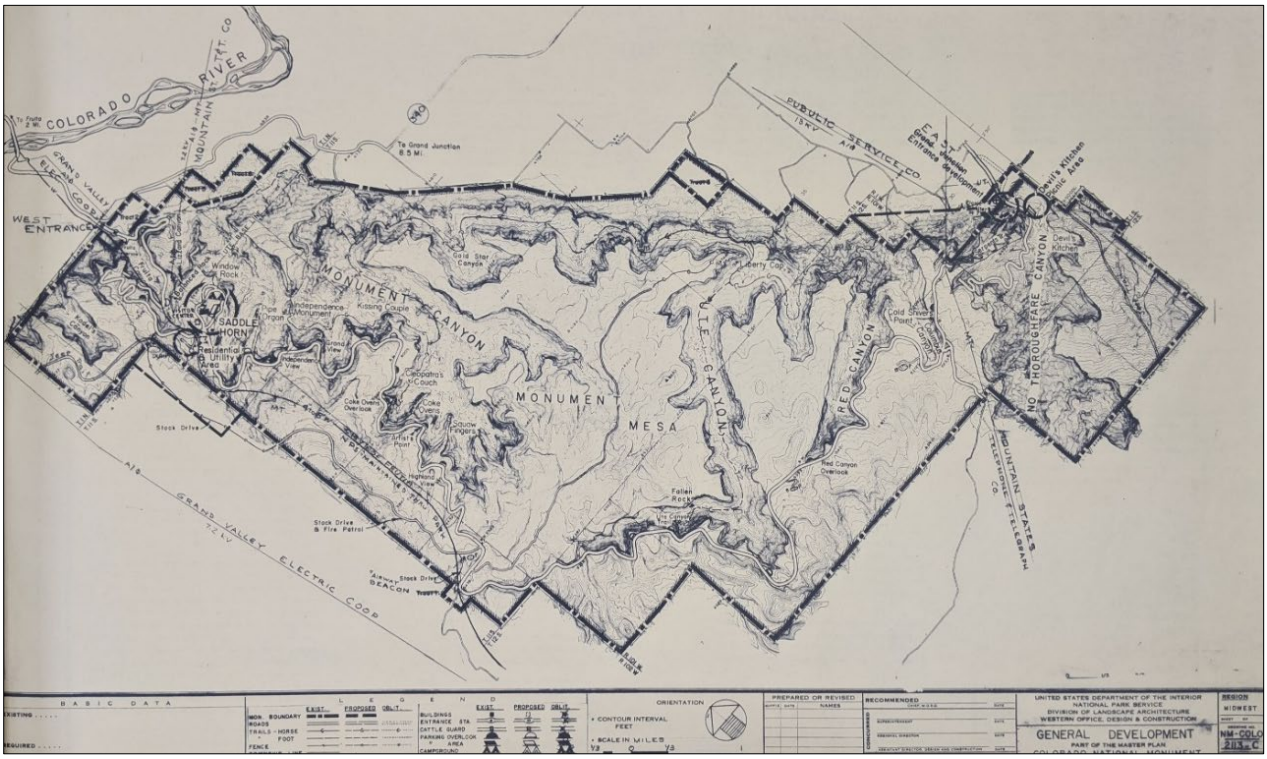


Figure 6-1. General Development Map of Colorado National Monument, showing extent of the Monument's boundaries during Mission 66 era (NPS ca. 1956).

Saddlehorn Visitor Center

Cecil Doty, Chief Architect of the Division of Architecture at the NPS Western Office of Design and Construction (WODC) in San Francisco, designed the Saddlehorn Visitor Center (Figures 6-2 and 6-3). The Henry Blaylock Construction Company of Grand Junction constructed the

[401] Dwight D. Eisenhower, *Proclamation 3307 – Excluding Certain Lands from and Adding Certain Lands to the Colorado National Monument* (The American Presidency Project, https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/308024, accessed October 2021).

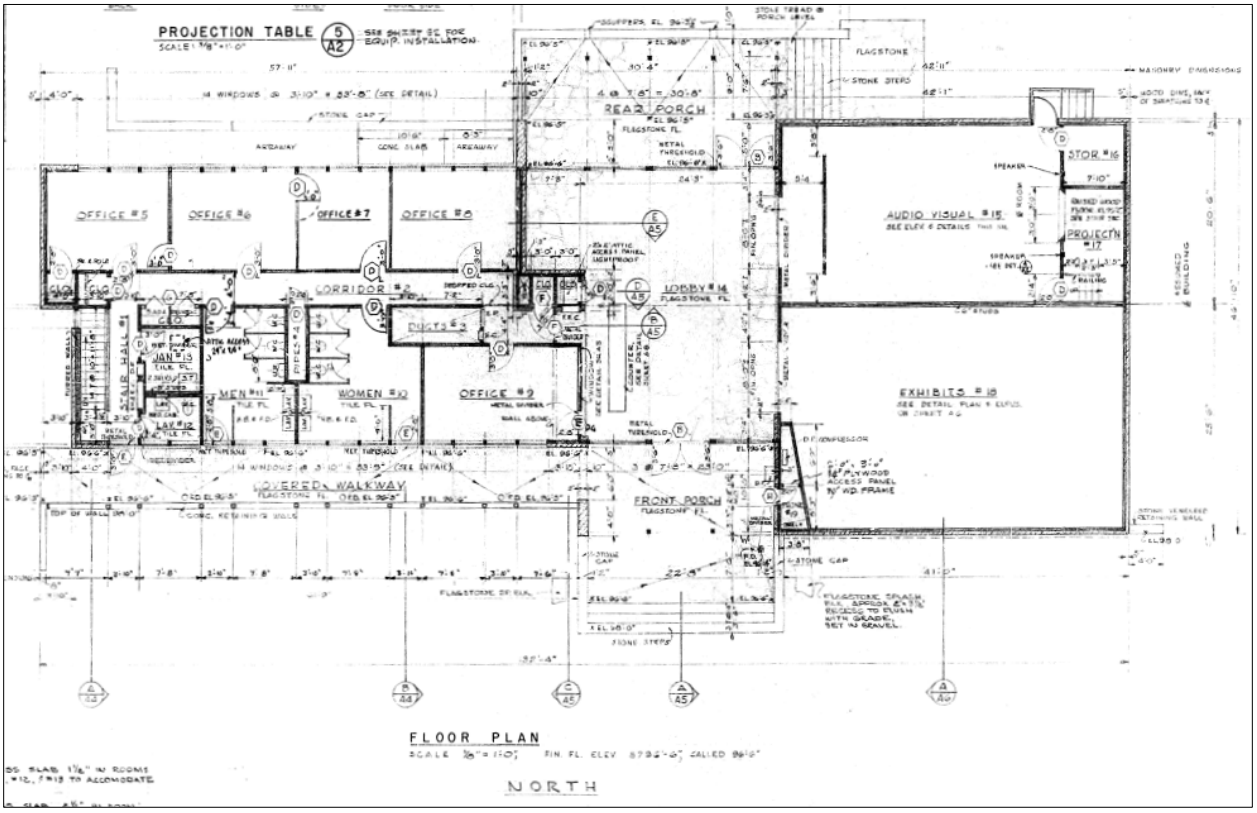


Figure 6-2. Detail from plan of Saddlehorn Visitor Center, showing original floor plan (NPS 1962).

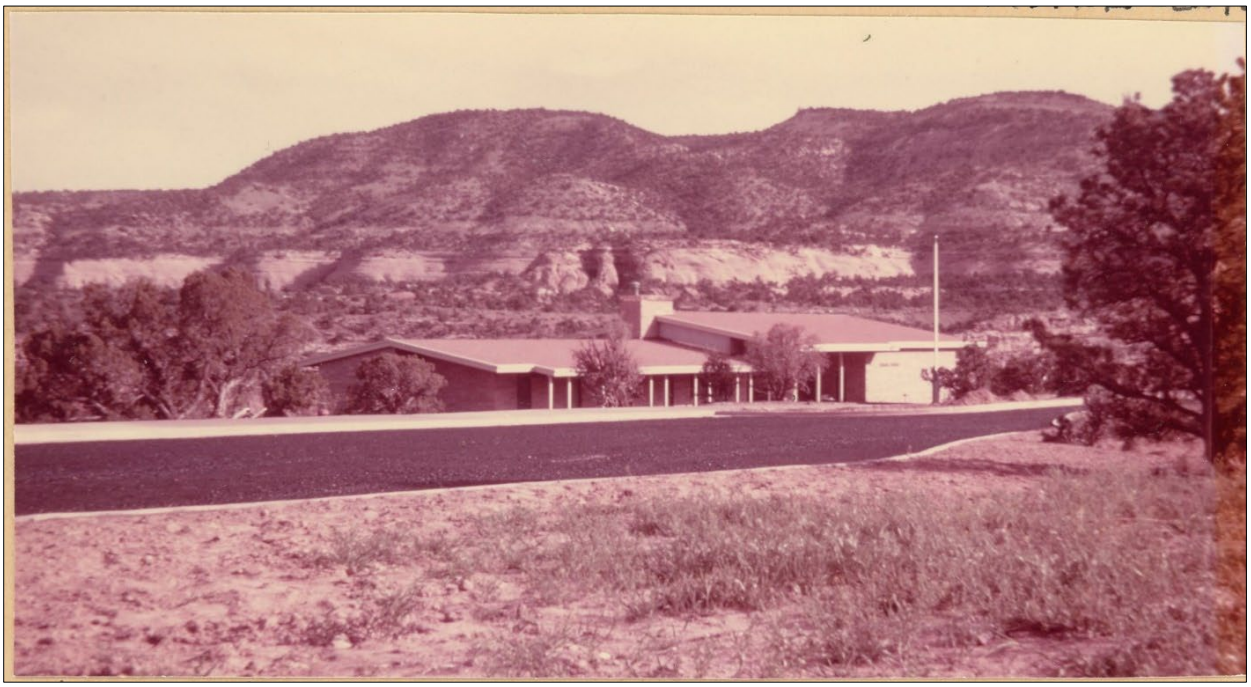


Figure 6-3. 1963 photo of completed Visitor Center (Colorado National Monument Archives).

building in 1962–1963. Sidewalks, parking areas, roads, and water and sewage systems for the Visitor Center complex and the Saddlehorn employee residential area were designed by WODC architect V. Anderson and built by Corn Construction of Grand Junction.[402] A dedication ceremony attended by 200 government officials, business leaders, and local residents was held on May 24, 1964, 53 years after the establishment of Colorado National Monument, with a ribbon-cutting by Assistant Secretary of the Interior John C. Carver and US Congressman Wayne Aspinall, who represented Colorado's Fourth District.[403] The unique building embodied many characteristics of Mission 66 visitor centers at other parks while featuring materials that harmonized with the sandstone walls of the adjacent canyon. The I-shaped floor plan continues to house separate functions in each wing: a reception lobby in the center; an exhibition wing, including an auditorium/meeting room, to the west; and offices in the east wing. A workroom and storage space are in the basement. The offices and basement are also accessible directly from the parking lot, conforming to NPS layout tradition of the time.[404]

Visitor Accommodations and Day-Use Areas

The NPS expanded the Saddlehorn Campground in 1958–1959 (Figure 6-4), when 54 new camp sites tripled its capacity to 82. The expanded campground also provided designated space for limited picnic use for small groups. A comfort station was built at the group picnic area in 1959, and two comfort stations were built in the expanded campground in 1964. The CCC-era loop road was reconfigured to become one-way after the entrance to the 1951 group picnic area.[405] The reconfiguration resulted in the loss of four original camp sites and the addition of six trailer sites, for a net gain of two camp sites.[406] Adjacent to the camp sites, the NPS added a shelter below the Bookcliff parking overlook (the Bookcliff Shelter) and the Saddlehorn Campground Amphitheater. The shelter (Figure 6-5), designed by WODC architect Phil Romigh, was intended to help with crowd control by drawing visitors to the shelter and the established Window Rock and Canyon Rim trails, rather than allowing crowds to spread out over a large area.[407] The amphitheater was built on the south side of the original campground loop road and consists of rows of wood benches arranged in concentric arcs along a shallow sloped incline. A building (removed 2022) at the bottom of the arc contained a large screen in front of a rear-projection system, which was used for ranger lectures until the early 1990s. The NPS is currently (2022) implementing improvements to the amphitheater that include replacing the projection building with a compatible updated facility; raising the existing benches for visitor safety and comfort; and making all paths accessible. [408]

[402] Frank Sturgell and Christine Whitacre, *National Register Nomination: Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex*, Mesa County, Colorado, NRIS 03000647, 2003.

[403] *Colorado Rural Electric News*, "Increasing Urge To 'See America' Expanding Colorado's Facilities," June 1964.

[404] Allaback, *Mission 66 Visitor Centers*, 211.

[405] NPS, *Mission 66 Master Plan*, 3.

[406] Colorado National Monument, *Mission 66 Master Plan Saddle Horn Area*, 4–5.

[407] Sturgell and Whitacre, *Visitor Center Complex*.

[408] Memorandum of Agreement between Colorado National Monument of the National Park Service and the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Improvements to Saddlehorn Amphitheater. On file, Colorado National Monument.

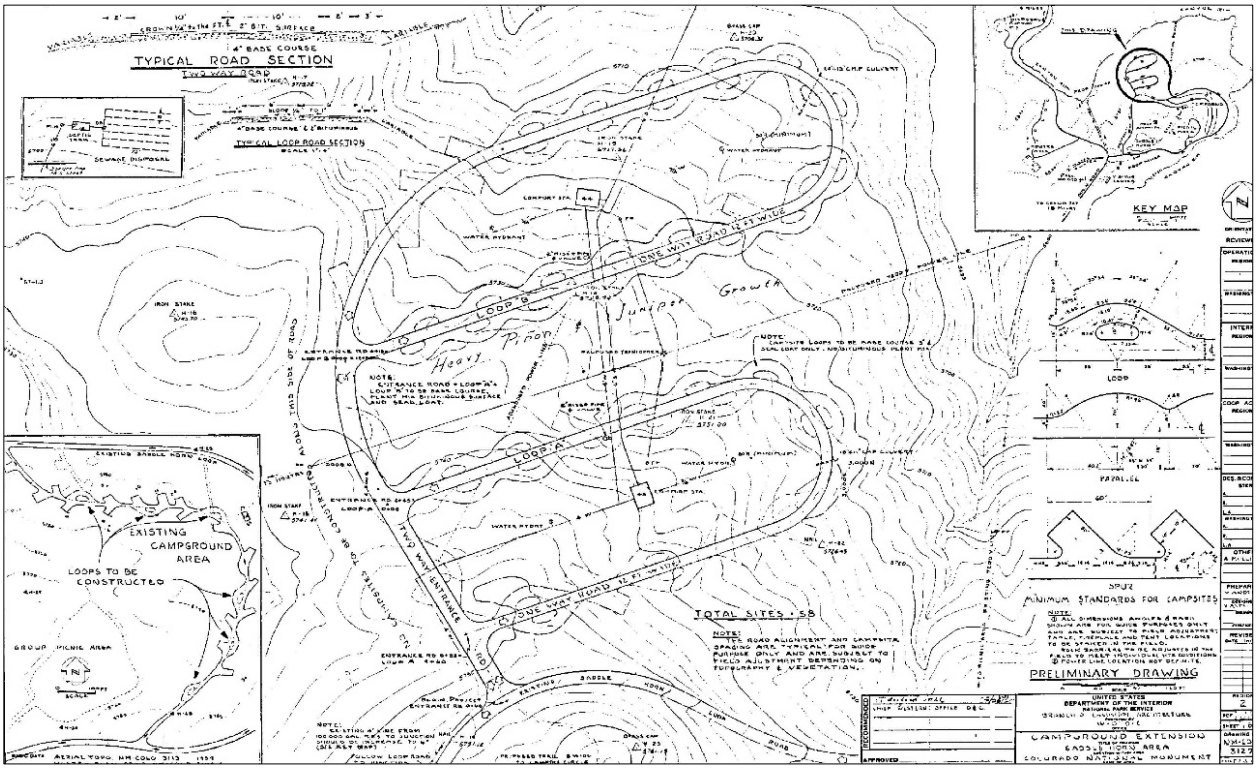


Figure 6-4. Plan for expansion of Saddlehorn Campground (WODC 1960).

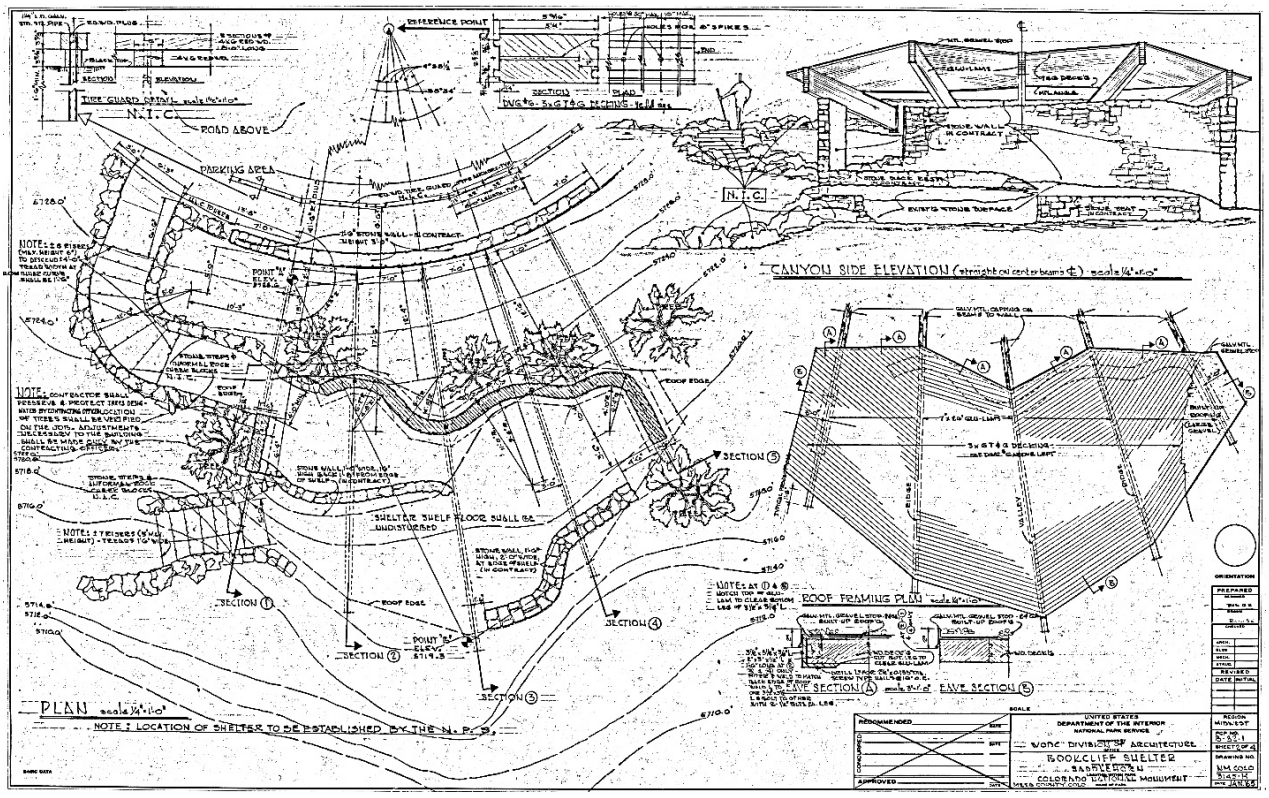


Figure 6-5. Plan for Bookcliff Shelter (WODC 1965).

The Devils Kitchen Picnic Area reopened in 1961 after being closed to visitors due to vandalism since the early to mid-1950s (see Chapter Five). The $17,929 refurbishment of the picnic shelter involved recladding the roof with hand-split cedar shakes, installing concrete slab floors in place of original flagstone floors, inserting new glass into original sash, cleaning the fireplace surrounds, and closing off the fireplaces. A 4-foot-wide gravel walk was built along the east and south elevations, and the inner courtyard was built up with gravel.[409]

Road Construction and Improvements

Major road construction projects at Colorado National Monument under the Mission 66 program were generally limited to improving existing roads. Minor roads, such as entrance roads to and roads within new or improved developed areas, were also added. Entrance stations were constructed at both ends of Rim Rock Drive, and earlier pull-offs were refurbished. New turnouts and parking areas were built along the route at Fruita Canyon Fold View, Balanced Rock, Upper Ute Canyon View, Fallen Rock, and Trail of the Serpent.[410]

The original junction of the Saddlehorn Loop Road with Rim Rock Drive, which consisted of an entrance and exit drive divided by a 40-foot-wide oblong plaza (see Figure 5-9), was replaced with the current, more straightforward, two-lane intersection to alleviate confusion for motorists heading to the Visitor Center.[411] The entrance road to the Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter was resurfaced.

In November 1964, Corn Construction Company of Grand Junction was awarded a $31,000 contract to enlarge or upgrade existing overlooks and add more, as funds permitted, along Rim Rock Drive. The contract terms specified concrete curbs and sidewalks around the paved areas and, in some cases, new trails leading to overlooks protected by guardrail. The work was to be overseen by NPS staff and undertaken by staff and day laborers, as needed.[412]

Trail Construction

In 1957, only two self-guided trails were available to Monument visitors: the Window Rock Trail in the Saddlehorn Headquarters area and the Coke Ovens Trail. The Window Rock Trail, built by the CCC in 1939 (see Chapter Five), took visitors from the Saddlehorn Campground to an overlook on the rim of the canyon, and the Coke Ovens Trail originated at the head of Monument Canyon and traversed a level bench.[413] By 1961, nearly 30 miles of trails existed in the Monument, including short trails from pull-offs to overlooks and 20 miles of backcountry trails through Monument and other canyons. However, only about 10 of the 30 miles were maintained, while the rest had fallen into disrepair. Mission 66 planning documentation

[409] Fruita Times, "*Devil's Kitchen picnic opened to the public*," April 20, 1961, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series II-A Files, Box 6.

[410] *Colorado Rural Electric News*, "Increasing Urge To 'See America' Expanding Colorado's Facilities," June 1964, 7.

[411] Colorado National Monument, *Mission 66 Master Plan Saddle Horn Area*, 3.

[412] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "12 Overlooks to Be Built on Monument," November 2, 1964, 3.

[413] NPS, *Mission 66 Master Plan Volume 1*, Chapter 3.

highlighted the need to upgrade the existing backcountry and self-guided trails for visitor use, with a special focus on trails that would accommodate horses.[414]

At the Saddlehorn Headquarters area, the WODC mapped out the Canyon Rim Trail between the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter. NPS staff likely built the trail, which exemplified the Mission 66 design tenet of a one-stop visitor experience. Visitors could exit the Visitor Center on the canyon side of the building and continue from the terrace to the Canyon Rim Trail, which would take them to the Bookcliff Shelter and a view of Wedding Canyon.[415]

The Window Rock Trail was modified in 1955–1956 during Mission 66 to form a self-guided loop nature trail. Concurrently, signage was installed and an overlook at the canyon rim was built; the signage was later removed.[416] Otto's Trail, south of the Saddlehorn Headquarters area, was built in 1961–1975.[417]

Additional Development

The Grand Valley Rural Power Lines Association of Grand Junction began supplying electricity to the Monument in 1941. During Mission 66, Grand Valley Rural completely rebuilt its lines leading to the Monument and the west (Fruita) entrance.[418]

To address the need for additional housing for law enforcement, maintenance, and limited seasonal staff in the Monument, the 1956 prospectus proposed housing and ranger stations at the Grand Junction (east) entrance and single- and multi-family housing at the Saddlehorn Headquarters area. Ultimately, two single-family residences and a utility building were constructed at the east entrance area (Figure 6-6, only the utility building is extant); and three single-family houses, a duplex (or semi-detached house), and a four-unit apartment building were constructed near the Saddlehorn Utility Area (Figure 6-7).

In June 1957, local contractor Harold L. Wright (1917–1957) was awarded a $71,305.50 contract to build the three single-family residences, sewer systems, and an access road at the Saddlehorn Headquarters area, all designed by the WODC.[419] Work began on June 10, 1957, and was completed by November 15 of that same year. Work stopped from August 6 to August 27 due to the death of Harold Wright. His widow, Marjorie Wright, took over management of the project, and Glen Brown worked as Mrs. Wright's foreman. Lyall E. Coulter (1901–1975) of Grand Junction built the four-unit apartment building and the duplex (Figures 6-8 and 6-9) at the Saddlehorn Headquarters area from July to December 1962. The apartment building was the

[414] NPS, *Mission 66 Master Plan Volume 1*, Chapter 3.

[415] Sturgell and Whitacre, *Visitor Center Complex*, 18.

[416] Whitacre, *Colorado National Monument Historic Trails Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report*, 6.

[417] Whitacre, *Colorado National Monument Historic Trails Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report*, 9.

[418] *Colorado Rural Electric News*, June 1964.

[419] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Wright Wins Contract for Monument Houses," June 8, 1957, 4.

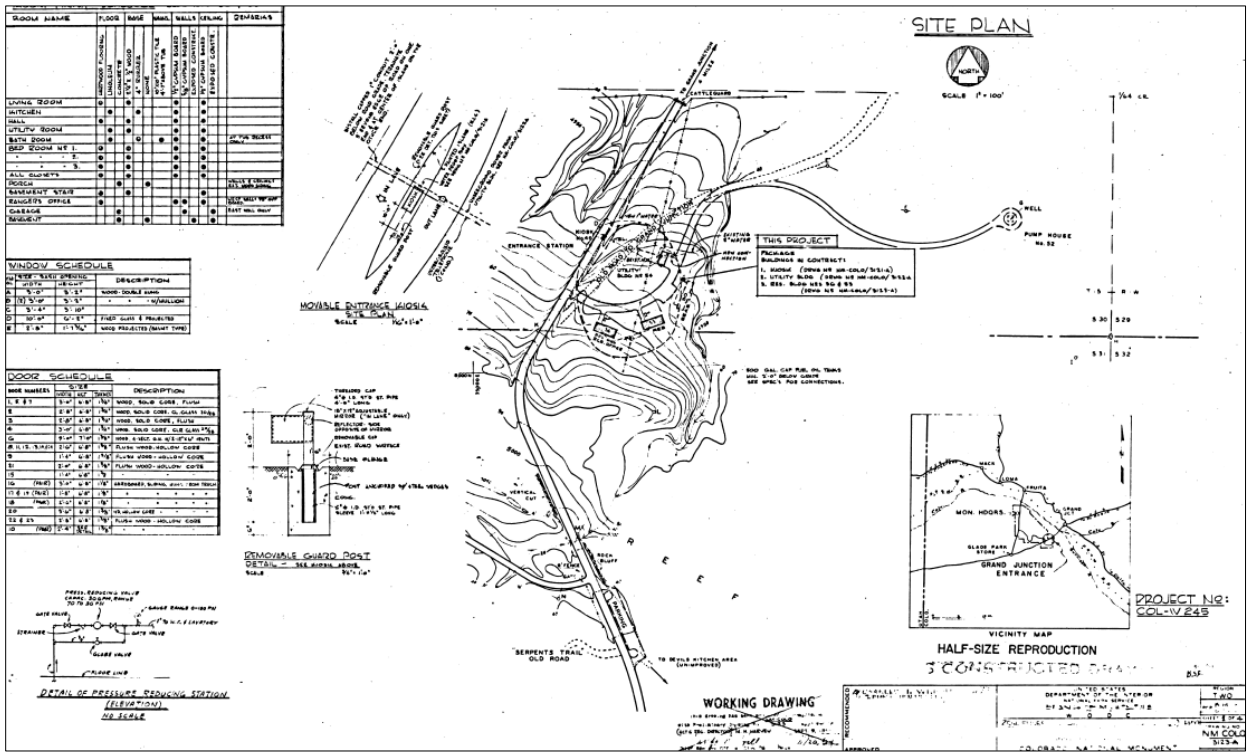


Figure 6-6. Plan for East Entrance Housing and Ranger Station (WODC 1959).

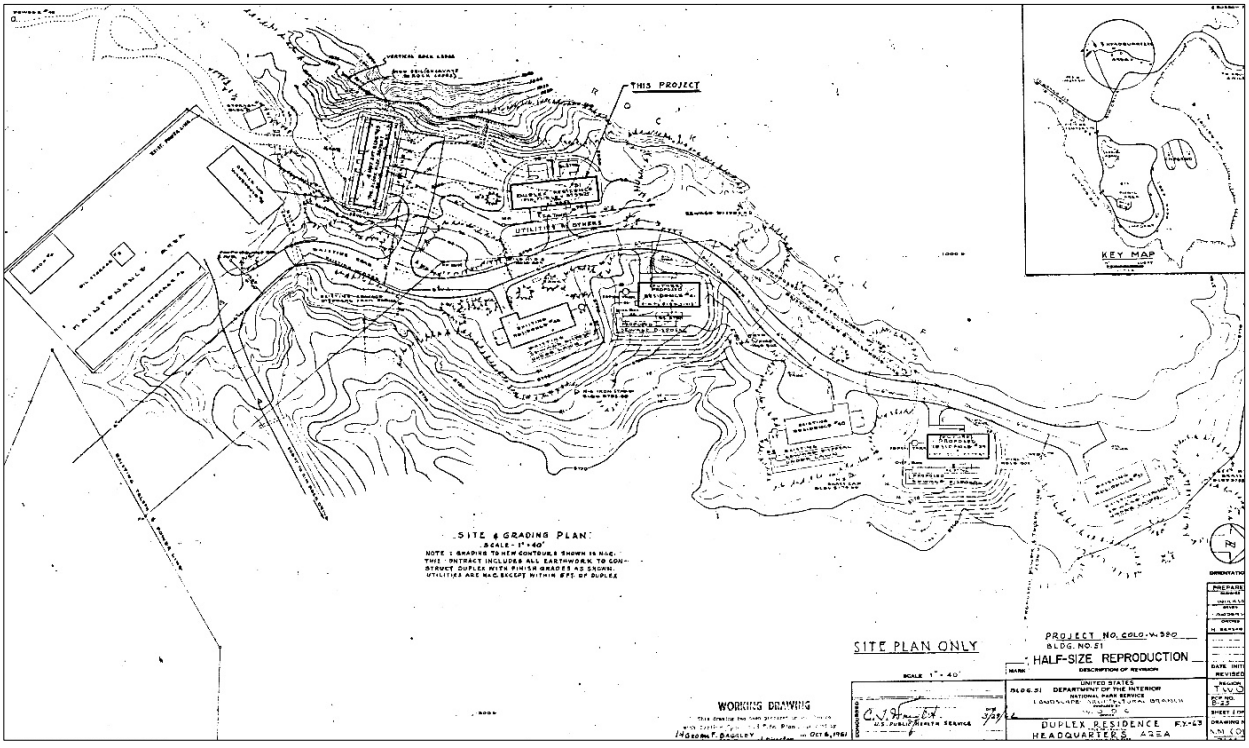


Figure 6-7. Proposed Saddlehorn residential area (WODC 1962).

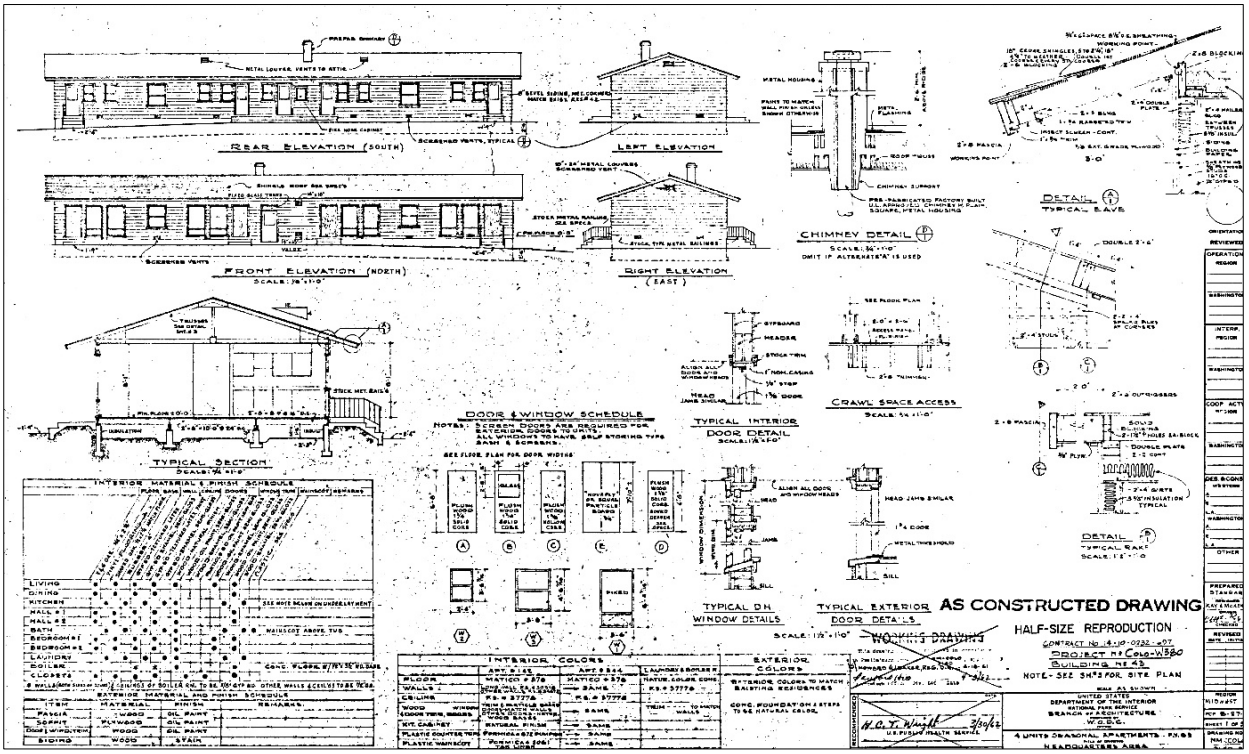


Figure 6-8. Plan for Saddlehorn residential area 4-unit seasonal apartments (Kay & McKend 1963).

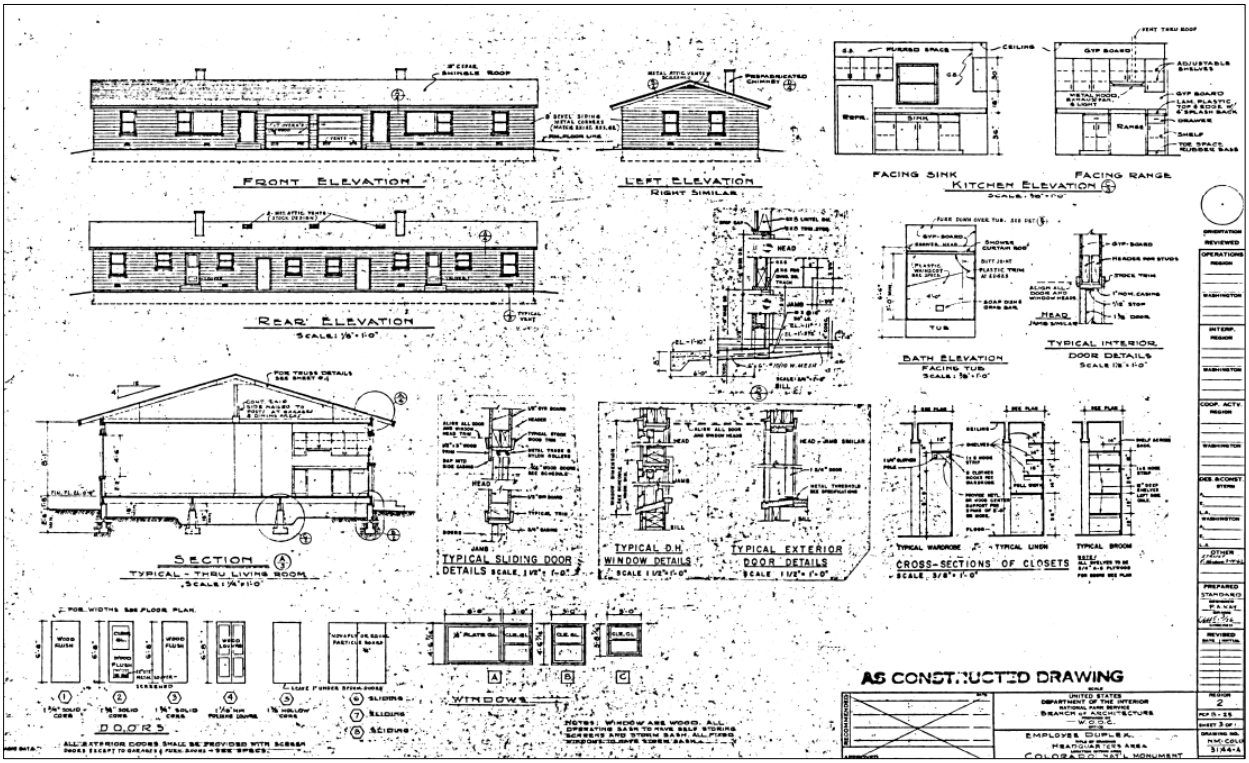


Figure 6-9. Plan for Saddlehorn residential area employee duplex (Kay 1963).

first seasonal housing unit in the Monument.[420] Coulter also built the housing, utility building, and service roads at the east entrance using plans by the WODC (Figures 6-10 and 6-11).[421]

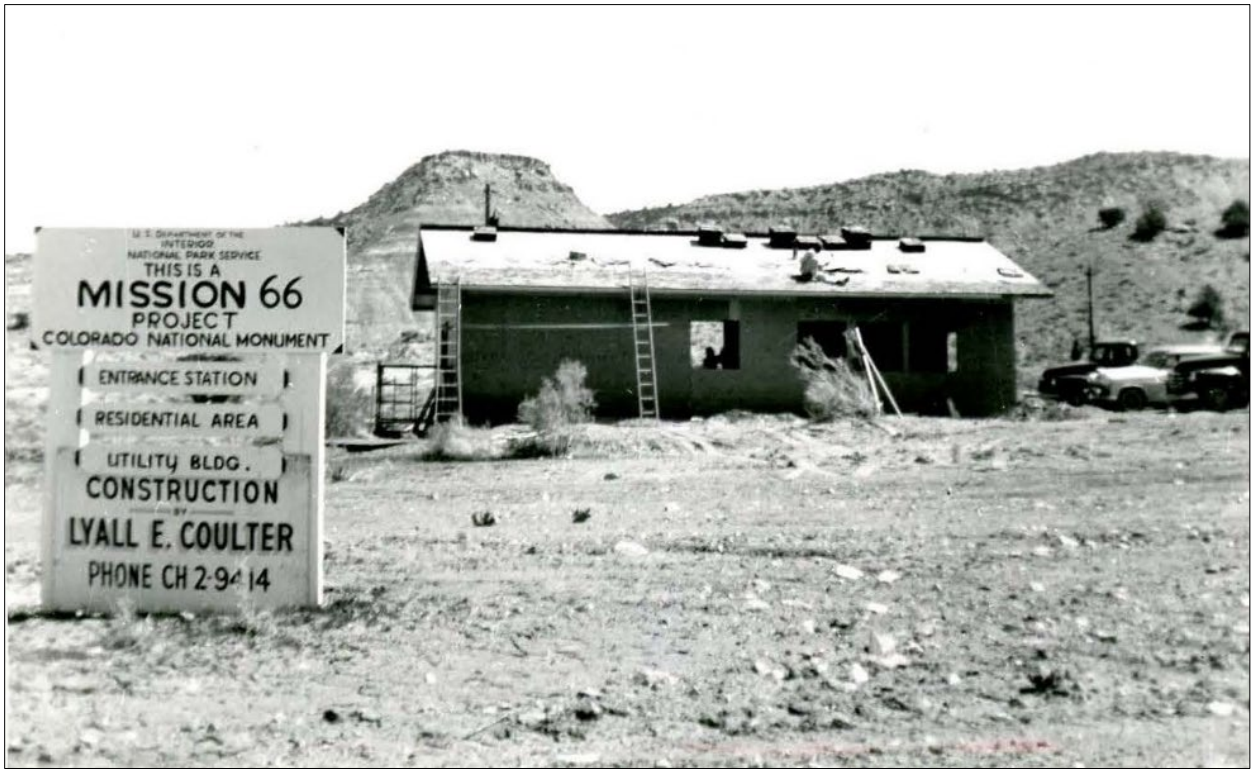


Figure 6-10. 1960 Project Completion Report photo of the East Entrance utility building under construction. Mission 66 project work was generally indicated with signage similar to that in photo (Colorado National Monument Archives).

The Monument's single-family houses are standard Mission 66 ranches, typically 1,200 square feet with three bedrooms and an attached garage. The multi-unit dwellings resemble the single-family ranches in form and style but contain two to four one-bedroom apartments. The duplex units are mirror images with garages between the living spaces. The four-unit apartment building does not have covered parking. The residential buildings are wood-frame construction with textured horizontal composite siding over weatherboards. The siding and many of the windows are late twentieth-century replacements.

KNOWN RESOURCE TYPES

The resource types identified in this HRS are based on information in the MPDF for National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources approved by the Keeper of the National Register in September 2015. The MPDF provides a thoroughly researched overarching context for Mission 66, identifies possible resource types associated with this context, and proposes guidelines for determining eligibility that are useful in evaluating the Mission 66 resources at Colorado

[420] National Park Service, *Saddlehorn Employee Apartments Completion Report*, April 1964.

[421] Colorado National Monument Building Record Cards, Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records, Series I - Historic Records - Dewey Pre-1953, Box 4.



Figure 6-11. 1960 Completion Report photo of East Entrance residential complex, looking north from an unnamed hill (Colorado National Monument Archives).

National Monument. The period of significance for Mission 66-era development at Colorado National Monument begins in 1945, when the post-World War II conditions that served as an impetus for the program first appeared, and ends in 1964, when the Mission 66 development program was completed at the Monument.[422]

The Mission 66 program was not the first development campaign at Colorado National Monument or a major redevelopment campaign that drastically altered or reorganized the public experience of the Monument (such as at Yellowstone and Grand Canyon national parks). Rather, the Mission 66 program at Colorado National Monument provided the means for substantial improvements to its infrastructure that built upon the framework of earlier planning efforts. Thus, a Monument-wide Mission 66 historic district is not recommended, but an expansion of the Colorado National Monument MPS is recommended to cover the Mission 66 context. In 2003, the Visitor Center, Bookcliff Shelter, and Canyon Rim Trail were listed in the National Register under Criterion A in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation and Community Planning and Development and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Other significant resources and developed areas within the Monument that are associated with the

[422] The National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources MDPF considers the nationwide Mission 66-era development period to extend through the end of the Parkscape program in 1972, but no substantial Parkscape development occurred at Colorado National Monument. Carr et al., *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources*.

implementation of Mission 66, such as visitor-use trails or park housing, may be considered eligible individually or as potential historic districts if they retain high integrity and embody the management goals of the Mission 66 program. Individual resources can also be considered eligible as contributing resources within a potential historic district.

Five major resource types associated with the development of Colorado National Monument in 1945–1972 have been identified: administrative/visitor contact areas, public use areas, roads and trails, residential areas, and maintenance areas. Each type has subsidiary resources and features such as trees, understory shrubs, ground cover, and desert plants such as yucca and prickly pear as integral parts of the landscapes of these resource landscapes. Some of these features are mentioned below; further study and evaluation of these resource types as cultural landscapes should be undertaken by qualified historical landscape architects.

Administrative/Visitor Contact Areas. This resource type includes areas within the Monument designed to provide essential administrative and visitor facilities. It includes visitor centers and their associated structures and landscape characteristics such as amphitheaters, comfort stations, circulatory roads, parking areas, and nature trails. It may also include nearby maintenance or residential buildings and interpretive service structures such as entrance signs and stations or wayside exhibit shelters.

Public Use Areas (Campgrounds and Picnic Areas). This resource type covers major developed areas intended for public use and containing a range of representative facilities that embody the goals of the Mission 66 program. It may include campgrounds, picnic areas, related loop roads, comfort stations, drinking fountains, amphitheaters, stores, fee collection kiosks, and ranger stations.

Roads and Trails. This resource type covers newly constructed or rebuilt motor roads and pedestrian footpaths making up the Monument's circulation system that reflect the influence of Mission 66 road design and construction policies. The type includes major roads that provide entry to the Monument and trails that access scenic features and recreational areas within the Monument. It encompasses the roads and road banks, as well as such associated features such as bridges; culverts and drains; tunnels; guardrail and barriers; tree wells; and pull-offs, including curbing, retaining walls, and sidewalks. Roads and trails such as campground loop roads that are primary components of other resource types are addressed in the discussions of the associated resource.

Residential Areas. This resource type covers the development of park employee housing. It includes single-family and multi-unit residences, garages, curvilinear roads, curbing, and sidewalks.

Maintenance Areas. This resource type covers the development of centralized locations for maintenance vehicles and equipment. It includes maintenance buildings and structures, roads and associated features, curbing, and sidewalks.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

Individual resources of the above types would be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C because they embody the distinctive mid-twentieth-century modern design

principles and construction techniques (Park Service Modern) practiced by NPS architects, landscape architects, planners, and historians during the Mission 66 era. They would also be potentially eligible under Criterion A as examples of the evolution in national park planning and development that occurred during the Mission 66 era as the NPS attempted to revive national park infrastructure and improve visitor services and recreational opportunities.

To qualify for National Register listing under this context, resources must have been constructed in 1946–1972 and possess strong associations with Mission 66-era development at the Monument as described in this chapter. They must represent substantial completed development projects included in the 1956 prospectus for Mission 66 (or subsequent planning documents prepared during the Mission 66 era) that addressed the Mission 66 program goals such as improved visitor facilities or infrastructure.

For resources to be eligible under Criterion C, they must adhere to the Mission 66 modern design philosophy prevalent in 1946–1972 that emphasized low-pitched gable roofs and readily available materials such as steel, plywood, fiberglass, local stone, and concrete. Resources should retain most, if not all, aspects of integrity. Roads that have been widened and/or resurfaced may be eligible if they maintain their original alignments and bank treatment and provide the same sequence of visual experiences as when first constructed. Trails that have been realigned to address erosion due to overuse, or collapse of portions of the original route, should not be disqualified from National Register eligibility on that basis. Campgrounds and picnic areas with replacement picnic tables or other materials would not likely disqualify public use areas from eligibility.

Preparation of a National Register nomination that includes Mission 66 resources would require a careful study of integrity at the time of listing to determine contributing/non-contributing status. Utility systems built under Mission 66 (water treatment, sewerage, electric and phone lines, etc.) are not considered as potentially eligible resources under the Mission 66 context. Resources that are less than 50 years old must meet Criteria Consideration G to be considered eligible for listing. Resources programmed and begun under Mission 66 but only partially completed would not be eligible for listing under this context.

CHAPTER SEVEN: THE CONSERVATION/WILDERNESS MOVEMENT, 1964–1978

As the system-wide improvement project known as Mission 66 was ending, the NPS began to implement the mandates of the Wilderness Act of 1964. The act impacted the management and classification of resources within Colorado National Monument, although none were constructed or altered as a result of it. The historic resources associated with the conservation/wilderness movements in 1964–1974 and the addition of No Thoroughfare Canyon to the Monument in 1976–1978 are included in this context. Other resources relate to the Monument's boundary expansion and infrastructure improvement and modernization. By 1971, the Monument encompassed 17,668.52 acres, of which 10,500 acres were considered as "roadless" and 7,700 acres as preemptively "wilderness."[423]

Robert Benton was administrator of the Monument in 1972–1980 after District Ranger Robert Powell, who had been the unit's administrator within the Curecanti Group since 1969.[424] Benton continued to serve in that capacity until 1975, when the Curecanti Group dissolved. He then served as Colorado National Monument's first superintendent until 1980. During his eight-year tenure, Benton focused on improving infrastructure that was in various states of disrepair, negotiating use of Rim Rock Drive, and modernizing visitor facilities and destinations. His term coincided with NPS decisions about designations of wilderness lands within the Monument when conservation advocates viewed increased visitation as a threat to the Monument's natural resources.[425]

PASSAGE OF THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964

The Wilderness Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-577) was the culmination of nearly a decade of legislative attempts. Howard Zahniser of The Wilderness Society first proposed the formation of a National Wilderness Preservation System in 1951. Zahniser was a conservationist and an avid advocate for protecting the nation's undeveloped lands and natural monuments. He envisioned a nationwide system of protected lands that would closely conform to existing National Park Service management jurisdictions with additional congressional oversight. He and other proponents wanted the designation of wilderness lands formalized because they worried federal ownership did not do enough to protect wilderness in perpetuity.[426] Senator Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, with the support of eight other senators, introduced the first wilderness bill in 1956, but industry and rival lawmakers quickly thwarted it.[427] Over the next eight years, the bill was rewritten and resubmitted 66 times and debated at 18 public hearings. The legislative fight

[423] National Park Service, *Wilderness Recommendation, Colorado National Monument, Colorado* (1971), 2.

[424] Three national park areas (Colorado National Monument, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, and Curecanti National Recreational Area) were managed under a single administration known as the Curecanti Group. The Curecanti Group, also known as Colorado West Group, existed from 1965 to 1975.

[425] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*.

[426] John C. Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks – Playground or Preserve* (Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press, 2009), 137–139.

[427] Senator Humphrey served as vice president under President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965–1969, then returned to the Senate.

was prolonged due to disagreements about the bill's application for national forests under the Department of Agriculture.[428]

The NPS opposed the wilderness bill because it felt the proposed system would prohibit fulfilling its obligation to support visitation and preserve park resources. In 1957, in response to the bill, the agency created *Preservation of Natural and Wilderness Values in the National Parks*, a brochure in which the purpose of national parks was reiterated "to establish a background against which to consider the problem of wilderness" and establish that the NPS had always protected wilderness lands.[429] The NPS had administrative authority under the Organic Act of 1916[430] to manage and protect its primitive and wilderness areas without further action by the Secretary of the Interior, the President, or Congress. The master plan documents prepared by parks and regional offices established wilderness areas.

Throughout the NPS, wilderness was loosely defined as any roadless and undeveloped area. Recreation was an accepted use of wilderness so long "as the predominant character of wilderness remains."[431] The proposed wilderness bill would require park units to be partitioned into zones with specific management expectations and development limitations.[432] The NPS also opposed the idea that Congress would determine designated wilderness areas within the national parks and that politics would play a role in managing public lands.

Proponents of the wilderness legislation were reacting to the development at national parks as part of the Mission 66 program.[433] Conservationists were concerned that tourism was bringing more automobiles and that roads were the biggest threat to unspoiled wilderness and would lead to further development. The fear was that, if regulations were not in place, the NPS would subject wilderness areas to development to meet ever-growing visitation demands.[434]

The Wilderness Act was approved by the Senate in April 1963 and by the House in July 1964. Unfortunately, Zahniser was not able to see his dream become law, because he died on May 5, 1964. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the bill into law on September 3, 1964, thereby establishing the National Wilderness Preservation System for the purposes of securing "for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness." The Wilderness Act mandated that the Department of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior (then Stewart Udall) review every roadless area of 5,000 contiguous

[428] Max Greenberg, "A tribute to Howard Zahniser, unsung architect of the Wilderness Act." The Wilderness Society, 25 February 2016, https://www.wilderness.org/articles/blog/tribute-howard-zahniser-unsung-architect-wilderness-act#

[429] National Park Service, *Preservation of Natural and Wilderness Values in the National Parks* (Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1957); Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks*, 143–144, 147.

[430] The Organic Act of 1916 established the National Park Service as an agency under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior for the purposes of managing park lands for public use while protecting them from impairment.

[431] National Park Service, *Preservation of Natural and Wilderness Values in the National Parks*.

[432] Anthony Wayne Smith, "Park Wilderness Protection and Recreational Regional Planning" (National Parks and Conservation Association, n.d.), 1. On file, Series VII-L Files – Box 8 "Wilderness Proposal 1970–1972", Colorado National Monument.

[433] Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks*, 5–6.

[434] Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks*, 36–37.

acres or more in national parks, monuments, and other units of the National Park System to determine its suitability for preservation as wilderness. The secretary's recommendations were due to the president by 1974. Once an area was designated as wilderness, any change would require affirmative action by Congress. In forming its recommendations, the NPS was required to hold public hearings, provide a master plan and planning documents, and address comments. At that time, public involvement in the management of national park resources was minimal.[435]

Under the Wilderness Act, wilderness was defined as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."[436] Each of these areas

- generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable;
- has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation;
- has at least 5,000 acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and
- may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.[437]

The NPS began to develop wilderness studies and formulate wilderness recommendations. A conservative buffer area was proposed for development areas and along roads. However, this approach was opposed by conservation groups that felt the proposed boundaries did not do enough to restrict development. One of these groups was the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), a non-profit organization that split from the National Parks Educational Committee in 1919 to protect the national parks from private interests and commercialization. Originally the National Parks Association, it became the NPCA in 1970 to reflect its expanded programmatic interests. The NPCA had been a leading advocate for passing the Wilderness Act and was critical of the NPS practice of leaving setbacks or buffers around wilderness-designated areas, fearing this would invite adjacent development.[438]

The NPS struggled to provide its wilderness designation recommendations for implementing the Wilderness Act provisions within the 10-year period mandated by the legislation. NPS Director George B. Hartzog, appointed in 1964, urged park units to accelerate their wilderness study schedule by forgoing intensive master plan development and instead to focus on land classification. Hartzog's *Director's Order 41: Wilderness Preservation and Management* included provisions for buffer zones and future development areas, one-way motor nature trails, group and high mountain camps, and chalets. Implementation of the Wilderness Act was complicated

[435] Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks*, 165–166.

[436] Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks*, 166–167.

[437] National Park Service, *Wilderness Recommendation, Colorado National Monument, Colorado* (National Park Service, 1971). [LH8 COLM Wilderness Area Proposal 1971–1999, folder]

[438] Annie Brittin and Bruce Craig, "NPCA and the NPS: A 70 Year Partnership" (National Parks and Conservation Association); Smith, "Park Wilderness Protection and Recreational Regional Planning," 5.

when Hartzog was dismissed under the Nixon administration in December 1972 and replaced by Ronald H. Walker, a career politician without experience in the agency.[439]
By 1973, only 29 NPS units had submitted wilderness designation recommendations, and Congress had only acted on the recommendations for four of them with a total of 201,000 acres.[440] The recommendations for an additional 27 units were submitted in 1974. Lands under NPS purview constituted only a small portion of the 12.6 million acres of federal land that had been designated as wilderness. In 1975, after Nixon's resignation, Walker was replaced by Gary E. Everhardt, former superintendent of Grand Teton National Park. When President Jimmy Carter took office in 1977, Everhardt was replaced by William J. Whalen, who oversaw the final stage of the Wilderness Act mandate.

WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Preparation of a wilderness designation proposal for Colorado National Monument began as early as 1965. In September, Acting Assistant Regional Director of the Midwest Region Robert G. Cooper and NPS Director Hartzog discussed a "Wilderness Study" for the Monument.[441] By 1968, a preliminary wilderness proposal delineated 8,218 acres of the Monument as wilderness; the proposed area was encircled by Rim Rock Drive but not encroached upon by it.[442] At a public hearing, the wilderness area proposal received support as well as opposition from local and regional groups. The *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* reported that those opposed wanted more visitor facilities and campgrounds in the Monument and thought the wilderness designation would prohibit these additions. Conservationists were particularly concerned about the possible "nature motor trail" from Rim Rock Drive to Liberty Cap that would traverse Monument Mesa, the plateau separating Ute and Monument canyons.[443] The Wilderness Act specifically prohibited permanent roads, commercial enterprises, or any structure within wilderness areas. Unless used solely by the NPS for fire prevention or health and safety, the access road would disqualify Monument Mesa as wilderness.

Additional visitor services, particularly along Rim Rock Drive, were needed after visitation to the Monument increased during the Mission 66 era. Annual visitation more than doubled from 1955 to 1970, when it reached 473,100—much higher than most park planners' expectations.[444] In its 1968 *Development Plan*, the NPS proposed rehabilitating Rim Rock Drive from the East Entrance to the headquarters; constructing a primitive hiking trail in Red Canyon; improving the water system at the East Entrance; adding 60 sites and modern restrooms to the Saddlehorn

[439] Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks*, 191.

[440] Miles, *Wilderness in National Parks*, 202–203.

[441] Letter, Robert G. Cooper to NPS Director, 14 September 1965, on file, Colorado National Monument, Series VII-L Files-Box 8, "Wilderness Proposal, 1965–1969."

[442] National Park Service, "Description of Wilderness Proposal for Colorado National Monument, Colorado/Preliminary – Subject to Change," January 1968, National Park Service, Washington, DC. On file, Colorado National Monument, Series VII-L Files-Box 8, "Wilderness Proposal, 1965–1969."

[443] Gaylord Kirkham, "Colorado Monument Wilderness Area Proposal Draws Quick Fire," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, March 14, 1968.

[444] National Park Service Public Use Statistics Office, NPS Stats, Annual Visitation (All Years) Park Report, Colorado National Monument.

Campground and expanding its water and sewer systems; installing new exhibits along Rim Rock Drive; completing the fencing around the Monument's southeastern boundary; and installing underground utility lines.[445]

Conservationists understood the need to accommodate visitors but staunchly opposed the Liberty Cap Nature Motor Trail. The one-lane, unimproved, dirt road leading across Monument Mesa from Rim Rock to Liberty Cap became an inflammatory topic in the late 1960s and 1970s. The NPS used the road as access for fire control and rescue work, which was permissible under the Wilderness Act. However, the area would be ineligible for wilderness designation if the access road were used by private vehicles, which was planned by the NPS. The road was to be expanded into a scenic, one-way, 11-mile loop drive with two parking areas and six canyon overlooks. In 1968, the Monument opened this motor trail to visitors from July to September as part of a trial run to provide information on the feasibility of the NPS plans.[446]

On November 30, 1970, the NPS held a public hearing in Grand Junction to discuss an updated wilderness plan for the Monument. The hearing was attended by 83 participants, and 241 letters were received from others. Nearly 75 percent of the participants identified themselves as conservationists[447] and were adamantly against the proposed Liberty Cap Nature Motor Trail, describing it as a "sop to short-sighted commercial interests."[448] Many suggested expanding the wilderness area across the 1,500-acre Monument Mesa, which the NPS considered a "management zone" that could not be designated as wilderness. An expanded area would eliminate vehicle travel on the proposed Liberty Cap Nature Motor Trail, and along the northeast boundary. Conservation also wanted an additional 500 acres near Devil's Canyon (BLM land), 2,000 acres in No Thoroughfare Canyon, and the 3,000 acres in No Thoroughfare Canyon that was tentatively slated to be appended to the Monument (see below) to be designated as wilderness.[449] Devil's and No Thoroughfare canyons had been excluded from the proposed wilderness area because they contained less than 5,000 contiguous acres.[450]

The Wilderness Workshop (Colorado Open Spaces Council), Sierra Club (Rocky Mountain Chapter/Unita Chapter/Southwest Representative), Audubon Society, Wilderness Society, Colorado Mountain Club, and People United to Reclaim the Environment recommended an even larger area of wilderness and strongly opposed the construction of additional roads in the Monument. The NPCA issued its own recommendations for wilderness designations that were widely approved by other conservation organizations; it proposed 12,500 acres as permanent

[445] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Monument Improvements Depend on Thawing of Federal Money," 21 September 21, 1968, 1.

[446] William J. Hart, "A Wilderness Plan for Colorado National Monument and the Surrounding Region" (Washington, DC: National Parks Association, n.d.), 7–8.

[447] Documents describing the public meeting use both 'conservationists' and 'preservationists' to refer to the people and organizations opposing the proposal and do not provide detailed demographic breakdowns of the attendees and letter writers.

[448] Paul Hathway, "Conservationists Criticize Proposal for Monument," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, December 1, 1970, 1.

[449] Hathway, "Conservationists Criticize Proposal for Monument," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, 1.

[450] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Public's Conception of Wilderness Act Generally Accurate," March 17, 1968, 3.

wilderness, encompassing three discontiguous areas: Monument and Ute Canyons, Kodels Canyon, and No Thoroughfare Canyon.[451]

Many local civic organizations and businesses—including the Colorado Wildlife Federation (Denver), Piñon Mesa Livestock Association (Glade Park), Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce, Western Colorado Regional Planning Commission, Mesa County Board of County Commissioners, Grand Junction Garden Club, and the Colorado Mining Association—endorsed the NPS's updated wilderness proposal.[452] The Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce, Planning Commission, and the Mesa County Commissioners supported the development of the motor nature trail. Other groups and organizations—such as the Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Commission—did not want a wilderness designation to prevent future expansion of visitor facilities, agriculture and ranching, or mineral prospecting.[453]

The NPS continued to propose the Liberty Cap Motor Nature Trail to "provide a leisurely driving experience to several new and outstanding canyon views … provide a better opportunity for comprehensive interpretation of mesa-top ecology … [and] provide for dispersal of visitors within the monument."[454] The NPCA, however, remained strongly against the continued use of the road by vehicles and proposed it become a footpath to allow the designation of a continuous wilderness area across Monument Mesa.[455] Another hearing about the road proposal was held in December 1970, and pressure from wilderness advocates eventually forced the NPS to abandon the Motor Nature Trail plan and discontinue all vehicular use of the road by 1976.[456]

On February 8, 1972, Director Hartzog submitted Colorado National Monument's wilderness recommendations to Congress. They included the immediate designation of 7,700 acres in the central and northeast portions of the Monument (approximately 44 percent of the land within the Monument's boundary) as wilderness (Figure 7-1). The wilderness area excluded a $^1/_8$-mile buffer along the northeast boundary to accommodate future development needs.[457] No acreage was recommended as "potential wilderness." On October 4, 1973, a federal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the wilderness proposal was submitted to the Council on Environmental Quality, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. On January 12, 1976, then Secretary of the Interior Thomas Kleppe amended the Monument's wilderness recommendation to include an additional 2,600 acres within No Thoroughfare Canyon, which increased the proposed area to 10,300 acres.[458]

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[451] Hart, "A Wilderness Plan for Colorado National Monument and the Surrounding Region," 8–9.

[452] National Park Service, *Wilderness Recommendation, Colorado National Monument, Colorado*, 11–19.

[453] Mary Louise Giblin, "Redlands Freeway Plan Aired at Board Session," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, December 16, 1970, 15.

[454] NPS Director Hartzog, quoted in Hart, "A Wilderness Plan for Colorado National Monument and the Surrounding Region," 12.

[455] Hart, "A Wilderness Plan for Colorado National Monument and the Surrounding Region," 8–9.

[456] *Greeley Daily Tribune*, "Motor-Nature Trail Opposed for Monument," November 28, 1970, 2; National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument, Colorado, Master Plan* (May 1976), 15.

[457] National Park Service, *Wilderness Recommendation, Colorado National Monument, Colorado* (1971), 10.

[458] National Park Service, *Revised Wilderness Recommendation, Colorado National Monument, Colorado* (September 1984). [LH8 COLM Wilderness Area Proposal 1971–1999, folder]

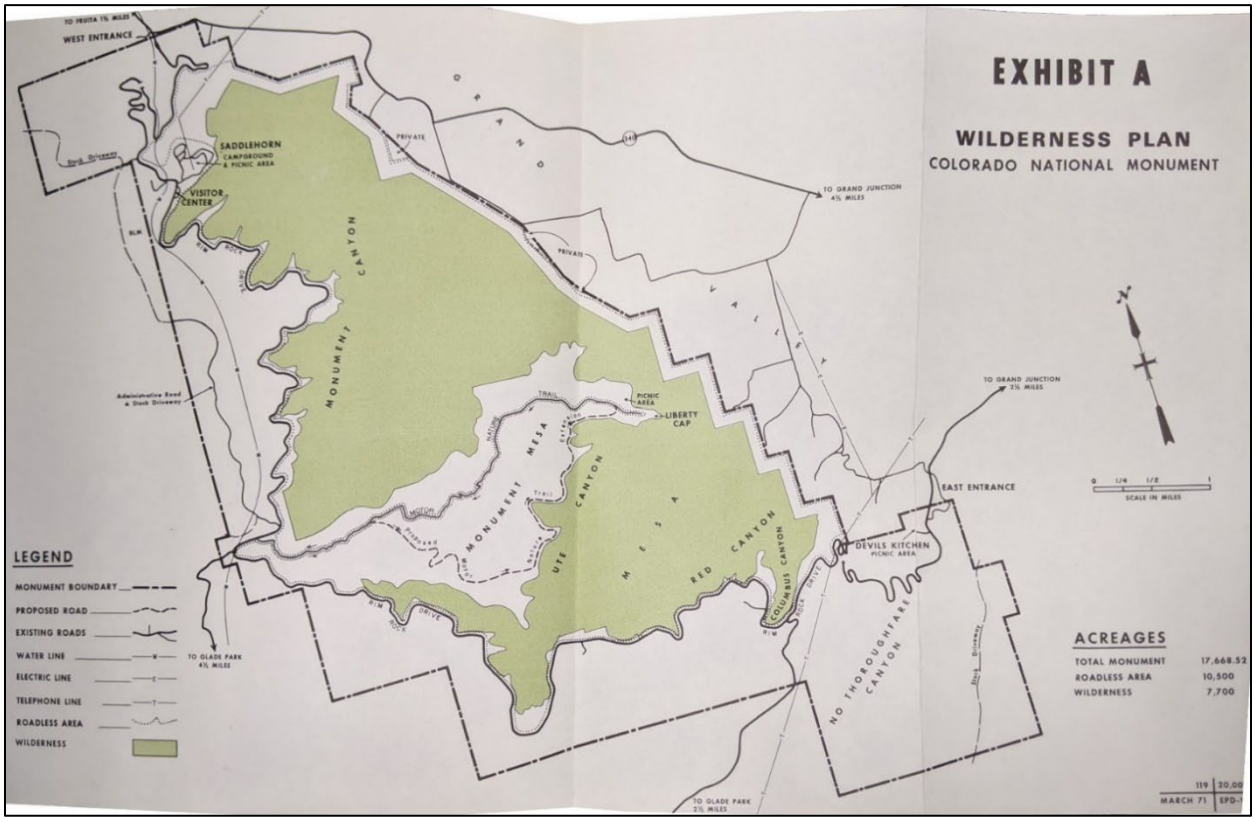


Figure 7-1. Wilderness Plan for Colorado National Monument (NPS March 1971).

PARK EXPANSION

Beginning in the mid-1970s, Colorado's Senator Floyd Haskell and Representative Jim Johnson led a campaign to expand Colorado National Monument (Figure 7-2). Residents strongly opposed expanding federal ownership of additional land in the region but were more receptive to the expansion of BLM lands, which allowed the mining and agriculture prohibited by the NPS. In 1974, the NPS began discussion with the BLM, Mesa County, and private landowners concerning the future acquisition of land for the Monument. Congressional approval was required for a boundary expansion; in the meantime, the BLM could acquire and hold parcels identified within the future Monument boundaries for the NPS.[459]

On October 21, 1976, Congress passed Public Law 94-578 authorizing Secretary of the Interior Kleppe to enlarge Colorado National Monument to include No Thoroughfare Canyon with an appropriation for land acquisition of $490,000.[460] The Monument boundary was expanded by 2,797 acres to encompass land at the upper end of No Thoroughfare Canyon; a 145-acre tract near Red Canyon; 4 acres that would correct a boundary fence error; and 13 acres of private land near the west entrance. Approximately two-thirds of the new acreage within No

[459] Maurice Stebbins, "Colorado National Monument could be enlarged in two years," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, January 20, 1974, 25.

[460] Public Law 94-578 [National Park System Appropriation ceilings increase; boundary changes.], Seq. 302 (a), 90 Stat. 2734, 21 October 1976.

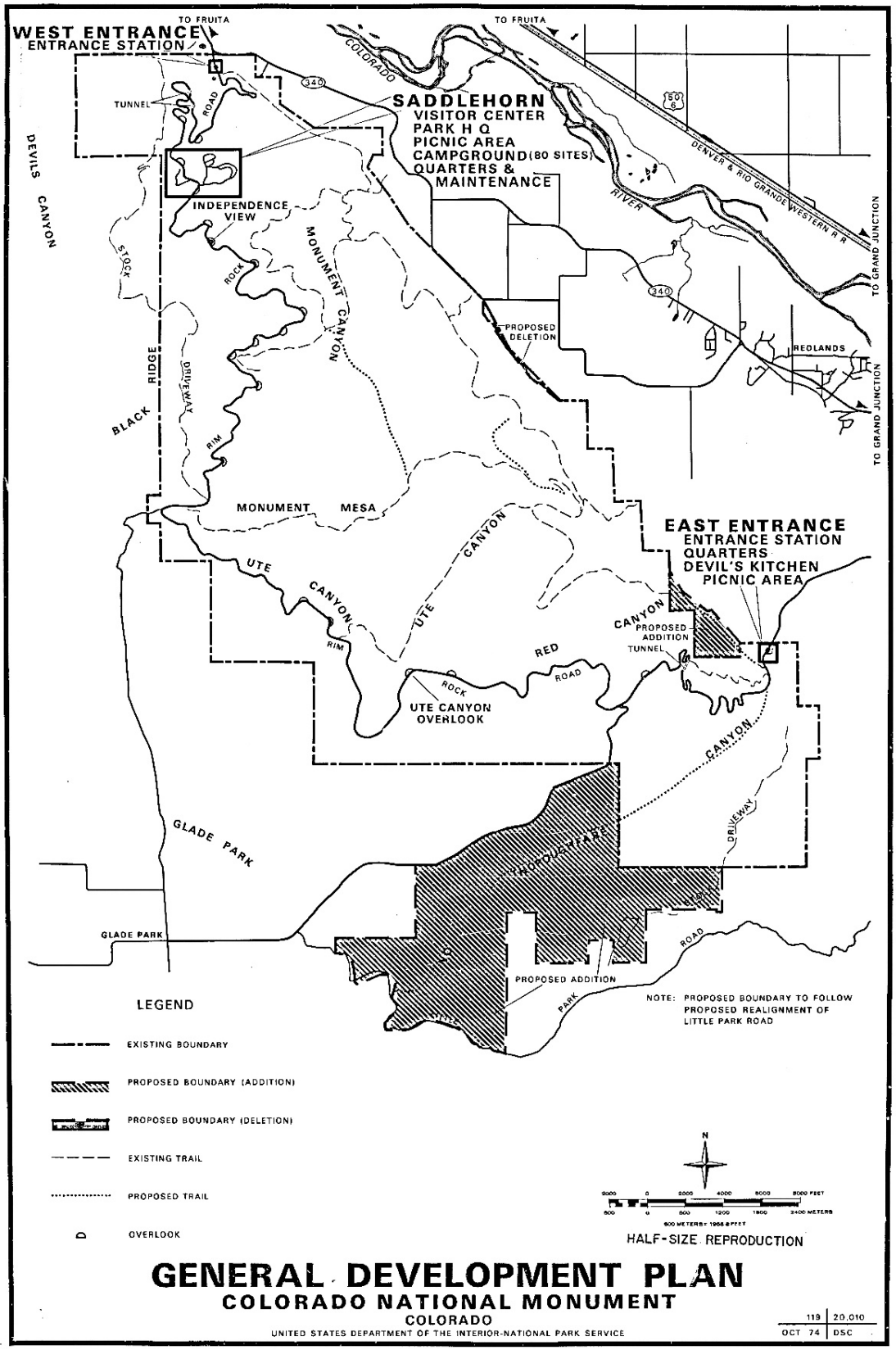


Figure 7-2. General Development Plan for Colorado National Monument showing proposed expansion (NPS October 1974).

Thoroughfare Canyon was already owned and managed by the BLM, and the remaining private tracts were owned by the Miracle Land Company, the Landing family, the Fletcher family, and Robert Burford.[461] Nearly two years passed before the NPS acquired the private and BLM lands in fee; the Fletcher tract at the mouth of Red Canyon was acquired soon after authorization passed. In February 1978, a supplement to the 1973 federal EIS was prepared to address the wilderness designation of 4,542 acres in No Thoroughfare Canyon. The supplement proposed 3,605 acres as wilderness and 937 acres, consisting of private inholdings, as "potential wilderness addition." The Monument eventually acquired all the inholdings.[462] In January 1978, 2,739.65 acres of land were acquired and added to the Monument.[463]

DEVELOPMENT, 1972–1978

Construction of Interstate 70 between Denver, Colorado, and the Utah border began in the 1960s and 1970s. Although the section between Grand Junction/Colorado State Route 65 and the Eisenhower–Edwin C. Johnson Memorial Tunnel about 60 miles west of Denver was not completed until the 1990s, the interstate's western terminus reached Fruita by 1973. Taylor State Road, constructed in 1902, continued to be the primary route between Denver and Grand Junction.[464]

The BLM continued to manage most of the land west of the Monument for the grazing of livestock, but the land along the eastern boundary was subdivided and suburban development began in the 1970s. In 1976, the population of Grand Junction reached approximately 20,000 and was rapidly increasing. Fruita's population was 2,000 that year; the town developed more slowly in part because nearby oil refineries negatively impacted air quality.[465]

Annual visitation to the Monument exceeded 500,000 in 1976 and continued to increase.[466] The NPS estimated the Monument's capacity to be approximately 2 million annual visitors. The 1976 *Colorado National Monument Master Plan* describes management priorities as providing visitors with appropriate visitor access to Monument Mesa, shelters with exhibits along Rim Rock Drive, and trail access at Devil's Kitchen and Red Canyon. Another priority was to help develop a bypass road to divert trucks and local traffic from Rim Rock Drive. The plan also supported a feasibility study for the addition of No Thoroughfare Canyon lands to the Monument and stipulated that any new buildings or structures within the Monument would "maintain an architectural theme similar to existing timber and cut stone structures."[467]

[461] Alice Wright, "Colorado National Monument growing," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, February 13, 1977, 58.

[462] National Park Service, *Revised Wilderness Recommendation, Colorado National Monument, Colorado* (1984).

[463] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 97–98.

[464] Colorado Department of Transportation, "The History of I-70 in Colorado," https://www.codot.gov/about/CDOTHistory/50th-anniversary/interstate-70, accessed September 2021.

[465] National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument, Colorado, Master Plan* (May 1976), 7–8; T. Michael Crowell, "Gary says nasty odor not a threat to health," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, April 6, 1983, 1.

[466] National Park Service Public Use Statistics Office, NPS Stats, Annual Visitation (All Years) Park Report, Colorado National Monument.

[467] National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument, Colorado, Master Plan*, 4–5.

In the late 1970s, the NPS modified and expanded Rim Rock Drive's network of overlooks and trailheads. New waysides were constructed so that visitors could read the material from their cars, thereby improving circulation along the road. The East and West entrances each received new exhibits.[468]

The Visitor Center was also expanded and modernized beginning in the late 1970s. In 1979, the Monument worked with the Grand Junction Solar Energy Society to construct a passive solar greenhouse on the porch of the Visitor Center to reduce heat loss in the winter. The greenhouse was assembled in five days and did not require extensive alterations to the existing building. Although it prevented some heat loss, the greenhouse made the building harder to cool and was removed in 1994.[469] In 1981, a public restroom addition accessible only from outside the Visitor Center was constructed north of the west wing, and the original public restrooms in the east wing were converted to office space.[470] Concurrently, the building's interior and exterior painted surfaces were changed from the Mission 66 gray color scheme to the current tans and browns. Francis Constructors of Grand Junction installed a solar heating and hot water system in the Visitor Center in 1982, but the system was removed in 1990 due to mechanical issues.[471] Objects commemorating Stephen Mather and John Otto (see Chapter 5) were installed at the Visitor Center in 1987 and ca. 1995, respectively.[472]

Utilities within the Monument, namely telecommunications and water supply, needed modernization by the 1970s. The Monument's facilities relied on two gravity-fed domestic water systems. The East Entrance was supplied by an NPS-owned well and distribution system, although a connection to the municipal water supply was possible. The Saddlehorn area obtained its water from the Fruita waterline. However, an ongoing litigation between Fruita and the Monument that could impact the quality and quantity of water available made it necessary for the Monument to investigate an NPS-owned source. The NPS constructed two lagoon-type sewage treatment plants in 1976 north of the Saddlehorn area. It also moved aboveground telephone and power lines underground in the late 1970s.[473]

Rim Rock Drive Use

Commercial vehicles accelerated wear of Rim Rock Drive and posed potentially hazardous situations for visitors' vehicles. Monument staff and those from Mesa County and the BLM discussed improvements to Little Park Road. This gravel-surfaced road, constructed in 1884, served as an alternative route between Grand Junction and Glade Park for non-visitor vehicles.

[468] Price et al., "Colorado National Monument Wayside Exhibit Plan" (Branch of Wayside Exhibits, National Park Service, 1978).

[469] Karen Hastings, "Putting 'Ol' Sol' to work," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, November 4, 1979, 54–55.

[470] Sarah Allaback suggests that the restroom addition is original to the building, but historic photographs in the Monument collections do not indicate its presence at the time of the grand opening in 1964. See Allaback, *Mission 66 Visitor Centers*, 240.

[471] Sturgell and Whitacre, *Visitor Center Complex*, 5–6.

[472] Mary Louise Giblin, "Park funding may increase," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, May 24, 1981, 96–97.

[473] National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument, Colorado, Master Plan*, 18.

After the East Entrance Station was completed in 1960, the Monument began collecting fees from motorists. Under an honor system, those who identified as Glade Park residents were exempt. However, after others abused the policy, the NPS required Glade Park residents to display stickers on their cars to gain entrance, which many residents resented as an unnecessary burden.[474]

In July 1972, the Commanders of the Defense Nuclear Agency (US Department of Defense) contacted the NPS about using 4.8 miles of Rim Rock Drive for access to a nuclear test site in Glade Park. The two agencies reached an agreement that allowed the Department of Defense and its associated Mixed Company to use the road from the East Entrance to the Glade Park turnoff; the NPS would bill the Department of Defense for any needed road repairs related to such use.[475]

No longer using cattle drives, Grand Valley ranchers chose to transport their animals in large commercial trucks via Rim Rock Drive.[476] In 1978, the Monument began charging all those driving through it (except Glade Park residents) $1 per trip or $10 for an annual pass. Residents of Glade Park, however, were allowed free passage. Superintendent Benton defended the fee, saying the NPS was following a mandate of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965.[477] Those who chose not to pay used an alternative route to Glade Park through Little Park that allegedly was "rough, dusty and rocky."[478]

In 1979, the NPS completed an environmental review on commercial vehicle use through the Monument, considering four alternatives: maintain the status quo, increase commercial vehicle use, decrease commercial vehicle use, or eliminate all commercial vehicles.[479] In late 1979, the Monument gave Mesa County an ultimatum regarding the commercial use of Monument roads. Superintendent Benton announced that from January 1980 through January 1982 large commercial vehicles would be restricted to night travel if they wished to use Monument roads to or from Glade Park. The restriction was enacted with the intention of banning such vehicles in 1982.

Fruita Water Line

Until 1977, the Fruita Pipeline supplied all the potable water within the Monument. The water was transported from reservoirs on Piñon Mesa that also supplied the town of Fruita.[480] When a severe drought in 1977 depleted the reservoirs, the Monument was forced to bring in water by

[474] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 84–90.

[475] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 93.

[476] National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument, Colorado, Master Plan*, 4.

[477] The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 stated (Sec. 2(a)) that "The President is authorized…to designate or provide for the designation of land or water areas administered by or under the authority of the Federal agencies listed…at which entrance admission, and other forms of recreation user fees shall be charged and to establish and revise or provide for the establishment and revision of such fees." Dilsaver, *America's National Park Service: The Critical Documents*, Ch. 6.

[478] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "A 'Monument – al' fight brewing," July 15, 1978, 1.

[479] Schoch-Roberts, *A Classic Western Quarrel*, 97–98.

[480] National Park Service, *Colorado National Monument Master Plan*, 2.

truck. The situation prompted the NPS to evaluate a new source of potable water, as the Fruita water line was becoming increasingly unreliable. The NPS stopped servicing the water line in 1978 and continued to truck in water. All maintenance of the line was assigned to Fruita. However, the wilderness designation prohibited the town from using mechanical equipment within the Monument.[481] The designation also prohibited construction of a new pipeline within the Monument boundary.[482]

When the Monument declined to share the cost of upgrading the Fruita Pipeline, the Town of Fruita decided to purchase its water service from the Ute Water Conservancy District (Ute Water).[483] In 1979–1980, the Monument built a pump house adjacent to the West Entrance to transport water supplied by Ute Water or artesian well water brought in by truck. A new $800,000 pipeline along 4 miles of Monument Road conveyed the water to the Visitor Center area, where it was stored in a 200,000-gallon tank that replaced the earlier 100,000-gallon tank above the Saddlehorn maintenance area.[484] The NPS did not remove the portion of the Fruita Pipeline in the Monument because a secondary line (outside the Monument) provided water to Glade Park. After 1980, the unused line down to Fruita would often run dry.[485]

KNOWN RESOURCE TYPES

Three major resource types associated with the development of Colorado National Monument in 1972–1978 have been identified: roads, utilities and infrastructure, and public use areas (overlooks and waysides). Each major resource type may include subsidiary resources.

Roads. This resource type encompasses newly constructed or rebuilt automobile roads within the Monument's circulation system built after the Mission 66/Parkscape eras as a result of park expansion or changes in administration.

Utilities and Infrastructure. This resource type covers utilities (water, electricity, and sewerage) and infrastructure (culverts, guardrails, and security features) that were added after the Mission 66/Parkscape eras to accommodate increased visitation and to modernize facilities. This resource type excludes roads and trails.

Public Use Areas (Overlooks and Waysides). This resource type includes improved areas along Rim Rock Drive developed or significantly modified for visitor wayfinding, interpretation, and engagement. It may include pull-offs and parking lots, waysides and signage, and designed landscapes.

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[481] The Wilderness Act allows the president to authorize the investigation and necessary construction of water and power facilities within wilderness areas but bans the construction of buildings. *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "Wilderness Land Limits Fixed," October 19, 1964, 5.

[482] Linda Post, "Water battle: Fruita, Park Service put on boxing gloves," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, August 12, 1979, 1.

[483] Carol Davis, "Water users in Fruita to get money's worth," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, November 27, 1983, 14.

[484] Mindy Pratt, "Park Service building pipeline," *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, October 26, 1980, 47; Mark Stiger, "Preconstruction Archeological Investigations at Colorado National Monument" (Lincoln, NE: Midwest Archeological Center, National Park Service, 18 August 1977).

[485] *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, "New Glade Park road link vital," September 24, 1979, 4.

CHAPTER EIGHT: PREVIOUS NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES LISTINGS AND DETERMINATIONS

This chapter presents the current status of Colorado National Monument resources previously listed in or determined eligible for listing in the National Register. Resources are organized according to their National Register status as follows: 1) resources currently listed in the National Register; 2) resources previously determined or evaluated eligible for listing in the National Register; 3) resources previously determined or evaluated ineligible for listing in the National Register; and 4) resources requiring additional evaluation.

Copies of the relevant National Register documentation and determinations of eligibility are included as Appendix A. Appendix B contains descriptions of all historic resources surveyed for this HRS and a table showing the National Register status of each resource. Monument resources recommended for further study and possible inclusion in existing historic districts are identified in Chapter Nine.

RESOURCES LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

As noted in Chapter One, a Multiple Property Submission (MPS) was prepared for Colorado National Monument in 1993 and signed by the Keeper of the National Register in 1994. An MPS consists of a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF, NPS 10-900-b) and registration forms (NPS 10-900) for associated individual properties and/or districts. As explained in *National Register Bulletin 16B: How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form*, the MPDF is designed to organize information about resources that are related by theme, type, geographical location, or some other associative characteristic. It includes a statement of applicable historical contexts; defines eligible property types, including the characteristics of significance and aspects of integrity that must be present for a property to be eligible for listing in the National Register as part of the MPS; and establishes the geographical limits of the location of eligible properties. As a management tool, the thematic MPS approach furnishes essential information for historic preservation planning because it can be used to 1) compare properties that are related by type, period of significance, location, or some other associative quality within a defined geographical area; and 2) establish preservation priorities based on relative historical significance.[486]

The 1994 Colorado National Monument MPDF encompasses development in the Monument from its establishment in 1911 through the completion of Rim Rock Drive in 1950 and includes two primary historic contexts: National Park Service Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933–1942; and Development of Automobile Routes and Access in Colorado National Monument, 1912–1950. The MDPF does not provide historic contexts for Native American land use or white settlement and development in the Monument region before 1911 (see Chapters Three and Four) or for the Mission 66 era of development at the Monument (see

[486] Antoinette J. Lee and Linda F. McClelland, *National Register Bulletin 16B: How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, NPS, 1991, revised 1999).

Chapter Six).[487] It is recommended that the MPDF be expanded to cover these time periods (see Chapter Nine).

Six National Register registration forms have been approved by the Keeper under the Colorado National Monument MPS: four individual aboveground properties and two historic districts. Documentation for a third historic district not related to the MPS (the Visitor Center Complex) has also been approved by the Keeper.

No individual archeological sites or districts within the Monument have been listed in the National Register, although archeological sites associated with the Serpents Trail (see below) may be contributing resources to that listed property.

Individual Aboveground Properties

The four aboveground properties at the Monument that are listed individually in the National Register are the Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter, Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage, Saddlehorn Comfort Station, and the Serpents Trail.

Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter

The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter (NRIS 94000309) was listed in the National Register on April 21, 1994, under the Colorado National Monument MPS. The shelter derives its significance under Criterion A from its association with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and under Criterion C for its representation of NPS Rustic Architecture and construction techniques employed by the CCC. The shelter was one of many structures built in the Monument during the New Deal era, which was an important period of development for the Monument. The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter was the only individual resource constructed by the CCC on the east side of the Monument and was the last structure the CCC completed within the Monument. The NPS Rustic Architecture style was developed to respond to the growing need for visitor facilities without constructing intrusive buildings in natural areas. The style employed rustic designs and native materials that blend into the surrounding environment.[488]

Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage

National Register documentation for the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage (NRIS 94000306) was accepted on April 21, 1994, under the Colorado National Monument MPS. The documentation identifies two contributing buildings: the residence and its associated garage. Both resources are significant under Criterion A for their association with CCC and WPA development within the Monument and under Criterion C as examples of NPS Rustic Architecture. The resources fall under the historic context National Park Service Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933–1942, as defined in the MPDF.[489]

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[487] Mission 66 resources can be evaluated for inclusion in the National Register under the *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources* MPDF accepted by the Keeper in 2015.

[488] Kathy McKoy, *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter*, NRIS 94000309, 1992/revised 1994.

[489] McKoy, *Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage*.

Saddlehorn Comfort Station

National Register documentation for the CCC-era Saddlehorn Comfort Station (NRIS 94000305) was accepted on April 21, 1994, under the Colorado National Monument MPS. The building is significant under Criterion A for its association with the CCC and WPA and under Criterion C as an example of NPS Rustic Architecture. The resource falls under the historic context NPS Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933–1942, as defined in the MPDF.[490]

The Serpents Trail

The Serpents Trail (NRIS 94000307) was listed in the National Register on April 21, 1994, under the Colorado National Monument MPS. The trail derives its significance under Criterion A as a representation of efforts to open the Monument to automobiles and under Criterion C as an example of the engineering techniques used to build early automobile roads in rugged terrains. The resource falls under the historic context Development of Automobile Routes and Access in Colorado National Monument, 1911–1950, as defined in the MPDF.[491] Archeological resources associated with the Serpents Trail may also be contributing resources under Criterion D.

Historic Districts

The three properties listed as historic districts in the National Register are Rim Rock Drive, the Saddlehorn Utility Area, and the Visitor Center Complex.

Rim Rock Drive Historic District

National Register documentation for the Rim Rock Drive Historic District (NRIS 94000310) was accepted April 21, 1994, under the Colorado National Monument MPS. The district's identified areas of significance are Transportation, Landscape Architecture, Social History, Entertainment/Recreation, and Conservation (all under Criterion A) and Engineering (under Criterion C). The registration form lists four contributing resources:

- Rim Rock Drive, including all associated roadway features such as scenic overlooks, guardrail, retaining walls, culverts, ditches, drop inlets, and drainage tunnels;
- Tunnel No. 1;
- Tunnel No. 2; and
- Tunnel No. 3.

The resources contribute under the property type Depression-Era Scenic Automobile Highway Within Colorado National Monument and the historic context Development of Automobile Routes and Access, 1912–1950, as defined in the MPDF. The East and West entrance stations, which were built as part of Mission 66 programming and later altered, are listed as non-

[490] McKoy, *Saddlehorn Comfort Station*.

[491] Simmons and Simmons, *Serpent's Trail*.

contributing resources in the Rim Rock Drive Historic District.[492] On November 5, 2019, the Colorado SHPO determined that the altered entrance stations are not eligible for listing in the National Register.[493]

Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District

National Register documentation for the Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District (NRIS 94000308) was accepted April 21, 1994, under the Colorado National Monument MPS. The district's identified areas of significance are Social History/Civilian Conservation Corps (under Criterion A) and Architecture (under Criterion C).[494] The documentation identifies four contributing resources:

- Roads and Trails Shop;
- Oil House;
- Open Storage Building; and
- Buildings and Utilities Shop.

The ca. 1956 Powder House was listed as a non-contributing structure because it was less than 50 years old in 1994.

Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex

Documentation for the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex (NRIS 03000647) was accepted by the Keeper on July 15, 2003. The district's identified areas of significance are Entertainment/Recreation and Community Planning and Development (under Criterion A) and Architecture (under Criterion C). Under Criteria A and C, the ca. 1963–1965 Visitor Center Complex is an excellent example of NPS Mission 66 planning and design that displays architectural forms representative of the emerging "visitor center" building type and idioms in park planning during the Mission 66 era (1946–1972) of development. The Monument's Visitor Center exemplifies "Park Service Modern," as developed by NPS designers, with attention to visitor circulation, low building profile, placement adjacent to the Monument's major resources, and views to natural features.

The documentation lists five contributing resources:

- Not previously listed:
    - Colorado National Monument Visitor Center;
    - Bookcliff Shelter; and

[492] Simmons and Simmons, *Rim Rock Drive*.

[493] Letter, State Historic Preservation Officer Steve Turner to Superintendent Nathan Souder, Received November 5, 2019. On file, Colorado National Monument.

[494] Kathy McKoy, *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District*, NRIS 94000308, 1992/revised 1994.

    - Canyon Rim Trail.[495]
- Previously listed:
    - Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence; and
    - Saddlehorn Caretaker's Garage (see above).

The documentation also identifies one non-contributing resource: the Sewage Lift Station.[496]

RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED OR EVALUATED ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Four individual aboveground properties and one historic district have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register. A total of 159 archeological sites have been determined or evaluated eligible for listing.

NPS Historian Kathy McKoy surveyed the Coke Ovens and Monument Canyon trails in 1997, and NPS Intermountain Region Historian Christine Whitacre surveyed 10 of the Monument's 14 trails in 2000–2001 to evaluate their eligibility for listing in the National Register.[497] The Colorado SHPO concurred with the results of both surveys, which were completed as precursors to the preparation of a three-volume *Cultural Resources Inventory for Trail Management Plan*.[498] The 2000–2001 trail survey resulted in determinations of eligibility for two trails: the Black Ridge Trail and the Canyon Rim Trail.

Staff from the Monument's Division of Resource Management undertook a cultural resource inventory of the Liberty Cap Trail in 2017 (report completed in 2019) that resulted in a determination of eligibility with SHPO concurrence for the trail's Corkscrew Trail segment.[499]

Section 110 and Section 106 review conducted by the Colorado SHPO in 2020 for improvements at the Saddlehorn Amphitheater resulted in SHPO determinations of eligibility for one individual property (the Loop A Comfort Station at the Saddlehorn Campground) and one historic district (the Saddlehorn Recreation Area Cultural Landscape).[500]

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[495] In 2001, the Colorado SHPO had determined the Canyon Rim Trail ineligible for individual listing because it was less than 50 years old at that time and did not possess exceptional significance that would meet Criteria Consideration G. However, the SHPO determined that the trail would be eligible as a contributing resource within a potential historic district encompassing the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter. Christine Whitacre, *Colorado National Monument Historic Trails Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report*.

[496] Sturgell and Whitacre, *Visitor Center Complex*.

[497] McKoy, "Colorado Cultural Resource Survey: Monument Canyon Trail & Coke Ovens Trail"; Whitacre, *Colorado National Monument Historic Trails Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report*. Two trails were not surveyed in either effort: the Serpents Trail (previously listed) and the Alcove Nature Trail (constructed in 1989).

[498] RMC Consultants, Inc., *Cultural Resources Inventory for Trail Management Plan, Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado*, 2004.

[499] Heinritz and Walzer, *Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of Portions of the Liberty Cap and Corkscrew Trails*.

[500] Letter, State Historic Preservation Officer Steve Turner to Superintendent Nathan Souder, June 29, 2020. On file, Colorado National Monument; Letter, State Historic Preservation Officer Steve Turner to Superintendent Nathan Souder, Received January 7, 2020. On file, Colorado National Monument.

Individual Aboveground Properties

The four individual aboveground properties determined eligible for listing in the National Register either individually or as a contributing resource within a historic district are the Black Ridge Trail, the Canyon Rim Trail, the Corkscrew Trail segment of the Liberty Cap Trail, and the Loop A Comfort Station at the Saddlehorn Campground.

Black Ridge Trail

The Black Ridge Trail was determined eligible for listing in 2001 under National Register Criteria A and C. The trail is eligible under Criterion A for its association with the development and maintenance of the Fruita Pipeline (1907), which had significant influence on the development of the town of Fruita, and for its historic use as a stock driveway. It is eligible under Criterion C as an example of a historic trail that retains a high degree of integrity and its original character and design. National Register documentation has not been prepared for the trail. Pre-contact (Native American) and post-contact (historic) period archeological resources associated with the Black Ridge Trail and the Fruita Pipeline have been identified and may contribute to a future listing.

Canyon Rim Trail

The Canyon Rim Trail was determined eligible for listing in 2001 as a contributing resource within a potential historic district encompassing the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter. As noted above, the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex Historic District established in 2003 includes the trail as a contributing resource.

Corkscrew Trail Segment of Liberty Cap Trail

The Corkscrew Trail portion of the Liberty Cap Trail was determined eligible for listing in 2017 under National Register Criterion B for its association with John Otto and under Criterion C as an intact historic trail that retains integrity of location, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association.[501] National Register documentation has not been prepared for the trail.

Saddlehorn Campground (Loop A) Comfort Station

The Loop A Comfort Station at the Saddlehorn Campground was determined individually eligible for listing in 2020 as a "good representative example of a Mission 66 comfort station."[502] National Register documentation has not been prepared for the building.

Historic Districts

The property determined eligible for listing in the National Register as a historic district is the Saddlehorn Recreation Area Cultural Landscape (aka Saddlehorn Recreation Area).

[501] Heinritz and Walzer, *Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of Portions of the Liberty Cap and Corkscrew Trails*.

[502] Turner to Souder, June 29, 2020.

Saddlehorn Recreation Area

The Saddlehorn Recreation Area encompasses the recreational part of the Saddlehorn Headquarters area on the east side of Rim Rock Drive, including the Visitor Center Complex National Register Historic District and the Saddlehorn Campground and Picnic Area. The 2020 determination of eligibility concurred that the Mission 66 Amphitheater, Access Road, Picnic Road, Loop A Comfort Station, and Picnic Area Comfort Station are eligible as contributing resources within the historic district.[503] National Register documentation has not been prepared for the area.

Archeological Sites

No individual archeological sites or districts within the Monument have been formally listed in the National Register. However, the Monument's archeological database indicates that 159 archeological sites have been determine eligible for listing: 135 pre-contact sites and 28 post-contact sites (some of these sites have pre-contact and post-contact site components that have been evaluated as eligible).

The 135 pre-contact (Native American) archeological sites can be grouped into seven types:

- Lithic scatters;
- Open camps dating from the PaleoIndian, Archaic, Formative, and Ute eras;
- Rockshelters or "sheltered camps";
- Rock art sites;
- Sites with formal or informal structural remains or architecture;
- Lithic quarries, and
- Sites identified by exposed thermal features or hearths.

Some sites are categorized by more than one type, and some are not specifically classified by function or content. The most predominant sites are lithic scatters (represented at 54 sites) and open camps (represented at 52 sites).

The 28 eligible post-contact (historic) period archeological sites can be grouped into eight types:

- Temporary camps associated with ca. 1883–1920;
- Brush structures with associated artifacts that may be associated with Ute or white settler activity in the nineteenth and/or twentieth centuries;
- Homesteads with structural and foundation remains, trash middens, and associated artifacts and features;
- Mining sites and features, including those associated with John Kodel;
- Trail and development areas associated with John Otto's exploration of the Monument;
- Historic graffiti and inscriptions;

[503] Turner to Souder, June 29, 2020.

- Remnant auto road segments through the Monument; and
- CCC camps and related activity areas.

RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED OR EVALUATED INELIGIBLE FOR LISTING IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Sixteen individual aboveground properties and 187 archeological sites have been determined or evaluated ineligible for listing in the National Register.

Aboveground Properties

As discussed above, trail surveys in 1997 and 2000–2001 evaluated 12 trails within the Monument for National Register eligibility. Ten trails were determined ineligible for individual listing in the National Register, due to age (less than 50 years old at that time), lack of integrity, and/or lack of associations with the Monument's significant historic contexts as defined in the 1994 Colorado National Monument MPDF. In addition, the Bison Fence was determined ineligible for individual listing in 1990, and the five Mission 66 residential buildings in the Saddlehorn Headquarters area were determined ineligible for listing individually or as a historic district in 2015.

CCC Trail

The ca. 1978–1991 CCC Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 because it was less than 50 years old at that time and does not possess exceptional significance that would meet Criteria Consideration G.

Coke Ovens Trail

The Coke Ovens Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 1997 because it lacks significant historical associations and integrity due to its reconstruction in 1953–1954.

Devils Kitchen Trail

The Devils Kitchen Trail, developed at some time between 1942 and 1953, was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 because it lacks significant historical associations with evaluated contexts under Criterion A or significant designed features under Criterion C.

Liberty Cap Trail

Most of the Liberty Cap Trail, except the small (0.9 mile) segment that overlaps the original Corkscrew Trail (as discussed above), was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 and again in 2017 because it lacks significant historical associations with evaluated contexts and integrity. The trail retains little physical integrity due to realignment and alterations.

Monument Canyon Trail

The Monument Canyon Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 1997 because it lacks significant historical associations and integrity. The trail does not have distinctive characteristics of any particular type, period, or method of construction that would garner it significance. Furthermore, it retains little post-contact (historic) period physical integrity due to its reconstruction and expansion in the 1950s and extensive deterioration.

No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail

The easternmost ¾ mile of the No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail, and the only maintained portion of the trail's eastern end, is equivalent to the Devils Kitchen Trail. The rest of the backcountry hiking trail was developed after 1978 (when the Monument boundary was expanded to include the extent of the trail's route) and is unmaintained except a 0.4-mile section at the western end. The No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 because it was less than 50 years old at that time and does not possess exceptional significance that would meet Criteria Consideration G.

Old Gordon Trail

The Old Gordon Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 because it lacks significant historical associations with evaluated contexts. Built as a toll road in the 1880s, the former road and stock driveway was not a significant transportation corridor and did not have a significant impact on the development of the local community. The extant trail has no significant design or construction features, and no associated resources have been identified.

Otto's Trail

Otto's Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 because it was less than 50 years old at that time and does not possess exceptional significance that would meet Criteria Consideration G. The trail was built at some time in 1961–1975; additional research would be necessary to determine its exact date of construction and to evaluate its historical associations.

Ute Canyon Trail

The Ute Canyon Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 because it lacks significant historical associations with evaluated contexts. The trail was built in 1942–1947 as a backcountry trail and in places is nearly indistinguishable from the surrounding landscape.

Window Rock Trail

The Window Rock Trail was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register in 2001 because it lacks historical integrity to its original 1939 CCC-built design and construction because of modifications. The trail was not considered eligible as a contributing resource to the

ca. 1963–1965 Visitor Center Complex Historic District because it predates the development of the complex and is not associated with the design and development of that area.

Bison Fence

The Bison Fence near the northeast boundary of the Monument was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register by NPS Historian Eunice Fedors of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office (now NPS Regions 6–8) in 1990 because it lacks significant historical associations with evaluated contexts. The fence was installed by the CCC in 1934 to confine bison introduced to the Monument in 1925, but it does not represent CCC or NPS Rustic Style construction techniques or development.

Saddlehorn Residential Buildings

The five Mission 66 residential buildings in the Saddlehorn Headquarters area were determined ineligible for listing individually in 2015 because of alterations in the 1980s and 2008 that negatively impacted their integrity.[504]

Archeological Sites

A total of 187 pre-contact and post-contact archeological sites have been determined ineligible for listing in the National Register. For the most part, these sites have little potential to yield additional materials or features or to provide additional data that would be important to understanding the human history of the Monument.

RESOURCES REQUIRING ADDITIONAL EVALUATION

Over 250 archeological sites in Colorado National Monument need additional evaluation for National Register eligibility as it relates to the contexts described in Chapters Three to Seven of this HSR. A total of 146 archeological sites have not been formally evaluated for National Register eligibility, and another 120 sites are listed as "unknown" or "needs more information" with regard to their eligibility. These resources should be comprehensively documented and evaluated for National Register eligibility. A systematic and thorough Monument-wide archeological survey identification and evaluation effort has not yet been done (see Chapter Nine), but the Monument is developing an archeological monitoring plan that includes periodic visits to known sites at risk. Future research at the Monument, including an Archeological Overview and Assessment, could focus on evaluating sites for National Register eligibility.

[504] Letter, State Historic Preservation Officer Edward C. Nichols to Acting Superintendent Ken Mabery, August 12, 2015. On file, Colorado National Monument.

CHAPTER NINE: MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Identifying and evaluating significant historic and cultural resources is a formidable challenge in a semi-desert area of more than 20,000 acres of pinyon-juniper woodland, canyons, and uplands. Many cultural resources, such as Native American archeological and cultural sites and traces of mines and cabins, are in remote locations where access is difficult. Nonetheless, the evidence of thousands of years of human occupation on the Uncompaghre Plateau should be recorded, preserved, and interpreted as far as possible. All cultural resource management activities and historical interpretation at Colorado National Monument need to occur in ways that protect the natural resources and the values that have shaped the human experience of the Monument.

RESOURCE INVENTORY

The most immediate need for documentation of the known cultural resources in Colorado National Monument is to update and/or complete baseline inventories, namely the NPS Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) and Facility Management Software System (FMSS) databases. This HRS provides baseline documentation for most of the buildings and structures in the Monument spanning the Native American occupation to the Mission 66 development era (i.e., those resources more than 50 years old). Those cultural resources that require more detailed documentation or updated National Register eligibility evaluations include elements of the road (namely pull-offs) and trail systems (such as trailheads), all historic cultural landscapes, and archeological sites. Cultural resource identification and documentation should proceed in tandem with GIS mapping of identified and potential historic properties so that Monument staff can fully integrate geospatial data into preservation and project planning efforts.

Cultural landscapes in the Monument that have associations with the historic contexts described in previous chapters and the significant historic resources identified in this HRS are candidates for future study. Pending evaluation, these landscapes should be considered as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register and managed as cultural resources. National Register documentation prepared or updated as a result of this HRS should include important aspects of the surrounding landscape or landscape features and should incorporate the findings of Cultural Landscapes Inventories (CLIs) as they become available.

More than 500 archeological sites have been recorded within the Monument boundaries. Very few of these sites have been thoroughly studied by professional archeologists; most are known only by visible surface finds and do not have recorded horizontal or vertical boundaries and/or temporal designations. Only an estimated 18 percent of the Monument's land has been surveyed for these resources (see Chapter One). Therefore, many potential pre-contact (Native American) and post-contact (historic) period archeological resources within the Monument have yet to be documented.

Finally, additional resources within the Monument that do not relate to the contexts described in this HRS may still require evaluation as potential historic properties. As NPS undertakings are planned or new resources over 50 years of age are found, NPS personnel should be proactive in surveying and evaluating these resources to determine what, if any, significance they might have under other contexts.

NATIONAL REGISTER DOCUMENTATION UPDATES AND AMENDMENTS

As explained in Chapter Eight, an MPDF for Colorado National Monument was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register in 1994. The MPDF provides historic contexts through 1950 that are associated primarily with NPS Rustic Architecture, New Deal Development, and automobile travel and access within the Monument. Based on the information in this HRS, additional contexts to evaluate resources associated with Native American and white settler activities in the Monument area before 1911, John Otto and the creation and early development of the Monument from 1906 to 1933, Mission 66 development, conservation efforts, and trail system development are warranted.[505]

An updated MPDF would establish the basis for evaluating National Register eligibility and registration of the full spectrum of resource types within the Monument that are identified in this HRS. For example, nearly all the trails within the Monument were determined ineligible for individual listing in the National Register in 1997 or 2001 because they lack association with the contexts listed in the existing MPDF. However, some trails may have significance for their association with the development of the Monument's early hiking trails for public use and enjoyment, with John Otto, or with Mission 66-era improvements to the visitor experience. Certain trails, such as the Black Ridge Trail, Old Gordon Trail, and Devils Kitchen Trail, may possess additional significance as historic stock roads for their association with livestock farming in the Grand Valley. Early trails altered during the Mission 66 era, such as the Coke Ovens and Monument Canyon trails, may still be eligible for listing if their alignment remains unchanged, if the reroutes were necessary because of trail damage, or if the alterations have significance related to the Mission 66 context. A holistic evaluation of the Monument trails with respect to all the contexts in an updated MPDF is recommended.

In addition, the existing MPDF does not incorporate the extensive number of fragmentary landscape features and archeological resources within the Monument. Property types defined in an updated MPDF should take into account the information potential of such resources with respect to the historic contexts. For example, archeological sites and features associated with trails can be listed in conjunction with the trails, and groupings of related resources that together have more integrity than the individual components can be listed as historic districts.

Existing National Register documentation for the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex Historic District should be amended to expand the district boundary to encompass the entire Saddlehorn Recreation Area—including all CCC-era and Mission 66-era development on the east side of Rim Rock Drive, the campground, picnic area, amphitheater, comfort stations, and Window Rock Trail—determined eligible for National Register listing in 2020.[506] Accordingly, the name of the historic district should be changed to the Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters Historic District. The area could be listed under an expanded Colorado National Monument MPDF as a Public Use Area resource type.

[505] The *National Park Service Mission 66 Era Resources* MPDF approved in 2015 (Carr et al.) establishes a context for evaluating Mission 66-era properties at any NPS unit that can inform the addition of Mission 66 activity to the Colorado National Monument MPDF.

[506] Turner to Souder, January 7, 2020, and June 29, 2020.

The National Register documentation for the Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District can be updated to include a reevaluation of the Powder House as a potential contributing resource, since the building is now more than 50 years old. A determination of eligibility is also recommended to evaluate an expansion of the boundary of the Utility Area Historic District boundary to encompass the adjacent Mission 66 Residential Area and the surrounding cultural landscape. As noted in Chapter Eight, the residential buildings were determined ineligible for individual listing in 2015, but more information is needed to assess the area's potential eligibility as part of a larger historic district that includes the entire NPS administrative area on the west side of Rim Rock Drive.

Existing National Register documentation for the Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter National Register documentation should be updated to include a discussion of the landscape and associated resources surrounding the shelter structure, including alterations made during Mission 66; discussion of Mission 66-era activities; and an evaluation of the shelter's significance within the Mission 66 era of NPS development.

The Rim Rock Drive Historic District National Register documentation should be updated to include an evaluation of the pull-offs and trailheads and their landscape design within the contexts of the NPS Rustic and Mission 66 architectural styles.

NATIONAL REGISTER DOCUMENTATION FOR ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES NOT PREVIOUSLY LISTED

Two individual resources are recommended for documentation with National Register registration forms as related listings to the Colorado National Monument MPS.

Individual Resource: Black Ridge Trail

The Black Ridge Trail was determined eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria A and C in 2001, but no documentation has been prepared for the trail, which includes 2 miles on federally owned land outside the Monument boundary. Under Criterion A, the trail has significance for its association with the development and maintenance of the Fruita water pipeline and as a stock driveway. It may also have significance under Criteria A and C as an early hiking trail improved by the NPS after the creation of the Monument. All or a portion of the trail could be listed individually under the Roads and Trails resource type in an expanded Colorado National Monument MPDF.

Individual Resource: Corkscrew Trail

The Corkscrew Trail segment of the Liberty Cap Trail was determined eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria B and C in 2017. Archeologists recorded segments of the original alignment in 2017 and 2021, but nomination documentation has not been prepared for the trail. The trail segment has significance under Criterion B for its association with John Otto and under Criterion C as an early hiking trail. The trail segment could be listed individually under the Roads and Trails resource type in an expanded Colorado National Monument MPDF.

TREATMENT

The breadth of cultural resources at Colorado National Monument presents a substantial property management challenge that could require significant human and financial resources. Defining the Monument's significant cultural resources is the first step in responsible treatment, because an understanding of the characteristics that make a property eligible for listing in the National Register is essential in developing appropriate treatment plans. Additionally, understanding the significance of a given resource allows for tailored, targeted treatment plans that use NPS personnel and funds effectively. *The Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and the related NPS *Interpreting the Standards Bulletins* and *Preservation Briefs* should be adhered to in developing all resource treatment plans.

The following specific treatment challenges at Colorado National Monument involve CCC-built stonework, archeological sites exposed to visitors and/or weather, trails, and cultural landscapes:

- The rustic stone construction of the Rim Rock Drive tunnels, curbing, and retaining walls; the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence; and the Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter built during the CCC era is a defining element in the visitor's experience of the Monument. These impressive, labor-intensive buildings and structures probably will never be attempted again in our national parks. They should continue to be maintained and, where necessary, repaired, while retaining as much as possible the level of workmanship that created them. Fallen stones should continue to be recovered whenever feasible and replaced, and sources of compatible dressed stone should be sought for repairs.
- Exposed archeological sites should be prioritized for ongoing monitoring. Archeological sites and the paleobiotic crust may be threatened by maintenance work, unauthorized excavation, visitor activities, wildland fire, and natural degradation. Sites in heavily visited/accessed areas such as the urban interface along the eastern boundary, are particularly vulnerable to looting and vandalism.[507] Visitor activities also negatively impact easily accessible sites at or near trails. In 2021–2022, the Monument developed an Archeological Site Monitoring Plan, which establishes a framework for systematically revisiting known archeological resources. Funding should be obtained to implement this plan. Regularly scheduled conditions assessments should be conducted to monitor identified sites and to document any disturbances that may threaten their integrity.
- The upcoming development of a trails management plan for the Monument should incorporate the results of this HRS to aid with the identification of the character-defining features that should be maintained for each trail. The team working on the trails management plan should include a historic landscape architect or architectural historian with experience in documenting and evaluating historic trails or trail systems.
- Potential and previously documented cultural landscapes should be identified and documented in a comprehensive Monument-wide Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI). Significant cultural landscapes containing a variety of buildings, structures, features, and important vegetation should be maintained. Individualized treatment plans that include

[507] Adam Brinkman, Emily Caselman, Katy Perrier, Natalie Pope, *Colorado National Monument Archeological Site Monitoring Plan*, 2022.

the input of horticultural experts and coordination with existing wildland fire mitigation plans are essential to preserving these rich resources.

- As necessary, NPS personnel should institute site-specific cultural resource management plans for vegetation and visitor management, groundskeeping and maintenance, and other activities such as wildland fire use. Such plans should be developed in conjunction with the Monument's overall resource management strategies to balance cultural resource protection with visitor use, fire management, natural disaster and climate change preparedness, and ecosystem preservation.

STUDY GAPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

An Archeological Overview and Assessment (AOA) of the Monument has yet to be completed. As with historic architectural resources, the timely identification, evaluation, and nomination of archeological sites for listing in the National Register are required of national park units under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (Section 110a(2) and Standard 2). In compliance with this requirement, the completion of an AOA provides future research and management recommendations for individual sites and groups of sites. AOAs provide a critical evaluation of previous archeological studies; compile a descriptive inventory and summarize the research and interpretive value of known and potential archeological resources; and recommend whether existing National Register documentation for historic properties should be amended to include significance under Criterion D. Priority should be given to completing a comprehensive AOA through the NPS Cultural Resources Inventory System – Archeological Sites (CRIS-AR) for previously un-inventoried sites and integrating CRIS-AR data for other sites, given the fragile nature of these resources, the threats to their survival from visitor use and weather, and their potential significance within local and regional contexts.

Tribal consultation is and should continue to be an ongoing process at the Monument. The 2021–2022 Archeological Site Monitoring Plan was funded with tribal consultation components to support collaboration with affiliated tribes on how to prioritize site monitoring and condition assessments.[508] The Monument has conducted consultation on this project in fiscal year 2021 and will continue in 2022 to better develop a monitoring strategy. Archeological and natural resource studies should be conducted in consultation with members of the Ute and Navajo Indian tribes whose ancestral lands the Monument occupies. Native Americans do not separate the cultural and natural worlds, and their historical connections to the Monument include more than the physical artifacts and features that comprise archeological sites (see Chapter Three). The consultation process may lead to research questions of interest to tribal members and to identifying and documenting cultural landscapes and/or traditional cultural properties. The continued development of collaborative relationships between Monument staff and Ute tribes and individuals is the best way to document, protect, and interpret Native American cultural resources.

Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 protects certain sensitive information about historic properties from disclosure to the public when such disclosure could result in a significant invasion of privacy, damage to the historic property, or impede the use of a traditional religious site by practitioners. National Register documentation of sensitive

[508] Brinkman et al., *Archeological Site Monitoring Plan*.

archeological sites should be redacted to exclude locational information when shared with the public.

ARCHIVES

Archived materials at Colorado National Monument contain extensive information about the history of the Monument and its cultural resources. The collection includes historic photographs, newspaper articles, planning documents, maps and plans, construction records, cultural resource inventories and reports, oral history interviews, and correspondence. The information is comprehensive, and the materials include duplicates of certain records held at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) office in Denver, Colorado. The collection could be strengthened by acquiring copies of archival records from the NARA offices in Washington, DC, and College Park, Maryland; in particular, NARA Record Group 79 (Records of the NPS) contains information about the CCC, administrative topics, buildings, cooperative agreements, and planning for exhibits.

The accessibility of the archival material at the Monument could be improved. Some box, file, and folder identifiers in the finding aids are not consistent with the material; and some records are missing or misplaced. Policies that could mitigate these issues include keeping a register of material withdrawals and returns for items borrowed from the archival collection with archivist or curator permission and spot-checking the collection during annual inventories to identify misfiled or mislabeled items. A periodic review cycle to match the finding aids to the collection organization would also improve accessibility. National Park Service Director's Order 24 – NPS Museum Collections Management and the Museum Handbook can provide additional guidance.

INTERPRETATION

Existing NPS interpretation in the Monument, including waysides at Rim Rock Drive pull-offs, primarily addresses themes related to the spectacular vistas of vast canyons and dramatic geologic monuments, the geological processes that formed these natural features over millions of years, the archeological traces of people who lived there, and John Otto's vision in the creation of the Monument. Interpretive trail signage describes some of the plants and animals that are important to the Ute. The most recent interpretive prospectus prepared for the Monument is from 1988. Its stated interpretation goals focus largely on advancing visitor understanding of the geological processes that shaped the Monument and how the Monument relates to nearby national parks, including Arches National Monument and Canyonlands National Park in Moab, Utah, and Dinosaur National Monument in Dinosaur, Colorado. Additional interpretive topics include the plants and animals living in the Monument, resource conservation, and CCC efforts in the Monument.[509] The Monument's 2015 Foundation Document identifies further interpretive themes related to the evidence of human use within the landscape, human connections to the land, and the early conservation movement in the United States.[510]

[509] National Park Service, *Interpretive Prospectus: Colorado National Monument* (Fruita, CO: National Park Service, 1988).

[510] National Park Service, *Foundation Document*, 8.

In 2022, the Monument signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Colorado SHPO regarding improvements to the Saddlehorn Amphitheater. The MOA stipulates several mitigation measures that will improve interpretation and public education and address gaps in the Monument's current interpretive programming for the CCC and Mission 66 eras. Under the MOA, the Monument will develop website documentation, waysides, and a self-guided tour of the Saddlehorn Headquarters area for mobile devices. These materials will provide information on the CCC and Mission 66 eras of development in the Monument and throughout the National Park System. Topics related to the CCC era will include the location and activities of camps, building activities beyond Rim Rock Drive, and the ways in which contemporary historical conditions such as segregation affected camp enrollment. Information on the Monument's Mission 66 buildings, structures, and areas will include comparisons to those at other national parks and discussions of ongoing NPS work within the Mission 66 areas.[511]

Further recommendations concerning public interpretation at the Monument, beyond those implemented under the 2022 MOA, are as follows:

- Develop a comprehensive and long-range interpretive plan that reflects the Monument's current goals and objectives.
- Coordinate with other regional agencies to share information, interpretive services, and public outreach resources, particularly as it relates to resource protection and vandalism prevention.
- Expand the materials developed under the 2022 MOA to visitor use areas outside the Saddlehorn Headquarters area.
- Continue to incorporate archeology, oral history, biology, geology and, most importantly, Ute and Navajo tribal consultation into the development of interpretive themes related to Native American land use.
- Update existing interpretive materials where necessary to incorporate new knowledge in research areas such as paleontology, wildlife biology, geology, and climate change.
- Continue to prioritize narratives that provide information on all those who shaped the Monument's current appearance, in particular the inclusion or exclusion of under-represented ethnic and minority groups from development processes.
- Build on the connections between people and place and between the human and natural worlds to interpret Monument resources from all time periods.

[511] Memorandum of Agreement between Colorado National Monument of the National Park Service and the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Improvements to Saddlehorn Amphitheater. On file, Colorado National Monument.

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ARCHIVAL RECORDS

Colorado National Monument Archival Collection, Administrative Records. Fruita, CO.

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APPENDIX A: RELEVANT EXISTING DOCUMENTATION

Note: Photos and draft nominations have been excluded for brevity.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter (#94000309, 1994)

Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage (#94000306, 1994)

Saddlehorn Comfort Station (#94000305, 1994)

Serpents Trail (#94000307, 1994)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Rim Rock Drive Historic District (#94000310, 1994)

Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District (#94000308, 1994)

Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex (#03000647, 2003)

DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

"Monument Canyon Trail and Coke Ovens Trail DOE" (1997/1999)

"Historic Trails Determinations of Eligibility Survey Report" (2001)

"Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of Portions of the Liberty Cap and Corkscrew Trails in Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado" (2019)

"Consensus Determinations of Eligibility for the Saddlehorn Recreation Area Cultural Landscape and Associated Sites, Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, CO (HC #76950)" (2020)

"Determination of Eligibility for Bison Fence, Colorado National Monument, Colorado" (1990)

"Consensus Determination of Eligibility for Mission 66 Residences and a Utility Building, Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado (CHS #68237)" (2015)

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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 08-91)

OMB No. 1024-0018

309

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

RECEIVED
MAR 8 1994
NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in ***Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms*** (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter
other names/site number: n/a

2. Location

street & number: Colorado National Monument (N/A) not for publication
city, town: Grand Junction, Colorado (X) vicinity
state: Colorado code: CO county: Mesa code: 077 zip code: 81521

3. Classification

Ownership of Property
( ) private
( ) public-local
( ) public-State
(X) public-Federal

Category of Property
(X) building(s)
( ) district
( ) site
( ) structure
( ) object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Colorado National Monument MPS

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (X) nomination ( ) request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date: 3/9/94

National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property (x) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official — Date: March 24, 1993

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
(✓) entered in the National Register.
( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.
( ) removed from the National Register.
( ) other, (explain:) _____

Beth Boland — 4/21/94

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Recreation: outdoor recreation facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Recreation: outdoor recreation facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: National Park Service Rustic

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls sandstone
roof cedar shake
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter (HS-10H) is located near the east entrance of Colorado National Monument in the vicinity of Grand Junction, Colorado. It is a one-story irregular shaped building constructed of native red sandstone with a cedar shake roof. Designed by the National Park Service (NPS) and constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1941, the picnic shelter is an excellent example of NPS Rustic Architecture. The building is in good condition and has suffered few alterations, maintaining integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association from the historic period.

Setting

The picnic shelter is located in the southeast portion of Colorado National Monument. The topography of the 32-square mile park includes the northern rim of the Uncompahgre Plateau with its deeply cut canyons and towering rock formations. Less than a mile to the south of the shelter is Devils Kitchen Trail, which leads to Devils Kitchen, a natural grotto surrounded by huge upright boulders. Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter is located in an open clearing surrounded by natural sandstone cliffs and by sparse vegetation including juniper, pinon pines, and native brush vegetation. The construction materials and design used in the building blend well with its surroundings. Original sandstone curbing outlines the adjoining parking area and walkways and is a contributing feature to the setting. Visitor parking immediately to the east is linked by two gravel walks to the picnic area. Modern picnic tables and grills are located on the gravel terrace which adjoins the picnic shelter on its west side. The relationship of the picnic shelter to the surrounding area and parking lot is shown on Drawing #2037 (dated May 1940) and photograph copy #7, attached as documentation.

Description

This one-story, irregular shaped building was built on a concrete foundation. Two wings protrude from a central open section, the north having four bays, the south having two. The wings are angled toward the front forming an activity area. A pair of 6"x 8" wood posts separate each bay. Each of the three sections has a firebrick-lined fireplace with a charcoal grill. (Fireplaces are not in use and have been closed off.) A stone seat flanks either side of the center fireplace. Walls and fireplaces are constructed of native red sandstone laid in random ashlar pattern. The center section has both a men's and a women's restroom located at the rear, each accessible from the outside by a wood door. Restrooms have metal stalls with ceramic tile around the lavatory. The rest of the restroom walls and ceilings are plastered. There are three janitor's closets, one located behind each restroom, as well as one next to the center fireplace. The rear elevation of the north

(X) See continuation sheet

section has three rectangular roughcut 6'x 14' openings and one double 4-lightmetalcasement window; the same elevation of the center section has two double 4-light metal casement windows. The interior floor of the shelter is concrete.

The ceiling has exposed rafters. The roof of the central section is hipped and is elevated above the gabled roofs of the flanking wings. The low-pitched roof, constructed of 4"x 6" beams, 2"x 6" rafters, and 1" roof boards, is covered with cedar shakes,and has exposed rafter ends. (See attached Drawings #2036 in nomination, dated May 1940.)

Extensive rehabilitation work was done to the shelter in 1961. The building was reroofed with hand split cedar shakes (as original). The lower half, rear elevation of the south wing was veneered in concrete to prevent moisture penetration and frost upheaval of the floor slab. The woodwork and sandstone were cleaned of smoke and soot. New colored 4" concrete slab floors were installed in remodeled restrooms, along with new doors and hardware; new frosted glass was installed in metal sash windows (as original). Beneath the shelter the original flagstone flooring was removed and was replaced with 4" colored concrete slab. Support columns were faced with 3/4" lumber. A new gravel 4' walk was added along the rear (east and south) sides of the building, and a 4" poured concrete platform was installed at the rear of the center section. (See Drawing #3137A, dated September 1960.)

While some historic fabric was lost during the 1961 rehabilitation work, these alterations do not significantly affect the architectural integrity of the building which still meets National Register criteria. The building is in good condition and is still used by visitors for its designed purpose.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria X A ___ B X C ___ D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Areas of Significance
(enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Social History
Entertainment/Recreation
Conservation
Landscape Architecture

Period of Significance
1941 - 1944

Significant Dates
1941

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
National Park Service: H. Cornell/
Civilian Conservation Corps

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter has local significance under National Register Criterion A for its association with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration. It also has local significance under National Register Criterion C as a good example of National Park Service Rustic Architecture. The materials and architectural design of this resource reflect the philosophy of incorporating natural landscape elements into planning and design. As the design of the buildings and layout of the area clearly responded to the surrounding landscape, it is significant in the area of landscape architecture. As a national park facility used to manage conservation of the monument and maintain it for visitor use and enjoyment, the building is also significant in the areas of conservation and recreation. The period of significance for the picnic shelter dates from its date of construction in 1941 to 1944, the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register of Historic Places. Significant dates relate to the date of construction.

This nomination is part of the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission." The picnic shelter is associated with the historic context "National Park Service Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933-1942". Five other related individual nominations associated with the multiple property submission are: Rim Rock Drive, Serpents Trail, the Saddlehorn Utility Area, the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage, and the Saddlehorn Comfort Station. The Saddlehorn resources are located in the northwest part of the monument near park headquarters and the visitor center. Rim Rock Drive is a 23-mile scenic route through the monument, going from the monument's East (Grand Junction) Entrance to the West (Fruita) Entrance. Serpents Trail is a historic 2.5 mile hiking trail, (formerly an early road) located near the East Entrance.

Background History and Significance

During the Great Depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was initiated by the federal government to alleviate the vast problem of unemployment. Much of the CCC workforce was assigned to federal lands to improve visitor access and to construct government facilities. The projects in Colorado National Monument offered one of the most significant examples of CCC work in western Colorado. With few alterations, these resources still reflect their historic appearance of design and construction.

(X) See continuation sheet

The first buildings erected by the CCC were in the Saddlehorn headquarters area, located in the northwest part of the monument. They included a utility area, caretaker's residence and garage, campground, and a CCC camp, and initially evolved in response to the need for a permanent base camp for CCC workers, as they were employed in the construction of Rim Rock Drive and other park facilities. Much of Rim Rock Drive had been completed by 1938, making the area accessible to visitors and creating a demand for recreational facilities.[1] All extant CCC-constructed buildings were completed between 1935 and 1941.

Four main CCC camps were established in or near the monument to support the crews working on Rim Rock Drive and other projects. Camp NM-2-C was temporarily established at Monument Canyon trailhead in March of 1933, but was disbanded and moved to Saddlehorn, when the permanent camp was established immediately south of the Saddlehorn. A second camp was located at the mouth of Fruita Canyon where construction on Rim Rock Road began. A third camp was located at West Glade Park/Rim Rock Drive junction. Another camp was located outside the West Entrance across Colorado Highway 340. This camp was later used to house World War II German prisoners of war and is now private property. In addition to the four main camps, numerous spike camps were set up within the monument boundaries.

Designed in 1940 by landscape architect H. Cornell of the National Park Service's Western Division of the Branch of Plans and Design, the Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter was constructed in 1941 with Emergency Conservation Works funding. (See attached picnic shelter plans, Drawing #2036, dated May 1940.) A later NPS drawing (#2037A, dated April 1941), shows plans for the gravel terrace to be landscaped, including the installation of flagstone and blue grass sod. These plans were never executed. The picnic shelter was built to accommodate the recreational needs of visitors to the monument and served as both comfort station and picnic shelter. Like other historic buildings in the monument, the shelter was built by craftsmen hired for their specific skills under the New Deal Relief appropriations. Many of these craftsmen were LEMs (local experienced men), reputed to be stonemasons of Italian descent, that trained a number of the CCC enrollees. The construction was administered by the Public Works Administration and built by contract labor. Sandstone blocks, quarried in Colorado National Monument by CCC men, either from the immediate vicinity or from the Rim Rock Drive construction project, were the primary building material.

The CCC program was phased out at the start of World War II. As men were called to military duty, projects were abandoned and camps dispersed. Most work by the CCC within Colorado National Monument had ended by 1941, and the program was completely shut down in 1942. As the physical remains of CCC base camps are now primarily archeological, the permanent roads and buildings of Colorado National Monument are often the only tangible evidence to visitors that hundreds of men labored there during the Great Depression. The rustic style of architecture displays the history of the development of Colorado National

(X) See continuation sheet

[1] See Rim Rock Drive Historic District individual nomination, part of the Colorado National Monument multiple property submission.

Monument, and also reflects the craftsmanship of the CCC and the LEMs (local experienced men). Employed for various assignments, enrollees of the CCC were essential in the development of many parks and other government facilities. In Colorado National Monument, the CCC, LEMs, and workers from other relief agencies, not only supplied valuable labor in the construction of park facilities for administrative use but, with the construction of Rim Rock Drive, also opened up the park for thousands of visitors.

The picnic shelter serves visitors as the only such facility in the park. The only other shelter in the park is a small overlook shelter constructed during Mission 66, a ten-year period of development in the National Park Service that began in 1956. The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter is atypical when compared to picnic shelters in other national parks in the Rocky Mountain Region due to its large size and unusual design.

The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter is an excellent and well-preserved example of the design methodology of National Park Service Rustic Architecture, with its emphasis on the use of natural and native materials. The picnic shelter was designed in such a way as to not intrude on the natural landscape, but to blend with the terrain and to be in harmony with its surroundings. The topography of Colorado National Monument is a spectacular display of carved sandstone monoliths and valleys amongst semi-desert terrain. In the construction of these buildings, architects, landscape architects, and the CCC manipulated native stone and wood supports to blend with the surrounding landscape. Earthtones are the predominant colors, with natural cream to red for the stone and brown and rust for the wood supports. The construction techniques of the CCC are also exemplified in these buildings. Through the use of native materials and stone masonry craftsmanship, the structures reflect the National Park Service's design philosophy of maintaining a sense of rusticity in construction. Unified in design and construction techniques, Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter and contemporary buildings in the Saddlehorn headquarters and campground area represent the lasting contribution made by public relief projects during the Great Depression, and the rustic architecture design philosophy that prevailed in the National Park Service during the 1930s.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Good, Albert, Park Structures and Facilities, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Planning, Washington, D.C., 1935.

(X) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
___preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
___previously listed in the National Register
_X_previously determined eligible by the National Register
___designated a National Historic Landmark
_X_recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # CO-74
___recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:
___State Historic Preservation Office
___Other State agency
_X_Federal agency
___Local government
___University
___Other
Specify Repository:
Park files, Colorado National Monument
NPS, Rocky Mountain Regional Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	1/2	7/0/4/8/8/0	4/3/2/2/8/7/0
B	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /

Verbal Boundary Description

The Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter is situated amongst rock outcroppings, approximately 400 feet west of Rim Rock Drive. The boundary is a 243' by 165' rectangle that is bounded by the parking lot to the east, the terrace to the west, and rock cliff wall on the south, as shown on the accompanying site map.

(x) See site map

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the adjacent parking lot and the outdoor picnic area (gravel terrace). Additional footage was allowed within the boundary lines to incorporate the surrounding vegetation and topography, as this was a key element in placement of this resource.

( ) See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy McKoy, Historian
organization National Park Service
street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway
city or town Denver
date December 28, 1992; rev. 1/94
telephone (303) 969-2878
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Law, Henry, G., Laura E. Soulliere, William C. Tweed, National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942, National Park Service, Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, 1977.

Newspaper Articles, Colorado National Monument 1935-1947, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.

Paige, John, C., The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1985.

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NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 08-91)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number photographs Page 1

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

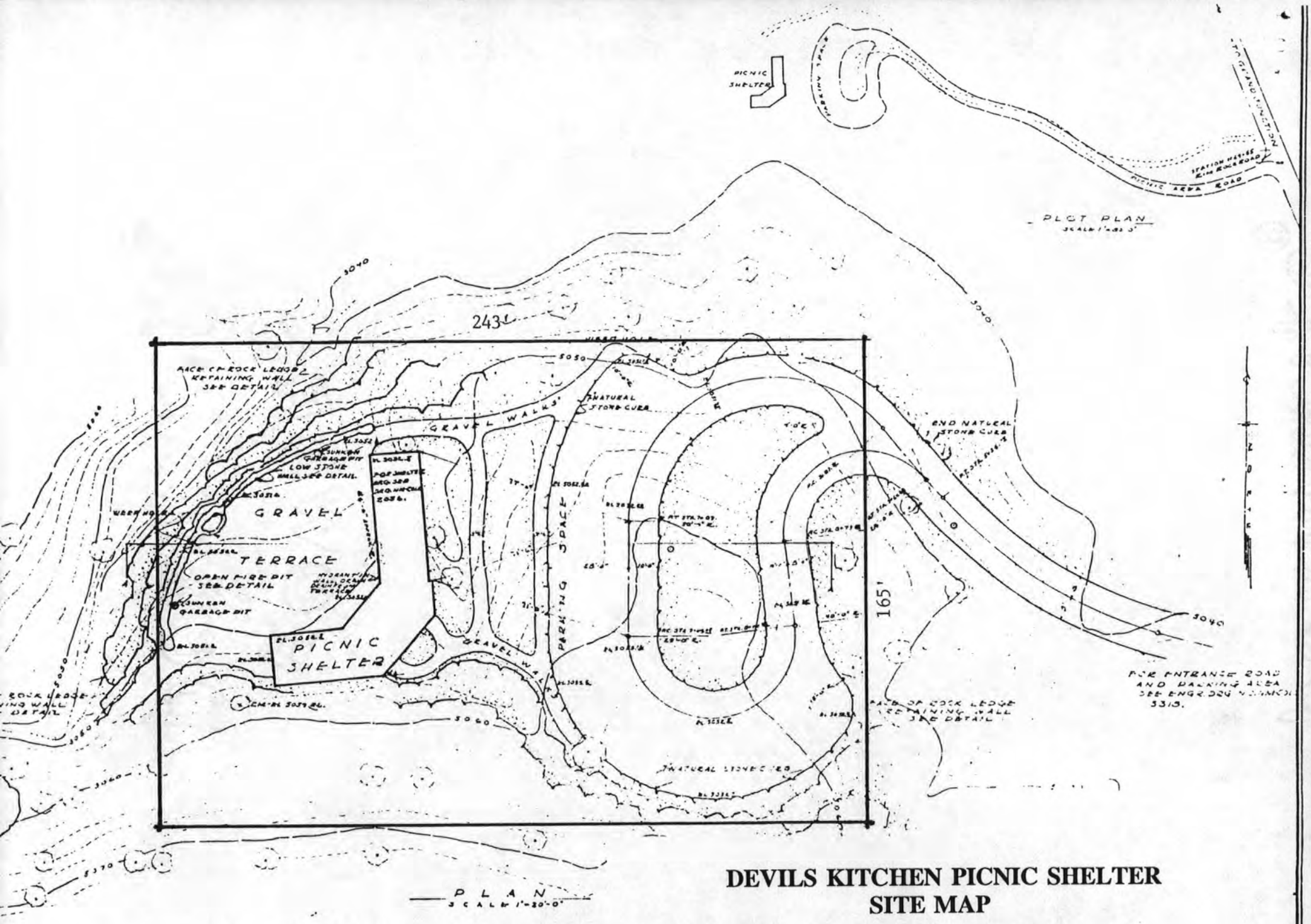
The following information applies to photographs #1-4 listed below:

1) Property: Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter, Colorado National Monument
2) Location: Mesa County, Colorado
3) Photographer: Eunice Fedors
4) Date taken: November, 1989
5) Location of negatives: National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, Colorado

The property, its location, and location of negative for photos #5-7 is the same as above, however the photographer and date taken are as follows:

3) Photographer: Clayton B. Fraser
4) Date taken: September, 1984

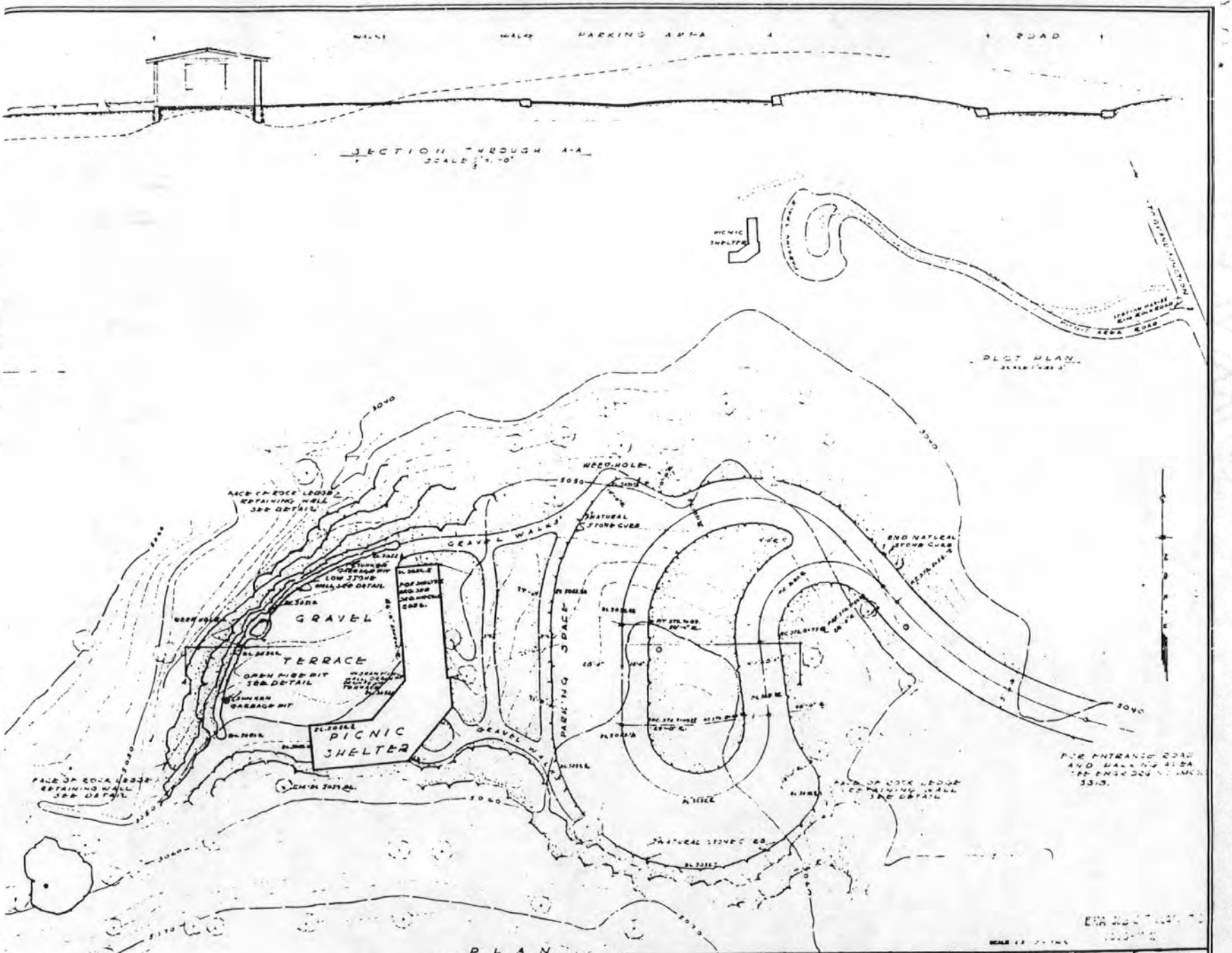
PHOTO NUMBER	DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION
1	Picnic Shelter, view to W
2	Picnic Shelter, view to SE
3	Picnic Shelter, view to E
4	Picnic Shelter, view to N
5	Picnic Shelter, view to S
6	Picnic Shelter, view to SW
7	Picnic Shelter, overall view to E (photocopy)

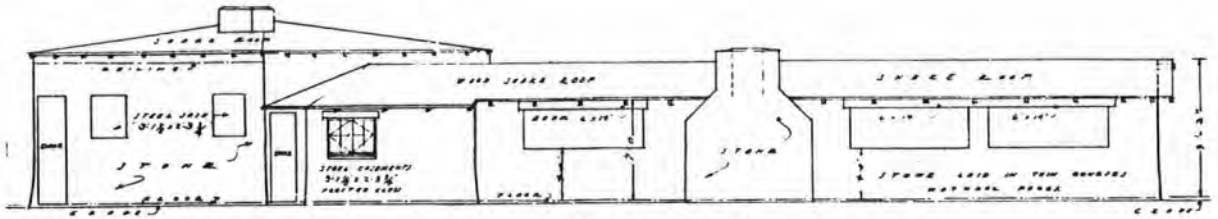


DEVILS KITCHEN PICNIC SHELTER SITE MAP

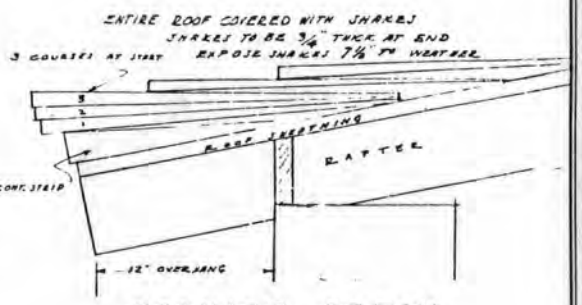
HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

Rectangle surrounding resources denotes boundary line.

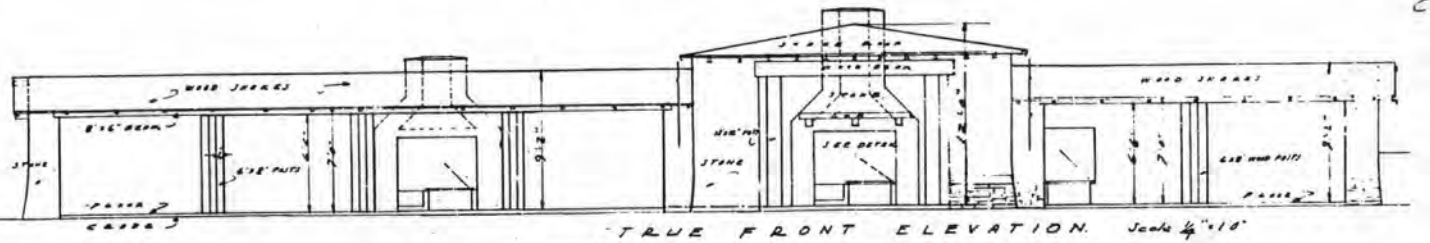

WALK
WALK
PARKING AREA
ROAD
SECTION THROUGH A-A
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"
PICNIC SHELTER
PLOT PLAN
WEEP HOLE
FACE OF ROCK LEDGE RETAINING WALL SEE DETAIL
NATURAL STONE CURB
GRAVEL WALKS
END NATURAL STONE CURB
GRAVEL TERRACE
OPEN FIRE PIT SEE DETAIL
CONCRETE GARBAGE PIT
LOW STONE WALL SEE DETAIL
PARKING SPACE
PICNIC SHELTER
FOR ENTRANCE ROAD AND PARKING AREA SEE ENGINEERING DRAWING 3313.
NATURAL STONE CURB
PLAN
SCALE 1"=20'-0"
HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION
RECOMMENDED
CONCURRED
APPROVED
DATE 4-15-40
DATE 4-26-40
DATE 5/13/40
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PICNIC AREA PLAN
ENTRANCE
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
III



SIDE ELEVATION
SCALE ½"=1'0"

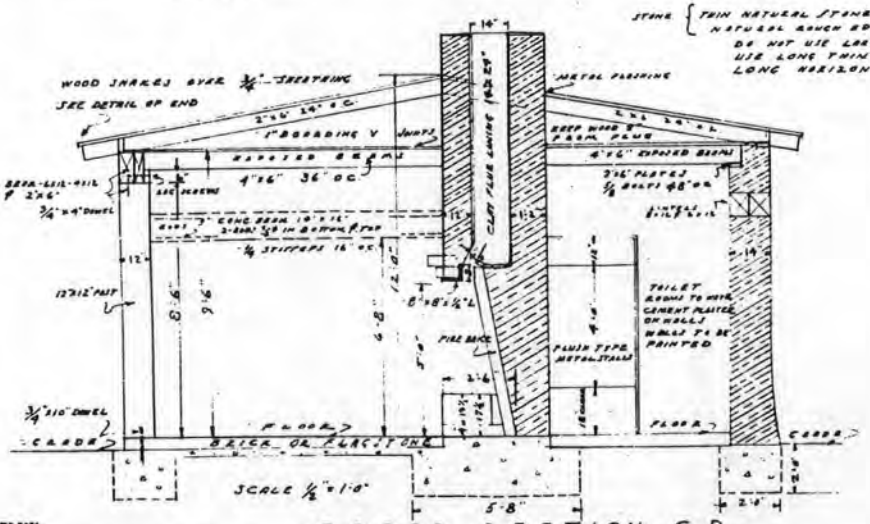


COLNICE DETAIL
½" = 1"



TRUE FRONT ELEVATION. Scale ½"=1'0"

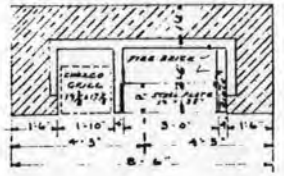
STONE { THIN NATURAL STONE LAID IN HORIZONTAL COURSES.
NATURAL ROUGH EDGE EXPOSED - APPROX JOINTS.
DO NOT USE LARGE THICK STONES
USE LONG THIN STONES THAT WILL MAKE
LONG HORIZONTAL LINES.



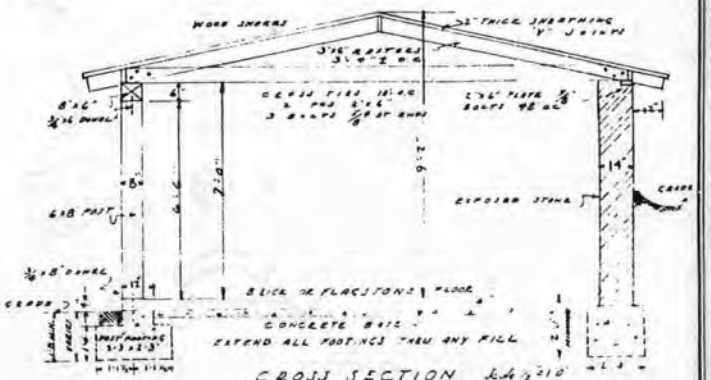
CROSS SECTION C-D



PART ELEVATION OF FIREPLACE



PLAN OF FIREPLACE Scale ½"=1'0"



CROSS SECTION A-B Scale ½"=1'0"

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECOMMENDED _____ DATE _____
CONCURRED Earl V. Pomeroy DATE 7-21-41
APPROVED _____ DATE _____

PICNIC SHELTER
EAST ENTRANCE
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

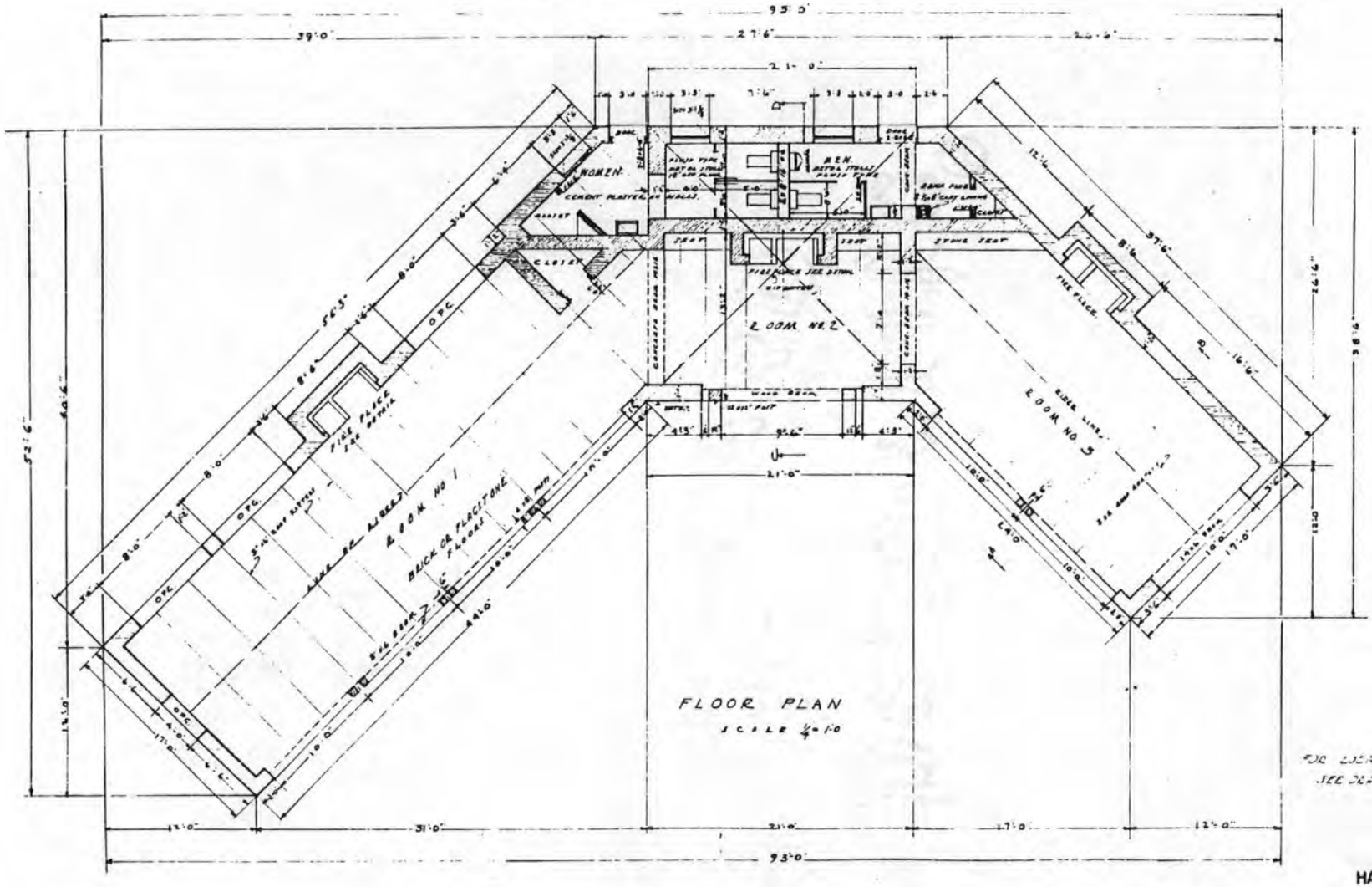
REGION III
SHEET 1 OF 2
DRAWING NO. V.M. 2036

DESIGNED BY P.J.M.
DRAWN BY J.W.S.
TRACED BY W.L.M.
CHECKED BY

REVIEWED

CLEARED

BASIC DATA



HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

RECOMMENDED	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	REGION III
CONCURRED		SHEET OF 2
APPROVED	PICNIC SHELTER EAST ENTRANCE COLORADO	DRAWING NO. N.M. 2035

DESIGNED BY

REVIEWED

CLEARED

BASIC DATA

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000309 **Date Listed: 4/21/94**

Devil's Kitchen Picnic Shelter — Mesa — CO
Property Name — **County** — **State**

Colorado National Monument MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Beth Boland — 5/4/94
Signature of the Keeper — **Date of Action**

==========

Amended Items in Nomination:

The period of significance is 1941, the date of construction. This information was verified by Kathy McKoy, NPS RMRO.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter

MULTIPLE NAME: Colorado National Monument MPS

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Mesa

DATE RECEIVED: 3/08/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/22/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/07/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/22/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000309

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	Y	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A, C
REVIEWER Boland
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 4/21/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y)/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 08-91)

OMB No. 1024-0018

FINAL

306

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
MAR 8 1994
NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in ***Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms*** (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage
other names/site number: Custodian's Residence and Garage; Rock House and Rock Garage

2. Location

street & number: Colorado National Monument (N/A) not for publication
city, town: Grand Junction, Colorado (X) vicinity
state: Colorado code: CO county: Mesa code: 077 zip code: 81521

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
( ) private	(X) building(s)	2	____ buildings
( ) public-local	( ) district	____	____ sites
( ) public-State	( ) site	____	____ structures
(X) public-Federal	( ) structure	____	____ objects
	( ) object	2	____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Colorado National Monument MPS

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (X) nomination ( ) request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date: 3/8/94

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ( ) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official — Date: March 26, 1993

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

(X) entered in the National Register. — Beth Boland — 4/21/94
(X) See continuation sheet
( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.
( ) removed from the National Register.
( ) other, (explain:) ____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC: single dwelling	VACANT/NOT IN USE
DOMESTIC: secondary structure	

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

Other: National Park Service Rustic

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation sandstone; concrete
walls sandstone
roof: wood shingles, log
other asphalt, concrete, stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

The Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage are located at the intersection of Rim Rock Drive and Saddlehorn Loop Road, approximately 5 miles from the west entrance of Colorado National Monument. Both buildings are rectangular, one-story structures designed by the National Park Service and constructed of native red sandstone masonry by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935 and 1936. The style exemplifies National Park Service Rustic Architecture. The buildings are in good condition and maintain integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association from the historic period.

Setting

The buildings are located at the junction of Saddlehorn Loop Road and Rim Rock Drive in the northwest portion of Colorado National Monument. The topography of the 32-square mile park includes the northern rim of the Uncompahgre Plateau with its deeply cut canyons and towering rock formations. Located at the entrance of the monument campground, the residence and garage are set back from the road and shielded by natural vegetation. The area in the vicinity of the residence and garage includes juniper and pinon pine trees, native brush vegetation, as well as natural sandstone cliffs. The area is named for the distinctive sandstone monolith nearby, "Ca-Roo-Nump-Ta-Chee" or "Saddlehorn". Stone curbing lines much of the driveway to the residence and is a contributing feature. The park's headquarters building and visitor center is located about 500 feet to the southwest of the residence and garage. No other buildings are in the immediate vicinity. The Saddlehorn Utilities Area is located about one-quarter mile to the west. (See attached Saddlehorn Headquarters/Campground site map.)

Description

Caretaker's Residence (HS-1H): This one-story building is constructed on a concrete foundation of native red sandstone masonry set in a coursed ashlar pattern. The plan is rectangular with small side wings. The two lower courses of the building are stepped. The entrance is located on the north elevation, a vertical plank wood door with 6-lights and a single light aluminum sash storm door. The entrance stoop is built of large stone blocks and the doorway is sheltered by a gabled roof supported by large rustic carved wood brackets and an undecorated barge board. The rear entrance door is modern with 3 lights and a storm door. All windows are wood casement type with aluminum storm sash. Windows on the north elevation include one triple divided 6-light, one double divided 6-light, and one 4-light; on the east elevation, one double divided 6-light, one 6-light, one 4-light at basement level; on the south elevation, one double divided 6-light, one 4-light, two double divided 4-light (one at basement level), and one 2-light. The recessed, chiseled stone window openings have stone sills and lintels.

(X) See continuation sheet

The east-west oriented roof is gabled, of moderate rise, and is covered with cedar shingles. The main structure at the gable ends has weatherboard wood siding with exposed log purlin ends. Louvered vents are located under each gable. The residence has one off-center coursed ashlar sandstone chimney. The two small wings at either end of the building have gabled roofs. All wood trim is painted rust color. A detached stone garage (HS-2H) is located to the southwest and is associated with the residence. As a note, while the residence faces north, the original 1934 plans had the building facing south.

The interior of the residence includes a living room, 2 bedrooms, kitchen and bath with a central rear stairway leading to a 3/4 basement that is partitioned to include a bathroom, activity room, laundry, furnace room, coal bin and two closets. The main floor rooms have plastered walls. The bedrooms, living rooms, and hall have wood floors constructed of 1 x 3 fir. The kitchen and bath floors are linoleum. The kitchen and bath were remodeled and the basement was paneled in 1973-1974. While some of the other rooms retain their original configuration and appearance, the overall interior is not considered significant.

With exception of the installation of metal storm sash doors and windows in 1973-74 (replacing 1953 versions), the exterior of the residence has not been modified and retains a high degree of integrity from the historic period. The trim was at one-time painted red; it is not know if this was the original color. The building is in good condition. (See attached Drawing #3003A detail, dated July 1934.)

Caretaker's Garage (HS-2H): The garage for the caretaker's residence is located at the southwest corner of the property. This one-story nearly square structure was constructed in a similar manner as the residence. The foundation of the garage is concrete. The exterior walls are constructed of native sandstone blocks, which are set in a coursed ashlar pattern. The lower courses are stepped. Constructed from massive native red sandstone blocks on a concrete foundation, the opposing side walls of the structure are mirror images of one another, and the placement of blocks in the front and back walls are also symmetrical with reference to their respective centerlines. In a technique called "built by detail," not only were the walls' gross dimensions specified by the architect, but also each component block's shape, size and location.[1] The mirror image of laid stone makes this building distinct and a particularly excellent example of architectural design and building craftsmanship.

The north facade of the garage contains a double, wood paneled overhead door with 5-lights. The gabled roof is covered with cedar shingles with weatherboard siding used on each gable end. A louvered vent is located under each gable. The rafter tails and ridge beams are exposed. All trim is painted rust brown. The cornerstone on the left front exposure

(X) See continuation sheet

[1] The practice of erecting opposing walls that are mirror images of one another was called "built by detail", according to CCC project foreman Sidney W. Johnson as told to Chief Ranger Hank Schoch in the mid-1980s.

contains a small, informal time capsule. The interior of the garage is a nearly square open, 1-stall room with stone walls, exposed ceiling rafters, and a concrete floor.

Modifications to the garage resulted from the replacement of its doors. Originally, the garage had two wooden overhead doors, constructed of vertical wood planks with three 4-light windows on each door. A center support was located between the doors (See Drawing #3021 detail, dated January 1936). The center support was removed and these doors were replaced in 1964 with the double overhead door described above. Removal of a center support changed the interior from a 2-stall to 1-stall garage. The change of garage doors did not significantly impact the design and appearance of the building. It is in good condition and retains sufficient integrity from the historic period to meet National Register criteria.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria X A ___ B X C ___ D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Areas of Significance
(enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance: 1935 - 1944

Significant Dates: 1935; 1936

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Significant Person: N/A

Architect/Builder: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage have local significance under National Register Criterion A for their association with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration. They also have local significance under National Register Criterion C for their exemplary representation of National Park Service Rustic Architecture. The materials and architectural design of these resources reflect the philosophy of incorporating natural landscape elements into planning and design. The period of significance for the caretaker's residence and garage dates from 1935 (when the residence was built) to 1944, the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register. Significant dates relate to the date of construction of the residence and the garage. Both buildings were utilized as park employee housing from their construction until about 1988. They are currently vacant.

This nomination is part of the multiple property submission, Colorado National Monument. The Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage are associated with the historic context "National Park Service Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933-1942". Two other related individual nominations associated with the multiple property submission are the nearby Saddlehorn Utility Area, and the Saddlehorn Comfort Station. The relationship of these three areas is shown on the accompanying site map. While the resources of all three are tied by architectural style, historic context, and period of significance, their distance from each other, topography, and intrusions (Mission 66-era buildings) preclude nominating them as an intact district.

Background History

Designed by architect W. G. Carney of the National Park Service's Western Division of the Branch of Plans and Design and built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the residence and garage were constructed in 1935 and 1936 respectively with Emergency Conservation Works funding. They were built by craftsmen hired for their skills under the New Deal Relief appropriations. Many of these craftsmen were LEMs (local experienced men), reputed to be stonemasons of Italian descent, that trained a number of the CCC enrollees. The construction was administered by the Public Works Administration and built by contract labor. Sandstone blocks, quarried in Colorado National Monument by CCC men, either from the immediate vicinity or from the Rim Rock Drive construction project, were the primary building material.

(X) See continuation sheet

The larger Saddlehorn area, which also included a utility area, campground and CCC camp, was built in response to the need for a permanent base camp for CCC workers, as they were employed in the construction of Rim Rock Drive and other park facilities. In addition, much of the road had been completed by 1938, making the area accessible to visitors and creating a demand for recreational facilities.[1] The garage and residence were the first permanent buildings to be constructed, followed by the campground Comfort Station (HS-3H) and utility area's Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H) in 1937. A second building, the Oil House (HS-5H), was added to the utility area in 1938; another two buildings were completed in by 1941 (HS-6H and HS-7H).

The Caretaker's Residence/Garage and Saddlehorn Utility Area served to augment the main administrative area of CCC camp NM-2-C, located about one-half mile to the east. A number of CCC camps were established in or near the monument to support the crews working on Rim Rock Drive and other projects. Camp NM-2-C was temporarily established at Monument Canyon trailhead in March of 1933, but was disbanded and moved to Saddlehorn, when the permanent camp was established. (Additional information about the workforce is included in Section E of the Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission.)

The earliest plans for buildings to house workers of NM-2-C at Saddlehorn were first laid out by the National Park Service in November 1933. The location of the CCC camp buildings at Saddlehorn was to the east of the caretaker's residence, due south of the Saddlehorn. Up until the time it was built, there had not been a permanent administrative facility for the CCC. A Campground General Plan drawing of September 1934 shows a "Base Ball Field for CCC Camp" as well as a planned tennis court. The drawing also shows the proposed headquarters, utility area, and campgrounds. By June 1935 plans had also been finalized for a park headquarters area that included the CCC administrative and residential area, the caretaker's residence and garage, and a park administration building just north of the residence. (The proposed administration building was never constructed where sited.) The CCC buildings in this camp included an administration building, recreation hall, mess hall, latrine, and 5 barracks. In addition, the 1935 map shows the campground with a baseball field. Plans for the utility area had also been finalized by July 1935. The utility area, proposed on the June drawing to be constructed south of the custodian's residence, was actually built west of it as shown on the July drawing. (Copies of all four maps are attached as documentation. Design and construction drawing numbers are listed in Item 9.)

The CCC program was phased out at the start of World War II. As men were called to military duty, projects were abandoned and camps dispersed. Most work by the CCC within Colorado National Monument had ended by 1941, and the program was completely shut down in 1942. The exact fate of the buildings which the camp NM-2-C occupied has yet to be documented with regard to their dates and method of removal. According to Hank Schoch, the monument's Chief Ranger, at least one was burned as a fire training exercise. By the

(X) See continuation sheet

[1] See Rim Rock Drive Historic District individual nomination, part of the Colorado National Monument multiple property submission.

early 1960s the only buildings in that area were the latrine/washhouse and several staff residences that may have been moved into the area. When new housing was constructed north of the utility area in the late 1950s and early 1960s as part of MISSION 66, all remaining buildings in the CCC camp area were removed. The CCC camp baseball field has since been turned into a campground parking area. There still remain some foundations and stone walkways that are evidence of the work camp. A large midden (most likely CCC camp related) also exists near the base of a nearby sandstone cliff. The grounds have not been inventoried for historic archeology thus the site's eligibility under criterion D has not been determined.

As the physical remains of CCC base camps are now primarily archeological, the permanent roads and buildings of Colorado National Monument are often the only tangible evidence to visitors that hundreds of men labored there during the Great Depression. The rustic style of architecture displays the history of the development of Colorado National Monument, and also reflects the craftsmanship of the CCC and the LEMs (local experienced men). Employed for various assignments, enrollees of the CCC were essential in the development of many parks and other government facilities. In Colorado National Monument, the CCC, LEMs, and workers from other relief agencies, not only supplied valuable labor in the construction of park facilities for administrative use but, with the construction of Rim Rock Drive, also opened up the park for thousands of visitors.

The Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage are excellent examples of the design methodology of National Park Service Rustic Architecture, with its emphasis on the use of natural and native materials. The topography of Colorado National Monument is a spectacular display of carved sandstone monoliths and valleys amongst semi-desert terrain. In the construction of these buildings, architects, landscape architects, and the CCC manipulated native stone and wood supports to blend with the surrounding landscape. Earthtones are the predominant colors, with natural cream to red for the stone and brown and rust for the wood supports. The buildings were designed in such a way as to not intrude on the natural landscape, but to blend with the terrain and to be in harmony with their surroundings. The construction techniques of the CCC are also exemplified in these buildings. Through the use of native materials and stone masonry craftsmanship, the structures reflect the National Park Service's design philosophy of maintaining a sense of rusticity in construction. Unified in design and construction techniques, the Caretaker's Residence and Garage represent the lasting contribution made by public relief projects during the Great Depression, and the rustic architecture design philosophy that prevailed in the National Park Service in the 1930s.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Baume, Lawrence and Mildred Harris, National Register of Historic Places Draft Nomination, Colorado National Monument, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, 1987.

Good, Albert, Park Structures and Facilities, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Planning, Washington, D.C., 1935.

(X) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
___ previously listed in the National Register
_X_ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
_X_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # CO-74
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
_X_ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other

Specify Repository:
Park files, COLM
NPS, Rocky Mountain Regional Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	1/2	6/9/6/0/4/0	4/3/3/0/2/8/0
B	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /

Verbal Boundary Description

The Residence and Garage are located approximately 50 feet from Rim Rock Drive, off of the Saddlehorn Loop Road. The northern boundary line follows Saddlehorn Loop Road for 190 feet, to allow inclusion of the Residence's driveway and front landscape. The eastern boundary line extends 250 feet south, to meet with the southern boundary line. The south boundary repeats the 190 foot north boundary line. The west boundary measures 250 feet, to complete a symmetrical rectangle for the boundary.

( ) See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the two historically associated buildings and their immediate setting. It excludes the park's headquarters/visitor center (constructed 1963), which is partially screened from view by vegetation.

( ) See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy McKoy, Historian
organization National Park Service, RMRO
street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway
city or town Denver
date December 28, 1992; rev.1/94
telephone (303) 969-2878
state CO zip code 80228

Law, Henry, G., Laura E. Soulliere, William C. Tweed, National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942, National Park Service, Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, 1977.

Newspaper Articles, Colorado National Monument 1935-1947, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.

Paige, John, C., The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1985.

U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center Technical Information Center files: Drawing Nos. 3003 A and 3021; Topographical Maps Nos. 4948, 3006, 4963, 4970. Denver, CO.

Williams, Lance, List of Classified Structures survey forms, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO, 1976.

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photographs Page 1

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

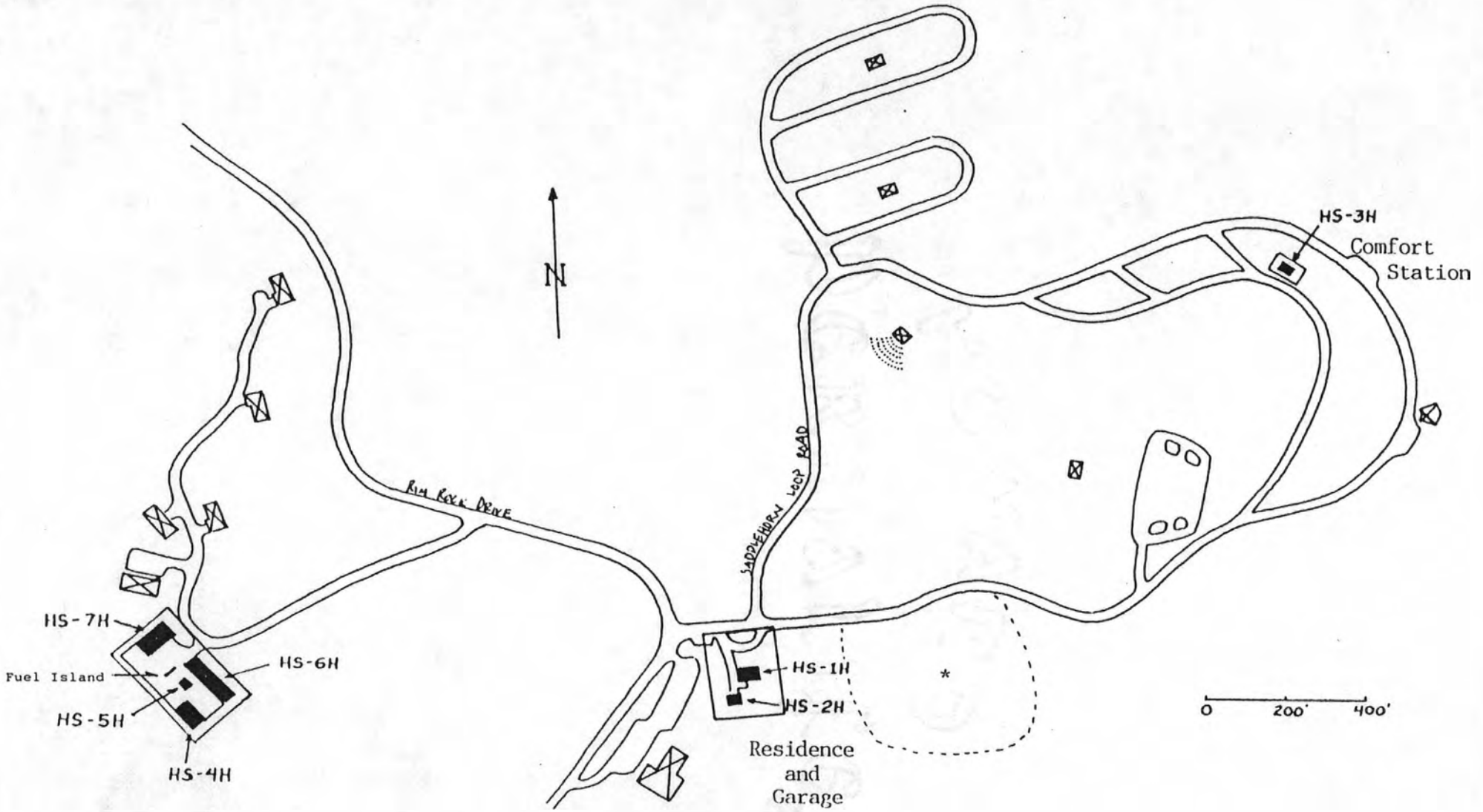
The following information applies to photographs #1-4 listed below:

1) Property: Saddlehorn Historic District, Colorado National Monument
2) Location: Mesa County, Colorado
3) Photographers: Eunice Fedors
4) Date taken: November, 1989
5) Location of negatives: National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, Colorado

The property, its location, and location of negatives is the same as above for photo #5, except photographer and date taken are as follows:

3) Photographer: Clayton B. Fraser
4) Date taken: September 1984

PHOTO NUMBER	DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION
1	Caretaker's Residence (HS-1H), view to S
2	Caretaker's Residence (HS-1H), view to SE
3	Caretaker's Garage (HS-2H), view to SW
4	Caretaker's Garage (HS-2H), view to S
5	Overall view of Caretaker's Residence and Garage, view to SE



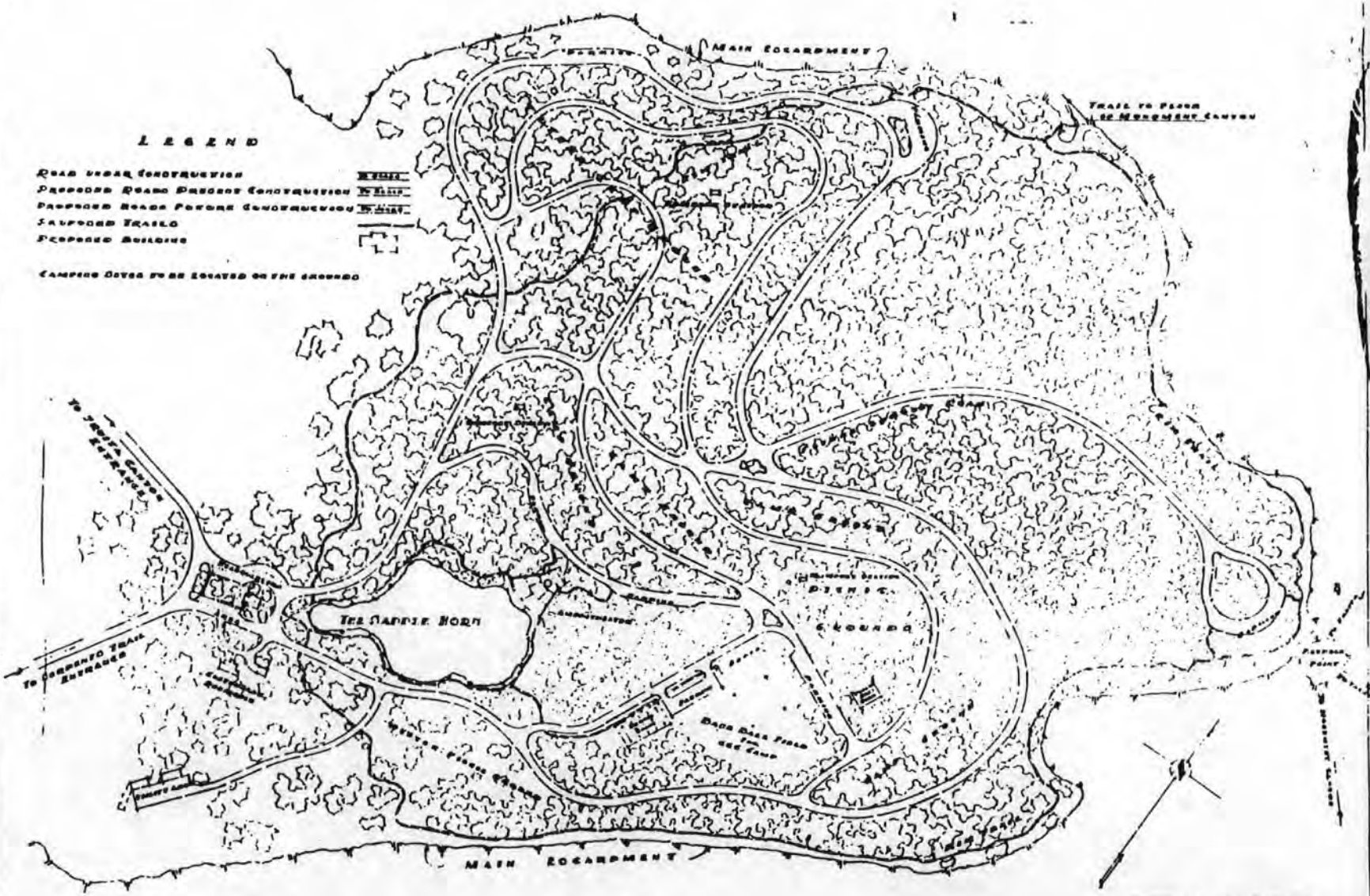
Saddlehorn Utility Area
Historic District

SADDLEHORN HEADQUARTERS & CAMPGROUND
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

rectangles surrounding resources denote boundaries

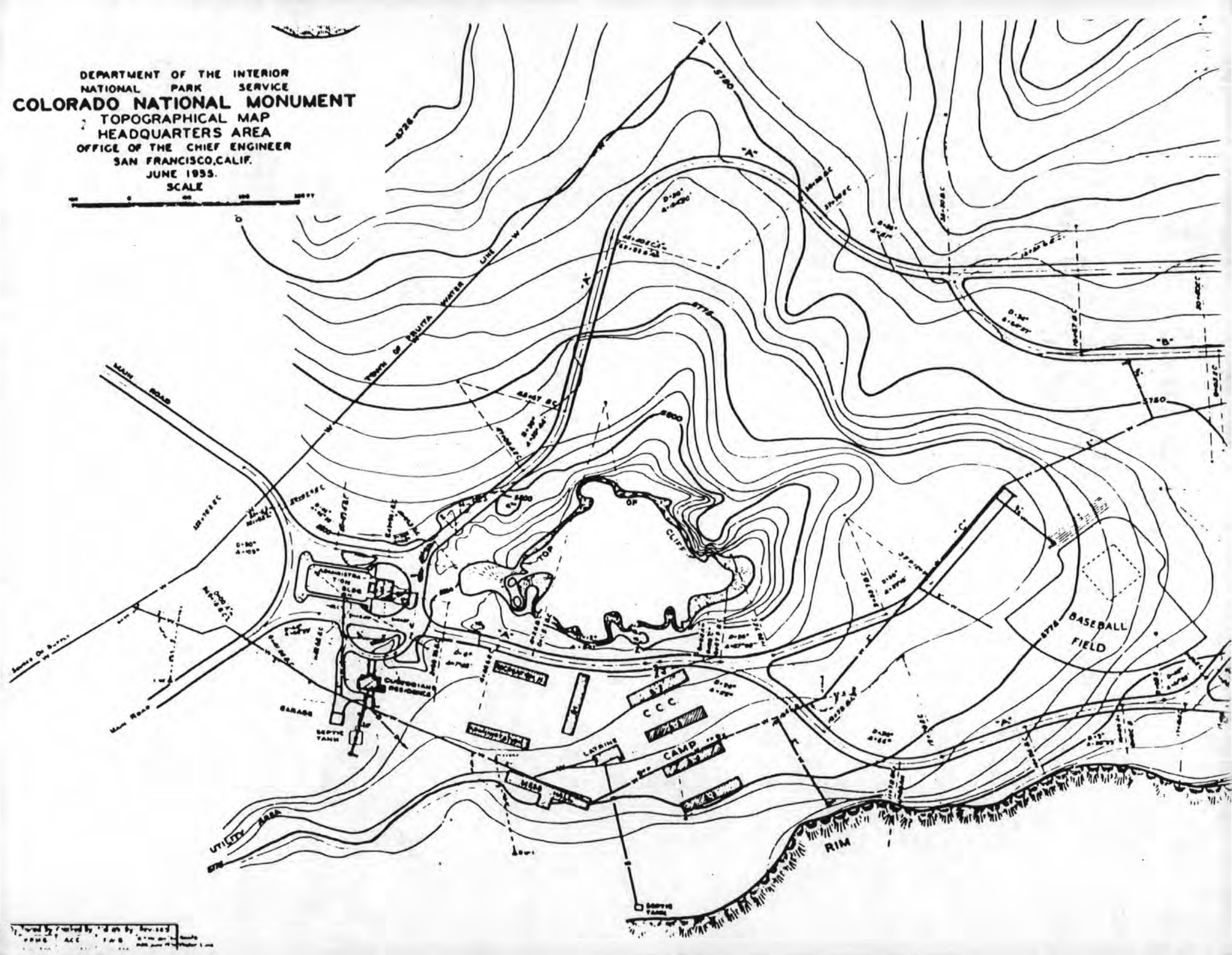
*This area was the site of CCC Camp NM-2-C.

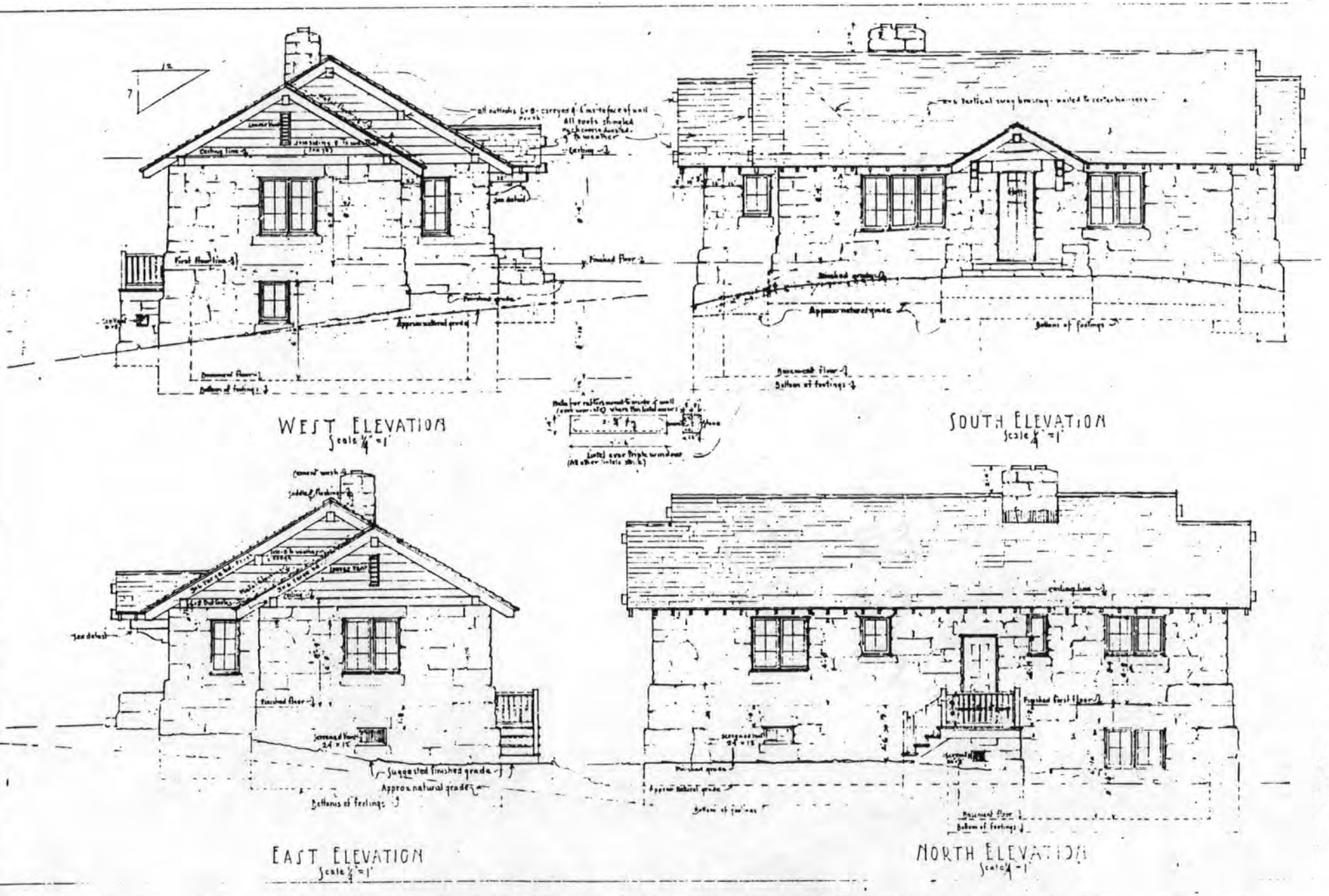
contributing
noncontributing



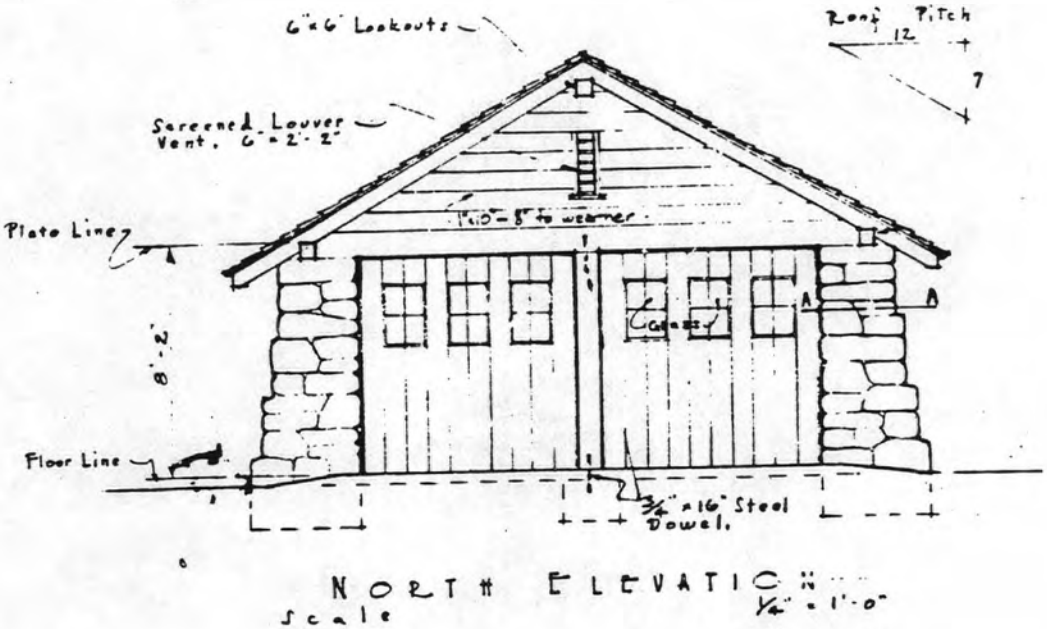
HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

Campground-General Plan
Colorado National Monument

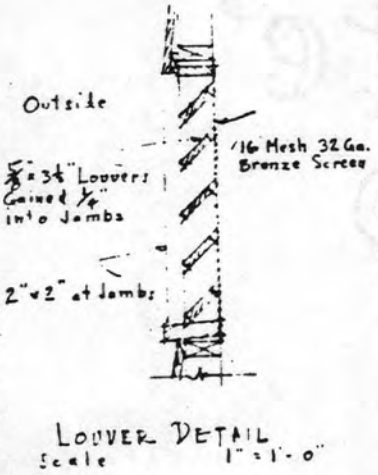

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP
HEADQUARTERS AREA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
JUNE 1935.
SCALE
MAIN ROAD
TOWN OF FRUITA WATER LINE
ADMINISTRATION BLDG.
GARAGE
SEPTIC TANK
CCC CAMP
LATRINE
UTILITY AREA
TOP OF CLIFF
BASEBALL FIELD
RIM



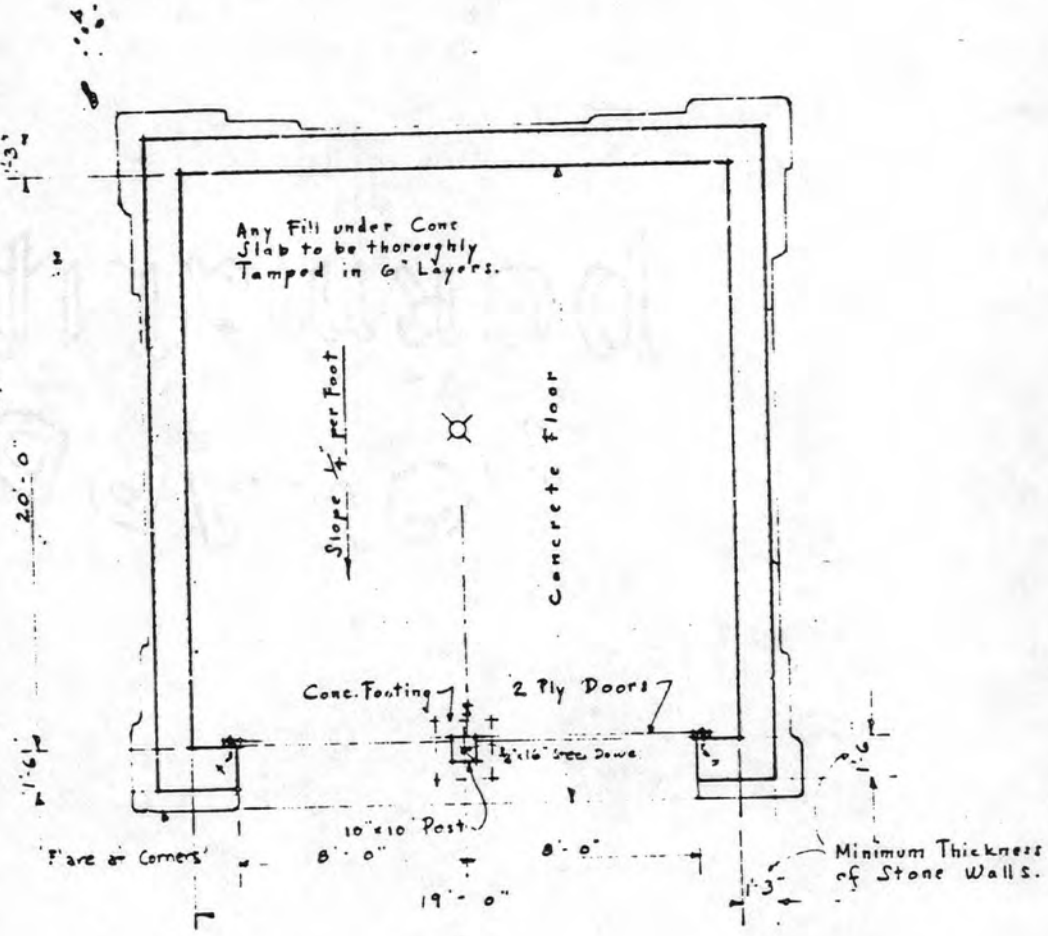
Caretaker's Residence, Drawing #3003A, July 1934



NORTH ELEVATION
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"



LOUVER DETAIL
Scale 1" = 1'-0"



PLAN
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

Garage, Drawing #3021, January 1936
(detail)

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000306 **Date Listed: 4/21/94**

Saddlehorn Caretaker's House and Garage, Mesa CO
Property Name **County** **State**

Colorado National Monument MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Beth Boland 5/4/94
Signature of the Keeper **Date of Action**

==========

Amended Items in Nomination:

The period of significance is 1935-1942. This information was verified by Kathy McKoy, NPS RMRO.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Saddlehorn Caretaker's House and Garage

MULTIPLE NAME: Colorado National Monument MPS

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Mesa

DATE RECEIVED: 3/08/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/22/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/07/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/22/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000306

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	Y	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 4/21/94 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A, C
REVIEWER Boland
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 4/21/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y)/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 08-31)

OMB No. 1024-0018

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
MAR 8 1994
[redacted]
NATIONAL
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in ***Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms*** (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Saddlehorn Comfort Station
other names/site number: Loop A Comfort Station

2. Location

street & number: Colorado National Monument (N/A) not for publication
city, town: Grand Junction, Colorado (X) vicinity
state: Colorado code: CO county: Mesa code: 077 zip code: 81521

3. Classification

Ownership of Property
( ) private
( ) public-local
( ) public-State
(X) public-Federal

Category of Property
(X) building(s)
( ) district
( ) site
( ) structure
( ) object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing:
Colorado National Monument MPS

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (X) nomination ( ) request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Edward Brann — 3/8/94
Signature of certifying official — Date

National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

[signature] — March 24, 1993
Signature of Commenting or Other Official — Date

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
(X) entered in the National Register.
( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.
( ) removed from the National Register.
( ) other, (explain:) _____

Beth Boland — 4/21/94
Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Recreation: park restroom facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Recreation: park restroom facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: National Park Service Rustic

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls sandstone
roof wood
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

The Saddlehorn Comfort Station (HS-3H) is located on Campground Road B, Loop A of the Saddlehorn campground, approximately 5 miles from the west entrance of Colorado National Monument. The building is a rectangular, one-story structure designed by the National Park Service and constructed of native red sandstone masonry by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1937. Closely resembling other historic buildings in the Saddlehorn area, the style of the comfort station is an excellent example of National Park Service Rustic Architecture. The building is in good condition and has suffered no alterations, maintaining integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association from the historic period.

Setting

The campground in which the comfort station is located is in the northwest portion of Colorado National Monument. The topography of the 32-square mile park includes the northern rim of the Uncompahgre Plateau with its deeply cut canyons and towering rock formations. The setting in the vicinity of the comfort station includes juniper and pinon pine trees and native brush vegetation. The area is named for the distinctive sandstone monolith about one-quarter mile to the west, "Ca-Roo-Nump-Ta-Chee" or "Saddlehorn". The park's modern headquarters building/visitor center is located just under one-half mile to the southwest of the comfort station. The relationship of the comfort station to the other historic buildings in the area (the caretaker's residence and garage, and utility area) as well as to buildings of post-historic construction are shown on the accompanying site map.

Description

This one-story, rectangular building has a women's restroom and men's restroom on either end with a janitor's area (utility space) between them. Constructed from massive native red sandstone blocks on a concrete foundation, the opposing side walls of the structure are mirror images of one another, and the placement of blocks in the front and back walls are also symmetrical with reference to their respective centerlines. In a technique called "built by detail," not only were the walls' gross dimensions specified by the architect, but also each component block's shape, size and location.[1] The stone masonry is a random ashlar pattern with stepped corners. The gable roof is covered with cedar shingles with exposed ridge beam and rafters. Each gable end is covered with weatherboard siding and has a centrally located vent. On either side of the building, (north and south elevations) is

(X) See continuation sheet

[1] The practice of erecting opposing walls that are mirror images of one another was called "built by detail", according to CCC project foreman Sidney W. Johnson as told to Chief Ranger Hank Schoch in the mid-1980s.

a row of seven 2-light, wood sash, hopper windows. All windows are screened. The comfort station has three doors, one on the east and the west elevations leading into the toilets, and one on the north elevation that enters the utility space. The east and west doors are constructed of vertical wood planks and have original wrought iron hardware. The shiplap door into the utility space is Z-braced. (See attached Drawing #2001A, dated November 1936.)

The interior plan of the comfort station includes a concrete floor with 4 flush toilets on the women's side and 3 toilets and one urinal on the men's side. Doors for stalls are wood tongue-and-groove. The building is in good condition and has suffered no modifications to either the interior or exterior, both of which maintain a high degree of integrity from the historic period.

Several changes have been made to the campground since the historic period. Two additional loops have been added on the northern side, each with a comfort station built in 1962. What was once the CCC baseball field (discussed later in Item 8) is now a parking area for the picnic grounds, where another comfort station was constructed in 1959. On the far east end of the campground, an overlook shelter was erected during the MISSION 66 construction phase in the monument.[2] These alterations, while rendering the campground ineligible for the National Register, are far enough away from the 1937 comfort station as to not impair the integrity of its setting.

[2] MISSION 66 was a ten-year service-wide program instituted by the National Park Service in 1956 to upgrade and expand park facilities.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria X A ___ B X C ___ D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Areas of Significance
(enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Social History
Entertainment/Recreation
Conservation

Period of Significance
1937 - 1944

Significant Dates
1937

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
National Park Service
Civilian Conservation Corps

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Saddlehorn Comfort Station has local significance under National Register Criterion A for its association with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration. It also has local significance under National Register Criterion C as a good example of National Park Service Rustic Architecture. The materials and architectural design of this resource reflect the philosophy of incorporating natural landscape elements into planning and design. As a national park facility used to manage conservation of the monument and maintain it for visitor use and enjoyment, the building is also significant in the areas of conservation and recreation. The period of significance for the comfort station dates from its date of construction in 1937 to 1944, the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register of Historic Places. Significant dates relate to the date of construction.

This nomination is part of the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission." The Saddlehorn Comfort Station is associated with the historic context "National Park Service Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933-1942". Two other related individual nominations associated with the multiple property submission are the nearby Saddlehorn Utility Area, and the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage. The relationship of these three areas is shown on the accompanying site map. While the resources of all three are closely tied by architectural style, historic context, and period of significance, their distance from each other, topography, and intrusions (Mission 66-era buildings) preclude nominating them as an intact district.

Background History

Designed in 1936 by architect W. G. Carnes of the National Park Service's Western Division of the Branch of Plans and Design, the Saddlehorn Comfort Station was constructed in 1937 with Emergency Conservation Works funding. It was built to accomodate the needs of visitors to the Saddlehorn campground. Like other historic buildings in the area, the comfort station was built by craftsmen hired for their specific skills under the New Deal Relief appropriations. Many of these craftsmen were LEMs (local experienced men), reputed to be stonemasons of Italian descent, that trained a number of the CCC enrollees. The construction was administered by the Public Works Administration and built by contract labor. Sandstone blocks, quarried in Colorado National Monument by CCC men, either from the immediate vicinity or from the Rim Rock Drive construction project, were the primary building material.

(X) See continuation sheet

The larger Saddlehorn area, which in addition to the campground included a utility area, caretaker's residence and garage, and a CCC camp, was also built in response to the need for a permanent base camp for CCC workers, as they were employed in the construction of Rim Rock Drive and other park facilities. Much of Rim Rock Drive had been completed by 1938, making the area accessible to visitors and creating a demand for recreational facilities.[2] The monument caretaker's residence (HS-1H) and garage (HS-2H) were the first permanent buildings to be constructed, followed by the campground's Comfort Station and utility area's Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H) in 1937. A second building, the Oil House (HS-5H), was added to the utility area in 1938; another two buildings were completed in the utility area by 1941 (HS-6H and HS-7H).

The campground was located about one-quarter mile northeast of the main administrative area of CCC camp NM-2-C and the monument caretaker's residence and garage. The campground served to augment the main administrative area of CCC camp NM-2-C, located about one-half mile to the east. A number of CCC camps were established in or near the monument to support the crews working on Rim Rock Drive and other projects. Camp NM-2-C was temporarily established at Monument Canyon trailhead in March of 1933, but was disbanded and moved to Saddlehorn, when the permanent camp was established. (Aditional information about the workforce is included in Section E of the Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission.)

The earliest plans for a comfort station in the campground were first laid out in 1934, as shown on the attached map entitled "Campground and General Plan, Colorado National Monument" (#3006). The following year, two maps drawn by the Branch of Plans and Design showed the comfort station sited further north ("Camp Ground Areas", #3013), one showing it at the current location ("Headquarters Area", #4963). These early plans indicate the park's intention to build a park headquarters area that included the CCC administrative and residential area, the caretaker's residence and garage, and a park administration building just north of the residence. (The proposed administration building was never constructed where sited.) Up until the time CCC Camp NM-2-C was built in the area, there had not been a permanent administrative facility for the CCC. The CCC buildings in this camp included an administration building, recreation hall, mess hall, latrine, and 5 barracks. In addition, the 1935 maps show the campground with a baseball field, planned for the enjoyment of CCC workers. The architectural plans (#2001A) for the comfort station were approved in November 1936. As were the other CCC-constructed buildings in the headquarters area, the architect for the building was W. G. Carnes. (Copies of maps/plans #3006, #4963, #3013, #2001A are attached as additional documentation.)

The CCC program was phased out at the start of World War II. As men were called to military duty, projects were abandoned and camps dispersed. Most work by the CCC within Colorado National Monument had ended by 1941, and the program was completely shut down in 1942.

(X) See continuation sheet

[2] See Rim Rock Drive Historic District individual nomination, part of the Colorado National Monument multiple property submission.

The exact fate of the buildings which the camp NM-2-C occupied has yet to be documented with regard to their dates and method of removal. According to Hank Schoch, the monument's Chief Ranger, at least one was burned as a fire training exercise. By the early 1960s the only buildings in that area were the latrine/washhouse and several staff residences that may have been moved into the area. When new housing was constructed north of the utilty area in the late 1950s and early 1960s as part of MISSION 66, all remaining buildings in the CCC camp area were removed. The CCC camp baseball field has since been turned into a picnic area parking lot. There still remain some foundations and stone walkways that are evidence of the work camp. A large midden (most likely CCC camp related) also exists near the base of a nearby sandstone cliff. The grounds have not been inventoried for historic archeology thus the site's eligibility under criterion D has not been determined.

As the physical remains of CCC base camps are now primarily archeological, the permanent roads and buildings of Colorado National Monument are often the only tangible evidence to visitors that hundreds of men labored there during the Great Depression. The rustic style of architecture displays the history of the development of Colorado National Monument, and also reflects the craftsmanship of the CCC and the LEMs (local experienced men). Employed for various assignments, enrollees of the CCC were essential in the development of many parks and other government facilities. In Colorado National Monument, the CCC, LEMs, and workers from other relief agencies, not only supplied valuable labor in the construction of park facilities for administrative use but, with the construction of Rim Rock Drive, opened up the park for thousands of visitors.

The Saddlehorn Comfort Station is an excellent and well-preserved example of the design methodology of National Park Service Rustic Architecture, with its emphasis on the use of natural and native materials. The topography of Colorado National Monument is a spectacular display of carved sandstone monoliths and valleys amongst semi-desert terrain. In the construction of these buildings, architects, landscape architects, and the CCC manipulated native stone and wood supports to blend with the surrounding landscape. Earthtones are the predominant colors, with natural cream to red for the stone and brown and rust for the wood supports. The buildings in the Saddlehorn headquarters area and campground were designed in such a way as to not intrude on the natural landscape, but to blend with the terrain and to be in harmony with their surroundings. The construction techniques of the CCC are also exemplified in these buildings. Through the use of native materials and stone masonry craftsmanship, the structures reflect the National Park Service's design philosophy of maintaining a sense of rusticity in construction. Unified in design and construction techniques, the comfort station and contemporary buildings in the Saddlehorn headquarters and campground area represent the lasting contribution made by public relief projects during the Great Depression, and the rustic architecture design philosophy that prevailed in the National Park Service during the 1930s, even in the most humble of utilitarian buildings.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Baume, Lawrence and Mildred Harris, National Register of Historic Places Draft Nomination, Colorado National Monument, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, 1987.

Good, Albert, Park Structures and Facilities, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Planning, Washington, D.C., 1935.

(X) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
___preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
___previously listed in the National Register
_X_previously determined eligible by the National Register
___designated a National Historic Landmark
_X_recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # CO-74
___recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:
___State Historic Preservation Office
___Other State agency
_X_Federal agency
___Local government
___University
___Other
Specify Repository:
Park files, Colorado National Monument
NPS, Rocky Mountain Regional Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	1/2	6/9/5/4/4/0	4/3/3/0/6/3/0
B	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /

Verbal Boundary Description

Situated approximately 30 feet from Saddlehorn Loop Road, the rectangular boundary includes 20 feet on each side of the building to incorporate the natural vegetation and topographic setting. The southwest boundary line, which runs parallel to Saddlehorn Loop Road, measures 60 feet in length. The northwest boundary measures 50 feet, while the opposite southeast boundary measures the same. The northeast boundary is 60 feet long.

( ) See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the comfort station and its immediate natural setting. No other buildings are in the vicinity of the comfort station.

( ) See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy McKoy, Historian
organization National Park Service
street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway
city or town Denver
date December 28, 1992; rev. 1/94
telephone (303) 969-2878
state CO zip code 80228

Law, Henry, G., Laura E. Soulliere, William C. Tweed, National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942, National Park Service, Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, 1977.

Newspaper Articles, Colorado National Monument 1935-1947, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.

Paige, John, C., The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1985.

U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center Technical Information Center files: Drawing No. 2001A; Topographical Maps Nos. 3006, 3013 3006, 4963, 4970. Denver, CO.

Williams, Lance, List of Classified Structures survey forms, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO, 1976.

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photographs Page 1

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

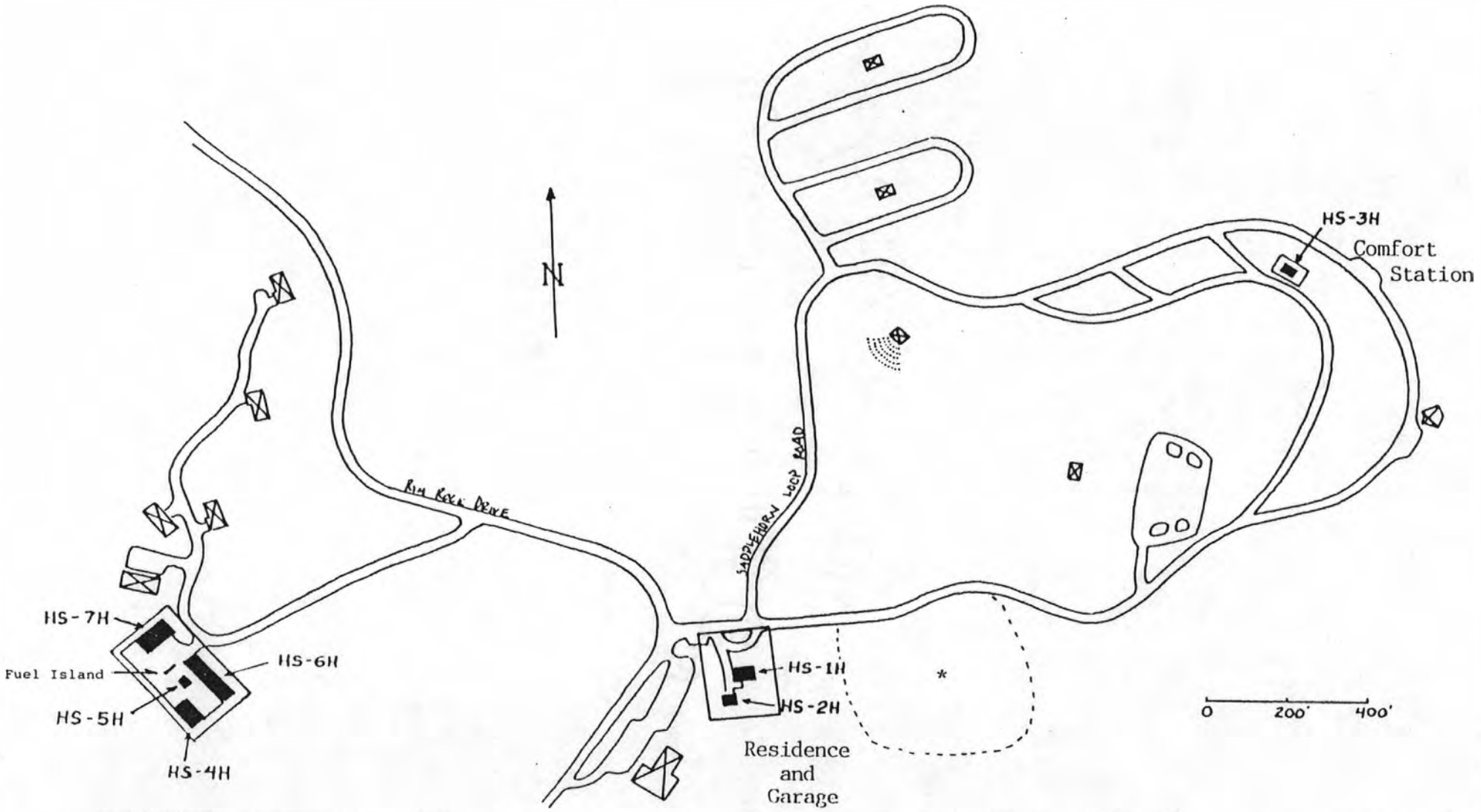
The following information applies to photographs #1-2 listed below:

1) Property: Saddlehorn Comfort Station, Colorado National Monument
2) Location: Mesa County, Colorado
3) Photographer: Eunice Fedors
4) Date taken: November, 1989
5) Location of negatives: National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, Colorado

The property, its location, and location of negative for photo #3 is the same as above, however the photographer and date taken are as follows:

3) Photographer: Clayton B. Fraser
4) Date taken: September, 1984

PHOTO NUMBER	DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION
1	Comfort Station (HS-3H), view to SE
2	Comfort Station (HS-3H), view to E
3	Comfort Station (HS-3H), view to SE



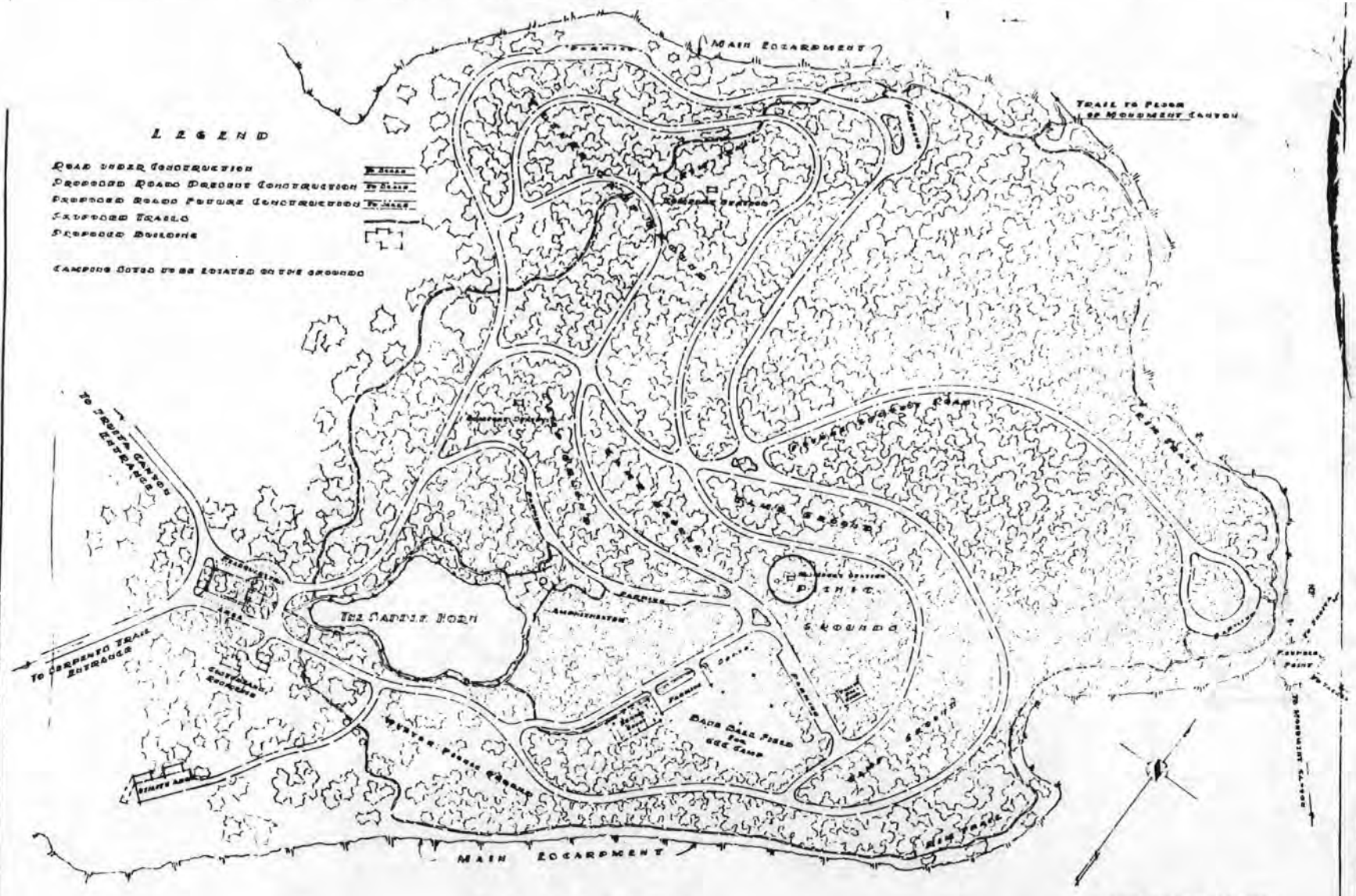
Saddlehorn Utility Area
Historic District

SADDLEHORN HEADQUARTERS & CAMPGROUND
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

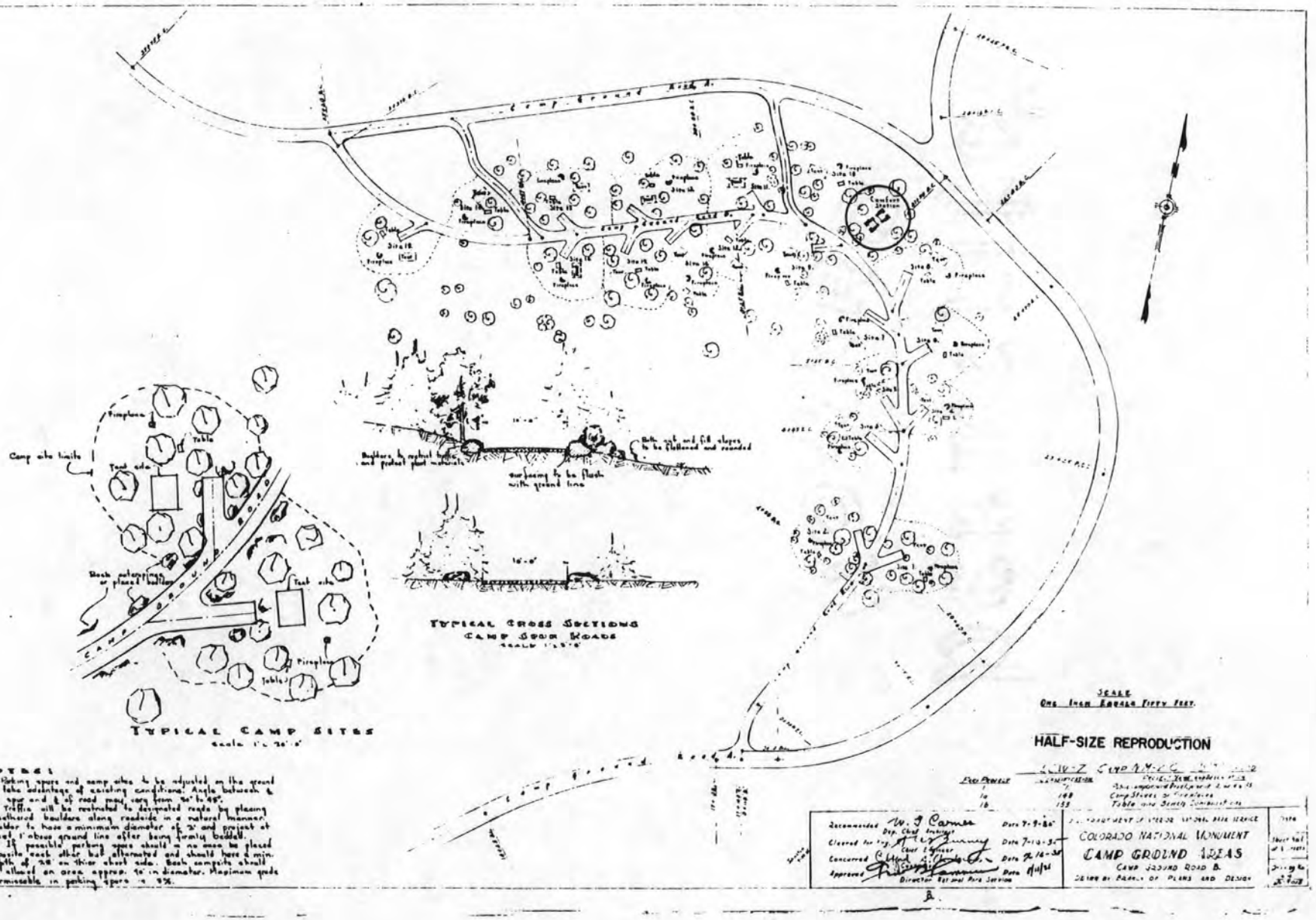
rectangles surrounding resources denote boundaries

*This area was the site of CCC Camp NM-2-C.

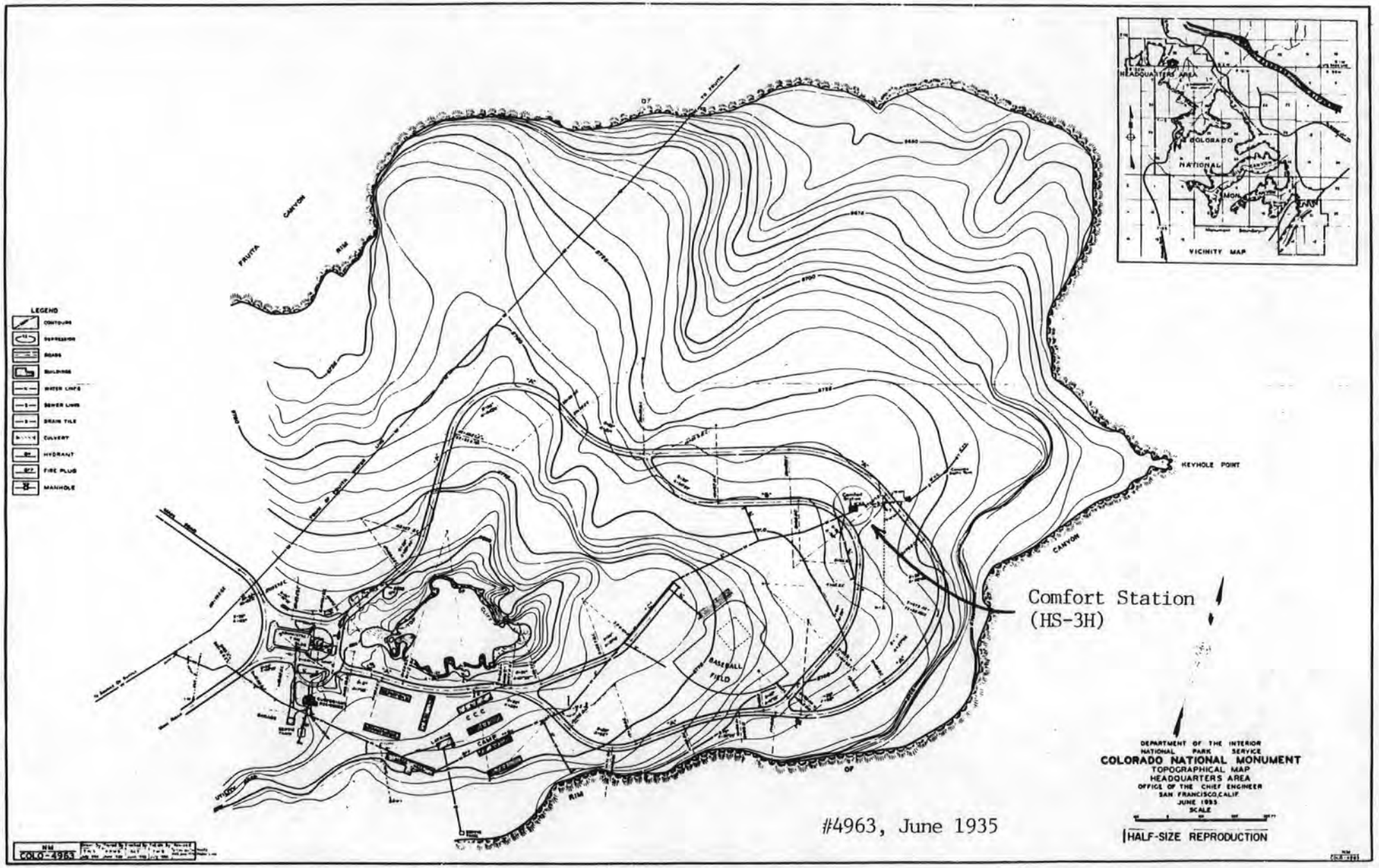
contributing
noncontributing



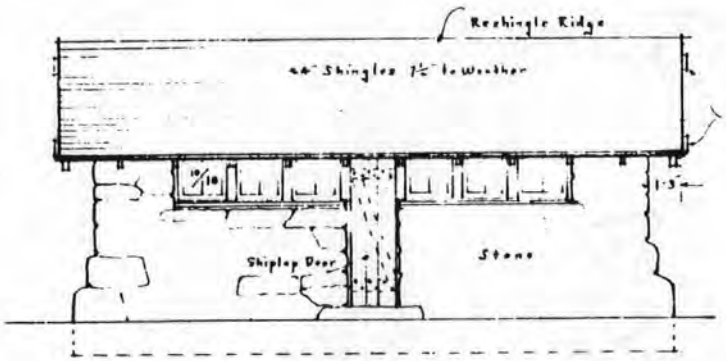
#3006, September 1934



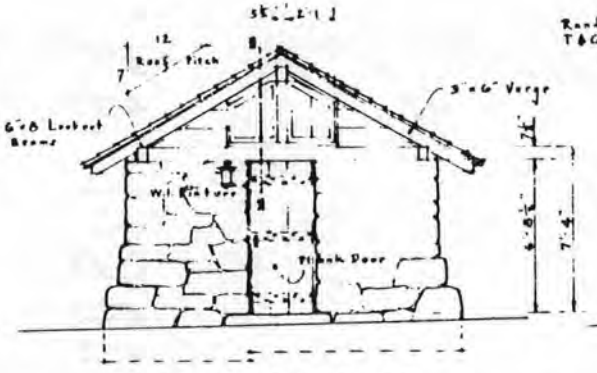
#3013, August 1935


VICINITY MAP
LEGEND
KEYHOLE POINT
Comfort Station
(HS-3H)
BASEBALL FIELD
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP
HEADQUARTERS AREA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
JUNE 1935
SCALE
HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION
#4963, June 1935

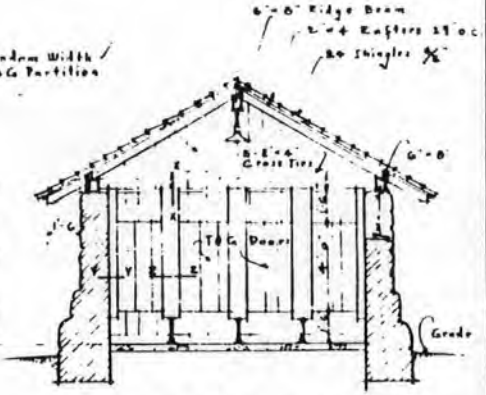
Notes:
See Master Plan Drawing No. NM Colo 3012A for Location.
See Dwg. No. NM Colo 3026 for Sewer & Water Connections.
See Specifications.



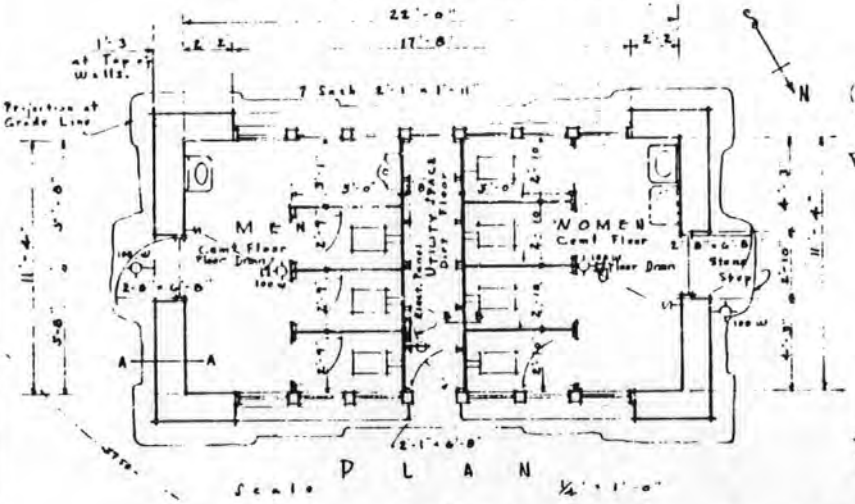
NORTH ELEVATION
Scale: South Side Similar, with no door. ¼" = 1'-0"



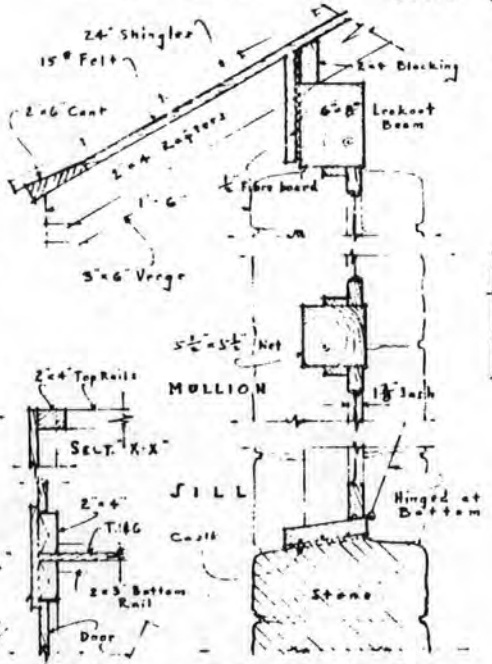
END ELEVATION



SECTION "C-C"
Scale ¼" = 1'-0"

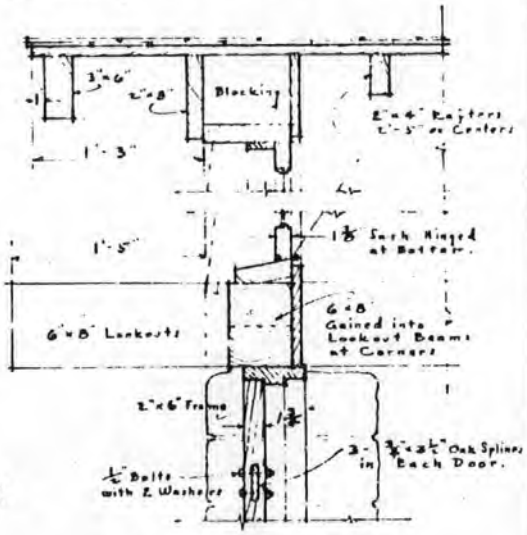


PLAN
Scale ½" = 1'-0"

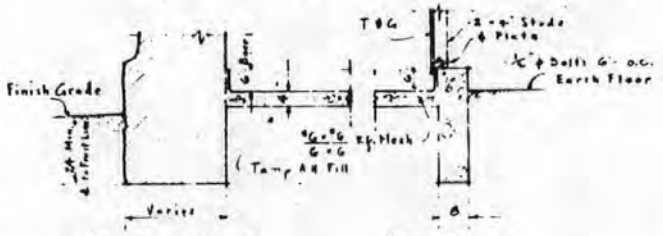


CORNICE & WD. DETAIL
Scale 1½" = 1'-0"

STALL DETAILS
Scale 1½" = 1'-0"



SECTION "H-H"
Scale 1½" = 1'-0"



SECT. "A-A"
Scale ½" = 1'-0"

SECT. "B-B"
Scale ½" = 1'-0"

REVISED: OCTOBER 16 1936 BY THE SECOND REGIONAL OFFICE. HEIGHT OF N.C. STALL DOOR REVISED.

HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

E.C.W. Project No. 113, Camp NMEC, 7th Period
Checked for E.C.W. Howard Clinch, ECW Officer, Date 11-11-36
Checked [illegible] Date 9-25-36
Approved [illegible] Date 10/17/36

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

COMFORT STATION
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Drawn [illegible] 10/03/36
Traced [illegible]
Checked [illegible]
Approved [illegible]

Drawing No. NM Colo 2001A
Sheet 1 of 1 Sheets

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000305 **Date Listed: 4/21/94**

Saddlehorn Comfort Station	Mesa	CO
Property Name	**County**	**State**

Colorado National Monument MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Beth Boland — 5/4/94

Signature of the Keeper **Date of Action**

==========

Amended Items in Nomination:

The period of significance is 1937, the date of construction. This information was verified by Kathy McKoy, NPS RMRO.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Saddlehorn Comfort Station

MULTIPLE NAME: Colorado National Monument MPS

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Mesa

DATE RECEIVED: 3/08/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/22/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/07/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/22/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000305

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	Y	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 4/21/94 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A, C
REVIEWER Boland
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 4/21/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y)/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 09-91)

OMB No. 1024-0018

FINAL

RECEIVED
MAR 8 1994
[redacted]
NATIONAL
REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in ***Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms*** (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Serpents Trail
other names/site number: Trail of the Serpent; Serpents Trail; Serpentine Trail; EME 100

2. Location

street & number: Colorado National Monument (N/A) not for publication
city, town: Grand Junction, Colorado (X) vicinity
state: CO code: 008 county: Mesa code: 077 zip code: 82431

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
( ) private	( ) building(s)		0 buildings
( ) public-local	( ) district		sites
( ) public-State	( ) site	1	structures
(X) public-Federal	(X) structure		objects
	( ) object	1	0 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Number of contributing resources
previously
Colorado National Monument MPS listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (X) nomination ( ) request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date 3/8/94

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official — Date March 24, 1993

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
(Y) entered in the National Register.
( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.
( ) removed from the National Register.
( ) other, (explain:) _____

Beth Boland — 4/21/94

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Transportation/road-related (vehicular)	Transportation/pedestrian-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
No style	foundations N/A
	walls N/A
	roof N/A
	other stone, earth

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Serpents Trail, a 1.6 mile hiking trail, is located within Colorado National Monument, a 32-square mile area displaying colorful and scenic geological formations. The monument, whose entrance is located approximately four miles southwest of Grand Junction in extreme west-central Colorado, was created by presidential proclamation in 1911 and is administered by the National Park Service. The monument embraces a number of scenic, deeply-cut canyons, monoliths, and mesas, ranging from less than five thousand to more than seven thousand feet in elevation. Serpents Trail lies approximately four-tenths of a mile from the eastern entrance to the monument and climbs the north side of No Thoroughfare Canyon. Originally an unpaved automobile road, the trail displays a number of construction features such as switchbacks, dry-laid masonry retaining walls, and rubble fill. Although a segment of Serpents Trail was obliterated by the construction of Rim Rock Drive in 1939-1940, the remaining portion retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Historic Use and Description

The opening up of Colorado National Monument to automobile travel and tourism involved two stages: 1) the building of Serpents Trail from 1912-21 as an access road to the monument and 2) the construction of Rim Rock Drive from 1931-50 as a scenic highway through the monument. The Serpents Trail enabled automobile access from Grand Junction, up the north side of No Thoroughfare Canyon to the top of the rimrocks near Cold Shivers Point. The unpaved, two-lane, two-way road was approximately nineteen feet wide and 2.5 miles long and used numerous switchbacks to ascend the side of the canyon. According to a March 1921 article in the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, John Otto, long-time promoter of the monument and its first Custodian, named the road the Trail of the Serpent.[1]

The Serpents Trail climbed up the north side of No Thoroughfare Canyon, from an elevation of approximately 5,050 feet at its present intersection with Rim Rock Drive to 5,900 feet at the canyon rim and 6,100 feet at Cold Shivers Point. At the time of its construction, only the top portion of Serpents Trail lay within the boundary of Colorado National Monument. An 850-foot gain in elevation occurred as the road proceeded in a westerly direction from the bottom of the canyon, making a series of sharp switchbacks to reach the rim of the mesa. The road rose an additional two hundred feet between the rim and Cold Shivers Point.

(X) See continuation sheet

[1] "'Trail of the Serpent' Proves Popular," Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, March 1921, cited in Wills, p. 57.

The width of the road was originally planned as sixteen feet, but this was later increased to nineteen feet to permit room for two automobiles to pass. The road was never paved but was surfaced with "a red iron composition which is said to pack as hard as bricks," found near the job site.[2] The road's steep path consisted of grades of 12 to 17 percent. The turns of the road's many switchbacks were reinforced with retaining walls of coursed, dry-laid rubble.

The number of switchbacks in the Serpents Trail is a matter of some dispute. The switchback is a centuries-old technique of climbing a steep slope through a series of lateral, zigzag turns of shallower grade. One source indicates that Serpents Trail contained fifty-two switchbacks.[3] Local historian Al Look writes that "this remarkable route of pretzel bends was called the world's crookedest road with never one contradiction. The world famous Trail of the Serpent had fifty-four switchbacks or hairpin turns in its two and one-half miles."[4] Discussing the existing Serpents Trail hiking path, Look states that there are "some 45 hair-pin curves in the old road way."[5]

The existing physical and map evidence, however, would suggest that there were no more than twenty-seven switchbacks in the original 2.5 mile road. This count is generous, as some of the turns could be viewed as sidehilling rather than true switchbacks. This analysis is based on a comparison of the USGS 7.5 minute Colorado National Monument quadrangles dated 1948 and 1973. A 1939 National Park Service map showing the existing Serpents Trail and the No Thoroughfare Canyon portion of Rim Rock Drive was also consulted.[6] The disagreement over the number of switchbacks may stem from confusing the characteristics of an earlier hiking and horseback trail that Otto built up the canyonside in the same location in 1911-12 with the auto road completed in 1921.

Once reaching the mesa top, the road proceeded at a much shallower grade, ending at Cold Shivers Point on the rim of Columbus Canyon. An extension of the road from this point left Colorado National Monument and continued for approximately four miles in a southwesterly direction to Glade Park.

(X) See continuation sheet

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[2] "Surface Put on Serpent Trail," Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, November 9, 1924, cited in Wills, p. 67.

[3] Kania, John Otto, p. 91.

[4] Look, p. 40.

[5] Ibid., p. 75 and Wills, p. 76.

[6] See, "Section E Betterment, Scenic Rim Rock Road, Colorado National Monument," NM-COLO 53039, February 1939. Serpents Trail and Rim Rock Drive between Cold Shivers Point and the east entrance were digitized and lengths of specified road segments measured using a computer mapping program. No contemporary maps showing Serpents Trail in the 1910s or 1920s were located.

Present Use and Appearance

The numbers in parentheses in the following discussion are keyed to photographs referenced on the sketch map accompanying this form.

In 1933, the boundary of Colorado National Monument was expanded to include all of Serpents Trail and a portion of No Thoroughfare Canyon needed for construction of the eastern segment of Rim Rock Drive.[7] During the 1930s, National Park Service engineers considered upgrading Serpents Trail as an alternative to the No Thoroughfare Canyon section of Rim Rock Drive. The amount of excavation and retaining walls needed to bring Serpents Trail up to acceptable standards was "so appalling" that the idea was rejected. The upper portion of Serpents Trail was realigned and widened and became part of Rim Rock Drive in the 1939-40 period. Approximately eight-tenths of a mile of the original 2.5 of Serpents Trail were obliterated in the process, including five switchbacks. At the bottom of the road, one switchback (a distance of one-tenth of a mile) may also have been lost when the lower portion of Rim Rock Drive was constructed.

In April 1950, when the No Thoroughfare Canyon segment of Rim Rock Drive was opened, the Serpents Trail was closed to automobiles and became a hiking trail within the monument. A narrow access trail from Rim Rock Drive to the middle of the lowest switchback has been constructed and the lower half of that switchback is not maintained as a trail. The extant portion of Serpents Trail is 1.6 miles long and contains nineteen complete and two partial switchbacks. It rises 790 feet from an elevation of 5,050 feet in No Thoroughfare Canyon to 5,840 feet at the upper trailhead above Tunnel Number 3. (1)

Consistent with its purpose today as a pedestrian hiking trail, Serpents Trail is maintained at a narrower width (roughly eleven feet) than as originally built. The structure has never been paved and is currently surfaced with crushed gravel. (2, 5, 9) Twenty-one dry laid, evenly-coursed and random-coursed sandstone rubble retaining walls, mostly supporting the road's outside curves, exist along the roadway. These walls range in length from approximately twelve feet to approximately 153 feet. (6, 7, 8) Random rubble fill is also common along the trail. A few remnants of deteriorated wooden culverts also exist. Drill marks in rock ledges from original construction blasting are visible at many points. (4) One mortared guard wall, three feet high and fifty feet long, was constructed during the 1930s and is composed of thin, sandstone slabs. (3)

Scenic vistas, a major component of the road's original design, are unobstructed by modern intrusions and present themselves at various points along the trail. To the north, a magnificent panorama of the Grand Valley and Book Cliffs can be seen. The depths of No Thoroughfare Canyon and switchbacks of Rim Rock Drive are visible to the southwest. Along the trail are numerous sandstone ledges, natural formations, and native vegetation.

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[7] Proclamation 2037 in Proclamations and Executive Orders: Herbert Hoover, March 4, 1929 to March 4, 1933 (Washington: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1974).

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ( ) nationally ( ) statewide (X) locally

Applicable National Register Criteria (X) A ( ) B (X) C ( ) D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ( ) A ( ) B ( ) C ( ) D ( ) E ( ) F ( ) G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	**Period of Significance**	**Significant Dates**
Transportation	1921-1944	1921
Engineering		
Landscape Architecture		
Entertainment/Recreation		

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder
John Otto; Mesa County, Colorado

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Significance

Serpents Trail is significant under criterion A for its representation of efforts to open up Colorado National Monument to the automobile, thereby allowing access to the area's scenic wonders to large numbers of visitors. When the road was completed in 1921, visitors could drive by car to the mesa top, rather than making a long trek by horseback or foot. The trail is also significant for its representation of early twentieth century recreational activities, having been established as a means of opening a scenic area to tourism. The trail is also significant for its landscape architecture, as the access route into the park was laid out to take advantage of scenic vistas, providing motorists with views of the Grand Valley, the floor and southern side of No Thoroughfare Canyon, and Columbus Canyon from Cold Shivers Point. Serpents Trail was the only automobile access to the monument until 1937, when the Fruita Canyon portion of Rim Rock Drive opened. The early auto road remained the only route from the Grand Junction end of the monument until 1950, when Rim Rock Drive through No Thoroughfare Canyon was completed. Construction of Rim Rock Drive in the late 1930s disrupted portions of the road. Serpents Trail was significant to the local community, as it greatly improved the access of Glade Park residents to the supply center of Grand Junction, cutting the travel distance between the two communities by almost half.

Serpents Trail is also significant under criterion C as illustrative of the engineering techniques used in the construction of early automobile roads in challenging terrain. The roadway was blasted and chiseled out of the steep canyonside, with the material for excavations and fills moved by human and animal power. The series of switchbacks used to allow the road to make the necessary climb in elevation were typical of early roadbuilding designs in such rugged terrain. The narrow width of the roadway, the construction of simple wooden culverts, the erection of dry-laid retaining walls, and the lack of paving all represent early construction techniques for such structures.

(X) See continuation sheet

This nomination is part of the multiple property submission, "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission." Serpents Trail is associated with the historic context "Development of Automobile Routes and Access, 1911-1950". The period of significance for Serpents Trail dates from its completion in 1921, to 1944, the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register of Historic Places.

The property type represented by Serpents Trail is an early automobile road within Colorado National Monument. The nominated portion of trail meets the registration requirements outlined in the multiple property submission cover form. The resource retains its original location and setting. Although the maintained portion of the trail is somewhat narrower in places than the full width of the original automobile road, the full extent of the original road is still readily apparent. Original features, such as stone retaining walls retain a high degree of integrity of materials and workmanship, although some wooden culvert structures have deteriorated. A segment of the original Serpents Trail was obliterated with construction of Rim Rock Drive in 1939-1940. The nominated portion of Serpents Trail, 1.6 miles in length, is representative of the total original structure in its display of construction techniques and features and readily conveys the purpose, feeling, associations, and period of construction of the road.

Historic Context

The early history of trails and roads in the vicinity of Colorado National Monument is closely tied to the story of John Otto. Born in Missouri, Otto was an eccentric loner, called by his contemporaries "the hermit of Colorado National Monument," who came to Mesa County in 1907 and led the drive for the public recognition of the area's scenic resources. President William H. Taft designated the area Colorado National Monument in 1911, and Otto served as the first Custodian from 1911-27. Otto promoted monument tourism and development through numerous letters to the editor and other activities, as well as personally working on access routes in the area.

Beginning in 1909, Otto built a series of horseback and hiking trails into and through the Monument Mesa area as a means of increasing public access to and appreciation of the site. By December 1911, assisted by civil engineer J. F. Sleeper, Otto laid out the route of Serpents Trail from No Thoroughfare Canyon to the top of the rimrocks. The roadbuilder intended that the Serpents Trail route continue to Glad Park and thence to Moab, Utah, as part of a transcontinental roadway. Construction of Serpents Trail began in February 1912 but was not completed until 1921. Construction was sporadic due to difficulties in securing financing resulting from competition from other road projects. A hiking and horseback trail was built in the same location during the 1911-12 by John Otto and was used by workers during the construction of the road.

When state funding for the road appeared impossible in late 1912, Otto and other incorporators of a toll road company undertook the work themselves. Along the upper

(X) See continuation sheet

portion of the road a considerable amount of excavation work was done under Otto's direction and paid for with stock certificate income from the company. In assessing the proposed route of Serpents Trail in early 1912, Mesa County Surveyor James Fisk opined that the road "far surpasses in beauty though of a different type, the famous High Drive near Colorado Springs and the formations of the Garden of the Gods are dwindled to nothingness when compared with the majestic spires and the cliffs of No Thoroughfare."[8]
The Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce supported an alternative to Otto's Serpents Trail highway extension to Moab, Utah, and opposed financing for his project. Given such problems, work on the road was apparently set aside for several years. While Mesa County officials displayed some interest in the project in 1918, the project lay dormant until mid-1920, when nearby Glade Park residents began to push for better road access to Grand Junction and pledged $5,200 to partially fund the project. Mesa County Commissioners finally called for bids on October 29, 1920 and on December 10, 1920 the Commissioners accepted the bid of J. S. Shaw to perform two miles of construction work up the side of No Thoroughfare Canyon along the route laid out by John Otto.

The services of J. B. Claybaugh for "engineering and personal supervision of the work" were retained and blasting and leveling operations on the upper portion of the road were underway by January 1921 under his direction.[9] Much of the construction involved hand-drilling holes into the sandstone canyonside, inserting black powder or TNT, and blasting out the roadbed. Earth moving was accomplished by men using wheelbarrows, horses, and wagons. In June 1921, the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel reported that rock work on the road "is practically completed" and the road opened that fall. While finished to a rock grade in 1921, the Serpents Trail was not completely surfaced until late 1924 or early 1925. The total cost of the road was approximately $12,000, with Glade Park residents putting up $5,000 and the county $7,000.

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[8] "Says Road Can Be Built for 6,500," Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, January 25, 1912, cited in Kania, "Report," p. 20.

[9] "New Glade Park Road Will Eventually Be Part of a Cross Continent Highway," Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, January 13, 1921, cited in Kania, Report, pp. 62-63.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Grand Junction Daily Sentinel. Grand Junction, Colorado. 1910-50.

Houk, Rose. A Guide to the Rim Rock Drive: Colorado National Monument. Fruita, Colorado: Colorado National Monument Association, 1987.

(X) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

( ) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
( ) previously listed in the National Register
( ) previously determined eligible by the National Register
( ) designated a National Historic Landmark
( ) recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
(X) recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # CO-28

Primary location of additional data:
( ) State Historic Preservation Office
( ) Other State agency
(X) Federal agency
( ) Local government
( ) University
( ) Other
Specify Repository:
National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, Colorado

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: 5.7 acres

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	12	708|382|0|	4|32|22|92|0|
B	12	708|481|0|	4|32|22|50|0|
C	12	705|114|0|	4|32|27|40|
D			

( ) See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Serpents Trail extends fifteen feet on either side of the centerline of the trail, from its start at the intersection with the access trail from Rim Rock Drive to its terminus at the upper trailhead sign.

( ) See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The defined boundary encompasses all of the extant portion of Serpents Trail maintained as a trail within Colorado National Monument.

( ) See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: R. Laurie and Thomas H. Simmons; revisions, Kathy McKoy, NPS, RMRO
Organization: Front Range Research Associates
Date: 7/90; final revisions,1/94
street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway (RMRO)
telephone (303) 969-2878
city or town Denver
state CO zip code 80228

Kania, Alan J. John Otto of Colorado National Monument. Boulder, Colorado: Roberts Rinehart, Inc., 1984.

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Moore, Frank and Catherine. Grand Junction, Colorado. Interview by Sally Crum. June 1976.

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Proudman, Robert D. and Rajala, Reuben. AMC Field Guide to Trail Building and Maintenance, 2d ed. Boston: Appalachian Mountain Club, 1981.

U. S. National Park Service. Colorado National Monument: Master Plan. Denver, Colorado: U. S. National Park Service, May 1976.

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NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 06/91)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

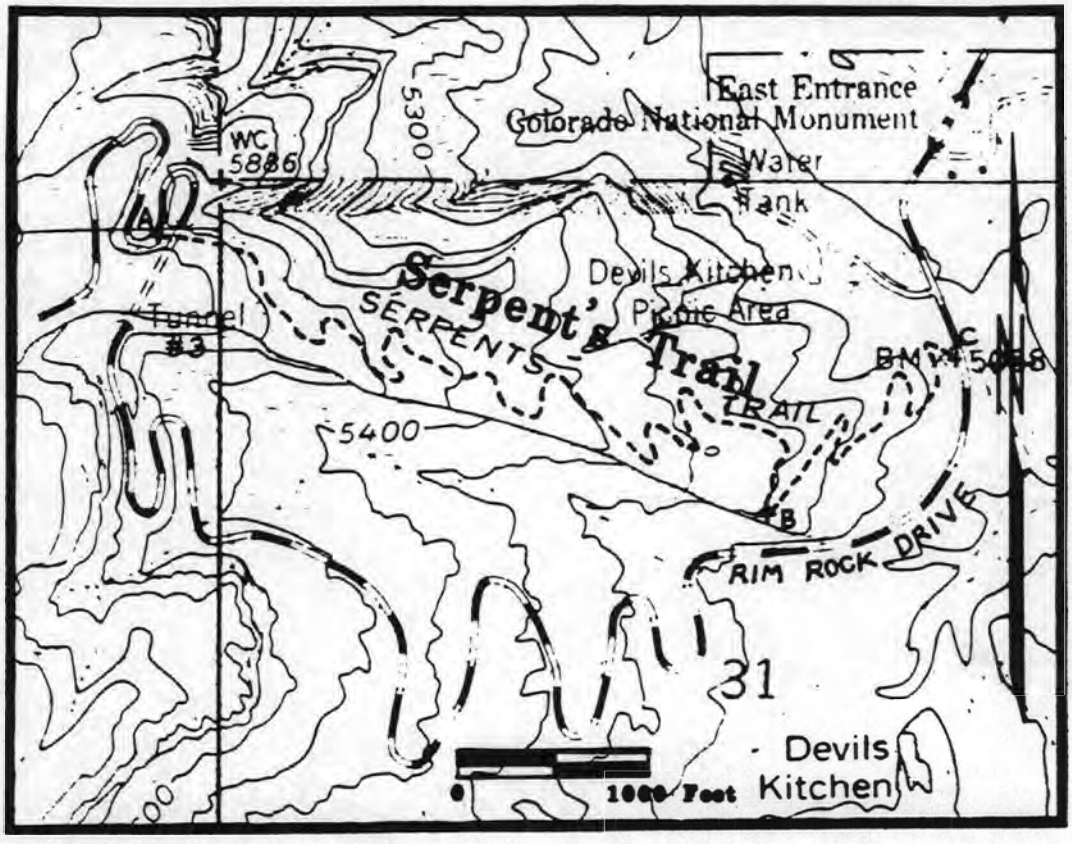
INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information is the same for all photographs:

1) Property: Serpents Trail, Colorado National Monument
2) Location: Mesa County, Colorado
3) Photographer: Thomas H. Simmons
4) Date taken: June 24, 1990
5) Location of Negatives: National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, Colorado

Photo Number	Descriptive Information
1	View toward Grand Valley from upper trail head, to E
2	Curve in trail toward No Thoroughfare Canyon, to SW
3	Masonry wall near middle of trail, to SW
4	Drilling holes in rock ledge from construction blasting, to W
5	Trail, rock wall, and rubble wall, to N
6	Dry-laid retaining wall, to N
7	Retaining wall on upper switchback, to SW
8	Retaining wall, to NW
9	Looking up trail from middle of second switchback, to SE

SKETCH MAP: Serpent's Trail



SOURCE: Enlarged portion of USGS quadrangle, Colorado National Monument, Colorado (1962, PR1973), 1:24,000.

HISTORIC STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM*

for

Serpents Trail

*The attached "Classified Structure Field Inventory Report" is a form that predated the NPS Historic Building and Structures Inventory Form which was completed for historic buildings in Colorado National Monument.

CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT

REGION: RMRO **PARK:** Colorado National Monument **PARK #:** 1378
STRUCTURE NAME: Serpents Trail **STRUCTURE #:** HS 9H
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: North side No Thoroughfare Canyon **LOCATION CODE:** PG

NATIONAL REGISTER: No **DATE:** **MANAGEMENT CATEGORY:** A B X C D
NHL [Y or N X] **DATE:**
NPS LEGAL INTEREST: Fee simple **MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT:** No
TREATMENT RESPONSIBILITY: National Park Service
SMITHSONIAN #: 5ME100 **LCS ID #:**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY
PROPOSED ULTIMATE TREATMENT OR RMP CULTURAL COMPONENT DESIGNATION
Preservation (PP) Restoration (RR) Reconstruction (CC) No Treatment (NO)
Stabilization (ST) Neglect (NG) Remove (RM) Rehabilitation (RH)
APPROVAL DOCUMENT: **DATE:**
ESTIMATED TREATMENT COSTS: $ **LEVEL OF ESTIMATE:**
ESTIMATOR: **STABILIZATION: $** **DATE:**
APPROVED TREATMENT: $ **DATE:**
APPROVED ULTIMATE TREATMENT COMPLETED [Y or N] **DATE:**

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1912-21 **CONSTRUCTION:** Structure
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER: Otto, John; Claybaugh, E. B. **CODE FOR DESIGNER:** O, E

HISTORIC CONTEXTS: Development of Scenic Automobile Routes and Access in Colorado National Monument, 1912-1950

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: The completion of Serpents Trail in 1921 was the first step in opening up Colorado National Monument to the automobile, and thereby to significant numbers of visitors. Serpents Trail remained the only automobile access route to the monument until 1937. The road was important both as a scenic drive, which afforded distant views of the surrounding area, and as an improved transportation route for Glade Park residents. The road is also significant for its representation of early road building techniques in the area, as exhibited by its excavated ledges, fills, stone retaining walls, and switchbacks.

EVALUATION OF STRUCTURE: CONTRIBUTING X NON-CONTRIBUTING
NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA: A X B C X D

INTEGRITY STATEMENT: The recorded portion of the trail maintains a high degree of integrity in terms of plan, location, design, materials, and setting. A portion of the trail was obliterated by construction of Rim Rock Drive 1939-40. Only that segment maintained as a trail within Colorado National Monument was evaluated.

CONDITION: Good **DOCUMENTATION:** Fair **SIGNIFICANCE:** Local
IMPACT TYPES: ERO, DET **LEVEL OF IMPACT:** Low
IF STRUCTURE HAS BEEN MOVED, HOW? N/A **DATE:**

LOCATION: **STATE:** Colorado **COUNTY:** Mesa **SECTION:** N/A
U.S.G.S. QUAD: Colorado National Monument, Colo. (1962, PR1973) **SCALE:** 1:24,000
UTM COORDINATES: **ZONE:** 12 / **EASTING:** 703820 / **NORTHING:** 4322920 (A)
ZONE: 12 / **EASTING:** 704810 / **NORTHING:** 4322500 (B)
ZONE: 12 / **EASTING:** 705140 / **NORTHING:** 4322740 (C)

USE (NPS 28 CODE): **CURRENT USE:** 16DD, Trail
ORIGINAL USE: 16D Road **PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION:** HI
OWNERSHIP: PRESENT OWNER(S): U. S., National Park Service
ORIGINAL OWNER(S): U. S. **INTERMEDIATE OWNERS:** None

CONTINUATION, PAGE TWO
STRUCTURE NAME AND NUMBER: Serpents Trail, #HS 9H

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: TYPE OF STRUCTURE (NPS 28 CODE): 16DD, Trail

DESCRIBE TYPE OF STRUCTURE: Unpaved hiking trail
DIMENSIONS: Approximately 1.6 miles long and 20 feet wide
COMPOSITION (NPS 28 CODE): 02, 40, 42

DESCRIBE MATERIALS: The structure is an unpaved hiking trail with crushed gravel surface, dry laid, evenly-coursed and random-coursed sandstone rubble retaining walls, and rock fill. Also visible are wooden culverts and blasted and chiseled rock ledges. One guard rail, constructed during the 1930s, is composed of mortared, thin, sandstone slabs.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION SPECIAL FEATURES/COMPONENTS: The road was constructed employing a number of dry-laid sandstone rubble retaining walls and sandstone rubble fill. Rock ledges exhibit the drill and blasting marks of original road builders. The road climbs up the north side of No Thoroughfare Canyon, from an elevation of approximately 5,050 feet to 5,740 feet at the upper trailhead, employing approximately 21 switchbacks in its ascent.

MODIFICATIONS: INTERIOR: n/a **EXTERIOR:** X

EXTERIOR MODIFICATIONS: Used for many years as an auto road, the trail in some places is maintained at a width of 11 feet, considerably narrower than the original road. One mortared, sandstone guard wall was constructed during the 1930s. The road was originally surfaced with a red iron composition, which was hard packed. Today the trail is surfaced with crushed gravel. Approximately 0.9 miles and six switchbacks of the original Serpent's Trail were obliterated when portions of Rim Rock Drive was built in the late 1930s and early 1940s. Most of this loss (0.8 miles) occurred between Cold Shivers Point and today's upper trailhead.

SITE SKETCH (INCLUDING ORIENTATION): See attached map; also see USGS map attached to nomination.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
Grand Junction **Daily Sentinel**, Grand Junction, Colorado, 1910-50.

Kania, Alan J. **John Otto of Colorado National Monument** (Boulder, Colorado: Roberts Rinehart, Inc., 1984)

Kania, Alan J. Report on the history of trails built by John Otto within the Colorado National Monument to Bruce F. Black, Assistant U. S. Attorney. 11 July 1984.

Look, Alfred A. **John Otto and the Colorado National Monument.** Grand Junction, Colorado: Sandstone Publishing Company, 1962.

Wills, Lila. **The Tale of the Serpent.** N. p., 1982.

REPRESENTATION IN OTHER SURVEYS: NPS/LCS 1976, 1982
NEGATIVE NUMBERS: ROLL(S): 1 **NEGATIVES:** 3-34
DRAWING NUMBER(S): N/A
REPORT PREPARED BY: Front Range Research Associates, Inc. **DATE:** July 1990

PROJECT TITLE: Determination of Eligibility, National Register of Historic Places

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Serpents Trail

MULTIPLE NAME: Colorado National Monument MPS

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Mesa

DATE RECEIVED: 3/08/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/22/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/07/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/22/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000307

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 4/21/94 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A,C
REVIEWER Boland
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 4/21/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

NPS Form 10-900
Rev. 8-86
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 08-91)

OMB No. 1024-0018

FINAL

310

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registratation Form

RECEIVED
MAR 8 1994
[redacted]
NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in ***Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms*** (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Rim Rock Drive Historic District
other names/site number: Scenic Rim Rock Road; 5ME5944

2. Location

street & number: Colorado National Monument (N/A) not for publication
city, town: Grand Junction, Colorado (X) vicinity
state: CO code: 008 county: Mesa code: 077 zip code: 81521

3. Classification

Ownership of Property
( ) private
( ) public-local
( ) public-State
(X) public-Federal

Category of Property
( ) building(s)
(X) district
( ) site
( ) structure
( ) object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
____	2	buildings
____	____	sites
4	____	structures
____	____	objects
4	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Colorado National Monument MPS

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (X) nomination ( ) request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Edna Reed — 3/8/94
Signature of certifying official — Date

Chief Historian
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official — March 26, 1993
Date

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
(✓) entered in the National Register.
( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.
( ) removed from the National Register.
( ) other, (explain:) ____

Beth Boland — 4/21/94
Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Transportation/road-related (vehicular)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Transportation/road-related (vehicular)

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: No style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A
walls N/A
roof N/A
other asphalt, concrete, stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Introduction

The Rim Rock Drive Historic District is a linear district situated within Colorado National Monument, a 32-square mile area of colorful and scenic geological formations administered by the National Park Service. The monument is located approximately four miles southwest of Grand Junction in extreme west-central Colorado and embraces a number of scenic, deeply-cut canyons, monoliths, and mesas, ranging from less than five thousand to more than seven thousand feet in elevation. Rim Rock Drive is a paved, two-lane, two-way 22.42 mile long highway which runs on a generally northwest-southeast axis through the monument along the rims of the major canyons. Rim Rock Drive Historic District includes the road, three tunnels, and numerous associated roadway features which were a part of the road design, including scenic overlooks, guard walls, retaining walls, culverts, ditches, drop inlets, and drainage tunnels. In order to incorporate all associated roadway features into its boundaries, the typical width of the linear district is 300 feet. The district narrows at a few points where there are no associated features in order to exclude noncontributing resources. In two areas, the district's boundaries are extended to include diversion ditches associated with the road. The total area of the district is approximately 786.8 acres. The Rim Rock Drive Historic District maintains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Rim Rock Drive Historic District meets the registration requirements specified in the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission." Historic resources of the district fall under the property type "Depression-Era Scenic Automobile Highway Within Colorado National Monument." The district is composed of six resources. Four are structures, including one scenic automobile highway with its associated features, and three tunnels, with all evaluated as contributing. The two remaining resources are modern entrance kiosks on the road and are evaluated as noncontributing buildings, falling outside the period of significance for the district. Within the district, the four contributing resources are associated with the historic context developed in the multiple property nomination form: "Development of Automobile Routes and Access, 1912-1950." None of the resources have previously been listed in the National Register.

The registration requirements listed in the related multiple property submission form were utilized to determine the contributing or noncontributing status of resources within the district. Among the criteria utilized for evaluating the contributing structures were: date of construction; historic association with Depression-era public works roadbuilding projects and the ability to convey that association; and integrity of setting, location, materials, design, craftsmanship, and original plan.

Only structures of substantial size were counted as separate elements of the district. Less substantial features associated with the roadway, such as culverts and retaining

(X) See continuation sheet

walls, were deemed to be an integral part of that structure and were not evaluated separately, but were viewed as contributing to or detracting from the overall integrity and significance of the road. Due to the massive number of features associated with the 22.42 mile roadway structure, including some 210 culverts alone, representative examples of each associated feature type were examined for integrity and significance. Representative features not readily visible from the road were selected for examination by Merle Palmer, Colorado National Monument Maintenance Chief, and Hank Schoch, Colorado National Monument Chief Ranger. Traveling from the west, or Fruita, entrance to the monument, the first representative example of each associated feature was recorded. Features of the same type encountered subsequently were counted but not recorded.[1] Less significant features, such as signage, metal posts with reflectors, and asphalt curbs were not counted.

The USGS map accompanying this form identifies the location of resources within the district and recorded features associated with the road. Numbers in parentheses in the following discussion reference photographs indicated on the sketch map of the Rim Rock Drive Historic District.

Description of Major Resources

The topography of Colorado National Monument, the goal of creating a scenic highway, and reliance on manpower instead of heavy equipment dictated Rim Rock Drive's path and construction techniques. From the west entrance near Fruita, *Rim Rock Drive* climbs through Fruita Canyon. From an elevation of 4,690 feet on the valley floor, the road employs a series of long switchbacks and two tunnels to reach the top of the mesa at an elevation of 5,700 feet, somewhat north of the Saddlehorn area. (4, 16)

Tunnel No. 1, constructed 1936-37, is found at milepost 2.14. (4, 6, 7) This tunnel was blasted through the solid sandstone canyon wall using a pilot bore and is sixteen feet eight inches high, twenty-six feet six inches wide at its base, and 236 feet long. The tunnel has arched entrances without exterior portals and has, from its creation, been lined with gunite, which follows the unevenness of the excavated rock. Above the tunnel entrances are rock walls which extend for a great height. The roadway inside the tunnel is concrete paved, and has narrow concrete curbing flanking the twenty-four-foot wide pavement.

A short distance beyond Tunnel No. 1, at milepost 2.30, is *Tunnel No. 2*. (8, 10) The road between Tunnels 1 and 2 was washed out by heavy rains in August 1968 and was subsequently rebuilt along the same plan. Tunnel No. 2 was built 1936-37 and was blasted through solid sandstone using a pilot bore. Its excavation preceded that of Tunnel No. 1. Tunnel No. 2 measures 185 feet long, sixteen feet eight inches high, and twenty-six feet six inches wide. The tunnel has arched entrances, no exterior portals, and has never been lined.

(X) See continuation sheet

[1] The methodology for this nomination is outlined in correspondence from Richard A. Strait, Associate Regional Director of Planning and Resource Preservation, to Barbara Sudler, State Historic Preservation Officer, June 20, 1990.

The twenty-four-foot roadway through the tunnel is paved with concrete and is flanked by narrow concrete curbs.

Exiting from Tunnel No. 2, the road continues in a southerly direction, reaching the mesa top and following the western rim of Monument Canyon. Crossing Monument Mesa, the road turns southeastward and follows the southern rim of Upper Ute Canyon. Rounding the southern end of Ute Canyon the road reaches its highest point at 6,640 feet and then proceeds eastward along the southern rims of Red and Columbus canyons to Cold Shivers Point. Stone guard walls are found at many places along the length of Rim Rock Drive and contribute to the highway's character. (18, 20, 37)

From Cold Shivers Point, Rim Rock Drive begins its twisting descent from the mesa (36) and proceeds through *Tunnel No. 3* into No Thoroughfare Canyon. Tunnel No. 3 at milepost 19.92 was the last tunnel constructed along the roadway and represents the final phase of construction of the road. (38, 39) The tunnel construction, using a pilot bore, was begun in 1940 and was completed except for some trimming by 1941. The advent of World War II delayed the completion of the tunnel until 1950. Tunnel No. 3 was blasted through solid sandstone and has arched entrances with no exterior portals. The dimensions of Tunnel No. 3 are 530 feet long, sixteen feet eight inches high, and twenty-six feet wide. The concrete roadway inside the tunnel is twenty-four feet wide and is flanked by narrow concrete curbing. Subsequent to its construction, the tunnel was lined with gunite, which extends to the exterior entrances. More recently, six drainage holes were drilled beside the west entrance of Tunnel No. 3 in an effort to deal with a moisture problem.[2]

After passing through Tunnel No. 3, the road proceeds via a series of switchbacks to the canyon floor, where it exits the east entrance of the monument at an elevation of 4,930 feet. In its total length, the highway meanders 22.42 miles to connect two points that are only separated by eight miles on a straight line.

The roadway maintains its basic as-built condition and the course of the road has not been altered. A Glade Park intersection island was added after construction of the road was completed. The No Thoroughfare Canyon portion of the road and the segment immediately to the west were paved in 1951, while the northern sections of Rim Rock Drive had been paved by 1947.[3] Plans for paving the entire roadway had existed at least since 1937.[4]

(X) See continuation sheet

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[2] Milepost information is based on field work and on National Park Service, "Road Inventory, Route File Data: Rimrock Drive," computer printout, July 26, 1983. All milepost figures are referenced from the Fruita entrance eastward. Tunnel dimensions were obtained from U. S. Federal Highway Administration, Bridge Safety Inspection Report: Colorado National Monument (Denver, Colorado: U. S. Federal Highway Administration, September 18, 1986) for each of the tunnels.

[3] Rose Houk, p. 41 and A. E. Demaray, Associate Director, National Park Service to Under Secretary Chapman, Memorandum, June 23, 1947.

[4] Paul R. Franke to Files, Memorandum, March 1, 1937.

The two noncontributing elements of the district, *modern entrance kiosks*, are located at the eastern and western entrances to the park. The kiosks are very small buildings with large plate glass windows, which are situated in the middle of the roadway, and used by the monument staff to collect fees and dispense information. The kiosks were erected after the completion of the road. The western entrance kiosk has been moved.

Description of Associated Features

Rim Rock Drive's engineers were aware that they were building more than just an access road to get quickly from point to point. A major purpose of the road was to allow travelers scenic vistas and views of the magnificent geologic formations of the monument. The desire to build a spectacularly scenic route necessitated the inclusion of a number of special features in the design of the roadway. Today these features testify to the complex engineering involved in the road's construction and to the overall landscaping plan for the monument. The features include retaining walls, guard walls and rails, turnouts, culverts, drop inlets, drainage tunnels, and diversion ditches. This nomination describes representative examples of such feature types located along the roadway.

In several places along the roadway, *retaining walls* were necessary because the outer shoulder of the road was so close to the canyon rim. The walls were constructed by stone masons to hold fill along the cliff face and support the shoulder of the road. A variety of such walls, both dry and mortared, were designed to prevent visual monotony and represent the variety of the natural environment. Seven retaining walls, representing three different types, were counted during the preparation of this nomination. Some retaining walls are found under the rim of the canyon and are not readily visible from the roadway. At milepost 0.74 (1) is a dry-laid retaining wall composed of random coursed ashlar with projecting stones. The wall has a guard rail above it. The wall reflects the "naturalistic" or "rustic" style favored by monument planners, as exhibited in the random course, rough facing, and projecting stones.

A polygonal masonry retaining wall with guard rail above is found at milepost 2.52. (12) The wall is composed of deeply mortared, polygonally shaped, quarried stones. The wall varies in height to as much as eight feet above the ground. The top layer of stones appears more roughly faced than lower layers and is level. The design of the wall is unique for the monument, although a similar wall built at Crater Lake National Park was presented in the 1938 National Park Service publication, Barriers, Walls, and Fences.

At milepost 18.23 (34) an evenly coursed ashlar retaining wall was built. The formality of this wall was of a type discouraged by monument planners, who favored more primitive-appearing constructions for the terrain.

Guard walls and rails were constructed as safety features for automobiles along curves. As with retaining walls, a variety of styles was encouraged. Twenty-four guard rails or walls were counted during the preparation of this nomination. The majority of these were walls of large, roughly-quarried stone or boulders. At milepost 0.83, (2) is a "rustic" style guard wall consisting of large, roughly-quarried sandstone ledge rock and boulders

(X) See continuation sheet

of varied size set on horizontal axis and mortared into place. The mortared joints are of varied width, deeply raked. The wall measures approximately twelve inches high and twenty-three inches wide. This "rustic" or "naturalistic" style guard wall is the most common design found along the roadway; nineteen of the twenty-four walls observed are of this type. Although the exact plan of the walls is varied through the use of differing sizes of stone, the architectural style is the same, featuring roughly quarried slabs and boulders, deeply mortared. This was a popular style for National Park Service guard walls and similar features were built in Rocky Mountain National Park.

A polygonal masonry guard wall was constructed at milepost 2.52. (11) The guard wall is sixteen inches high and eighteen inches wide. This guard wall, which has an associated retaining wall below it, is of a design which is unique along the road, although other parks had similar walls constructed. New construction, utilizing rocks left over from 1930s quarrying, has been added on to the western end of this wall.

At milepost 4.80 (17) is a representative post and wire cable guard rail. The guard rail is composed of wood posts driven into the ground, attached with reflector disks, and strung with cable. Two guard rails of this type were observed along Rim Rock Drive. One of the more formally designed guard walls exists at milepost 6.15 (19). The parapet guard rail is composed of evenly coursed, quarry-faced ashlar. The wall is eighteen inches wide and varies in height from twenty-one to twenty-seven inches. This wall is unique along the road, although similar features were built in other parks.

At milepost 18.56 (35) is an unusual guard wall constructed of large, roughly quarried sandstone slabs with false masonry joints placed at angles to the horizontal axis. The purpose of the false joints is unknown, although they may have been created to lessen the appearance of rigid, straight lines of the real mortar joints. The false mortaring of this wall is unique along the road.

Turnouts were an integral part of the scenic roadway, permitting motorists to pause while viewing the geologic formations and natural vistas along Rim Rock Drive. Six historic turnouts were included in the original plan of the road and fourteen turnouts have been added subsequently. At milepost 1.00 (3) the first turnout along the road from the western entrance of the monument is encountered. Redlands View overlook is a modern turnout with concrete curbing and sidewalk. The vista from the turnout includes a distant view of the area known as the Redlands, the town of Fruita, and the Grand Valley. Some of the newer turnouts also have traffic islands and stone ledges or placed rocks defining parking and interpretive areas.

At milepost 3.46 (15), the first historic turnout is found. Distant View overlook is aturnout with rustic style curbing composed of large, quarry-faced sandstone slabs. The view from this turnout includes a magnificent view of the Grand Valley, the Book Cliffs, and Grand Mesa. Historic turnouts include the rustic style stonework exhibited by this overlook, which is displayed in such features as curbing, ledges, traffic islands, and sidewalks. For example, Highland View overlook at milepost 9.91 (28) features a rustic

(X) See continuation sheet

stone wall constructed of large, roughly faced stones; a sidewalk of flagstone; and a stone-edged traffic island. Red Canyon Overlook at milepost 16.05 (33) is an original turnout which features a more formal, evenly coursed ashlar ledge, stepped at intervals from two to three layers, and a traffic island with curbing composed of rippled sandstone.

Culverts proliferated in the design of the roadway as it became apparent that, although the region received an average of only 11.15 inches of rain per year, a sudden downpour could create major flooding problems and even wash out sections of the road. Today, approximately 210 culverts exist along Rim Rock Drive.

At milepost 1.73 (5) is a culvert headwall composed of random rubble, mortared into place, forming a segmental arch with radiating rubble voussoirs above the culvert pipe. The top of the wall is unevenly leveled. Above the mortared wall is evenly coursed, dry laid sandstone, which is topped by gravel and dirt and the surface of the road. The mortar is red colored and was originally stained with local mud. The corresponding headwall on the other side of the road is similar in design, but lacks the layer of dry-laid rock above the mortared section.

A culvert headwall has been rebuilt at milepost 7.03. (21) Originally the culvert wall had a rectangular opening. Now composed of evenly coursed, quarry-faced, mortared ashlar with metal culvert pipe visible from exterior.

A stone culvert reflecting the rustic style favored by monument planners is at milepost 8.83. (26) The headwall is composed of large, roughly-quarried, rectangular slabs of sandstone, mortared into place and forming a rectangular opening with flat slab lintel atop metal bar. The top of the wall is roughly level. The culvert has been lined with gunite. The opposite wall of the culvert also has a large, flat, stone lintel and stone slab walls.

A rustic culvert headwall, constructed of coursed, large sandstone slabs, roughly-faced and shaped to form a circular arch around the culvert pipe was built at milepost 10.53 (29). The headwall has one wing to hold fill visible and may have another hidden under dirt and vegetation. The metal culvert pipe has been replaced.

An unaltered, rustic culvert with headwall composed of roughly-faced, evenly coursed, large sandstone slabs shaped around a circular opening for the culvert pipe was built at milepost 11.98. (31) The wall is rectangular in shape, measuring approximately three feet high and five feet wide, and is one of the most frequently found designs along the road.

At milepost 21.22 (40) is a culvert with a headwall composed of gneiss rubble forming a circular opening around a metal culvert pipe. The top of the wall is roughly level. This culvert represents the type constructed in the No Thoroughfare Canyon section during the latter part of the road project and reflects the change in rock type found along the roadway and the later construction date. The wall measures approximately two-and-a-half by five feet.

(X) See continuation sheet

Drop Inlets were constructed along Rim Rock Drive to confine and direct the flow of water away from the road. Drop inlets could be as simple as a hole blasted into the solid rock could or have associated stone or concrete walls. Four representative drop inlets were examined during the preparation of this nomination. A drop inlet outside of east entrance to Tunnel No. 2 at milepost 2.35 (9) is of the type also known as a "coyote hole." The feature consists of a circular shaft excavated about twenty feet down into solid rock connected to a tunnel blasted underneath the roadway to the canyon. The rock ledge has been topped with a fence for safety.

At milepost 8.43 (25) is a drop inlet with square concrete base opening surrounded on three sides by mortared walls of evenly coursed, quarry-faced ashlar. Side walls are tapered toward front. The hole in the rock is circular and the drop is fifteen to twenty feet. A grate has been placed over the opening for safety.

At milepost 9.33 (27) is a drop inlet with square opening of concrete blocks, which are atop concrete pillars twelve feet tall. The drop is about thirty-five feet. The pillars are modern additions and the walls have been gunite lined.

At milepost 11.63 (30) is a drop inlet with a rectangular opening faced on three sides with evenly coursed, mortared, quarry-faced stone. The vertical drop is ten to twelve feet.

Large *drainage tunnels* were built to prevent large volumes of water from washing out portions of the road. Two representative drainage tunnels were examined as part of this nomination. At milepost 2.83 (13) is a tunnel excavated into solid rock. The tunnel has an opening approximately five-and-a-half by six feet wide and has a solid rock floor. The tunnel curves and comes out on the other side of the road. Another tunnel is located at milepost 15.94 (32). This tunnel, probably the largest along the roadway, has a square opening excavated into solid rock. Above the tunnel opening is an excavated rock wall. One side of entrance consists of rock cliff and the other is a stepped, mortared wall of evenly coursed, smooth and roughly-faced stone. Graffiti on the wall gives a construction date of June 1937.

Diversion ditches were another means of channeling water away from the surface of the road. Five large diversion ditches were built, the largest of which is 1,400 feet long. Two representative diversion ditches were examined as part of this nomination. At milepost 3.23 (14) is a diversion ditch with rock floor and sides lined with unmortared rubble. The ditch is approximately two hundred feet long, two to three feet wide, and stretches diagonally from the road, spilling off the cliff. At milepost 7.64 (23) is a diversion ditch cut through rock, with a stone floor and mortared rubble sides. The ditch is approximately 450 feet long and five feet wide. In addition to the formal diversion ditches, the shoulders of many parts of the road were designed to channel away from the road surface. Many of these areas have been asphalt paved.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ( ) nationally ( ) statewide (X) locally

Applicable National Register Criteria (X) A ( ) B (X) C ( ) D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ( ) A ( ) B ( ) C ( ) D ( ) E ( ) F ( ) G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Transportation	1931-1950	1931; 1937; 1942;
Engineering		1950
Landscape Architecture		
Social History		
Entertainment/Recreation	**Cultural Affiliation**	
Conservation	N/A	

Significant Person	Architect/Builder
N/A	National Park Service

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Rim Rock Drive Historic District is significant under criterion A for its representation of the second stage in the improvement of automobile access to and development of Colorado National Monument. The construction of the 22.42 mile long road from the west to east entrances in the monument comprised a scenic loop, accessible from U. S. Highways 6 and 50 and, later, Interstate 70. The road permitted visitors, approaching from either the east or the west, to plan a visit through the entire length of the monument and continue on their journey. Rim Rock Drive is also significant to the monument's development because it represented the first modern road in the monument, the construction of which enhanced the recreational attraction of the area and stimulated tourism. Rim Rock Drive eliminated the use of Serpents Trail, the early twentieth century road, as an entryway into the park. Serpents Trail was a narrow roadway which challenged the abilities of both car and driver. Serpents Trail did not meet highway standards and drivers' expectations by the time it was replaced, and may have deterred tourism to the area. Improved access to the monument also increased the number of visitors able to view the natural wonders therein and to appreciate the value of their conservation.

Rim Rock Drive is also significant under criterion A because it represented the major source of construction employment in the Grand Junction area during the Depression and had a substantial impact on the economy of the area.[5] Direct purchases of construction materials and camp supplies for the road project, as well as indirect spending by workers, helped the region during the economic crisis. Project Engineer Secrest noted that at one point in the early 1930s more than 800 men were working on building of Rim Rock Drive, reflecting the project's Depression-era role in relieving unemployment.[6] In addition, the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce, which pushed the scenic highway concept for more than

(X) See continuation sheet

[5] T. W. Secrest, "Final Construction Report, Scenic Rim Rock Road, Stations 430+00 to 540+00--Section 1A, Account No. 4X436.1," July 12, 1937.

[6] T. W. Secrest, "Final Construction Report on Scenic Rim Rock Road, Stations 210+00 to 370+00," Section 1-B, Account F. P. 95.8, March 15, 1937.

20 years, viewed successful completion of Rim Rock Drive and better auto access to Colorado National Monument as integral to the area's tourism industry. Thus, the road was also significant to the overall planning and development of Grand Junction and the surrounding area and reflected early twentieth century town boosterism.

Rim Rock Drive is also significant for its association with Depression-era public works projects. The workforce for the construction of Rim Rock Drive consisted of workers supplied by a variety of Depression-era public works relief agencies, as well as individuals directly hired by the National Parks Service through its Roads and Trails program. The major entities involved with the project for the 1935-42 period were the Public Works Administration (PWA), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and Roads and Trails. The No Thoroughfare Canyon segment was completed by Roads and Trails during 1949-50. A number of observers described the road project as "one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken by the CCC in Colorado" and "one of the most impressive legacies of the CCC in western Colorado."[7]

Rim Rock Drive is significant under criterion C for its engineering characteristics. The district is significant for its representation of cliff-face roadbuilding in a unique terrain. Intensive applications of manual labor, rather than heavy machinery, were employed in the construction of the road. The path of the road ran through solid rock for most of its length, requiring drilling, blasting, and removal of the shattered rock. A good deal of sledgehammer and pick work was involved and a substantial amount of material was removed by hand or pulled by horses using small dump carts on rails. Three tunnels, the largest of which was more than five hundred feet in length, were excavated through solid rock. The roadwork required extensive planning and complicated engineering, especially that portion through rugged No Thoroughfare Canyon.

Because the road was intended as a scenic highway, extra engineering considerations were involved in selecting the route and the final design hugged the canyon rims and incorporated switchbacks which facilitated the climb in elevation while providing motorists with panoramic views of the natural setting. To fulfill its role as a scenic highway, the road followed the rim of the mesa, following the winding curves of the canyons to permit views of the depths. The road was consistently described in work orders and reports as the "Scenic Rim Rock Road." Landscape Architect Howard W. Baker, who had hiked the canyons and mesas of the monument during his 1931 visit, observed that "a view from the rim gives one a much better idea of the different formations, the varied shapes which one monolith can take, and the varied colors of the sandstone and granite canyons."[8]

(X) See continuation sheet

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[7] McCarthy, "History of the CCC in Colorado," in Lyons, 1930 Employment 1980 (Denver: Colorado Division of Employment and Training, 1981), p. 9.

[8] Howard W. Baker, "Report on Road Location Through Colorado National Monument," December 12, 1931.

The road is also significant under criterion C for its representation of the "naturalistic" or "rustic" style of landscape architecture developed by the National Park Service for projects within its properties during the Depression. The rugged terrain of the canyons required many special engineering features, including three tunnels, as well as retaining walls, guard walls, culverts, and diversion ditches. Under the direction of a resident landscape architect, the structures and associated features were designed with materials and landscaping which harmonized as much aspossible with the natural environment and detracted little from the natural scenery. Native materials were utilized whenever possible and their size and quantity reflected those found in the local terrain. A variety of rustic styles of guard rails, retaining walls, and culvert headwalls were constructed to reflect the variety found in nature. The materials were roughly processed and natural colors were emphasized in construction so that the structures would appear to be indigenous to the region.

This nomination is a part of the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission." The Rim Rock Drive Historic District is associated with the historic context "Development of Automobile Routes and Access, 1911-1950." The four structures in the Rim Rock Drive historic district were constructed during the period 1931-1950 and are associated with the historic context mentioned above. The two buildings within the district were constructed at a later date. Specific details of Rim Rock Drive's construction are provided in the cover form.

The resources within the district maintain a high degree of integrity in terms of location and setting, and the scenic views incorporated into the design of the roadway have not been compromised. Most of the roadway retains the integrity of its as-built condition. The original materials used in constructing the structures and associated have features of the district still predominate, including roughly-quarried stone and native boulders and much of the original design of retaining walls, turnouts, guard walls, tunnels, ditches, and headwalls is still extant. Although some features have been remortared due to natural deterioration, most display original craftsmanship and design, and their restoration does not affect the integrity of the district.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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(X) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

( ) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
( ) previously listed in the National Register
( ) previously determined eligible by the National Register
( ) designated a National Historic Landmark
( ) recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
(X) recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # CO-29

Primary location of additional data:
( ) State Historic Preservation Office
( ) Other State agency
(X) Federal agency
( ) Local government
( ) University
( ) Other
Specify Repository:
NPS, Rocky Mountain Regional Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: 786.8 acres

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	12	6|9|6|1|4|0|	4|3|3|2|4|0|0|
B	12	6|9|5|5|2|0|	4|3|2|9|5|7|0|
C	12	6|9|7|6|9|0|	4|3|2|8|2|5|0|
D	12	6|9|5|5|0|0|	4|3|2|5|2|3|0|

(X) See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The Rim Rock Drive Historic District is a narrow, linear area, generally described in feet from the centerline of Rim Rock Drive. Beginning at the western (Fruita) entrance at the boundary to Colorado National Monument, the boundary of the Rim Rock

(X) See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary was established to include the roadway of Rim Rock Drive as well as its associated features. The latter include guard and retaining walls, overlooks,

(X) See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: R. Laurie Simmons and Thomas H. Simmons; revisions, Kathy McKoy, NPS, RMRO
Organization: Front Range Research Associates, Inc. Date: 7/90; final revisions 1/94
Street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway (RMRO) Telephone (303) 969-2878
City or town Denver State CO zip code 80228

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Gronowski, Nancy H. and Kloos, Jeanette. A Study of the Historic Columbia River Highway. Salem, Oregon: Oregon Department of Transportation, November 1987.

Houk, Rose. A Guide to the Rim Rock Drive: Colorado National Monument. Fruita, Colorado: Colorado National Monument Association, 1987.

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Tweed, William C.; Soulliere, Laura E.; and Law, Henry G. National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942. Denver, Colorado: U. S. National Park Service, February 1977.

U. S. Federal Highway Administration. Bridge Safety Inspection Report. Denver, Colorado: Federal Highway Administration, September 18, 1986.

(X) See continuation sheet

U. S. Geological Survey. "Colorado National Monument, Colorado." Topographic map. Scale 1/31680. Surveyed 1934, edition of 1942, reprinted 1948.

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_____. Colorado National Monument. "Monthly Narrative Reports," 1937-60.

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University of Colorado. Western Historical Collections. Edward T. Taylor Collection.

UTM References (Con't.)

E	1	2	6	9	8	7	2	0	4	3	2	1	6	0	0	F	1	2	7	0	5	1	7	0	4	3	2	3	2	4	0
	Zone		Easting						Northing								Zone		Easting						Northing						

Verbal Boundary Description (Con't.)

Drive Historic District extends fifty feet on either side of the centerline of Rim Rock Drive from Milepost 0.00 to 0.25. All milepost references are from the western, Fruita boundary of Colorado National Monument. From Milepost 0.25 to 4.00, the boundary expands to extend 150 feet on either side of the centerline of Rim Rock Drive. From Mileposts 4.00 to 4.50 the boundary contracts to extend fifty feet on either side of the centerline of Rim Rock Drive. From Mileposts 4.50 to 22.00 the boundary again expands to extend 150 feet on either side of the centerline of Rim Rock Drive, except for Mileposts 19.77 to 19.78 where the boundary on the eastern side of the road contracts to thirty feet on that side of the side of the centerline. The boundary contracts again from Milepost 22.00 to Milepost 22.42 at the eastern, Grand Junction entrance and boundary of Colorado National Monument. In addition to the boundary as described above, at Milepost 7.64 on the west side of the road the boundary extends approximately five hundred feet beyond the 150 foot limit to follow ten feet on either side of the centerline of a diversion ditch. Similarly, at Milepost 19.14 on the north side of the road the boundary extends approximately one hundred feet and on the south side nine hundred feet beyond the 150 foot limit to follow ten feet on either side of the centerline of a diversion ditch.

Boundary Justification (Con't.)

culverts, drop inlets, diversion ditches, turnouts, and drainage tunnels. The Chief of Maintenance at Colorado National Monument indicated that a boundary of 150 feet on either side of the centerline was adequate to encompass all associated features with the exception of a few long diversion ditches. In two instances it was necessary to extend the boundary further outward to include such diversion ditches. The boundary was contracted at the west and east entrances and in the vicinity of the Visitors Center in order to exclude non-contributing ranger residences and other modern buildings from the district. At the upper trailhead of Serpents Trail at Milepost 19.77, the eastern boundary of the road was contracted in order to prevent an overlap between the Rim Rock Drive Historic District and Serpents Trail, which is being individually nominated.

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 06/91)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photographs Page 1

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

Information that is the same for all photographs:

1) Property: Rim Rock Drive Historic District, Colorado National Monument
2) Location: Mesa County, Colorado
3) Photographer: Thomas H. Simmons
4) Date taken: June 24-26, 1990
5) Location of Negatives: National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Denver, Colorado

Photo Number	Descriptive Information
1	Dry-laid retaining wall, milepost 0.74, view to S
2	Rustic guard wall, milepost 0.83, view to SW
3	Redlands View overlook, milepost 1.00, view to E
4	Tunnel #1 from Fruita Canyon, milepost 1.48, view to NW
5	Culvert with half-arch stone headwall, milepost 1.73, view to N
6	Tunnel #1 (west portal), milepost 2.13, view to N
7	Tunnel #1 (east portal), milepost 2.17, view to SE
8	Tunnel #2 (west portal), milepost 2.29, view to N
9	Drop inlet coyote hole, milepost 2.35, view to S
10	Tunnel #2 (east portal), milepost 2.35, view to SE
11	Polygonal stone guard wall, milepost 2.52, view to SW
12	Polygonal stone retaining wall, milepost 2.52, view to SW
13	Drainage tunnel, milepost 2.83, view to N

(X) See continuation sheet

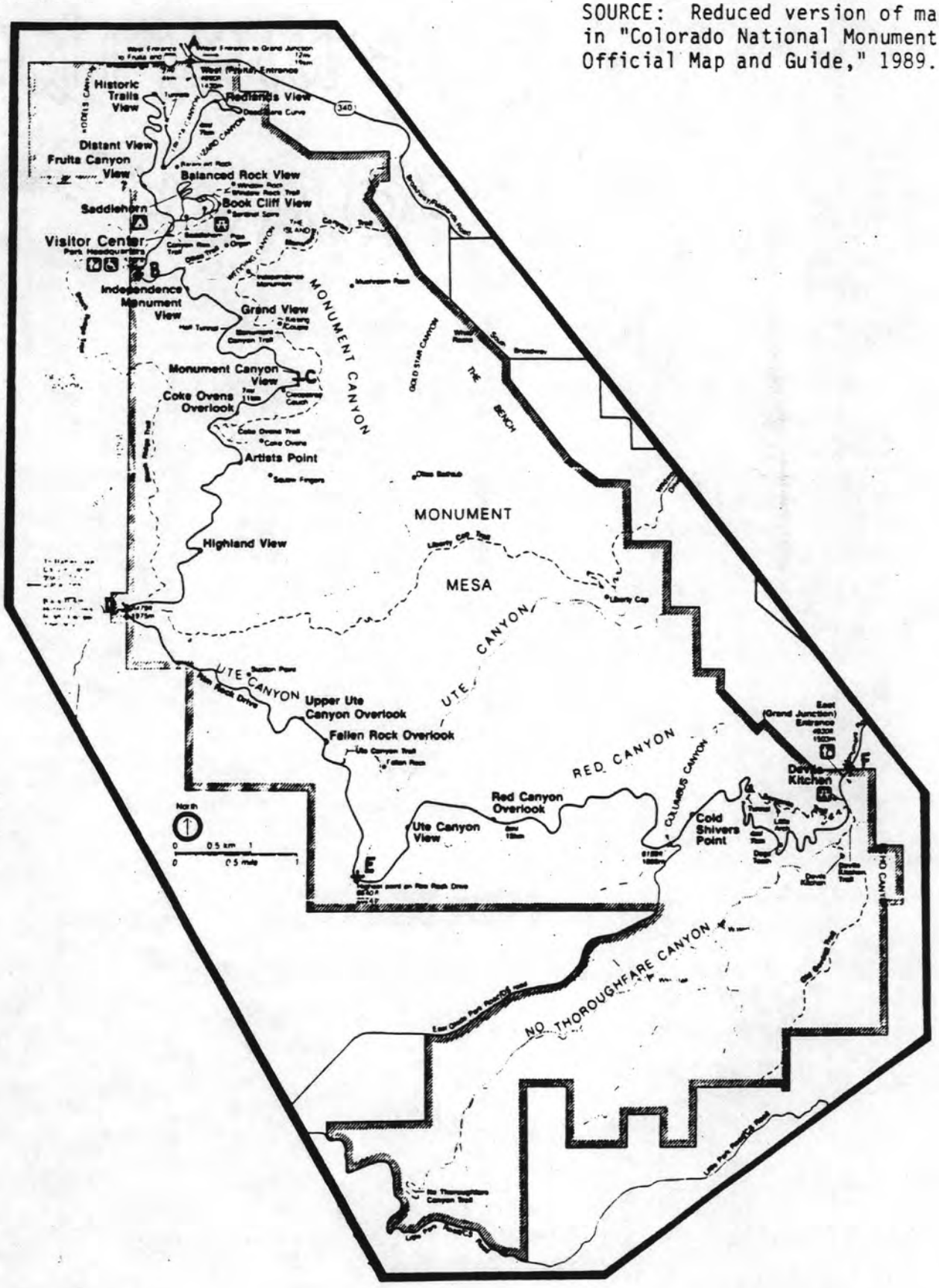
Photo Number	Description Information
14	Diversion ditch, milepost 3.23, view to NE
15	Distant View overlook, milepost 3.46, view to E
16	View of road from Fruita Canyon View, milepost 3.82, view to NE
17	Wood post and wire cable guard rail, milepost 4.80, view to S
18	Road and guard wall, milepost 6.04, view to SW
19	Stone parapet guard wall, milepost 6.15, view to S
20	Road and guard wall, milepost 6.63, view to NE
21	Culvert with rebuilt stone headwall, milepost 7.03, view to N
22	View from Monument Canyon Overlook, milepost 7.17, view to NW
23	Diversion ditch on ledge top, milepost 7.64, view to SE
24	View from Coke Ovens Overlook, milepost 7.92, view to SE
25	Drop inlet with tapered rock sides, milepost 8.43, view to SE
26	Original stone culvert, milepost 8.83, view to SE
27	View into drop inlet with new concrete pillars, milepost 9.33, view to S
28	Highland View overlook, milepost 9.91, view to E
29	Culvert with wing (orig. headwall, replaced pipe), milepost 10.53,
30	Stone drop inlet, milepost 11.63, view to S
31	Culvert (originial stone front and pipe), milepost 11.98, view to SW
32	Drainage tunnel with large wall, milepost 15.94, view to SE
33	Red Canyon Overlook, milepost 16.05, view to NE

(X) See continuation sheet

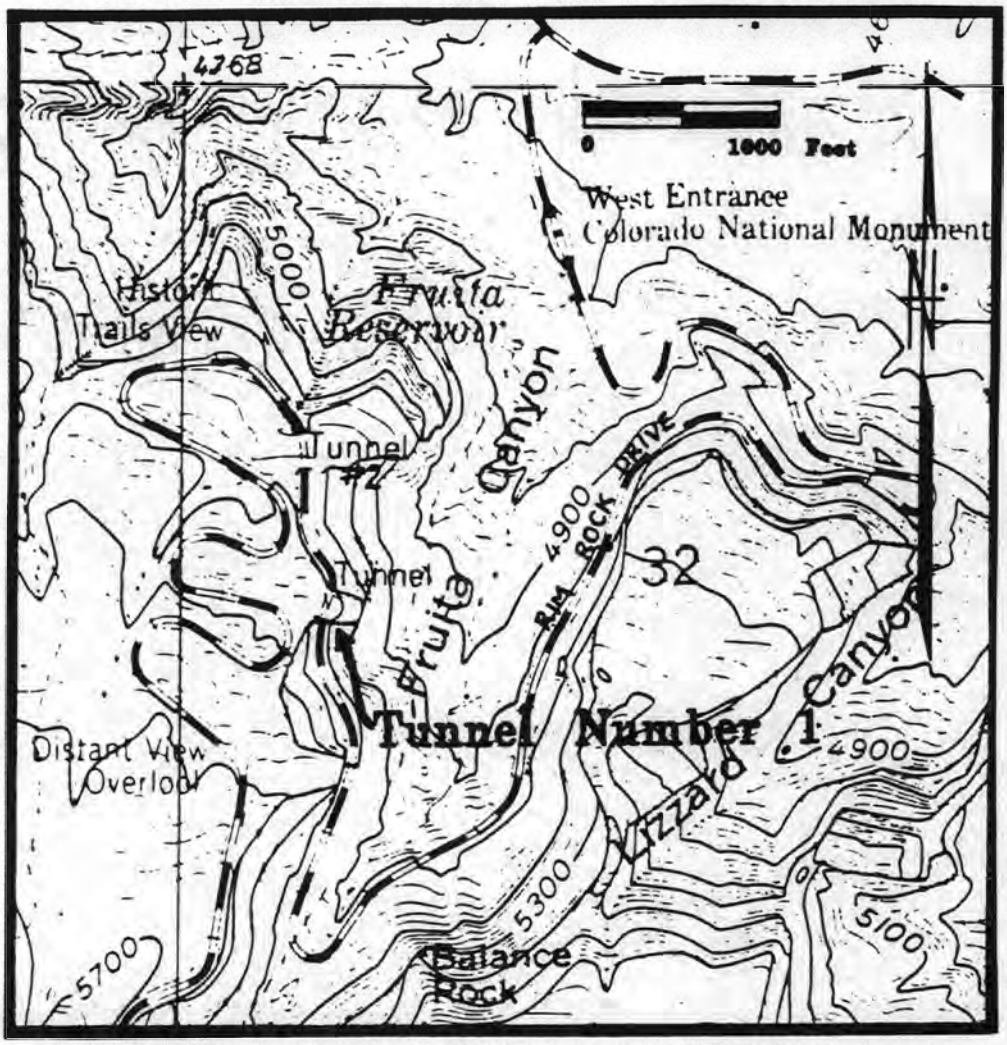
Photo Number	Description Information
34	Retaining walls below canyon rim, milepost 18.23, view to NE
35	Guard wall with fake mortar joints, milepost 18.56, view to N
36	Switchbacks near upper Serpents Trail, milepost 19.40, view to NE
37	Road and guard wall, milepost 19.40, view to S
38	Tunnel #3 (west portal), milepost 19.91, view to SW
39	Tunnel #3 (east portal), milepost 20.06, view to NE
40	Culvert with gneiss stone headwall, milepost 21.22, view to E

SKETCH MAP: Rim Rock Drive

SOURCE: Reduced version of map in "Colorado National Monument: Official Map and Guide," 1989.

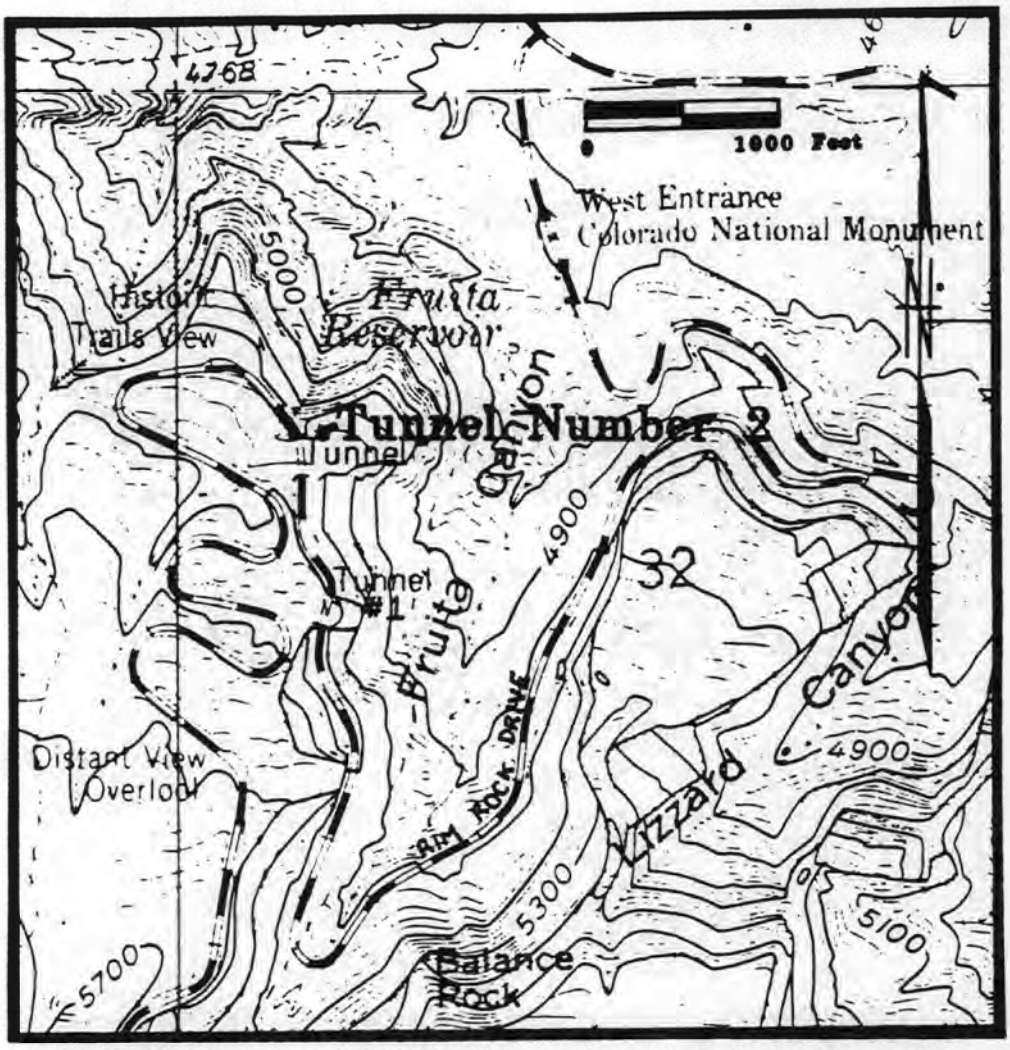


SKETCH MAP: Tunnel No. 1, Rim Rock Drive



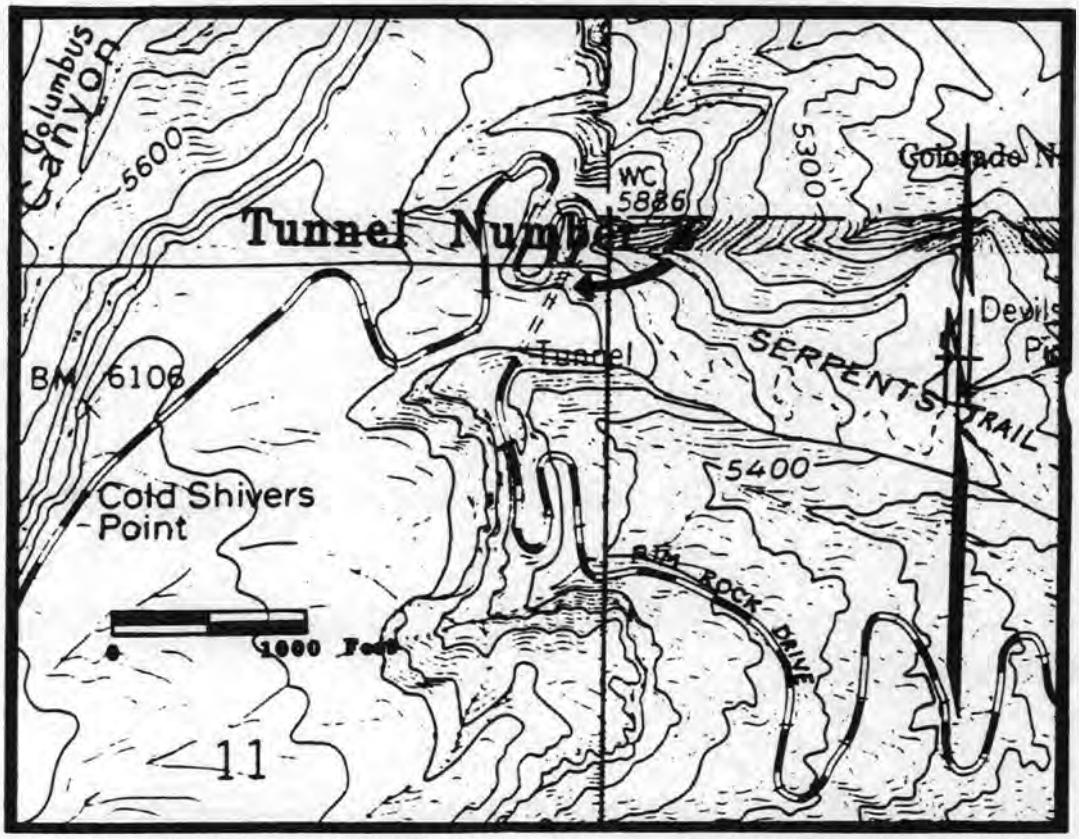
SOURCE: Enlarged portion of USGS quadrangle, Colorado National Monument, Colorado (1962, PR1973), 1:24,000.

SKETCH MAP: Tunnel No. 2, Rim Rock Drive



SOURCE: Enlarged portion of USGS quadrangle, Colorado National Monument, Colorado (1962, PR1973), 1:24,000.

SKETCH MAP: Tunnel No. 3, Rim Rock Drive



SOURCE: Enlarged portion of USGS quadrangle, Colorado National Monument, Colorado (1962, PR1973), 1:24,000.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Rim Rock Drive Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: Colorado National Monument MPS

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Mesa

DATE RECEIVED: 3/08/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/22/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/07/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/22/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000310

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	Y
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	Y	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	Y	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Unusual UTMs + boundaries OK for linear system.

Does not need to be exceptionally significant - majority of period of significance (1931-42; 1949-50 = 1931-1950) is over 50 yrs. ago.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A, C
REVIEWER Boland
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 4/21/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

NPS Form 10-900
NPS Word Processor Format
(Approved 08-91)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
MAR 8 1994
NATIONAL REGISTER

FINAL

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in ***Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms*** (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District
other names/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: Colorado National Monument (N/A) not for publication
city, town: Grand Junction, Colorado (X) vicinity
state: Colorado code: CO county: Mesa code: 077 zip code: 81521

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
( ) private	( ) building(s)		
( ) public-local	(X) district	4	buildings
( ) public-State	( ) site		sites
(X) public-Federal	( ) structure		1 structures
	( ) object		objects
		4	1 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Colorado National Monument MPS

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (X) nomination ( ) request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Edson Beasley — 3/8/94
Signature of certifying official — Date

National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property (X) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

James Edward Hartmann — March 26, 1993
Signature of Commenting or Other Official — Date

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
(X) entered in the National Register.
(X) See continuation sheet
( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet
( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.
( ) removed from the National Register.
( ) other, (explain:) _____

Beth Boland — 4/21/94
Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Other: park utility/maintenance area
Government: park administration offices

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Other: park utility/maintenance area
Government: park administration offices

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: National Park Service Rustic

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls sandstone
roof slate; wood
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

The Saddlehorn Utility Area is located off of Rim Rock Drive, approximately 5 miles from the west entrance of Colorado National Monument. Four historic buildings are located in the maintenance yard: The Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H), the Oil House (HS-5H), the Open Storage Building (HS-6H), and the Buildings and Utilities Shop (HS-7H). All buildings are rectangular, one-story structures constructed of native red sandstone masonry by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) under between 1937 and 1941. The style exemplifies National Park Service Rustic Architecture. One non-contributing structure, a fuel island, is located in the utility area. The buildings are in good condition and, in spite of some modifications, maintain integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association from the historic period.

Setting

The Saddlehorn Utility Area is located in the northwest portion of Colorado National Monument. The topography of the 32-square mile park includes the northern rim of the Uncompahgre Plateau with its deeply cut canyons and towering rock formations. The setting in the vicinity of the utility area includes juniper and pinon pine trees, native brush vegetation, as well as natural sandstone cliffs. The area is named for the distinctive sandstone monolith to the northeast, "Ca-Roo-Nump-Ta-Chee" or "Saddlehorn". The park's headquarters building and visitor center (built in 1963) is located about one-quarter mile to the east of the utility area. The Saddlehorn Campground it located about one-half mile to the east. Directly north of the utility area are five residential buildings, constructed between 1958 and 1963. These are partially screened from view by topography and vegetation. (The relationship of modern MISSION 66-era buildings to the Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District is shown on the accompanying site map.) Three of the buildings (HS-4, HS-6, HS-7) face into a central paved yard; the oil house (HS-5H) and fuel island are located in the center of the yard. (See attached topographic maps and drawings.)

Description

Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H): This one-story, rectangular building is constructed on a concrete foundation from native red sandstone set in a coursed ashlar pattern with stepped corners. The east facade has one entrance doorway with a fixed pane single-light transom window. There are three modern wood overhead garage doors of three different widths (10', 12', 14'); two contain 8 lights, and one smaller overhead door has 6 lights. The saltbox roof is covered with cedar shingles. One stone chimney with stovepipe and three vents are located on the roof. The gabled ends continue the coursed ashlar pattern of stonework of the walls and have an exposed ridge beam and purlins. Triple divided 9-light steel sash windows are located on side elevations; three 8-light steel sash windows are on the rear elevation of the building. All window openings have wood lintels with window sills constructed of native red sandstone blocks. Wood and metal trim on the building are painted

(X) See continuation sheet

rust brown. The interior consists of a large rectangular room, except for a small restroom, added in the mid-1970s. (See drawing #3011B, attached as documentation.)

Alterations to the building involved replacement of the original hinged garage doors in 1962. Originally there were four windowless, wooden 10' wide doors, with a pedestrian door cut into one of them (see copy of historic photo, #13). Three of the doors were removed, and the supports were moved to accommodate two wider doors and a pedestrian entrance. These changes did not result in any loss of fabric to the exterior walls, nor greatly change the appearance of the building. In 1976 the cedar shingle roof was replaced with a like roof. At the same time the interior was modernized, including the installation of drywall system, and does not retain historic integrity.

Oil House (HS-5H): Located in the center of the maintenance yard, this small, one-story rectangular structure was constructed in 1938 on a concrete foundation from native red sandstone set in a coursed ashlar pattern. In keeping with the other resources in the district, the corners are stepped and the gabled roof is covered in cedar shingles with the purlins and ridge beam exposed. (At one time the roof was covered with corrugated metal, according to property records. It is not known if the original roof was metal or cedar shingle.) The building's two doors are constructed of vertical wood planks. The entrance on the southeast side is a pedestrian entrance. There is one 6-light steel sash window in this elevation. The window opening has wood lintel and sandstone sill. The door on the northwest facade opens onto a concrete and stone loading dock. Wood and metal trim are painted rust brown. There is a small, stone block-size opening on the south side of the building. The interior is one open, nearly square room with a concrete floor, stone walls and exposed rafters. (See drawing #2062 attached as documentation.)

The structure has a single fuel pump on a small stone pad. Originally there were three older fuel pumps. All were removed at an unknown date. (See historic photo copy #14.) Surrounding the fuel island is original sandstone curbing. From the front of the building to the curbing is a sandstone terrace. Both the terrace and curbing are contributing features to the building. The oil house is used to store flammable materials such as oil, gasoline, and paints. With exception of a change in roofing materials, no modifications have been made to the building itself, including the interior which retains its historic appearance.

Open Storage Building (HS-6H): (also called the Equipment Storage Building) Built in 1941 by the CCC, this rectangular one-story red sandstone structure is an open storage facility with 7 bays, 5 open and 2 closed, and a pedestrian entrance on the primary facade. The closed bays have wooden overhead garage doors with 8-light windows. Constructed on a concrete foundation, walls faced with native sandstone set in a coursed ashlar pattern. The lower courses are stepped. Triple divided 9-light steel sash windows are located on the end walls; seven 8-light steel sash windows are located on the rear wall. The window openings have wood lintels and sandstone sills. The saltbox roof is low rise and covered with cedar shingles and is supported by wood trusses and a large header beam over the garage bays, with wooden posts between each open bay. Wood and metal trim are painted rust brown. (See drawing #2026 attached as documentation.)

(X) See continuation sheet

The original building had 7 open bays with an interior plan of 14 stalls. (See historic photo copies #15 and #16.) In 1985 two bays were enclosed to create five rooms: a water system chlorinator room, maintenance warehouse, museum storage area, and interpreters' work area. The open bays are still used, as they were during the historic period, for vehicle parking and storage of lumber, sand, and other maintenance tools and materials. The building originally had dirt floors. In 1952 a 4" poured concrete floor was added. The interior of the building has been modernized and lacks integrity.

Buildings and Utilities Shop (HS-7H): (also called Administration Building or Warehouse and Office) Constructed in 1941 by the CCC, this one-story, rectangular building was built on a concrete foundation of sandstone blocks set in coursed ashlar pattern with stepped lower courses. The primary (southeast) facade has one 8-light overhead garage door, one 15-light steel sash window, four 12-light steel sash windows, and two 3-light doors. The end walls each have two 15-light steel sash windows with one 6-light steel sash window at basement level. All window openings (except for those at basement level and transoms) are framed with concrete lentils with wood veneer and sandstone sills. The building has one sandstone chimney slightly offset from the center. The gabled roof is of moderate rise and is covered with cedar shingles. Wood and metal trim are painted rust brown.

The interior plan is divided as follows: the southwest half of the building is one room, the northeast half is divided into four spaces, used for administrative offices and storage. The shop also has a half basement on its northeast end, which contains the furnace room, lunch room, restroom, and closets. The building also has an unfinished attic. (See drawings #2031A and #2031B attached as documentation.)

Alterations to the Buildings and Utilities Shop include replacement of the original asphalt shingle roof covering with a cedar shingles after 1976. In 1975 the original 10' wide hinged, windowless, wooden garage doors were replaced with the wider modern overhead door described above. The doorway was enlarged 18" on one side, removing enough stone wall to accommodate a 12' power-operated door. (See historic photo copies #17 and #18.) Interior alterations include the addition of a restroom (1954) and a poured concrete floor (1962) in the basement, and drop ceiling installed on the ground floor (ca. 1975). Partitions were installed to create the workspaces described above. Other than exposed rock walls in the open area of the building, the interior has been modernized and is not considered significant. While some historic fabric was lost in modifications to the roof and garage door, the exterior of the shop still retains sufficient integrity in appearance to meet National Register criteria.

Fuel Island (no number): A small, covered fuel island is located between the Buildings and Utilities Shop (HS-7H) and the Oil House (HS-5H). This structure was constructed in 1980 on a concrete foundation with two sandstone columns supporting a narrow, rectangular gable roof covered with cedar shingles. Three fuel pumps are mounted on the concrete island, one on either side of the support columns. While the building is a non-contributing structure in the district, its design and materials are compatible with the surrounding historic buildings and it is considered non-intrusive.

(X) See continuation sheet

Modifications and Integrity Statement

The Saddlehorn Utility Area has maintained much of its original function since its date of construction, that is as the monument's centralized maintenance and storage area with some administrative offices. Physical modifications, described earlier, have primarily resulted from the need to improve the usefulness of the buildings. All interiors have been modernized with the exception of the Oil House. Some changes in original openings resulted from the replacement of garage doors or in enclosing previously open bays. Documentation indicates that in at least the case of the Oil House and Buildings and Utilities Shop, the roofing material was not cedar shingle as it is now. All buildings have been well-maintained and are in good condition. The alterations to the buildings in the utility area do not affect the overall integrity of the exteriors to a significant degree. The buildings still possess sufficient qualities of setting, design, materials and workmanship to have integrity.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria X A ___ B X C ___ D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Areas of Significance
(enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Social History

Period of Significance
1937 - 1944

Significant Dates
1937; 1938; 1941

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
National Park Service
Civilian Conservation Corps

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Saddlehorn Utility Area has local significance under National Register Criterion A for its association with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration. The utility area buildings also have local significance under National Register Criterion C for their exemplary representation of National Park Service Rustic Architecture. The materials and architectural design of these resources reflect the philosophy of incorporating natural landscape elements into planning and design. The period of significance for the utility area buildings dates from 1937 (when the first of the four was built) to 1944, the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register. Significant dates relate to the dates of construction of the buildings.

This nomination is part of the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission." The Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District is associated with the historic context "National Park Service Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933-1942". Two other related individual nominations associated with the multiple property submission are the nearby Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage, and the Saddlehorn Comfort Station. The relationship of these three areas is shown on the accompanying site map. While the resources of all three are tied by architectural style, historic context, and period of significance, their distance from each other, topography, and intrusions (Mission 66-era buildings) preclude nominating them as an intact district. (The utility area is not visible from the caretaker's residence and garage as there is a hill between them.)

Background History

Designed in 1935 by the National Park Service's Western Division of the Branch of Plans and Design, the buildings in the utility area were constructed from 1937 to 1941 with Emergency Conservation Works funding, these were built by craftsmen hired for their skills under the New Deal Relief appropriations. Many of these craftsmen were LEMs (local experienced men), reputed to be stonemasons of Italian descent, that trained a number of the CCC enrollees. The construction was administered by the Public Works Administration and built by contract labor. Sandstone blocks, quarried in Colorado National Monument by CCC men, either from the immediate vicinity or from the Rim Rock Drive construction project, were the primary building material.

(X) See continuation sheet

The larger Saddlehorn area, which also included a caretaker's residence/garage, campground and CCC camp, was built in response to the need for a permanent base camp for CCC workers, as they were employed in the construction of Rim Rock Drive and other park facilities. In addition, much of the road had been completed by 1938, making the area accessible to visitors and creating a demand for recreational facilities.[1] The first two service buildings in the utility area, the Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H) and the Oil House (HS-5H), were completed in 1937 and 1938, respectively. The Open Storage Building (HS-6H) and Building and Utilities Shop (HS-7H) were completed in 1941 and 1942, respectively. The Building and Utilities Shop became the primary administrative offices for the monument, continuing that function until 1963 when the new headquarters was constructed. The other buildings served as garages, warehouses, storage facilities, and other functions related to the activities of building and maintenance at the monument.

The Saddlehorn Utility Area served to augment the main administrative area of CCC camp NM-2-C, located about one-half mile to the east. A number of CCC camps were established in or near the monument to support the crews working on Rim Rock Drive and other projects. Camp NM-2-C was temporarily established at Monument Canyon trailhead in March of 1933, but was disbanded and moved to Saddlehorn, when the permanent camp was established. (Additional information about the workforce is included in Section E of the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission.")

The earliest plans for buildings to house workers of NM-2-C at Saddlehorn were first laid out by the National Park Service in November 1933. The location of the CCC camp buildings at Saddlehorn was to the east of the caretaker's residence, due south of the Saddlehorn. Up until the time it was built, there had not been a permanent administrative facility for the CCC. A Campground General Plan drawing of Septemer 1934 shows a "Base Ball Field for CCC Camp" as well as a planned tennis court. The drawing also shows the proposed headquarters, utility area, and campgrounds. By June 1935 plans had also been finalized for a park headquarters area that included the CCC administrative and residential area, the caretaker's residence and garage, and a park administration building just north of the residence. (The proposed administration building was never constructed where sited.) The CCC buildings in this camp included an administration building, recreation hall, mess hall, latrine, and 5 barracks. In addition, the 1935 map shows the campground with a baseball field. Plans for the utility area had also been finalized by July 1935. The utility area, proposed on the June drawing to be constructed south of the custodian's residence, was actually built west of it as shown on the July drawing. (Copies of all four maps are attached as documentation. Design and construction drawing numbers are listed in Item 9.)

The CCC program was phased out at the start of World War II. As men were called to military duty, projects were abandoned and camps dispersed. Most work by the CCC within

(X) See continuation sheet

[1] see Rim Rock Drive Historic District individual nomination, part of the Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission.

Colorado National Monument had ended by 1941, and the program was completely shut down in 1942. The exact fate of the buildings which the camp NM-2-C occupied has yet to be documented with regard to their dates and method of removal. According to Hank Schoch, the monument's Chief Ranger, at least one was burned as a fire training exercise. By the early 1960s the only buildings in that area were the latrine/wash house and several staff residences that may have been moved into the area. When new housing was constructed north of the utility area in the late 1950s and early 1960s as part of MISSION 66, all remaining buildings in the CCC camp area were removed.[2] The CCC camp baseball field has since been turned into a campground parking area. There still remain some foundations and stone walkways that are evidence of the work camp. A large midden (most likely CCC camp related) also exists near the base of a nearby sandstone cliff. The grounds have not been inventoried for historic archeology thus the site's eligibility under criterion D has not been determined.

As the physical remains of CCC base camps are now primarily archeological, the permanent roads and buildings of Colorado National Monument are often the only tangible evidence to visitors that hundreds of men labored there during the Great Depression. The rustic style of architecture displays the history of the development of Colorado National Monument, and also reflects the craftsmanship of the CCC and the LEMs (local experienced men). Employed for various assignments, enrollees of the CCC were essential in the development of many parks and other government facilities. In Colorado National Monument, the CCC, LEMs, and workers from other relief agencies, not only supplied valuable labor in the construction of park facilities for administrative use but, with the construction of Rim Rock Drive, also opened up the park for thousands of visitors.

The four buildings in the utility area are good examples of the design methodology of National Park Service Rustic Architecture, with its emphasis on the use of natural and native materials. The topography of Colorado National Monument is a spectacular display of carved sandstone monoliths and valleys amongst semi-desert terrain. In the construction of these buildings, architects, landscape architects, and the CCC manipulated native stone and wood supports to blend with the surrounding landscape. Earthtones are the predominant colors, with natural cream to red for the stone and brown and rust for the wood supports. The buildings were designed in such a way as to not intrude on the natural landscape, but to blend with the terrain and to be in harmony with their surroundings. The construction techniques of the CCC are also exemplified in these buildings. Through the use of native materials and stone masonry craftsmanship, the structures reflect the National Park Service's design philosophy of maintaining a sense of rusticity in construction. Unified in design and construction techniques, the buildings in the Saddlehorn Utility Area represent the public relief projects of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the rustic architecture design philosophy that prevailed in the National Park Service during the 1930s.

---

[2] MISSION 66 was a ten-year service-wide program instituted by the National Park Service in 1956 to upgrade and expand park facilities.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Baume, Lawrence and Mildred Harris, National Register of Historic Places Draft Nomination, Colorado National Monument, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, 1987.

Good, Albert, Park Structures and Facilities, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Planning, Washington, D.C., 1935.

(X) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
___previously listed in the National Register
_X_previously determined eligible by the National Register
___designated a National Historic Landmark
_X_recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # CO-74
___recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

___State Historic Preservation Office
___Other State agency
_X_Federal agency
___Local government
___University
___Other

Specify Repository:
Park files, COLM

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	1/2	6/9/5/6/0/0	4/3/3/0/2/7/0
B	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / /
C	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / /

Verbal Boundary Description

The Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District is located approximately 800 feet southwest from Rim Rock Drive. At an angle to cardinal directions, the area forms a symmetrical rectangle within rock cliff borders. The linear boundary of the northeast side runs the length of the paved district area to the bordering rock walls, approximately 300 feet. The southeast side measures approximately 175 feet, with the southern most tip just feet away from the rock outcrop. The southwest border repeats the 300 foot measurement of the northeast border. The northwest border measures approximately 175 linear feet. The boundary of the Utility Area allows footage on each side to incorporate the surrounding topography, which was consequential in determining the physical boundary.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the four historically associated buildings and their immediate setting. It excludes the powder house to the southwest and the residences to the north that were constructed after the historic period. Most are screened from view by vegetation. The boundary is identical to the original one drawn around the utility area in original park planning documents as shown on the accompanying site and topographical maps.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy McKoy, Historian date: December 28, 1992; rev. 1/94
organization National Park Service, RMRO
street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway telephone (303) 969-2878
city or town Denver state CO zip code 80228

Law, Henry, G., Laura E. Soulliere, William C. Tweed, National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942, National Park Service, Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, 1977.

Newspaper Articles, Colorado National Monument 1935-1947, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.

Paige, John, C., The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1985.

U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center Technical Information Center files: Drawing Nos. 3011 B, 2062, 2026, 2031 A & B; Topographical Maps Nos. 4948, 3006, 4963, 4970. Denver, CO.

Williams, Lance, List of Classified Structures survey forms, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO, 1976.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photographs Page 1

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information applies to photographs #1-11 listed below:

1)	Property:	Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District, Colorado National Monument
2)	Location:	Mesa County, Colorado
3)	Photographers:	Eunice Fedors, Hank Schoch, Kathy McCraney, as noted below
4)	Date taken:	November 1989, September 1990, and April 1992, as noted below
5)	Location of negatives:	National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver

The property, its location, and location of negatives is the same as above for photo #12, except photographer and date taken are as follows:

3)	Photographer:	Clayton B. Fraser
4)	Date taken:	September 1984

PHOTO NUMBER	DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION
1	Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H), view to SE, Schoch, 9/90
2	Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H), view to N, Schoch, 9/90
3	Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H), view to SW, Schoch, 9/90
4	Oil House (HS-5H), view to NE, Schoch, 9/90
5	Oil House (HS-5H), view to NW, Schoch, 9/90
6	Open Storage Building (HS-6H), view to SE, Schoch, 9/90
7	Open Storage Building (HS-6H), view to SW, Schoch, 9/90
8	Open Storage Building (HS-6H), view to N, Schoch, 9/90
9	Building and Utilities Shop (HS-7H), view to NW, Schoch, 9/90
10	Building and Utilities Shop (HS-7H), view to SW, Schoch, 9/90
11	Fuel Island (no number), view to SE, McCraney, 4/92
12	Saddlehorn Utility Area, view to NW, Fraser, 9/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

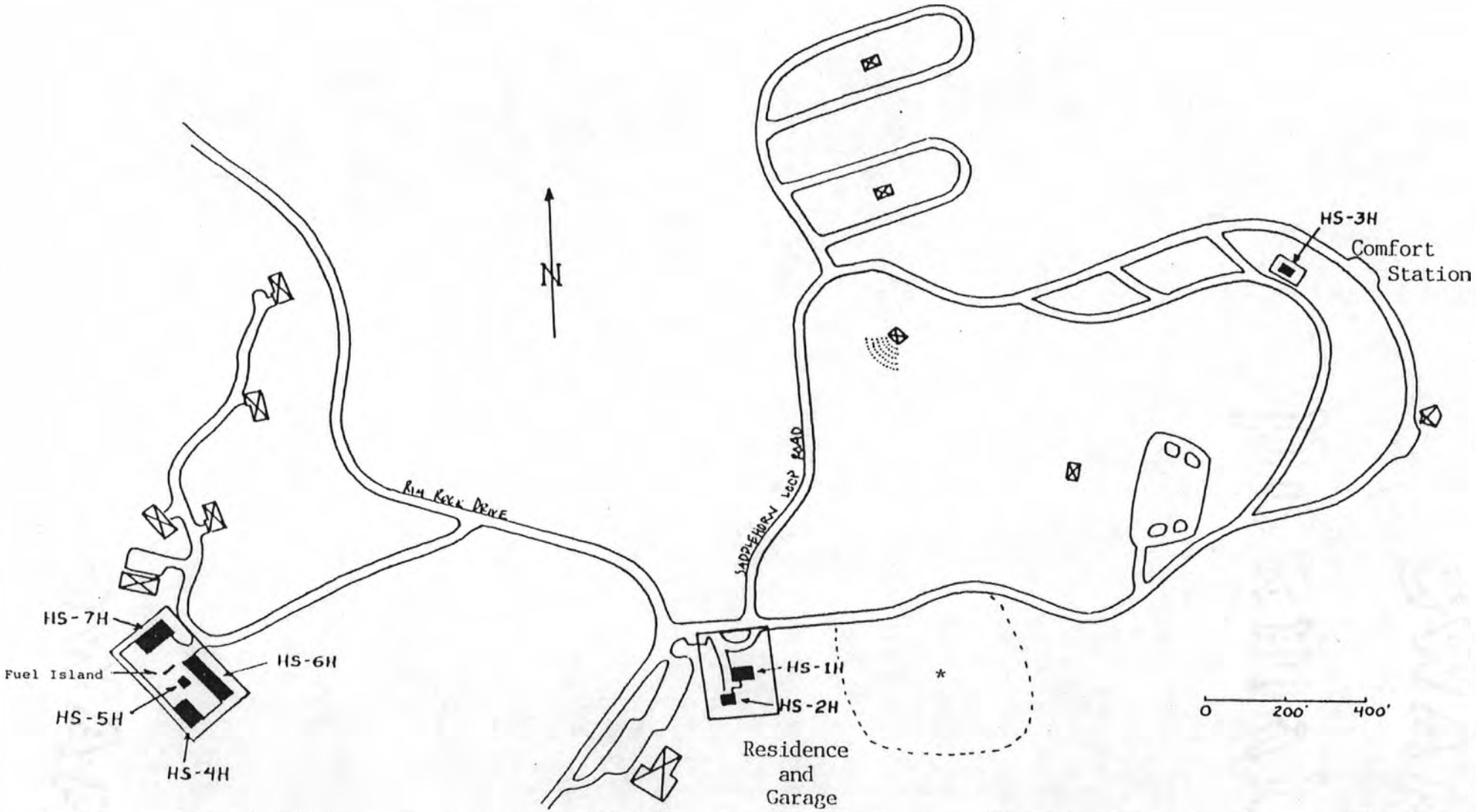
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photographs Page 2

The following information applies to historic photograph copies #13-18 listed below:

1) Property: Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District, Colorado National Monument
2) Location: Mesa County, Colorado
3) Photographers: unknown
4) Date taken: ca. 1949
5) Location of originals: National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver (List of Classified Structures files)

PHOTO NUMBER	DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION
13	Roads and Trails Shop (HS-4H), view to S
14	Oil House (HS-5H), view to SE
15	Open Storage Building (HS-6H), view to E
16	Open Storage Building (HS-6H), view to S
17	Building and Utilities Shop (HS-7H), view to N
18	Building and Utilities Shop (HS-7H), view to E
12	Saddlehorn Utility Area, view to NW, Fraser, 9/84



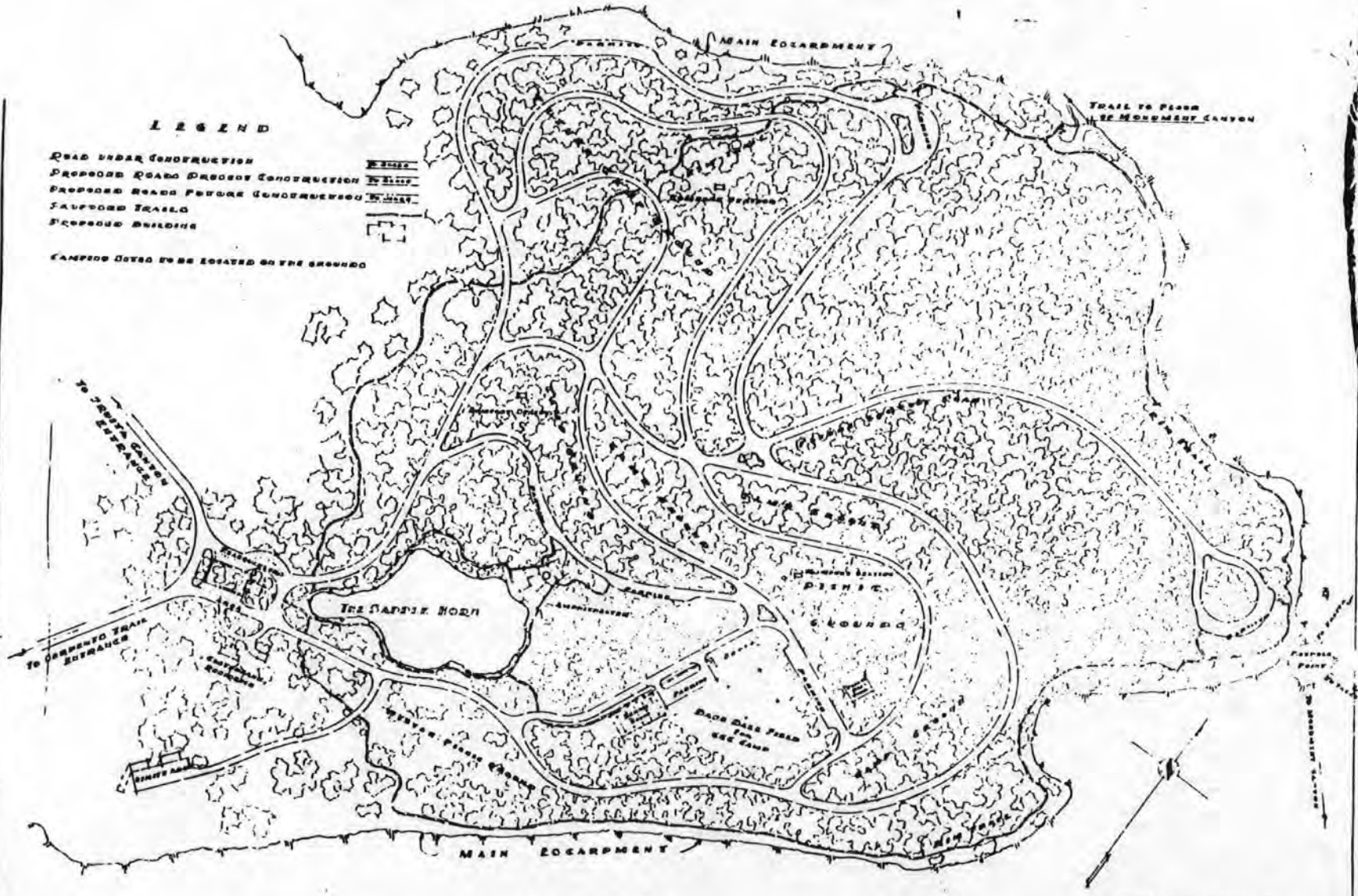
Saddlehorn Utility Area
Historic District

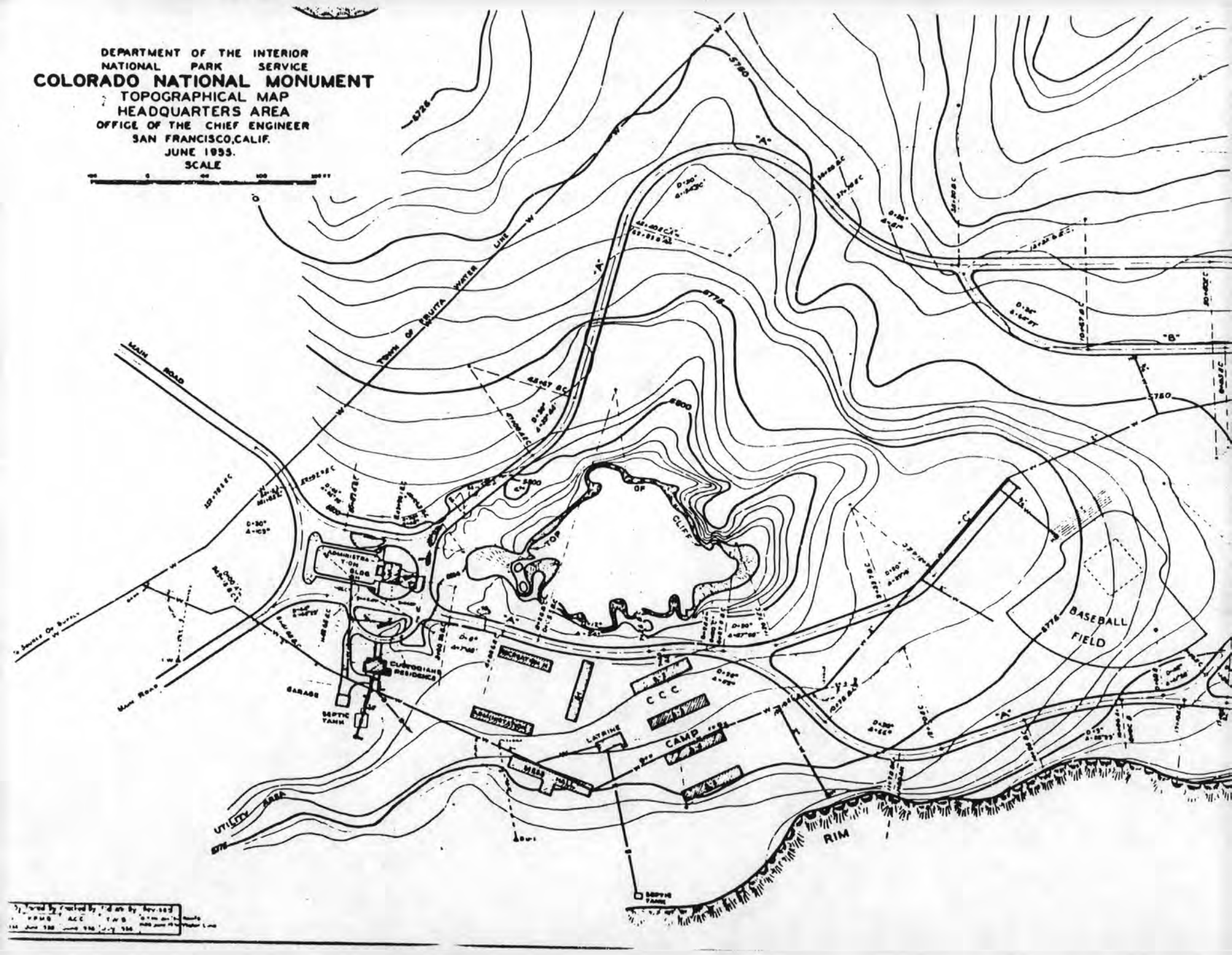
SADDLEHORN HEADQUARTERS & CAMPGROUND
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

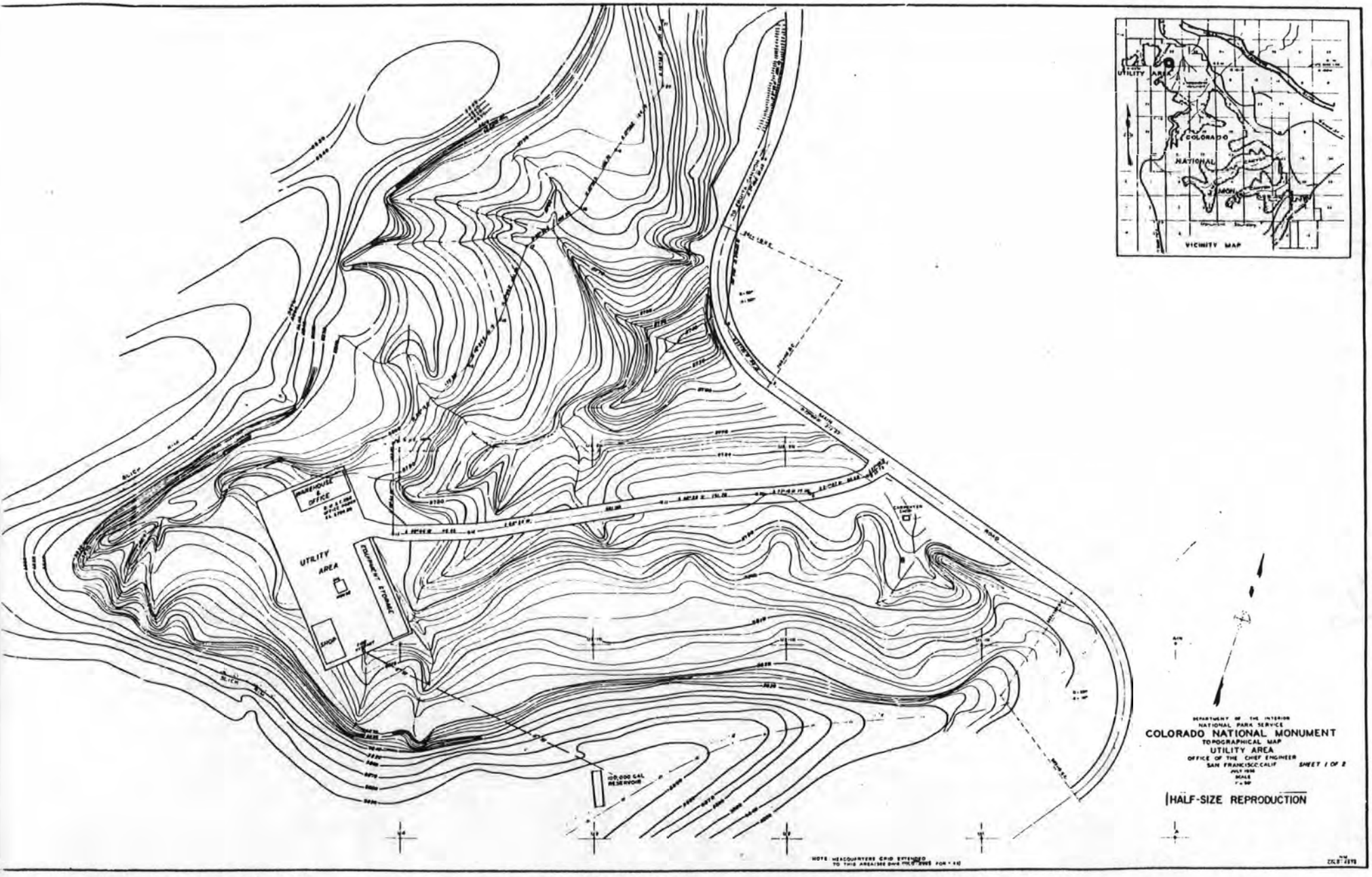
rectangles surrounding resources denote boundaries

*This area was the site of CCC Camp NM-2-C.

contributing
noncontributing


LEGEND
ROAD UNDER CONSTRUCTION
PROPOSED ROADS PRESENT CONSTRUCTION
PROPOSED ROADS FUTURE CONSTRUCTION
FOOTPATH TRAILS
PROPOSED BUILDINGS
CAMPSITE DOTS TO BE LOCATED ON THE GROUND
MAIN ESCARPMENT
TRAIL TO PEAK & MONUMENT CANYON
TO FRUITA CANYON ENTRANCE
TO ORCHARD TRAIL ENTRANCE
TRE SAPPLE HORN
PICNIC GROUNDS
MAIN ESCARPMENT
SCALE 1"=100'-0"
HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION
CAMPGROUND-GENERAL PLAN
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT


DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP
HEADQUARTERS AREA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
JUNE 1935.
SCALE
MAIN ROAD
TOWN OF FRUITA WATER LINE
ADMINISTRATION BLDG
CUSTODIANS RESIDENCE
GARAGE
SEPTIC TANK
LATRINE
CCC CAMP
UTILITY AREA
TOP OF CLIFF
BASEBALL FIELD
RIM
"A"
"B"
"C"



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

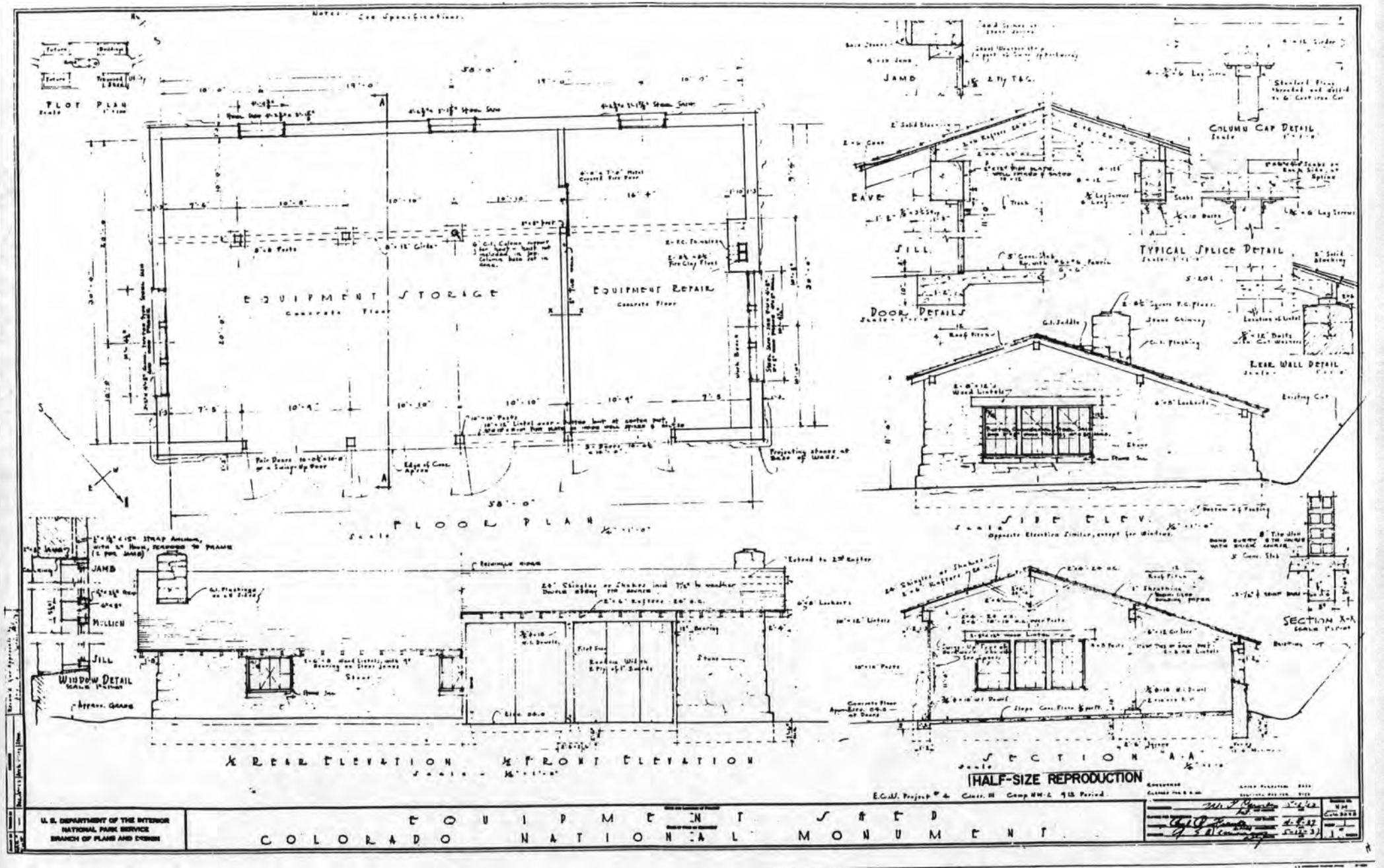
TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP

UTILITY AREA

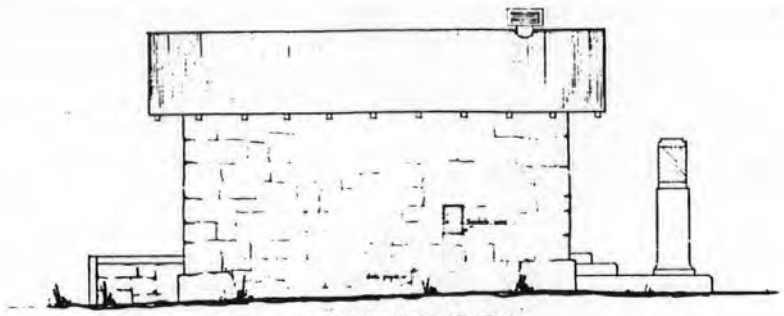
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. SHEET 1 OF 2
JULY 1938
SCALE
1" = 50'

HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

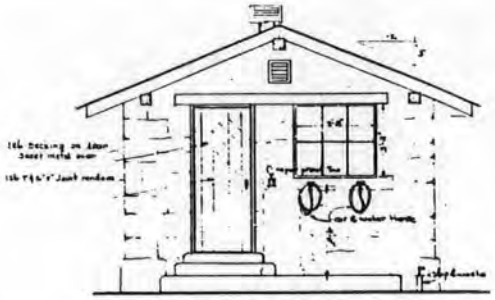
NOTE: HEADQUARTERS GRID EXTENDED TO THIS AREA USING DMA HOLLERITHS FOR 1:10



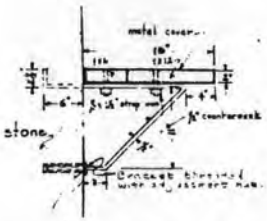
Roads and Trails Shop, HS-4H



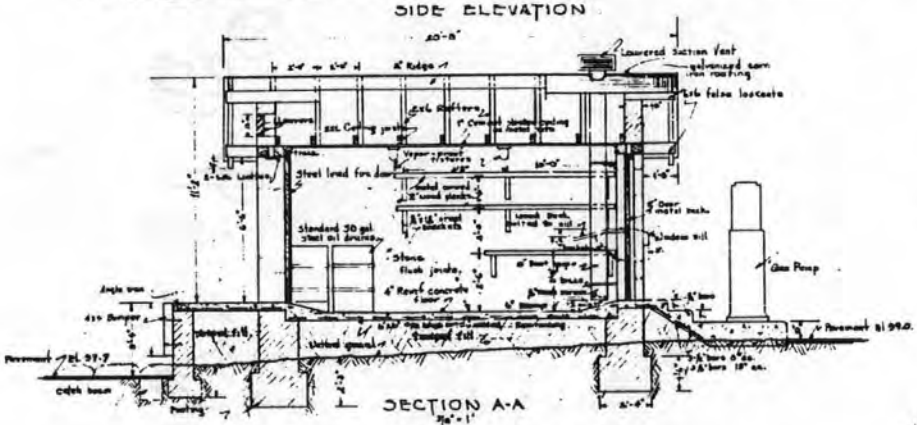
SIDE ELEVATION



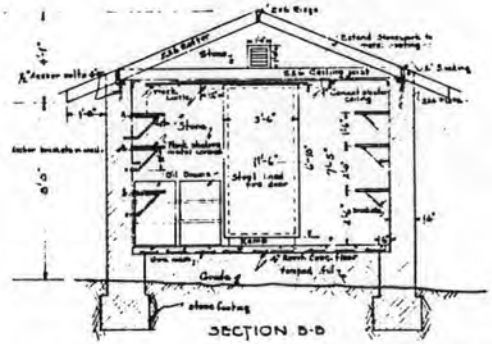
FRONT ELEVATION
⅜" = 1'-0"



SHELF & BRACKET DET
1½" = 1'-0"

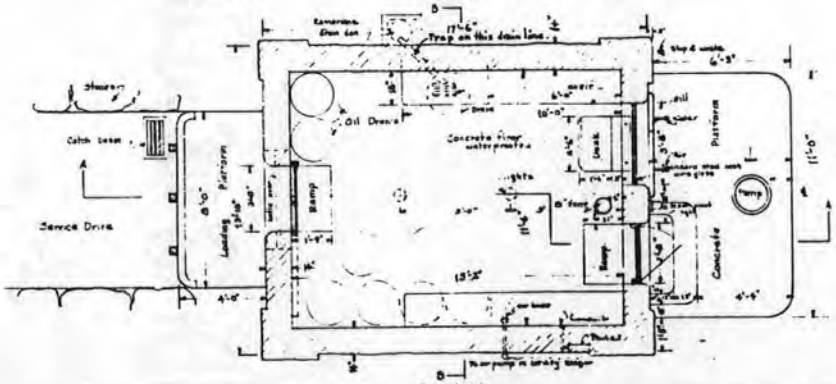


SECTION A-A

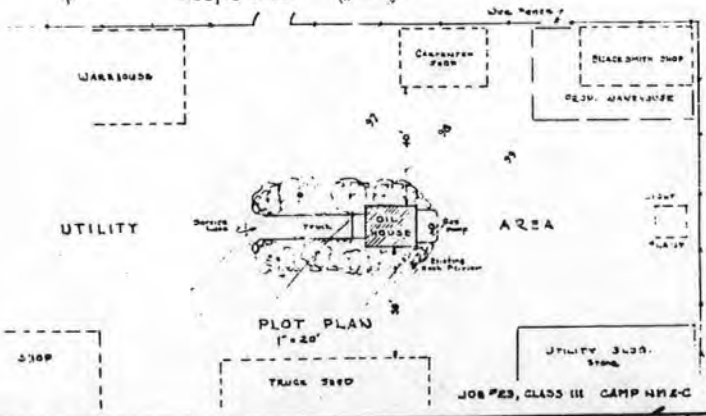


SECTION B-B

Note:
Construction data for Type 'B' flammable liquid storage bldg. taken from suggested ordinance & regulations of National Fire Protection Assn.



PLAN



PLOT PLAN
1" = 20'

JOB NO. 23, CLASS III CAMP NMAC 10M PERIOD

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

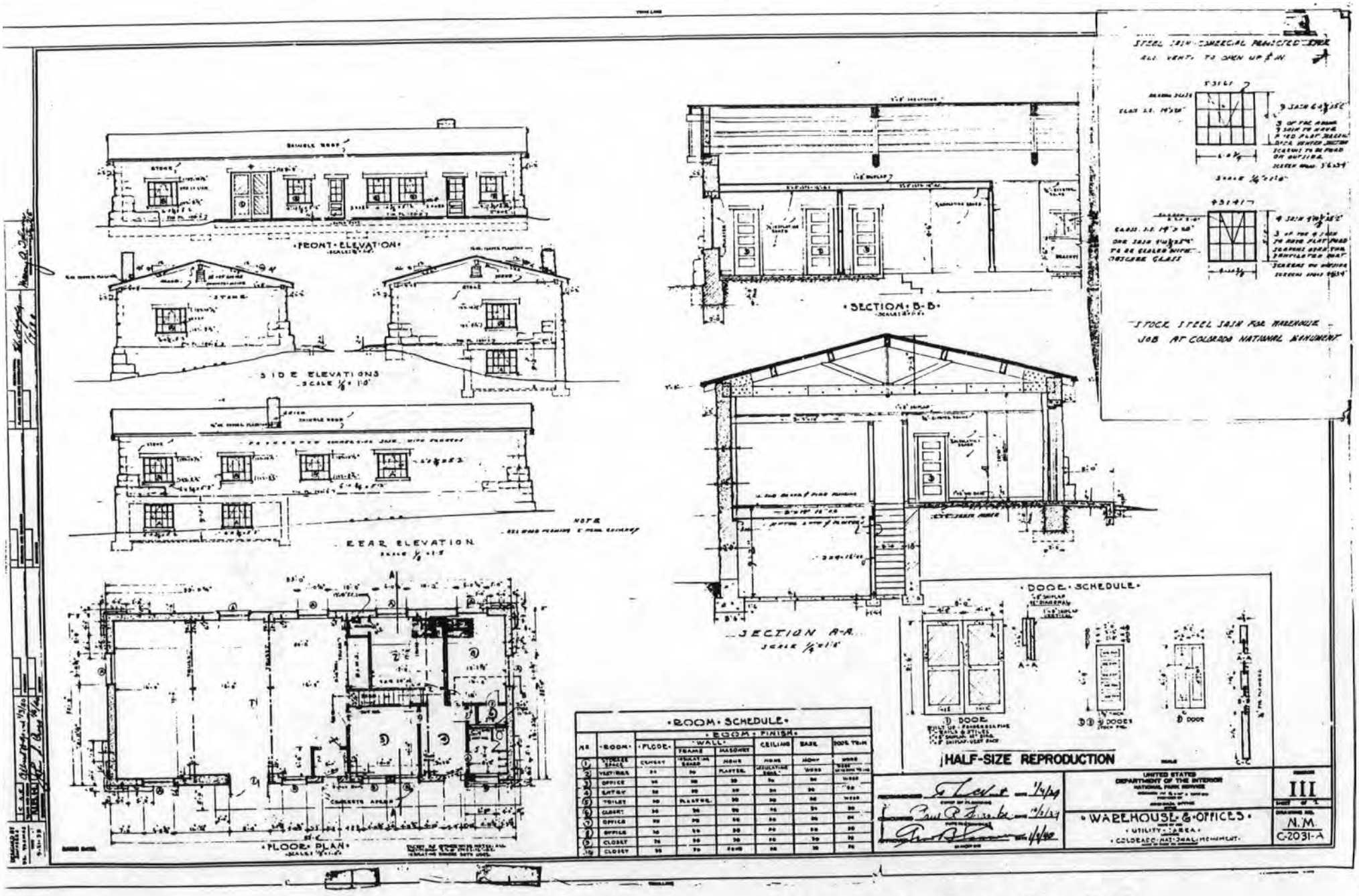
OIL STORAGE BLDG. & UTILITY AREA
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

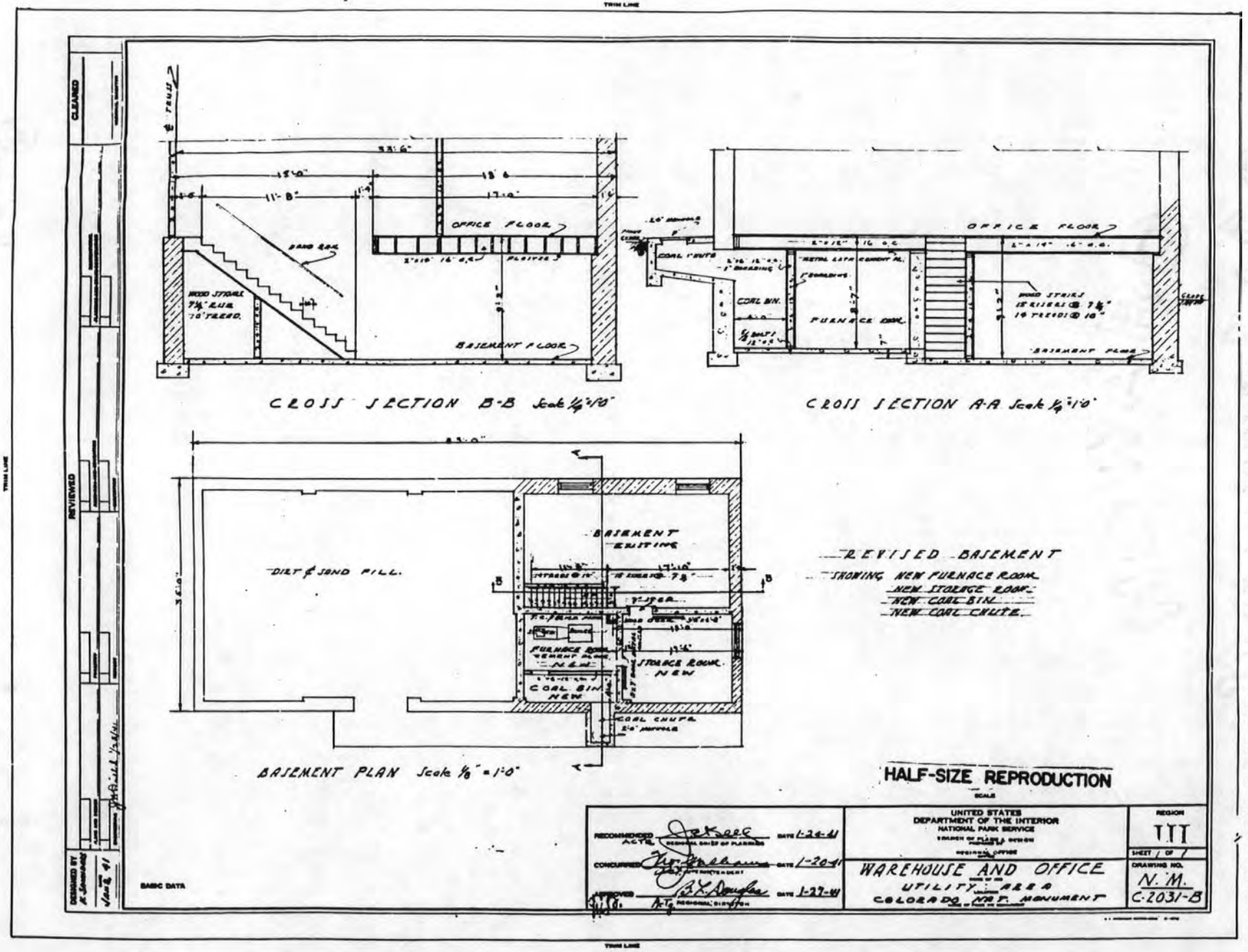
REGION III

Oil House, HS-5H

Open Storage Building, HS-6H



Buildings and Utilities Shop, HS-7H



Buildings and Utilities Shop, HS-7H
Basement Plan

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000308 **Date Listed: 4/21/94**

Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District, Mesa CO
Property Name **County** **State**

Colorado National Monument MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Beth Boland
Signature of the Keeper

5/4/94
Date of Action

==========

Amended Items in Nomination:

The period of significance is 1937-1942. This information was verified by Kathy McKoy, NPS RMRO.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: Colorado National Monument MPS

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Mesa

DATE RECEIVED: 3/08/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/22/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/07/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/22/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000308

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	Y	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A, C
REVIEWER Boland
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 4/21/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y)/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

647

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex

other names/site number 5ME.11658

2. Location

street & number Colorado National Monument [N/A] not for publication

city or town Fruita [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Mesa code 077 zip code 81521-0001

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [ ] nationally [X] statewide [ ] locally. ([ ] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Georgianna Contiguglia State Historic Preservation Officer 5/19/03
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria.
([ ] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

June 5, 2003
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

[X] entered in the National Register
[ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register
[ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[ ] removed from the National Register
[ ] other, explain
[ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper Carol D. Shull Date of Action 7-15-03

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

[ ] private
[ ] public-local
[ ] public-State
[X] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

[ ] building(s)
[X] district
[ ] site
[ ] structure
[ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
2	1	structures
0	0	objects
5	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

2

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

Landscape- Park
Recreation and Culture- Outdoor recreation
Recreation and Culture- Museum
Government- Government office

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Landscape- Park
Recreation and Culture- Outdoor recreation
Recreation and Culture- Museum
Government- Government office

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movements

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Stone- Sandstone
roof Asphalt
other Earth (Canyon Rim Trail)

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

DESCRIPTION

The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex is near the intersection of Rim Rock Drive and Saddlehorn Loop Road in the northwest portion of Colorado National Monument, approximately five miles from the monument's west (Fruita) entrance. Colorado National Monument is in western central Colorado between the towns of Fruita and Grand Junction, less than 25 miles from the Colorado-Utah border.

The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex encompasses the park's Mission 66-era Visitor Center and the associated Bookcliff Shelter and Canyon Rim Trail, all of which were designed and constructed as a unified element between 1963 and 1965. The Visitor Center is on the western edge of the complex; Bookcliff Shelter marks the eastern edge. The half-mile-long Canyon Rim Trail, which runs along the northern edge of Wedding Canyon, connects the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter. The boundary of the ten-acre historic district also includes the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage, which were constructed during the 1930s and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places for their significant associations with NPS rustic architecture.[1] Also within the district boundary is a noncontributing Sewage Lift Station, which was constructed during the 1970s and is outside of public view. As such, the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex includes three contributing buildings (the Visitor Center, the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence, and the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Garage), two contributing structures (Canyon Rim Trail and Bookcliff Shelter), and one noncontributing structure (Sewage Lift Station).

The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex has a high level of integrity, reflecting its original Mission-66 era location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The most significant change to the Visitor Center building is a c. 1980 toilet/comfort station addition that is compatible with the original design and does not obscure the qualities for which the building is significant. Canyon Rim Trail is unchanged from its original design, serves its original intent of connecting the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter, and provides an outdoor experience for visitors, which was a goal of Mission 66 visitor center design. Bookcliff Shelter, which is the destination point for Canyon Rim Trail, also has a high degree of integrity. However, Bookcliff Shelter has suffered some deterioration; one of its five beams needs replacement and some masonry needs to be replaced and tuckpointed.

Setting

Colorado National Monument was established by presidential proclamation on May 24, 1911 by President William H. Taft. Located on the northern end of the Uncompahgre Plateau overlooking the Grand Valley of the Colorado River, Colorado National Monument is noted for its spectacular sandstone canyons and monoliths. The monument is in an arid high desert typical of the Colorado Plateau region. Sagebrush, juniper and pinyon trees, and bare soil and rock prevail. The topography of the 32-square-mile monument includes the northern rim of the Uncompahgre Plateau with its deeply cut canyons eroded by the Colorado River. That meandering canyon-cutting river is two miles away, skirting the northern edge of the monument's towering rock formations. The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex is on the rim of Wedding Canyon, and the canyon floor consists of many stone monoliths that rise up to 500 feet and which can be viewed from the Visitor Center,

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[1] Kathy McCoy, historian, National Park Service, Denver, CO, National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the *Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage*, December 28, 1992. The property was listed on the National Register in 1994.

Bookcliff Shelter, and Canyon Rim Trail. Elevations in the monument range from 4,690 feet above sea level (asl) to 7,028 feet asl, with the Visitor Center at 5,787 feet asl.[2] The Visitor Center complex is in the Saddlehorn area of the park. The area was named after the Saddlehorn, a distinctive stone monument called "Ca-Roo-Nump-Ta-Chee" by the Utes, approximately one-quarter mile northeast of the Visitor Center building.

Mission 66 Architecture

The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex was built as part of the NPS Mission 66 program. Mission 66 was a major effort by the National Park Service (NPS) to help meet the demand for visitor services during the years after World War II when the number of national park visitors (and their cars) dramatically increased. The concept of a "visitor center," as coined by Mission 66 planners, is described by Sarah Allaback in her book, *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of A Building Type,* as "the centerpiece of a new era in planning for visitor services in American national parks."[3] The new visitor centers were designed to serve as the park's combined headquarters, auditorium, museum, and restrooms. Mission 66 also represented a significant architectural shift for the National Park Service. The NPS rustic style of architecture that was prevalent in the 1920s and 1930s, and for which the Park Service was so well known, was deemed unsuitable for the new large multi-use buildings. Modern architecture could better meet the new centralized management philosophy of Mission 66, as well as the public's increasing impacts on park resources. Stripped of ornamentation, modern buildings were also an economic choice, taking advantage of postwar materials and construction techniques, but still allowing for colors, textures, and materials that blended with the natural environment.

Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Description – Original Building

Designed by NPS architect Cecil Doty, the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center was true to the Mission 66 form of being distinctly modern in style. Located near the rim of Wedding Canyon, the building offers excellent vistas of the monument, with large glass windows and an external patio that overlooks the adjacent canyon. Encapsulated in natural sandstone, the Visitor Center harmonizes with the canyon's sandstone walls. The Visitor Center's exhibits highlight the park's canyons, wildlife and history, with slide shows and short movies that enhance the visitor's educational and park experience. Administratively reflecting the NPS's centralized management view, the Visitor Center also acts as the monument's headquarters and includes several administrative offices and an informational lobby.

The 3,000-square-foot Visitor Center is a one-story rectangular building with a basement; it is faced with stone masonry on a poured concrete foundation. The facade is sandstone in a random ashlar pattern. The building is comprised of two wings; a central lobby separates the exhibition wing on the west end and the office wing on the east end. The building, which faces north, is side-gabled; the gables meet near the middle of the roof and are offset at different top heights; the roof over the exhibition wing is higher than the roof over the office wing.[4] The sandstone chimney from the

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[2] Colorado National Monument website, "Travel Basics," http://nps.gov/colm/pphtml/basics.html; and Colorado National Monument Official Map and Guide, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1995.

[3] Sarah Allaback, *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type* (Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2000), p. 24.

[4] The architectural plans for the Visitor Center refer to the building front as north – even though the building technically faces northwest (with the rear elevation facing southeast and the sides facing southwest and northeast). For the sake of consistency, this nomination uses "architectural north," and refers to the elevations as north, south, east, and west. However, it should be noted that the camera views given on the back of the photographs that accompany this nomination use directions as given by a compass.

mechanical room in the basement punctures the roof at the office wing close to the lobby, near the offsetting gables. The building's overall dimensions are 132'4" long, and 46'10" wide across the west end, and 34'10"wide across the east end.[5] The east elevation is 12'5" from the ground to the bottom of the eave; the pitch of the roof gives that elevation another 4'3" in height. The east elevation also shows nearly a full wall of sandstone facing, with one full-height window at the staircase to the basement. At the other end of the building, the west elevation shows a complete wall of laid sandstone. The public entrance to the Visitor Center is on the north side, through a full-height glass storefront in the middle front. Since the building is recessed into the side of Wedding Canyon, the basement is exposed on the rear elevation, giving it an additional 9'6" of sandstone wall. The back of the building features a rear porch and a rear entrance to the lobby.

Upon entering the Visitor Center, there are potentially excellent views of the monument's canyons and stone formations through the glass curtain walls of the open front and rear porches. (Currently, book sales racks and a bottled water refrigerator mostly block these views.) The lobby carries in the flagstone flooring that is on both the rear and front porches of the building. The lobby is "L" shaped. The long part of the room stretches from the front entrance to the rear porch; the toe of the "L" extends towards the east, along the glass wall of the rear porch. An information desk greets visitors upon entering the lobby to their left. The built-in clock in the wall behind the information desk is original. Behind the information desk is the corridor that leads to the park's offices. To the right of the lobby is the public portion (exhibition wing) of the Visitor Center, which includes two rooms: the audio-visual room and the exhibit room. The audio-visual room is towards the rear of the building and is 34'3" by 20'6". These dimensions do not include two small rooms that also are part of the audio-visual area: the projection and storage rooms. Upon walking into the audio-visual room, visitors are deviated to either the left or the right by a projection wall that is 5'4" from the entrance. The floor of the audio-visual room is flat so that the space also can be used as a multi-purpose room. The exhibit room is closer to the front entrance. The exhibit room is 41'10" by 25'6" and is used to house the park's museum exhibits, some of which, such as the exhibit on dinosaurs, date to the Mission 66 era.[6] The exhibit room's wood-slatted full-height exhibit screens also are original. The audio-visual and exhibit rooms do not have windows or other forms of natural light.

As previously noted, the eastern wing of the Visitor Center encompasses the park's headquarter operations. A 4'0"-wide corridor runs down the middle of the office wing for 57'6", flanked by offices, a restroom, and a copy room.[7] The four offices on the south side of the corridor are approximately 11' x 14', although each varies slightly in size. These offices, which face the canyon, feature a row of continuous casement and stationary windows that are 5'4" high and extend up to the ceiling. The northern side of the office wing has a restroom, a copy room, and three offices. Two of the offices were the building's original public restrooms, accessed through entry doors on the northern exterior of the building. New public restrooms were built c. 1980 on the western end of the building front, at which time the restrooms were converted into offices. Along the north side of the office wing, a clerestory band of casement windows runs just below the roofline. The basement can be entered from the stairs at the end of the office corridor, or from an outside entrance that also acts as the air intake for the mechanical room in the basement. The basement has four small, rectangular, horizontal, casement

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[5] "Visitor Center," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3134-C, July 17, 1962, 16 Sheets, designed by Cecil Doty, Branch of Architecture, Western Office of Design and Construction (WODC), National Park Service, San Francisco, CA, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.
[6] Ibid.
[7] Ibid.

windows. The basement also has a workroom and storage room.

With the exception of the flagstone flooring in the lobby, vinyl asbestos tile was installed throughout the building. Both the flagstone flooring and vinyl asbestos tile are original to the building. Walls are painted gypsum wallboard throughout, except for the ceramic tile wainscoting in the restroom. Ceilings are acoustical tile in the lobby, exhibit room, and audio-visual room at a height of 11'0", while the remainder is painted gypsum wallboard at a height of 9'0".[8] The entrance doors to the lobby from the rear and front porches are glass. All of the remaining doors on the first floor are wood. The basement doors are hollow metal and fire-rated.

The Visitor Center's walls have an exterior of randomly laid sandstone veneer with a wood 2 x 4 stud 16" o.c. balloon-framed structural wall with 5/8" plywood sheathing that is covered with building paper. The stone for the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter came from Horse Thief Canyon Ranch, Loma, Colorado. In some places, 4" concrete masonry units are used in place of exterior stud walls. The interior walls are 2 x 4 studs, 16" o.c., covered with gypsum wallboard, taped, mudded and painted. The roof is mainly 2 x 12 wood joist studs 16" o.c. connected to a 5-1/4" x 17-7/8" glulam beam; 2 x 8 joist extenders are used for eaves on the southwest end of the building. Now covered with waterproof hypalon, the building originally had a composite roof.[9]

The Visitor Center's asphalt parking lot can handle 36 cars and two to three recreational vehicles or buses in a semi-circular pattern in front of the building. As they approach the building, visitors pass a single flagpole adjacent to the sidewalk. The covered front porch is a rectangle of 22'0" by 17'9" and leads to a covered walkway that runs along the length of the east end of the building front. The walkway has a 2'0"-high stone wall with a row of 11 4" x 4" wood columns supporting the roof. The rear flagstone porch, which is used as a sitting area, also has a rectangular-shaped roof with dimensions of 30'4" by 14'4". Similar to the front porch, the rear porch has a 2'0"-high stone wall with 4" x 4" wood columns. The porch has six stone steps that lead down to a canyon overlook that has a chain link fence to protect visitors from the canyon edge. Midway between the rear porch and the overlook is the beginning of Canyon Rim Trail. On the eastern side of the Visitor Center, an asphalt service road, which is original to the complex, runs between the outside door on the southeastern corner of the building to the area of the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage.[10]

Alterations

The Visitor Center is in excellent condition with no known defects in structural integrity, architecture, or building systems. Many changes have been made since the building was erected in 1963. The largest change was the addition of two visitor restrooms and a utility room on the western end of the building front c. 1980. However, this addition flows out of the original building and does not diminish the integrity of the original structure. Except for slight grain differences in the natural stone veneer and a partial blocking of the original "Visitor Center" lettering, one would not know that an addition had been

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[8] Ibid.

[9] Ibid, and Suzanne Clarke, letter to Judi Lofland, Colorado National Monument, May 22, 2000. Clarke's letter and the accompanying report, "The Legend of Horse Thief Canyon" by Bonnie Coffman, p. 6, state that Joe Coffman of Horse Thief Canyon Ranch quarried the stone.

[10] "Trails and Overlooks," Colorado National Monument," Drawing No. NM-COLO 3210, Sheet No. 3, "Nature Trail to Bookcliff Shelter," July 1964, designed by landscape architects Babbitt and Hughes [no first names given], Division of Landscape Architecture, WODC, and "Planting Plan," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. 3208, designed by landscape architect Babbitt [no first name given], Division of Landscape Architecture, WODC, copies in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

built without consulting architect Cecil Doty's original plans. Maintaining the same pitch of the roof, the addition seamlessly blends into Doty's original structure. The addition was built as an extension of the original roofline and extends it until it nearly reaches the ground. (In this regard, the roofline now resembles Bookcliff Shelter.) The addition is 36'4" long along the exhibit room side of the Visitor Center, and 21'8" wide as it extends along the entry walk.[11] Skylights in the roof over each restroom add natural light. A retaining wall extends out from the addition along the entrance walkway, and a handicap ramp replaces the flagstone steps of the walkway. The men's restroom was built according to future Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specifications.

Other major work to the building exterior included enclosing the rear porch with storefront glass to create a solarium, which has since been removed. Volunteers, including monument staff and members of the Grand Junction Solar Energy Society, built the solarium c. 1979. The project was part of an energy conservation effort by Colorado National Monument, which was one of six parks chosen by the Department of the Interior to experiment with solar energy. The project included adding a skylight in the roof of the porch and a wood-burning stove.[12] The sun and the wood-burning stove were to heat the enclosed porch and transfer the air to the lobby to defray heating costs. Although the enclosure did, indeed, defray heating costs, it was removed c. 1994 because it also increased cooling costs in the summer. At the same time, the skylights were removed and replaced with decking and roofing materials.[13]

The removal of the skylights coincided with the reroofing of the Visitor Center, at which time the built-up composite roof was removed and replaced with a tan color, coated, hypalon roofing membrane system in 1994.[14] A wood parapet was added to the north elevation above the entrance to act as a break from rainwater falling over the entry. Wood blocking was added around the perimeter of the roof to divert rainwater runoff. New roofing also was placed over the restroom addition.[15]

In 1982, Francis Constructors of Grand Junction, Colorado added a solar heating and hot water system to the Visitor Center, at a cost of $98,000.[16] A group of solar panels was placed on the ground southeast of the building. The energy collected was transferred to the mechanical room in the basement where it was used to warm the building and domestic water. The solar panels and its associated equipment and piping were removed in 1990 because of mechanical problems.

Interior changes are many, but the integrity of the building is still intact. Other than the conversion of the original restrooms into additional offices, only two minor architectural design changes were made. These changes include knocking out the back wall of the closet and combining the closet with the janitor room to make a copy work room. The other change was to make an office in the basement by walling off a 12'3" x 10'1" section in the east corner.

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[11] "Renovate Rest Rooms," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. 119-41006. July 1979, 10 Sheets, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.
[12] Karen Hastings, "Putting 'Ol' Sol' To Work", *Westword: The Sunday Magazine of The Daily Sentinel*, November 4, 1979, Grand Junction, CO.
[13] "Reroof Visitor Center" Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. 119-80,045, July 1994, 3 Sheets, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.
[14] Sayre Hutchison, architect, National Park Service, Intermountain Support Office, Denver, CO, "Colorado Cultural Survey, Historic Building/Structure Form for Colorado National Monument Visitor Center and Administrative Offices," May 20, 1998, National Park Service, Intermountain Support Office files, Denver, CO.
[15] Ibid.
[16] Unit Price Contract, Contract No. CX-1200-1-9008, date of acceptance: April 17, 1982 with Francis Constructors, Grand Junction, CO, Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

Interior decorating changes include carpeting over the vinyl asbestos tile in the basement, the offices, and the exhibit and audio-visual rooms in the early 1980s to comply with the asbestos management plan. Paneling sheets were placed over the gypsum board on all the office walls in the late 1970s. Changes to the lobby include a replaced information desk and removal of the window between the lobby and office, which was covered over with a corduroy-style carpet. The same carpet was placed on the wall in between the exhibit and audio-visual rooms. This work was done in the early 1990s. New panic hardware and ADA-accessible door openers were installed in 2000.[17] All interior and exterior painted surfaces retained their original paint colors, as specified in the "Material Color and the Interior Paint Color Schedules" on Sheet 4A of 13 of the as-constructed drawings (NM-COLO-3134-D, dated 7/17/62), until c. 1980. At that time, all interior and exterior surfaces were repainted with a variety of neutral colors. In 2001 the exterior paint scheme of "Seal Brown" and "Dunes Tan," which was first applied c. 1980, was renewed.[18] Building system changes include a fire protection sprinkler system, which was added in June 1989 to comply with life safety codes. Boilers were replaced in 1985 with more efficient models.

On the exterior, along the sidewalk from the parking lot to the entrance, is a plaque to the first director of the National Park Service, Stephen Mather. Opposite the plaque is an exhibit board giving basic information about Colorado National Monument. Both the plaque and exhibit board were placed c. 1987. In c. 1995, a plaque and statue of John Otto on his horse were placed between the restroom addition and the retaining wall of the entrance ramp.[19]

Some building features may be original but are not on the original plans. These include a sink, countertop, and cabinets in what is called the basement storage room on the plans, but which functions as an office kitchen today. The plans call for the sink to be placed in the workroom; however, there is no evidence that this was done. The other change involved more acoustical absorption from the audio-visual room. Superintendent Fred Bussey asked for a change order because too much noise could be heard emanating from the audio-visual room into the exhibit room. The same 12'x 12" acoustical tile that is on the ceiling was also placed on the walls around the entrance of the audio-visual room.

Bookcliff Shelter Description

Bookcliff Shelter rises from the ground in the form of a large open fan, offering views of Wedding Canyon, Monument Canyon, the Bookcliff Mountains, Grand Mesa, and the Colorado River Valley. The shelter is set into the slope of the top of the canyon; its natural sandstone walls and benches designed to look as though they are part of the canyon. The shelter's roof structure fans out over the canyon like a golden eagle soaring above the canyon below. The wood beams of the roof spread out in an array, pointing to views over the wide expansive canyon below. The beams start at ground level near the parking area and elevate at a low pitch (1-13/16:12) to guide the observer to views of the canyon. The elevation at the parking lot sidewalk where the beam meets the foundation is 5,728 feet asl. The bottom of the middle and longest beam at the canyon end is 5,734.34 feet asl, which is 15 feet above the ground.[20] The roof decking does not fully cover the beams to the back of the structure,

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[17] Larry Overbye, maintenance mechanic leader, Colorado National Monument, Fruita, CO, interviewed by Frank Sturgell, March 28, 2002.

[18] John Tordoff, facilities manager, Colorado National Monument, Fruita, CO, "Project Clearance Form, Colorado National Monument to Paint Exterior of Administrative Buildings," May 23, 2001, Colorado National Monument archives.

[19] Overbye inverview, March 28, 2002.

[20] "Bookcliff Shelter," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3145-H, January 1965, 4 Sheets,

leaving it open for vegetation and adding lightness and airiness. All of the walls are curvilinear, symbolic of the shaped and eroded canyon walls below.

The 3'0"-high wall along the parking area, which forms the base of the roof beams, encloses the beams and edges the sidewalk. The wall bows out toward the canyon on a curve designed on a 41'6" radius from the parking area.[21] This curve is the basis for the roof deck above, which also has a notch indented in the middle of the low end, suggestive of an eagle's wings in flight. The next wall towards the canyon is the serpentine public back of the shelter. The west stone wall ties into the west glulam beam and runs full height up for a distance of 6'4" and then ties into the Canyon Rim Trail.[22] The east wall of the shelter is full height up to the glulam beams. The last sandstone wall is 2'0" high and gives a serpentine form to the southeast edge of the shelter, protecting the public from the edge of the canyon.

Bookcliff Shelter's wall construction is of randomly laid sandstone in mortar and is both a structural element and a facade for the four 3-1/2" steel tube columns encapsulated by stone. The steel tube columns allow the beams to cantilever out an additional 25'6" out toward the canyon. The roofing structure consists of 7" wide by 26" deep glulam wood beams, with tongue-and-groove wood decking.[23] The waterproofing of the roof is built-up roofing topped with gravel construction. The shelter varies in total dimensions in every direction because of the curves and the arrangement of the beams. The greatest length from back to front is 43'6," with 23'4" of this in the usable shelter portion near the canyon edge. The shortest point in that direction is 29'0 at both the east and west beams.[24] Because of the dimensions of the radii, the east/west dimensions are not given on plan; the greatest length in this direction scaled off is over 45 feet. Under the roof of the shelter is an interpretive sign that identifies the monoliths in the canyon below. The shelter is also equipped with a wooden bench that offers visitors some rest after the half-mile hike from the Visitor Center.

Besides anchoring Canyon Rim Trail, Bookcliff Shelter helps with crowd control. Saddlehorn Loop Road, which runs along the canyon rim in the area of the Visitor Center, was built during the Civilian Conservation Corps era. Prior to the construction of Bookcliff Shelter, Saddlehorn Loop Road led to a small parking lot in that area for visitors to stop and enjoy the views. However, visitors stopping at what was then referred to as the Bookcliff overlook often trampled much of the area's fragile desert fauna and cryptobiotic soils. Bookcliff Shelter serves as a focal point for visitors, helping direct crowds to the Shelter and adjacent Canyon Rim Trail, and discouraging them from spreading out over a wide area.

Alterations

Bookcliff Shelter has undergone some changes that deviate from its original design by NPS architect Phil Romigh. Romigh called for the glulam beams and the underside of the roof decking to be stained with Olympic Heavy Bodied Stain "Mesa Gray."[25] However, that wood is now painted, not stained. Another change is that Romigh's plans called for steps and 16"-high stone walls along the walks that lead to the shelter from the parking area and Canyon Rim Trail, but these steps and walls were never built. Although drawn on the plan, this work was not included in the contract of E.C. Huff of Grand Junction. The steps and stone walls would have helped with crowd control and helped guide visitors to

designed by Phil Romigh, Division of Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[21] Ibid.

[22] Ibid.

[23] Ibid.

[24] Ibid.

[25] Ibid.

the shelter.

The most significant change to Bookcliff Shelter is that a pole now supports the canyon side of the middle beam, obstructing views of the canyon. The pole was placed in the shelter approximately 15 years ago, when the end of the middle beam that is anchored into the east wall rotted out. The rot seems to be caused by faulty flashing on top of the beam. The other beams are in excellent shape. Although most of the masonry is in good shape, some settlement cracks have occurred and a few stones have loosened on both the anchor and back walls of the shelter.

Canyon Rim Trail Description

Canyon Rim Trail runs between the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter; a small overlook is located at the halfway point along the trail. The NPS Western Office of Design and Construction, which designed the trail, called for it to be field located so that it could best harmonize with its natural surroundings. The trail is 4 feet wide and of minimal design, marked by a scattering of rocks along the trail edge and a 3" layer of chinle stone where rock is not encountered. Chinle is natural to Colorado National Monument as it forms a lower layer of rock in the canyons of the park; it is a dark red and blends well with the sand and rock along the trail. Metal guardrail posts and chain-link fencing line small sections on the outside edge of the trail to protect visitors as they walk along the edge of the canyon's 400' cliffs. The mid-point overlook, described on the original drawing as the "Monument View Overlook," does not include any structures other than fencing. Canyon Rim Trail's guardrail posts and fencing do not appear to have been changed from the original drawing, which called for straight metal posts with 30" fencing. The trail alignment also does not appear to have changed. A 1975 drawing shows Canyon Rim Trail, identified as Park Service Trail 14, as following the same general alignment as that shown on the original 1964 drawing. Monument records from 1977 also describe Canyon Rim Trail as being in good condition. A September 2000 walking survey of the trail also indicates that it has not changed substantially.[26]

As noted earlier, the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex includes two buildings previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage, which are both rectangular one-story sandstone buildings that were designed by the National Park Service and constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935 and 1936, were listed on the National Register in 1994 as excellent examples of NPS Rustic architecture.[27] Although these buildings were constructed prior to the period of significance for the Visitor Center complex, they were extant at the time that the complex was built and are part of the authentic historic scene. The Caretaker's Residence and Garage and their associated landscape features (driveway and curbing) are located on Saddlehorn Loop Drive east of that road's intersection with Rim Rock Drive.

The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex boundary also includes one noncontributing structure: a Sewage Lift Station, which is an aboveground fiberglass structure that is approximately 150 feet due south of the Caretaker's Residence, and which is outside of public view. The Sewage Lift Station was constructed during the 1970s, beyond the 1963-65 period of significance for the historic

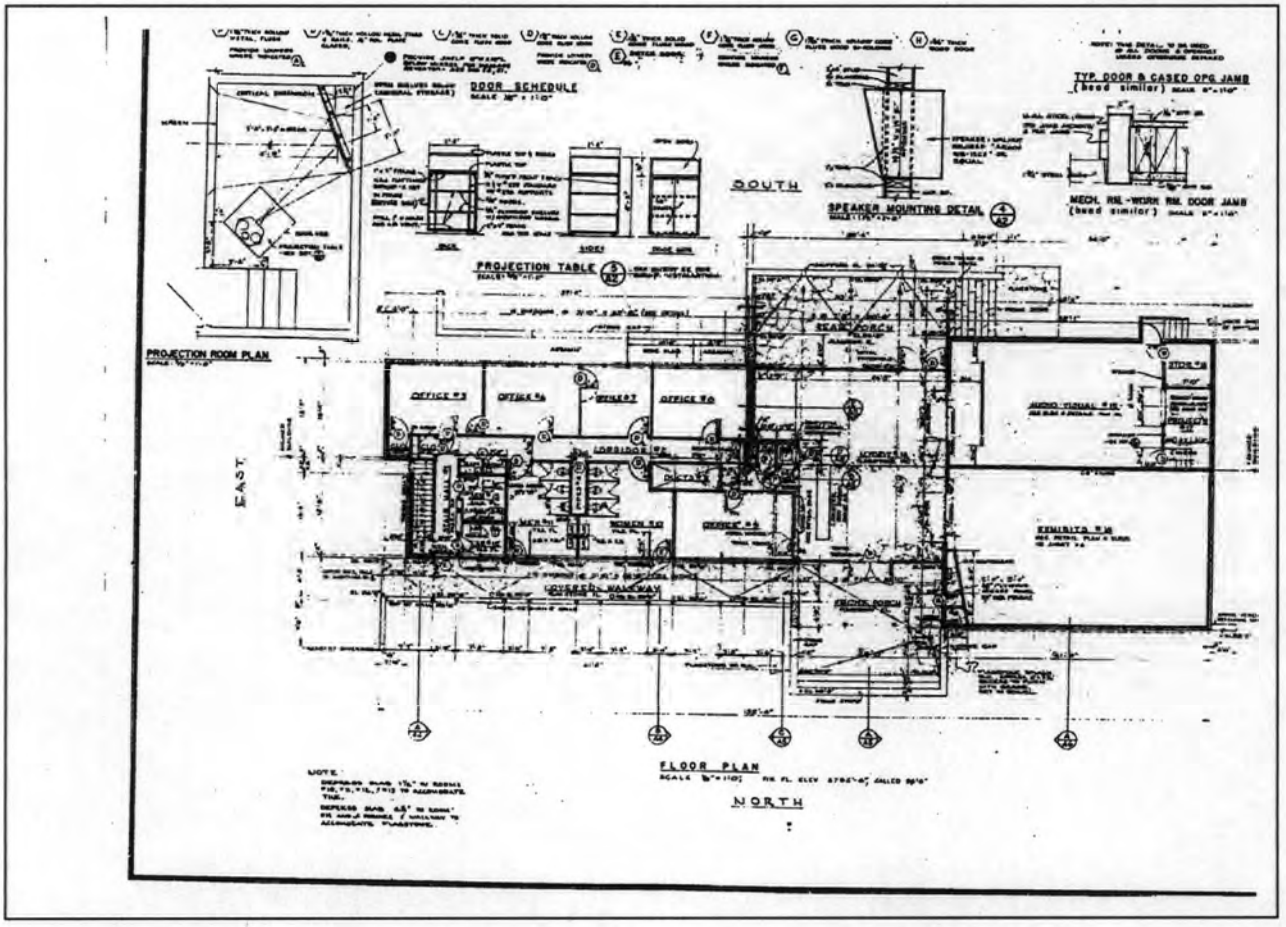
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[26] "Trails and Overlooks," Colorado National Monument," Drawing No. NM-COLO 3210, Sheet No. 3, "Nature Trail to Bookcliff Shelter," July 1964, designed by landscape architects Babbitt and Hughes [no first names given], Division of Landscape Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO; and Christine Whitacre, historian, National Park Service, Intermountain Support Office, Denver, CO, "Colorado National Monument, Historic Trails, Determination of Eligibility Survey Report," September 6, 2001, National Park Service, Intermountain Support Office files, Denver, CO.

[27] McCoy, National Register Nomination for the *Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage*.

district.[28]

VISITOR CENTER COMPLEX SITE PLAN



[28] John Tordoff, facilities manager, Colorado National Monument, Fruita, CO, telephone interview by Christine Whitacre, August 16, 2002.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

[X] **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[ ] **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[X] **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

[ ] **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

[ ] **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

[ ] **B** removed from its original location.

[ ] **C** a birthplace or grave.

[ ] **D** a cemetery.

[ ] **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[ ] **F** a commemorative property.

[X] **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Entertainment/Recreation
Community Planning and Development
Architecture

Periods of Significance
1963-1965

Significant Dates
1963, 1964, 1965

Significant Person(s)
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Doty, Cecil
Romigh, Phil

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

[ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

[ ] previously listed in the National Register

[ ] previously determined eligible by the National Register

[ ] designated a National Historic Landmark

[ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

#_____

[ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

#_____

Primary location of additional data:

[X] State Historic Preservation Office

[ ] Other State Agency

[ ] Federal Agency

[ ] Local Government

[ ] University

[ ] Other

Name of repository:
Colorado Historical Society

SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed between 1963 and 1965, the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex, which includes the park's Visitor Center, Bookcliff Shelter, and Canyon Rim Trail, is an excellent representation of NPS Mission 66 planning and design. The largest multi-year construction event in NPS history, Mission 66 was a major effort by the National Park Service to upgrade the national parks to meet escalating demands in the post-World War II period, when the number of visitors to the parks dramatically increased. Initiated in 1956, the goal of the program was to substantially improve the parks by 1966, hence the name "Mission 66." (Although Mission 66 officially extended from 1956-1966, the National Park Service has determined a 1945-1972 period of significance, a date range that covers the important design precedents of Mission 66 as well as later Mission-66 influenced resources.)[29] The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex meets National Register Criterion A for its association with the Mission 66 program, which represented a significant change in NPS planning, management, and architecture. Within the NPS system, Mission 66 was an over-arching program that resulted in the construction of new housing, maintenance areas, entrance stations, roads, parking lots, comfort stations, campgrounds and concessionaire buildings, as well as the design of a new NPS arrowhead and uniform. The most significant expression of Mission 66 philosophy, however, was the "visitor center," a term coined by NPS planners to describe a property type that combined multiple visitor and administrative functions into one complex. Mission 66 historian Sarah Allaback has called the visitor center "the centerpiece of a new era in planning for visitor services in American national parks," and a concept that greatly influenced the development of similar centers throughout state parks in the United States as well as national parks in the rest of the world.[30] The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex also meets National Register Criterion C as an excellent representation of Mission 66 design. The visitor center was designed by NPS architect Cecil Doty, the Park Service's primary Mission 66 architect; NPS architect Phil Romigh finalized the plans for Bookcliff Shelter. Overall, the complex reflects several key elements of Mission 66 design. These elements include the advent of modern architecture into the parks, the placement of the visitor center adjacent to the park's major resources, the use of terraces and window walls to provide significant views of natural features, the centralization of park services within one compound, a floor plan that segregates public areas from administrative areas and encourages "visitor flow" through the building, the use of natural materials that reflect the surrounding landscape, and the construction of adjacent overlooks and trails, such as Bookcliff Shelter and Canyon Rim Trail. Although the modern style of Mission 66 architecture had its critics, historian Sarah Allaback notes that "Park Service Modern, as developed by Park Service designers during the Mission 66 era, became as influential in the history of American national and state park management as the Park Service Rustic style had been."[31]

Although the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex is less than 50 years old, it is eligible to the National Register under Criterion Consideration G as an exceptional example of NPS Mission 66 planning and Park Service Modern architecture in Colorado. The NPS theme study, *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type* by Sarah Allaback, provides a contextual basis for considering National Register eligibility of the over 100 Mission 66 visitor centers throughout the United States. Allaback outlines the registration requirements for Mission 66 visitor centers as follows: 1) the visitor center must have been originally planned and built as part of Mission 66 and fall within the 1945-1972 period of significance; 2) it should retain most or all of the distinguishing characteristics of a Mission 66 visitor center; 3) it should possess physical integrity; and 4) it should be a successful reflection of the

[29] Allaback, pp. 273-274
[30] Ibid., p. 268.
[31] Ibid., p. 24.

principles of Park Service Modern. In terms of Criterion Consideration G, Allaback notes that: "The historical context developed for Mission 66 visitor centers indicates that only those visitor centers that served as early prototypes (1945-1956) or which were part of the original, finite group of Mission 66 visitor centers (1956-1966) potentially possess exceptional importance."[32] The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center, which was one of the original Mission 66 visitor centers, meets all these criteria for National Register listing, including the criterion for exceptional significance.

Mission 66

Mission 66 was a large-scale effort by the National Park Service to upgrade the nation's parks in the period following World War II. In 1949, NPS director Newton Drury described the parks as "victims of war." "Neglected since the New Deal era improvements of the 1930s," observes historian Allaback, "the national parks were in desperate need of funds for basic maintenance, not to mention protection from an increasing number of visitors." In 1931, 3.5 million people visited the national parks; by 1948, that number had increased to almost 30 million. But, Allaback notes, "park facilities remained essentially as they were before the war."[33] Colorado National Monument alone experienced an increase in visitation from 9,500 people in 1927, to 207,268 people in 1958. (Those numbers continued to grow after Mission 66. In 1979, Colorado National Monument was visited by 473,074 people; that number jumped to 709,641 visitors in 1980.[34]) Contributing to the growth in the number of visitors after World War II was the post-war economic boom and the ability of more and more Americans to buy personal automobiles, enabling them to visit the nation's treasures. In response, the National Park Service needed new facilities to accommodate the crowds, and it needed those facilities designed in a way that would best protect the parks from resource damage.

National Park Service director Conrad Wirth first conceptualized the idea of modernizing the parks through a massive, multi-year redevelopment program in February 1955. Rather than submitting a yearly budget, Wirth – who "envisioned the Park Service's dilemma though the eyes of a congressman" – requested a decade of funding, rather than the traditional year-by-year funding requests, "thereby ensuring money for building projects that might last many years."[35] As envisioned by Wirth, "Mission 66 would allow the Park Service to repair and build roads, bridges and trails, hire additional employees, construct new facilities ranging from campsites to administration buildings, improve employee housing, and obtain land for future parks . . . to elevate the parks to modern standards of comfort and efficiency, as well as an attempt to conserve natural resources."[36] On January 27, 1956, Wirth introduced the Mission 66 concept to President Dwight Eisenhower and his cabinet, where it received immediate approval. The program was officially presented to the American public the following month.[37]

At the heart of the new Mission 66 program was the concept of a visitor center. The visitor center would act as a "one-stop" service unit, equipped with an information desk, uniformed ranger, lobby exhibits, illustrated talks, museum, library, and restrooms. The center also provided space for administrative offices, which were removed from the public areas and often accessed through a

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[32] Ibid., pp. 268 and 273-74.
[33] Ibid., p. 1.
[34] "Statement for Management Regarding Colorado National Monument," approved by the acting regional director, Rocky Mountain Region, National Park Service, April 16, 1981, included in a volume entitled "Statements for Management Regarding Colorado National Monument, " Denver Service Center Library, Denver CO.
[35] Allaback, p. 3
[36] Ibid., p. 3.
[37] Ibid., pp. 4-5.

separate entrance. This type of design was a major departure from the earlier NPS concept of a decentralized "park village," where different park functions were spread out in individual, rustic-style buildings. In an efficient and economic combination of services, the Mission 66 visitor center "brought these activities together in a single, large building intended to serve as a control point for what planners called 'visitor flow,' as well as a more efficient means of serving far larger numbers of visitors and cars in a more concentrated area."[38] Like a shopping center, the visitor center made it possible for people to park their cars at a central point, and from there have access to a range of services and attractions. To accomplish the wide-ranging goals of Mission 66, the NPS master planning process utilized teams with representatives from the disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, ecology, natural history resource management, archeology, history, and other fields.[39] In 1956, an NPS outline titled "Mission 66: To Provide Adequate Protection and Development of the National Park System for Human Use" proposed that 100 new visitor centers would be needed. From an original request of $786 million, Mission 66 eventually cost almost a billion dollars during its ten-year span, nearly four times the budget of the previous ten years.[40]

In addition to a new strategy for management, Mission 66 also resulted in a distinctive new type of NPS architecture that reflected the new ideas – a style Sarah Allaback says can be described as "Park Service Modern." Modern architecture was the prevalent architectural style in the postwar period, and Mission 66 brought that design ethic to the national parks. Stripped of most ornamentation, modern architecture took advantage of new inexpensive materials and laborsaving techniques. The flexibility of modern architectural design also allowed for shapes and interior environments that could accommodate visitor flow, as well as offices and public spaces in the same building. By contrast, the rustic style that the Park Service had used throughout the 1920s and 1930s was costly to build on a large scale and, aesthetically, would result in new visitor centers that resembled hotel lodges. On the plus side, rustic buildings blended seamlessly with the natural surroundings because of their picturesque design and use of natural materials. Park Service Modern, says Allaback, "reinterpreted the long-standing commitment to 'harmonize' architecture with park landscapes," but accomplished that in a different way than rustic architecture. Rather than being designed as picturesque elements of the landscape, Mission 66 buildings were meant to have a low horizontal profile that was unobtrusive. In the same way, Mission 66 visitor centers often were constructed of stone and textured concrete that reduced visual contrasts with the landscape. [41] Also part of the new design concept was that the visitor centers were often located "right on top of the resource" so visitors could "see virtually everything from the visitor center."[42]

At Colorado National Monument, Mission 66 planners also addressed the "inadequacy of present developments and services for visitors."[43] The monument had been established in 1911 but there had been relatively little appropriation for development beyond the Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Progress Administration work of the 1930s. For much of its pre-Mission 66 history, Colorado National Monument had been operated as a sub-unit of Mesa Verde National Park, and the monument's

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[38] Ibid., pp. 24-25.
[39] Robert Koehler, "Our Park Service Serves Architecture Well", *AIA Journal*, January 1971, p. 22.
[40] Conrad Wirth, "The Mission Called 66: Today In Our National Parks," *National Geographic*, Vol. 130, No. 1, July 1966 p. 16.
[41] Allaback, pp. 22-23.
[42] Ibid., p. 27.
[43] "Mission 66 for Colorado National Monument, Master Plan Development Outline," prepared by Dwight L. Hamilton, park naturalist, Colorado National Monument, prepared January 1957, approved by the director, September 1, 1957, p. 2, Colorado National Monument archives.

superintendent was its only full-time staff person. In 1956, the monument's first full-time naturalist was hired and planning began for exhibits, signs, conducted trips, park ranger talks and other means of serving the visitor's interest in the outstanding features of the monument.[44] Mission 66 also meant a significant infusion of money into the park's development. Under Mission 66, $743,920 was budgeted for physical improvements at Colorado National Monument.[45] These improvements included the Visitor Center, Bookcliff Shelter, Canyon Rim Trail, an amphitheater, wayside exhibits, road and trail improvements, campground restroom improvements, employee housing, additional picnic areas, and additional staff. When it was completed in 1963, the Mission 66 Visitor Center at Colorado National Monument was that park's first visitor center. Prior to that time, visitors had obtained information primarily from park staff, from the park's entrance station, and from the park's informational brochure. The new Visitor Center also housed the park's administrative operations, which previously had been located in the Warehouse and Offices (HS-7H) in the utility area.[46]

Colorado National Monument Visitor Center

The Colorado National Monument Visitor Center was conceptualized by NPS's principal Mission 66 architect, Cecil Doty, and reflects several key elements of Mission 66 design. These include the architectural design and function of the building itself, as well as its relationship to its environment. As noted above, Mission 66 design philosophy called for siting the visitor center near the park's major resource, using terraces and window walls to provide significant views of natural features, and encouraging visitors to use adjacent amphitheaters, overlooks, and trails. Short interpretive trails, sometimes referred to as "nature trails," were often developed to provide an outdoor experience near the visitor center; outdoor picnic and sitting areas also were common.[47]

The first one-sheet conceptual design of the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center, as designed and drawn by Cecil Doty, is dated May 5, 1960.[48] The drawing depicts a low profile, one-story structure built into the slope at the edge of Wedding Canyon; public parking is in front of the building. The visitor center has a large public lobby, accessed through large glass doors in the middle front of the building. As visitors enter, the exhibit and audio-visual areas are on the right (west) side; the administrative offices are on the left (east) side. From the lobby, visitors could enjoy spectacular views of the canyon through the large window wall at the rear of the building. They could also exit the rear of the building and walk onto a large view deck that extended out to the edge of the canyon. The final version of the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center would differ from this original concept in a number of significant ways. The roofline of the final structure is side-gabled. Doty's first concept called for a flat-roofed building with three small front gables above the central lobby. The final lobby area is also smaller than the original proposal. A patio, walkway, and overlook in the final version replaced the large view deck on Doty's original design. Also, the original concept called for concrete masonry walls with exposed aggregate, as opposed to the natural stone veneer that is on the walls today. However, other key elements of Doty's original design remained unchanged through various design incarnations. These basic elements include the building's siting at the canyon edge, its low profile, a middle lobby that separates administrative operations from public space, glass walls at the front and rear of the

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[44] Ibid., p. 2.
[45] Ibid., p.4.
[46] "Colorado National Monument, Master Plan Narrative," Chapter 3, subchapter entitled "Operation Prospectus, 1952," p. 1, copy in Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.
[47] Allaback, p. 270.
[48] "Visitor Center," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3134, May 5, 1960, 1 Sheet, designed by Cecil Doty, Branch of Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

lobby, and access to an outdoor overlook.

Doty signed a second conceptual drawing of the Visitor Center on March 20, 1961.[49] On this drawing, the exterior walls are lower and more horizontal; a colonnade (that has more and more tightly spaced columns than what stands today) defines the walkway in front of the building. Doty's next stage of drawing is dated April 28, 1961, and is very close to the final structure.[50] This set includes plans for the first floor and the basement, building sectionals, interior and exterior elevations, and reflected ceiling plans. Doty signed the top sheet of this set, which lays out the floor plan and the front and back elevations. Other architects signed the other three sheets, suggesting that Doty supervised those drawings but did not draw them. The only differences between the actual construction documents, which are dated July 17, 1962 and the 1961 schematic set are the additions of a chimney chase and another interior wall on the east end of the building, which created an additional office.[51] The as-built drawings do not mention Doty. Nevertheless, Doty is given full credit as the designer of the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center. During these years, Doty was in great demand for his designs of numerous visitor centers throughout the Park Service. As such, he often delegated drawings to others in the NPS Western Office of Design and Construction (WODC) in San Francisco, as in this case, or to private firms to complete the details, to coordinate with the mechanical, electrical and civil engineers, and to supervise the construction.

Cecil John Doty (1907-1990) was responsible for an enormous amount of Mission 66 planning and design from his position as chief designer at the NPS Western Office of Design and Construction. Doty received a degree in architectural engineering from Oklahoma A & M (now Oklahoma State) in 1928. He was trained in the neoclassical beaux-arts style that was favored at the time, though he always had a propensity towards a more modern adaptation of this classicism.[52] He began his career in the Civilian Conservation Corps state parks program; thus he was well versed in the design conventions of the rustic forbear to Mission 66 modernism. His career spanned 35 years until he retired in 1968. He received the Department of the Interior's Distinguished Service Award in 1966.[53]

Doty moved through the NPS ranks as a park architect, moving to the Santa Fe Region Three Headquarters and then onto the Western Office of Design and Construction in 1954. After successfully completing several large projects for the Park Service, Doty was placed in charge of the Public Use Building at Grand Canyon National Park, which became a prototype for his later Mission 66 visitor centers.[54] While it is seen as a transitional example of his work, with a rather awkward combination of Civilian Conservation Corps and Mission 66 elements, Doty had clearly begun to establish a building type that featured a more open floor plan that included exhibit spaces, auditoriums, lobbies, visitor restrooms, and offices. The Grand Canyon building also exhibits a strong relationship with the surrounding landscape, circulation through the building to an exterior view, and the use of modern

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[49] "Visitor Center," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3134-A, March 20, 1961, 1 Sheet, designed by Cecil Doty, Branch of Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[50] "Visitor Center," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3134-B, April 23, 1961, 4 Sheets, designed by Cecil Doty, Branch of Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[51] "Visitor Center," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3134-C, July 17, 1962, 16 Sheets, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[52] Allaback, p. 215.

[53] Ibid., p. 246.

[54] Ibid., pp. 219-20.

materials combined with wood and stone – all of which can be seen in the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center.[55] Doty eventually designed more than 50 visitor centers for the Park Service that were built during Mission 66, including the preliminary plans for Quarry Visitor Center in Dinosaur National Monument in Vernal, Utah, now designated as a National Historic Landmark because of its Park Service Modern design.

Local contractors constructed the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center under two separate contracts. Henry Blaylock Construction Co. of Grand Junction built the building; Corn Construction of Grand Junction built the sidewalks, parking areas, roads, and water and sewer systems for both the Visitor Center and the employee residential area located a half-mile west. The groundbreaking for the Visitor Center took place on September 21, 1962; the start of the utility work began a week later on September 28. Because of the bitterly cold winter, which included an all-time low temperature and a continuous 6" snow cover throughout the month of January, construction was slow.[56] A stop work order was given on December 7, 1962 for the utility construction, and the work did not resume until April 29, 1963.[57] The utility work was completed on May 14, and the Visitor Center was deemed substantially complete two days later. On May 24, 1963 – the 52nd anniversary of the signing of the presidential proclamation that established Colorado National Monument – the National Park Service held a grand opening celebration for the new Visitor Center. Attendees at the dedication ceremony included Superintendent Fred Bussey, Congressman Wayne Aspinall, and Assistant Secretary of the Interior John Carver Jr., who gave the dedication address.[58] The landscape design was completed the following winter on February 26, 1964 by WODC landscape architect Babbitt (no first name given).[59] The planting was completed the following spring, probably by park personnel. The planting arrangements of native grasses, yucca, junipers and other native plants have since died, and have been replaced naturally. The site development design by WODC landscape architect V. Anderson was approved in November 1961, and the construction of the parking lot, curbs and sidewalks was completed nearly simultaneously with the construction of the Visitor Center.[60]

Bookcliff Shelter

Conceptualized by Cecil Doty, the final design of Bookcliff Shelter was credited to NPS architect Phil Romigh. Doty's first conceptual design of Bookcliff Shelter is dated October 5, 1961.[61] This design is similar to the final fan-shaped structure, but had a concrete roof supported by three stone pillars. Doty

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[55] Ibid., p. 221.
[56] Monthly Narrative Report, January 1963, Colorado National Monument, by Superintendent Fred G. Bussey, report made on February 13, 1963, Colorado National Monument archives.
[57] "Public Voucher For Purchases And Services Other Than Personal," Contract No. 14/10/0232/714, June 12, 1963, Midwest Region, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Omaha, Nebraska, Colorado National Monument archives.
[58] Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Dedication program, May 24, 1963, Colorado National Monument archives.
[59] "Planting Plan," Visitor Center, Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3208-A, February 26, 1964, 2 Sheets, designed by landscape architect Babbitt, Division of Landscape Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.
[60] "Site Development," Visitor Center, Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3135-A, 1 Sheet, November 1, 1961, designed and drawn by V. Anderson, Branch of Landscape Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.
[61] "Bookcliff Shelter," Saddlehorn, Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3145, designed by Cecil Doty, Branch of Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

drew another conceptual design in March 1962 that had a concrete back wall and a cantilevered concrete roof.[62] The final result seems to be a marriage of these two ideas. Five other designs of Bookcliff Shelter by architects other than Doty would eventually be complete enough to receive NPS drawing numbers. The first three drawings (Nos. NM-COLO 3145 B, C, and D) were drawn in 1962 and all included pillars. Hopeful that the overlook shelter would be built in fiscal year 1963, the project went out to bid on October 24, 1963, based on drawing NM-COLO-3145-D.[63] However, while the budgeted amount was $6,700, the bid came in at $8,750, and the project was cancelled.[64] In 1964, Bookcliff Shelter was bid in combination with the construction of the park's amphitheater. But when the bids came back on April 9, 1964,[65] they were still over budget, even with the rollover of funds from the previous fiscal year. The low bid of $32,546 was over by $10,346[66] and the National Park Service was unable to dip into the reserves. While the amphitheater, which was the more expensive of the two structures, was immediately rebid and built that summer, the Bookcliff Shelter project was put on hold.

The third and successful try to build Bookcliff Shelter began the following year, when it went out to bid on January 14, 1965, based on a final design by NPS architect Phil Romigh of the WODC Division of Architecture.[67] Romigh's design is a curved modern-style structure with a roof cantilevered out in a fan shape that offers visitors unimpeded views of the surrounding canyons and valleys. The structure's use of natural stone and wood also blends well with the surrounding landscape. Located a half-mile hike along the rim of the canyon from the Visitor Center, Bookcliff Shelter is the eastern anchor to the Canyon Rim Trail, offering visitors an outdoor experience and a resting place with magnificent views of canyons, stone monoliths, and the Colorado River. Romigh, a long time NPS employee, was a graduate of Cornell. His only other known Mission 66-era design is the Exhibit Shelter at Gunnison Point at Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. The contract for the Bookcliff Shelter was awarded to E.C. Huff of Grand Junction in the amount of $11,000 on February 26, 1965.[68] The work was done between June 1 and September 1, 1965.[69]

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[62] "Bookcliff Shelter," Saddlehorn, Colorado National Monument, March 20, 1962, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3145-A, designed and drawn by Cecil Doty, Branch of Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[63] Specifications for the Bookcliff Shelter, Colorado National Monument, Colorado, Project No. COLO-W 444, October 24, 1963, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[64] Letter from Jerry Riddell, chief architect of the WODC to the regional director of the Midwest Region, cc: Fred Bussey, superintendent of Colorado National Monument, Subject: Revised Preliminary Drawing, Bookcliff Observation Shelter – Colorado, May 3, 1963, Colorado National Monument archives.

[65] Invitation for Bids (Construction Contract) for Bookcliff Shelter and Amphitheater, Colorado National Monument, Colorado, Project No. COLO-WW-501, March 3, 1964, Colorado National Monument archives.

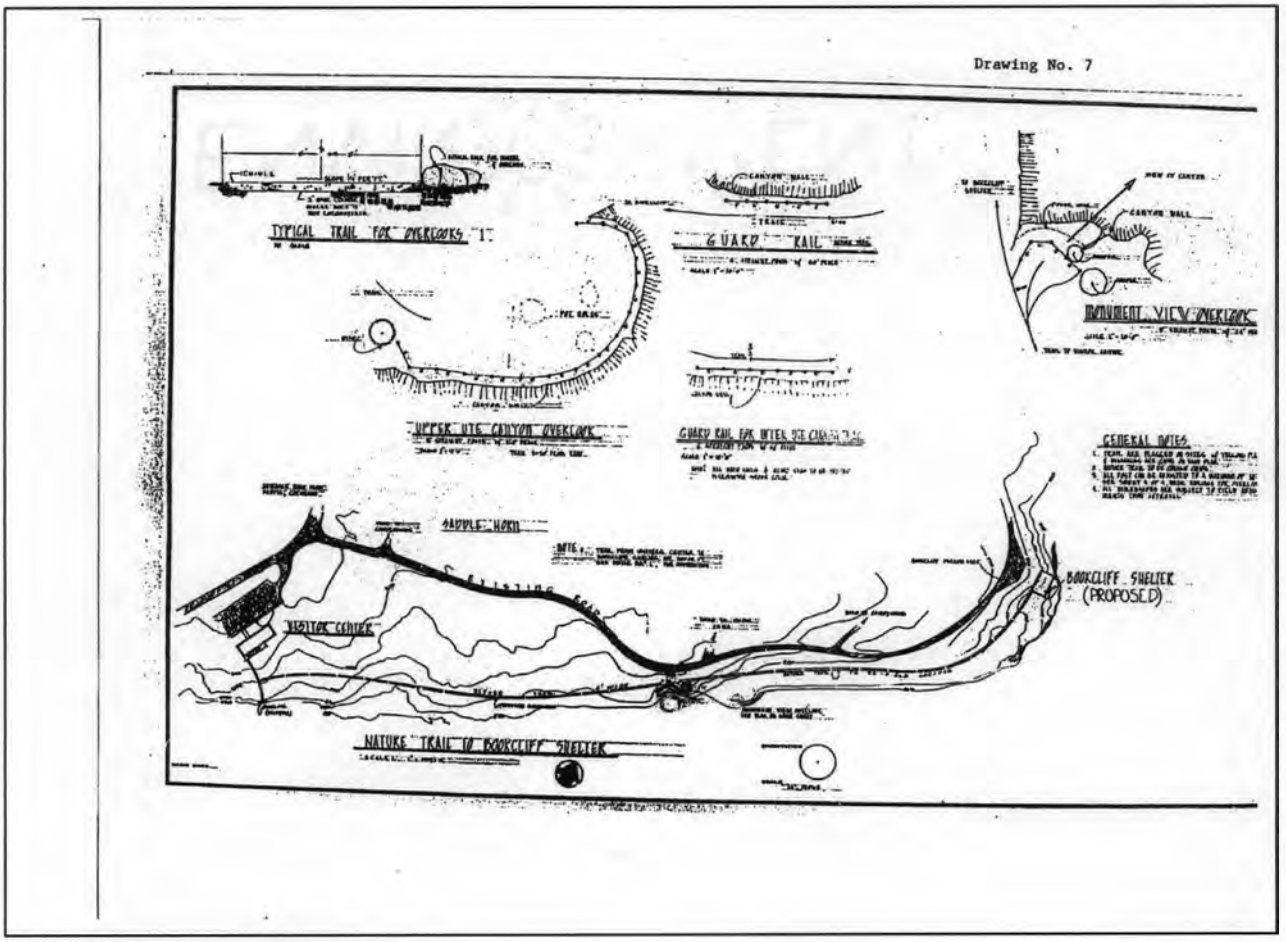
[66] Letter from Fred Novak, assistant regional director of the Midwest Region to Fred Bussey, superintendent of Colorado National Monument cc: Chief Architect of the WODC, Subject: Bookcliff Shelter and Amphitheater Bids, April 21, 1964, Colorado National Monument archives.

[67] Specifications for the Bookcliff Shelter, Colorado National Monument, Project No. COLO-W 563, January 14, 1965, Colorado National Monument archives; and "Bookcliff Shelter," Saddlehorn, Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3145-H, 4 sheets, January 1965, designed and drawn by Phil Romigh, Division of Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[68] Statement and Certificate of Award to E.C. Huff, contract No. 14-10-0232-931 for Construction of the Bookcliff Shelter on Specifications and Drawing No. NM-COLO 3145-H, National Park Service, February 26, 1965, Colorado National Monument archives.

[69] Application For Payment, Final, E.C. Huff, Project No. COLO-W-563, Shelter House, Colorado National Monument, Colorado, September 1, 1965, Colorado National Monument archives.

Canyon Rim Trail plan



Canyon Rim Trail was built in 1964, a year after the Visitor Center and the year before Bookcliff Shelter. As noted previously, Mission 66 visitor centers typically had adjacent overlooks and trails. An integral component of this design philosophy was the development of nature trails that provided an outdoor experience near the visitor center.[70] Canyon Rim Trail is an excellent example of this concept. After walking through the Visitor Center, visitors can exit the building to go onto a terrace. From the terrace, visitors descend a series of stairs to an overlook that provides views of the canyon. Canyon Rim Trail begins at this point, leading to Bookcliff Shelter, approximately ½ mile away.

A 1961 "Roads and Trails" drawing for Colorado National Monument shows the first delineation of a proposed trail that matches the alignment of what is today Canyon Rim Trail. Called the "Visitor Center Trail," this proposed trail leads from the rear of the Visitor Center along the rim of the canyon to Bookcliff Shelter. The Visitor Center footprint on the drawing is outlined in a hatched line, indicating that it, like the trail, was still only in the planning stages.[71]

In 1964, the National Park Service finalized its plans for the "Nature Trail to Bookcliff Shelter." The drawing for the "Nature Trail" is on Sheet No. 3 of a 4-page set of drawings (NM-COLO 3210) entitled "Trails and Overlooks, Colorado National Monument." The top sheet of the drawing set notes that they were designed and drawn by landscape architects Babbitt and Hughes of the WODC Division of Landscape Architecture.[72] There are no records that indicate that the construction of Canyon Rim Trail was contracted out, which suggests that park personnel built it. Upon its completion in 1964, the trail connected the Visitor Center and the site of the soon-to-be-built Bookcliff Shelter. Located along the edge of the canyon, the trail provides an easily accessible outdoor opportunity for visitors, and one that offers spectacular views of the park's primary resources. Together with the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter, Canyon Rim Trail exemplifies the basic tenets of Mission 66 planning and design, including a "one-stop" visitor experience that provides a wide range of administrative, educational, and recreational services for park visitors.

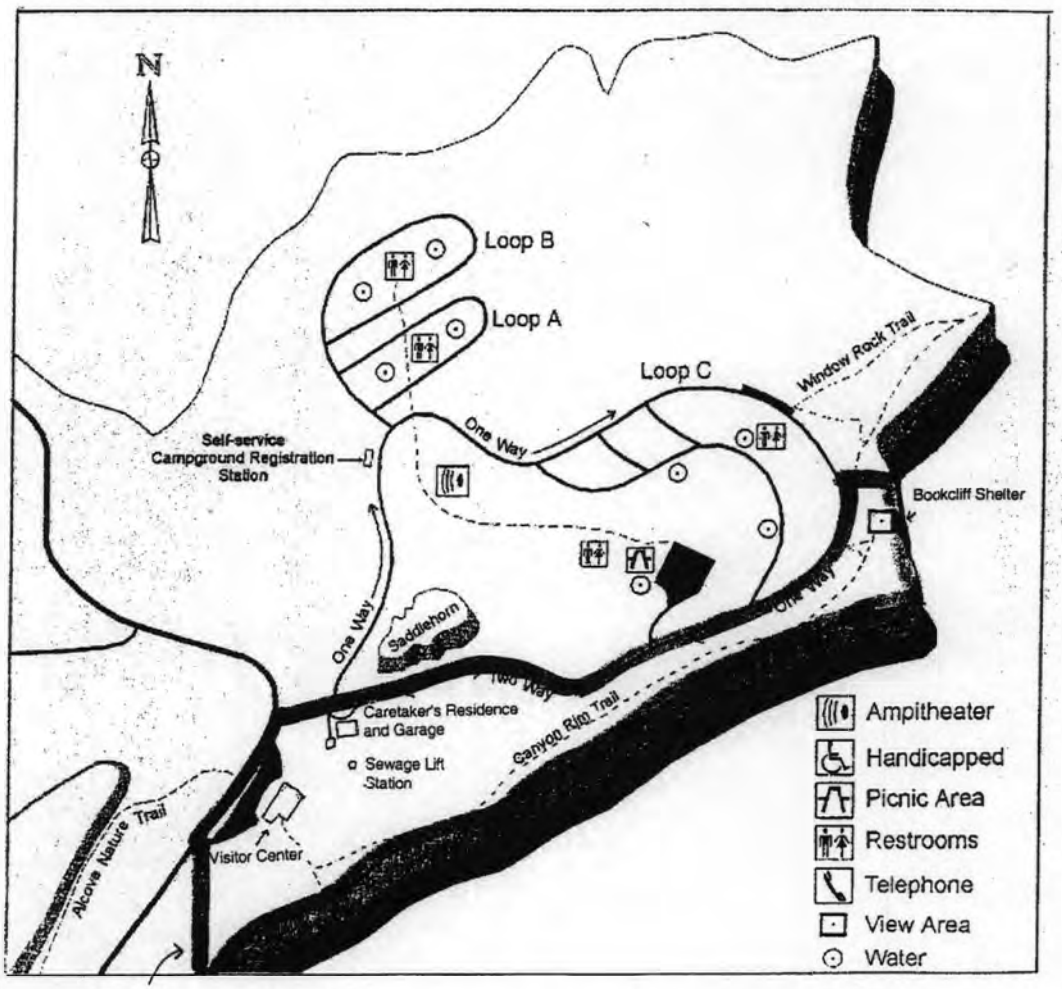
---

[70] Allaback, p. 270

[71] "Roads and Trails, Colorado National Monument," Drawing No. NM-COLO-2104-G, National Park Service, Technical Information Center, Denver, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

[72] "Trails and Overlooks," Colorado National Monument," Drawing No. NM-COLO 3210, Sheet No. 3, "Nature Trail to Bookcliff Shelter," July 1964, designed by Babbitt and Hughes [no first names given], Division of Landscape Architecture, WODC, copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver CO. Although Sheet No. 3 does not include any landscape architects' names, it is drawn in the same hand and lettering style as Sheets Nos. 1 and 2. By contrast, Sheet No. 4, which is in a distinctly different style, has a notation indicating that it was designed by Medlicott and drawn by Benson; this sheet is of Colorado National Monument overlooks and trails other than those associated with the Visitor Center.

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT VISITORS CENTER COMPLEX



Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex, National Register District Boundary

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allaback, Sarah. *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type*. Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2000.

"Bookcliff Shelter," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3145-H, January 1965, 4 Sheets, designed by Phil Romigh, Division of Architecture, Western Office of Design and Construction (hereafter referred to as WODC). Copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver, CO.

"Trails and Overlooks," Colorado National Monument," Drawing No. NM-COLO 3210, Sheet No. 3, "Nature Trail to Bookcliff Shelter," designed by landscape architects Babbitt and Hughes, July 1964, Division of Landscape Architecture, WODC. Copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver CO.

"Visitor Center," Colorado National Monument, Drawing No. NM-COLO 3134-C, July 17, 1962, 16 Sheets, designed by Cecil Doty, Branch of Architecture, WODC, National Park Service, San Francisco, CA. Copy in the Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center archives, Denver CO.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 10

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1.	12	695950	4330310
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2.	12	696580	4330580
	Zone	Easting	Northing
3.	12	696620	4330440
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4.	12	695860	4330070
	Zone	Easting	Northing

[ ] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank Sturgell (NPS student intern); revised/edited by Christine Whitacre (NPS historian)

organization National Park Service, Intermountain Support Office date November 4, 2002

street & number P.O. Box 25287 telephone (303) 969-2885

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80225-0287

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Colorado National Monument

street & number telephone (970) 858-3617

city or town Fruita state CO zip code 81521-0001

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the district is shown on the attached sketch map, entitled "Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex Boundary."

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses all of the Mission 66 buildings and structures associated with the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex, including their associated parking lots, roads, walkways and overlooks, and the surrounding landscape. The complex also includes the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage, which were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994 for their significant associations with NPS rustic architecture. Although the Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence and Garage predate the 1963-65 period of significance of the Visitor Center complex, they were extant when the complex was built and, therefore, constitute part of the historic district's authentic setting during its period of significance. (In addition, it is National Register policy to count as contributing any buildings within historic districts that fall outside the district's period of significance but which are individually listed on the National Register.) The boundary does not include the Saddlehorn-area amphitheater, which was constructed at the same time as the Visitor Center and Bookcliff Shelter but which does not represent Park Service Modern architectural design and integrity. The amphitheater also is more closely associated with the Saddlehorn campground, which is outside the boundary of the historic district.

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION

PLSS: 6th PM T11S R101W S13

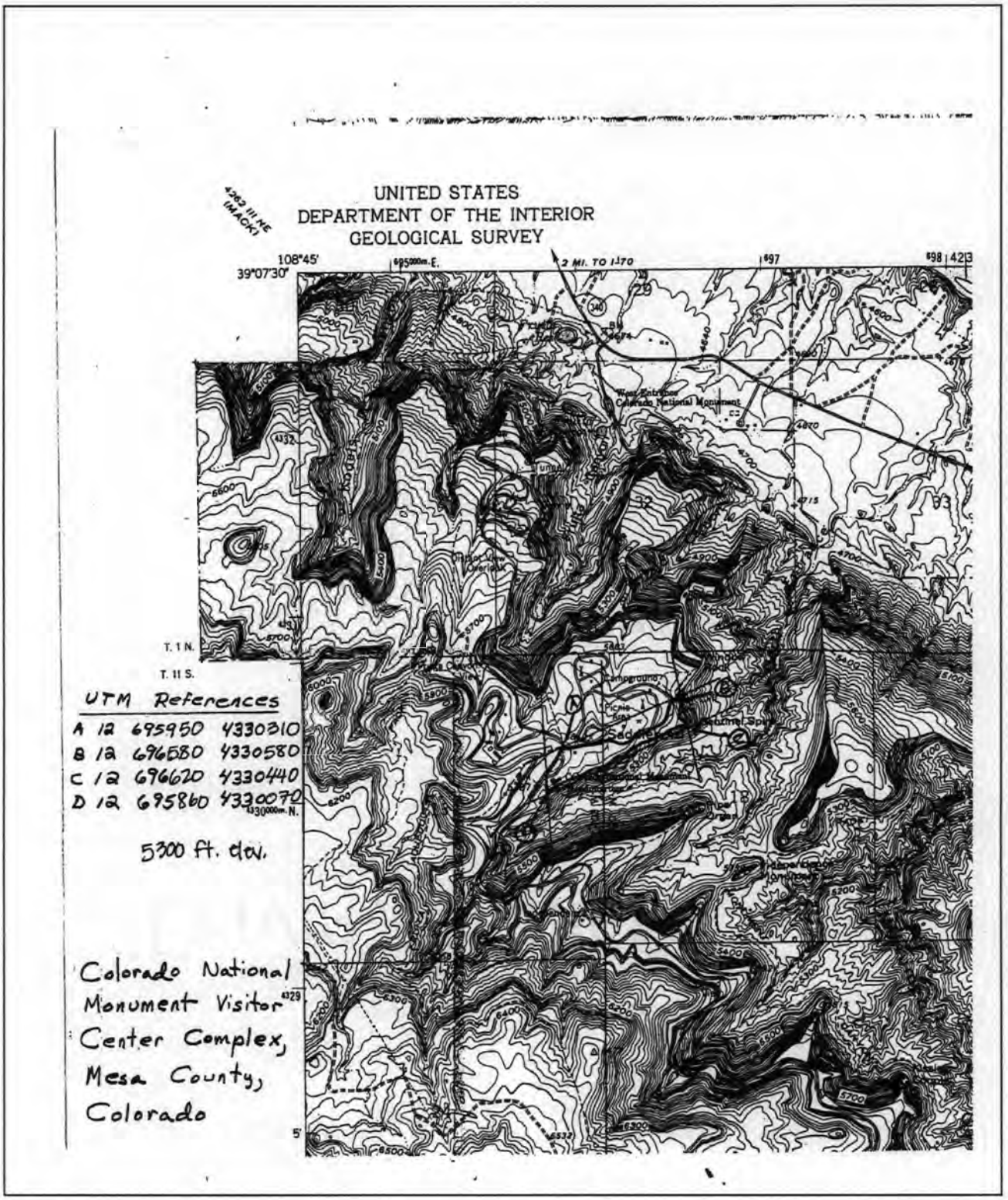
NE ¼, SE ¼, NE ¼
NW ¼, SE ¼, SE ¼, NE ¼
NE ¼, SW ¼, SE ¼, NE ¼
SE ¼, NW ¼, SE ¼, NE ¼

PLSS: 6TH PM 11S R101W S 18

NW ¼, SW ¼, NW ¼
NW ¼, NE ¼, SW ¼, NW ¼
SE ¼, SE ¼, NW ¼, NW ¼

Elevation: 5300 feet

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Colorado National Monument Quadrangle, Colorado
7.5 Minute Series



PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-__ except as noted:

Name of Property: Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex
Location: Mesa County, Colorado
Photographer: Seth Roberts
Date of Photographs: March 2002
Negatives: Colorado National Monument Administrative Office

Photo No.	Photographic Information
1	Visitor Center, view from Saddle Horn, looking west (foreground buildings are the caretaker's house and garage).
2	Visitor Center from Black Ridge Trail, looking southeast.
3	Front side of Visitor Center, looking southwest.
4	Front side of Visitor Center, looking southwest.
5	Front side of Visitor Center, looking northeast.
6	East side of Visitor Center, looking northwest.
7	Back side of Visitor Center, looking southwest.
8	Back porch of Visitor Center, looking southwest.
9	Back porch of Visitors Center, looking northeast.
10	Visitor Center, information desk, looking northeast.
11	Visitor Center, Exhibit Room, Mission 66-era exhibit, looking southeast.
12	Canyon Rim Trail, as seen from the back porch of the Visitor Center, looking south.
13	Canyon Rim Trail overlook, looking southwest.
14	Canyon Rim Trail, looking east.
15	Bookcliff Shelter, looking northeast.
16	Bookcliff Shelter, looking northeast.
17	Bookcliff Shelter, looking northwest.
18	Bookcliff Shelter, looking east.
19	Bookcliff Shelter, looking southwest.
20	Bookcliff Shelter, view from inside, looking southwest.
21	Bookcliff Shelter, view from inside, looking south.

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Colorado National Monument
Fruita, Colorado 81521

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32(COLM)

RECEIVED
JAN 21 2003
CHS/OAHP

January 16, 2003

Mr. Dale Heckendorn
National Register Coordinator
Colorado Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Mr. Heckendorn:

Colorado National Monument was established as a unit of the National Park Service in 1911. Many of the structures currently in use by staff and visitors were constructed during the CCC years and are currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Additional structures were built during the National Park Service's "Mission 66" era (1956-1966) and we believe that some meet the criteria for listing on the National Register, in particular the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center complex.

In 2002, staff from the National Park Service's Intermountain Region Support Office have completed a nomination package for the Visitor Center complex which we have enclosed for your review. Should it meet with your approval, we ask that it be submitted to the Colorado State Review Board at their next meeting which we understand is scheduled for May 16, 2003. If the nomination meets with the Colorado State Review Board approval, we request that the nomination package then be forwarded to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. The nominations should be sent, via Fed Ex (to avoid irradiation damage) to:

Laura Feller, Historian
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-354-2219

Should you have any questions or need additional information concerning this nomination, please contact me at 970-858-3617, ext. 301 or palma_wilson@nps.gov. We appreciate you taking the time to consider this nomination for Colorado National Monument.

Sincerely,

Palma E. Wilson

Palma E. Wilson
Superintendent

Enclosures

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Colorado History Museum 1300 Broadway Denver Colorado 80203–2137

May 19, 2003

Ms. Laura Feller, Historian
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: National Register Nomination

Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex
Mesa County, Colorado

Dear Ms. Feller:

We are pleased to submit for your approval the nomination for the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex located in the Fruita vicinity of Mesa County.

The nomination was reviewed at the May 16, 2003 Review Board Meeting, and the Board recommended unanimously that it be forwarded to Washington for final review.

We look forward to the formal listing of this property. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dale Heckendorn, National Register Coordinator, at 303-866-4681.

Sincerely,

Chris Geddes.

Chris Geddes
National and State Register Historian

Enclosure

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30(2280)

JUN 6 2003

Memorandum

To: Keeper of the National Register

From: Acting Associate Director, Cultural Resources

Subject: National Register Nomination of the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex, Colorado

Attached please find for your review a nomination for the Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex, signed by Colorado's State Historic Preservation Officer and by me. Let me express sincere appreciation of the fact that the park and Regional Office made this project a priority. My thanks go to everyone involved.

Please provide the park with a copy of the completed signature page, should you approve this nomination. Thank you for your consideration.

Attachment

D-121

COLORADO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

The Colorado History Museum 1300 Broadway Denver, Colorado 80203-2137

October 7, 1997

Bob Moon
Team Coordinator
Intermountain Field Region
Colorado Plateau Support Office
Stewardship and Partnership Team
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225-0287

Re: Monument Canyon Trail and Coke Ovens Trail, Colorado National Monument - H32 (IMFA-CP-S)

Dear Mr. Moon:

As a result of October 6, 1997, telephone communication between Kathy McKoy of your agency and Dale Heckendorn, our National/State Register Coordinator, we concur with Ms. McKoy's determination that neither trail meets the National Register of Historic Places eligibility criteria. Consequently, it is our opinion that the rehabilitation of the Monument Canyon Trail, scheduled to begin today, will have no effect on historic properties. However, we still need topographic maps clearly indicating the locations of these two trails to enable us to assign site numbers and create site records. In this regard, it would be helpful if you would complete a copy of the enclosed Colorado Cultural Resource Survey Linear Component Form for each trail.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact Kaaren Hardy, our Intergovernmental Services Director, at (303) 866-3398.

Sincerely,

James E. Hartmann
State Historic Preservation Officer

Author: Kathy McKoy at NP-DENVER
Date: 08/04/1999 4:05 PM
Normal
TO: COLM Superintendent at NP-COLM
CC: COLM Resource Management at NP-COLM
BCC: Kathy McKoy
Subject: negatives
---------- Message Contents

Steve,

I am mailing to you, separate from the research files, the negatives and photolog for photos I took in connection with the Monument Canyon and Coke Ovens trails DOE. I'm retaining a set of prints here for our files, but no negatives. Please archive these according to NPS practice.

Kathy

Colorado Cultural Resource Survey
Linear Component Form
(Page 1 of 2)

Use this form in conjunction with the Management Data Form. This form should be completed for each linear site or linear segment. Historic architectural features are treated as distinct sites. As distinct sites they need a separate point number designation and should be documented on a separate Management Data Form and a Historic Architectural Component Form.

I. Resource Identification

1. Site Number (and point number, if applicable) n/a

2. Temporary Number none assigned

3. Site Type: Road____ Railroad____ Ditch/Canal____
   Trail X Other(specify)_____

4. Site Name Monument Canyon Trail & Coke Ovens Trail

5. Record of: Entire Resource X Segment_____

6. Modifications (Describe) see report submitted 8/29/97

7. Current Use hiking trail

   Original Use horse trail and/or hiking trail - see report

8. Related feature site(s) none

Include a sketch map, photos, and a photocopy of the U.S.G.S. quadrangle map showing either the entire length of the linear site or the segment. Segment boundaries must be clearly identified on the U.S.G.S. map. sumbitted with original report 8/29/97

II. Management Recommendations

9. Eligibility of the entire resource

   Eligible_____ Not Eligible X Need Data_____

   Is this an official (OAHP) determination? Yes____ Date_____

   Is this a field determination? Yes x field and regional

   Remarks/Justification see report submitted 8/29/97

   Eligibility of the segment being recorded

   Contributing_____ Non-Contributing_____

   Not applicable_____

   Remarks/Justification see report previously submitted

State Site Number n/a

III. Field Observations

10. Does the site extend beyond the area examined? Describe
no

11. Describe any artifacts at the linear site or segment, (complete an archaeological component form if necessary)
see report

III. Research Information

12. Architect/Engineer/Prehistoric Cultural Affiliation
see report

Source of information/Justification see report

13. Builder Coke Ovens - NPS - transient camp portions of Monument Canyon Trail, possibly by John Otto; rest NPS

Source of information cited in report

14. Date of Construction/Date range cited in report

15. Historical/archival data (Courthouse records, personal communication, land survey results etc.), Other Notes
cited in report

16. Recorder(s) KATHY McKOY Date Aug. 1997

Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation,1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-3395

Colorado Cultural Resource Survey
Linear Component Form--Manual

This form should be completed for each linear site or linear segment. Historic architectural features are treated as separate sites and as such should be designated with a separate point number and documented on a separate Management Data Form and a Historic Architectural Form. Likewise with Historic Archaeology Sites found in association with a linear feature, complete a separate Management Data Form and a Historic Archaeology Component Form. If your resource contains a few artifacts, (i.e. nails, concrete fragments, a small collection of metal fragments), then they can be noted on this form without filling out an entire Historic Archaeology Component Form. Although this form was developed primarily for historic resources it can be used for rare prehistoric linear features as well.

I. Resource Identification

1. Site Number (and point Number, if applicable):
   Please put the site number (Smithsonian trinomial number) here as it appears on the Management Data Form.

   Please call OAHP first before you assign a number and a point designation. OAHP will check the resource by site name and/or location to make sure that the linear site has not already been given a site number and a point number in that county. OAHP staff will determine the correct site number designation and log that number in the database.

2. Temporary Number:
   List any temporary number assigned in the field.

3. Site Type: Road Railroad Ditch/Canal Trail/Other (specify) :
   Describe the type of linear site specifying function (i.e. Railroad, Ditch etc). For "other" simply type in the appropriate type.

4. Site Name:
   Give the historic name of the linear site if known.

5. Detailed Record of: Entire Resource Segment :
   Mark the appropriate recording type, either you are recording the entire length of a linear site (from start to end) or a segment (small part of the linear site).

6. Modifications (Describe):
   Indicate the extent of the modifications to the linear site or linear segment based on the overall effect to the resource. Indicate if the linear site as been moved, updated, reinforced, changed function, rebuilt etc.

7. Current Use:
Be specific in the observed use today. Use "Not in Use" if the linear segment or linear site has been abandoned.

Original Use:
Indicate the original use. Repeat the current use if the linear site or linear segment has remained the same.

8. Related feature site(s):
List the name, Smithsonian number and point designation, and site type of other resources recorded in the project area associated with the same linear site.

II. Management Recommendations

9. Eligibility of the Entire Resource:
Fill in the appropriate National Register eligibility for the entire resource. No matter if you are just recording a segment, you must fill in the eligibility of the entire resource. Often for long linear sites, OAHP has already made an official determination regarding the eligibility of the entire resource. Contact OAHP to find out the eligibility or get this information through your file search for the project area. For evaluating segments, you must assess them as either as contributing or non-contributing resources of the entire linear site. The eligibility can usually be ascertained from documentary research. For example the canals of the San Luis Valley may be considered eligible based on the documentary evidence that supports the importance of the canals to the agriculture and settlement of the area.

On the Management Data Form you can leave Number 35 blank with a remark under the Statement of Significance/N.R.H.P. Justification that reads "See Linear Component Form."

Eligible Not Eligible Need Data:
Fill out the eligibility of the entire resource. Indicate either eligible, not eligible, or need data.

Is this an official determination?:
Indicate if the eligibility is from an official OAHP determination and the date in which this was made.

Is this a field determination?:
Mark that this is a field determination if no official determination exists.

Remarks/Justification:
Note any remarks. Example: The site is eligible because it exhibits are unique building technique.

Contributing Non-Contributing:
Mark either contributing or non-contributing.

Not Applicable:
If this form is being used to evaluate the entire linear site from beginning to end mark the Not Applicable space.

Remarks/Justification:
Note any remarks. Example: The linear segment appears to be intact and should be considered contributing to the officially eligible Rio Dolores Railroad.

10. Does the site extend beyond the area examined? Describe:
If access to the linear site was restricted beyond the project boundary lines, then describe the general alignment of the resource as it proceeds beyond these limits. Does the site appear to maintain integrity?

11. Describe any artifacts at the linear site or segment, (complete an archaeological component form if necessary:
Provide a listing of any transportable artifacts found at the linear site. This refers to small fragments of construction material or trash associated directly with the linear site or segment. For example for a railroad site you might observe loose ties, and spikes. You should make large concentrations of artifactual remains separate sites with their own point number designation and documented on their own Management Data Form and archaeological form.

III. Research Information

12. Architect/Engineer/Prehistoric Cultural Affiliation:
Give the full name of the architect or engineer if known. If you are using this form to record a prehistoric linear site or segment give the appropriate chronological cultural affiliation.

Source of Information/Justification:
Provide the archival reference or the dating criteria (i.e. projectile point typology, or carbon 14 date etc.)

13. Builder:
Give the name of the builder if known. Do not put the name of the original owner unless there is evidence that the original owner actually built the linear site. The builder may also be the name of the construction firm or group.

Source of Information:
Indicate the archival reference for this information

14. Date of Construction/Date Range:
Put the actual date if known or enter the range of dates related to the site's period of significance.

15. Historical/archival data (Courthouse records, personal communiation, land survey results etc.) Other Notes:
Give a brief history and results of archival research regarding the historic linear site or feature. Continue on a separate page if necessary. If you were unable to obtain information note that here as well as other observations and important information.

16. Recorder(s) and Date:
Provide the full name(s) of the individual(s) who completed the form and the date.

National Register Determination of Eligibility: Monument Canyon Trail and the Coke Ovens Trail Colorado National Monument

Physical Description

Monument Canyon Trail is located in Colorado National Monument which is 12 miles west of Grand Junction, in Mesa County, Colorado. It is a 6-mile backcountry hiking trail that makes a steep descent into Monument Canyon where many of Colorado National Monument's most impressive rock formations are located: Independence Monument, Kissing Couple, and the Coke Ovens. The western section of the trail is characterized by steep grades and switchbacks. This portion is about 1.7 miles of the trail's total length, or less than one-third; the remainder of the trail is relatively flat. The trail ends at the boundary in the northeast part of the monument near Colorado Route 340. (See Map 1.)

The upper trailhead for both Monument Canyon Trail and the existing 1/2 mile Coke Ovens Trail begins at a parking area off of Rim Rock Drive.[1] A series of sandstone steps leads from the parking area to the beginning of the trail.[2] As it descends to the canyon, the trail varies in elevation from 6140 to 4740 feet above sea level. It also varies considerably in width, averaging about three feet. Tread is generally not built-up but in several places is delineated by parallel rows of loose cobbles.

Retaining walls of varying lengths are usually located at switchbacks and are built of drylaid, unfinished stone. They are usually not more than two to four feet in height. While a few of these walls are in fair condition, many have deteriorated and/or missing sections due to rock fall or water erosion. None of the walls exhibit exceptional design or craftsmanship and they are quite unlike the kinds of finished sandstone retaining walls built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) under the direction of NPS landscape architects, such as the trails at Zion National Park.

Sizeable portions of the trailbed along this descending section are covered with rock fall and a few sections are partially washed out. Where they occur, crude steps have been fashioned out of irregular, uncut pieces of sandstone as well as horizontally-laid juniper posts. The trail is in a very deteriorated condition at present, posing a safety risk to hikers. (The monument has plans to make much-needed improvements and repairs during the fall of this year.)

After it reaches the canyon floor, the trail traverses the rolling terrain of Monument Canyon, where it is flanked on either side by towering walls and free-standing monoliths of colorful Wingate Sandstone. The predominant vegetative cover consists of a pygmy pinyon/juniper forest interspersed with grassy areas and patches of sagebrush.

Most frequently, hikers begin their one-way hike at the upper trailhead parking area on Rim Rock Drive and complete it at the monument's eastern boundary. While this requires that they be shuttled from one end of the trail or the other, the hiker thus avoids having to backtrack or make a strenuous ascent up steep terrain.

Other names used for this trail are "Bridle Trail," "Canyon Trail," and - the west portion only - the "Coke Ovens Trail."

Coke Ovens Trail is a 1/2-mile-hiking trail that shares its first 1/10-mile with Monument Canyon Trail. The shared trailhead is located 1/8 mile east of Coke Ovens Overlook on Rim Rock Drive and begins with a series of switchbacks. The trailhead descends from an old CCC camp area going over and later next to culverts visitors often mistake for naturally formed tunnels.

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[1] Known by various other names during the historic period, including Scenic Rim Rock Road, Monument Highway, and others.

[2] These steps were constructed by National Park Service (NPS) maintenance men in 1965 from old stone salvaged from the Cleopatra's Couch parking area when it was obliterated.

From the separation with Monument Canyon Trail, the Coke Ovens Trail runs in a northeast direction along a Kayenta ledge, which varies from 20-80 ft. in width. During wet periods this trail can be very slick and muddy. Along the trail you pass under the Entrada formation and a series of large naturally occurring "solution pits" within the rock layer. Some of these have joined to form a "room with a column." The trail ends at a metal handrail overlook adjoining the domed Coke Ovens monoliths. At its terminus you can view the majority of the trail, as well as the constructed rockwork of the descending Monument Canyon Trail. Common vegetation along the trail consists of pinon/juniper, serviceberry, sage, mountain mahogany, Indian paintbrush, Indian rice-grass.

With the exception of the first few switchbacks and overlook terminus, there is little evidence to suggest that any trail construction was actually performed. Some rocks have been placed along the trail to define its limits, but for the most part much of the trail appears as a hardened compacted path resulting from years of pedestrian traffic. The trail has not been maintained for several years. What little rockwork there is, most is in dire need of repair. In at least one 15-foot stretch erosion has gouged the trail deeply.

History

The primary development period for the east section of Monument Canyon Trail (from State Route 340 to Independence Monument) begins with the period when John Otto was active in the monument, both prior to its establishment (1909-1910) and during his tenure as its custodian (1911-1927). The initial period of development for the Coke Ovens Trail occurs during the Great Depression. The next period of work on both these trails occurred during the modern era, particularly the 1950s and early 1960s. Subsequent trail work, consisting only of minimal routine maintenance, is also described in this report. This Determination of Eligibility is being submitted under the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) cover form, Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission (MPS). The MPS should be referenced by reviewers for additional contextual information, if needed.

John Otto's Trails (1909-1927)
Beginning in 1909, the energetic and eccentric promoter John Otto built a series of horseback and hiking trails into and through the Monument Mesa area to increase public access to and appreciation of the site. For years, Otto solicited money from private individuals for a trail fund (one dollar per subscriber), which purchased tools and blasting materials used in making an undocumented number of rudimentary trails.

On June 7, 1924 NPS Acting Director A.E. Demaray wrote Otto requesting he send a report of most urgent work needed at the monument with cost estimates,

> ...so that we may have this information before us when considering allotment of funds under the road budget. It might be that we could spare a few hundred dollars for the most important work, although it is impracticable to make any promises regarding this at the present time.[3]

A June 20, 1924 letter sent by Otto replied to Demaray. Under "The Most Urgent Work" needed at the monument, Otto reported the first priority was "the sinking of a good well" at the mouth of Monument Canyon. The next priority was, he continued:

> Second: 'The Most Urgent Work' needed is the continuation of the Canyon Trail, on inside of the Monument Canyon, from Independence Rock, Eastward, up to the head wall to mouth of Canyon. The trail from the mouth of Canyon to the center monument, was built by me through aid of private funds, years ago. To take people through safely on horseback and show them the whole of Monument Canyon, with its various prongs at the head of it (inside view). There's got to be this line of trail built. Those of the local people who have been through "in the rough", are very desirous of this trail. Estimated cost, $300.00.

[3] All correspondence cited between Otto and Demaray and/or Cammerer is in park archives.

Receiving no further news (or funds) from Washington, Otto wrote then-Acting Director Arno B. Cammerer on October 3, 1924 and inquired, "As to allotments for the various National Monuments out of the years [sic] appropriation, have you been able to apportion a little dab for us?" Cammerer replied on October 11,

> In planning out work to be accomplished with the funds appropriated for the national monuments for the current fiscal year it was not possible to make an allotment for the Colorado National Monument, but in the estimates that you have submitted for 1926 the needs of your monument have been given special attention.

Cammerer went on to say, in effect, "Better luck next year!" Otto was unstoppable, writing Demaray the following Spring (April 27, 1925) to report,

> There's been over a mile of new trail added up in Monument Canyon. I worked on the same in February and March before the bridge work started again. The canyons at this monument shall always remain 'The Blessed Country where there are no Roads.' It's too costly under the rim, but on top it's easy. We'll get fancy riding trains a'going some day when the trail program is completed.

During all his years as monument custodian (1911-1927), the National Park Service (NPS) provided him with no funds for trail development. His salary was a mere $1. per year. In a March 11, 1926 letter to Demaray, Otto wrote:

> All the trails have been built by me thru [sic] local funds. Maintainance [sic] work has always been just left to me, and those trails, of course, are there to be traveled. People drive their cars to the foot of them, to the mouth of the canyons, from where they proceed to hike it. At one time two Sundays ago there were thirty-five cars at Monument Canyon [entrance]: and a great number at Liberty Camp entrance and at Red Canyon....When the well is done and some other work is out of the way I want to build a mile or two of new trail yet to make a round trip out of it through Monument Canyon.

Otto's purpose in trail-building, particularly prior to the park's establishment, was to provide visitor access to the monument, in hopes that those visitors would support his efforts to promote the creation of a national park. He continued his trail-building efforts after the monument's establishment. Perhaps Otto's most notable and well-documented "trail" in Colorado National Monument (COLM) was the Trail of the Serpent, in fact an auto route, which was been listed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 24, 1994.[4]

Unfortunately for historians, Otto was a far more prolific trail builder than map maker: no maps have been located that show the precise location of his trails or depict the extent of the overall system; reports vary widely regarding the extent of his trails as well as for precisely which ones he was responsible for working on. While representing a great deal of physical labor, Otto's trails were nonetheless undoubtedly primitive in nature and it is now practically impossible to distinguish them from other park-built or social trails that have developed in the backcountry areas throughout the monument's history. The earliest available published map for the monument dates to 1932 and depicts only two developed trails, labeled "bridle trails," one from the monument's east boundary to Independence Monument, and one from the east boundary to Liberty Cap.[5] (See Map 2.) It is probable that both of these were built by John Otto, and there is written documentation to substantiate his trail building efforts in these areas. The old bridle trail to Monument Canyon, however, does not appear to follow the same alignment of the east portion of

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[4] Serpents Trail was constructed between 1912-1921; it was the only auto route into COLM available until 1937 when the Fruita section of Scenic Rim Rock Road was completed.

[5] Because this trail is depicted on maps and described in news articles, it may be possible to determine if it retains integrity, should it be evaluated in the future. There is still a question as to whether it meets National Register requirements for significance, however.

Monument Canyon Trail as it is shown on later maps. Sections of Otto's earlier trail may have been incorporated into this part of Monument Canyon Trail, however.[6]

As for the current trail's western section, no documentation suggests that Otto built a trail from the Independence Monument westward, or up the canyon walls. Technically this would have been extremely difficult to build (or to traverse on horseback). In addition, Rim Rock Drive did not even exist yet as a point of origin or destination. Rather, Otto's plans seem to have been to create a Monument Canyon "loop" trail that would have remained on the flat, eastern section of the canyon bottom. Visitors, during Otto's time, were encouraged to see the formations "up-close and personal," so-to-speak. The new Scenic Rim Rock Road would soon radically change how visitors would experience Colorado National Monument for many years to come.

The Public Works Program in COLM (1933-1942)[7]

Construction of the 23-mile Scenic Rim Rock Road began in 1931 and continued throughout the Great Depression. It was officially completed in 1950.[8] With the advent of the auto and better roads, Colorado National Monument became a popular picnic destination for locals. A May 13, 1934 article in *The Daily Sentinel* reported on the construction of the new highway that promised to make COLM "one of the nation's great playgrounds." In addition,

> Engineers, laborers, landscape artists, and architects are working night and day to turn this great region into a mountain paradise. Roads, trails, camp sites, and playgrounds will be constructed.

The author of the article took readers on an "imaginary trip over the completed playground of the west" as it would be in five years time. A broad 3-mile horse trail was described, which would begin at the Coke Ovens and pass "virtually every monolith on the canyon floor." Other trails envisioned were "Independence trail," (a "delightful afternoon's walk around the canyon rim and into full view of Independence monument") and a trail on the edge of Saddlehorn cliff. The latter would provide access from the park headquarters area to Pipe Organ, Praying Hands and the Keyhole. At the time this article was written, it was reported that ten miles of the new highway had been completed and that "trails to all scenic attractions are under construction and landscaping is underway at all times."[9] While developing this playground of the west, it was still the intent of the park service "to leave the region in its natural state," assured the reporter.

Colorado National Monument's first CCC camp was approved in April 1933. Clifford L. Anderson assumed custodial responsibilities for COLM on November 14, 1933. Camp NM-1-C was first sited near the Coke Ovens on the rim of Monument Canyon. It was soon relocated to the Saddlehorn area, as Camp NM-2-C. Third CCC camp, NM-3-C, was first located near Glade Park in 1933 but was moved to the mouth of Fruita Canyon in June 1934.[10] While the CCC-constructed buildings at Saddlehorn headquarters and developed the campground and Devils Kitchen picnic areas, their primary work at COLM during this time was construction of and landscaping along the Scenic Rim Rock Road. In addition to the CCC, over 200 laborers working under the Civil Works

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[6] Traces of old trail are still evident in the general area of Monument Canyon Trail, according to Park Ranger Bill Rodgers.

[7] See the multiple property submission for COLM which contains the complete historic context for public work programs in the monument.

[8] The history of this road is documented in the National Register multiple property submission and accompanying individual nomination; the property was listed on April 24, 1974.

[9] What the author is referring to here is the work that was being done in early 1934 by the transient camp on a single trail, the old Coke Ovens Trail to the canyon floor. All landscaping at the time pertained to construction of developed areas at the Saddlehorn headquarters area and along Rim Rock Road.

[10] For additional information about the CCC at COLM, see the COLM Multiple Property Submission.

Administration were involved in projects at COLM. In his annual report for fiscal year 1935, Anderson wrote, "All of the construction and development at Colorado National Monument was made possible through supplemental funds from Federal Emergency agencies." Major road work was paid for by Roads and Trails Emergency Construction Funds, primarily used for Scenic Rim Rock Road, but was also for other development projects.

The Coke Ovens Trail

Earliest plans for NPS trail development were to build a foot trail from Scenic Rim Rock Road to the Coke Ovens and then to branch off of that trail and build another that descended into the canyon. (The latter would be along the route of today's western portion of Monument Canyon Trail.) Construction of the trail to the Coke Ovens began in January 1934. In addition to the CCC camps at COLM, a Works Progress Administration (WPA) transient camp was established at the park in Dec. 1933. The camp was built, reported Anderson in his annual report for fiscal year 1934,

> ...in good faith to help out the congested Transient conditions in Grand Junction and to help out with the landscaping by putting these men to do the work.[11]

The transients occupied the site of the first CCC camp located at the monument (NM-1) near the Coke Ovens. They worked on construction of the Coke Ovens Trail from January 10 to May 31, 1934.

Anderson's report of March 1, 1934 stated that in February between 54 and 80 men lived in the camp. During that month he wrote, "We have averaged 26 men per day for work. There [sic] work has been confined to sloping and grading of the trail to the Coke Ovens and also some blasting has been done to the trail to a lower elevation." Anderson reported the following month that in March the transients "...devoted all their time to the Coke Oven trail grading and landscaping the trail. During the month we have averaged 20 men daily on the trail work."

In his lengthier report to the Director for the month of April, Anderson wrote:

> The transient camp has been working on the Coke Oven trail. Am enclosing a few pictures of the work.[12]
>
> While the camp has a capacity of 84 men we very seldom have over 30 men for work on the trail. This trail is looking very neat and is kept near a 15% grade. Picture No. 1 shows the trail where it leaves the main road....Picture No. 2 is one of the several switchbacks made in the construction of the trail. Water drainage is kept to the inside and leaves the trail at each bend. This is done to keep water from running down the trail and causing damage. Picture No. 3 is of transient men cutting a trail in the wall of a cliff. This section is near completion and just beyond this point the trail will run into the slopes of the shoulder protruding upward near the top and will wind its way down on this shoulder on switchbacks. This trail is at an average of 4 ft. wide and along the canyon wall it is 10 ft. wide making it safe for saddle horse parties to ride along. At no place does the trail exceed a 15% grade.

The transients' work on the trail was supervised by Charles Hanford Jr., landscape foreman.

On May 24, 1934, less than six months after the arrival of the transients at COLM, Landscape Architect Howard W. Baker wrote to Chief Architect Thomas C. Vint about problems associated with the transient camp. The camp was established, according to Baker,

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[11] Annual Report for COLM and BLCA, FY 1934, Aug. 9, 1934, park archives. Other reports by Anderson were located either in the National Archives, Rocky Mountain Region, in Denver, CO or in park archives.

[12] Photos were not included with the archived copy of this report.

> ...with the consent of Custodian Anderson and Engineer T. W. Secrest with the hopes that some work could be accomplished by the transients ....The existence of this camp has proven very unsatisfactory from the work standpoint and they [Anderson and Secrest] are both very desirous of having the camp removed.

Baker also wanted the remaining CCC buildings removed from the transient camp area and the site obliterated. He feared that its continued occupation by the transients might mean "we may never get this conspicuously located site cleaned up." The camp also used water from the Fruita water line, and water supplies were low (due to a drought that year). If water had to be shut off at one of the three existing camps, he recommended it be shut off to the Transient Camp.[13] Their work, he wrote, was "not proving effecient [sic] as most of the men consider it a vacation and are usually not inclined to work." This caused considerable friction between the transients and the CCC workers. Baker asked Vint to discuss the matter of removing the camp with the Director.

Apparently Baker's request was approved, as in his monthly report for June, Anderson reported:

> The men of the [transient camp] have been working on the Coke Oven Trail. All the work was completed by them and this transient camp was discontinued on May 31st.

Due to some difficulty in finding a place outside the monument for them to relocate their camp, the transients did not actually leave until July 26. The CCC buildings were removed from the monument at about the same time.[14]

No official completion report was filed on the transients' trail work. The annual report for 1934 Anderson stated:

> A project was requested and approved for a trail to be constructed to the Coke Ovens and to be built under Transient labor. Two-hundred yards of this trail was completed during the period January 10 to May 31 when the camp was discontinued and taken from the Monument by request.[15]

A description in the 1939 Development Outline/Master Plan for COLM described the Coke Ovens Trail as follows:

> From the rim road a trail has been constructed to the top of the rock formations, the rock resembling "coke ovens", hence their names. No maintenance has been given this trail and it has been partially washed out.[16]

(There is some additional information on the Coke Ovens Trail contained in the section that follows.)

Monument Canyon Trail (Rim Rock Drive to Independence Monument)
On May 15, 1934 month Anderson submitted estimates for trail work in his Six-Year Advance Program for COLM (1936-1941) in which he provided some additional description of the transients' work:

> HISTORY: There has been no previous request for an appropriation for Trails. However, a trail has been started at the Coke Ovens by transient labor this past winter. The major construction of this trail has been

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[13] Due to the drought, Fruita shut off water to the camps on November 1, 1934 and water had to be hauled in a distance of 16 miles from November 1 until February 1935. (7/20/35)

[14] Another WPA transient camp was established at COLM in December 1935, this time for the purpose of installing water supply lines in the monument. There is no evidence they continued trail work.

[15] Report to Director from Anderson, August 9, 1934. Park archives.

[16] It was proposed that the trail be reconstructed "to tourist trail standards."

completed and extends along the rim to the top of the Coke Ovens. Another branch has been started to extend down to the Canyons [sic] floor.

JUSTIFICATION: The continuation of this trail to the canyon floor is very essential to enable the tourists who desire hiking to go down among the monoliths and return to the rim at the Headquarters area. The length of the trail when completed will be 4 1/2 miles.[17]

On May 18, 1934 Landscape Architect Baker arrived at COLM to discuss various development plans. Anderson reported to the Director on Baker's meeting in his monthly report,

> A trail leading from the Coke Ovens down by Independence Rock and back to the rim at the Administration Area was discussed and found satisfactory to the development of Colorado National Monument. This trail is contemplated to be constructed by CCC labor on the fourth enrollment period.

Director Arno B. Cammerer replied to Anderson's letter of May 15, writing that the park's trail program had been approved but stipulated,

> That the trail from the Coke Oven through the floor of Monument Canyon to Headquarters Area be the limit of trail construction until further justified by travel. This trail will allow visitors access to the floor of the Canyon and access to all parts to the Monument for administrative purposes.

Demaray recommended that the trail project be submitted by Anderson for the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) fourth period.

Two proposals were made for the CCC to construct trails during the Fourth Enrollment Period (Oct. 1, 1934 to March 31, 1935). One proposal was for a 2-mile horse trail to go from the Saddlehorn administrative area to the "canyon bottom" and the Coke Ovens to the "canyon bottom" (project #4, Camp NM-2-C); the other proposal was to construct a 4.5 mile horse trail in Monument Canyon (project #2, Camp NM-3-C). A map depicting the proposed areas for these trail projects is attached (see Map 3). Correspondence indicates that at least the 2-mile trail was approved. In both cases, however, there were no reports of trail-building activities either undertaken or completed on the two trails in the detailed monthly reports of CCC activities which followed. In addition, Anderson's narrative annual report for fiscal Year 1935 (which included the fourth period) listed no trail work performed that year. This suggests that the CCC's ongoing work on Scenic Rim Rock Road and on other developments in the Saddlehorn area took priority and plans for trail improvements or development appear to have been "shelved."

Custodian Clifford L. Anderson was transferred to Yosemite National Park and left COLM in July 1935. In August 1935 Ernest P. Leavitt was appointed acting supt of COLM and Black Canyon of the Gunnisson National Monument (BLCA). Paul R. Frank took over these duties on October 4, 1935. The same month the decision was made to place COLM (as well as Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument) under the supervision of Superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park (MEVE), Jesse Nusbaum, effective in early 1936. The decision was made not to appoint another custodian to COLM until the heavy road construction was nearer completion and increased visitation to the monument warranted a resident custodian. A resident ranger was to serve as the defacto caretaker of the monument, reporting to the Superintendent at MEVE.

In March 1936, Project 1a, ECW 7-206 Foot Trail (Seventh Period, April 1-Sept. 30, 1936) was approved. This project was to be a continuation of the work initiated in 1934 by the transient camp. The construction of a two-mile trail was to be executed by CCC labor, Camp NM-2-C. (See Map 4.) The trailwork was recommended by the Branch of Forestry "as a fire fighting measure" as it was "the only means of reaching [the]

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[17] Six-Year Program estimates to the Director, from Clifford L. Anderson, May 15, 1934. Park archives.

canyon floor." However, there is no evidence in monthly reports, CCC project files, or newspaper articles (reviewed from 1936 to 1943) that work on this trail or other trails was performed.[18]

The 1936 General Development Plan drawing (part of the Master Plan for COLM) depicted construction of a proposed trail, following the alignment described by Anderson for the ECW 7-206 Foot Trail. The only trails the 1936 drawing showed as "existing" are the short trail to the Coke Ovens overlook and a trail approximating the alignment of the old bridle trail from the east boundary to Independence Monument (Drawing COLO NM/3000-C).

After Anderson's departure, estimates for COLM's Six-Year Program (FY 1938-1943) were submitted by Engineer Secrest in late 1935. The program proposed no expenditures at all for trails and minor roads. Instead, during this period a total of $71,800 was to be spent on physical improvements (buildings, utilities, fences, revetments, campground and picnic areas) and $238,500 spent on "Major Roads" (meaning Scenic Rim Rock Road). From this, it appears that, given more pressing needs, the development of trails at COLM was given low priority.

In a report entitled "Future Needs of CCC Cooperation in Development and Maintenance of Colorado National Monument" prepared at MEVE on March 2, 1938, the 16th "need" listed (out of 20) was construction of "about 4 miles of footpaths and trails...to special points of interest and to provide nature study paths." On the same date another MEVE report was prepared entitled "Accomplishments at Colorado National Monument: 4 years of CCC Participation." No trail work was reported in the long list of accomplishments.

In 1938 the construction of a short, relatively level foot trail from the Saddlehorn campground to Window Rock was approved (Job No. 48). The only NPS-designed trail to be built in COLM during the historic period, this trail was completed by the CCC in 1939. It offered visitors an excellent view of Monument Canyon, the Colorado River, the Book Cliffs and the Grand Valley.[19]

A description in the 1939 Development Outline/Master Plan for COLM described three existing trails: Monument Canyon Trail, the Coke Oven Trail and the Fruita Canyon Trail. (The latter trail was built in conjunction with the Fruita pipeline for maintenance purposes and is no longer used. The description of the Coke Ovens Trail is in the previous section.) The Monument Canyon Trail was described as follows:

> From the road that skirts the Monument Boundary along the floor of the valley a short spur road approaches the Monument Boundary near the entrance to Monument Canyon. From the Monument Boundary a low standard trail constructed years ago extends into Monument Canyon to the base of Independence Monument.

It is noteworthy that this trail did not extend any further west of Independence Monument. Rather, a *proposed* trail followed the alignment of the western part of the current Monument Canyon Trail. "Floor of the Canyon Trail" was the proposed name for this trail and the description reads:

> From the Coke Oven Trail it is planned to construct a trail to the floor of the canyon, following the canyon to Independence Monument, and from there climb to the rim of [the] mesa on which the Headquarters area is located.[20]

The 1939 proposed trail is also consistent with CCC projects #2 and #4, proposed and/or approved in 1934 but not constructed during the 1930s. There's no record of

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[18] While the job application for this project is on file, no completion report accompanies it; other job files contain both job application and job completion reports.

[19] This trail was extended into a "loop" in 1958 and probably lacks design integrity from its period of construction. It has not yet been surveyed.

[20] Development Outline, Colorado National Monument. National Archives, Record Group 77, Civil Works Map File. Washington.

the "Floor of the Canyon Trail" being built, but large sections of the proposed trail are nonetheless consistent with parts of the western section of Monument Canyon Trail.

In July 1940 a Forest Protection Plan for COLM described Monument Canyon Trail as it existed at the time:

> The existing foot trail from the main road down Monument Canyon via Independence Monument to the county road below the Monument is in need of reconstruction. This trail should be reconstructed for horse travel and should be of a standard to permit fire fighters to travel with safety from the mesa or the main road into the canyon.[21]

The above description suggests there was *some* kind of trail that went from Scenic Rim Rock Road down into the canyon and to Independence Monument, in spite of there being no record of formal construction. The map included with the above report shows a trail going west from Independence Monument toward the canyon wall, but follows it only to the area of the "Kissing Couple" formation then ends, possibly ascending the wall at that point. No trail is shown further south of the "Kissing Couple." (See Map 5.) In addition, the map which accompanied this report did not show the west section of Monument Canyon Trail as existing, even though the description above indicates it originated at "the main road" (Rim Rock Drive).

In August 1940 Acting Superintendent Thomas J. Williams (MEVE) submitted to the Director a revised priority list for the Project Construction Program, which included R-6, Horse and Foot Trails (trail locations not cited). No work was ever done under this approved project and in April 1944 the 1940 proposal was withdrawn by Regional Director M. R. Tillotson from the construction program; the reason cited was "No need."

In January 1941 Park Ranger Luther (who had served as the park's resident ranger since 1937) was replaced with Custodian Breynton R. Finch (1941-1949). The monument was created because of its scenic and outstanding rock formations, thus interpretation focused on the geological story of the area. While backcountry trails permitted closer access to the formations they were rarely used at COLM. In the 1941 report "Recommendations for the Museum and Other Interpretive Development at [COLM, BLCA and GRSA], Assistant Chief of the Museum Division, Dorr G. Yeager, wrote that most of the visitors to COLM (other than those coming to picnic):

> ...will probably be in the area only a short time. They will desire to drive along the canyon rims, stop at a View Point or two, visit the museum, and leave. Foot trails, while desirable, will be used by only a small percentage of the visitors.

In reviewing the monument's Preliminary Layout Plan for the Headquarters Area in January 1942, Finch commented to MEVE Supt. John S. McLaughlin,

> I do not believe the importance of this monument justifies such an ambitious plan of development....We have built a scenic drive and that is about all this Monument is now or ever will be.[22]

This quote is offered to illustrate the consistent view held by NPS officials that visitors to COLM rarely ventured far from their automobiles. There was little demand then for backcountry trails or trail development.

In August 1941 a job application form was transmitted to the Regional Director M. R. Tillotson for review and approval for Job No. 101, Horse Trails Improvement for Colorado National Monument by the CCC. The work was proposed "to improve existing scenic and protection trails for which monument funds are inadequate." Work on 7 miles of trails was planned; only $50. was requested for supplies. The modest

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[21] Yeager, W. Ward. Forest Protection Plan of Colorado National Monument, approved July 26, 1940. Park archives.

[22] Memorandum to McLaughlin from Finch, January 6, 1942. National Archives, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO. Box 191, File 600-01.

request was approved but the work was never done. An official request to cancel the project was finally made in June 1942.

The United States' declaration of war on Japan on December 8, 1941 resulted in the cessation of nearly all development activities in the park. Termination of all CCC activities coincided with the March 1942 withdrawal of equipment and supplies from COLM.[23] No trail work was proposed during the war years and would not resume to any degree until 1954.

Throughout the 1930s and until World War II, it is evident that park officials desired to construct a trail from the Scenic Rim Rock Road into the canyon. While there is a complete lack of written documentation that this trail was built, it is nonetheless shown on a USGS topographic map published in 1942 (see Map 6). This map depicts the western side of today's Monument Canyon Trail and called it -- for reasons unknown -- the "Coke Ovens Trail."[24] A 1942 master plan map, "General Development - Road and Trail System," also shows the existence of Trail No. 1, which extended from the east boundary to Rim Rock Drive, near the Coke Ovens (see Map 7). A later 1947 NPS drawing, "General Development, Road and Trail Systems" part of the monument's master plan, shows the same Trail No. 1 (see Map 8). The Trail Chart in the master plan calls it the "Monument Canyon Trail." In the chart, this trail is described as 3.5 miles long, of varied width, and unsurfaced. It went from the "Rim Road of Coke Ovens to County Road" (at the monument's eastern boundary). Notes stated this trail was "...in poor condition. Has some fire control value. Will have definite fire control use when reconstructed as horse and foot trail." Another 1947 map from the master plan, "General Utilities Layout," is also attached; it also depicts existing trails and is a little clearer to read (see Map 9).

Also listed in the 1947 master plan Trail Chart is the CCC-built .2 mile, 4-foot wide, gravel-surfaced foot trail from the campground to Window Rock (trail no. 2). It was proposed in the master plan that the 1939 trail be extended to serve a proposed parking area, group picnic area and other developments and during the 1950s it was changed to a longer .4 mile "loop" trail. Also listed was the 2.3-mile long Liberty Cap Trail, the latter described as "foot trail, poor condition," and, like Monument Canyon Trail, in need of reconstruction.[25] Not listed on the chart of existing trails is the Coke Ovens Trail, nor is it shown on maps dated 1942, 1947, 1951 and 1953, most likely because it was partially washed out and needed reconstruction by 1939.

One of the functions of trail development in national parks and monuments is for the opportunities they afford for interpreting natural and cultural resources to visitors. Such development tended to occur, however in those areas where there was demonstrated demand. In the draft Interpretive Section of the 1947 Development Outline, Regional Naturalist Natt N. Dodge stated that

> ...approximately 80 percent of the visitors [to COLM]...are picnic-minded local people and because the majority of the remainder, under past and present conditions, visit the monument only as a brief scenic detour from the main highway, there has appeared to be little interest in interpretation.

MEVE Supt. Robert H. Rose (1946-1952) hand-corrected Dodge's estimate of those who came to picnic at COLM to "no more than 50%." Still, there was very little interest in using backcountry trails among the general public, thus their interpretive potential was never mentioned in planning documents until the 1970s. The earliest use of trails for interpretation was limited to very short, easy hikes to lookout points. The earliest two such trails to the Coke Ovens and to Window Rock, are referenced in the following section, "The Modern Era."

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[23] Superintendent's monthly report, filed April 1, 1942. Park archives.

[24] It was possibly designated by this named because the route branched off the Coke Ovens Trail, and one could also view the Coke Ovens from this trail.

[25] Two stock drives were also listed on this chart but do not relate in any way to the Monument Canyon or Coke Ovens trails.

Monument maps depicting the roads and trail systems in 1942, 1947, 1949 and 1951 also show a 1.1 mile trail that connected trail No. 1 (Monument Canyon Trail) to the Saddlehorn headquarters area. This trail was designated as trail No. 5, but was only "proposed." It was never constructed; a request was made in 1960 to delete it from master plan maps.[26]

During this time period, Superintendents' monthly narrative reports were reviewed for 1935 to 1949. No trail work was reported during these years with two exceptions: the trail from the Saddlehorn area campground to Window Rock (mentioned earlier); and maintenance to Serpent's Trail, which was actually used during this period as a vehicular road, rather than as a trail. All completion reports for monument work conducted under the Economic Recovery Act (ERA) were also reviewed; again, no other work was reported on trails during public works programs years by the CCC. It is therefor unclear when the western part of Monument Canyon Trail came to be built and by whom. One possibility is that the CCC Roads and Trails crew did some trail work which went unreported. Given the detailed nature of reports during this period, however, this seems an unlikely scenario. The trail work at Window Rock was reported; the proposed trail work into the Monument Canyon was a far more ambitious undertaking and thus would also have been reported if it had been undertaken by the CCC. Another and more likely possibility is that, began by the transients, it simply evolved through occasional use as a primitive social trail. The lack of historic-era documentation (during an era when such records were meticulously kept) suggests that Monument Canyon Trail awaited formal development until the 1950s.

The lack of any concentrated effort or availability of funds for trail development at COLM was apparent throughout the historic period. A draft forest protection plan for the COLM Master Plan, submitted to the Regional Director by MEVE Supt. John S. McLaughlin on March 6, 1942 stated, "There are 20 miles of poor foot trails through the various canyons and around the rims."

The Modern Era (1950-1997)
Superintendents' monthly narrative reports in the park's archives were reviewed for the years 1950-1976. Administrative and resource management files were reviewed for later years. By far, the most extensive NPS work on Monument Canyon Trail took place in the 1950s and early 1960s. Russell Mahan succeeded Breynton Finch as the monument's custodian in April 1949. (As of June 1953, COLM was no longer under MEVE's jurisdiction.)

The 1950 Development Outline for COLM proposed trail development in the Saddlehorn campground, residential, and utility areas; no improvements or new construction was proposed for backcountry or other trails. The Maintenance Plan and Estimates for the park's trail system in fiscal year 1951 listed 21.2 miles of exiting trails (including the stock drives).[27] It stated,

> These trails have not been maintained to any great extent in past years as they have been mostly used for patrol purposes. Visitor use has begun to increase and minor maintenance is required. Routine maintenance, such as trend repairs, drainage repairs and brushing out only will be performed, no special items are anticipated.

Cost estimates for all trail maintenance was estimated at $200.

In his monthly reports to the Coordinating Superintendent at MEVE, Supt. Russell L. Mahan described trail work completed under his tenure at COLM (1949-1955). In August 1952, Mahan reported, the maintenance crew spent one day inspecting the Monument Canyon and Coke Ovens trails. In September 1952, Acting Superintendent Fagergren, Landscape Architect Harold A. Marsh and Highway Engineer Thomas M. Moran visited COLM as part of their efforts to make an inventory of all its roads and trails. A trip report filed by Moran stated,

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[26] Memorandum to Superintendent from Supervisory Landscape Architect Robert G. Hall, October 26, 1960. National Archives, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.

[27] The length of Monument Canyon Trail was still shown as 3.5 miles. The Coke Ovens Trail is not even listed, most likely due to poor condition.

> The roads are in good condition but the trails are poor....The trails have little or no tread material remaining on them and the drainage structures, if any, are mostly washed out.

Moran commented in his inspection report that "The trails have been obliterated in places" and recommended that trail maintenance be performed "as funds will allow." Monument Canyon Trail was designated as "horse trail" on a 1951 master plan drawing, "Roads and Trails Systems;" the Coke Ovens Trail was not depicted nor was this trail depicted on the COLM brochure published in 1953, which shows Monument Canyon Trail (see Map 10).

In 1955 the park's first seasonal naturalist came on duty, Murl L. Messersmith. That summer the park began to experiment with a self-guided nature trail to Window Rock. A second self-guiding trail was put into operation on the Coke Ovens Trail in 1956. These were the park's first attempts to use any of its trails for interpretive purposes, and the effort proved popular with visitors. The development of self-guided trails was heavily promoted by the NPS during Mission 66, a ten-year program to improve park facilities in national parks and monuments.[28]

Naturalist Messersmith concentrated his initial efforts on developing wayside exhibits at Cold Shivers Point and the Saddlehorn; on week-ends he contacted visitors at various lookouts along the Scenic Rim Rock Road. No such attempts were made to promote the interpretive value of backcountry trails such as the Monument Canyon or Liberty Cap trails. In 1957 week-end "auto caravan" tours, conducted by a ranger-naturalist, were offered on Rim Rock Drive, with stops made at the overlooks. They were discontinued the following year due to "poor reception." Guided walks were also poorly attended; campfire programs and talks (held in the warehouse) were the most popular venue for interpreters during this period. Use of backcountry trails went statistically unreported until the 1980s.

Funds totalling $20,790 were provided to COLM for fiscal year 1955, including a special maintenance item of $6,750 for "realigning, grading and surfacing the [Monument] Canyon trail which was considered a reconstruction item."[29] At long last, there was money for trails. Mahan reported that during the summer of 1953, a two-man crew worked on the maintenance of rim trails and on "much needed improvement of the Monument Canyon trail, from the Coke Ovens to the boundary." Work continued during the summer of 1954 when Mahan reported in July:

> The trail crew of two men continued work on the Monument Canyon trail during the month and to date have one mile of this trail in good shape, from the mouth of Monument Canyon to Independence Monument. This is the first maintenance performed on this portion of the trail during the tenure of this superintendent and the trail was in very poor shape. Lack of funds were the reason for non-maintenance and additional funds will be required to realign this trail in the vicinity of the Coke Ovens, where it was completely obliterated by heavy storms prior to 1949.

Trail maintenance work was terminated on July 30, 1954. Mahan reported,

> During the summer all rim trails were worked over and brought up to standard. In addition, approximately 3.6 miles of the Monument Canyon trail, from the boundary fence at the mouth of the canyon to a point below the Kissing Couple, has also been brought up to standard. It is hoped that we can finish rehabilitation of this trail during the 1955 fiscal year.

In the spring of 1955 Mixed Gang Foreman McKee made an inspection of the Monument Canyon Trail, in preparation for seasonal maintenance and rehabilitation of the same. The following June roads and trails maintenance crews were actively engaged in trail work throughout the month. "A trail crew consisting of three to four men spent

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[28] Memorandum to Director from Chief, Division of Interpretation, January 30, 1959. National Archives, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO. File K1815.

[29] Memorandum to the Regional Director from Acting Asst. Director Henry Langley, dated August 27, 1954. National Archives, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver. CO. File D30.1.

the entire month on maintenance of the Monument Canyon Trail. Approximately 1 1/2 miles of this trail were completely rebuilt," reported Mahan on June 8, 1955.[30]

On July 7, 1955 Mahan reported,

> The trail crew rehabilitated .3 miles of the Monument Canyon Trail this month, this included the badly washed section below the Coke Ovens. The entire trail, 5.4 miles, will be in good shape with about 4 days work in July, which will include drilling and blasting of large boulders on the upper portion of the trail.

This was the last trailwork completed under Mahan, who left his post at COLM on July 16, 1955. He was replaced by Superintendent Homer W. Robinson (1955-1958). Supt. Robinson continued monthly reports to the NPS Director. His earliest reference to trail work is his September 4, 1957 report: "The Coke Ovens and Monument Canyon trails were worked following the storms and are in good shape." In October he reported "The Monument Canyon trail was worked during the month as was the Ute Canyon trail, following the severe thunder showers we experienced during August."[31]

Robinson was succeeded by Fred G. Bussey (1958-1964). Bussey reported to the NPS Director on September 11, 1961, "...the Monument Canyon Trail was improved and a new gate was installed at the lower end of the [trail] which would permit improved visitor access." In his report on June 1961 activities he noted, "Monument Canyon Trail was repaired its entire length except for blasting which will be required near the rim..." His report the following year for August 1962 stated, "Considerable trail maintenance was accomplished on the Monument Canyon trail below the Coke Oven parking area." A map showing the extent of road and trail development by 1961 is attached, along with a table listing roads and trails (see Map 11). The COLM brochure map for 1963 is also attached (see Map 12). Later brochure maps from 1966 and 1978 show no change in the alignment of either Monument Canyon or Coke Ovens trails.

Bussey's successor was Paul Ellis (1964-1965), then the monument came under the administration of the superintendent at Curecanti National Monument (1965-1972). Reports from 1963 through 1971 had no references to work on Monument Canyon Trail. The 1965 Master Plan for COLM included no drawings for roads or trails, but recommended the improvement of "existing trails to allow use of entire system" and "encouragement of horseback use as a rewarding visitor experience."[32]

The number of backcountry hikers at COLM during the 1970s was still small. The 1970 Master Plan for COLM stated that auto sightseeing "...is now and will continue to be the major recreational use of the area. With few exceptions, visitors view this spectacular canyon country from their automobiles."[33] The plan acknowledged that 20 miles of backcountry trails existed which provided "adequate access to the floor of several of the major canyons." Hiking occurred along the canyon trails but their use was "...limited due to the extremely hot temperatures prevalent throughout this canyon country during the summer months." The plan proposed expanding the trail system into the cooler plateau areas in hopes of attracting more hikers.

Attached to Area Manager R. D. Powell's monthly report to the Superintendent of the Curecanti Group for July 1972 was the August 2, 1972 monthly progress report from Maintenance Foreman J. H. Trimble:

> Monument Canyon and Coke Ovens trail head has been resurfaced with chinle formation mixed with Paczyme soil stabilizer to improve the

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[30] All reports by Mahan are located in park archives.

[31] Reports cited by Robinson and Bussey (his successor) are all located in park archives.

[32] 1965 Master Plan, Colorado National Monument. Park archives.

[33] Master Plan for Colorado National Monument, February 1970. Park administrative files.

stability and appearance of the trail. Drainage ways have been cleaned and rocked up to divert water from flowing over and down walkways.

There are a few sections of tread on the trails where soil stabilizer is still evident. Trimble also reported that four Neighborhood Youth Conservation boys were being used for trail work, roadside cleanup, and various other jobs.

An untitled report in administrative files, believed to date to 1973, claimed that the Monument Canyon Trail was the only maintained hiking trail in the park and recommended the trail system be expanded and funds be programmed to properly maintain the system.[34]

From late 1972 to early 1980 Supt. Robert E. Benton oversaw operations at COLM (under the administration of the Curecanti Group Office). In his monthly reports from 1973 to January 1977, no trail construction or maintenance projects were reported. In a report on the park's trails, Park Ranger Rick Nolan reported in 1977 that the Monument Canyon Trail was in excellent condition and was well-defined and graded.[35] Supt. Benton was succeeded by Dennis K. Huffman (1980-1987). No monthly reports or trail maintenance records were located for this period.

Regardless of the lack of reporting, some routine trail maintenance was performed during this period. Maintenance Work Leader Larry Overbye has been at COLM since 1968 and recalls doing repair work on the western portion of Monument Canyon Trail in the late 1960s and during the 1970s.[36] During this period the park was able to hire seasonal workers to serve on its trail crew. Overbye recalled that the 3-person crew often spent late summer, fall and early spring on trail repair work in the monument. The switchbacks of the west end of Monument Canyon Trail (the old Coke Ovens Trail) required the most work, said Overbye, due to washouts and deterioration of the drylaid retaining walls. The trail crew installed water bars to control drainage and rebuilt collapsed sections of rockwork.

Overbye could recall no special funds being allotted for work on Monument Canyon Trail in the thirty years he has worked at COLM. Since the early 1980s, reported Overbye, little maintenance work has been done on the trail as the park as funds have not been available to hire seasonal workers.

Summary and Evaluation of Historical Significance and Integrity

Monument Canyon Trail and the Coke Ovens Trail were evaluated under two multiple property submissions: the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission," listed in 1994 (under the historic context, "NPS Rustic Architecture and Public Works Construction, 1933-1942); and Linda F. McClelland's "Historic Park Landscapes in the National and State Parks, 1916-1942," listed in 1995.

The majority of John Otto's trails were built to provide access by horseback to the monument's most scenic attractions. Once construction began on Scenic Rim Rock Road during the 1930s and the road became useable, the vast majority of visitors preferred to view the monument's geologic attractions from above, rather than make the time and energy-consuming descent into the canyon. As cars (rather than horses) became the preferred mode of transportation, the early horseback trails received little use or maintenance.

Historic documentation clearly demonstrates that no other NPS official overseeing COLM has shared Otto's enthusiasm for trail building. Only since the 1950s has serious effort and resources been committed toward improvement and maintenance of the more popular hiking trials. Nonetheless, the monument's horse and foot trails functioned during the historic period as a means of administrative access to the park's more remote areas for fire protection, game and routine patrol. (Poaching was

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[34] "Trails - Colorado National Monument", no author cited, administrative files, folder D30 Roads and Trails. 1973 (?)

[35] Three-page report by Nolan, Rick. "Trails of Colorado National Monument," September 1977. Park resource management files.

[36] Phone interview with Larry Overbye by Kathy McKoy, July 16, 1997.

a serious problem, particularly during hunting season.) Trails were needed to provide access in and out of the canyons and to the park's primary mesa, Monument Mesa. In addition, should an injury or other emergency occur in the backcountry, trails were needed to quickly get people in or out for medical attention. In fact, Monument Canyon Trail's primary use during the historic period was administrative (as evidenced by the statement in the 1950 Development Outline, referenced earlier).

While these same administrative trails could be and were used by hikers and rock climbers to gain closer access to geologic formations, historic documentation attests that the majority of park visitors during the historic period favored viewing the scenery from afar, using overlooks located along the Scenic Rim Rock Road. By the 1950s, some visitors were willing to hike short, easy self-guided nature trails such as those to the Coke Ovens Overlook and Window Rock. Recreational use of the trails by any significant number of hikers began in the 1970s and has grown in the succeeding decades. Compared to other pressing administrative needs, trail development and/or to maintenance of existing trails has not been a high priority at COLM. In particular, Monument Canyon Trail's western portion (which descends from the canyon rim to the floor of the valley) is subject to rapid deterioration due to rock slides and washouts from flooding. This, along with insufficient staff to carry out trail repairs, accounts for its current poor condition.

Monument Canyon Trail fails to meet the National Register's Criterion A (association with important events). Use of trails for administrative and recreational purposes is routine in all national and state parks. The recreational potential of any of the monument's backcountry trails was taken advantage of by very few visitors during the historic period, and the interpretive value of backcountry trails at COLM was not even acknowledged, must less promoted. Monument Canyon Trail also fails to meet Criterion C as it possess no distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, nor does it exhibit exceptional workmanship. (In the past, most trails within parks that have qualified for listing have done so under criterion C.)

In addition to possessing little historical significance, the Monument Canyon Trail has "evolved" over time and retains little physical integrity from the historic period. The trail developed its east-west oriented eastern section based on the historical precedent of the old bridle trail, then by 1940 was met in the area of Independence Monument by a north-south trail that descended into the canyon from the Coke Ovens area. Both sections of trail were heavily reconstructed and expanded in the 1950s when the first significant funds became available for trail work. The trail was realigned, new portions were constructed, and its length trail went from 3.5 miles to at least 5.4 miles. Currently, the trail is reportedly 6 miles long. Finally, the trail is in extremely poor condition and requires considerable reconstruction to bring it up to current NPS standards for hiking trails. In addition to lacking historical significance, Monument Canyon Trail does not retain sufficient physical integrity for listing on the National Register.

The **Coke Ovens Trail** also does not meet National Register eligibility criteria. Documentation suggests that only a small portion of the trail was built during the historic period (in 1934). Its primary use was to allow visitors a closer view of the Coke Ovens. Since 1956, it has been used primarily as self-guided nature trail. Of the few built features along the trail, none exhibit exceptional design or craftsmanship. The trail deteriorated so rapidly during the 1930s that it does not even appear on 1942, 1947 and 1951 topographic maps. Documentation suggests that reconstruction or completion of this trail occurred in 1953 in 1954. It lacks sufficient historical significance and physical integrity from the historic era for listing on the National Register.

Both trails fail to meet the registration requirements established in the "Colorado National Monument Multiple Property Submission" and in "Historic Landscapes in National and State Parks, 1916-1942."

Major Bibliographical References

Major repositories and primary source materials reviewed:

Colorado National Monument, Fruita, CO.
Park archives - CCC records (job applications, completions reports) monthly narrative reports, official correspondence, historic photographs, maps, drawings, park brochures (1920s-1970s); copies of National Archives records (1913-1940s).

Resource Management file D30, Roads and Trails (1970-1990s)

Administrative files - master plans, visitor use reports, road and trails, general development (1970s-1990s)

National Archives and Records Center, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.
Correspondence, reports, planning documents, maps (1930s to 1960).

National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center, Denver, CO. Planning documents, maps, drawings, and aerial photos.

Maps & Drawings (located in the collections listed above):

1932 Sketch Map of COLM, NM/COLO-4933, June 1932.

1932 Sketch Map of COLM, NM/COLO-4935, June 1932.

1932 Public Works Project No.1, Roads and Trails, NM/COLO 4944, June 1932 (Rim Rock Drive)

1933 COLM, Proposed Boundary Fence, NM/COLO-4946, October 1933.

1934 COLM Vicinity Map, NM/COLO-4952, February 1934.

1936 Map General Development Plan, Part of Master Plan for COLM NM/COLO-3000-C, January 1936.

1938 Trail from Camp Ground to Window Rock Point, NM/COLO-2064, November 1938.

1940 COLM Vicinity Map, NM/COLO-4952 with legend added for Forest Protection Plan.

1942 General Development, Road and Trail System, Map NM/COL0-2100-B, January 1942.

1942 USGS Topographic Map of COLM (surveyed in 1934; revised 1942 edition; reprinted 1948).

1947 General Development, Road and Trail Systems, NM/COLO-2104, July 1947.

1947 General Utilities Layout, NM/COLO-5330, August 1947.

1949 Road System, NM/COLO-2104B, February, 1949.

1951 Roads and Trails Systems, NM/COLO-2104-F, July 1951.

1953 COLM Map, NM/COLO-7002, February 1953 (brochure).

1958 Index Sheet, Aerial Survey, COLM, NM/COLO-3110, July 1958.

1961 Roads and Trails, NM/COLO-2104-G, June 1961.

1963 COLM Map, NM/COLO-17002, Dec. 1963 (brochure).

1966, 1978 Revisions to 1953 and 1961 brochure maps (see above).

Secondary Sources:

Kania, Alan J. *John Otto of Colorado National Monument*. Roberts Rinehart, Inc. Boulder, Colorado, 1984.

Look, Al. *John Otto and the Colorado National Monument*. Sandstone Publishing Co., Grand Junction, Colorado, 1961.

McClelland, Linda F.
National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission, "Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks," 1995.

Presenting Nature: The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service, 1916-1942. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1993.

Paige, John C. *The Civilian Conservation Corp and the National Park Service, 1933-1942 - An Administrative History*. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1985.

Summary of Research and Evaluation Methods

The monument plans to initiate major trail repair work on Monument Canyon Trail in the October 1997 with a crew of volunteer workers. In compliance with Section 106, the park requested professional assistance from the Intermountain Region, Colorado Plateau Support Office Research in evaluating the trail's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. This work was conducted by NPS Historian Kathy McKoy.[1] During the course of the research it seemed reasonable to also survey and evaluate the Coke Ovens Trail. The period of full-time research, survey and evaluation began June 24; analysis and reporting was completed on July 22, 1997.

The first two weeks of the project was spent in locating, reviewing, and analyzing COLM archival materials housed at the National Archives and Record Administration, Rocky Mountain Region (NARA-RM) in Denver as well as plans, drawings, and topographic maps from the Denver Service Center's Technical Information Center (DSC/TIC). In addition to documents on Monument Canyon Trail, all materials at NARA-RM were copied pertaining to park trails used for recreational purposes (hiking, horseback riding), resource and visitor protection (including truck trails), and stock drives. This research provided the researcher with an overall picture of the role various trails played at COLM and the pattern of trail development during its historic period. The week of July 8-11 was spent by McKoy in conducting field survey and archival research on the Monument Canyon and Coke Ovens trails.

At the park, McKoy went through about six boxes of historical materials in the museum archives, including 3 boxes of copies of historical documents from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA, Washington, DC), Record Group 79, central files. Other primary sources reviewed were historic photographs (including aerials); maps, plans, and drawings; official NPS correspondence; Emergency Recovery Act (CCC) job application and completion reports; superintendent's and/or resident ranger's monthly and annual reports; trail use reports; master plans and other planning reports; and early correspondence during John Otto's tenure as custodian. Secondary sources consulted included several books about John Otto, various reports in the current administrative files of the resource management office and superintendent, and old newspaper articles. Most of the primary source documents researched were generated between 1933 and World War II, but later documents were also thoroughly reviewed to determine what, if any, subsequent work had been done to the trails as well as the nature and extent of their use. Monthly and annual narrative reports were complete for all periods from 1930 to 1977 and from 1988 to the present. Few written reports were located for the period 1978 to 1988. (This information gap was overcome by interviews with park staff.) The other notable data gap was that no maps were found (nor known to exist) that showed the location or extent of Otto's early trails.

In reviewing historic reports McKoy focused on the following areas to determine the importance of Monument Canyon Trail and Coke Ovens Trail as well to evaluate their historic integrity: their uses in interpretation and visitor and/or resource protection, and any maintenance activities associated with the trails in the past. Development plans for the historic era were also analyzed to determine the relative importance of the park's trail system in general as reflected in development plans and funding priorities.

In evaluating significance and integrity of the trails, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Bulletin 15 (*How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*) was referenced, as well as the National Register multiple property submission prepared in 1995 by Historian Linda McClelland, *Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks*. The latter contained historical information on trail development in the park system and listed property types and registration

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[1] Ms. McKoy's primary responsibilities for the last six years have been in National Register survey and evaluation; prior to that, she worked for the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office as National Register Historian.

requirements for national park trails. John C. Paige's *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942, An Administrative History* was also referenced to learn the nature and extent of trail-building activity of the CCC in national parks and monuments during the Great Depression.

The Coke Ovens Trail was hiked its entire length; only the western third of the Monument Canyon Trail (about two miles) was surveyed. This is the section that makes a steep descent down to the valley floor and which contains nearly all the switchbacks and associated stone retaining walls. Taking photographs and width measurements, the poor condition of the trail was noted as well as its general character. After surveying the trails, McKoy interviewed Park Ranger Bill Rodgers and Motor Vehicle Operator Joe Parker, both very familiar with the current condition and character of Monument Canyon Trail. It was decided that the portion of the trail that traversed the canyon floor would not be hiked by McKoy, due both to time considerations and the availability of descriptive information available from park staff and written sources.

The draft Determination of Eligibility was prepared, after analysis of all documentation collected, during the weeks of July 13 and 20.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Map 1	Current COLM brochure, 1991.
Map 2	Sketch Map of COLM, NM/COLO-4935, June 1932.
Map 3	COLM Vicinity Map, NM/COLO-4952, February 1934. Marked with ECW Projects #2 and #4, September 1934; approved October 1934.
Map 4	COLM Vicinity Map, NM/COLO-4952, February 1934. Marked with ECW Project #206, submitted June 1934.
Map 5	COLM Vicinity Map, NM/COLO-4952, February 1934. Marked and legend added for Forest Protection Plan, 1940.
Map 6	USGS Topographic Map of COLM, 1942 edition
Map 7	General Development, Road and Trail System, Map NM/COL0-2100-B, January 1942.
Map 8	General Development, Road and Trail Systems, NM/COLO-2104, July 1947.
Map 9	General Utilities Layout, NM/COLO-5330, August 1947.
Map 10	COLM brochure map, NM/COLO-7002, February 1953.
Map 11	Roads and Trails (with tables), NM/COLO-2104-G, June 1961.
Map 12	COLM brochure map, NM/COLO-17002, December 1963.

NOTE: Maps 3-5 are marked up copies of an earlier February 1934 map.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, INTERMOUNTAIN REGION
COLORADO PLATEAU SYSTEM SUPPORT OFFICE
CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY PHOTO LOG

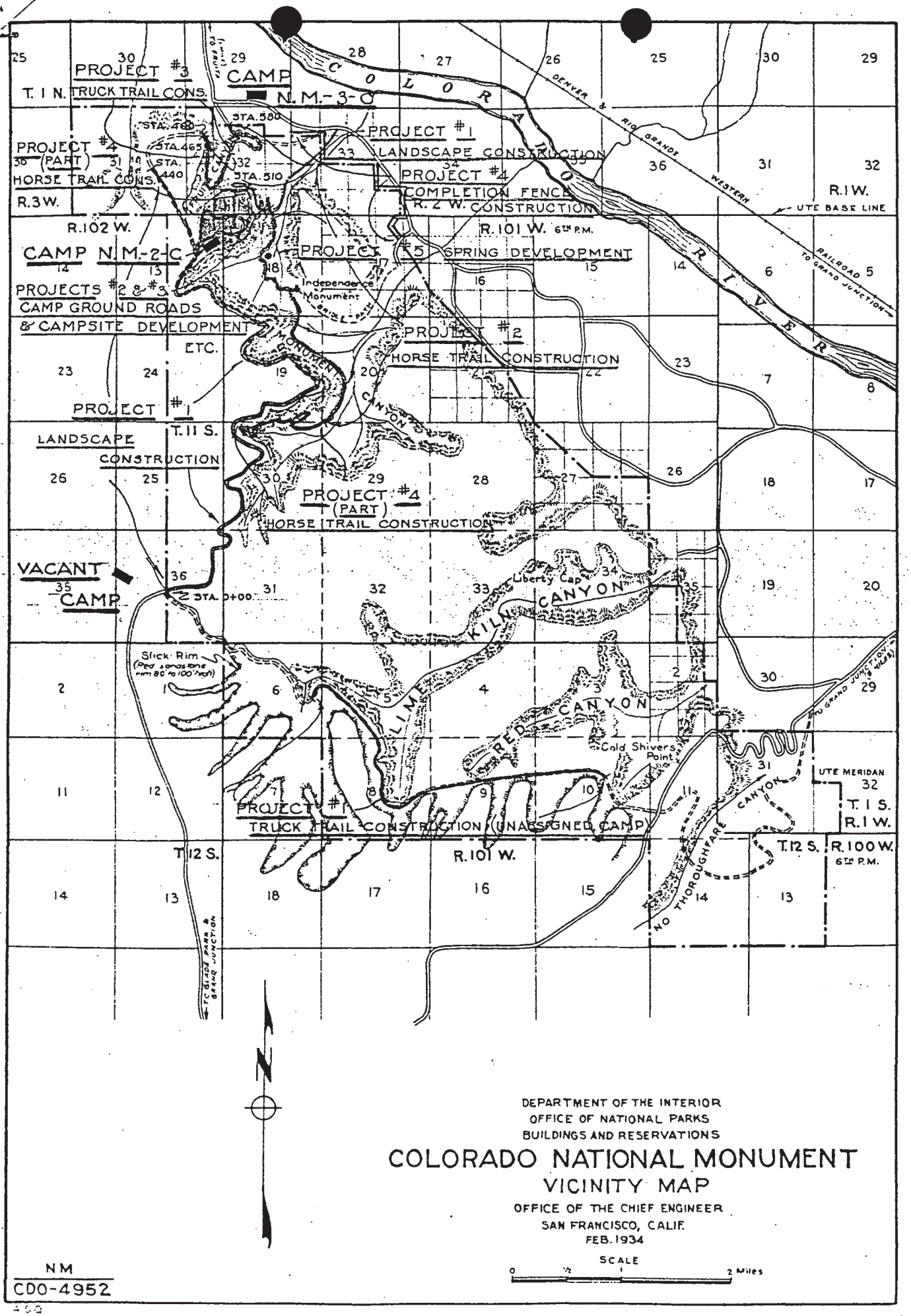
1. PROPERTY NAME: Coke Ovens Trail, Monument Canyon Trail
2. PARK: Colorado National Monument
3. ROLL NUMBER: 1 PHOTOGRAPHER: Kathy McKoy DATE: 7/8/97, 7/11/97
4. AGENCY/FIRM: National Park Service, Colorado Plateau Office

NEG #	RESOURCE NAME/DESCRIPTION	DIRECTION*
00	East boundary trailhead, Monument Canyon Trail[1]	to W
0	Stone steps, trailhead at Rim Rock Drive for Monument Canyon and Coke Ovens trails (not historic; constructed 1965)	to N
1	West end of Monument Canyon and Coke Ovens trails (prior to division of the two)	to S
2	" " "	to W
3	" " " (drylaid rock retaining wall & switchback)	to NE
4	(same as above)	to SW
5	Coke Ovens Trail, collapsed retaining wall	to W
6	Monument Canyon Trail, view from Coke Ovens trail	to N
7	Coke Ovens Trail	to W
8	Coke Ovens overlook, at trail's east end	to E
9	Coke Ovens Trail, sandstone steps	to W
10	Monument Canyon Trail	to N
11	Monument Canyon Trail, switchback & retaining wall	to N
12	Monument Canyon Trail, typical section	to S
13	Monument Canyon Trail, natural steps occurring along "shelf" of canyon rim	to N
14	Monument Canyon Trail - note juniper "step;" loose rock work	detail

[1] Only photo taken on 7/8/97; all others below taken 7/11/97.

15	Monument Canyon Trail - rock fall covering trailbed	to E
16	Monument Canyon Trail, same as above only from opposite direction: juniper "steps" and trailbed covered with rock fall	to W
17	Monument Canyon Trail, retaining wall	to N
18	(same section of trail and wall as above, only taken from different point)	to W
19	Monument Canyon Trail, collapsed steps	to W
20	Monument Canyon Trail, trailbed covered with rockslide	to W

*Direction of view, i.e., direction camera is pointed toward ("to N").



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS
BUILDINGS AND RESERVATIONS

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

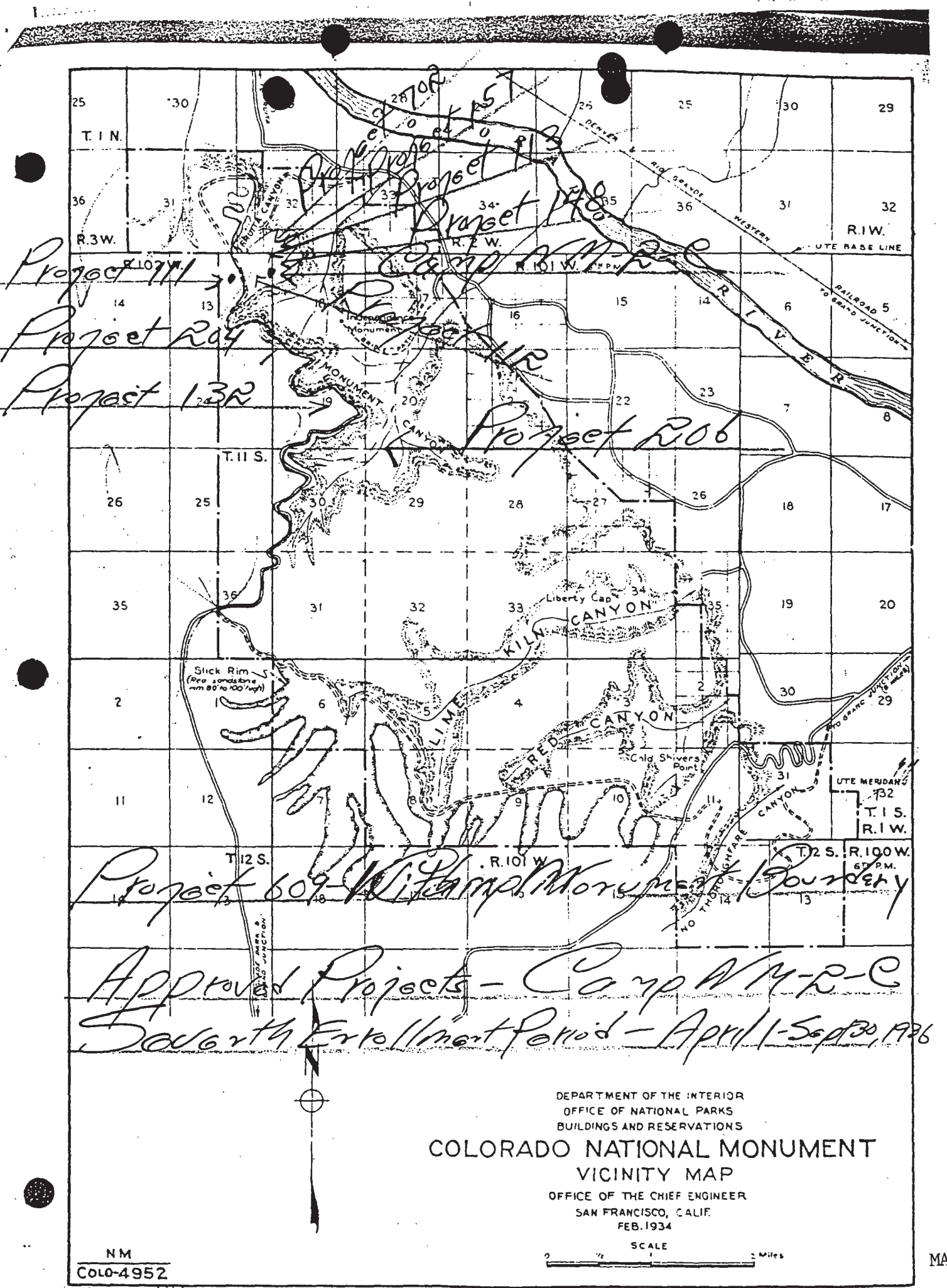
VICINITY MAP

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
FEB. 1934

SCALE 0 ½ 2 Miles

NM
CDO-4952

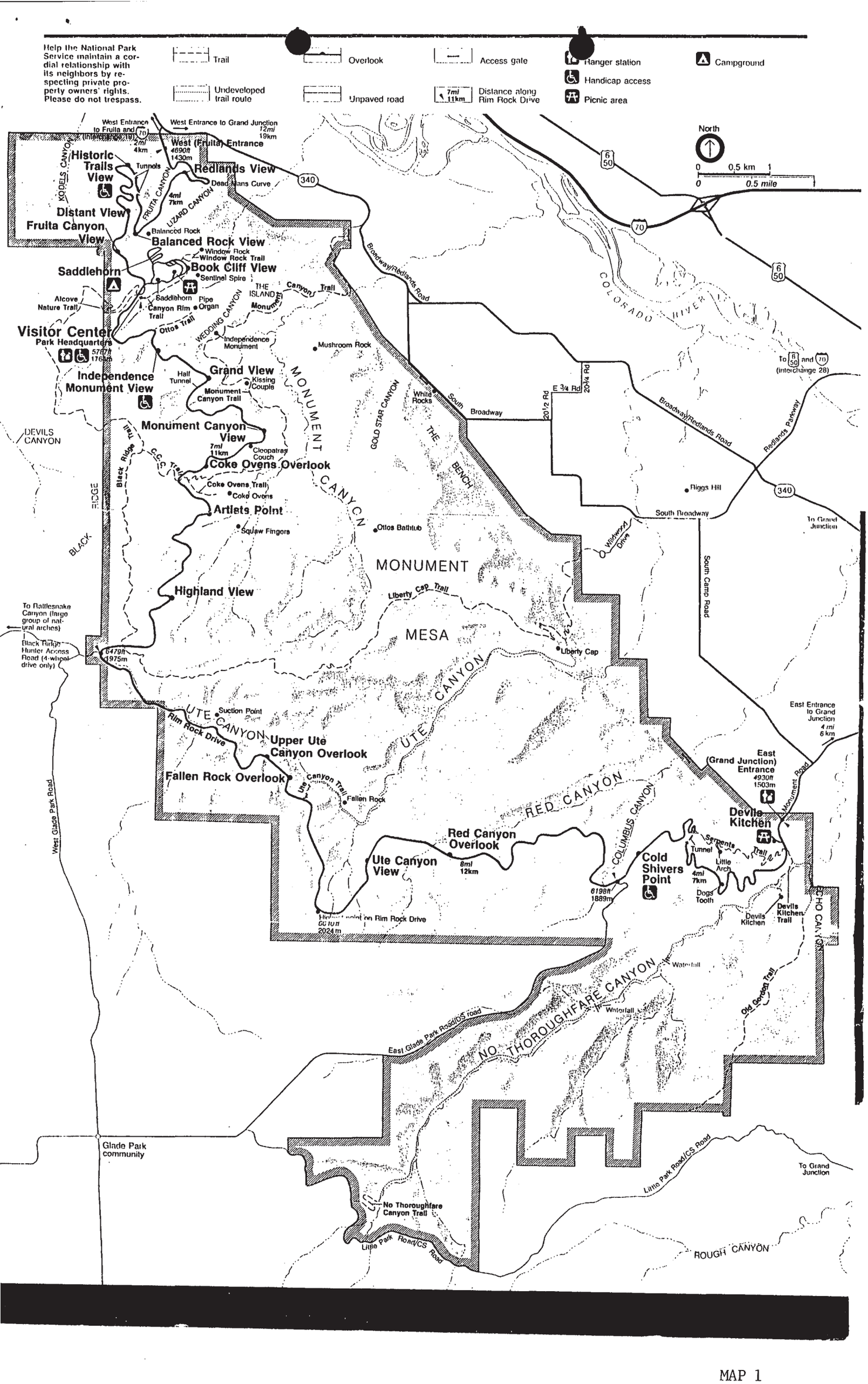
MAP 3



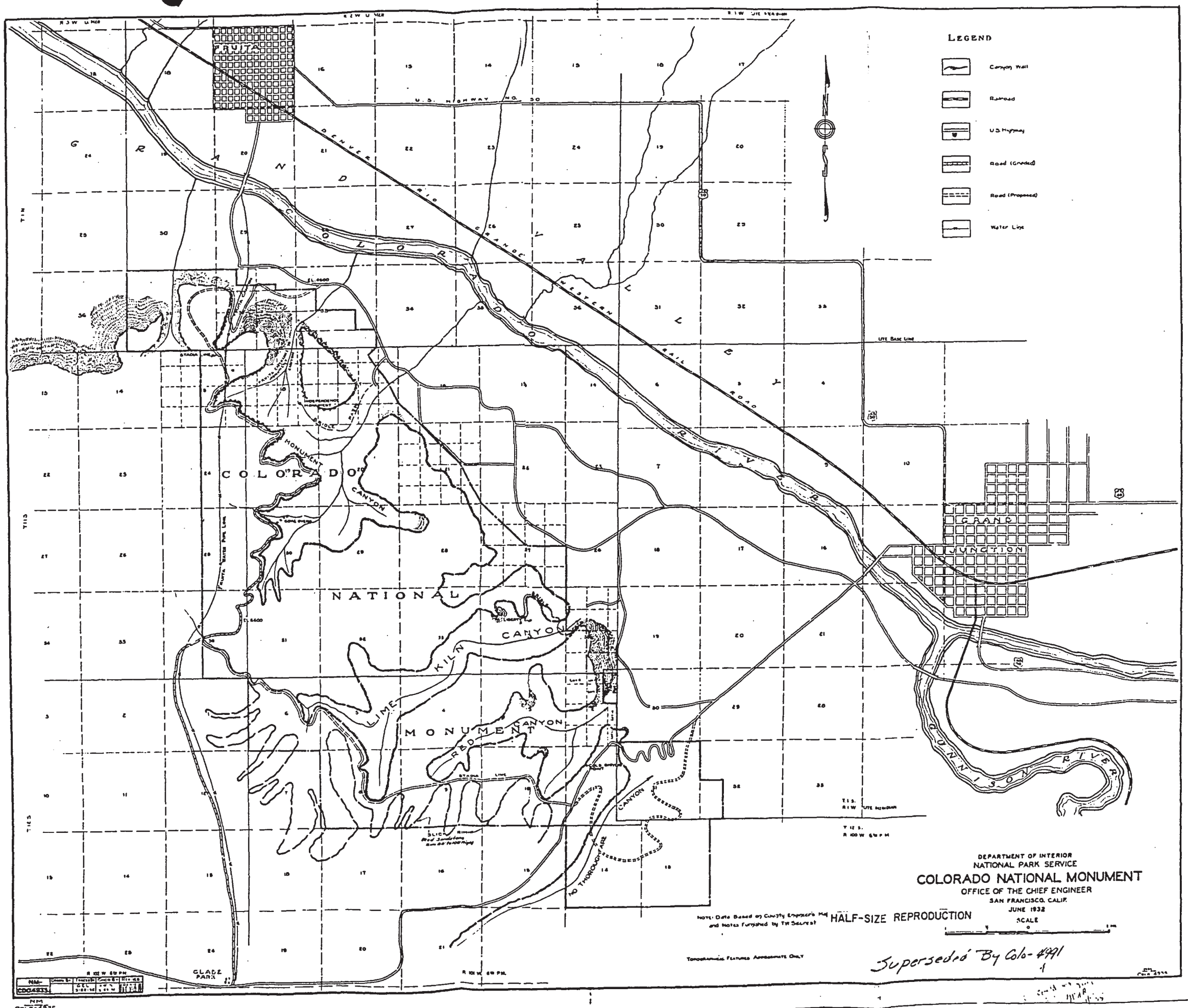
NM
COLO-4952

A.D.Q.

MAP 4

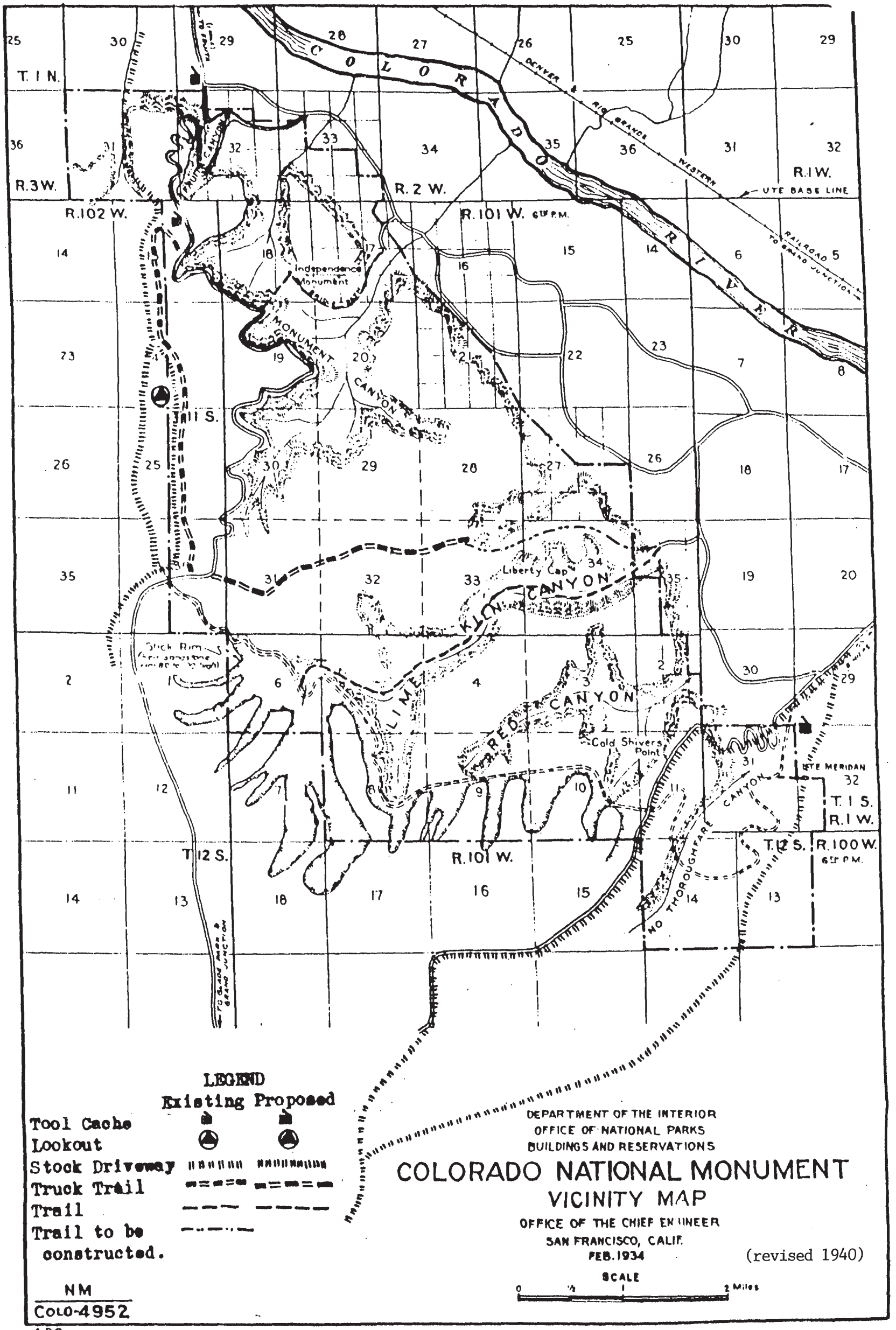

Help the National Park Service maintain a cordial relationship with its neighbors by respecting private property owners' rights. Please do not trespass.
Trail
Undeveloped trail route
Overlook
Unpaved road
Access gate
7mi 11km Distance along Rim Rock Drive
Ranger station
Handicap access
Picnic area
Campground
North
0 0.5 km 1
0 0.5 mile
West Entrance to Fruita and (Interchange 19) 2mi 4km
West Entrance to Grand Junction 12mi 19km
West (Fruita) Entrance 4690ft 1430m
Historic Trails View
Tunnels
Redlands View
Dead Mans Curve
Distant View
Fruita Canyon View
4mi 7km
Balanced Rock
Balanced Rock View
Window Rock
Window Rock Trail
Book Cliff View
Saddlehorn
Sentinel Spire
Alcove Nature Trail
Saddlehorn Canyon Rim Trail
Pipe Organ
THE ISLAND
Canyon Trail
Monument
Otto's Trail
WEDDING CANYON
Visitor Center
Park Headquarters
5761ft 1756m
Independence Monument
Mushroom Rock
Independence Monument View
Half Tunnel
Grand View
Kissing Couple
Monument Canyon Trail
MONUMENT CANYON
GOLD STAR CANYON
White Rocks
South Broadway
Broadway/Redlands Road
COLORADO RIVER
To 6 50 and 70 (Interchange 28)
E 3/4 Rd
201/2 Rd
203/4 Rd
Redlands Parkway
THE BENCH
Riggs Hill
340
South Broadway
To Grand Junction
Monument Canyon View
7mi 11km
Cleopatras Couch
Coke Ovens Overlook
DEVILS CANYON
Black Ridge Trail
C.C.C. Trail
Coke Ovens Trail
Coke Ovens
Artlets Point
Squaw Fingers
Otto's Bathtub
Windsor Drive
South Camp Road
BLACK RIDGE
MONUMENT
Highland View
Liberty Cap Trail
MESA
Liberty Cap
To Rattlesnake Canyon (large group of natural arches)
Black Ridge Hunter Access Road (4-wheel drive only)
6479ft 1975m
UTE CANYON
Suction Point
Rim Rock Drive
Upper Ute Canyon Overlook
Fallen Rock Overlook
Ute Canyon Trail
Fallen Rock
East Entrance to Grand Junction 4 mi 6 km
East (Grand Junction) Entrance 4930ft 1503m
Monument Road
RED CANYON
COLUMBUS CANYON
Devils Kitchen
Serpents Trail
Tunnel
Little Arch
Red Canyon Overlook
8mi 12km
Ute Canyon View
Cold Shivers Point
4mi 7km
6198ft 1889m
Dogs Tooth
Devils Kitchen
Devils Kitchen Trail
West Glade Park Road
Rim Rock Drive
6610ft 2024m
Waterfall
Old Gordon Trail
East Glade Park Road/DS Road
NO THOROUGHFARE CANYON
Glade Park community
Little Park Road/CS Road
To Grand Junction
No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail
ROUGH CANYON

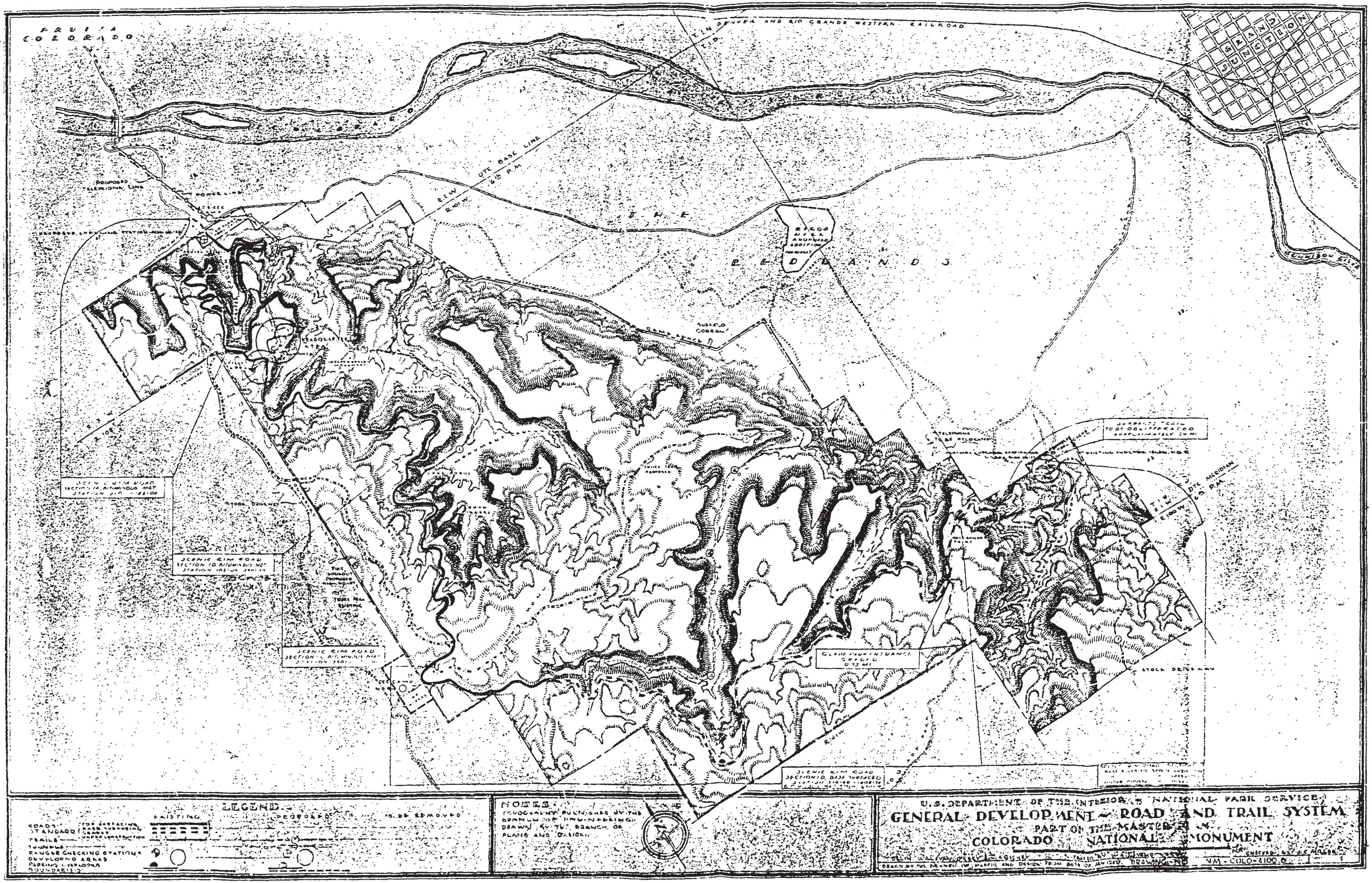
MAP 1



NM COLO-4935

MAP 2


T. 1 N.
R. 3 W.
R. 102 W.
R. 2 W.
R. 101 W. 6TH P.M.
R. 1 W.
UTE BASE LINE
COLORADO
RIVER
DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD TO GRAND JUNCTION
PINON CANYON
Independence Monument
MONUMENT CANYON
T. 1 S.
Liberty Cap
KLONDIKE CANYON
LIME KILN CANYON
RED CANYON
Stick Rim
Cold Shivers Point
SIX MILE CANYON
NO THOROUGHFARE CANYON
T. 12 S.
R. 101 W.
R. 100 W. 6TH P.M.
TO GRAND JUNCTION
LEGEND
Existing Proposed
Tool Cache
Lookout
Stock Driveway
Truck Trail
Trail
Trail to be constructed.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS
BUILDINGS AND RESERVATIONS
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
VICINITY MAP
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
FEB. 1934
(revised 1940)
SCALE
0 ½ 1 2 Miles
NM
COLO-4952
ADO


FRUITA
COLORADO
DENVER AND RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD
GRAND JUNCTION
UTE BASE LINE
6th P.M.
PROPOSED TELEPHONE LINE
POWER LINE
THE
REDLANDS
SCENIC RIM ROAD
SECTION 10 ATKINSON MAT
STATION 1921+00 TO 2111+00
SCENIC RIM ROAD
SECTION 11 ATKINSON MAT
STATION 2111+00 TO 2301+00
SCENIC RIM ROAD
SECTION 12 GRADE TO BE SURFACED
STATION 2301+00 TO 2491+00
SCENIC RIM ROAD
SECTION 13 GRADE TO BE SURFACED
STATION 2491+00 TO 2681+00
GLADE PARK ENTRANCE
GRADED
0.72 MI
STOCK DRIVEWAY
LEGEND
ROADS
STANDARD
TRAILS
TUNNELS
RANGER CHECKING STATIONS
DEVELOPED AREAS
PARKING TURNOUTS
FOUNDATIONS
EXISTING
PROPOSED
TO BE REMOVED
NOTES
PRELIMINARY SURVEYS BY THE BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
DRAWN BY THE BRANCH OF
PLANS AND DESIGN
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR — NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT — ROAD AND TRAIL SYSTEM
PART OF THE MASTER PLAN
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
DRAWING NO. NM-COLO-8100.B

MAP 7

COLORADO RIVER

To Fruita

T.1 N. T.1 S.

1-A SCENIC RIM ROAD Sta 0-00 - 182-00 3.45 Mi.

2 SADDLE HORN LOOP 1.61 Miles

UTE BASE LINE

6 RESIDENTIAL AREA LOOP 0.28 Miles

Proposed Checking Station - Building No. 30

Tunnels

Windor Rock

SADDLE HORN DEVELOPED AREA

Saddle Horn

Distant View

Independence Monument

Pipe Organ

Kissing Couple

Grand View

Independence View

R.101 W. R.102 W.

Coke Ovens Overlook

Coke Ovens

Squaw Fingers

Artist's Point

Highland View

3 UTILITY AREA SPUR 0.9 Miles

7 WEST BOUNDARY TRUCK TRAIL 4.2 Miles

1-B SCENIC RIM ROAD Sta 182-00-390-00 3.94 Mi.

Proposed Group Picnic Area

1-C SCENIC RIM ROAD Sta 390-00-570-00 3.41 Mi.

T.1 S. T.2 S.

To Glade Park

Buffalo Corral

Liberty Cap

CANYON

MONUMENT MESA

8 MONUMENT MESA TRUCK TRAIL 3.65 Miles

Red Canyon Overlook

Boundary Fence

1-D SCENIC RIM ROAD Sta 570-00-1008-50 8.30 Mi.

To Glade Park

To Grand Junction

Pre-Cheistmas Site, Bldg. No. 40

Proposed Ranger Residence - Bldg. No. 36

5 PICNIC AREA SPUR 0.19 Miles

Picnic Shelter Building No. 7

Memorial Shelter Bldg. No. 23

Tunnel

Devils Kitchen

Cold Shivers Point

Proposed Picnic Area

RED CANYON

NO THOROUGHFARE CANYON

4 GLADE PARK ACCESS ROAD - South Boundary to Scenic Rim Road 0.75 Mi.

1-E SCENIC RIM ROAD Sta 1008-50-1175-65.5 3.17 Mi.

0 1/2 1 MILES

LEGEND

		EXISTING	PROPOSED
ROADS	Top Surfaced		
	Base Surfaced		
	Graded		
	Grading Incomplete		
	Proposed Roads		
	To Be Obliterated		
	Existing Truck Trails		
	Proposed Truck Trails		
	Roads Outside Monument		
TRAILS	Foot		
	Horse		
	Stock Drive		
	Tunnel		
MISC	Parking Overlook		
	Developed Area		
	Ranger Station		
	Contact Station		

BASIC DATA: ENGINEERING DIVISION AND U.S.G.S.
SEE DRAWING NUMBER NM-COLO-E100-X

RECOMMENDED _____ DATE _____
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

RECOMMENDED _____ DATE _____
CHIEF OF DEVELOPMENT

APPROVED _____ DATE _____
DIRECTOR

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PLANS & DESIGN DIVISION
REGIONAL OFFICE

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT
ROAD AND TRAIL SYSTEMS
PART OF THE MASTER PLAN
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

REVISION II
DATE JULY 8-

DRAWING NO. NM COLO - E 104

SHEET

MAP 8

COLORADO RIVER

To Fruita

Power from Rural Electric lines 18 miles east at Fruita. Three ph ac CNC meters 7200 volts

Coal Ry

Power and Telephone Pole line

Fence

LITE BASE LINE

T.11 N. T.11 S.

Proposed Checking Station-Building No. 30

Tunnels

Water Reservoir

Window Rock

SADDLE HORN DEVELOPED AREA

Saddle Horn

Distant View

RESIDENTIAL AREA

UTILITY AREA

Pipe Organ

Independence Monument

Kissing Couple

Grand View

Independence View

MONUMENT CANYON

MONUMENT MESA

Coke Ovens Overlook

Coke Ovens

Squaw Fingers

Artist's Point

Highland View

Forest Service to Glade Park & N&S line (Hdqtrs. to Glade Park Entrance)

FRUITA 16.6

Water supply line, Gravity flow, capacity 100,000 gals. per day

Proposed Group Picnic Area

80 Acres

T.11 S. T.12 S.

R.101 W. R.102 W.

Water Supply Source, Springs & Reservoirs about 13½ miles south

To Glade Park

To Bedrock Store

Buffalo Corral

Liberty Cap

RED CANYON

To Grand Junction

Proposed Checking Station

Proposed Residence-Bldg. No. 36

Memorial Shelter Bldg. No. 29

PICNIC AREA

Picnic Shelter Building No. 7

Serpents Tunnel

Cold Shivers Point

Proposed Picnic Area

GLADE PARK

NO THOROUGHFARE CANYON

RIM ROCK

Boundary Fence

To Glade Park

0 1/4 1/2 1 2 MILES SCALE

LEGEND

ROADS
- Top Surfaced
- Base Surfaced
- Graded
- Grading Incomplete
- Proposed Roads
- To Be Obliterated
- Existing Truck Trails
- Proposed Truck Trails

TRAILS
- Foot
- Horse
- Stock Drive
- Tunnel

MISC.
- Parking Overlook
- Developed Area
- Ranger Station
- Fire Lookout

Water Lines

RECOMMENDED _____ REGIONAL DIRECTOR DATE _____

RECOMMENDED _____ CHIEF OF DEVELOPMENT DATE _____

APPROVED _____ DIRECTOR DATE _____

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
ENGINEERING DIVISION
PREPARED BY REGIONAL OFFICE

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT
GENERAL UTILITIES LAYOUT
PART OF THE MASTER PLAN
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

REGION THREE

DATE AUGUST 1941

DRAWING NO. NM COLO-5330

SHEET

RECOMMENDED BY: SUPERINTENDENT

LANDS: U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

REVIEWED: NATURAL HISTORY; CONCESSIONS; FORESTRY; ARCHEOLOGY

DESIGNED BY Hamilton

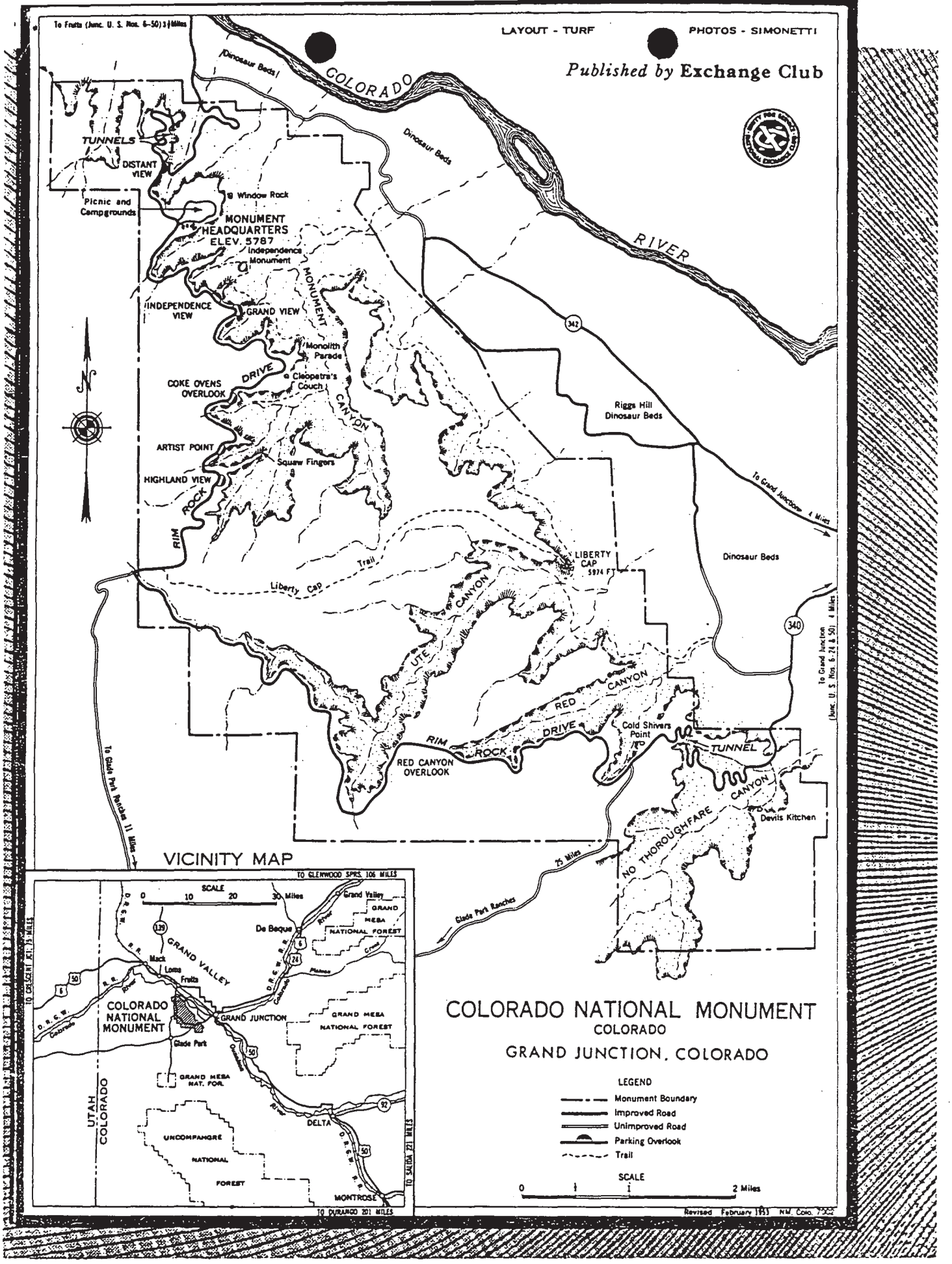
DRAWN BY Hamilton

CHECKED BY Lassiter

PLANS AND SPECS APPROVED 12-4-41

BASIC DATA: U.S. Geological Survey map of 1942 Forestry Service data and various others

MAP 9


LAYOUT - TURF
PHOTOS - SIMONETTI
Published by Exchange Club
COLORADO
RIVER
Dinosaur Beds
TUNNELS
DISTANT VIEW
Picnic and Campgrounds
Window Rock
MONUMENT HEADQUARTERS
ELEV. 5787
Independence Monument
INDEPENDENCE VIEW
GRAND VIEW
MONUMENT CANYON
Monolith Parade
Cleopatra's Couch
COKE OVENS OVERLOOK
DRIVE
ARTIST POINT
Squaw Fingers
HIGHLAND VIEW
RIM ROCK
Trail
Liberty Cap
LIBERTY CAP 5974 FT.
UTE CANYON
RED CANYON
RED CANYON OVERLOOK
RIM ROCK DRIVE
Cold Shivers Point
TUNNEL
Devils Kitchen
NO THOROUGHFARE CANYON
Riggs Hill Dinosaur Beds
To Grand Junction 4 Miles
To Grand Junction (Junc. U. S. Nos. 6-24 & 50) 4 Miles
To Glade Park Pavilion 11 Miles
75 Miles
Glade Park Ranches
342
340
VICINITY MAP
TO GLENWOOD SPRS. 106 MILES
TO CRESCENT JCT. 15 MILES
SCALE 0 10 20 30 Miles
Grand Valley
GRAND MESA NATIONAL FOREST
De Beque
GRAND VALLEY
Mack
Loma
Fruita
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
GRAND JUNCTION
Glade Park
GRAND MESA NAT. FOR.
UTAH
COLORADO
UNCOMPAHGRE NATIONAL FOREST
DELTA
MONTROSE
TO DURANGO 201 MILES
TO SALIDA 221 MILES
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
COLORADO
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO
LEGEND
Monument Boundary
Improved Road
Unimproved Road
Parking Overlook
Trail
SCALE 0 1 2 Miles
Revised February 1953 NM, Colo. 7502

MAP 10

COLORADO RIVER

TO MOAB

TO GRAND JUNCTION

EAST ENTRANCE STATION

SEE DETAIL PAGE 2

TUNNELS

INDEPENDENCE MONUMENT

KISSING COUPLE

MESA RIM

MESA VISITOR CENTER

INDEPENDENCE MONUMENT CANYON VIEW

COKE OVENS VIEW

COKE OVENS

SQUAW FINGERS

ARTISTS POINT

MONUMENT MESA

LIBERTY CAP

UPPER SERPENT HEAD

DEVILS KITCHEN PICNIC SHELTER

DEVILS KITCHEN

TUNNEL

UPPER THOROFARE

COLD SHIVERS

MESA

RED CANYON

UTE CANYON

FALLEN ROCK

UPPER UTE

LONG VIEW

EXISTING RESIDENTIAL AND UTILITY AREA

WEATHER STATION

INDEPENDENCE MONUMENT OVERLOOK

COUNTY ROAD TO GLADE PARK

TO GLADE PARK

0 1000 2000 4000
SCALE IN FEET

0 1/4 1/2 1 2
SCALE IN MILES

VICINITY MAP

COLORADO NAT'L MON.

LEGEND

ROUTE DESIGNATION

PARK ROADS
PRIMARY (VISITOR USE)
SECONDARY (SERVICE USE)

PARK TRAILS
ROADS OTHER THAN NPS
U.S. HIGHWAY
STATE OR COUNTY
OTHERS (LABEL)

ROAD STATUS	EXISTING	PROPOSED	OBLITERATE
GENERAL
PRIMITIVE GRADED
PAVED
PARKING AREAS
OVERLOOKS

TRAILS	EXISTING	PROPOSED	OBLITERATE
HORSE
FOOT
FOOT

HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

ORIENTATION

REVISED	DRAWN	DATE	APPROVED
G	12-61	GIL	

PREPARED
ENGINEER
DRAWN
ALEXANDER
CHIEF
KRUEGER

RECOMMENDED
CONCURRED
APPROVED

ROAD LIST APPROVED _____ DATE _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION TWO

ROADS AND TRAILS
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

NM-COLO
2104
MAP 6-61

TABLE 1

ROAD SYSTEM

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

ROUTE	NAME	TERMINI	LENGTH (MILES)	CLASS
		PRIMARY ROADS		
1	SCENIC RIM ROAD	North Boundary - Southeast Boundary	23.0	1
2	GLADE PARK ACCESS ROAD	Route 1 - South Boundary	0.8	2
3	SADDLE HORN CAMPGR. LOOP	Route 1 through Campground	1.8	3
4	PICNIC AREA ROAD	Route 1 - Picnic Area	0.2	3
		SECONDARY ROADS		
50	HDQS. RES.-UTIL. AREA SPUR	Route 1 through Residential & Utility Area	0.5	1
52	MONUMENT MESA PATROL RD.	Route 1 - Mesa Edge	4.4	2
53	WEST BOUNDARY PATROL RD.	Route 1 - West Boundary	2.8	2
54	RESI/HOSPITAL AREA SPUR	Route 1 through Residential Area - Well	0.2	1
56	EAST STOCKPILE ROAD	Route 1 - Maintenance Area	0.3	1
57	WEATHER STATION ROAD	Route 1 - Weather Station	0.1	2
59	WEST STOCKPILE ROAD	Route 1 - Maintenance Area	0.1	1

SUMMARY

PRIMARY		SECONDARY	
Class 1	22.7 Miles	Class 1	1.1 Miles
Class 2	0.8 Miles	Class 2	7.3 Miles
Class 3	2.0 Miles		
TOTAL	25.5 Miles	TOTAL	8.4 Miles

TOTAL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROADS 33.9 Miles

Spurs, Loops, Parking Areas, Interchanges and Terraces Maintained by National Park Service .1 Miles

TABLE 2

TRAIL SYSTEM

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

ROUTE	NAME	TERMINI	LENGTH (MILES)	CLASS
1	MONUMENT CANYON TRAIL	Route 1 at Coke Ovens - County Road at East Boundary	3.5	1
2	WINDOW ROCK LOOP TRAIL	Campground - Window Rock	0.4	1
3	LIBERTY CAP TRAIL	Mesa Patrol Road - East Boundary	2.2	1
4	UTE CANYON TRAIL	Rim Road - Route 8 at Liberty Cap	4.9	1
6	NORTH STOCK DRIVE	South Boundary - North Boundary	1.2	1
7	SOUTH STOCK DRIVE	South Boundary - East Boundary at No Thoroughfare Canyon	1.7	1
8	EAST BOUNDARY TRAIL	Route 1 at Coke Ovens - Route 9 at End Canyon	16.5	1
9	4 SHORT OVERLOOK TRAILS	Parking Area - Rim of Canyon	0.8	1
11	CAMPFIRE CIRCLE TRAIL	Picnic Area - Campground Area	0.2	1
12	UTE OVERLOOK TRAIL	Parking Area - Rim of Canyon	0.1	1
13	PICNIC AREA TRAIL	Through Picnic & Camp Areas	0.4	1
14	VISITOR CENTER TRAIL	Visitor Center - Picnic Area and Route 12	0.7	1
15	MAINTENANCE AREA TRAIL	Visitor Center - Maintenance Area	0.4	1
16	OTTO'S TRAIL	Scenic Rim Road - Overlook	0.5	1
17	PETROGLYPHS LOOP TRAIL	Scenic Rim Road - Petroglyphs	0.5	1
18	GRANDVIEW TRAIL	Road Route 1 - Rim of Canyon	0.3	1
19	COKE OVENS TRAIL	Monument Canyon Trail - Coke Ovens	0.5	1
21	SERPENT TRAIL	Road Route 1 - Route 17	2.5	1

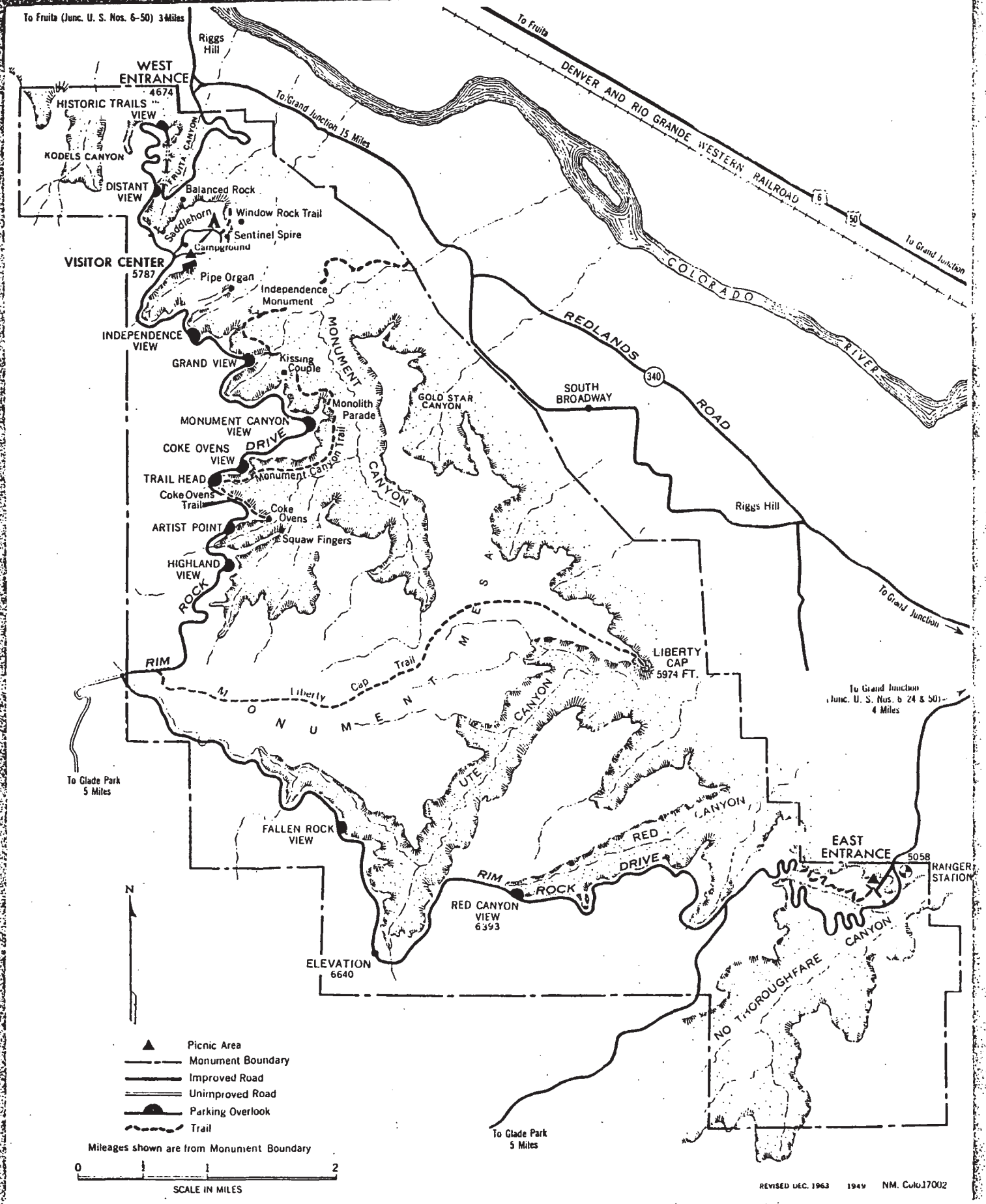
SUMMARY

Class 1 31.4 Miles Class 2 --

TOTAL ALL TRAILS 31.4 Miles

REVISED	PREPARED	RECOMMENDED		REGION
	LEANDER	CONCURRED	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	TWO
	KRUEGER	APPROVED	ROADS AND TRAILS COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT	NM - COLO 2104 - G 6 - 61

Map 11 attachment


To Fruita (Junc. U. S. Nos. 6-50) 3 Miles
Riggs Hill
To Fruita
DENVER AND RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD
6
50
To Grand Junction
WEST ENTRANCE
4674
HISTORIC TRAILS VIEW
To Grand Junction 15 Miles
KODELS CANYON
FRUITA CANYON
DISTANT VIEW
Balanced Rock
Saddlehorn
Window Rock Trail
Sentinel Spire
Campground
VISITOR CENTER
5787
Pipe Organ
Independence Monument
INDEPENDENCE VIEW
GRAND VIEW
Kissing Couple
MONUMENT CANYON
Monolith Parade
GOLD STAR CANYON
MONUMENT CANYON VIEW
DRIVE
COKE OVENS VIEW
Monument Canyon Trail
TRAIL HEAD
Coke Ovens Trail
Coke Ovens
ARTIST POINT
Squaw Fingers
HIGHLAND VIEW
ROCK
RIM
COLORADO RIVER
REDLANDS
340
ROAD
SOUTH BROADWAY
Riggs Hill
To Grand Junction
MESA
LIBERTY CAP 5974 FT.
Liberty Cap Trail
MONUMENT
CANYON
To Grand Junction (Junc. U. S. Nos. 6 24 & 50) 4 Miles
To Glade Park 5 Miles
FALLEN ROCK VIEW
UTE
CANYON
RED CANYON VIEW 6393
RIM ROCK
RED CANYON
DRIVE
EAST ENTRANCE
5058
RANGER STATION
CANYON
NO THOROUGHFARE
ELEVATION 6640
N
Picnic Area
Monument Boundary
Improved Road
Unimproved Road
Parking Overlook
Trail
Mileages shown are from Monument Boundary
0
1
2
SCALE IN MILES
To Glade Park 5 Miles
REVISED DEC. 1963
1949
NM. Colo17002

MAP 12

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT
HISTORIC TRAILS
DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY SURVEY
SURVEY REPORT

Christine Whitacre
Project Surveyor
September 6, 2001

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Colorado National Monument was established by presidential proclamation on May 24, 1911. Located on the northern rim of the Uncompahgre Plateau overlooking the Grand Valley of the Colorado River, the 32-square-mile Colorado National Monument is noted for its spectacular sandstone canyons and monoliths. Within the monument are 14 marked hiking trails. As listed in the park's "Map and Guide," eight of these trails are classified as "short trails," most of them providing access to overlooks of the monument's canyons and rock formations. Six of the trails are classified as "backcountry trails," offering access to the monument's more remote areas. Some of Colorado National Monument's trails, such as Black Ridge Trail and Old Gordon Trail, predate the 1911 establishment of the monument and are associated with the area's early ranching and community development. John Otto, the monument's major booster and first custodian, constructed a number of the first visitor trails through the monument, and it is possible that contemporary trails, such as the Liberty Cap Trail, follow at least some of the alignment of Otto's trails. Other trails, such as Window Rock Trail, were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. In addition, a number of the trails have been developed within the last 30 years by the National Park Service to provide more recreational opportunities for visitors. Indeed, Colorado National Monument's trail system has undergone explosive use as the adjoining city of Grand Junction has experienced a dramatic increase in population in the last ten years. This increase in trail use has resulted in accelerated deterioration, erosion, impacts on vegetation, and the development of social trails.

In order to conduct basic maintenance of Colorado National Monument's official trail system, as well as develop a comprehensive trail plan, baseline documentation and a condition assessment of resources and features associated with the trails are essential. As such, Colorado National Monument is currently undertaking a "Resource Inventory for Trail Management Plan." This project – which is scheduled for completion in July 2002 – will encompass an inventory, documentation, and condition assessment of the archeological (prehistoric and historic), structural (physical features associated with the trails, such as retaining walls and steps) and paleontological resources of each of the 14 trails within Colorado National Monument. The results of this effort will assist the park in meeting the National Park Service's resource responsibilities under Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

The "Colorado National Monument, Historic Trails, Determinations of Eligibility Survey" Project – as summarized in this report – is the first phase of the "Resource Inventory for Trail Management Plan." The purpose of the historic trails' project, initiated in September 2000, was to provide a reconnaissance-level inventory of all unevaluated historic trails within the monument, and to provide a preliminary determination of eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. The results of this survey will

assist later phases of the "Resource Inventory for Trail Management Plan," and provide direction as to which historic trails, or trail resources, should be the focus of additional work

SCOPE OF PROJECT

As noted above, the Colorado National Monument's official trail system encompasses 14 trails. Of these 14 trails, 10 were surveyed as part of the "Colorado National Monument, Historic Trails, Determinations of Eligibility Survey." Four trails were not included in the survey project. Serpents Trail was not included because it is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as a result of a survey conducted in 1994 by Thomas and Laurie Simmons of Front Range Research Associates, Inc. In 1997, National Park Service historian Kathy McKoy surveyed Coke Ovens Trail and Monument Canyon Trail, both of which were then determined ineligible to the National Register. And, finally, Alcove Nature Trail, which was included in the original scope of work, was dropped from the project because of a lack of historical information and because, during the early research phase of the project, it soon became apparent that the trail was less than 30 years old.

TABLE 1: COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT TRAILS

TRAIL	TYPE	DATE OF SURVEY (SURVEYOR)
Alcove Nature Trail	Short	Unsurveyed
Black Ridge Trail	Backcountry	2001 (Whitacre)
Canyon Rim Trail	Short	2001 (Whitacre)
CCC Trail	Short	2001 (Whitacre)
Coke Ovens Trail	Short	1997 (McKoy)
Devil's Kitchen Trail	Short	2001 (Whitacre)
Liberty Cap Trail	Backcountry	2001 (Whitacre)
Monument Canyon Trail	Backcountry	1997 (McKoy)
Old Gordon Trail	Backcountry	2001 (Whitacre)
Otto's Trail	Short	2001 (Whitacre)
No Thoroughfare Trail	Backcountry	2001 (Whitacre)
Serpents Trail	Short	1994 (Simmons and Simmons)
Ute Canyon Trail	Backcountry	2001 (Whitacre)
Window Rock Trail.	Short	2001 (Whitacre)

Hence, the ten trails that were to be surveyed for the "Colorado National Monument, Historic Trails, Determinations of Eligibility Survey" were: Black Ridge, Canyon Rim, CCC, Devil's Kitchen, Liberty Cap, No Thoroughfare, Old Gordon, Otto's, Ute Canyon, and Window Rock Trails. Each of these trails was to be surveyed at a reconnaissance level, including a sufficient level of historical documentation to allow for a determination of eligibility to the National Register.

PROJECT PERSONNEL AND TIMELINE

The project surveyor was Christine Whitacre, historian, National Park Service, Intermountain Region Support Office – Santa Fe (Denver). The park coordinator was Judi Lofland, museum technician, Colorado National Monument. Christine Landrum, a student intern with the Intermountain Region Support Office – Santa Fe (Denver), assisted in archival research at Colorado National Monument. The project initiated in September 2000 and was completed in September 2001.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER
DENVER SERVICE CENTER
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

METHODOLOGY

Kathy McKoy, historian, National Park Service, Intermountain Region, had prepared determinations of eligibility for the Coke Ovens Trail and the Monument Canyon Trail in 1997. As part of that research effort, McKoy had researched and made copies of all Colorado National Monument trail-related documentation from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Rocky Mountain repository. This included documentation of park trails used for recreational purposes (hiking, horseback riding) resource and visitor protection (truck trails), and stock driveways. McKoy also completed preliminary research at the National Park Service, Denver Service Center for plans, drawings, and topographic maps related to trail construction at Colorado National Monument. In addition, McKoy made a site visit to Colorado National Monument in 1997 and researched Colorado National Monument's archives for all trail-related information such as correspondence, reports, master plans and other planning documents. Copies of all these materials were made available to National Park Service historian Christine Whitacre at the beginning of the trails survey, and formed the basis of the historical research for this project.

Between September 25-29, 2000, Whitacre made a site visit to Colorado National Monument to conduct a reconnaissance-level survey of the trails. On September 26-27, Whitacre hiked at least a portion of each of the ten trails, enough distance to provide a basic understanding of each trail's overall construction and design features. Also as part of the site visit, Whitacre met with Colorado National Monument museum technician Judi Lofland, resource manager David Price, and ranger Bill Rodgers regarding the project. Lofland provided Whitacre with copies of trail-related files, as well as an annotated aerial photograph of all the trails within the park. Lofland also assisted Whitacre in researching additional material in the Colorado National Monument archives.

As part of this trip, Whitacre also conducted research at Mesa State College library in Grand Junction, meeting with the curator of special collections who helped identify research materials regarding Colorado National Monument history and trails. Additional research was also conducted at the Museum of Western Colorado, Lloyd Files Research Library, and at the Fruita Public Library, which houses the Lower Valley Heritage Center. At the Lower Valley Heritage Center, Whitacre met with local historians Yvonne Petersen and Lila Wills, who suggested additional sources of information, particularly regarding the Fruita Dugway.

Upon her return to Denver, Whitacre conducted additional research on the monument's trails at the Western History Department of the Denver Public Library, the Stephen Hart Library of the Colorado Historical Society, and the State Archives (for information on the incorporation of toll roads in the vicinity of Colorado National Monument). In August 2001, Christine Landrum, a student intern with the Intermountain Region Support Office – Santa Fe (Denver), conducted additional archival research at Colorado National Monument for the trails project.

Following the research and analysis phase of the project, Whitacre prepared Colorado Cultural Resource Survey management data and linear component forms, along with appropriate maps and photographs, for each trail. The State of Colorado Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation provided Smithsonian numbers (5ME12503-12512) for each of the ten trails.

RESULTS

Of the ten trails surveyed for this project, eight were found to be ineligible to the National Register of Historic Places, one was found to be eligible to the National Register (Black Ridge Trail), one was found to be potentially eligible (Canyon Rim Trail), and one needs additional survey work in order to make a final determination of eligibility (Liberty Cap Trail):

Eligible to the National Register

Black Ridge Trail

The historic alignment of Black Ridge Trail – which does not include the first approximate ¼ mile of the southern portion of the marked hiking trail, nor the first ¾ mile of the northern portion of the marked hiking trail – is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, Black Ridge Trail is important for its associations with the development and maintenance of the Fruita water pipeline, which was completed in 1907 and which had a significant influence on the development of that Grand Valley community. The trail is also important for its historic use as a stock driveway and for its associations with ranching, a long-time economic activity in the Grand Valley. With the exceptions of the above-mentioned segments of the trail near the southern and northern trailheads that were built c. 1980, the Black Ridge Trail also has a high degree of integrity, and retains much of its original character and design.

Potentially Eligible to the National Register

Canyon Rim Trail

Canyon Rim Trail was constructed c. 1964 as part of the development of the Mission 66-era visitor center complex at Colorado National Monument. Since it is less than 50 years old, Canyon Rim Trail is not individually eligible to the National Register, as it does not individually possess exceptional significance in terms of the history and architecture of the Mission 66 era (1956-1966) of National Park Service development. However, at that point in the future when the resource is 50 years old, it is possible that Canyon Rim Trail may be determined to be a contributing feature of a larger historic district that encompasses the visitor center and Bookcliff shelter. Also, pending further research, it is possible that the entire historic district may be found to possess exceptional significance under Criteria Consideration G, and therefore be found eligible to the National Register even though it is less than 50 years old.

Need Additional Data to Determine Eligibility to the National Register

Liberty Cap Trail

The majority of Liberty Cap Trail is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places because it fails to meet National Register Criteria A and C. The majority of the trail does not have any significant historic associations (Criterion A), nor does it have design or construction features that are significant representations of a type, method, or period of construction (Criterion C). Most of Liberty Cap Trail, in its current configuration, is a combination of two distinct NPS trails built for several purposes. The western portion of

the trail was graded and used as a maintenance and patrol road for NPS personnel; its simultaneous uses as a horse, "motor nature trail," and hiking trail were secondary. The eastern portion of Liberty Cap Trail was built as a bridle path and is now used as a hiking trail. In addition, the trailhead for the eastern portion of Liberty Cap Trail has been relocated since 1978, so that it is now approximately one mile north of its location during the historic period.

However, it is possible that a very small portion – approximately ¼ mile – of Liberty Cap Trail may have been constructed by John Otto, and may therefore be eligible to the National Register. This segment of trail may be eligible to the National Register under Criteria B and C at a local level of significance, primarily for its association with Otto. This trail segment, near the center of Section 34, Township 11 South, along the eastern edge of the Liberty Cap rock formation, may be part of the original Corkscrew Trail built by Otto in 1909. However, Otto's direct association to this small segment of Liberty Cap Trail is not verifiable from historical documentation or maps. It is possible, however, that a future intensive-level survey may be able to determine, through an analysis of construction techniques, if this section of Liberty Cap Trail can be attributed to John Otto

Ineligible to the National Register of Historic Places

CCC Trail

CCC Trail is less than 50 years old and does not possess exceptional significance. Although the trail is named in honor of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), it is not historically associated with the CCC.

Devil's Kitchen Trail

Converted from an automobile/truck road to a hiking trail sometime between 1942-1953, Devil's Kitchen Trail is one of the monument's shortest trails, designed to allow visitor access to the Devil's Kitchen rock formation. It does not have any significant historic associations; nor does it have design or construction features that are significant representations of a type, method, or period of construction.

Old Gordon Trail

Constructed as a toll road in the early 1880s, this trail was used as a stock driveway until c. 1970. Although associated with the early history of Grand Junction and Mesa County, Old Gordon Trail (historically known as Gordon's Toll Road) was not a significant transportation corridor, and did not have a significant impact on the development and/or economy of the local community. The trail is also not significant for its use as a stock driveway, since it was used only sporadically between c. 1880s-1970, and only when other, more preferable, routes were closed to local ranchers. Indeed, Old Gordon Trail was, by all accounts, a poorly designed road for which local residents continually sought alternatives. Prior to the 1921 construction of Serpents Trail – which provided the first automobile access between Glade Park and Grand Junction – Old Gordon Trail was one of at least six wagon roads in the area. The toll road fell into disuse as both a wagon road and stock driveway following the completion of Serpents Trail. It was only after the National Park Service closed Serpents Trail to livestock in c. 1938 that local stockmen

reluctantly agreed to use Old Gordon Trail as a stock driveway. In 1946, the stock driveway was again closed because of a dispute with an adjacent landowner, and only was used on a very limited basis from that point until its total abandonment as a stock driveway c. 1970. In addition, Old Gordon Trail was found to have no significant design or construction features.

Otto's Trail

Otto's Trail is less than 50 years old and does not possess exceptional significance.

TABLE 2: NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS OF COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT TRAILS

TRAIL	NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS (Official or Recommended Status)
Alcove Nature Trail	Unsurveyed
Black Ridge Trail	Eligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)
Canyon Rim Trail	Potentially Eligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001))
CCC Trail	Ineligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001))
Coke Ovens Trail	Ineligible (SHPO determination, 1997)
Devil's Kitchen Trail	Ineligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)
Liberty Cap Trail	The majority is ineligible, although the Corkscrew Trail portion of the trail may be found eligible pending further survey (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)
Monument Canyon Trail	Ineligible (SHPO determination, 1997)
Old Gordon Trail	Ineligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)
Otto's Trail	Ineligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)
No Thoroughfare Trail	Ineligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)
Serpents Trail	Listed on National Register (Simmons and Simmons, 1994)
Ute Canyon Trail	Ineligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)
Window Rock Trail.	Ineligible (recommended, Whitacre, 2001)

No Thoroughfare Trail

No Thoroughfare Trail is less than 50 years old and does not possess exceptional significance.

Ute Canyon Trail

Ute Canyon Trail does not have any significant historic associations, nor does it have design or construction features that are significant representations of a type, method, or period of construction. The trail is of relatively recent construction and was first built between 1942 and 1947. The westernmost alignment of the trail – and the only portion of the trail that is maintained – was constructed c. 1949. The trail is of very primitive construction, and is essentially indistinguishable from the surrounding landscape for most of its length.

Window Rock Trail.

The Window Rock Trail is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places because of a lack of historic integrity. Although the trail was originally constructed in 1939 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), it has been extensively modified and no longer reflects its original CCC design and construction. The trail was extensively modified in 1955-56 during the Mission 66 era of the National Park Service, at which time it was converted into a self-guided nature trail.

However, even these Mission 66 design elements have been lost, as the original markers have been removed. Moreover, the trail alignment was substantially modified in 1958 when it was converted into a loop trail; it was originally constructed as a one-route alignment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Better Photodocumentation of Monument Trails

The "Colorado National Monument, Historic Trails, Determinations of Eligibility Survey" project was done at a reconnaissance-level, using an Advanced Photo System (APS) camera with color film. It is strongly recommended that future survey work include better and more archivally stable photodocumentation of Colorado National Monument's trails. Colorado National Monument is currently undertaking an intensive-level survey – titled the "Resource Inventory for Trail Management Plan, Colorado National Monument" – of all the park's trails. The project, which is scheduled for completion by July 1, 2002, should result in better and more comprehensive photodocumentation of the trails, including 35mm black-and-white photographs of each trail and its associated resources.

Additional Survey Work/National Register Nominations

Following are additional recommendations for future work regarding Colorado National Monument's trails:

Alcove Nature Trail

It is recommended that Alcove Nature Trail also be surveyed and evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. During this project, no historical information on Alcove Nature Trail was found in Colorado National Monument archives or at the National Archives and Records Administration Center, Rocky Mountain repository. Because of this lack of historical information, and also because it soon became apparent through a survey of monument maps that the trail was less than 30 years old, Alcove Nature Trail was dropped from the scope of work for this project. However, it is likely that information on Alcove Nature Trail is available in monument files, as well as through interviews with monument employees.

Black Ridge Trail

As part of the upcoming "Resource Inventory for Trail Management Plan, Colorado National Monument," it is recommended that a more intensive-level survey of Black Ridge Trail be undertaken to identify all the historic resources associated with the trail. To date, at least two resources – a stock driveway boundary sign and a wooden ladder – are known to exist. These two resources should be recorded. In addition, other features that may be located through an intensive-level survey include corrals, fences, and campsites associated with the stock driveway along Black Ridge Trail, as well as campsites, valve boxes, and pipeline segments dating to the trail's use as a construction and maintenance road for the Fruita pipeline. It is also recommended that Black Ridge Trail be nominated to the National Register, perhaps as part of a larger district that includes the Fruita pipeline.

Canyon Rim Trail

It is recommended that Canyon Rim Trail be further evaluated as a contributing feature of a Colorado National Monument visitor center historic district. According to Judi Lofland of Colorado National Monument, the park is currently undertaking a project to prepare a National Register nomination for the Colorado National Monument visitor center. Although it is less than 50 years old, the visitor center – which was designed by National Park Service architect Cecil Doty as part of the Mission 66 building program – is being evaluated under Criterion Consideration G for exceptional significance. The Canyon Rim Trail was constructed as part of the visitor center complex and is likely a contributing feature of a historic district that encompasses the visitor center and Bookcliff shelter.

CCC Trail

Based on historic maps, the CCC Trail was constructed between 1978-1991. Additional research, particularly in the superintendent's annual and monthly reports, as well as employee interviews, may be able to verify the exact date of construction. However, it should be noted that this additional information will not change the determination of eligibility.

Devil's Kitchen Trail

Based on historic maps, the Devil's Kitchen Trail was converted from a truck trail to a hiking trail sometime between 1942-1953. Additional research, particularly in the superintendent's annual and monthly reports, as well as employee interviews, should be done to verify the exact date of construction. However, it should be noted that this additional information will not change the determination of eligibility.

Liberty Cap Trail

As part of the upcoming "Resource Inventory for Trail Management Plan, Colorado National Monument," it is recommended that an intensive-level survey of a ¼-mile section of Liberty Cap Trail be undertaken to determine, through an analysis of construction techniques, if this section of trail can be attributed to John Otto. Although the majority of the Liberty Cap Trail is not eligible to the National Register, it is possible that this ¼-mile trail segment near the center of Section 34, Township 11 South, along the eastern edge of the Liberty Cap rock formation, may be part of the original Corkscrew Trail built by Otto in 1909 and may, therefore, be eligible to the National Register. Although Otto's association to this small segment of trail is not verifiable from historical documentation or maps, it may be able to be identified by its design and/or method of construction.

No Thoroughfare Trail

No Thoroughfare Trail was developed as a backcountry hiking trail sometime after 1978, at which time the boundary of Colorado National Monument was expanded to include the land upon which nearly ½ of the trail is located. Additional research, particularly in the superintendent's annual and monthly reports, as well employee interviews, may be able to verify the exact date of construction. However, it should be noted that this additional information will not change the determination of eligibility.

Old Gordon Trail

No additional recommendations.

Otto's Trail

Based on historic maps, Otto's Trail was constructed sometime between 1961-1975. Additional research, particularly in the superintendent's annual and monthly reports, as well as employee interviews, may be able to verify the exact date of construction. However, it should be noted that this additional information will not change the determination of eligibility.

Ute Canyon Trail

Based on historic maps, Ute Canyon Trail was constructed sometime between 1942-1947. Additional research, particularly in the superintendent's annual and monthly reports, as well as employee interviews, may be able to verify the exact date of construction. However, it should be noted that this additional information will not change the determination of eligibility.

Window Rock Trail.

No additional recommendations.



Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of Portions of the Liberty Cap and Corkscrew Trails in Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado

August 2019

Prepared by:

Matt Heinritz, archeologist and Mariah Walzer, archeological technician

Colorado SHPO Document No. ME.NP.R32
COLM Project No. COLM-2017-0001-RP

National Park Service
Colorado National Monument
Resource Division
1750 Rim Rock Drive
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Prepared by the Division of Resource Management
National Park Service
Colorado National Monument

Abstract

This report outlines a class III cultural resource inventory completed in 2017 in preparation for rehabilitation projects on the Liberty Cap Trail in Colorado National Monument (COLM). The Liberty Cap Trail is a recreational trail that includes portions of both the historic Liberty Cap Trail and the historic Corkscrew Trail. Impacts from visitors and natural erosion resulted in the deterioration of portions of the trail, and the monument would like to maintain the deteriorated sections. Emergency stabilization work occurred on the trail, but currently no specific project or scope of work is associated with this report. Therefore the report is limited to providing eligibility recommendations for sites and isolated finds within the survey boundary. When future projects are planned, assessments of effect will be determined.

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History Colorado-Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
Cultural Resource Survey Management Information Form

I. PROJECT SIZE

Federal acres of potential effect/project:	40	Acres surveyed:	40
State acres of potential effect/project:		Acres surveyed:	
Private acres of potential effect/project:		Acres surveyed:	
TOTAL:	40	TOTAL:	40

II. PROJECT LOCATION

County(ies): Mesa
USGS Quad Map(s): Colorado National Monument, CO (1962)
Principal Meridian(s): 6th

Township	11S	Range	101W	Section	34	L2	¼	___	¼	___	¼	___ ¼
Township	___	Range	___	Section	___	L3	¼	___	¼	___	¼	___ ¼
Township	___	Range	___	Section	___	SE	¼	NW	¼	___	¼	___ ¼
Township	___	Range	___	Section	___	___	¼	___	¼	___	¼	___ ¼
Township	___	Range	___	Section	___	___	¼	___	¼	___	¼	___ ¼
Township	___	Range	___	Section	___	___	¼	___	¼	___	¼	___ ¼

III. SITES

Smithsonian Number	Resource Type				Eligibility					Effect			Management Recommendations						
	Prehistoric	Historic	Paleontological	Unknown	Eligible	Not Eligible	Need Data	Contributes to a District	Supporting Segment	N/A (not a hist. prop.)	No Adverse Effect	Adverse Effect	No Further ...	Preserve/ Avoid	Monitor	Test	Excavate	Archival Research	Other
5ME12511		X				X				X					X				
5ME12511.1		X							NA	X					X				
5ME20800		X				X				X			X						
5ME22061	X	X				X				X			X						
5ME23005.2		X							Y		X			X					

IV. ISOLATED FINDS

Smithsonian Number	Resource Type			
	Prehistoric	Historic	Paleontological	Unknown
5ME20561		X		
5ME20562	X			
5ME22061	X			

Introduction

This report outlines a class III cultural resource inventory completed in 2017 in preparation for a proposed rehabilitation project for the Liberty Cap Trail in Colorado National Monument (COLM). The Liberty Cap Trail is a maintained, recreational trail that includes portions of both the historic Liberty Cap Trail and the historic Corkscrew Trail. Impacts from visitors and natural erosion resulted in the deterioration of portions of the trail, and the monument would like to repair these sections, as well as increase overall sustainability of the trail.

The original 2017 scope of work (SOW) covering one mile of trail could not be completed due to cultural compliance concerns, as well as logistical issues related to maintenance of the trail. Instead, a revised SOW focused on three areas identified as requiring emergency stabilization due to imminent erosional and trail-user safety concerns. The Monument consulted with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) (see HC #73038) which concurred with the revised SOW's approach to consider 5ME12511 (Liberty Cap Trail) eligible for the project's purposes, as well as 'no adverse effect' for the project itself. In 2018, the Monument created an expanded SOW that covered a 1.5 mile portion of the trail and again consulted with the SHPO (see HC #75153), treating 5ME12511 and the project's effect the same as in the previous consultation. SHPO again concurred and also concurred with the eligibility determinations of 5ME22061 (eligible) and 5ME22062 (not eligible), which were recorded during the survey 2017 survey, as well as 5ME20800 (eligible), 5ME20561, and 5ME20562 (both not eligible) recorded for a different project in 2015 but revisited during the 2017 survey.

In the initial consultation with the SHPO in 2017, the Monument agreed to provide a full survey report when cultural resource staff were able to complete the survey. This report fulfills that obligation and also makes (and changes) NRHP eligibility recommendations for the following sites:

- 5ME12511 – Determined 'needs data' in 2004 and 'eligible' for COLM project purposes in 2017 and 2018 (see HC #73038, HC #75153). Current recording recommends 'not eligible' to NRHP.

- 5ME12511.1 – Segment supporting status is not applicable/not eligible based on overall ineligibility of linear.

- 5ME20800 – Determined 'needs data' in 2015 and considered 'eligible' for COLM project purposes in 2018 correspondence (HC #75153). Current recording recommends 'not eligible' to NRHP.

- 5ME22061 – Determined 'eligible' in 2018 correspondence (HC #75153). Current recording recommends 'not eligible' to NRHP based on additional information.

- 5ME23005.2 – Segment supports eligible status of entire linear.

- 5ME20561 – Isolated Find recommended not eligible in 2015 but was not included in compliance review for that report. Current recording recommends 'not eligible' to NRHP.

- 5ME20562 – Isolated Find recommended not eligible in 2015 but was not included in compliance review for that report. Current recording recommends 'not eligible' to NRHP.

- 5ME22062 – Isolated Find determined 'not eligible' in 2018 correspondence (HC #75153). Current recording recommends 'not eligible' to NRHP.

The Monument decided to revise the most recent SOW in early 2019 and has yet to consult with SHPO on the modifications. That consultation will take place at a later date.

Survey Location

The survey area is located approximately one mile southwest of a residential neighborhood on Wildwood Drive in the Redlands community of Grand Junction, Colorado (6th Prime Meridian, Township 11 South, Range 101 West, Section 34). The area is located along a fault on the southern end of the Grand Valley of west central Colorado that comprises the northern end of the Uncompahgre Uplift, a plateau that is located on the northeastern boundary of the Colorado Plateau. In particular, much of the project location is on the slopes of Monument Mesa, a mesa on the Uncompahgre Plateau.

Environment

The monument extends 2,000 ft above the Grand Valley with an elevation range of 4,629-7,106 ft above sea level. The elevation of the project location consists of 4,900-6,000 ft above sea level. The elevation and semiarid climate of the project location support mixed shrub land and grass communities that transition into a juniper and pinyon pine community at the higher elevations, according to Jim Von Loh et al (Jim Von Loh, Keith Landgraf, Angela Evenden, Tom Owens, Steve Blauer, and Marion Reid) who mapped vegetation in the monument in 2007. The plant communities primarily contain black sagebrush, Wyoming big sagebrush, four-wing saltbush, juniper, prickly-pear, grasses, Utah serviceberry, Mormon tea, and pinyon pine.

The plant communities sit on top of colluvial, eolian, and sheetwash deposits eroded from sedimentary bedrock from the Jurassic Period (201.3–145 mya) and Triassic Period (250-200 mya). Robert Scott, Anne Harding, William Hood, Rex Cole, Richard Livaccari, James Johnson, Ralph Shroba, and Robert Dickerson mapped the geologic resources of the monument in 2001 and identified five Jurassic Period formations in the project area: the Tidwell Member (a mudstone and sandstone formation that formed between 148-155 mya), the Kayenta Formation (sandstone and shale that formed between 175-199 mya), Wingate Sandstone (cross-bedded sandstone that formed between 175-199 mya), Chinle Formation (interbedded mudstone, sandstone, conglomerates, and limestone that formed between 200-245 mya, and meta-igneous gneiss (metamorphosed granite that formed approximately 1.7 bya). Areas of bedrock are located in the project area forming canyon walls and the slopes along the fault.

Regional uplifts along the fault in the project area lifted the geological layers. The uplifts resulted in the creation of the Uncompahgre Plateau and a monocline. Precipitation, streams, and rivers

eroded younger geological layers exposing the meta-igneous gneiss, Chinle Formation, and Jurassic Period bedrock in the project location. Erosion of the bedrock also led to the formation of canyons such as Ute Canyon on the southern end of the project area. Water flows through Ute Canyon during periods with a high precipitation and eventually drains into the Colorado River to the north and east of the monument in the Grand Valley.

Precipitation, drainage in Ute Canyon, and the Colorado River comprise the primary sources of water in the area around the project location. The area shows evidence for precipitation throughout the year with the highest precipitation in spring and late summer. The average annual precipitation consists of 18 cm with an average annual temperature range of 91.8° F to 18.6° F according to Von Loh et al (2007). The ecology, climate, geology, and hydrology provided a relative high amount of resources for the different cultural groups that inhabited the area.

Prehistoric and Historic Background

Archeologists have identified high numbers of prehistoric and historic remains in the region. The current understanding of Colorado National Monument's prehistory and history relies on regional data, a limited number of recent surveys in the Monument, and historic monument records. As a result of the paucity of Monument specific information, this report provides a synopsis of regional information on the prehistory and history of the Monument with specifics related to the project area provided when possible.

Prehistory of the Study Area

The first peoples in the Grand Valley and what would become Colorado National Monument are known as Paleoindians. Paleoindians lived in small bands of highly mobile hunter-gatherers that occupied the American continents during the late Pleistocene, from roughly 13,000 B.P. to 8400 B.P. Their mobility is evidenced in the broad sourcing of lithic material used for knapping their distinctive lanceolate projectile points, including the Clovis, Goshen, and Folsom traditions (Conner et al. 2011). Paleoindians hunted megafauna, but also relied heavily on smaller game and the gathering of plant resources for subsistence, particularly in the later transition period from 11,500 B.P. to 8400 B.P. (Gruebel et al. 2013). Habitations are short-term with little to no evidence for food storage. In Colorado National Monument, archeologists have identified three projectile points that correspond with the Paleoindian Era: two Clovis points and a Scottsbluff point.

As the last ice age came to an end, the climate warmed, leading to changes in plant and animal communities and the development of new traditions. The Archaic era (8400 – 2250 B.P) saw a decrease in mobility but the general continuation of a hunter-gatherer lifestyle (Reed and Metcalf 1999). Archaic groups subsisted on a broader diet, with increased emphasis on small animals and plant collection and processing (Conner et al. 2011). Changes included the introduction of grinding tools and slab-lined fire hearths, increased diversity of projectile point styles such as smaller-notched and un-notched varieties, and the appearance of rock art (Conner et al. 2011, Greubel et al. 2013, Cole 1987 and 1990). Mobility became seasonally-based, with habitations indicating longer stays and increased populations.

The Archaic Era ends and the Formative Era begins with the adoption of horticulture as a primary subsistence practice around 2250 B.P. Formative Era sites are defined by semi-permanent to permanent habitation structures, built granaries, pottery, bow and arrow technology, and of course, domesticated plant species, such as corn, squash, and beans (Conner et al. 2011, Greubel et al. 2013).

Two primary Formative Era cultures are known in western Colorado: the Fremont and the Ancestral Puebloan. In the Monument, archeologists have only identified a Mancos Black on White sherd that dates form approximately A.D. 900-1100 as evidence of Ancestral Puebloan cultures. Colorado National Monument and Glade Park, just to the west, do have evidence for Fremont inhabitation, however, primarily in the form of rock art and some lithic artifacts.

Around 1300 A.D., the indigenous groups in western Colorado largely returned to hunter-gatherer lifeways. The changes in subsistence practices and the influx of different cultural groups comprise the beginning of a transitional period in the Formative Era, the Late Prehistoric Period (A.D. 1300-1540). Groups associated with the Numic language family that comprise ancestors to the modern Ute and Shoshone migrated to the area from the west by approximately A.D. 1300 (Reed 1994, Smith 1974). Changes in subsistence practices may have occurred through the adoption of traditions from Numic-speaking groups, the absorption of local populations into Numic-speaking groups, or the development of new cultural traditions in local populations. Further, local populations could have migrated away from the area and been completely supplanted by the incoming groups. Important indicators of Ute/Numic habitation during the Late Prehistoric and Protohistoric Periods include wickiup and lean-to structures, Uncompaghre Brownware pottery, and a distinct Ute rock art style.

The Formative Era ended with the arrival of Europeans to the American Southwest around 1540 A.D. Euroamericans brought horses to the region which increased mobility and lead to reliance on larger game and expansive hunting grounds for the local Ute populations (Conner et al. 2011). Increased mobility and territory also lead to more complex family networks and band organization (Greubel et al. 2013). The Utes were removed from their ancestral grounds to reservations in 1881 A.D., following rising tensions with Euroamerican settlers and miners.

History of the Study Area (A.D. 1540-1968)

By A.D. 1540, Spanish explorers began reaching into the American Southwest. Spanish explorer Juan Maria Antonio de Rivera and his team were the first documented European explorers in west central Colorado (Husband 1984). They undertook expeditions to the area from 1761 to 1775. In 1776, Francisco Dominguez and Silvestre Velez de Escalante conducted a second series of expeditions for the Spanish to develop a trail (Old Spanish Trail) to California. The Dominguez-Escalante expedition resulted in detailed maps and descriptions of Native Americans in west central Colorado. The documents and maps indicate that the Ute comprised the primary inhabitants of the area. Sally McBeth conducted an ethnographic study in 2010 and concurred that the Uncompaghre and White River Bands of Ute occupied the Grand Valley during this period.

In 1821, Mexico gained independence from Spain. The area around the Monument was included in the newly formed Mexican territory and saw an influx of fur trappers when Mexico opened west central Colorado to fur trading (Husband 1984).

Mexico continued to govern Colorado and surrounding areas until the Mexican-American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 that ceded lands in Colorado, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, California, Texas, and Arizona to the United States (Husband 1984). The United States then sponsored more expeditions to map and explore west-central Colorado from the 1840s to the 1870s, including an expedition by John Wesley Powell in 1869 to survey the Colorado River and expeditions from 1873-1876 by Ferdinand Hayden to survey Colorado for the United States Geological Survey. European American prospectors also moved into the area searching for precious minerals after prospectors identified gold in Colorado in 1849.

By 1880, European Americans sought to establish permanent settlements in the Grand Valley area. The area, however, remained occupied primarily by Utes. In response to increasing European American pressure to open the area for settlement and tensions with the Utes including the Meeker Affair of 1879, the United States government forcibly removed Utes in 1881 to the Ouray and Uintah Reservations in northern Utah (Decker 2004).

After the forced removal of Utes, European Americans established the city of Grand Junction and, slightly later, Fruita, which are located near either end of the modern day Monument. The primary industries in the area during the late 1800s and early 1900s consisted of farming and ranching (Mehls 1982). For many years, the Monument lands were difficult to access until a bridge was constructed across the Colorado River from Fruita to the Redlands, and the Fruita Waterline and Dugway were built to provide water to the valley from a reservoir near the top of the mesa. After the construction of the waterline, ranchers used the Fruita Dugway for driving livestock to the floor of the Grand Valley, and local communities used the bridge to access the northern end of the Redlands.

John Otto, a prominent individual in Colorado National Monument's history, was introduced to the area when he helped to construct the water line and dugway (Kania 1984). He fell in love with the landscape and began to promote the red rock canyons for a National Park in 1907. The land was withdrawn from development in 1907, but the Monument was not established until 1911, through a presidential proclamation by President William H. Taft. The Monument originally encompassed approximately 13,883.06 acres around Monument Canyon, Red Canyon, Columbus Canyon, Ute Canyon, Lizard Canyon, and Gold Star Canyon in the Grand Valley. The project location sits in the original 1911 boundaries.

Before it was even established, John Otto began building trails in the Monument in order to encourage visitation (Kania 1984). He built at least four trails in and around the project area. Once Colorado National Monument was established, Otto became the park's first custodian. He continued to build trails and acted as a proponent and planner for the Serpent's Trail Road.

Serpent's Trail comprised the first road for motor vehicles through the monument. The road provided drivers a route from Grand Junction to the community of Glade Park near Pinon Mesa. Planning began in 1911, but the road was not finished until 1921.

The completion of the Serpent's Trail in 1921 led to a second period of monument development by inspiring the construction of Rim Rock Drive to provide visitors a driving tour around the Monument's canyons and geological features. In 1933, President Herbert Hoover extended the boundaries of the monument to encompass the full extent of the proposed road and to add the area surrounding Kodels Canyon to the north. Rim Rock Drive began construction in 1933, and much

of the labor came from Depression-era relief programs, especially the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Works Progress Administration (Schoch-Roberts 1997). In addition to constructing the road, these work groups built several structures, a few of which remain in the Monument. The CCC program ended with the entry of the United States into World War II in 1942, and Monument employees were left to finish construction of the 23-mile road. Rim Rock Drive was officially completed in 1950 and has since allowed for a significant increase in visitation and expanded visitor experience.

The Monument experienced increased visitation after the construction of Rim Rock Drive, which lead to the expansion of the Saddlehorn campground and the recreational trails system in the 1940s and early 50s. Blending into this period of building in the Monument, Mission 66 was a nationwide program to improve National Park unit infrastructure in preparation for the 50th anniversary of the Park Service. Planning for the program started in the 1950s and implementation of the program extended from 1956 to 1972. The Mission 66 program resulted in the construction of comfort stations, residences, a utility building, an amphitheater, fee booths, trails, pull-offs, overlooks, and a Visitor Center at Colorado National Monument. The Visitors Center in particular comprised a unique and significant structure constructed during the Mission 66 program. The Monument also saw another boundary shift during this period when President Dwight Eisenhower removed some land from the eastern boundary and added land to the western boundary in 1959 (Eisenhower 1959).

The Monument retained the extent of land (approximately 17,813 acres) established in 1959 until 1976 when the United States Congress passed Public Law 94-578. The law, in part, expanded the Monument boundaries to include land at the mouth of Red Canyon and the full extent of No Thoroughfare Canyon in the southern end of the monument. The 1976 expansion comprised the final expansion of the Monument and resulted in the development of the current size of the park (20, 534 acres).

Known historic archeology sites in the Monument include sites associated with the early cattle ranchers and settlers, John Otto, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and Mission 66 buildings.

Study Objectives

The purpose of the Class III survey was to locate and record any cultural resources that are present along the historic Liberty Cap and Corkscrew Trails, as well as record the trails themselves. The information from the survey was meant to inform a trail maintenance project; however, due to changes to the scope of maintenance no specific undertaking is currently proposes along with the survey. Eligibility determinations in this report will inform future assessments of effect to undertakings within the survey area, including the trails.

Field Methods

Two COLM seasonal GS-07 archeological technicians and one COLM GS-09 archeologist completed the fieldwork in 2017 and 2018, and began write up of survey findings in 2018.

Colorado SHPO cultural resource forms and report were subsequently finished by another COLM GS-09 archeologist and COLM GS-07 archeological technician in 2019.

This project resulted in the survey of approximately 40 acres of the monument along a mile of the Liberty Cap Trail. The project crew based the extent of survey on the information provided on the initial 2016 scope of work for the trail rehabilitation project prior to the implementation of the survey. Ten meter transects were walked by archaeologists on either side of the trail centerline; steep terrain prevented archeologists from surveying portions off of the trail; however, the steep slopes are unlikely to retain cultural materials.

During the survey of the project location, the archeologists identified cultural resources using the following NPS standards for archeological resources:

> ***Archeological sites*** contain at least 30 artifacts of a single type of artifact, at least 20 artifacts of two different types of artifacts, at least one feature in association with an artifact, or more than one feature.
>
> ***Isolated finds*** consist of less than 30 artifacts from a single type of artifact, less than 20 artifacts of two different types of artifacts, or a feature without artifacts.

Cultural resources documentation consisted of completing tabular and narrative forms, photographing the remains, collecting GPS data, and creating maps. The tabular and narrative forms consisted of monument specific and OAHP forms in order to retain a similar template and information as the forms used for previously recorded sites in the monument. The OAHP forms collect data on the eligibility of the resources for the NRHP, cultural affiliation, resource location, associated features, resource type, age, recorders, and previous research. The monument has also adapted forms to include area specific information.

Archeologists used the GPS data after the completion of the survey to create maps of the archeological sites. The maps provide the location of the site boundary, diagnostic artifacts, artifact concentrations, significant landforms, significant vegetation, and features. Site maps may also contain contours, gullies, and fuel load information. The site maps contain a scale, legend, north arrow, names of archeologists completing the maps, site number, and date. The methods used and the products produced in the field will meet the standards and guidelines of the Secretary of the Interior, NPS standards, OAHP standards, and monument standards.

Project Results

The Survey includes in the revisiting of two sites (5ME12511 and 5ME20800) and two isolated finds (5ME20561 and 5ME20562), and the recording of two previously unidentified sites (5ME22061 and 5ME23005.2), and one previously identified isolated find (5ME22062).

Previously Recorded Sites

5ME12511

Site Type: Historic Road, Historic Trail **Length:** 8 mi.

Cultural Affiliation: Euroamerican **Acres:** 4.9

Archival Information: 5ME12511, the Historic Liberty Cap Trail, encompasses a section of trail that climbs from just west of the Liberty Cap formation to Rim Rock Drive. It is unclear exactly when this trail was built – a 1934 USGS Survey map is the first to acknowledge the upper trail, but no other historical references are made until the 1940s. A 1942 USGS map shows the westernmost 1.5 miles of trail as graded road (Whitacre 2001). The same year, Colorado National Monument proposed to grade more of this western portion of the trail, constructing the Monument Mesa Truck Route (or Trail, depending on the source). According to a 1940 forestry report by W. Yeager, the truck route originally served as a lookout road to spot and manage wildfires. Whitacre originally documented 5ME12511 in 2001 and argues that the monument expanded the road by 1947 to meet up and utilize the historic Corkscrew Trail (5ME23005). The road was graded to within one mile of the Liberty Cap formation and continued as a bridle path from there on.

Interestingly, the Monument Mesa Trail is consistently shown as a walking trail in NPS brochures from the 1950s and 60s. Whitacre posits that visitors learned of the trail's vehicular and equestrian access through information centers (2001). The monument closed the road to motor vehicle traffic in the 1970s. The monument currently uses the road as a pedestrian and horse trail and regularly refers to the section of trail from the Liberty Cap Formation to Rim Rock Drive as the Upper Liberty Cap Trail. The section of trail below the formation to the Wildwood Trailhead comprises the Lower Liberty Cap Trail.

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible

Statement of Significance: 5ME12511 is recommended not eligible under Criteria A-D for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The trail was created by the Park Service in the 1930s and is not associated with significant events or persons (Criteria A and B), does not embody distinctive style or workmanship (Criterion C), and does not have the potential to contribute additional information important in history (Criterion D). The trail's initial recording from 2001 (Whitacre) determined that most of Liberty Cap was not eligible to the NRHP, excepting a short one-quarter mile portion near the Liberty Cap formation that may be associated with John Otto. It is the determination of the current recording that the small section that Whitacre references actually belongs in another linear site (5ME23005 – the historic Corkscrew Trail), which the historic Liberty Cap Trail utilized at a later date. 5ME23005 is associated with Otto (as well as significant events in local history) while 5ME12511 is not. Where the trails overlap, the linear site will be managed as the NRHP eligible 5ME23005.

Management Recommendation: Although linear site is determined not eligible, because this segment adjoins an eligible trail (5ME23005), any trail maintenance should not alter the setting and feeling to 5ME12511.1, or adversely affect 5ME23005 in any way.

5ME12511.1

Site Type: Historic Road Segment, Historic Trail Segment **Length:** 941 ft.

Cultural Affiliation: Euroamerican **Elevation:** 5,980-6,000 ft.

Site Description: The segment is a 941-foot portion of the approximately eight mile Liberty Cap Trail. Much of the segment is a dirt trail between four and six feet in width, although near its eastern extent the trail widens to incorporate a vehicle turnaround present from when the trail was a motorized route (pre 1970s).

Condition: Overall condition is good; the trail has been maintained intermittently since its creation.

Supporting Segment: The entire linear is determined not eligible, therefore the supporting status is not applicable.

Evaluation of Integrity: Although not eligible to the NRHP, the trail retains integrity of location, as it has not been realigned. Very little integrity of materials, workmanship or design is evident in the short segment. Integrity of setting is generally maintained as the route continues to function in a similar capacity to its historic role as an access route within the Monument. Integrity of feeling has changed from the historic period, as the route is no longer open to motor vehicles, although the general feeling of the route has not been altered by other development. Integrity of association as a Park Service-created recreation route remains.

Management Recommendation: Although the entire linear site is determined not eligible, because this segment adjoins an eligible trail (5ME23005), trail maintenance should not alter the setting and feeling to 5ME12511.1, or adversely affect 5ME23005 in any way.

5ME20800

Site Type: Historic Fence Line (full linear recording) **Distance:** 440 ft.

Cultural Affiliation: Euroamerican **Elevation:** 5,480-5,560 ft.

Site Description: The current recording updates site eligibility information from 2015. No changes to the site description were made from Stavish et al (2015):

> This linear feature is a fence line consisting of 12 upright and 17 fallen posts, ranging in size from 4" to 8" in diameter by 6'4" tall to 8' tall. It spans the sloped canyon bench northeast of the mouth of Ute Canyon and measures 440 feet long. It is bisected in the middle by the Liberty Cap Trail, which then veers north and runs parallel with the site. There is a gate (Feature 1) roughly in the middle of the fence line consisting of two upright posts supported by stacked rocks. There is a large, wound length of barbed wire secured onto the northern gate post. Feature 2 is located at the west end of the fence line on a boulder top.

The 2017 revisit did not identify any new features or artifacts or note changes to the site. No specific information could be located regarding this linear site. John Otto built fencing throughout the park after he introduced elk and bison into the Monument in the 1920s. The remnants of this fence resemble other fence lines in the Monument known to be constructed by Otto for the purpose of creating a wildlife sanctuary. Bison lingered in the park until the 1970s, but it is not known when the fencing was dismantled.

Condition: The fence is significantly deteriorated. Many fence posts are collapsed and the barbed wire was removed from the fence and hung along existing fence posts. It is not clear when this modification occurred.

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible

Statement of Significance: The site was recommended not eligible by Stavish et al (2015). The State Historic Preservation Office did not concur with the recommendation, and instead suggested the site be considered 'Needs Data' based on a possible association with John Otto, an important early promotor and first custodian of the Monument. The current recording makes no changes to the 2015 recording, and reaffirms the not eligible recommendation. The site is likely associated with John Otto in that other fences in the Monument with a similar in style are attributed to him; however, after exhausting existing documentation, the association remains somewhat speculative, and is therefore not eligible to the NRHP. Moreover, as noted in the original recording, severely diminished integrities warrant it to be individually not eligible to the NRHP.

The integrities of location, materials, workmanship, design, setting, and feeling are all significantly diminished by the overall deterioration of the site, which include several collapsed posts and the removal of all barbed wire from the fence (hanging on posts). Integrity of association is retained as the fence type is identifiably the work of John Otto.

Management Recommendation: The site is recommended not eligible to the NRHP and no further work is recommended at this time.

Newly Recorded Sites

5ME22061

Site Type: Historic brush structure, artifact scatter **Acres:** 1

Cultural Affiliation: Euroamerican **Elevation:** 6,000

Site Description: The current recording updates site eligibility information from an earlier consultation with the SHPO (HC# 73038) that included this site. No changes to the site description were made from the initial recording. No specific information could be identified for the historic component of this site. However some of the artifacts (automobile parts) suggest association with the historic Liberty Cap trail, which was a motorized route from the 1940s to 1970s. Additionally,

although not as clearly related as automobile parts, other artifacts appear to relate to later historic use of the Trail (1940s-1970s) rather than early use (1910s-1930s).

The historic component consists of a brush structure (feature 1), two axe cut juniper trees (features 2 and 3), and metal artifacts. Feature 1 contains a wall (18 ft. 11 in. x 6 ft. 10 in. x 6 ft.) of stacked juniper beams that measure approximately 3 to 7 in. in diameter. Six dry laid Wingate Sandstone boulders sit below the beams and likely comprised a footing for the wall. Measurements for the boulders range from 1 ft. 9 in. x 1 ft. 1 in. x 4 in. to 7 in. x 6 in. x 4 in.

The artifact assemblage consists of 2 fragments of 1/16 in. gauge wire; a fragment of plywood; an ovular piece of plate metal with an eroded paint finish and pin hole on either end; a nail; an "L"-shaped fragment of metal flashing with an eroded metallic finish and holes for screws; and unidentified pipe parts that contain soldered repairs and gum tape. The plate metal, flashing, and pipe parts comprise parts from automobiles. The fragments of pipe likely comprise parts of a repaired radiator.

The prehistoric portion of the site consists of one grey quartzite tertiary flake.

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible

Statement of Significance: Although this site was recorded as part of the survey in this report, it has already been included in previous consultation with the SHPO for compliance work associated with the Liberty Cap Trail (HC# 73038). In the site form submission for that consultation, 5ME22061 was recommended eligible under B and D for the brush structure's *potential* (emphasis from original recording) association with John Otto. Given that the recommendation was based on relative proximity to a trail built by Otto and other unspecified brush structures built by Otto, eligibility under criterion A is highly speculative. The site is also closer to a trail built by the Park Service in the 1930s and contains artifacts that post-date Otto's time at the Monument. Given the overall uncertainty the site should have been recommended "needs data" rather than eligible under B and D.

Additional archival research has not turned up any more information relating John Otto to the brush structure at this site. Therefore 5ME22061 is recommended not eligible to the NRHP. The site is not associated with significant event or people (criteria A and B), does not possess distinctive characteristics or style (criterion C), and does not retain the potential for additional information (criterion D).

Management Recommendation: The site is recommended not eligible to the NRHP and no further work is recommended.

5ME23005.2

Site Type: Historic Trail Segment **Length:** 0.9

Cultural Affiliation: Euroamerican **Elevation:** 5,520-5,960 ft.

Site Description: The segment consists of a former bridle bath that extended from the monument boundary at the mouth of Ute and Red Canyons, to the top of Monument Mesa. The Monument currently maintains the segment as a pedestrian trail. The segment and associated features include 40 dry laid walls, a ladder installed in the Liberty Cap Formation, a drill hole for a flag pole, and a short fence. The trail throughout this segment is between two and five feet in width, and consists of dirt tread with placed rocks lining much of the segment. Two series of switchbacks located in the segment include many of the walls. The walls consist of rubble and semi-coursed walls built on the exterior of steep sections of the trail. Eight of the walls also include log cribbing, consisting of juniper logs held in place by iron pipes. The section of trail also includes areas of chiseled and blasted bedrock. The wall stones likely utilized rubble created during the creation of the path of the trail.

The segment includes 43 associated features. Forty of the features consist of dry laid rubble or semi-coursed retaining walls. Otto drilled the pipes into the bedrock to retain the log cribbing and wall stones. In addition to the walls, Feature 40 comprises a fence with a gate and Feature 41 comprises an axe cut juniper. Feature 42 consists of a ladder in the Liberty Cap Formation and Feature 43 consists of a drill hole for a flag pole. Artifacts include one .22 caliber Winchester rim fire cartridge with the letter H, and one tin cup handle measuring 13” x 8” x 3”.

Condition: The segment has experienced erosion that has altered some of the retaining wall features at the site.

Supporting Segment: Supporting of the entire linear

Evaluation of Integrity: The site retains integrity of location as no known reroutes have occurred. It retains integrity of materials as a large amount of the original sandstone rocks, metal piping, and log cribbing used to build and stabilize the trail remain present. Integrity of workmanship is evidenced by the considerable engineering accomplishment of building the trail on often steep and unstable terrain using dynamite and natural materials; the expedient use of rubble to support and line the trail, however, does not represent a high level of skill or a unique methodology. Integrity of setting is maintained as the trail continues to function as a recreational route between the Grand Valley below and the Liberty Cap formation. Integrity of feeling is impacted somewhat by growth in the Grand Valley that can be seen from the trail, however, not so much that all integrity of feeling is lost. Integrity of association is strongly maintained with the trails association with John Otto, the first Custodian of the Colorado National Monument and its earliest and most vocal proponent.

Management Recommendation: The segment should be included in an established site monitoring program as a moderate priority site, and all trail maintenance projects should adhere to the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Historic Preservation. The trail should also be monitored periodically for stabilization and preservation needs.

Isolated Finds

Isolated Finds 5ME20561 and 5ME20562 were originally recorded by Stavish et al. (2015). SHPO Consultation for that report, however, does not appear to have included them. No changes to the original recordings were made during the revisits during this survey, and the eligibility recommendations remain the same. 5ME22062 was included in consultation related to previous compliance work on the Liberty Cap Trail (HC# 73038). It is included here because it was recorded as part of this survey. No changes were made to the recording or eligibility recommendation.

5ME20561 – The isolate was recorded in 2015 by Stavish et al. and consists of 16 fragments of an aqua glass bottle fragment with American Bottle Co. makers mark on a base fragment. No changes to the isolate were noticed during the 2017 revisit. The isolate is not likely to yield additional information important to history (Criterion D) nor does it embody the characteristics necessary to meet Criteria A, B, or C.

5ME20562 – The isolate was recorded in 2015 by Stavish et al. and consists of one pink quartzite single-handed mano, 11.7 x 8.8 x 3.7 cm, striations, polish, and pecking on two ground surfaces, some exfoliation; one secondary gray quartzite. The isolate is recommended not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places because it does not meet any of the Criteria A-D.

5ME22062 – The isolate consists of six flakes, five tertiary and a fragment of shatter. The material types are yellow chert and white quartzite. The artifacts sit in a sand dune adjacent to an exposed layer of bedrock that comprises a ledge near the Liberty Cap Formation on Monument Mesa. The debitage is in an approximately 40 square meter area. The isolate is recommended not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places because it does not meet any of the Criteria A-D.

Summary and Recommendations

Archeologists at Colorado National Monument conducted a class III cultural resource inventory for approximately 40 acres in and around an approximate 1-mile section of the Liberty Cap Trail near the eastern boundary of the monument. The monument completed the inventory in preparation for a trail rehabilitation project that has yet to be designed. The survey resulted in the recording of two linear segments, 5ME12511.1 and 5ME23005.2, one site 5ME22061, and one isolated find 5ME22062. Two sites and two isolated finds were revisited, 5ME12511, 5ME20800, 5ME20561, and 5ME20562, respectively. Segment 5ME23005.2 is recommended as supporting to the overall eligibility of 5ME23005. All other resources are recommended not eligible to the NRHP.

Once a maintenance scope of work is finalized for the Liberty Cap Trail, associated preservation treatments must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation for work occurring on 5ME23005.2, or that may otherwise adversely affect 5ME23005 – which may include adjacent trail work. To the extent possible treatments should adhere to principles and approaches related to the preservation and rehabilitation of historic properties. Maintenance should not result in the introduction of visual impacts, a high number of alterations to the resource, or the removal original fabric. Additionally, maintenance should result in the replacement of only a limited amount of eroded architectural elements with similar materials

and in a similar method. Finally, maintenance should only result in the installation of a low number of minor drainage ditches and other erosion control features in areas that are needed to retain integrity of the trail. Future consultations should include the State Historic Preservation Office to determine assessment of effects of potential maintenance projects.

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HISTORY Colorado

June 29, 2020 HC#77886

Mr. Nathan Souder
Superintendent
Colorado National Monument
1750 Rim Rock Drive
Fruita, Colorado 81521

RE: Saddlehorn Amphitheatre Complex Improvements Project
Colorado National Monument, near Fruita, Mesa County, Colorado
COLM PEPC#73693

Dear Superintendent Souder:

Thank you for your correspondence dated May 26, 2020, and received by our office on June 2, 2020, regarding the review of the above referenced project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

We understand the Colorado National Monument of the National Park Service is requesting review of an undertaking that will involve improvements to the Saddlehorn Amphitheatre Complex in Colorado National Monument. The Park Service comprises the lead federal agency for this undertaking.

We have reviewed all documentation submitted for this undertaking and thank you for the information you have provided. We concur the defined project area of potential effect (APE) as depicted on project maps is appropriate for the undertaking. We also concur with your agency's findings of eligibility regarding four properties in the APE. The Amphitheatre and Access Road (5ME.23137), Loop A Comfort Station (5ME.23138), and Saddlehorn Picnic Area Comfort Station (5ME.23139) all *contribute* to the Saddlehorn Recreation Area Cultural Landscape (5ME.23140), which is *eligible* for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Furthermore, the Loop A Comfort Station is *individually eligible* as a good representative example of a Mission 66 comfort station.

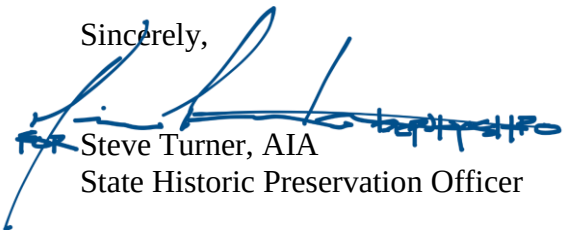
We also concur with your assessments the proposed undertaking will have *no adverse effect* on the Loop A Comfort Station (5ME.23138) and Saddlehorn Picnic Area Comfort Station (5ME.23139). However, it will impose an *adverse effect* on the Amphitheatre and Access Road (5ME.23137) and the Saddlehorn Recreation Area Cultural Landscape (5ME.23140). Accordingly, we request you provide our office with various project alternatives to either avoid or minimize the effects of the undertaking. If such are not feasible, please provide an explanation and draft mitigation measures. We will provide additional comments upon receipt of that documentation.

We request being involved in the consultation process with the local government, which as stipulated in 36 CFR §800.3 is required to be notified of the undertaking, and with other consulting parties. Additional information provided by the local government or consulting parties might cause our office to re-evaluate our eligibility and potential effect findings. Please note that our compliance letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties.

Determinations of National Register eligibility subject to this letter were made in consultation pursuant to the implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 36 CFR Part 800. Please note other Federal programs such as the National Register of Historic Places and the Federal Investment Tax Credit Program may have additional documentation and evaluation standards. Final determinations remain the responsibility of the Keeper of the National Register.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Mitchell K. Schaefer, Section 106 Compliance Manager, at (303) 866-2673 or mitchell.schaefer@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Steve Turner, AIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL OFFICE
12795 W. Alameda Parkway
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32 (RMR-PR)

AUG 23 1990

SEP 17 1990

Regional Director
Deputy Reg. Director
Park Oper.
Admin.
Plng. & Res. Pres. Lee 9/17
PR 9/17
Schene
Comm. & P.A. Foster
EO
Action Taken

Mrs. Barbara Sudler, President
Colorado State Historical Society
Colorado State Museum
1300 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80203

Reference: Determination of Eligibility for Bison Fence, Colorado National Monument, Colorado

Dear Mrs. Sudler:

Please find enclosed the Determination of Eligibility for the Bison Fence located on the northeastern boundary of Colorado National Monument. The accompanying photographs, survey form, and maps document its condition and location. It is the opinion of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office that this resource is ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

If you concur with our position, please sign the concurrence and date blocks provided below. If you should have any questions regarding this project, please contact Supervisory Regional Historian Michael G. Schene at 969-2875.

Sincerely,

Christine L. Turk

for Richard A. Strait
Associate Regional Director
Planning and Resource Preservation

Enclosures

cc:
Supt., Colorado NM

I Concur _____*

Date September 13, 1990

*Please provide additional photographs, if available, and indicate on a map the location and direction of all photos and the location of the gate.

Kaaren

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY
BISON FENCE
COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT

When Colorado National Monument was established in 1911, western Colorado was rugged territory and only recently settled. After Grand Junction was founded in 1881, exploration began to occur in the surrounding area. The monument's natural and surreal beauty were soon discovered and the desire to open the area to curious and adventurous visitors evolved. In 1912, it was recognized that a road system through the monument would enable visitors access into the canyons. Construction work on Trail of the Serpent, a road that afforded improved access from the Grand Valley to the uplands, was completed in 1921.

As the town of Grand Junction flourished, and as more people became interested in the monument, it became obvious that the Trail of the Serpent was inadequate for the number of visitors. Plans developed to extend the road and open the monument. By 1931, construction commenced on Rim Rock Drive, and extension of Trail of the Serpent. In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), along with other federal programs and local men, began road cuts and drainage systems along the planned route. As there was a conscious effort at the time to keep park areas natural, but make them accessible, the CCC utilized the native materials of the monument in the road construction. There was a movement within the NPS for park development and construction to blend in with the surrounding topography, to use native materials and to be in proper scale. This theory transformed into a style known as National Park Service Rustic (NPS Rustic) architecture. Prevalent in the 1916-1942 development of national parks nationwide, architecture was influenced by the natural settings of each individual park. In Colorado National Monument, this involved the use of native stone and limited wood materials.

The CCC, stationed in the monument from 1933-1942, completed many projects other than Rim Rock Drive. Buildings and structures, located in the Saddlehorn district and the Devils Kitchen area, were constructed in the NPS Rustic style. Using indigenous rock and limited log materials, the proportional structures blended with the surrounding area and natural geologic terrain. Careful stone cutting and placement exemplified the detailed craftsmanship indicative of CCC work. One of the assignments, however, did little to reflect the use of native materials or method of work. This project involved the installation of a premanufactured wire fence along the northeastern boundary of the monument. Using concrete footings to secure the metal posts, native materials were not used to incorporate the fence into the natural terrain. This barrier, used to retain the roaming bison within park boundaries, was placed in 1934.

Although bison were native to the western slope, the rugged terrain and lack of grazing resulted in few herds that lingered in the area. A migratory species, the bison moved constantly in search of forage, and their impacts on any location were thus random and infrequent. By 1845, bison were scarce and seldom seen on

the western slope.[1] Before the town of Grand Junction was founded in 1881, the last of the native bison had been extirpated from the area. In 1925, a small herd of bison (1 bull and 2 cows) were introduced to the rugged terrain of the monument as a promotion. At that time, there was no visible means of retaining the animals within park boundaries. As private properties adjacent to the park began to develop in the 1930s, installation of the fence in 1934 kept the bison from straying across park boundaries. By 1938, it was determined that the introduction of bison in the monument was ill advised, as their unnatural confinement to such a small range was damaging to the fragile desert landscape and did not provide adequate grazing land. As the herd decreased and was later removed, the fence was obsolete.

At present time, the fence still stands in its original location, however, since 1934, the official park boundary has been changed and the fence is no longer situated only within federal land. In some portions, the fence extends and crosses into privately owned land and does not mark the boundaries of federal land ownership, causing confusion to visitors and property owners.

Evaluated under the Depression Era Construction context included the pending multiple property National Register nomination, this property is ineligible under Criteria A, B, and C for the following reasons:

Criterion A - The bison, introduced to the monument in 1925, were a migratory animal and began roaming across monument boundaries onto private land. A fence was installed in 1934 by the CCC, already working in the monument to construct other resources. The CCC's major contribution to the development of the park is exhibited in the construction of Rim Rock Drive and the stone buildings/structures found in the Saddlehorn and Devils Kitchen areas. As the premanufactured fence was only installed by the CCC, this does not represent the CCC's construction techniques or development of Colorado National Monument.

Criterion B - There was not any individual or group of individuals that were either associated with or worked on the fence that gained notoriety or completed any nationally recognized work while at Colorado National Monument.

Criterion C - This fence does not display any architectural components that are indicative of rustic style architecture in Colorado National Monument, or the construction techniques employed by the CCC. It is a premanufactured wire fence and was installed into place by available Corps members.

Criterion D - The nature of this fence indicates that the potential for subsurface information is limited.

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[1] Fremont, John Charles, Report of the Exploring Expedition to the Rocky Mountains and to Oregon and Northern California in the Years 1843-1845, (Washington, D.C.: Gales and Seaton Printers, 1845), pp. 144-145.

CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT

REGION: RMR PARK: Colorado National Monument PARK #: 1378
OBJECT NAME: Bison Fence OBJECT #: FEN54
LOCATION OF OBJECT: Redlands NE boundary PARK LOCATION CODE:
NATIONAL REGISTER: O DATE: _____ MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: A___B___C___D___
NHL [Y or N] DATE:_____
NPS LEGAL INTEREST: FEE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: NONE
TREATMENT RESPONSIBILITY:
SMITHSONIAN #: LCS ID #: N/A

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY
PROPOSED ULTIMATE TREATMENT OR RMP CULTURAL COMPONENT DESIGNATION
PROPOSED DOCUMENT
Preservation (PP) Restoration (RR) Reconstruction (CC) No Treatment (NO)
Stabilization (ST) Neglect (NG) Remove (RM) Rehabilitation (RH)
APPROVAL DOCUMENT:_____DATE: _____
ESTIMATED TREATMENT COSTS: $ _____LEVEL OF ESTIMATE:_____
ESTIMATOR: _____STABILIZATION: $_____ DATE:_____
APPROVED TREATMENT : $_____ DATE:_____
APPROVED ULTIMATE TREATMENT COMPLETED [___Y or N___] DATE:_____

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1934 CODE FOR CONSTRUCTION: BU
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER: Unknown CODE FOR DESIGNER:
HISTORIC CONTEXTS: Depression Era Construction
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: This object is considered to be an ineligible property under contextual affiliation. As this premanufactured fence was only installed by the CCC stationed at Colorado National Monument, it does not reflect any architectural techniques, craftsmanship, or style indicative of the CCC. There are no longer any bison located within the monument and this fence is not used for any other purpose.
EVALUATION OF STRUCTURE: CONTRIBUTING: NON-CONTRIBUTING: X
NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA: A X B X C X D

INTEGRITY STATEMENT: This object is 50 years old, but it no longer retains its purpose of installation. Although it is in its original setting, the feeling and association are no longer present as the bison have been removed from the monument.

CONDITION: Fair DOCUMENTATION: Fair SIGNIFICANCE: U
IMPACT TYPES: NEG, WEA LEVEL OF IMPACT: M
IF STRUCTURE HAS BEEN REMOVED, HOW? N/A DATE:_____
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Property files, Colorado National Monument

REPRESENTATION IN OTHER SURVEYS: N/A

NEGATIVE NUMBERS: ROLL: COLM 1 NEGATIVE(S): 1 - 14
DRAWING NUMBER(S):
FIELD RECORDED BY: Hank Schoch, Jon Paynter DATE: 08/18/90
REPORT PREPARED BY: Eunice Fedors DATE: 08/21/90
AFFILIATION: National Park Service (COLM, RMRO)

OBJECT NAME AND NUMBER: Bison Fence FEN54
LOCATION: STATE: Colorado COUNTY: Mesa
U.S.G.S. QUADNAME: Colorado National Monument Quadrangle SCALE: 7.5
SECTION: 32, 33, 34, 17, 16, 21, 27, 35, 2 T: 39N R: 108W

UTM COORDINATES:

A	12 / 703490 / 4324080	M	12 / 699260 / 4329740
B	12 / 703482 / 4324539	N	12 / 699100 / 4329750
C	12 / 703160 / 4324520	O	12 / 698960 / 4330180
D	12 / 703140 / 4325340	P	12 / 698580 / 4330660
E	12 / 702840 / 4325340	Q	12 / 698890 / 4330900
F	12 / 702730 / 4325340	R	12 / 698830 / 4330900
G	12 / 702720 / 4326200	S	12 / 698830 / 4331090
H	12 / 702190 / 4326190	T	12 / 698742 / 4331285
I	12 / 702199 / 4327000	U	12 / 697770 / 4331600
J	12 / 701740 / 4327000	V	12 / 697220 / 4331630
K	12 / 700499 / 4328290	W	12 / 696900 / 4331730
L	12 / 700500 / 4328565		

USE (NPS 28 CODE): Fence CURRENT USE: 98 Not in use
ORIGINAL USE: 99 Fence PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION: HI
TYPE OF OBJECT (NPS 28 CODE): 99
OWNERSHIP: PRESENT OWNER(S): NPS
ORIGINAL OWNER(S): NPS INTERMEDIATE OWNER(S): NPS

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION
DESCRIBE TYPE OF OBJECT: Animal fence
DIMENSIONS: 7.348 miles by 7'4" high panel; 8' x 1.75" poles

COMPOSITION (NPS 28 CODE): 56, 65
DESCRIBE MATERIALS: The fence consists of a 7'4" woven wire panel supported by 8'h x 1.75" dia., seamed, thin-walled, galvanized steel posts set in cylindrical concrete footers. Fence is topped with three strands of barbed wire strung inboard on metal extension arms. The open mesh of woven wire is graduated from 12"w x 6"h at the top. One vehicle gate, made from same material is present. The entire fence, extending for 7.348 miles along the northeastern side of the park, is wire with steel support posts.

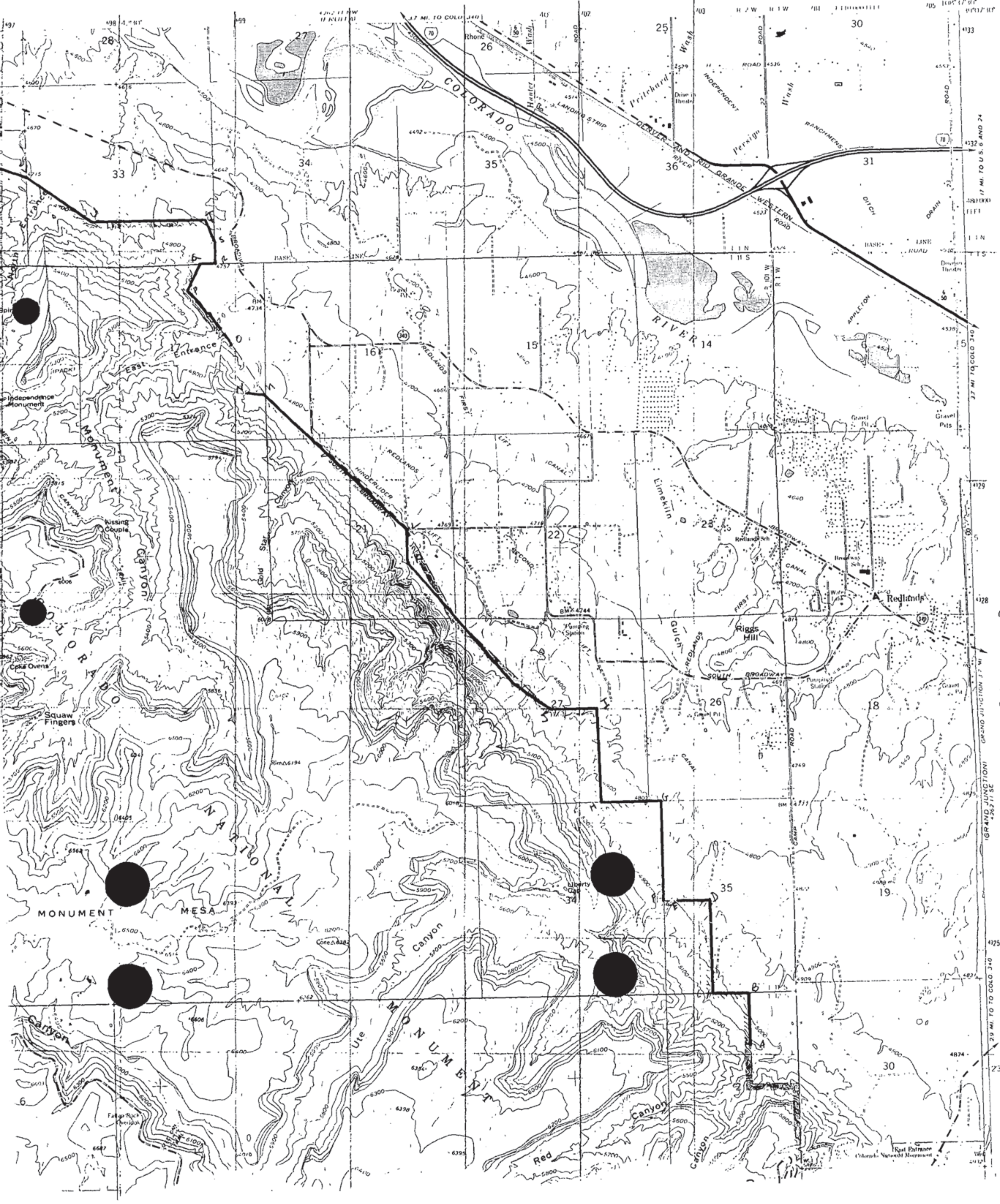
SPECIAL FEATURES/COMPONENTS: N/A

MODIFICATIONS: INTERIOR: N EXTERIOR: N

INTERIOR MODIFICATIONS: N/A

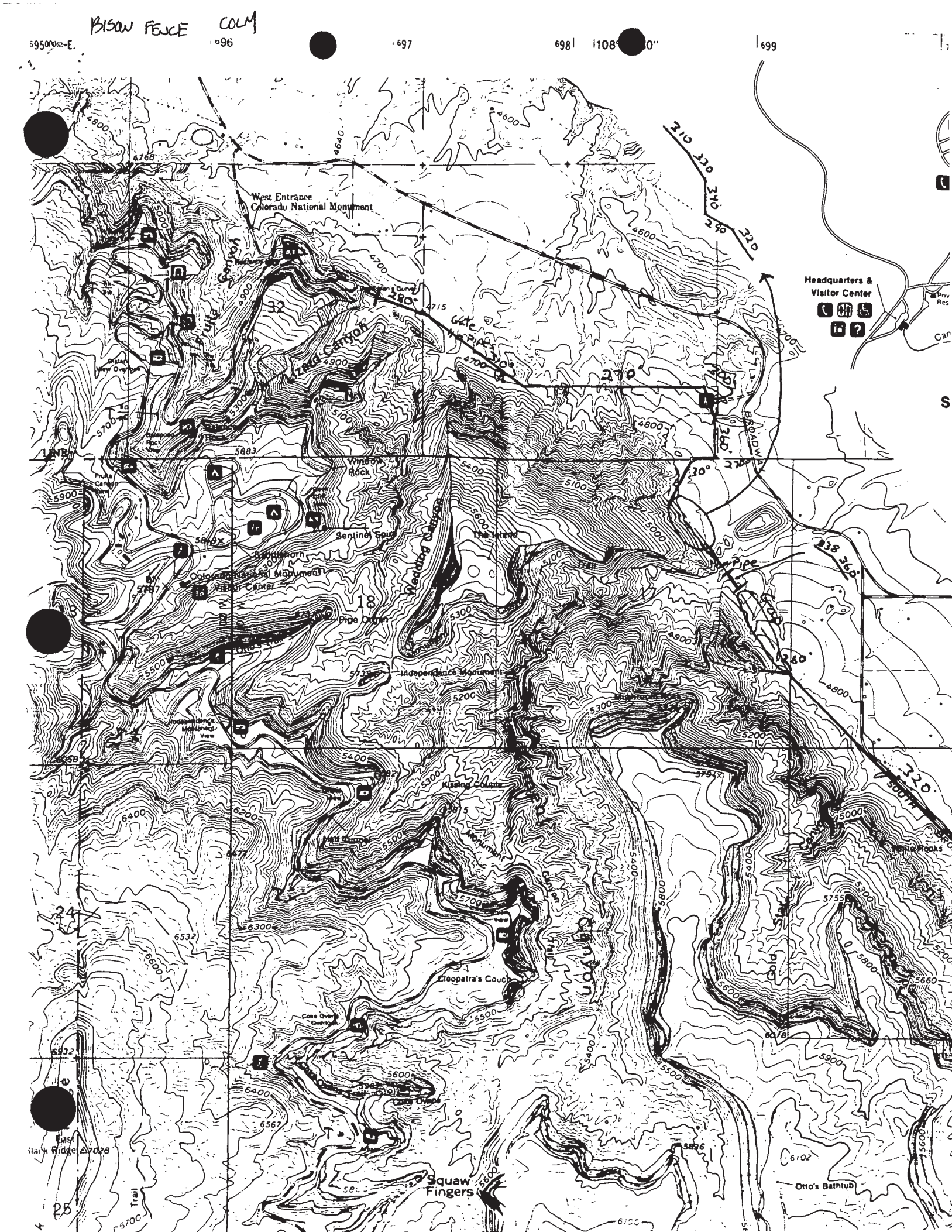
EXTERIOR MODIFICATIONS: N/A

SITE SKETCH (INCLUDING ORIENTATION): See attached map.



Bison Fence
Colorado National
Monument

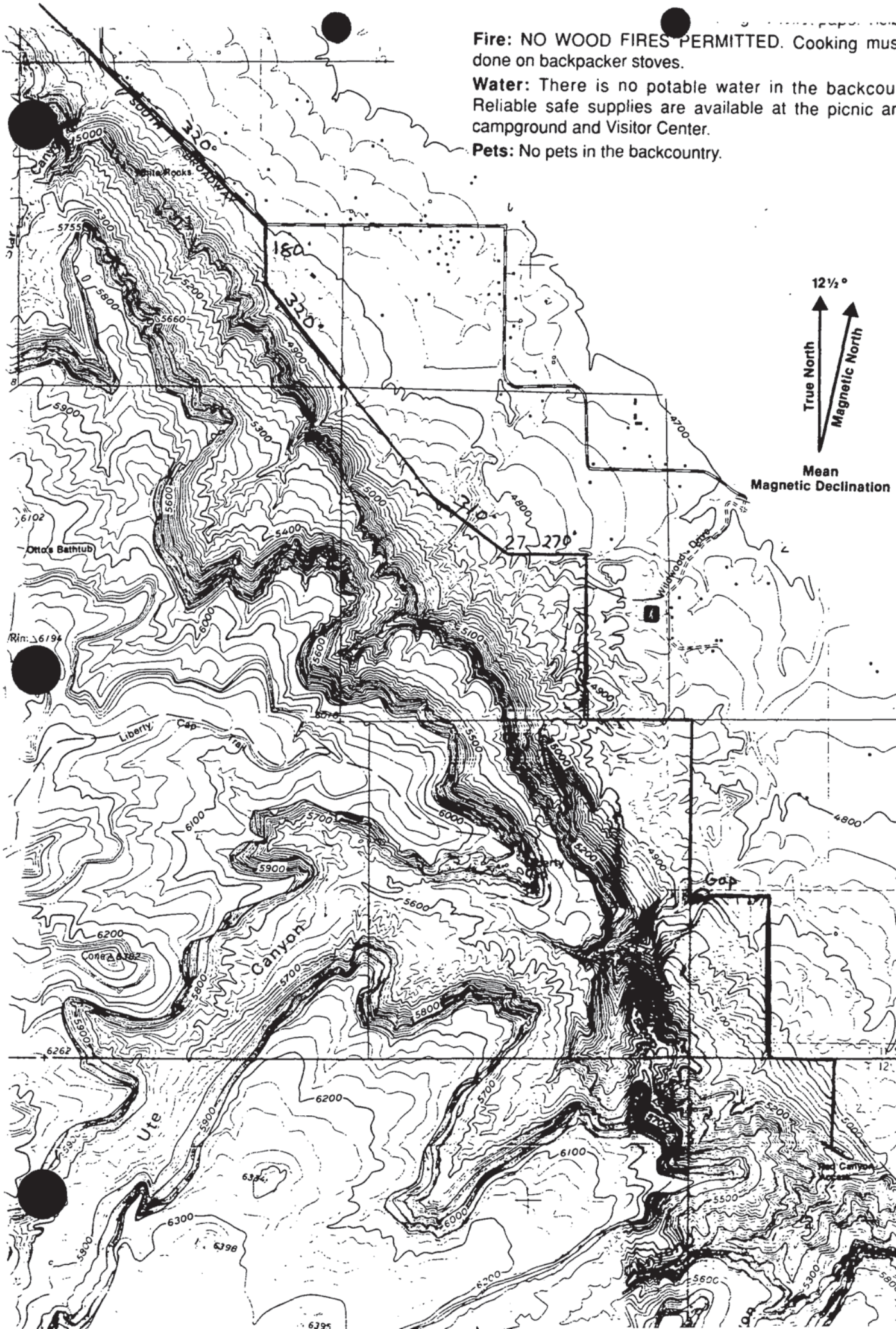
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F 12/702730/4325340
G 12/702720/4326700
H 12/702190/4326190
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K 12/70[illegible]290
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P 12/69[illegible]0060
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R 12/698830/4330900
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V 12/697720/4331630
W 12/696900/4331730


BISON FENCE COM
West Entrance
Colorado National Monument
Headquarters &
Visitor Center
Window Rock
Sentinel Spire
Wedding Canyon
Pipe Organ
Independence Monument
Kissing Couple
Cleopatra's Couch
Squaw Fingers
Otto's Bathtub
Broadway
South
Trail

Fire: NO WOOD FIRES PERMITTED. Cooking must be done on backpacker stoves.

Water: There is no potable water in the backcountry. Reliable safe supplies are available at the picnic areas, campground and Visitor Center.

Pets: No pets in the backcountry.



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HISTORY Colorado

K 8/25
Kim ___
Matt ___
Files ___

August 12, 2015

Ken Mabery
Acting Superintendent
Colorado National Monument
1750 Rim Rock Drive
Fruita, CO 81521

RE: Consensus Determination of Eligibility for Mission 66 Residences and a Utility Building, Colorado National Monument, Mesa County, Colorado (CHS #68237)

Dear Superintendent Mabery,

Thank you for your correspondence dated August 5, 2015 and received on August 10, 2015 by our office regarding the consultation of the above-mentioned project under Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 110).

After review of the provided information, we do not object to the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE) including the five Mission 66 residences and one Mission 66 utility building.

After review of the additional provided information, we concur that resource 5ME.21124 is individually not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

After reviewing the provided survey information regarding resources 5ME. 21284, 5ME.21285, 5ME.21286, 5ME.21287, and 5ME.21288 we concur with your finding that the resources are not individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. When evaluating these resources for their potential to support a National Register eligible Historic District, we concur that the alterations made to the resources during the 1980s and 2008 diminish the ability of the resources to support the delineation of a Mission 66 residential historic district in this area.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on these sites and your efforts in keeping our site files current. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Jennifer Bryant, our Section 106 Compliance Manager, at (303) 866-2673 or jennifer.bryant@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Office

APPENDIX B: RESOURCE DESCRIPTIONS

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Rim Rock Drive is described first, in order from the West Entrance to the East Entrance, with overlooks at the end. The rest of the Monument resources are then described in order from northwest to southeast, followed by a table listing all the resources and their current and/or recommended National Register status.
* Indicates resource is individually listed in the National Register or included in a listed historic district

RIM ROCK DRIVE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Rim Rock Drive, 1931–1950 (Structure, CRIS ID 052103, 890153).* An asphalt-paved, two-way, 22.42-mile road that runs generally northwest-southeast from the west entrance near Fruita to the east entrance near Grand Junction. The road ascends approximately 1,710 ft to its highest point near Ute Canyon using "horseshoe" switchbacks to traverse steep terrain. It provides expansive views of the Monument's geological monoliths and scenic landscape and has 22 overlooks, turnoffs, and trailheads along its length. The road follows the rims of the Monument's four major canyons (from north to south): Monument, Ute, Red, and No Thoroughfare. Minor alterations have occurred since its construction; however, no changes have been made to its original alignment. Alterations are limited to widenings of the road surface, enlargement and addition of parking areas, hardening of some drainage ditches with asphalt, and modernization of some curb edges and culverts. Modern small-scale features, such as signs, modern guiderails, trashcans, and markers, have been added.



Tunnels, 1936–1938/1940–1941 (Structures, CRIS IDs 051534 [#1], 051536 [#2], 051537 [#3]).* Three tunnels through solid sandstone canyon faces along Rim Rock Drive. Designed by NPS Office of the Chief Engineer engineers Howard W. Baker and S. L. Cutler and built using a pilot bore by WPA, ECW, and CCC enrollees. Length ranges from 184 ft to more than 500 ft; opening dimensions are approximately 17 ft high by 26 ft wide. Two tunnels (1936–1938) are on the road's ascent from the Fruita entrance, and one tunnel (1940–1941) is on the descent to the Grand Junction entrance. Tunnels have arched openings and no exterior portals. Narrow concrete curbing flanks concrete and asphalt-paved roadway through tunnels. Tunnel in Grand Junction is lined with gunite; two Fruita tunnels are lined with stone. Drainage holes have been drilled to alleviate moisture issues.





Corrugated Metal Pipes (CMP) with Retaining Walls, 1932–1938 (Structures). One of several types of drainage and structural features present along Rim Rock Drive. CMPs are set within wet-laid, sandstone masonry, retaining walls that are buried and filled. Newer CMPs with concrete headwalls have replaced earlier structures in some locations.



Drainage Tunnels, 1932–1938 (Structures). Where the road surmounts solid rock, drainage tunnels were blasted through the rock and reinforced with dry-laid sandstone retaining walls. This type of feature is found northwest of the Visitor Center.



Stone Guard Walls, 1933–1942 (Structures). Walls of wet-laid, dressed sandstone blocks used at sharp corners, along ledges, and at overlooks such as Coke Ovens Overlook Turnout to separate parking areas from trails or paths. They may be coupled with metal guard rails or post reflectors.



Retaining Walls with Guard Wall & Curb, 1933–1942 (Structures). Used where the road shoulder topography is steep and vehicle safety features are necessary. Lower retaining wall portions are concrete or wet-laid sandstone block; upper portions that rise above the road grade are generally wet-laid sandstone. Used adjacent to Artists' Point Pullout and at Highland View Pullout.



Sandstone Curbing, 1933–1942 (Structures). Different designs include large wet-laid sandstone slabs; alternating-height sandstone; and low, thin curbing. Used at turnouts and along outer curves, including Distant View Overlook.



West Entrance Station, 1960 (Non-contributing Building).* A small, gable-roof, wood-frame building with a low-pitched, corrugated-metal roof, 600 ft west of entrance sign in center of roadway. Walls are clad in wide clapboard; a coursed stone half-wall rises above concrete foundation. Fenestration consists of glazed aluminum doors, fixed windows, and two-part sliding windows.



West Entrance Pump House, 1979–1980 (Building). 350 feet south of West Entrance Station on west side of Rim Rock Drive near Fruita Reservoir. The building has a side-gable, corrugated-metal roof and walls of large sandstone bricks on a concrete foundation. Square louvered and metal mesh openings, and a double-leaf, metal door in west elevation.



Arched Stone Bridge, 1933–1938 (Structure, CRIS ID 052748). Single-span, arch bridge at tight curve in Rim Rock Drive, approximately 1.75 miles from West Entrance and adjacent to Balanced Rock Turnout. Designed by NPS engineer S.L. Cutler and constructed of a wet-laid sandstone foundation with a CMP half-pipe arch. Inlet and outlet walls are faced with granite blocks laid in mortar. Abutments are supported by a dry-laid stone retaining wall.



West Glade Park Road, 1935 (Structure). A two-lane, asphalt-paved road that intersects Rim Rock Drive near Mile Marker (MM) 11 and leads west toward Glade Park, outside Monument boundary.



East Glade Park Road, 1921/1954 (Structure). A two-lane, asphalt paved road that intersects Rim Rock Drive between MMs 18 and 19 and leads south toward Glade Park, outside Monument boundary.



East Entrance Station, 1960 (Non-contributing Building).* A small, gable-roof, wood-frame structure with a low-pitched, corrugated-metal roof, 600 ft south of entrance sign in center of roadway. Walls are clad in wide clapboard; a sandstone block half-wall rises above concrete foundation. Fenestration consists of glazed aluminum doors, fixed windows, and two-part sliding windows.



Entrance Sign and Arrowhead (Structures). Paired structures at east and west entrances that consist of wood panels mounted on red sandstone coursed ashlar walls with battered sides. East Entrance Sign and Arrowhead pictured.



East Entrance Utility Building, 1960 (Building). A one-story, wood-frame, rectangular building east of East Entrance Station and accessed by short gravel drive. It has a corrugated-metal, side-gable roof; weatherboard-clad walls; a concrete foundation; and square, one-over-one vinyl windows in thin wood frames. Swamp cooler surrounded by a masonry half-wall is to the west.



Rim Rock Drive Overlooks/Trailheads, 1935–1945. 22 maintained overlooks and trailheads with parking areas along Rim Rock Drive, excluding those associated with the Visitor Center and Saddlehorn areas. Overlooks are on cliff side of roadway and oriented toward vistas and views into the canyons. Parking areas are paved with asphalt, unless otherwise noted, and generally take one of two forms: (1) pull-off type: parallel or diagonal parking within a widened shoulder, or (2) divided type: diagonal, perpendicular, or parallel parking in a lot separated from roadway and accessed by two entrances. Other forms are found at some locations, such as Balanced Rock, Serpents Trailhead, and Upper Liberty Cap/East Black Ridge Trailhead. Overlooks vary in size and arrangement and consist of either a space along the parking area for viewing or a separate overlook accessed by a trail or sidewalk. Viewing platforms and overlooks often have a partial fence enclosure, typically composed of metal pipes anchored to rock surface, for visitor safety. Maintained paths of tinted concrete, packed dirt, or bedrock with guide stones lead from parking areas to overlooks and vistas. Overlooks and trailheads have identifying signs and at least one wayside; some have constructed stairs and drainage features. Overlooks and trailheads along Rim Rock Drive are described below from west to east.

1-Redlands View/Overlook (1942). Shoulder pull-off type overlook near MM 1 with concrete sidewalk and fence along parking area and improved trails to a wayside and vista of Fruita. Includes Redlands View Maintained Landscape.



2-Balanced Rock View (1942). Small, dirt, shoulder pull-off in valley area between MM 1 and MM 2 with views northeast to Balanced Rock. Short, maintained dirt trail to wayside surrounded by red sandstone seat wall. Includes Balanced Rock Maintained Landscape.



3-Historic Trails View/Overlook (1936). Small, shoulder pull-off type overlook between MM 2 and MM 3. Concrete sidewalk lined with low sandstone curb overlooks Fruita and Fruita Dugway. Wayside mounted on coursed red sandstone base. Includes *Historic Trail Maintained Landscape*.



4-Distant View (1942). Diagonal, shoulder pull-off type overlook between MM 3 and MM 4. No sidewalk or trail. Wayside mounted on coursed red sandstone base directing views toward Fruita. Includes *Distant View Maintained Landscape*.



5-Fruita Canyon Overlook (1937). Shoulder pull-off type overlook near MM 4 with concrete sidewalk along parking area and leading to fenced overlook surrounded by a designed landscape. Includes *Fruita Canyon Overlook Maintained Landscape*.



6-Otto's Trail/Trailhead (1935). Shoulder pull-off type trailhead just after MM 5 with tinted concrete sidewalk along parking area and leading to trailhead for Otto's Trail. Includes *Otto's Trail Maintained Area*.



7-Independence Monument View (1935). Large, divided type parking area between MM 5 and MM 6 with large overlook and designed landscape that provides expansive views into Monument Canyon. Overlook has tinted concrete walks and metal fences. Includes *Independence Monument View Maintained Landscape*.



8-Grand View/Overlook (1935). Wide, shoulder pull-off type overlook near MM 6 with improved dirt trails to fenced overlook with 180-degree views of Monument Canyon. Includes *Grand View Maintained Area*.



9-Monument Canyon View/Overlook (1935). Gravel shoulder, pull-off type overlook between MM 7 and MM 8. Large stones form edge of parking area; no formal overlook or maintained trails, but social trails extend from pull-off. Includes *Monument Canyon View Maintained Area*.



10-Coke Ovens Overlook (1935). Diagonal, shoulder pull-off type overlook near MM 8. Improved dirt trail and stone stairs lead to linear, fenced overlook with views of Coke Ovens. Includes *Coke Ovens Overlook Maintained Landscape*.



11-Monument Canyon Overlook/Upper Monument Canyon Trailhead (1935). Shoulder pull-off type overlook and trailhead shortly past MM 8 and nearby Coke Ovens Overlook. Concrete sidewalk and fence along parking area leading to trailhead for Monument Canyon Trail and Coke Ovens Trail. Includes *Monument Canyon Trailhead Maintained Landscape*.



12-Artists Point/Overlook (1935). Wide, shoulder pull-off type overlook between MM 8 and MM 9 with improved dirt trail that leads to large, fenced overlook. Includes *Artists Point Maintained Landscape*.



13-Highland View/Overlook (1935). Divided type parking area and overlook near MM 10 with concrete sidewalk and fence along parking area. Stone tree wells partially encircle trees on surrounding slopes. Includes *Highland View Maintained Landscape*.



14-Upper Liberty Cap/East Black Ridge Trailhead (1945). Small, asphalt-paved parking lot near MM 11 that provides access to Upper Liberty Cap Trail and Black Ridge Trail. Short asphalt-paved drive leads to parking area with two-room vault toilet and bear-proof trash cans (added early twenty-first century). Trailhead is south of parking area.



15-Upper Ute Canyon View/Overlook (1937). Shoulder pull-off type overlook next to MM 13 with concrete sidewalk along parking area and long, improved dirt trail that leads to fenced overlook with expansive views of Ute Canyon. Includes *Upper Ute Canyon Overlook Maintained Landscape*.



16-Fallen Rock Overlook (1937). Long, shoulder pull-off type overlook between MM 13 and MM 14 with improved dirt trail to overlook with octagonal fenced platform. Includes *Fallen Rock Overlook Maintained Landscape*.



17-Ute Canyon Trailhead (1945). Wide, shoulder pull-off type trailhead between MM 13 and MM 14. Parking area is lined with large stones. A path leads directly to trailhead.



18-Ute Canyon View/Overlook (1936). Shoulder pull-off type overlook between MM 15 and MM 16 with improved dirt path to fenced overlook. Narrow path with small wayside exhibits loops through natural landscape. Includes *Ute Canyon View Maintained Landscape*.



19-Red Canyon Overlook (1936). Divided type parking area and overlook near MM 16. Fenced overlook is next to parking area. Includes *Red Canyon Overlook Maintained Area*.



20-Cold Shivers Point/Overlook (1941). Divided type parking area and overlook near MM 19. Tinted concrete path leads to fenced overlook with views into Columbus Canyon. Includes *Cold Shivers Point Maintained Landscape*.



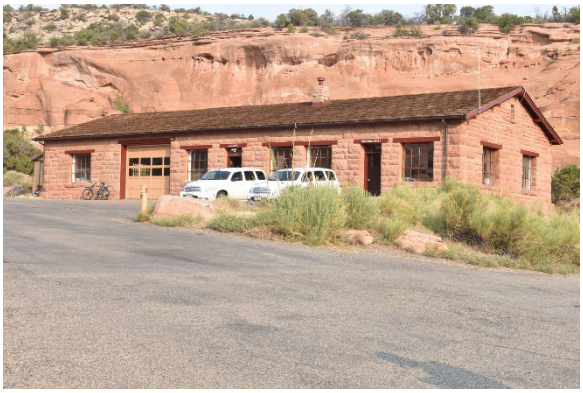
21-Upper Serpents Trailhead (1935). Perpendicular pull-off type trailhead near MM 20 separated from parking area by large rocks.



22-Lower Serpents/Devils Kitchen/Echo Canyon/No Thoroughfare/Old Gordon Trailhead (1941). Long, diagonal, divided type parking area and trailhead between MM 22 and East Entrance. Trailhead for Serpents Trail is across Rim Rock Drive; trailhead for other trails is at south end of parking area.



SADDLEHORN HEADQUARTERS: SADDLEHORN UTILITY AREA HISTORIC DISTRICT*



Buildings and Utilities Shop, 1939–1941 (Building, CRIS ID 006519).* Southeast-facing, rectangular, one-story building on north side of landscape designed by NPS architect Ken M. Saunders and constructed by CCC and PWA enrollees. Building has side-gable, cedar-shingled roof with off-center sandstone chimney; sandstone block walls set in coursed ashlar pattern with outward-stepped lower courses; and concrete foundation. Gable ends have exposed ridge beams and purlins and central louvered vents. Eight-light overhead garage door in southeast elevation. 15- and 12-light steel sash windows have concrete lintels with wood veneer and sandstone sills. Rehabilitated in 1952–1976 and 1993; interior partitioned into four spaces for administrative offices and storage.

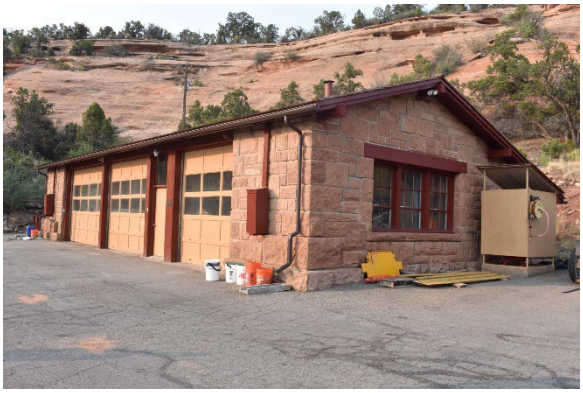


Oil House, 1938 (Building, CRIS ID 051529).* Rectangular, one-story building for storage of flammable materials in center of Saddlehorn Utility Area yard. Front-gable roof has exposed purlins, ridge beams, and rafter ends; corrugated-metal sheets replaced original cedar shakes in early twenty-first century. Walls are red sandstone blocks set in coursed ashlar pattern and stepped at corners. Foundation is concrete. Vertical wood plank doors in northwest and southeast elevations. Six-light steel sash window in southeast elevation with wire mesh-reinforced glass, wood lintel, and sandstone sill. Side elevations have 6-in-square ventilation openings. **Oil House Island and Curbing, 1938 (Feature, CRIS ID 317659)** is a stone platform with rounded corners and a path and two steps to southeast entrance. One of three original fuel pumps remains on small stone pedestal near south corner of island. Concrete and stone loading dock on northwest side.

Open Storage Building, 1941 (Building, CRIS ID 006522).* Southwest-facing, rectangular, one-story building on northeast edge of Utility Area yard designed by NPS architect Robert W. Albers. Asymmetric side-gable roof extends outward at rear and is covered in cedar shingles. Walls are constructed of red sandstone set in coursed ashlar pattern with outward-stepped lower courses on concrete foundation. Southwest elevation has five open bays divided by posts faced in wood boards and two closed bays at north end. Wood overhead garage door with eight-light window in one closed bay, pedestrian entrance in the other. Triple six-over-three steel sash windows in side elevations; seven four-light steel awning windows with two-light sidelights in rear elevation. All window openings have wood beam lintels and sandstone sills. Poured concrete floor replaced original dirt floor in 1952, and interior brick partition wall added between two bays. Two north bays enclosed in 1985 to create four rooms: water chlorinator room, maintenance warehouse, museum storage, and interpreters' work area. Open bays used for vehicle parking, tool storage, and material storage.



Road and Trails Shop, 1937 (Building, CRIS ID 052755).* Northeast-facing, rectangular, one-story, three-bay storage building designed by NPS architect H. A. Kreinkamp. Asymmetric side-gable roof has exposed ridge beams and purlins and is covered with composite shingles. Walls are red sandstone set in coursed ashlar pattern with outward-stepped corners on concrete foundation. Entrance with single-light transom and three garage bays in northeast elevation. Modern, wood-paneled, vertical-lift garage doors replaced original hinged wood garage doors in 1962. Three triple, six-over-three steel sash windows with wood lintels and sandstone sills in rear elevation.



Maintenance Area Maintained Landscape, 1930 (Site). Flat, paved area terraced and surrounded to west and south by walls of box canyon. Vegetation is natural, and paths are asphalt or worn earth. Also includes *Saddlehorn Maintenance Area Parking*.



Utility Area Road, 1937–1964 (Structure). Asphalt-paved road follows curving northeast alignment from Saddlehorn Utility Area to dead end west of Rim Rock Drive and branches off to paved utility area yard. Provides access to three residential buildings and two administrative buildings.



Fuel Island, 1980 (Non-contributing Structure, CRIS ID 101770).* Narrow gable canopy supported by two sandstone columns on concrete platform at center of Saddlehorn Utility Area, northwest of Oil House and southeast of Building and Utilities Shop. Roof is covered in cedar shingles. Two fuel pumps and one operating/cleaning station are mounted on platform. One of two original above-ground fuel storage tanks remains south of structure; the other was removed in 2009.



Powder House, 1956 (Structure, CRIS ID 335703). Wood structure set into cut in Entrada sandstone cliffs southeast of Utility Area.

No photo available.

Sewer Lagoons, 1970s (Structure). Two tarp-lined ponds with earthen berms arranged southwest-northeast west of Rim Rock Drive opposite the Fruita Canyon View Overlook. Grey water from NPS buildings is conveyed to the lagoons, which are accessed by a gravel road with a gate and an electrical box at Rim Rock Drive. The area is surrounded by a chain-link fence.



Pumphouse at Sewer Lagoons, 1973 (Structure). A small wood-frame structure south of the sewer lagoons. It has a shed roof and horizontal composite siding.

Quarry Site, 1930s–1940s (Site). Shallow sandstone quarry at the end of the gravel road to the Sewer Lagoons. Excavated walls on the north and east sides of the quarry display bore holes.



SADDLEHORN HEADQUARTERS: COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT VISITOR CENTER COMPLEX HISTORIC DISTRICT*

Bookcliff Shelter, 1965 (Structure, CRIS ID 052112).* Fan-shaped, one-story shelter at eastern point of Saddlehorn Campground next to parking area off east side of Saddlehorn Drive. Designed by NPS architects Cecil Doty and Phil Romigh under Mission 66 program and constructed of steel tube columns and glulam wood beams. Low-pitched plane roof is supported by solid wall that bows out to west around viewing area. Roof is covered with built-up tar and gravel and has massive, exposed beams. Walls are wet-laid sandstone set in random ashlar pattern. Stairs on south side of shelter lead to viewing area with metal benches and sandstone seat wall. Surrounded by *Book Cliffs View Maintained Landscape*.



Canyon Rim Trail, *see System of Trails*

Visitor Center, 1963–1965 (Building, CRIS ID 052109).* North-facing, one-story, rectilinear, wood-frame Modern building (also called Saddlehorn Visitor Center) on south side of Rim Rock Drive. Excellent example of NPS Mission 66 architecture designed by NPS WODC architect Cecil Doty. Building consists of two wings flanking entrance lobby; north wing has administrative space, and south wing has exhibition space. Low-pitched, offset gable roofs surfaced in Hypalon, a synthetic rubber that replaced the original composite material. South wing roof gable surmounts north wing roof and has clerestory windows. North wing roof has sandstone-faced chimney. Walls are faced with sandstone in random ashlar pattern and rest on poured concrete foundation.



Visitor Center Maintained Landscape, 1963–1965 (Site, CRIS ID 890157).* Mission 66 parking lot, sidewalks and paths, established plantings, and curbing and walls designed by NPS landscape architect V. Anderson between 1960–1965 in coordination with Visitor Center.

- Asphalt-paved **Visitor Center Parking Lot (CRIS ID 317883)** is between Visitor Center and Rim Rock Drive and has tinted concrete integral curbing. Tinted concrete sidewalk runs along southeast curb line and connects to main sidewalk leading to building. Wood post fence lines sidewalk.
- Brushed aluminum **Flagpole, 1962–1965 (Object, CRIS ID 317892)** near Visitor Center entrance is mounted on 5-ft-tall, beige-painted steel base and capped by brass-colored sphere.
- Bronze **Mather Plaque (ca. 1987, non-contributing object, CRIS ID 317877)** is mounted on two-tiered wet-laid sandstone plinth in front of Visitor Center and accessed by flagstone path from main sidewalk. Plaque consists of bas-relief bust of Stephen Mather on background of mountains and trees with inscription.
- **Overlook and Walkway, 1963–1965 (Structure, CRIS ID 317905)** at rear of Visitor Center provides views eastward toward Independence Monument. Walkway consists of concrete sidewalk from back porch of Visitor Center and four sets of steps that curve down to overlook. Overlook measures 15 by 20 ft and consists of concrete slab surrounded by open pipe fence with modern wire grid-style fencing added in 2015.
- A metal-roof **Picnic Shelter (2000s)** is south of the Visitor Center.









Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence, 1935–1936 (Building, CRIS ID 006517).* Northwest-facing, rectangular, one-story, masonry house also known as Stone House. Designed by NPS architect W. G. Carney in NPS Rustic style. Side-gable roof covered in wood shakes with off-center chimney. Sandstone walls set in coursed ashlar pattern with three lower courses stepped outward on concrete foundation. Gable ends have weatherboard siding and louvered vents. Narrow, gable-roof projecting bays on both side elevations. Entrance is vertical-board door with six lights under gable roof with large, rustic carved wood brackets and plain bargeboard. Stoop constructed of large stone blocks. Multi-light, wood casement windows in recessed openings with stone sills and lintels. Rehabilitated in 1952–1953, 1958, and 1973–1974.



Saddlehorn Caretaker's Garage, 1939 (Building, CRIS ID 006518).* Northwest-facing, square, one-story, masonry building designed by NPS architect H.S. Kreinkamp. Cedar-shake gable roof with exposed rafter tails and ridge beams. Red sandstone block walls set in coursed ashlar pattern with lower courses stepped outward on concrete foundation. Gables have weatherboard siding and louvered vents. Modern garage door in northwest elevation replaced original wood-paneled, five-light, overhead door in 2008. Small, informal time capsule reportedly placed in north cornerstone. Rehabilitated in 1958 and 1964.



Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence Drive and Curbing, 1935–1936 (Structure, CRIS ID 317638).* Circular drive lined with wet-laid sandstone curbing at junction of Saddlehorn Loop Road and Rim Rock Drive. Provides access to house, garage, and rear parking area.



SADDLEHORN HEADQUARTERS: CAMPGROUND AND PICNIC AREA

Saddlehorn Loop Road, 1937 (Structure). Two-lane, asphalt-paved road leads east from Rim Rock Drive immediately north of Visitor Center Parking Lot entrance. Road has a single one-way, inscribed bypass drive (**Loop C**) and a northern extension of two one-lane loops (**Loop A** and **Loop B**). It encircles the Saddlehorn (geologic formation) in the southwest, the Amphitheater in the northwest, and the Saddlehorn Picnic Area in the east. Road also provides access to picnic area and Book Cliffs Shelter.



A-Loop Comfort Station, 1964 (Building). North-south-oriented, Mission 66-era comfort station in the center of A Loop. Rectangular, wood-frame building has a low-pitched, gravel roof with wide eaves; clapboard-clad walls; a concrete foundation; and clerestory, hopper-type windows. Access to separate men's and women's multi-stall restrooms is in opposite gable ends, and a door to center utility area is centered on the side wall.



B-Loop Comfort Station, 1964 (Building). Southwest-northeast-oriented, Mission 66-era comfort station in the center of B Loop that is identical in plan, design, and material to A-Loop Comfort Station.



Amphitheater, 1963–1964 (Structure). Fan-shaped concrete pad with bench seating facing a concrete stage platform. Deteriorated wood-frame rear-projection building was removed from platform in 2021–2022 and will be replaced.



Picnic Area, ca. 1936–1937 (Site). Gently sloped area with about 36 concrete picnic tables arranged in rows and some metal grills on posts. Tables have polished concrete slab tops and benches supported by reinforced concrete posts with poured concrete footings. Surrounding landscape is unvegetated.



Comfort Station (B21), 1959 (Building). East-facing, side-gable, wood-frame building west of picnic area. Building has a corrugated-metal roof with deep eaves, board-and-batten walls, a concrete foundation, and clerestory windows and extended walls in the gable ends.



Saddlehorn Comfort Station (B3-C), 1936–1938 (Building, CRIS ID 79424).* Northeast-southwest-oriented, rectangular, one-story, NPS Rustic-style building between Saddlehorn Road and C Loop. Gable roof is covered in cedar shakes with exposed ridge beams, purlins, and rafter tails. Walls are native red sandstone with outward-stepped lower courses on a concrete foundation. Gable ends have weatherboard siding and central louvered vents. Long walls have two-light, hopper-type windows. Separate men's and women's restroom entrances in gable ends have vertical wood doors with original wrought iron hardware. Altered in 1960 and 2009–2010.



ADA-Compliant Restroom, 2010 (Building). Small, rectangular, comfort station north of Saddlehorn Comfort Station near C Loop. Designed to resemble Saddlehorn Comfort Station. Front-gable roof is covered in composite shingles, walls are coursed sandstone, and foundation is concrete. Off-center entrance and small windows.



SADDLEHORN HEADQUARTERS: RESIDENTIAL AREA

Building 15/Seasonal Apartments, 1964 (Building). North-facing, rectangular, one-story, wood-frame building has four apartment units with separate exterior entrances. Side-gable roof covered in corrugated-metal sheets with central metal-clad chimney and four air conditioning units. Walls covered in textured horizontal composite siding; concrete foundation. Laundry room and boiler room at center flanked by two apartments on each side. Glazed modern doors in north elevation, hollow wood doors in south elevation. Large, fixed windows above two-part sliding windows in north elevation. All vinyl replacement windows in wood surrounds; single, one-over-one wood window in south elevation of laundry room. Exterior cladding materials not original.



Building 14/Seasonal Duplex, 1964 (Building). North-facing, rectangular, one-story, four-bay-by-two-bay, wood-frame building has two residential units. Side-gable roof covered in corrugated metal sheets with two chimneys. Walls clad in textured horizontal composite siding over wide horizontal weatherboard; concrete foundation. Two single-bay, modern garage doors in center of north elevation flanked by recessed entries for each unit. Rear entrances lead to shared parking court. One-over-one and single fixed vinyl replacement windows in wood surrounds. Exterior cladding materials not original.



Building 13/Resource Management Building, 1964 (Building). Southwest-facing, rectangular, one-story, wood-frame building constructed as residence and now used as administrative offices. Side-gable, corrugated-metal roof with non-functioning, hot-water solar panels on south slope. Walls clad in textured horizontal composite siding; concrete foundation. Single attached garage on southeast side. Integral porch with square posts at east end of northeast elevation. Hollow glazed doors. Vinyl one-over-one, casement, and sliding replacement windows in wood surrounds. Large window with fixed and awning-type panes in northeast elevation. Metal-frame shade structure southeast of building used as plant nursery. Exterior cladding materials not original; minimal interior alterations.



Building 12/Law Enforcement Building, 1964 (Building). Southwest-facing, rectangular, one-story, wood-frame building constructed as residence and used as administrative offices. Side-gable, corrugated-metal roof; walls clad in textured horizontal composite siding; concrete foundation. Single attached garage at west end. Integral porch with square posts at north end of northeast elevation. Hollow glazed and glazed wood-panel doors. Vinyl one-over-one, casement, and sliding replacement windows in wood surrounds. Large window with fixed and awning-type panes in northeast elevation. Exterior cladding materials not original; moderate interior alterations.



Building 11/Former Superintendent's Residence, 1964 (Building). Southwest-facing, rectangular, one-story, wood-frame building used as permanent residence for NPS staff. Side-gable, corrugated-metal roof; textured horizontal composite siding walls; concrete foundation. Bulkhead on northwest elevation to partial crawlspace. Single attached garage on southwest side. Integral porch with square posts and screen panels at east end of northeast elevation. Hollow glazed doors. Vinyl one-over-one, casement, and sliding replacement windows in wood surrounds. Large window with fixed and awning-type panes in northeast elevation. Terraced garden beds to northeast.



DEVILS KITCHEN PICNIC AREA

Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter, 1940–1941 (Building, CRIS ID 022605).* Partially enclosed sandstone shelter with visitor restrooms designed by NPS architects Kenneth M. Saunders and Jerome C. Miller and NPS landscape architect Harvey H. Cornell and built by PWA and CCC enrollees. Consists of one-story, enclosed comfort station with two projecting wings that form an irregular L-shaped footprint. Hip roof of center section is elevated above gable roofs of flanking wings. Roofs are covered in composite shingles designed to imitate cedar shakes and have three chimneys. Walls and chimneys are constructed of red sandstone set in random ashlar pattern on concrete foundation. North wing has four open bays, and south has two; paired 6"x8" wood posts divide each bay. Both wings have sandstone fireplace on enclosed rear (west) wall. Comfort station has separate men's and women's restrooms accessible from west elevation and double four-light metal casement windows with opaque wire-reinforced glass. Extensive rehabilitation in 1960–1961 included parging and stuccoing lower half of rear elevation to prevent moisture penetration and replacing original flagstone floor of picnic area with colored concrete slab. Rehabilitated again in 1991–1992, 2005–2007, and 2012.





Devils Kitchen Picnic Area Landscape, 1940–1941 (Site, CRIS ID 317928). NPS Rustic style landscape surrounding Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter designed by NPS architects Charles A. Richey and Jerome C. Miller and constructed by CCC. The **Parking Lot and Sandstone Curbing** (feature, late 20th c.) consist of a divided, one-sided, diagonal parking area on east side of Rim Rock Drive as it travels north to East Entrance lined with sandstone curbing and delineated with perpendicular parking spaces. Rock-lined footpaths lead west from parking lot to picnic shelter. Landscape surrounding parking area is maintained in natural state. Includes *Lower Serpents Trail Parking Area Maintained Landscape*.



SYSTEM OF TRAILS

Constructed trail elements are used to reinforce grade changes, provide stability to a trail, provide adequate drainage, and mark a trail's alignment. Steps are found along trails where steep grades make ascending or descending difficult. **Stone steps** are found on many Monument trails and are typically constructed of sandstone blocks with or without stone edge walls. **Log steps** are typically found singly and are anchored to a slope by rebar stakes or by abutting stones. Earth is used as fill to create a natural terraced tread.



Informational and wayfinding features include maps, trail signage, and waysides. Trailheads typically have vertical-mounted **trail maps** on square metal pipe structures or wood frames. Sign-in boxes and pass-through electronic counters may be near the maps. **Trail signage** includes navigation signs (discrete short, metal posts at trail intersections that identify trail lengths and directions) and identification signs (square cedar posts engraved vertically with a trail's name). **Waysides** are found at trailheads, vistas, and overlooks and typically consist of tilted, acrylic informational panels mounted on metal frames.



Small-scale drainage features are used to prevent erosion during weather events. **Check dams**, constructed of stones or logs placed diagonally across a trail surface, capture surface runoff and divert it off the trail. On flat terrain where a trail is at a low point, a **ditch** or **swale** is constructed along one side of the trail. Infrequently, **culverts** and **pipes** are found along trails. These include corrugated plastic pipes with dry-laid stone headwalls.



Alcove Nature Trail, 1989/21st c. (Structure). A 0.46-mile, dead-end, improved trail on the west side of Rim Rock Drive opposite the Visitor Center. Leading generally southwest, the first segment of the trail was built to accessibility standards. The trail has 31 metal markers along it that correspond to a trail guide.



Black Ridge Trail, 1907/1930s (Structure, CRIS ID 317981). An unpaved dirt trail lined in places by dry-laid stone walls with rubble fill. It follows portions of historic paths closely related to the development and maintenance of the Fruita Pipeline and ranching activities in the Grand Valley. The trail is approximately 5 miles in length (including 2 miles across BLM land) and follows the natural topography and narrows along canyon escarpments. The NPS improved the route as a trail in 1911, and the Town of Fruita reconstructed it in 1930. The trail connects to the *Fruita Dugway*.



Canyon Rim Trail, 1961–1964 (Structure, CRIS ID 317969). A 4-ft-wide trail along the canyon edge between the Visitor Center and Book Cliffs Shelter. NPS landscape architect Babbitt Hughes designed the trail in coordination with NPS architects Cecil Doty and Phil Romigh. Minimal interventions were made to the landscape, except the construction of two small overlooks. The trail is marked by stone cairns, sandstone retaining walls, and a chinle stone base where it is not underlaid by rock. Fencing consists of original straight metal post fencing and ca. 2015 square steel tubing with wire grid-style fencing.



CCC Trail, ca. 1978–1991 (Structure). A narrow, 0.76-mile, maintained trail that begins on the west side of Rim Rock Drive opposite the Upper Monument Canyon Trailhead and leads generally north. It serves as a connector between the Coke Ovens and Black Ridge trails.



Coke Ovens Trail, 1934/1950s (Structure). A 0.34-mile, maintained, out-and-back trail that begins at the upper end of Monument Canyon Trail and follows a Kayenta ledge to the Coke Ovens viewpoint. It has sandstone steps and switchbacks reinforced with dry-laid retaining walls. The trail ends at an overlook partially surrounded by a metal handrail.



Corkscrew Trail, 1909–1911 (Structure). A 1.42-mile trail that descends steeply from the Liberty Cap Trail to the Ute Canyon Trail. It has tight switchbacks constructed of dry-laid stones and timbers. Portions of the extant trail were designed and built by John Otto.



Devils Kitchen Trail, 1942–1953 (Structure). A 1.1-mile trail that begins at the Devils Kitchen Trailhead and leads south concurrent with the No Thoroughfare Canyon, Old Gordon, and Echo Canyon trails before splitting westward and ascending to the natural sandstone formation known as Devils Kitchen. The final segment ascends two large staircases carved into slickrock and is marked by stone cairns. Originally an automobile road, it was converted into a hiking trail between 1942 and 1953.



Echo Canyon Trail, by 1964 (Structure). A 0.79-mile earth trail that follows Echo Canyon southeastward. The dead-end trail is accessed from the Old Gordon Trail. In 2011, it was partially rerouted and had stairs added.



Fruita Dugway, 1905/1930s (Structure). A 2.37-mile unimproved trail that follows a historic, late nineteenth-century stock road trace marked by contemporary rock cairns. The trail leads north from the Black Ridge Trail along the canyon rim and descends to the Monument boundary near Fruita.



Liberty Cap Trail, 1909–1978 (Structure). A 6.79-mile trail with an upper and a lower section. The upper section leads from Rim Rock Drive to the lower trailhead off Wildwood Drive in Grand Junction. The upper trailhead is south of Rim Rock Drive approximately ¼-mile east of N 16 ½ Road. The Upper Liberty Cap Trail leads generally eastward approximately 5 miles along the mesa bordered by Ute Canyon to the south and Monument Canyon to the north. The last ¾-mile descends to Liberty Cap, a monolithic monument on the bald isthmus at the eastern end of Ute Canyon. The trail then descends steeply along the northeastern face of the cliffs through a series of hairpin switchbacks formed by dry-laid retaining walls on the outward edge where rock prevents cuts into the slope. The Lower Liberty Cap Trail ends at a gravel parking lot accessible off Wildwood Drive in Grand Junction. The parking lot is surrounded by a wood post-and-wire fence.





Monument Canyon Trail, 1909–1927/1934–1950s (Structure). A 5.99-mile trail that begins at a trailhead on Wildwood Drive and travels southwestward through Monument Canyon. It passes by the base of Independence Monument and ascends to a trailhead on Rim Rock Drive. The trail has crude sandstone steps, dry-laid retaining walls, and switchbacks. The **Lower Monument Canyon Trailhead** is at the northern Monument boundary along Colorado Highway 340. It has a portable restroom, trash/recycling receptacles, and signage.



No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail, 1978 (Structure). An undeveloped, 8.5-mile (1.66-mile maintained) trail that follows drainageways and waterfalls in No Thoroughfare Canyon from the Devils Kitchen Trailhead to a trailhead on Little Park Road at the Monument's southern boundary. The unmaintained trail is virtually indistinguishable from the surrounding environment. A 0.4-mile maintained segment descends from the road to the canyon floor. The **Upper No Thoroughfare Canyon Trailhead** is an unimproved pull-off with a wayside.



Old Gordon Trail, 1880s/ca. 1976 (Structure, CRIS ID 890159). Originally a toll road and stock driveway, this trail leads 3.7 miles southeast from the Devils Kitchen Trailhead. It ascends the mesa west of Echo Canyon to the boundary fence, where it connects to a BLM social trail. There are no built features except wayfinding and trail outlines.



Otto's Trail, 1961–1975 (Structure). A 1/3-mile, northeast-running, out-and-back trail between a parking area on Rim Rock Drive and an overlook that provides views of Independence Monument, Praying Hands, Pipe Organ, and Sentinel Spire in Wedding Canyon and Kissing Couple in Monument Canyon. The trail is packed sand and crushed stone, outlined in places by flush lines of stones. Near the northeast end, it descends several series of sandstone steps to the rock mesa. The trail ends at a circular overlook outlined by a metal fence. The fence is tilted inward and is constructed of cast metal posts bolted into the rock, metal pipe rails, and chain-link infill.





Serpents Trail, 1912–1921/1925 (Structure, CRIS ID 006524/890154). Initially built as a horseback trail by John Otto in 1912, the trail was rebuilt in 1921 as an automobile road between Grand Junction and the Monument's mesa top. The historic roadway consists of consecutive switchbacks that ascend 850 ft in elevation over 1.6 miles. Blasted and chiseled cuts and dry-laid, stacked-stone retaining walls form the structure of the road. The roadway is narrow (approximately 11 ft), is surfaced with crushed gravel, and has a slope between 12 and 17%. Simple wood-lined culverts provide drainage. The trail has 21 dry-laid, sandstone rubble retaining walls and one mortared wall. The road was originally 2.5 miles, but the construction of Rim Rock Drive in the late 1930s overlaid the upper 0.9 miles to Cold Shivers Point. Vehicle use on the rest of the road was discontinued in 1950, and the Mesa County Commissioners relinquished the road to the NPS by 1959. In 1998–2002, the NPS stabilized and rehabilitated the roadway and converted it into a pedestrian trail that was again rehabilitated in 2009–2010.





Ute Canyon Trail, 1942–1947/ca. 1949 (Structure). A 7-mile unmaintained trail that begins at the Wildwood Trailhead and runs southwestward concurrent with the Lower Liberty Cap Trail before splitting and continuing around the east side of Liberty Cap into Ute Canyon. In Ute Canyon, the trail continues 4.22 miles along the valley floor until ascending steeply to Rim Rock Drive near the Fallen Rock Overlook.



Wedding Canyon Trail, 1911/Late 20th–Early 21st c. (Structure). A 2.24-mile, unimproved trail that splits from the Lower Monument Canyon Trail and travels south around The Island to Wedding Canyon. Its southernmost segment ascends steeply to rejoin the Monument Canyon Trail at the base of Independence Monument.



Window Rock Trail, 1939/1955–1956/1958 (Structure). A short, 0.31-mile, gravel loop trail that leads to Window Rock View Point. It has a single set of stone steps. The Window Rock View Point has metal fencing and expansive views from Window Rock.



OTHER RESOURCES

Bison Fence, 1934 (Structure, CRIS ID 052744). A 7-ft-high woven wire fence that extends 7.3 miles along the northeast boundary of the Monument. It is supported by steel posts set in concrete footings and has barbed wire at the top. Fence has one vehicle gate and one pedestrian gate at the Monument Canyon Trailhead.



Vault Toilet, early 21st c. (Building). A small, front-gable, pre-formed concrete building with two restrooms and a utility space at the Liberty Cap-Black Ridge Trail. The roof, walls, and foundation are concrete. Ventilation pipes rise from the roof at the rear wall, which has a door to the utility room. Doors to the individual restrooms are in the slightly recessed front elevation. Small clerestory windows are in the side elevations.



Historic small-scale features throughout the Monument are associated with the area's use as rangeland, development for recreation, and establishment as a national monument. Remnants of **Post and Barbed Wire Fences (Structures)** run along historic boundaries and typically consist of lines of deteriorated cedar posts, approximately 4–5 ft in height, occasionally wrapped in thick barbed wire.



RESOURCE TABLE

NR Status Key
NR: Individually listed in National Register
NRHD: District listed in National Register
NRHD-C: Contributing resource in listed district
NRHD-NC: Non-contributing resource in listed district
NRHD-feature: Identified as feature in listed district but not counted as resource
DOE-E: Determined eligible for listing through NPS and SHPO consultation
DOE-NE: Determined ineligible for listing through NPS and SHPO consultation
RNR-C: Recommended as contributing resource associated with listed or eligible property
RNR-feature: Recommended as historic associated feature of listed or eligible property
RNR-HD: Recommended National Register Historic District
RNR-HD-C: Recommended as contributing resource in listed or eligible district
RNR-HD-feature: Recommended as historic associated feature in listed or eligible district
RNR-HD-NC: Recommended as non-contributing resource in listed or eligible district

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Rim Rock Drive Historic District	N/A	N/A	1931–1950	NRHD	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive	80034	052103 (890153)	1931–1950	NRHD-C	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Tunnel #1	80114	051534	1936–1938	NRHD-C	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Tunnel #2	90624	051536	1936–1938 (1968)	NRHD-C	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Tunnel #3	90938	051537	1940–1941	NRHD-C	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Masonry Box Culvert	None	102421	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Sandstone Curbing	None	102342, 102377	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Stone Box Culvert	None	102413	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Stone Drop Inlet	None	102414	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Rim Rock Drive Tree Wells	None	102420	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
System of Rim Rock Drive CMP	Various	Various	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
System of Rim Rock Drive Concrete Drop Inlets	None	052746, 102319	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
System of Rim Rock Drive Diversion Ditches	Various	Various	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
System of Rim Rock Drive Drainage Tunnels	Various	Various	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
System of Rim Rock Drive Retaining/Guard Walls (w/ and w/o guardrails/curbing)	Various	Various	1931–1950	NRHD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
West Entrance Station (B46)	79500	None	1960	DOE-NE; NRHD-NC	Rim Rock Drive
East Entrance Station (B47)	79501	None	1960	DOE-NE; NRHD-NC	Rim Rock Drive
Artist's Point Parking/Maintained Landscape	91010/233721	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Balanced Rock Parking/Maintained Landscape	91014/233337	None	1942	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Coke Ovens Overlook Parking/ Maintained Landscape/Upper Monument Canyon Trail Parking	91000/233719/91016	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Cold Shivers Overlook Parking/Cold Shivers Point Maintained Landscape	91006/233458	None	1941	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Distant View Parking/Maintained Landscape	91012/233336	None	1942	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
East Entrance Parking/Sign Parking	91017/103313	None	1993	RNR-HD-NC	Rim Rock Drive
East Glade Park Road (Glade Park Access Road)	90622	None	1921, 1954	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
East Shop (B24)	79499	None	1964	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
East Shop Road	90763	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Fallen Rock Overlook Parking/ Maintained Landscape	91003/233901	None	1937	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Fruita Reservoir Diversion Ditch Dual Culverts	None	102320	Ca. 1980	RNR-HD-NC	Rim Rock Drive
Fruita View Parking/Fruita Canyon Overlook	91011/241104	None	1937	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Grand View Parking/Maintained Area	90999/233657	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Highland View Parking/Maintained Landscape	91001/233722	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Historic Trails View Parking/Maintained Landscape	91013/233457	None	1936	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Independence Monument View Parking/Maintained Landscape	90998/233659	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Lower Serpents Trail Parking/Parking Area Maintained Landscape	91008/233459	None	1941	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Monument Canyon Trailhead Maintained Landscape	233720	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Monument Canyon View Parking/Maintained Area	91019/233658	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Otto's Trail Parking/Maintained Area	90993/233660	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Red Canyon Overlook Parking/ Maintained Area	91005/233656	None	1936	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Redlands View Parking/Maintained Landscape	91015/233332	None	1942	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Rim Rock Drive Arched Stone Bridge	None	052748	1933–1938	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Upper Liberty Cap Trail Parking Area/Liberty Cap Trailhead	91021/241102	None	1945	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Upper Serpents Trailhead/Trail Parking	241098/91007	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Upper Ute Canyon Parking/Maintained Landscape	91002/233902	None	1937	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Ute Canyon Overlook Parking/Ute Canyon View Maintained Landscape	91004/233517	None	1936	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Ute Canyon Trailhead/Trail Parking	241097/91020	None	1945	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
West Entrance Parking/Maintained Landscape	91018/241101	None	1994	RNR-HD-NC	Rim Rock Drive
West Entrance Pump House (B53)	79521	None	1980	RNR-HD-NC	Rim Rock Drive
West Glade Park Road	90754	None	1935	RNR-HD-feature	Rim Rock Drive
Saddlehorn Headquarters: Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District	N/A	N/A	1937–1944	NRHD	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Utility Area Buildings & Utilities Shop (B7-B&U Shop)	79461	006519	1940 or 1941	NRHD-C	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Utility Area Oil House (B5-Oil House)	79426	051529	1939	NRHD-C	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Utility Area Oil House Island & Curbing (B5A)	None	317659	1939	NRHD-feature	Saddlehorn Utility Area

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Saddlehorn Utility Area Open Storage Building (B6-Cold Storage Building)	79428	006522	1937 or 1941	NRHD-C	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Utility Area Road & Trails Shop (B4-R&T Shop)	79425	052755	1937	NRHD-C	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Historic District Landscape/Maintenance Area Maintained Landscape	241110	890155	1937–1980	NRHD-feature	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Maintenance Area Parking	90996	None	1937	NRHD-feature	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Maintenance/Residence Road	90756	None	1935	NRHD-feature	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Utility Area Fuel Island (B8)	None	101770	1980	NRHD-NC	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Powder House (B49)	None	335703	1956	NRHD-NC; RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Water Tank Road	90758	None	1935	RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Pumphouses at Sewer Lagoons (B44)	241117/241118	None	1973	RNR-HD-NC	Saddlehorn Utility Area
Saddlehorn Headquarters: Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex Historic District	N/A	N/A	1963–1965	NRHD	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Bookcliff Shelter (B51-Bookcliff Overlook Shelter, Book Cliffs Overlook)	79519	052112	1964–1965	NRHD-C	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Bookcliff Overlook Parking/Book Cliffs View Maintained Landscape	90997/236753	None	1942	RNR-HD-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Canyon Rim Trail (T14)	91986	317969	1964	NRHD-C	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Visitor Center (B41)	79494	052109	1963	NRHD-C	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Visitor Center Flagpole (B41C)	None	317892	1963	NRHD-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Visitor Center Maintained Landscape	235405	890157	1963	NRHD-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Visitor Center Mather Plaque (B41A)	None	317877	1963	NRHD-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Visitor Center Overlook and Walkway (B41D)	None	317905	1963	NRHD-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Visitor Center Parking Lot, Curbs, and Sidewalks (B41B)	90985	317883	1963	NRHD-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Visitor Center Service Road	91032	None	1960s	RNR-HD-C	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Sewage Lift Station	None	None	1970s	NRHD-NC	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Caretaker's Garage (B2-Stone House Garage)	79359	006518	1936	NR; NRHD-C	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence (B1-Stone House)	79358	006517	1935	NR; NRHD-C	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Stone House Service Road/Parking	113198/90990	None	1935–1936	NR-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Caretaker's Residence Drive & Curbing (B1A)	None	317638	1935–1936	NR-feature	Visitor Center Complex (existing); Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Headquarters: Campground and Picnic Area	N/A	N/A	1937–2010	RNR-HD	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Loop Road	91031	None	1937	DOE-E; RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Campground Loop A	90786	None	1964	DOE-E; RNR-HD-feature	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Campground Loop B	103234	None	1964	RNR-HD-feature	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Campground Loop C	103236	None	1937	RNR-HD-feature	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Saddlehorn Campground (C1)	80056	None	1936	RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
A Loop Comfort Station (B22)	79495	None	1964	DOE-E; RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
B Loop Comfort Station (B23)	79497	None	1964	RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Amphitheater (B50)	79504	None	1963–1964	DOE-E; RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Picnic Area (P1)	80062	None	1959	RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Comfort Station (B21-Saddlehorn Picnic Area Comfort Station)	105548	None	1959	DOE-E; RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Comfort Station (B3-C Comfort Station)	79424	100038	1938	NR; RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
ADA Compliant Restroom at C-Loop Campground	233289	None	2010	RNR-HD-NC	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Comfort Station (B3-C Loop Comfort Station)	79424	100038	1938	RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Picnic Area Parking	90995	None	1959	RNR-HD-feature	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Window Rock Nature Trail Parking	90994	None	1939/1955–1956/1958	RNR-HD-feature	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Window Rock Trail (T4)	79850	None	1939, 1955–1958	DOE-NE; RNR-HD-C	Saddlehorn Recreation and Headquarters (proposed)
Saddlehorn Headquarters: Residential Area	N/A	N/A	1964	N/A	N/A
Permanent Residence #11 (B11)	79468	None	1964	DOE-NE	N/A
LE Building (B12)	79472	None	1964	DOE-NE	N/A

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
RM Building (B13)	79474	None	1964	DOE-NE	N/A
Seasonal Duplex (B14)	79485	None	1964	DOE-NE	N/A
Seasonal Apartments (B15)	79493	None	1964	DOE-NE	N/A
Residence 11 Maintained Landscape	241105	None	1964	Not evaluated	N/A
Law Enforcement Building Maintained Landscape	241113	None	1960s	Not evaluated	N/A
Resource Management Building Maintained Landscape	241112	None	1960s	Not evaluated	N/A
Residence 14 Maintained Landscape	241106	None	1964	Not evaluated	N/A
Residence 15 Maintained Landscape	241107	None	1964	Not evaluated	N/A
Residence Parking Area	103310	None	1960s	Not evaluated	N/A
Devils Kitchen Picnic Area	N/A	N/A	1938–1941	N/A	N/A
Devils Kitchen Picnic Shelter (B48)	79503	022605	1938, 1940–1941	NR	N/A
Devils Kitchen Landscape	None	890156	1940–1941	RNR-C	N/A
Devils Kitchen Parking Lot and Sandstone Curbing (B48A)	317928	None	1940–1941	RNR-feature	N/A
Devils Kitchen Picnic Area Road	90755	None	1938	RNR-feature	N/A
Devils Kitchen Picnic Area (P2)/ Parking	80070/91009	None	1938	RNR-feature	N/A
System of Trails	N/A	N/A	1880s – Early 21st c.	N/A	N/A
Alcove Nature Trail (T10)	91406	None	1989	Not evaluated	N/A
Black Ridge Trail (T6/T13)/ Fruita Dugway	91410	317981/890158	1907, ca. 1980	DOE-E	N/A
CCC Trail (T11)	91407	None	1978–1991	DOE-NE	N/A

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Coke Ovens Trail (T8)	91404	None	1934/1950s	DOE-NE	N/A
Corkscrew Trail	241203	None	1909–1911	DOE-E	N/A
Devils Kitchen Trail (T3)	79848	None	Early 20th c., 1942–1953	DOE-NE	N/A
Echo Canyon Trail	240175	None	by 1964	Not evaluated	N/A
Fruita Dugway Trail	239185	None	1905/1930s	Not evaluated	N/A
Liberty Cap Trail (T5)	79851	None	By 1947, 1978	DOE-NE	N/A
Monument Canyon Trail (T2)	79846	None	1909–1927/1934–1950s	DOE-NE	N/A
No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail (T7)	89011	None	Early 20th c., 1978	DOE-NE	N/A
Old Gordon Trail (T12)	91409	890159	1880s, 1970	DOE-NE	N/A
Otto's Trail (T9)	91405	None	1961–1975	DOE-NE	N/A
Lower Monument Canyon Trailhead/Parking	225881/244386	None	1935	Not evaluated	N/A
Serpents Trail (T1)	79843	006524 (890154)	1912/1913–1950	NR	N/A
Upper No Thoroughfare Canyon Trailhead	241096	None	1978	Not evaluated	N/A
Ute Canyon Trail (T6)	89010	None	1942–1947, 1949	DOE-NE	N/A
Wedding Canyon Trail	241201	None	1911/Late 20th–Early 21st c.	Not evaluated	N/A
Wildwood Trailhead/Maintained Landscape	239186/244387	None	1988	Not evaluated	N/A

RESOURCE NAME	FMSS ID	CRIS ID	DATES	NR STATUS	NR DISTRICT
Bison Fence (F1)/ Boundary Fence (F2)/ Bison Fence and Related Features (FENCE-02)	101485/102118/ None	None/None/ 052744	Early 20th c.	DOE-NE	N/A
Park Boundary Corridor	252219	None	1990	Not evaluated	N/A
Boneyard Service Road (Route 404)	240407	None	1916	Not evaluated	N/A
Boneyard Maintained Landscape	241103	None	1930	Not evaluated	N/A