



United States Department of the Interior

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Pipe Spring National Monument
HC 65 Box 5
Fredonia, AZ 86022-9600**



William (Bill) Collins, Ph.D.
National Register of Historic Places Program Coordinator
Arizona State Historic Preservation Office
Arizona State Parks & Trails
1110 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Dr. Collins:

In compliance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, we are requesting a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for the Visitor Center (VC) at Pipe Spring National Monument (PISP). These resources are located within Moccasin County, Arizona. This request for a DOE is in large part being requested to help inform future NHPA Section 106 review processes.

Sketch plans and both historic and current photographs of the Visitor Center are provided in attachments.

Background Information

Pipe Spring National Monument was established in 1923 and encompasses 40 acres in the northeast portion of Mohave County, AZ. The monument lies approximately 10 miles south of the Utah-Arizona border and is located within the Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation. Primary site access is currently provided by AZ State Highway 389.

The shared Visitor Center at Pipe Spring National Monument, which is owned by the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians (KPT) and operated and maintained with a General Agreement for the public by the National Park Service (NPS) turned 50 years old last year, in 2023. Both KPT and the NPS have investments in the building, collaborate to upkeep the building, and have staff working in the building daily. Over the last few years as the NPS has continued to conduct regular maintenance and building upgrades, we have consulted with Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (AZSHPO) to be compliant with the National Historic Preservation Act. During these consultations the AZSHPO has noted that the building is now 50 years old and has recommended that the NPS and KPT submit a Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The History of the PISP Visitor Center

1. 1963 Proposal to build a new visitor center of approximately 2,098 sq ft, containing combined lobby, exhibit room, and administrative office and workshop, study collection room, public restrooms, and furnace-air conditioner room. No auditorium. Building to have block walls, concrete floor, rubber tile floor covering, frame roof, oil fired furnace. – Project Construction Proposal, 11/18/1963
2. 1968 Feb. 1, Maintenance crew from Zion began work on the new visitor center. Feb 2, Zion crew spent the afternoon digging a sewer line and leveling the new VC. – Feb 1968 Log of Significant Events
3. 1973 Moved into a new VC- Admin Building... the building was constructed by the Tribe and the Park Service rents a portion of it for monument operations. The public buildings formerly used for visitor use within the monument have been removed and the land they occupied is being restored to the historical period the monument was established to preserve..... It was designed by Southwest Regional Architect, Norman Harp, through our Indian Assistance Program. Superintendent's Annual Report, Jan 24, 1974
4. 1984 Historic Fort and Visitor Center. The intrusion and smoke detection system as installed is comprised of the following: 1800' PVC conduit buried to accommodate alarm system wiring. 14 smoke detector units. 6 vibration and magnetic switches installed in door casings and under floorboards. 6 pressure mats. A control system comprised of a control panel, automatic dialing system, annunciator, keypad, and one external audible horn. CX 1200-3-13014
5. 1997 With supplies and materials funded by the Kaibab Paiute Tribe, Monument and Zion maintenance personnel upgraded the electrical system in the VC and headquarters building, adding new circuits and eliminating brown-out and overloading problems brought on over the years by the addition of new electronic equipment. Heating for the VC and headquarters was improved through the Tribe's installation of propane furnaces. These replaced outdated oil burning furnaces that had been inoperable for many years and electric baseboard heat that had long been used as a replacement for the oil burning system. Heating of the building is now far more efficient. Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report- FY 1997
6. 2000 The VC parking lot was chip-sealed by the ZION Roads and Trails Crew. Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report- FY 2000 (10/31/00)
7. 2001 Visitor Center restrooms were rehabilitated under tribal contract, utilizing NPS design from the IMSO. Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report- FY 2001 (2/13/02)
8. 2001 The VC parking lot was swept and striped this past year by the ZION crew. Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report- FY 2001 (2/13/02)
9. 2003 Visitor Center Rehabilitation Project: The PISP visitor center was redesigned, modified and rehabilitated to serve as a joint NPS/Kaibab Paiute Tribe visitor center and cultural



museum. The building was modified as follows: new gabled front entry; enclosure of existing breezeway at center of building to create visitor center lobby area; conversion of former NPS office space to exhibit space; new exhibits in the lobby and museum; new AV equipment for viewing the park video in a new AV room; partial replacement and revision of HVAC system; new lighting and electrical systems; installation of fire sprinkler system; installation of fire and intrusion alarm systems; direct connection of NHA bookstore to lobby area; construction of a new shaded patio in the rear of the visitor center; a new roof for the visitor center; new exterior paint for the visitor center; and, handicap accessibility to all areas. The project also included the construction of a large new masonry sign on the highway, and rehabilitation of the masonry sign at the entrance to the visitor center parking lot. Rehabilitation of the VC restrooms was completed the previous year. Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report- FY 2003 (2/23/04)

10. 2004 The visitor center was re-landscaped with new sod and a new and more efficient sprinkler system, installed by the PISP maintenance crew. Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report- FY 2004 (3/22/05)
11. 2021 The restroom facilities were renovated by the NPS in December 2021-January 22, 2022 via repair/rehab funding, automatic doors installed with new low water use fixtures (toilets/ faucets). Tile, windows, stall- etc. All done. PMIS/ Park Superintendent 2023
12. 2024 Upgrade Physical Security to Visitor Center's Windows with ballistic glass - PMIS 249210

Evaluation based on National Register Criteria

To be considered for inclusion in NRHP, a property must show national significance in one of four categories:

Criterion A: Its association with significant events in history or prehistory.

-There are no known associations with significant events at the PISP VC.

Criterion B: Its association with significant persons important in the past.

-There are no known associations with significant persons at the PISP VC.

Criterion C: It represents superior design or expression of culture or technology.

-The extensive modifications (see above history) to the building have altered the VC beyond its original 1970's fabric.

Criterion D: Its ability to yield important information about history or prehistory (research value).

-The PISP VC fails to inform on any historic or prehistoric lifeways.

Summary and Recommendations

The KPT Cultural Preservation Officer, Daniel Bullets, believes that the building does not meet the criteria listed for eligibility into NRHP. The multiple rounds of alterations to the original design (like the bathroom and interior remodels that were done in the early 2000's) have lessened the research value



for American architectural design and there are no known associations with significant persons or events and the building, itself. The building also fails to inform on significant historic or prehistoric life ways (See attached letter).

The Pipe Spring National Monument Cultural Resources Department concurs with the KPT assessment of the eligibility of the PIPS VC for inclusion in the National Register for Historic Places. After thorough research and examination, we believe that the criteria for inclusion are not met. We are recommending that the State Historic Preservation Office consider PISP Visitor Center as *ineligible* for listing in the NRHP.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the content of this notice you may contact me via email at valerie_butterfield@nps.gov or phone at 928-643-7105 ext. 224.

 Digitally signed by
VALERIE
BUTTERFIELD
Date: 2024.10.01
10:30:21 -07'00'

Museum Curator / Cultural Resources Manager

Attachments (3):

1. KPT Letter Recommending NRHP Ineligibility
2. 2003 Sketch of Proposed Modifications to VC
3. 2003 Sketch of New VC Layout

CONCUR

Property is *not eligible* for the
National Register of Historic Places

 10/02/2024

William S. Collins
State Historic Preservation Office

