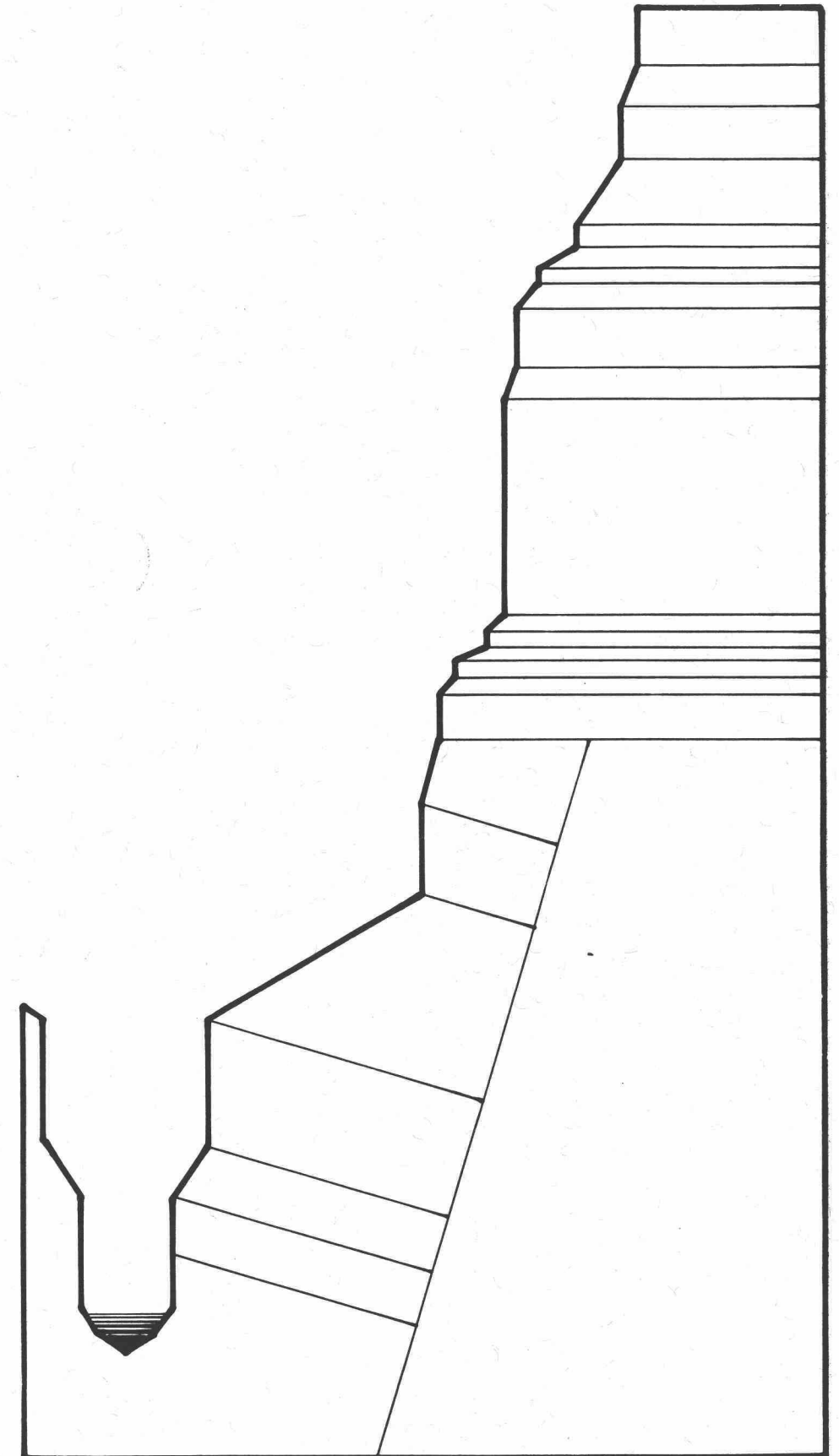
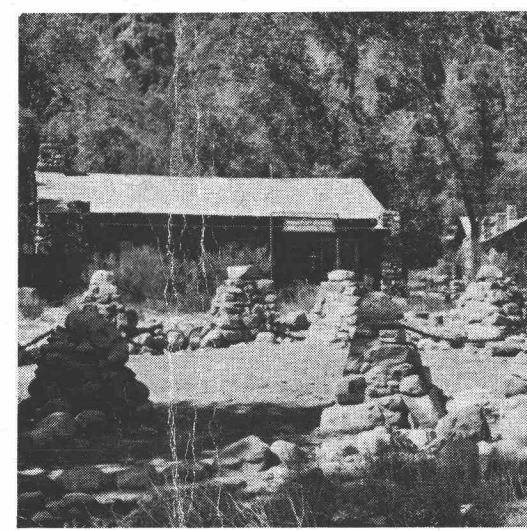
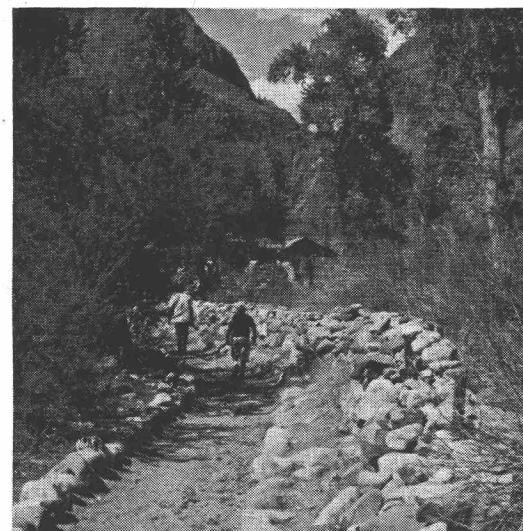


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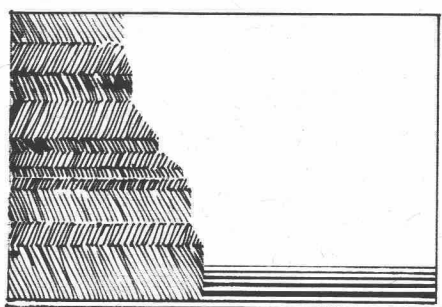
# PHANTOM RANCH

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

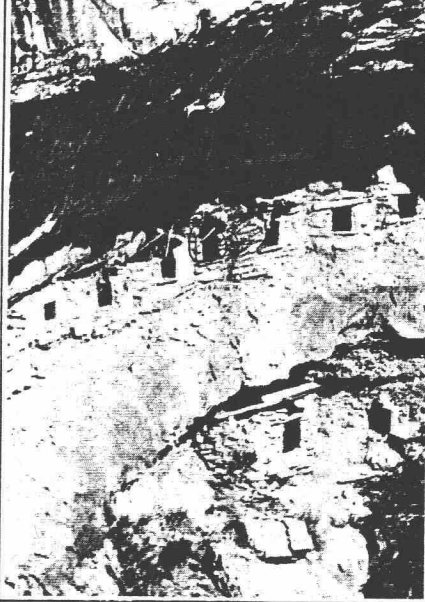
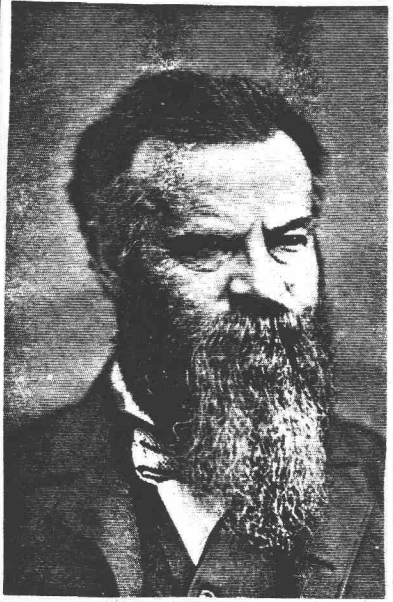
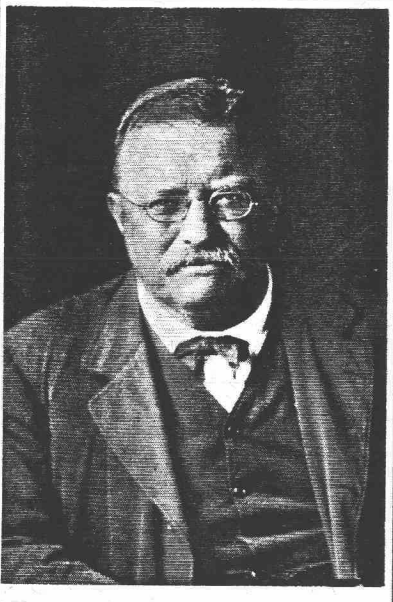


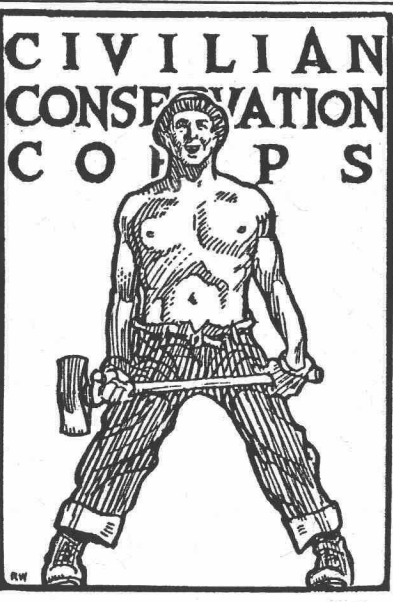

RURAL HISTORIC DISTRICT • LANDSCAPE INVENTORY • 1991



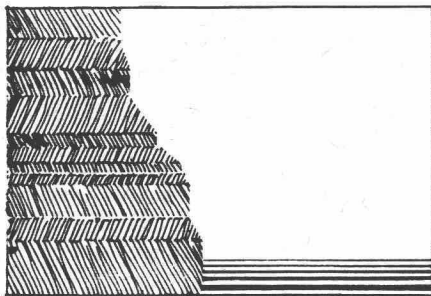
# PHANTOM RANCH SITE HISTORY • EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



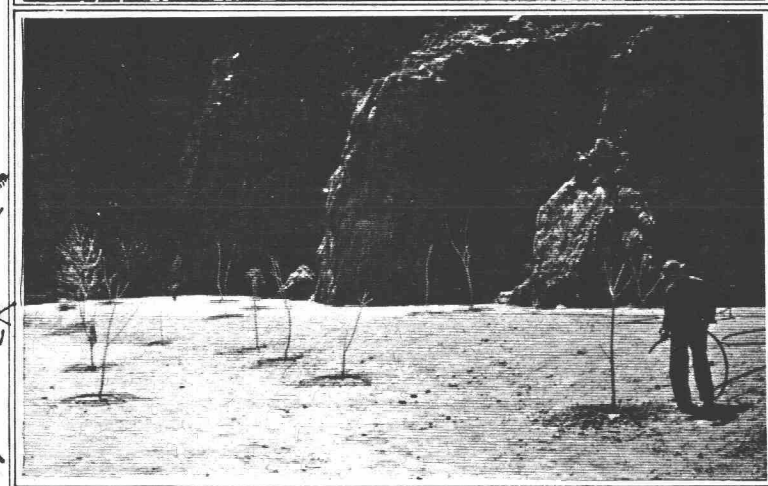
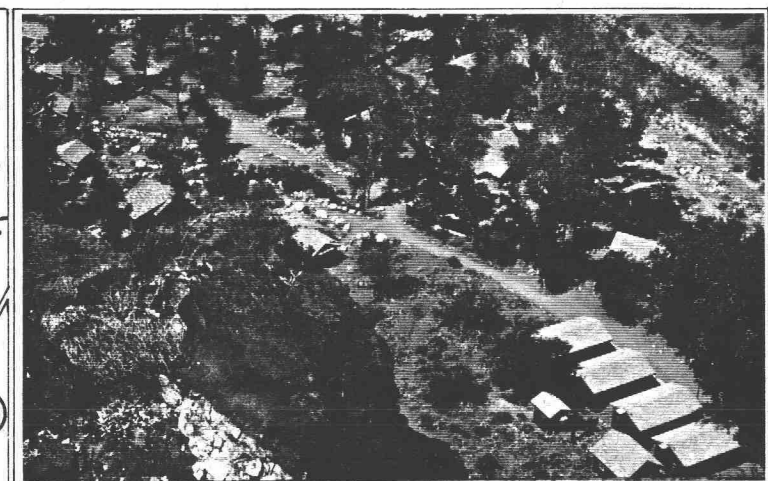
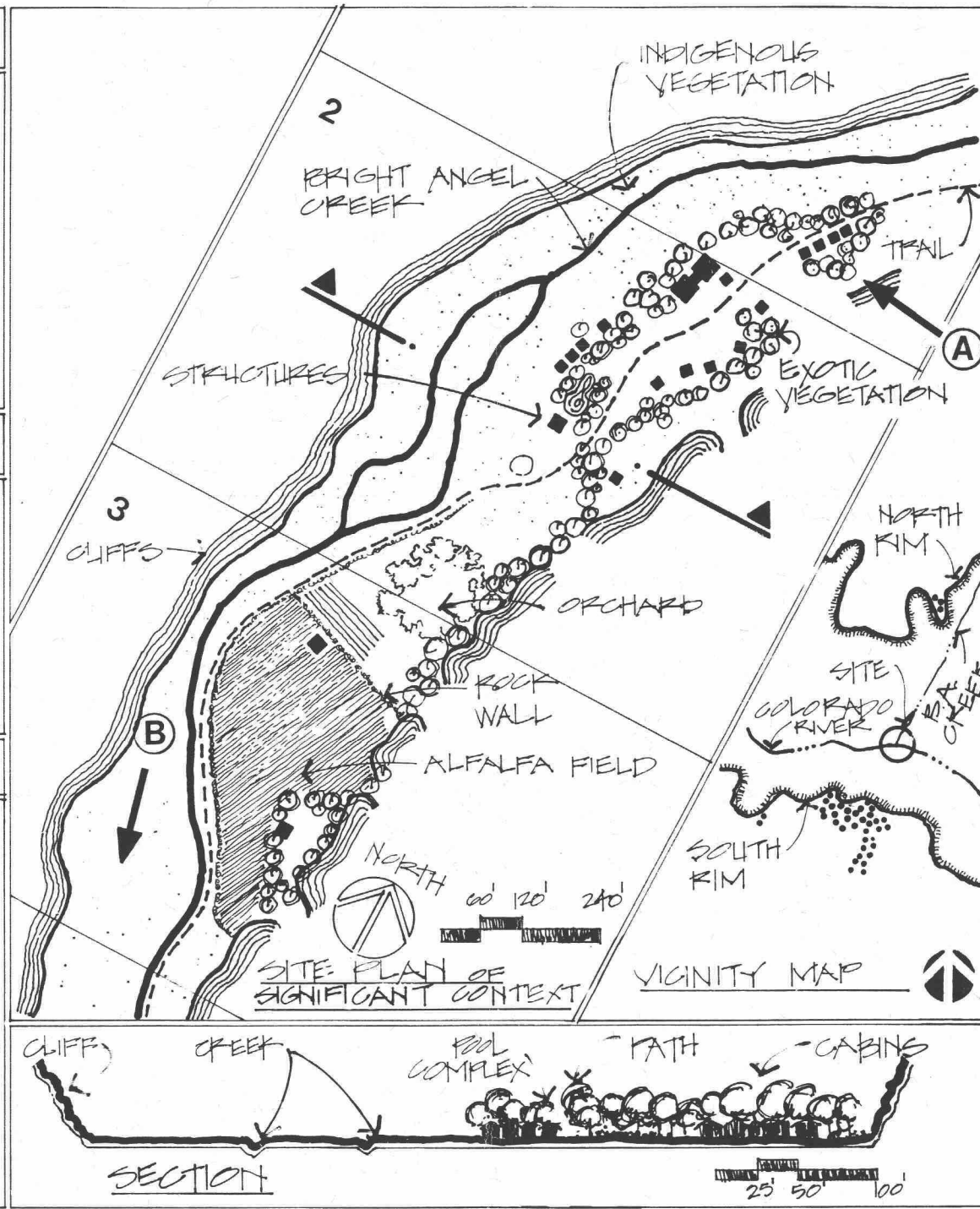
■ 1050-1150 ■ 1869 ■ 1903 ■ 1919 ■ 1922-1930 ■ 1933-1936 →

ANASAZI	MAJOR JOHN WESLEY POWELL	RUST/ROOSEVELT CAMP	GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK	EXPANSION OF TOURISM	CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS	PRESENT DAY
						
<p>A pueblo site consisting of houses constructed from stone laid in mortar is occupied by Anasazi Indians. The Anasazi farmed and hunted the creek delta until they abandoned the site circa A. D. 1100. As the first humans to "intervene" in the natural landscape of the Bright Angel Creek delta, the Anasazi begin the evolution of the site as a cultural landscape.</p>	<p>As the first scientific exploration of the canyons of the Colorado, Major John Wesley Powell's expedition of 1869 is the first contingent of whites to camp at what would eventually become Phantom Ranch. "We had named one stream above in honor of the great chief of the bad angels [Dirty Devil River] and as this was a beautiful contrast to that we concluded to name it Bright Angel River." Powell discovers the previously mentioned Anasazi ruins and notes "... and old trails were seen, which in some places were deeply worn into the rock".</p>	<p>Town of Kanab entrepreneur E. D. Wooley bankrolls David Rust's plan to set up a camp for hunters and tourists on the Bright Angel Delta. Rust's development of the site for purposes of tourism further intervenes in the landscape. Cottonwood trees and an orchard are planted, irrigation ditches are dug, and temporary buildings and tents are erected. In 1913 President Theodore Roosevelt camps in the vicinity and finds Rust's Camp deserted. The site subsequently becomes known as Roosevelt's Camp.</p>	<p>The first of the national park areas to be discovered, (Don Pedro De Tovar, 1540) the Grand Canyon eventually becomes the seventeenth member of the National Park System in 1919.</p>	<p>To increase ridership on its trains, the Santa Fe Railroad begins promoting western national parks and resorts. In 1922, Santa Fe along with the Fred Harvey Company as concessioner, announces construction of a new hotel on Bright Angel Creek. The development consisted of a dining hall with restroom facilities, three large bunkhouses, and a caretaker's cabin. Continued alteration to the landscape included: an orchard (Rust's orchard succumbed to neglect), irrigation ditches, alfalfa fields, chicken shed and yard, blacksmith's shop, and mule barn and corral.</p>	<p>In 1933, Civilian Conservation Corps Company 818 establishes Camp NP-3-A adjacent to Bright Angel Creek. Occupying land that would eventually become Bright Angel Campground, the crews of Camp NP-3-A would continue intervention in the landscape throughout much of the Canyon. The CCC built new trails, auxiliary structures and out-buildings such as trail shelters, erected small bridges, and even constructed a swimming pool for Phantom Ranch. Ironically, most remaining evidence of the CCC's influence on the landscape is found at locations in the Canyon other than Phantom Ranch.</p>	<p>Today Phantom Ranch attracts upwards of 300 users per day during the peak season. Heavy use and the resultant additional facilities required to accommodate this use are destroying the significant cultural/historical and natural resources that make up Phantom Ranch. This Rural Historic District Inventory is intended to be the first phase in a process whose ultimate goal is the preservation of the site and listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a Rural Historic Landscape District.</p>

# PHANTOM RANCH RURAL HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY • EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



LANDSCAPE TYPE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	HISTORIC SCENE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HISTORIC SITE
<input type="checkbox"/>	ETHNOGRAPHIC LANDSCAPE
<input type="checkbox"/>	HISTORIC DESIGNED LANDSCAPE
<input type="checkbox"/>	HISTORIC VERNACULAR LANDSCAPE
HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CRITERION A: IS THE LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATED WITH AN EVENT
<input type="checkbox"/>	CRITERION B: IS THE LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATED WITH A PERSON
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CRITERION C: DOES THE LANDSCAPE EMBODY DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CRITERION D: WILL THE LANDSCAPE YIELD IMPORTANT HISTORICAL INFORMATION.
INTEGRITY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DOES THE AREA HAVE INTEGRITY OF: LOCATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DESIGN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SETTING
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MATERIALS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WORKMANSHIP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FEELING
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ASSOCIATION



CONTEXT:  
EXPANSION OF TOURISM

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
1922-1930

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- TOURISM
- RECREATION
- TRANSPORTATION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

---

*I am a part of every place I have been. I am a part of the people I have known. I am still every age that I have been. Because I was once a searching adolescent, given to moods and ecstasies, these are still a part of me, and always will be. For too many people misunderstand what putting away childish things means, and think that forgetting what it is like to think and feel and touch and smell and taste and see and hear like a three year old, or a thirteen year old or a twenty-three year old means growing up.*

Madeleine L' Engle

## DEDICATION

To anyone who stands for what he or she stands on.

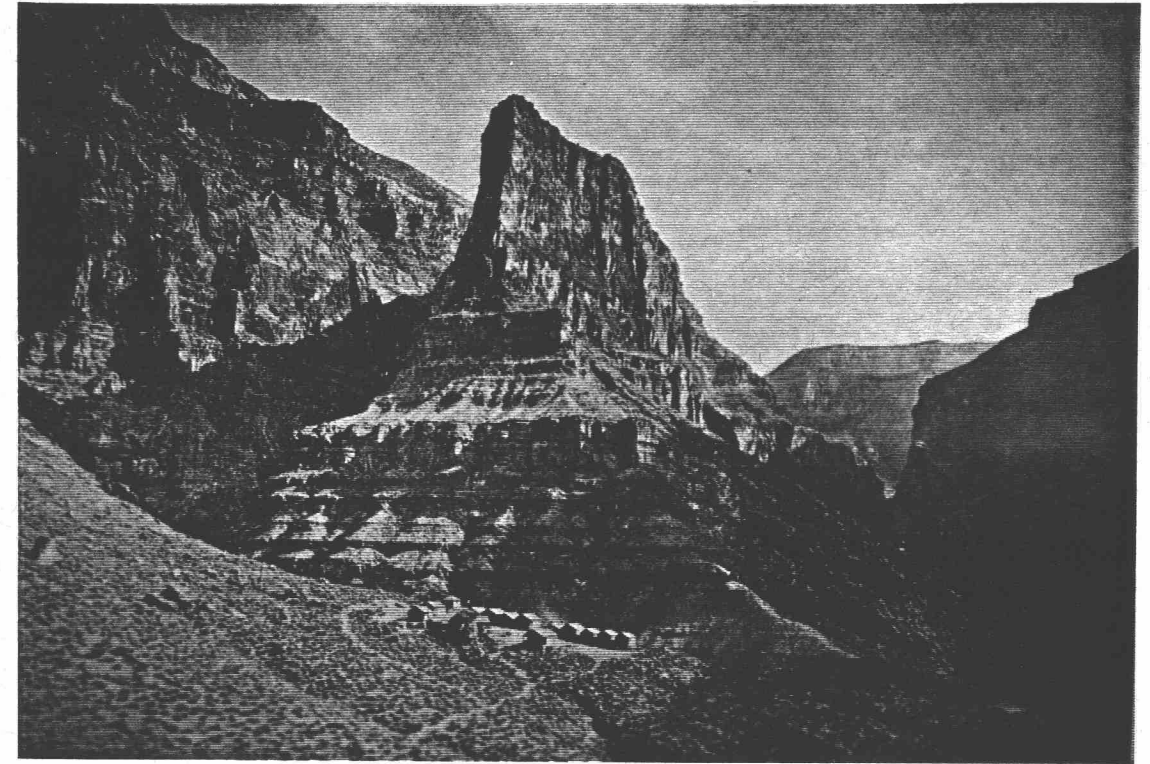
Thanks to:

John Dunn - a happenin' dude if there ever was one.

Carol Wadlington

Brad Traver

Special thanks to Zehra Osman, for being my mentor, and to Joan Hirschman, for putting the idea in my head.



Hermit Camp circa 1912. Precursor of Phantom Ranch?

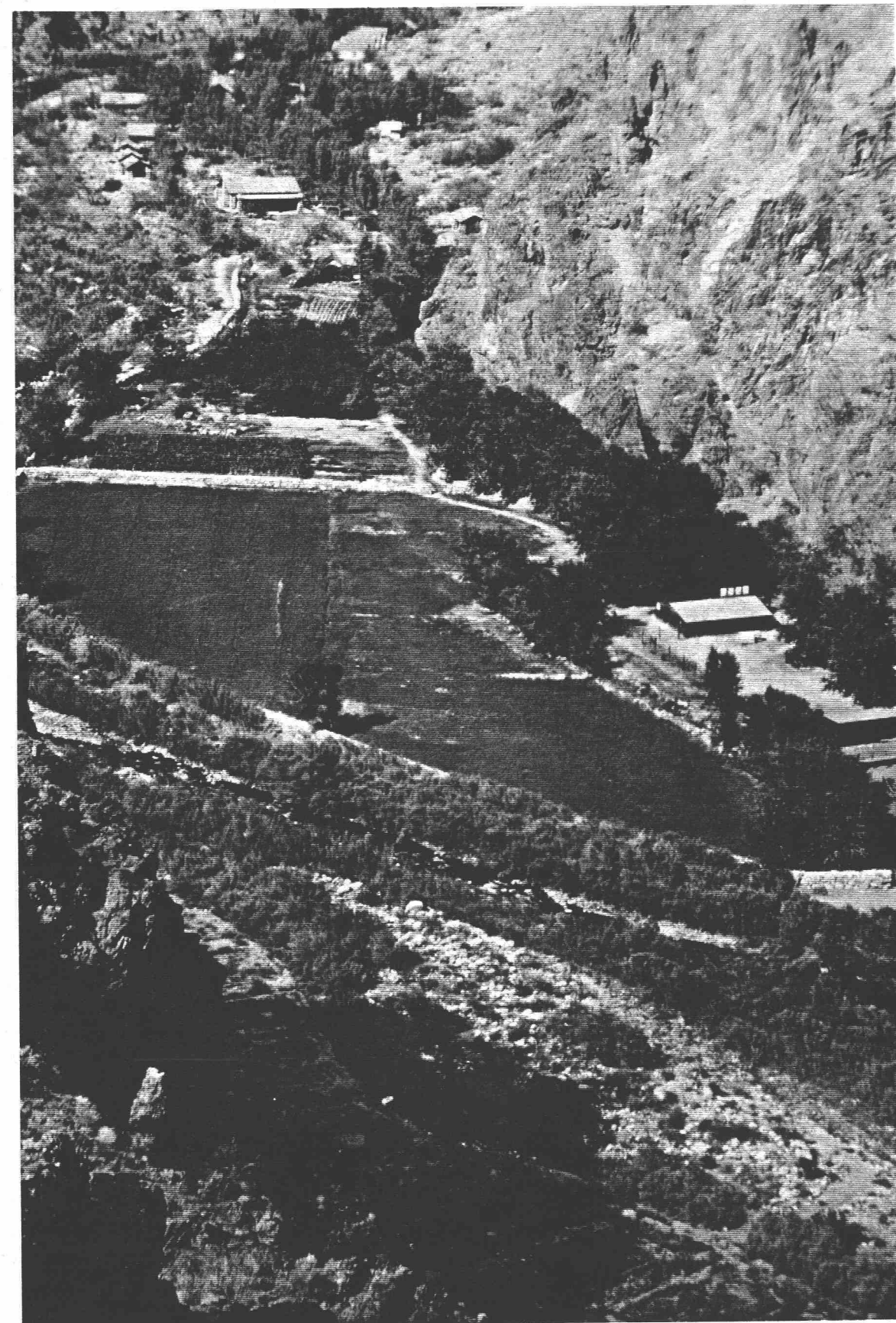
*The scene is so weird and  
lonely and so incomprehensible  
in its novelty that one feels  
that it could never have been  
viewed before.*

Fredrick S. Dellenbaugh

## PREFACE

This report was prepared as an exercise in landscape architecture for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design's Department of Planning at Arizona State University. As the culmination of upper division design studio, it represents my efforts to understand, evaluate, and help preserve the cultural landscape known as Phantom Ranch. It is submitted to Professors Ignacio San Martin and Salisa Norstog in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Design - landscape architecture concentration. It is also submitted to the National Park Service's Grand Canyon Study Collection in the hope that it may contribute to efforts yet to come in the challenge to understand and preserve our cultural and natural heritage.

Mark Di Lucido, May 1991.



*The region is, of course altogether valueless. It can be approached only from the south, and after entering it there is nothing to do but leave.*

*Ours has been the first, and doubtless will be the last party of whites to visit this profitless locality. It seems intended by nature that the Colorado River, along the greater portion of its lonely and majestic way, shall be forever unvisited and undisturbed.*

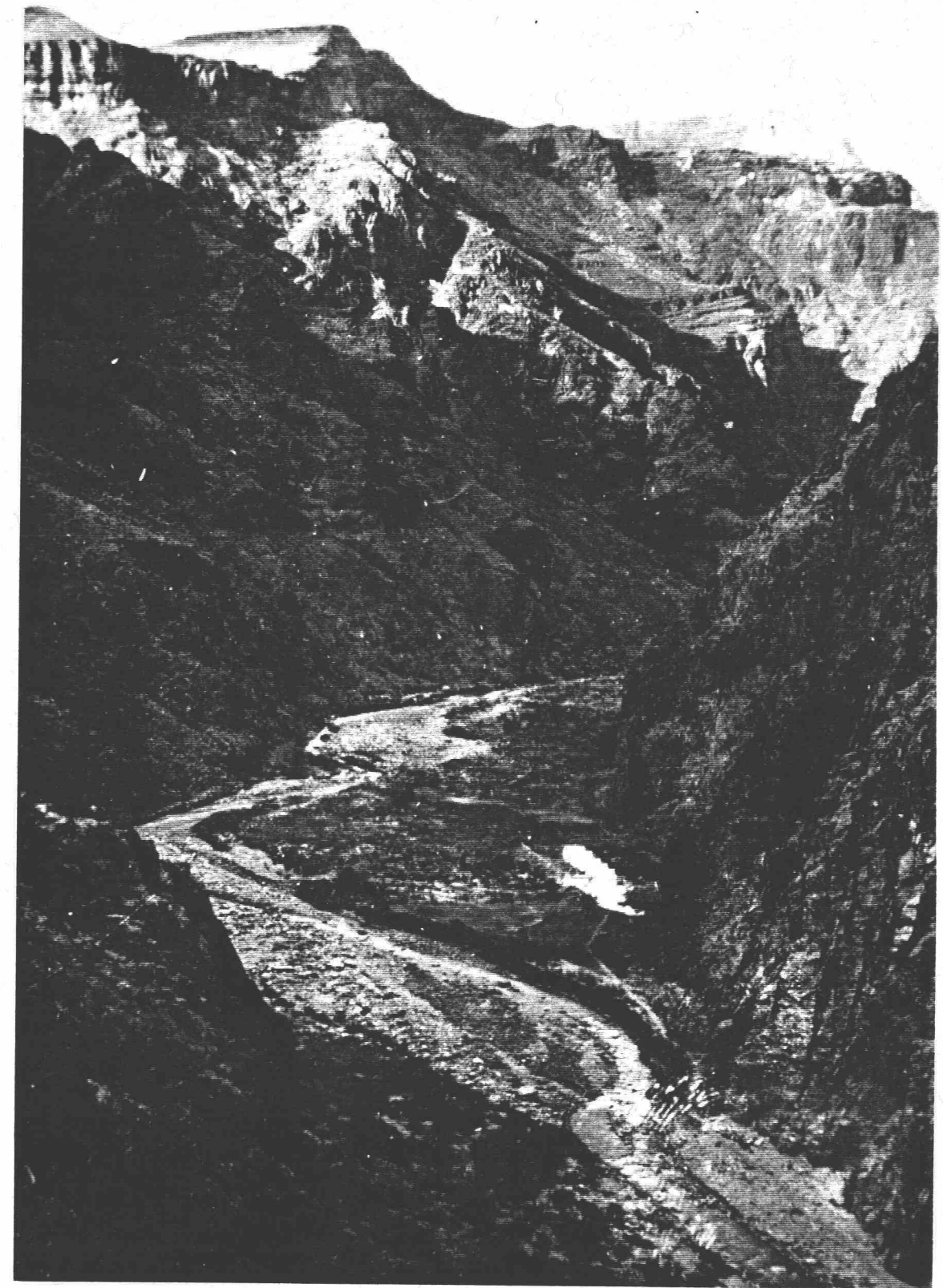
Joseph Christmas Ives - 1858

## PURPOSE and NEED

The Phantom Ranch area has seen continual use since the turn of the century when it was first envisioned by entrepreneurs as a dude ranch and campground. Today it attracts upwards of 300 users per day during the peak season. Heavy use and the resultant additional facilities required to accommodate this use are destroying the significant cultural/historical and natural resources that make up Phantom Ranch. According to the Park Landscape Architect a problem statement concerning Phantom Ranch might be: "How would the National Park Service provide for the use and enjoyment of the area, yet preserve the historic and natural landscape and still allow the natural behavior of indigenous wildlife?" In plain language this means that large numbers of users are adversely impacting cultural/historical and natural resources, and how might the problem be corrected without restricting the users' experience?

This Rural Historic District Inventory is intended to be the first phase or step in a process whose ultimate goal is preservation of the site and listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a Rural Historic Landscape District. Other phases not addressed in this project yet important in the attainment of this goal are design guidelines and management strategies for cultural landscapes.

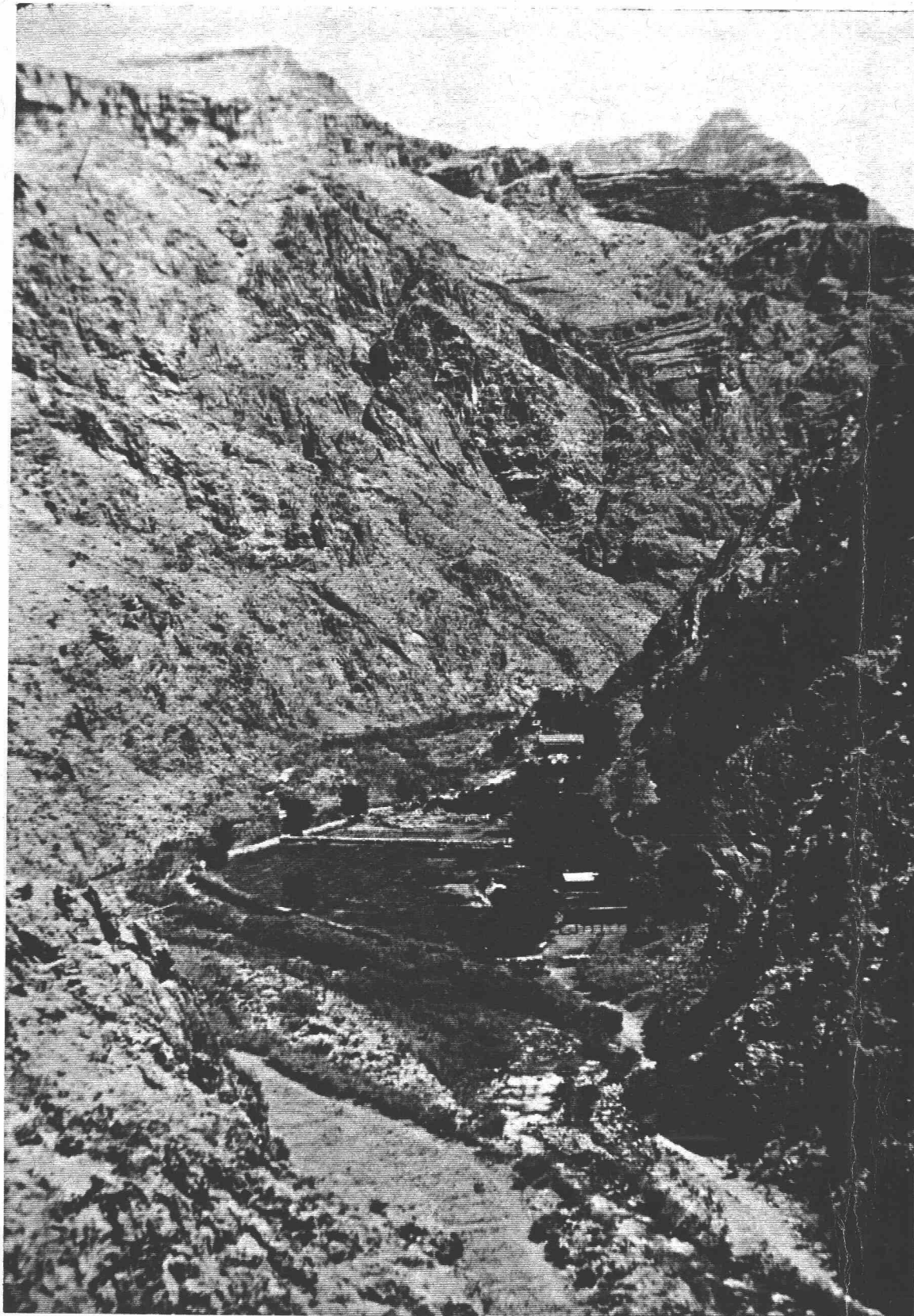
Previous efforts have attempted to gain historic recognition of Phantom Ranch but always considered the Ranch as a segment of a larger district concerned only with the preservation of structures. In 1980, staff members of the Denver Service Center prepared a district nomination to the National Register of Historic Places which resulted in a determination of eligibility (National Register form E. O. 11593). Unfortunately, National Register listing did not follow (personal communication with Jim Garrison, February 1991). However, the work did influence T. Cleeland's: "The Cross Canyon Corridor Historic District in Grand Canyon National Park: A Model for Historic Preservation", a substantial analysis of structures located along the Bright Angel Trail from the South Rim through Phantom Ranch. As stated, the concern of these earlier efforts was the evaluation of historic structures as opposed to landscapes. Nonetheless, much of the research and evaluation process from these works remains relevant to the goal of this report and must be considered important in its development.



Rust Camp, circa 1903, looking upstream along Bright Angel Creek.

*Within the last decade backpacking in the Grand Canyon has increased by 250%; river running jumped from 2100 users in 1967 to 16,432 users in 1972. During Easter, some 800 campers jammed into an area that can comfortably hold 75 (Bright Angel Campground). The same year over the same holiday 1100 campers trampled Havasu campground in Havasu Canyon. Man will indeed love the canyon to death if an effort is not made to preserve those qualities which people look to and use the canyon for.*

Robert Yearout



Phantom Ranch alfalfa field circa 1928. Guest cabins and dining hall are further upstream.

## BACKGROUND

Phantom Ranch is located near the confluence of Bright Angel Creek and the Colorado River in Grand Canyon National Park. The rural historic district under consideration in this report begins at the confluence and consists of the canyon floor from the Colorado River to a point approximately one half mile (.8 kilometers) upstream in Bright Angel Canyon.

With the exception of the delta portion of the District, the inhabited zone (the canyon floor) averages roughly 200 feet in width. The elevation of the site is 2600 feet with adjacent Vishnu Schist canyon walls rising steeply (in some locations vertically) to 3000 feet in elevation. The climate is very similar to that of Phoenix with summer temperatures averaging two to four degrees hotter.

Important exotic vegetation mainly consists of Fremont Cottonwood trees which provide a much needed shade canopy in the summer. A substantial portion, however, are senescent and have recently been pruned and topped as a precautionary safety measure.

Phantom Ranch is presently managed by the Park Service as part of the Cross Canyon Corridor District (there are three other land use management categories of land below the canyon rim each in turn having progressively more restrictive guidelines) and partially owing to this management category is subject to intense use by hikers, mule riders, and campers.

As concessioner at Phantom Ranch, the Fred Harvey Company manages the dude ranch portion of the District. The contractual relationship between the National Park Service (NPS) and the Fred Harvey Company appears symbiotic (at least in this location) and dates to the 1920s.

## EVALUATION PROCESS

*The most beautiful and most profound emotion we can experience is the sensation of the mystical. It is the source of all true science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead. To know that what is impenetrable really exists, manifesting itself as the highest wisdom and the most radiant beauty which our dull faculties can comprehend only in their most primitive forms-this knowledge, this feeling is at the center of true religiousness.*

Albert Einstein

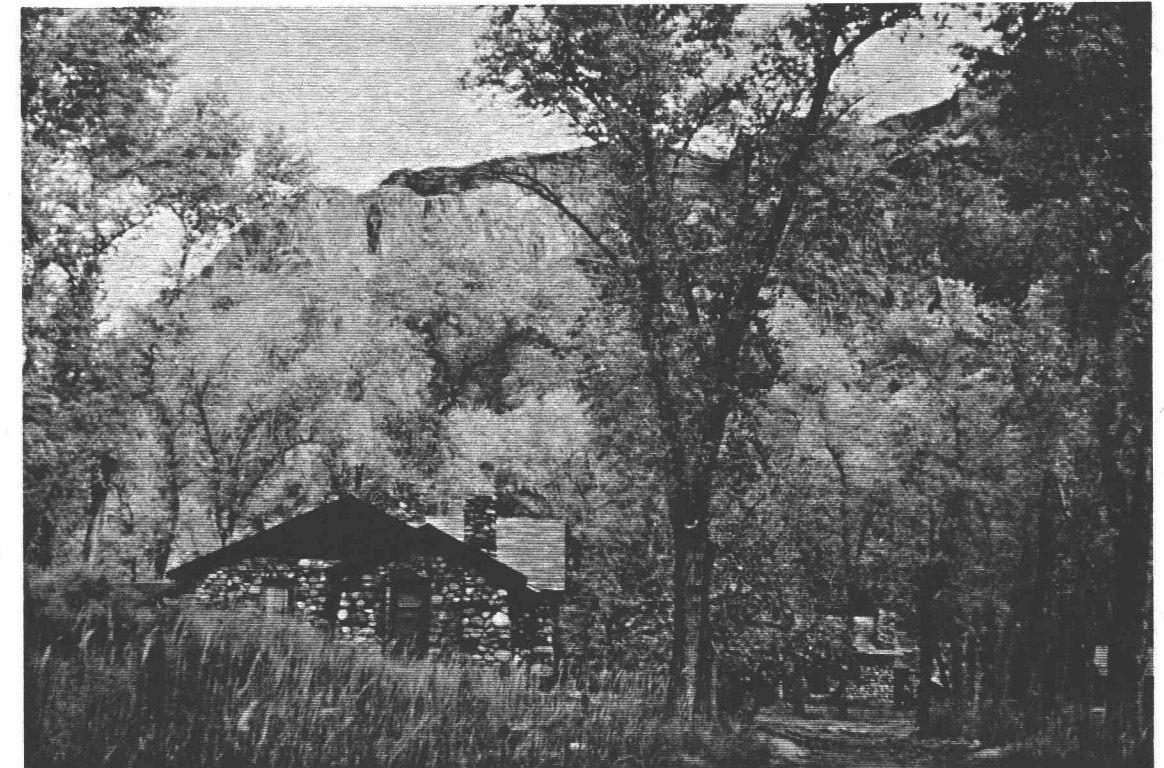
*As any honest magician knows, the true magic inheres in the ordinary, the commonplace, the everyday, the mystery of the obvious. Only petty minds and trivial souls yearn for supernatural events, incapable of perceiving that everything, Everything!, within and around them is pure miracle.*

Edward Abbey

Prior to elucidation of the process used to determine National Register eligibility for a rural historic district, a few concepts and definitions should be explained. According to Melnick, a rural landscape is: "a geographically definable area possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of landscape components which are united by human use and past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development", (Melnick, 1984, p. 2). Briefly then, a rural landscape is a natural landscape having man's imprint or influence. Rural historic landscapes are a sub-group under the broader rubric of cultural landscapes which also includes designed historic landscapes, ethnographic landscapes, historic scenes, and historic vernacular landscapes.

Historical significance is defined as whether or not a cultural landscape has meaning or value ascribed to it in terms of human existence. According to the National Park Service (NPS), four types of historical significance may be possessed by a cultural landscape: historical significance Criterion A states that cultural landscapes may be eligible for listing on the National Register if they are associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of our history; Criterion B states cultural landscapes may be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; Criterion C states cultural landscapes may be eligible for the National Register if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or if they represent the work of a master, possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and Criterion D states that properties may be eligible for the National register if they have yielded or may yield information important in history (NPS, 1990).

Paraphrasing the National Register definition of cultural landscape integrity: integrity is the quality and completeness of the existing attributes of a landscape's original historic identity. In other words, based on what you can experience on the site now, how well do you understand the landscape's original uses.



Shower House - 1930



Guest Cabins - 1928



*We abuse the land because we regard it as a community belonging to us. When we see the land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect . . . That land is a community is a basic concept of ecology, but that the land is to be loved and respected is an extension of ethics. That land yields a cultural harvest is a fact long known, but latterly forgotten.*

Aldo Leopold

The NPS process for inventorying a cultural landscape is derived from the above mentioned concepts of culture, significance, and integrity, and consists of six steps:

- 1) Identifying a potential cultural landscape
- 2) Determining historic contexts
- 3) Identifying and evaluating components or physical attributes of the landscape
- 4) Determining types of significance
- 5) Determining and evaluating types of integrity
- 6) Reviewing special criteria

After recognizing a cultural landscape as defined at the beginning of this section, the next step in the cultural landscape inventory process is to determine the historic themes or contexts of the area. Context is of prime consideration when determining the historical significance of a landscape because historical resources are most accurately evaluated within the framework of an established historic context (Cleland, 1986). Such an evaluation allows a comparative analysis with similar landscapes which in turn may determine whether the landscape being evaluated is a good representation of the historic theme. For example, within the context of expansion of tourism does Phantom Ranch best represent the eventual broader patterns of landscape development occasioned by the expansion of tourism, or is some other site such as Hermit Camp<sup>1</sup> a more accurate representation of the influence of the expansion of tourism on the landscape?

Determining historic context consists of four sub-steps:

- 1) Identifying the concept, time period and geographical limits for the historical context
- 2) Assembling existing information about the historic context
- 3) Synthesizing the information collected
- 4) Defining property types

<sup>1</sup> The area known as Hermit Camp is located along Hermit Creek one mile upstream from the confluence of Hermit Creek and the Colorado River (approximately eight miles west of Phantom Ranch). Originally inhabited by Louis Boucher ("The Hermit") in the 1890s, Hermit Camp would be developed into a dude ranch in 1912 by the Santa Fe Railway. It was abandoned following the construction of Phantom Ranch in 1930 (Hughes, 1967). Unfortunately, little evidence (integrity) remains of the Hermit Camp cultural landscape.



Buildings designed by Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter: two guest cabins left and center (1922) and the dining hall (1922) on the right.



Phantom Ranch guest cabins and facilities today. Note dining hall center-right.

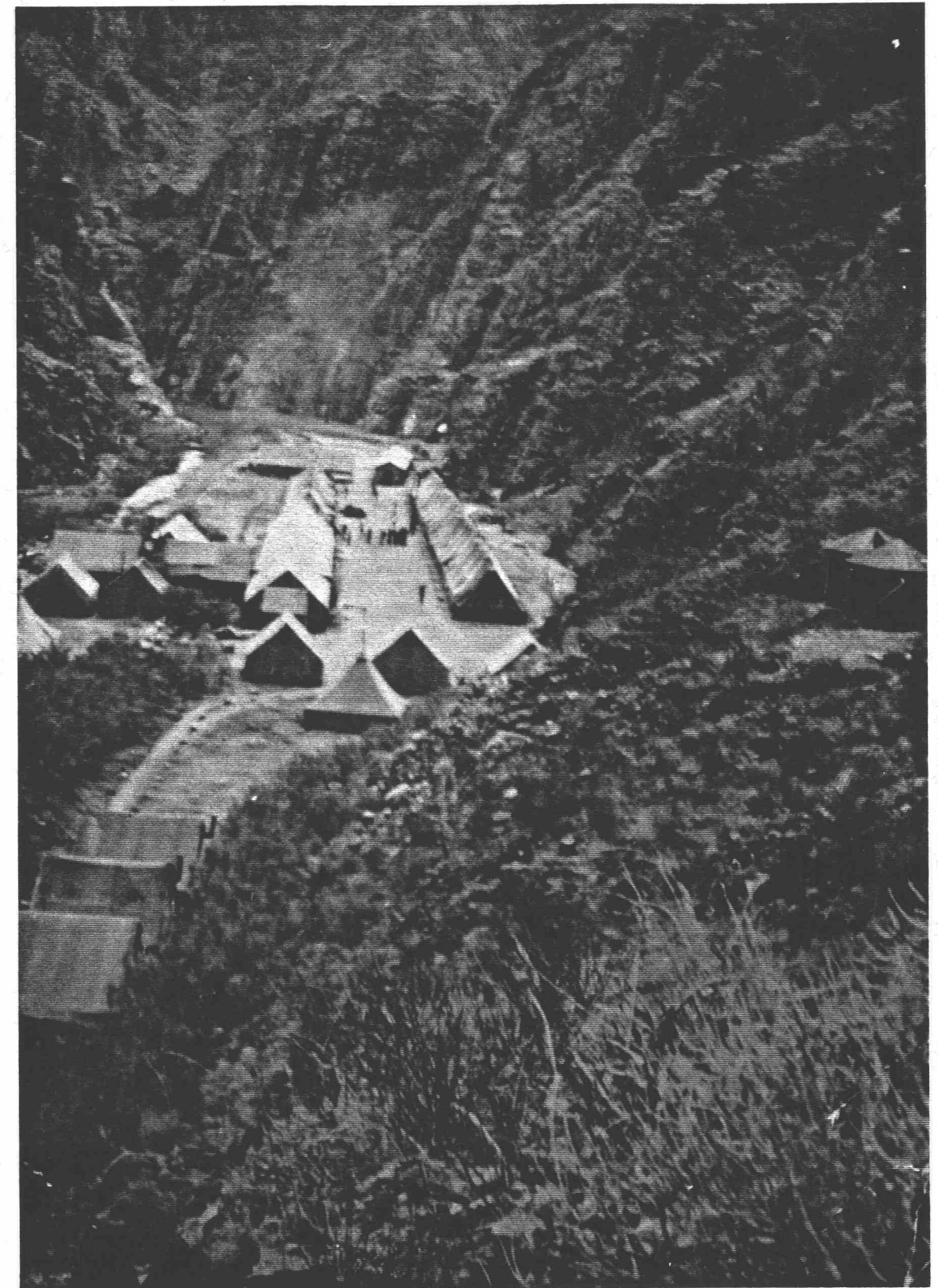
*Yet people are beginning to suspect that the greatest freedom is not achieved by sheer irresponsibility. The earth is common ground and we are its overlords, whether we hold title or not. Gradually the idea is taking form that the land must be held in safe keeping, that one generation is to some extent responsible to the next; and that it is contrary to the public good to allow an individual . . . to destroy almost beyond repair any part of the soil or the water or even the view!*

E. B. White

Investigation reveals the existence of seven possible historical contexts at Phantom Ranch:

- 1) Prehistoric Context - Concerns eleventh century Anasazi ruins near the Kaibab suspension Bridge.
- 2) Exploration of the West Context - Major John Wesley Powell was the first white man to explore this portion of the Colorado River. It occurred during his raft trip down the river in 1869.
- 3) Establishment of National Monuments and Parks Context - President Theodore Roosevelt hunted in the area and camped near the location known as Rust's Camp. Roosevelt was instrumental in augmenting the National Park System and in establishing Grand Canyon National Park.
- 4) Extension and Enlargement of the Transportation and Tourist Industry Context - The Sante Fe Railway originally built Phantom Ranch and similar resorts around the country in order to cajole the general public to increase their use of trains.
- 5) CCC Context- Relates to the establishment of a Civilian Conservation Corps camp at Phantom Ranch.
- 6) The Work of an Established Master Context - As the company architect and designer for Fred Harvey Company, Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter designed and built many resort related structures. Grand Canyon National Park has one of the largest concentrations of Ms. Colter's work with Phantom Ranch being particularly rich in what has since been characterized as the National Park Rustic Style.
- 7) The Preservation Period Context - Addresses the NPS's early attempts at managing species and artifacts for preservation.

Data from the research indicate that the "Extension and Enlargement of the Transportation and Tourist Industry Context", has the greatest potential for significance (according to criteria A, C, and D) and integrity.



Downstream view of Civilian Conservation Corps Company 818 Camp NP-3-A circa 1933.

*Leave it as it is. You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it . . . keep it for your children, and your children's children, and for all who come after you, as one of the great sights which every American should see.*

Theodore Roosevelt

The third step in the cultural landscape inventory process is to identify the components or physical attributes of the historic contexts. National Register Bulletin #30 lists eleven interrelated components of the cultural landscape that form the matrix of the landscape. It is the composite of these combined components that differentiates one historic context from another. The eleven components are:

- 1) Land-use: categories and activities
- 2) Overall patterns of landscape spatial organization
- 3) Response to natural features
- 4) Cultural Traditions
- 5) Circulation networks
- 6) Boundary Demarcations
- 7) Vegetation related to land use
- 8) Structure: type, function, materials, and construction
- 9) Cluster arrangement
- 10) Archaeological sites
- 11) Small scale elements

The fourth step is to identify what types of significance the historic contexts have (criterion A and/or B, C, and D as mentioned previously). The fifth and last steps involve evaluating the physical integrity of the cultural landscape and reviewing special criteria. Physical integrity consists of seven categories:

- 1) Location
- 2) Design
- 3) Setting
- 4) Materials
- 5) Workmanship
- 6) Feeling
- 7) Association

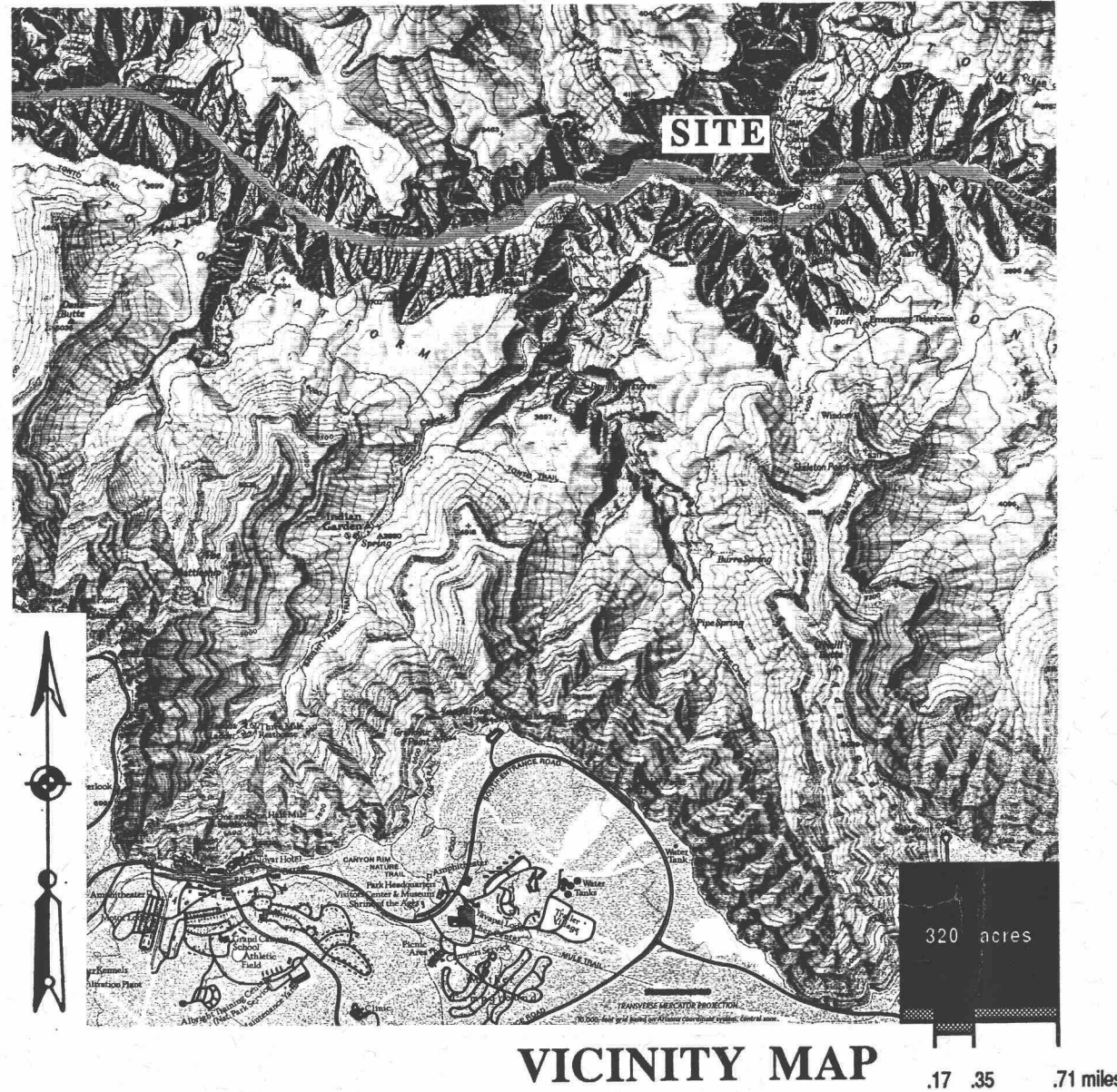
The selected historical context will have its integrity evaluated in terms of these seven categories.



Rust Camp, circa 1903, looking upstream along Bright Angel Creek.

*It is never the same, even from day to day, or even from hour to hour. In the early morning its mood and subjective influences are usually calmer and more full of repose than at other times, but as the sun rises higher the whole scene is so changed that we cannot recall our first impressions. Every passing cloud, every change in the position of the sun recasts the whole. At sunset the pageant closes amid splendors that seem more than earthly.*

Clarence Dutton



## INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

### IDENTIFICATION

**NAMES:**  
**COMMON:** Phantom Ranch  
**HISTORIC:** Rust Camp, Roosevelt Camp

**LOCATION:**  
 Confluence of Bright Angel Creek and the Colorado River, Grand Canyon National Park

**ACCESS:**  
 Yes, unrestricted  
 Yes, restricted  
 No Access

**OWNERS:**  
 Public  
 Private

**STATUS:**  
 Safe  
 Endangered  
 Preservation action needed

### CONTEXTUAL BOUNDARIES

#### PHYSIOGRAPHIC

Phantom Ranch is located in Bright Angel Canyon at the confluence of Bright Angel Creek and the Colorado River. Steep rugged walls on the east and west sides physically and perceptually enclose the site. The Colorado River forms the southern boundary.

#### CULTURAL

Guest cabins on the north side of the resort cluster (dude ranch) indicate the northern edge of the site.

#### POLITICAL

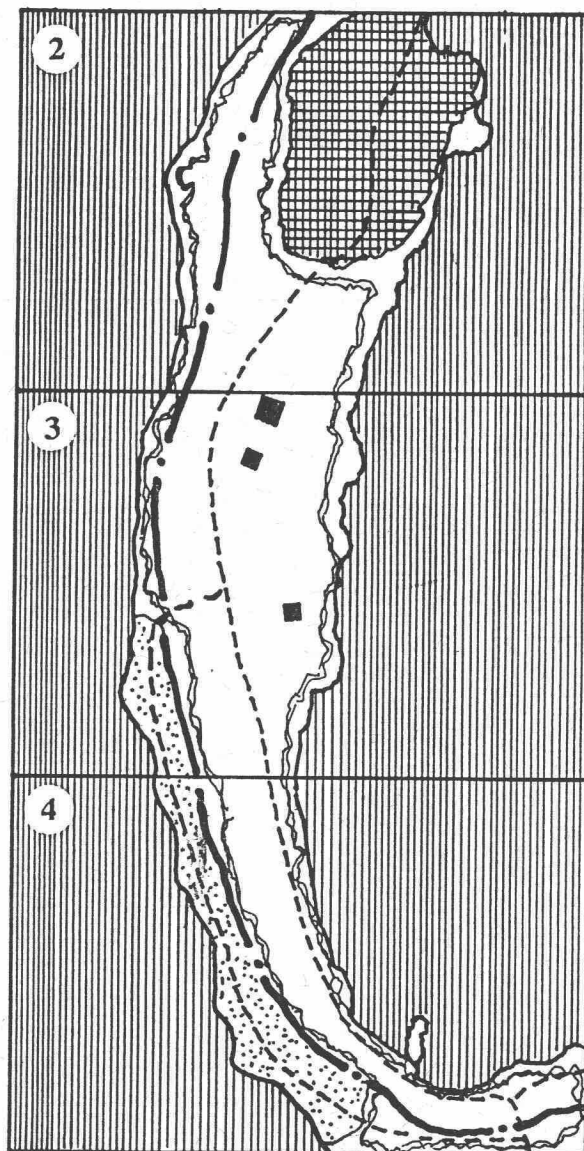
The site is currently located within the Cross Canyon Corridor District of Grand Canyon National Park.

## DESCRIPTION

### LANDSCAPE TYPE: PAST and PRESENT

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative area  | <input type="checkbox"/> District         | <input type="checkbox"/> Streetscape           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Estate               | <input type="checkbox"/> Fortification    | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardens               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resort    | <input type="checkbox"/> Battlefield      | <input type="checkbox"/> Botanical garden      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residence | <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Campground |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farm                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Monument         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                 |

### LANDSCAPE ORGANIZATION



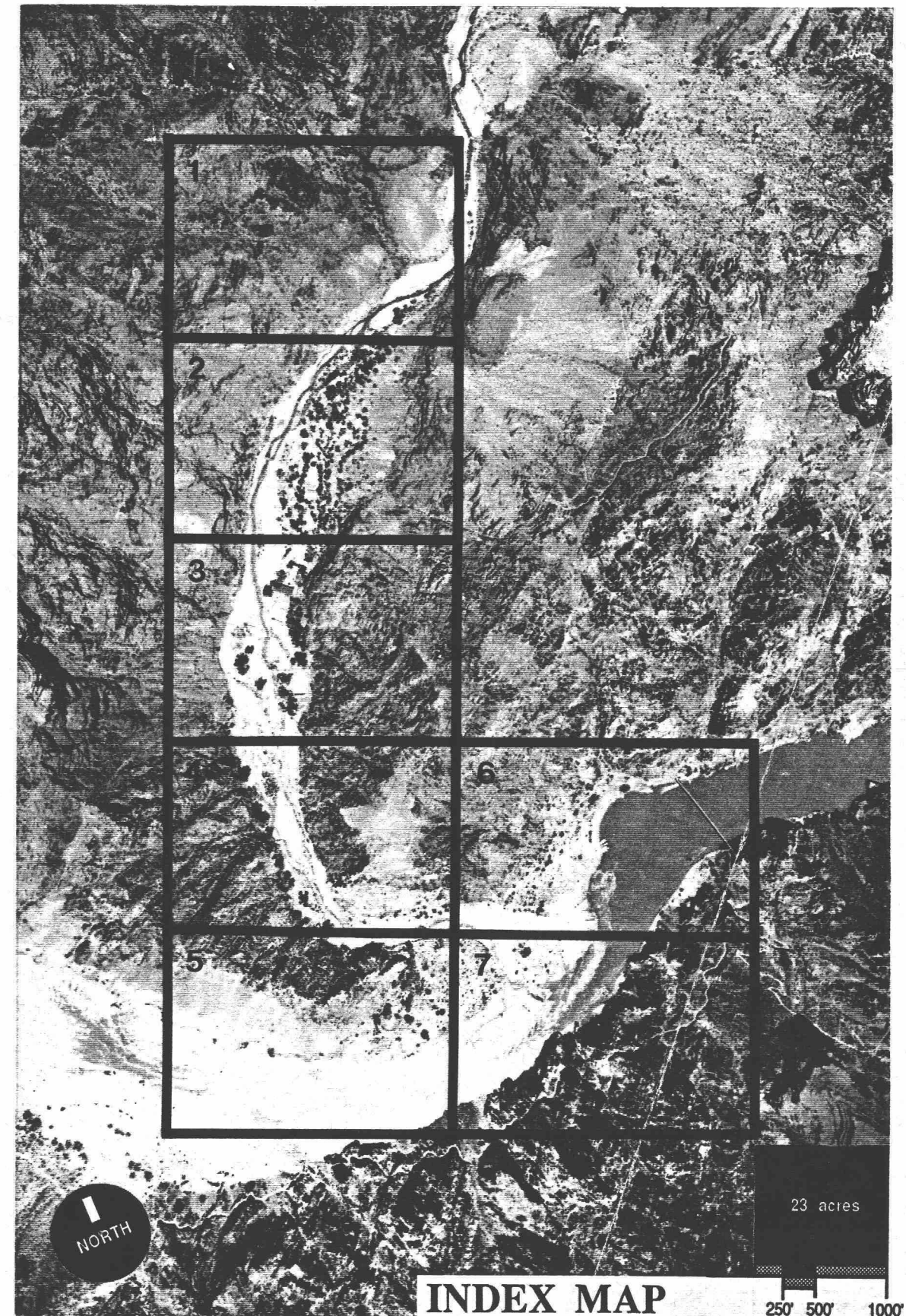
- CANYON WALLS
- CREEK
- TRAIL
- RESORT CLUSTER
- CAMPGROUND
- OPEN SPACE
- OUTBUILDING

The Grand Canyon is a canyon composed of many canyons.

It is a composite of thousands, of tens of thousands of gorges. In like manner, each wall of the canyon is a composite structure, a wall composed of many walls, but never a repetition. Every one of these almost innumerable gorges is a world of beauty in itself . . . yet these canyons unite to form one grand canyon, the most sublime spectacle on earth.

You cannot see the Grand Canyon in one view . . . it has infinite variety, and no part is ever duplicated.

John Wesley Powell

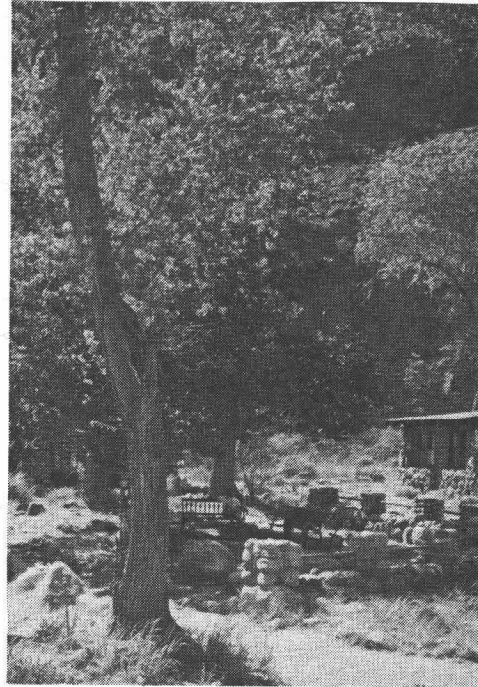


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## LANDSCAPE DETAILS, SYSTEMS, & HISTORIC REMNANTS

*Some night lie at the mouth of  
a rock-carved amphitheater  
two or three times the size of  
anything you've ever been in.  
Look up the two thousand foot  
wall to the billion stars and  
listen to the murmuring of  
the river still carving deeper  
the slot of canyon you're in.  
Think of nothing but what  
you see and feel and hear and  
smell.*

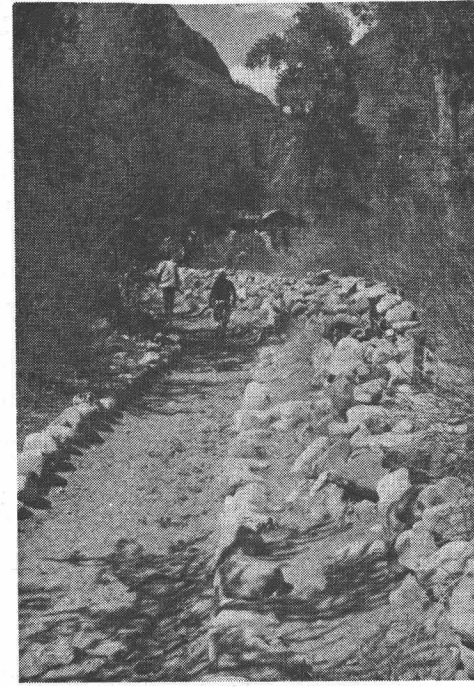
Charles Eggert



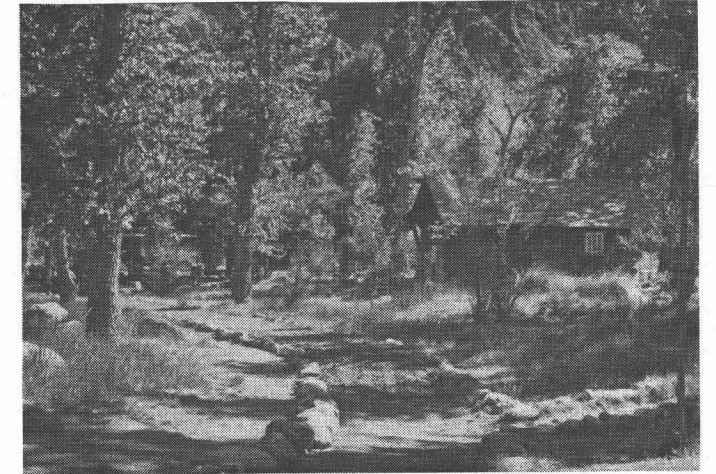
Interpretation area with shade canopy  
(see page 14)



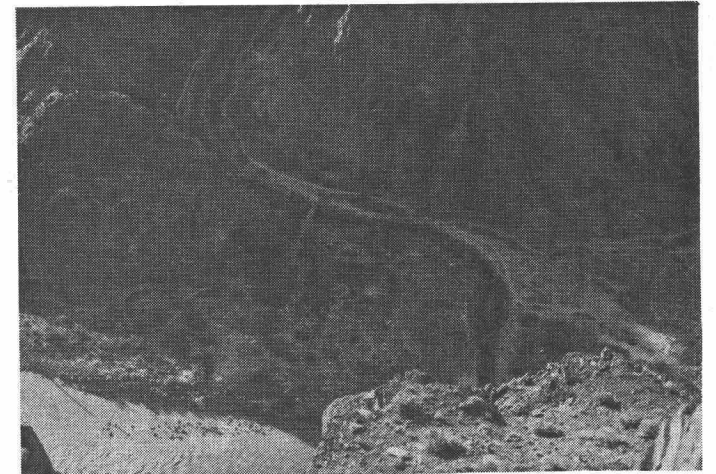
Irrigation ditch overgrown with non-  
native species



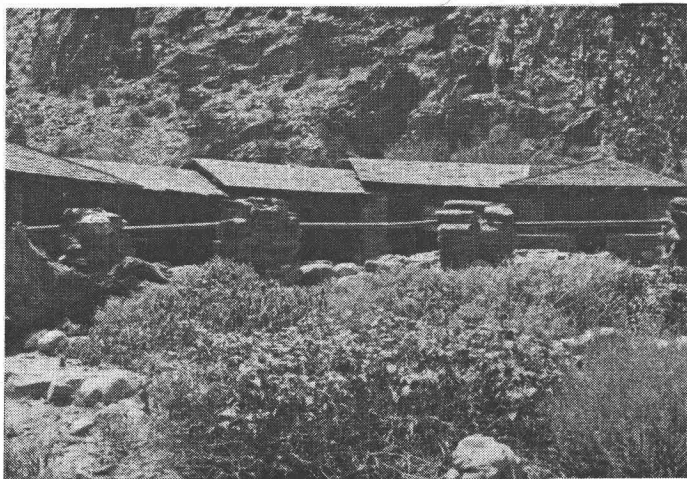
River rock wall remnant (see page 20)



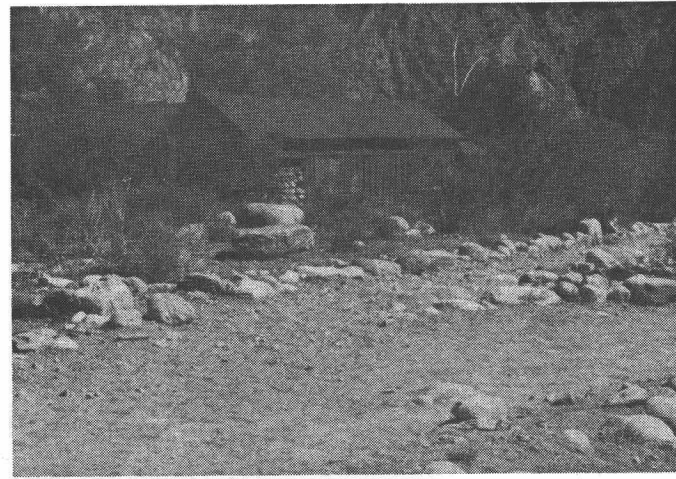
Dining Hall common area (see page 14)



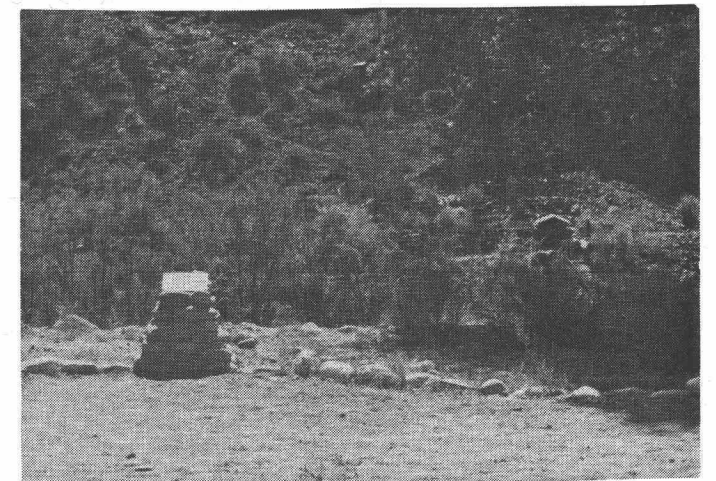
Aerial view of Bright Angel Creek delta (note Colorado  
River lower left)



NPS mule corral (see page 26)



Trail junction near Trail Crew Bunkhouse (see page 22)



Cross Canyon Telephone Line commemorative display

... Everything is alive,  
dynamic with constant  
change. Even the stones  
breathe; water is electric; the  
air is luminous... we  
measure minutes, the river  
ignores millenniums.

Frank Waters

## CIRCULATION

Access to Phantom Ranch is via the North Kaibab Trail (from the North Rim), Bright Angel and South Kaibab Trails (from the South Rim), or the Colorado River (raft trip). After crossing the Colorado, the Bright Angel and South Kaibab Trails converge near the Rock House Bridge. At this juncture two trails continue north: the campground trail on the west bank of Bright Angel Creek provides access to Bright Angel Campground while the main trail parallels Bright Angel Creek and continues north to the resort cluster. Numerous other trails have come into use since the period of significance (see below and section map # 3).

## VEGETATION

The primary vegetative impact on Phantom Ranch is provided by cottonwood trees. First introduced during the development of Rust Camp in 1907, and planted in large quantities by the CCC in 1933, cottonwoods provide a much needed relief from the heat and glare of the canyon's inner gorge. Over 380 are found throughout the site with the heaviest concentrations along Bright Angel Creek and in the resort cluster.

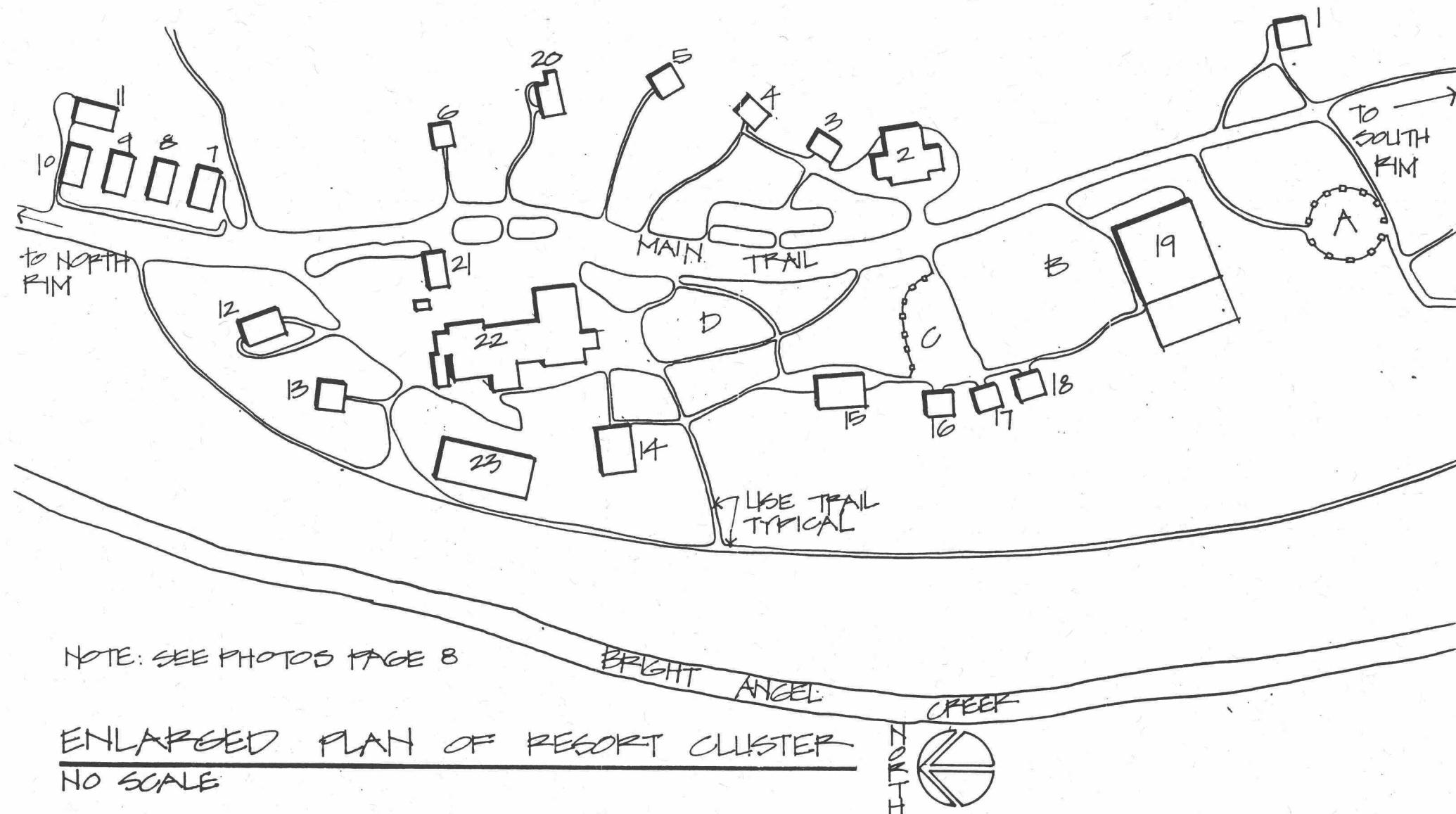
## CLUSTER ARRANGEMENT

Twenty three buildings and four open spaces make up the Phantom Ranch resort cluster:

- 1) Guide Cabin (1926)
- 2) Shower House (1930)
- 3)-18) Guest Cabins (1922-1928)
- 19) Fred Harvey Company Employee Bunkhouse
- 20) Manager Cabin (1922)
- 21) Restrooms/Maintenance (1925)
- 22) Dining Hall (1922)
- 23) Laundry Building (1986)

- A) Dude Corral (1928)
- B) Swimming Pool (constructed 1934 by the CCC & filled in by the Fred Harvey Company in 1972)
- C) Interpretation Area
- D) Dining Hall common area

Note: Buildings 12, 14, 15, and 22 were designed by Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter.

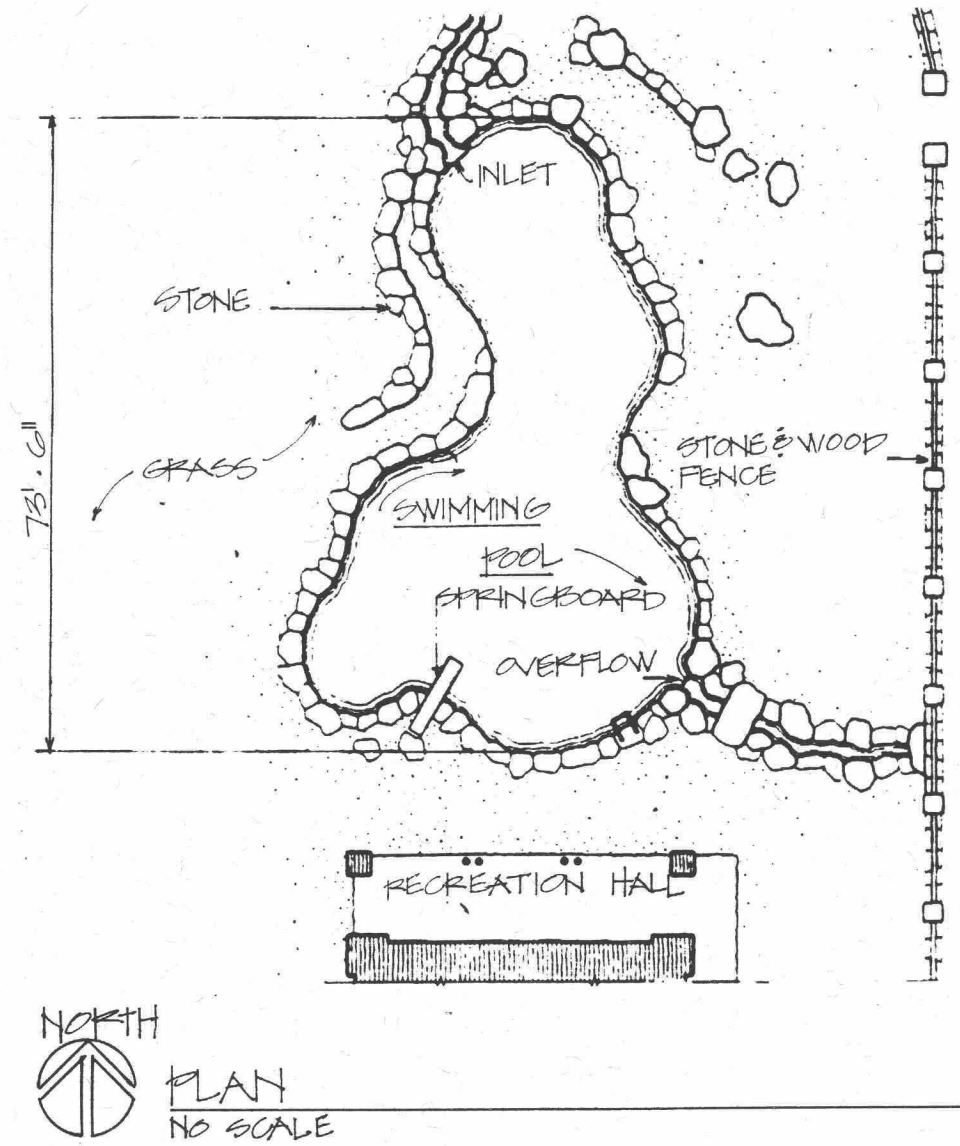


NOTE: SEE PHOTOS PAGE 8

ENLARGED PLAN OF RESORT CLUSTER  
NO SCALE

*We are preoccupied with time.  
If we could learn to love space  
as deeply as we are now  
obsessed with time, we might  
discover a new meaning to the  
phrase, 'to live like men.'*

Edward Abbey



Three views of the pool at Phantom Ranch. From top left clockwise: small scale plan; 1934 scene; 1991 scene. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934 and fed via an irrigation ditch from Bright Angel Creek, the swimming pool was used by CCC enrollees, Phantom Ranch guests, and employees until it was filled in by the Fred Harvey Company in 1972.



*May there be no moaning at  
the bar when I embark on my  
next journey.*

Emery Kolb

## STATEMENT of SIGNIFICANCE

Joseph Christmas Ives's observation in 1858 (see quote on page 5) describes the harsh and forbidding environment that the Grand Canyon presented to early settlers and entrepreneurs. And yet seventy years later a portion of the Grand Canyon known as Phantom Ranch had become a world famous dude ranch offering amenities usually found only in more civilized locations.

Following David Rust's construction of Rust Camp in 1907 and extending through Santa Fe Railway and Fred Harvey Company's substantial development of the area, the landscape at Phantom Ranch continued to evolve and change. By the late 1920's Phantom Ranch not only offered food and lodging but boasted a fruit orchard, alfalfa field, chicken coop, dairy cow, blacksmith shop, river rock fences, rustic cabins, and by 1934 a swimming pool shaded by mature cottonwood trees.

Over time, natural and human impacts have altered many of these components of the landscape: the orchard has succumbed to neglect; the swimming pool has been filled in; the chicken coop and blacksmith shop were buried under a landslide; much of the stone walls were destroyed by the 1966 flood; and all of the alfalfa field is gone. Non-compatible land uses have intruded (Sewage Treatment Plant); new structures with contrasting architectural styles have been built; and many of the cottonwood trees are senescent and require replacement.

Yet despite these interventions and intrusions much of the historic landscape at Phantom Ranch remains intact. Phantom Ranch reflects continuous and consistent land-use (resort/campground) since 1922 and can trace its first use as a dude ranch to 1907. Other landscape systems and features possessing historic integrity are: patterns of spatial organization; response to the natural environmental (location of buildings to mitigate summer heat); circulation networks (historic Bright Angel Trail); vegetation related to land-use (the use of cottonwood trees to ameliorate heat and glare); structures and objects related to the use of the land (guest cottages, bunkhouses, toilet, shower, and dining facilities, telephone lines, and sewer, water, and irrigation infrastructure); clusters (the resort cluster as a response to the natural environment and as a facilitator of a social environment); archaeological sites (Anasazi ruins at the Bright Angel site); and numerous small scale elements such as bridges, sewer pipeline support piers, and corral fences.

Phantom Ranch possesses historic significance on a local, regional, and national level within the context of the expansion of tourism and according to National Register criteria A, C, and D.

**Criterion A**, landscapes associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of history:

Santa Fe Railway extended service to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon in 1901. Like other western railway companies (Union Pacific promoted Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks), Santa Fe increased its ridership by developing resorts in the national parks which it served. At the time, the government had few resources it could allocate for park development so private development was encouraged.

Phantom Ranch, while unique among resorts because of difficult access, may be compared with and certainly influenced other resorts in the Southwest. Research has indicated that Zion Lodge in Zion National Park followed the same layout as Phantom Ranch, and former Park Service Director Stephen Mather reportedly encouraged the use of similar plans elsewhere after visiting Phantom Ranch (Clelland, 1986).

**Criterion C**, landscapes which embody the distinct characteristics of a type, period, or methods of construction; possessing high artistic values; or representing a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction:

During the 1920s the NPS developed an architectural style known as "NPS Rustic". Design guidelines of NPS Rustic called for the use of native materials in proper scale and a general avoidance of rigidness, straight lines, and sophistication. Concurrent with the evolution of NPS Rustic was the craft of Fred Harvey Company's designer, Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter (Clelland, 1986). Colter was responsible for much of the "natural looking" architecture on the South Rim and designed the first four buildings to be constructed at Phantom Ranch. Her precedent for inner canyon architecture would eventually be used as a design guideline for governmental buildings within the canyon and was compatible with and probably reinforced the NPS Rustic style then being developed independently by the Park Service.

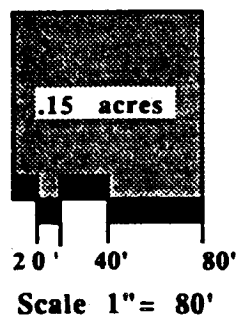
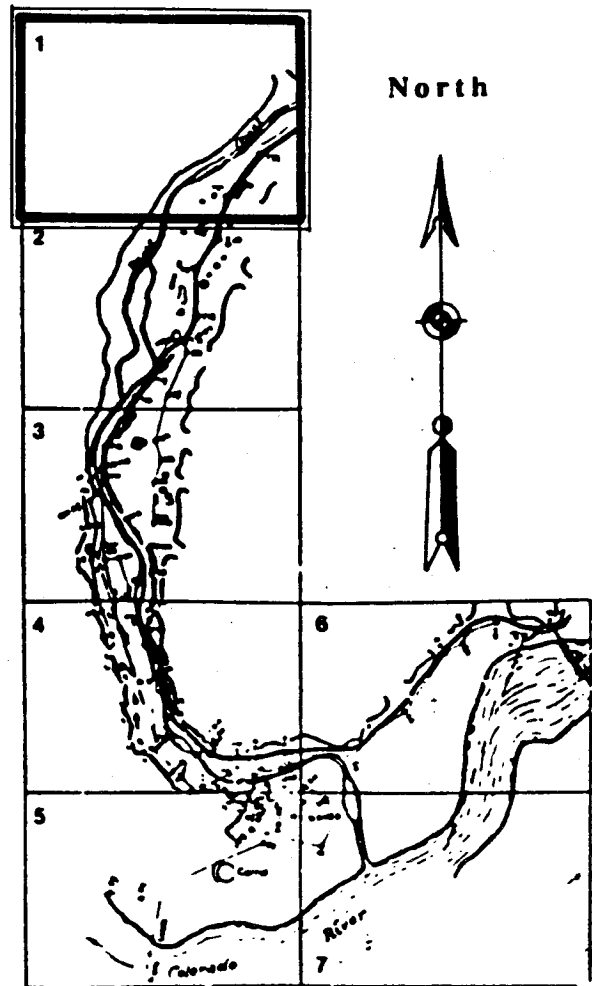
**Criterion D**, landscapes that have yielded or are likely to yield information important to history.

Phantom Ranch yields important information about the expansion of tourism in the western United States. More specifically, Phantom Ranch provides knowledge about railway promotion of western national parks, resort architecture, layout, and development.

## INTEGRITY

Phantom Ranch retains historic integrity in the following areas:

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Location:</b>    | All primary historic buildings, structures, and open spaces are sited in their original locations.  |
| <b>Design:</b>      | Most of the natural and cultural elements which comprise the spatial organization are intact.   |
| <b>Setting:</b>     | Phantom Ranch retains its physical location within Bright Angel Canyon.   |
| <b>Materials:</b>   | Historic structures retain original materials and where newer materials are used they are generally sensitive to the historic character of the Ranch. Vegetation, through natural and human assisted propagation essentially remain intact.   |
| <b>Workmanship:</b> | Notwithstanding the loss of evidence of the workmanship required to harvest crops from the alfalfa field and orchard, workmanship is exhibited in the methods used for construction of buildings and fences, maintenance of trails, and development of facilities for the care of pack animals. |
| <b>Feeling:</b>     | The site retains a very distinct and different feeling from the greater landscape context and evokes a rich sense of the human struggle required to exist and eventually live comfortably in a harsh natural environment.   |
| <b>Association:</b> | The structures and landscape fabric retain a strong association with their original uses and activities.  |

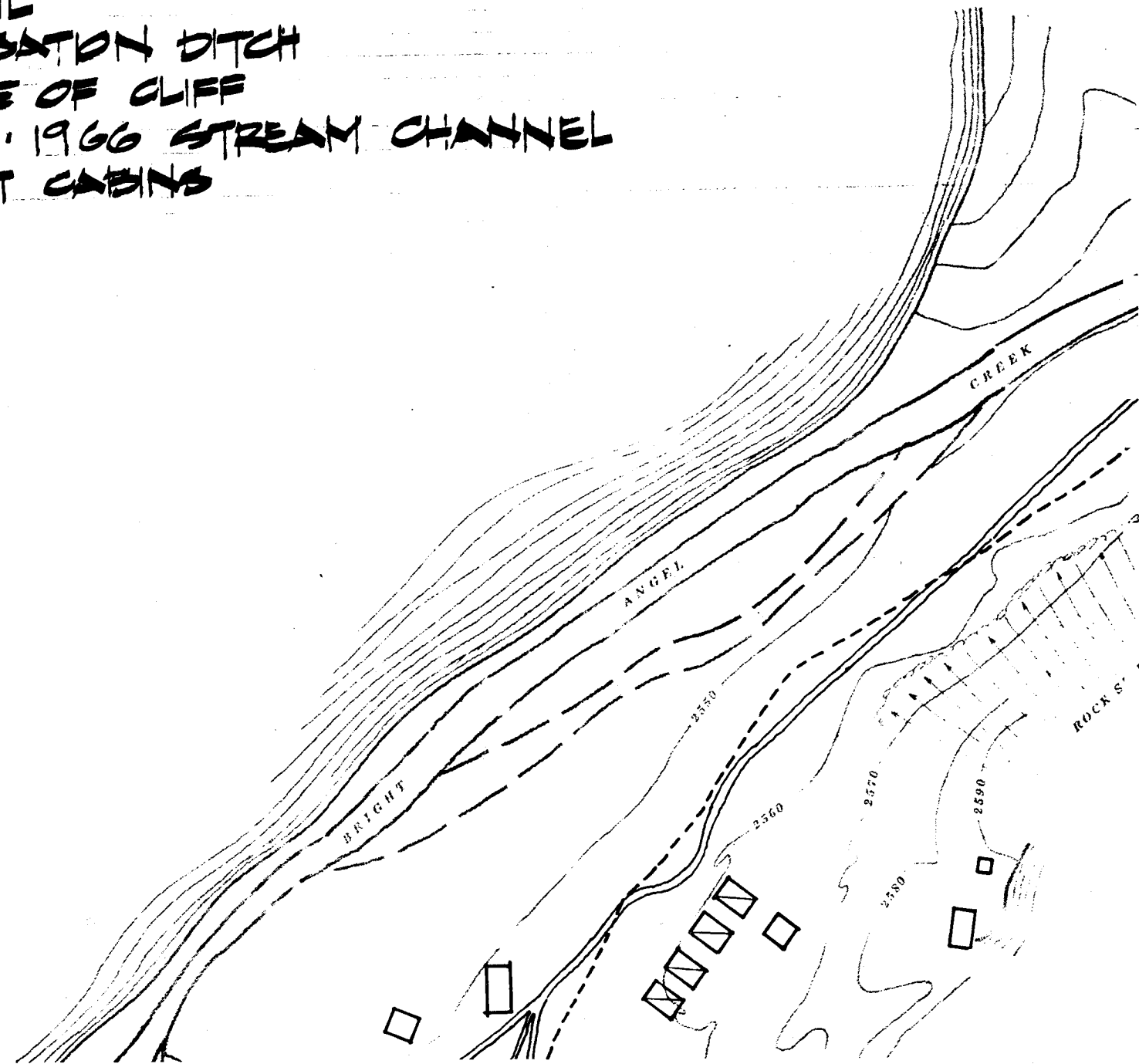


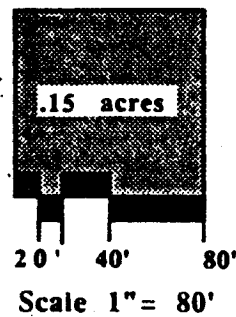
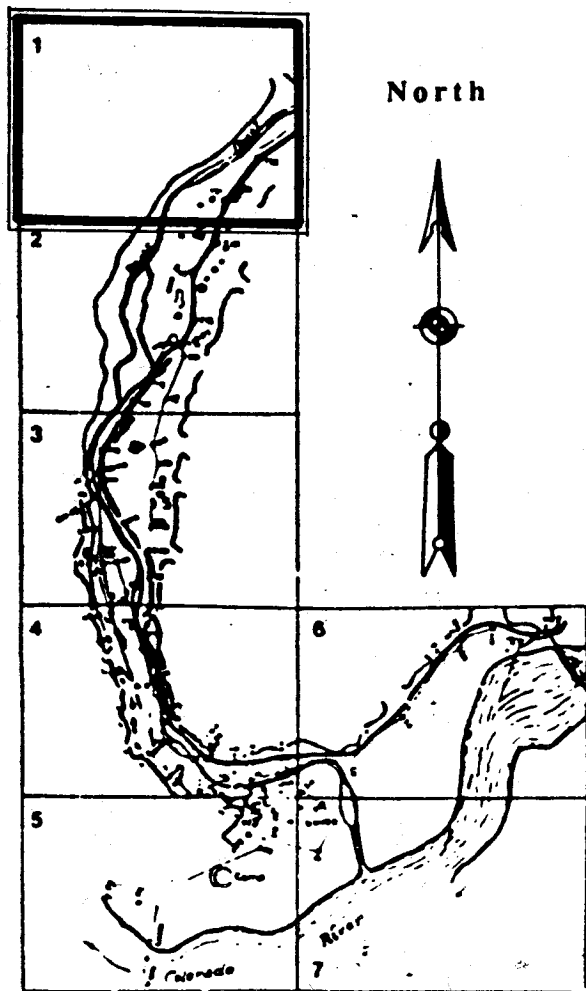
1922-1930

Phantom Ranch • Section 1

**LEGEND**

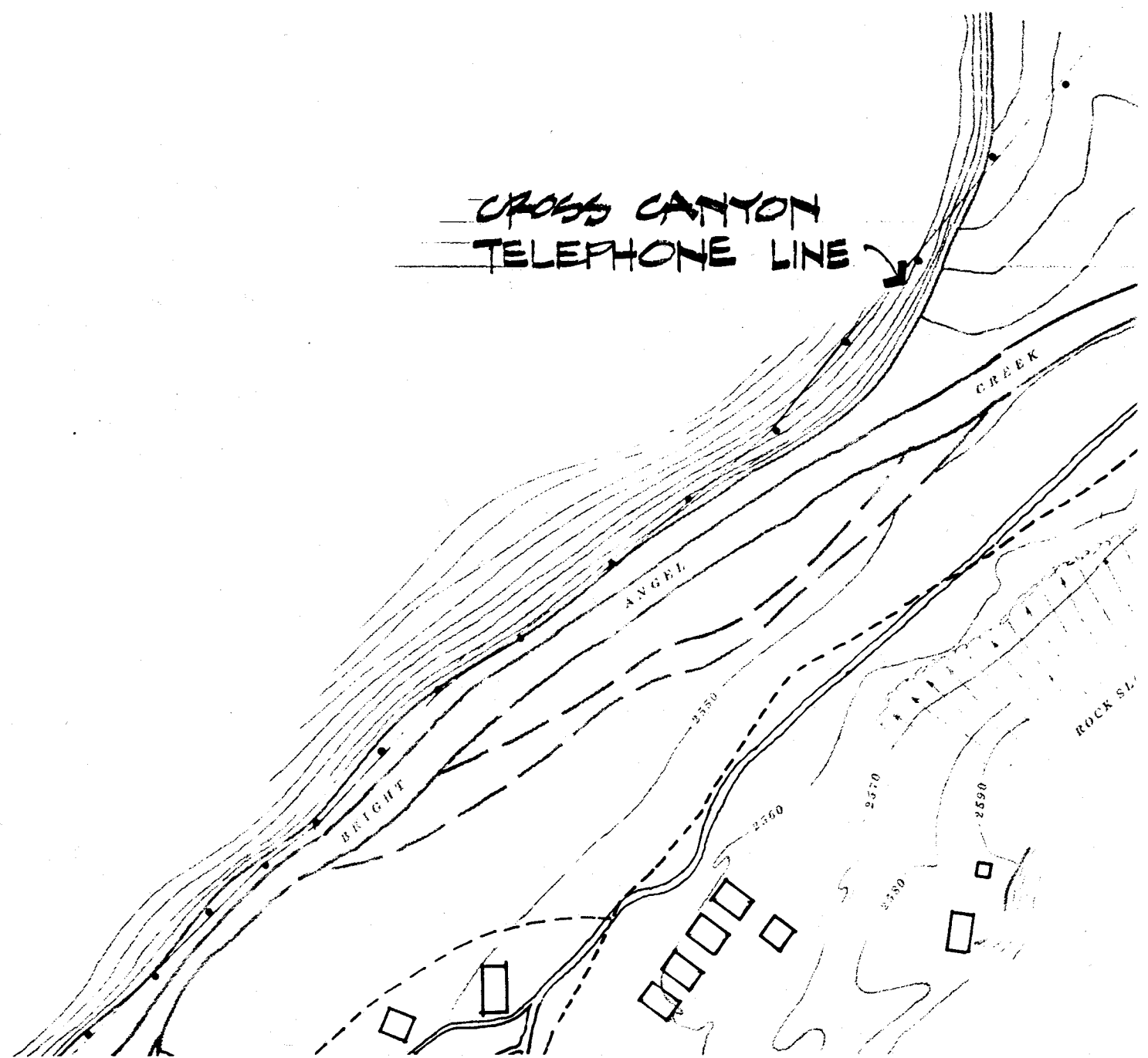
- TRAIL
- IRIGATION DITCH
- ≡≡≡ EDGE OF CLIFF
- - - - PRE-1966 STREAM CHANNEL
- TENT CABINS

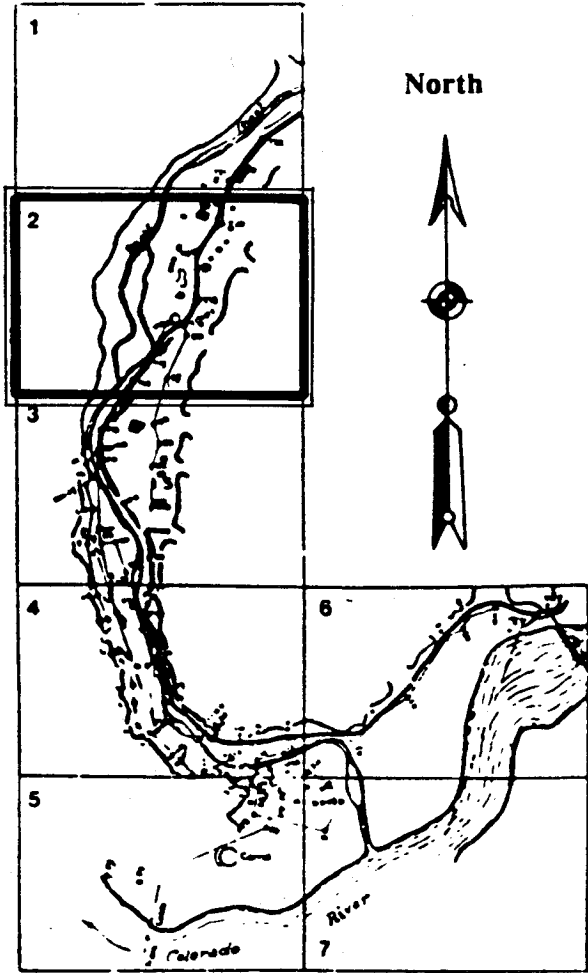




1991

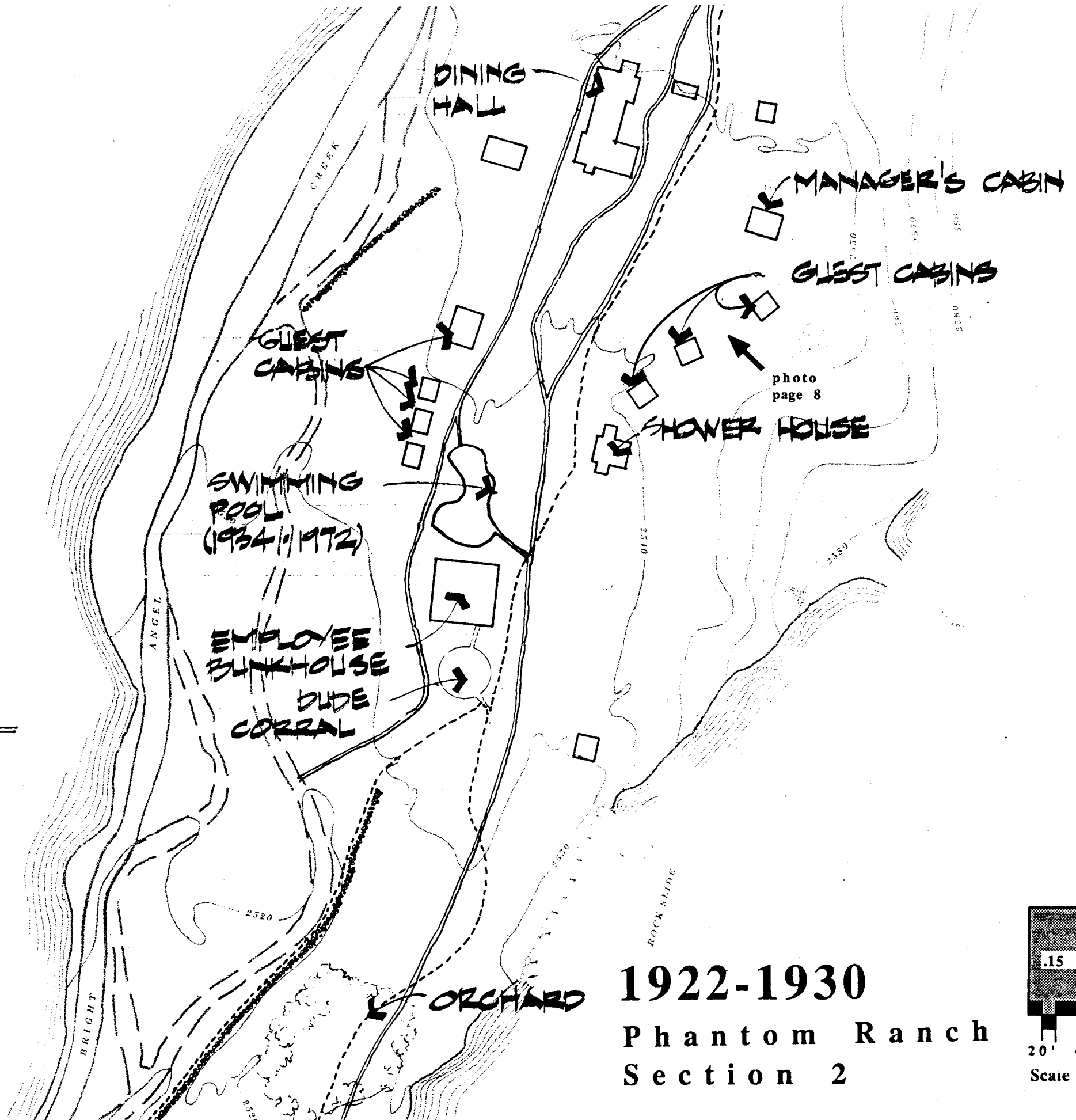
Phantom Ranch • Section 1





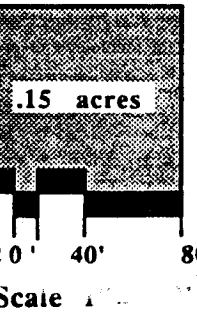
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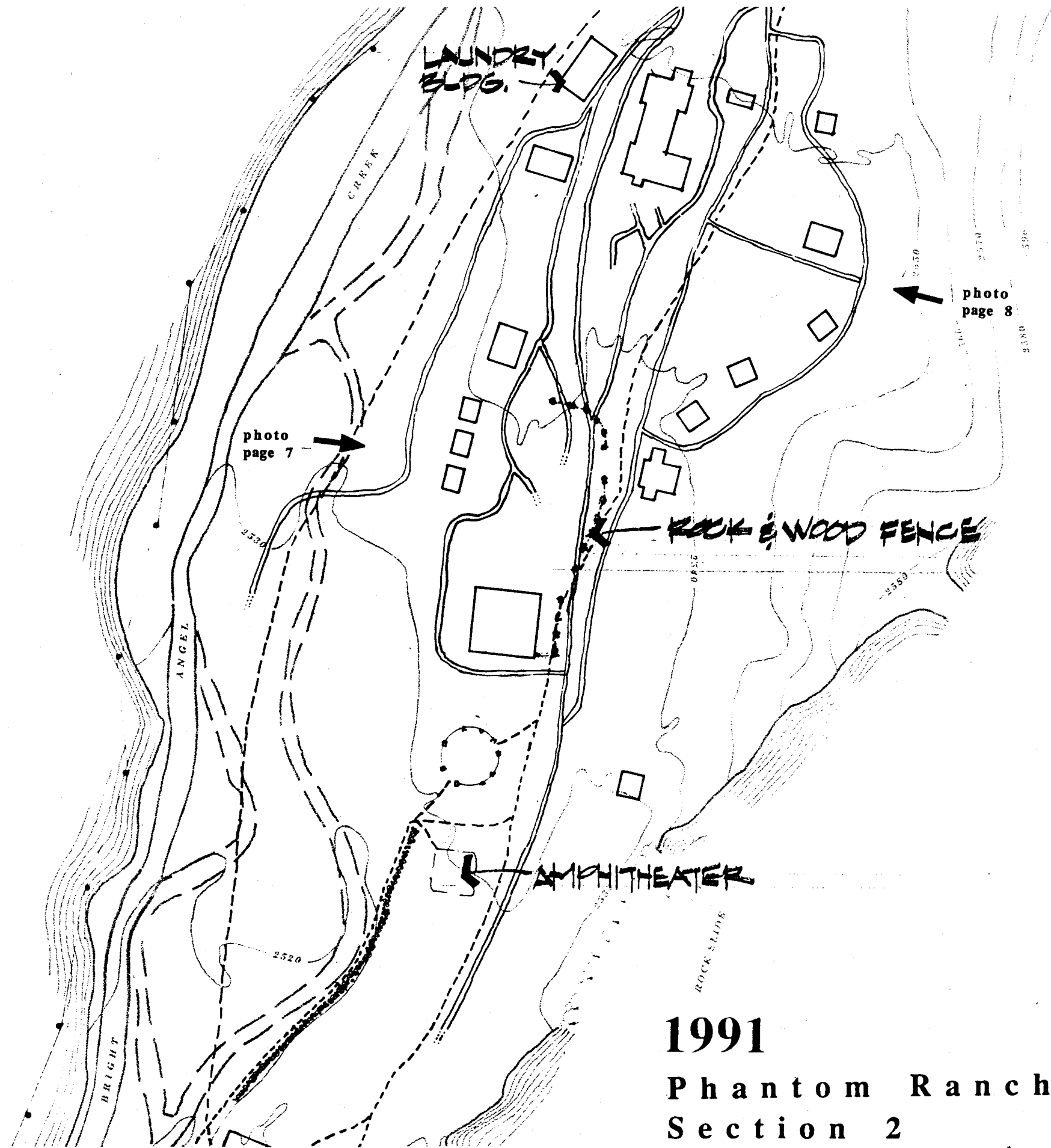
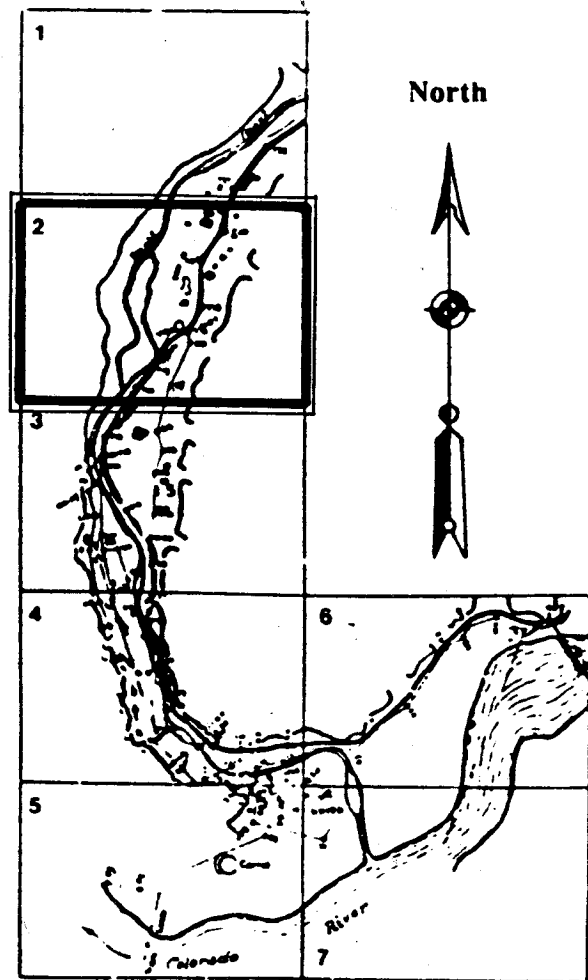
- TRAIL
- IRIGATION DITCH
- ≡≡≡ EDGE OF CLIFF
- PRE-1966 STREAM CHANNEL
- ▬▬▬ ROCK WALL 3' HIGH & WIDE

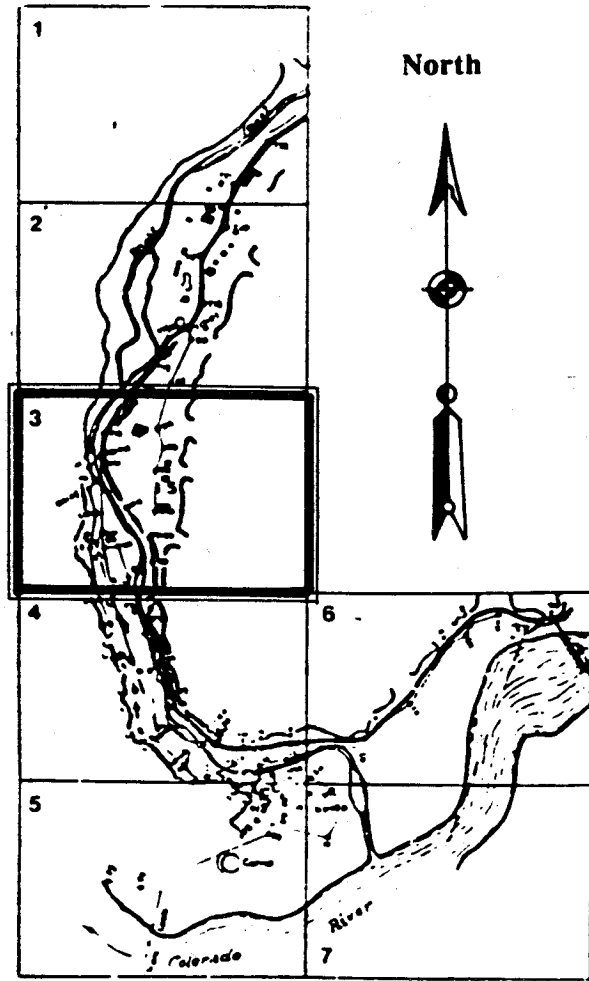


## 1922-1930

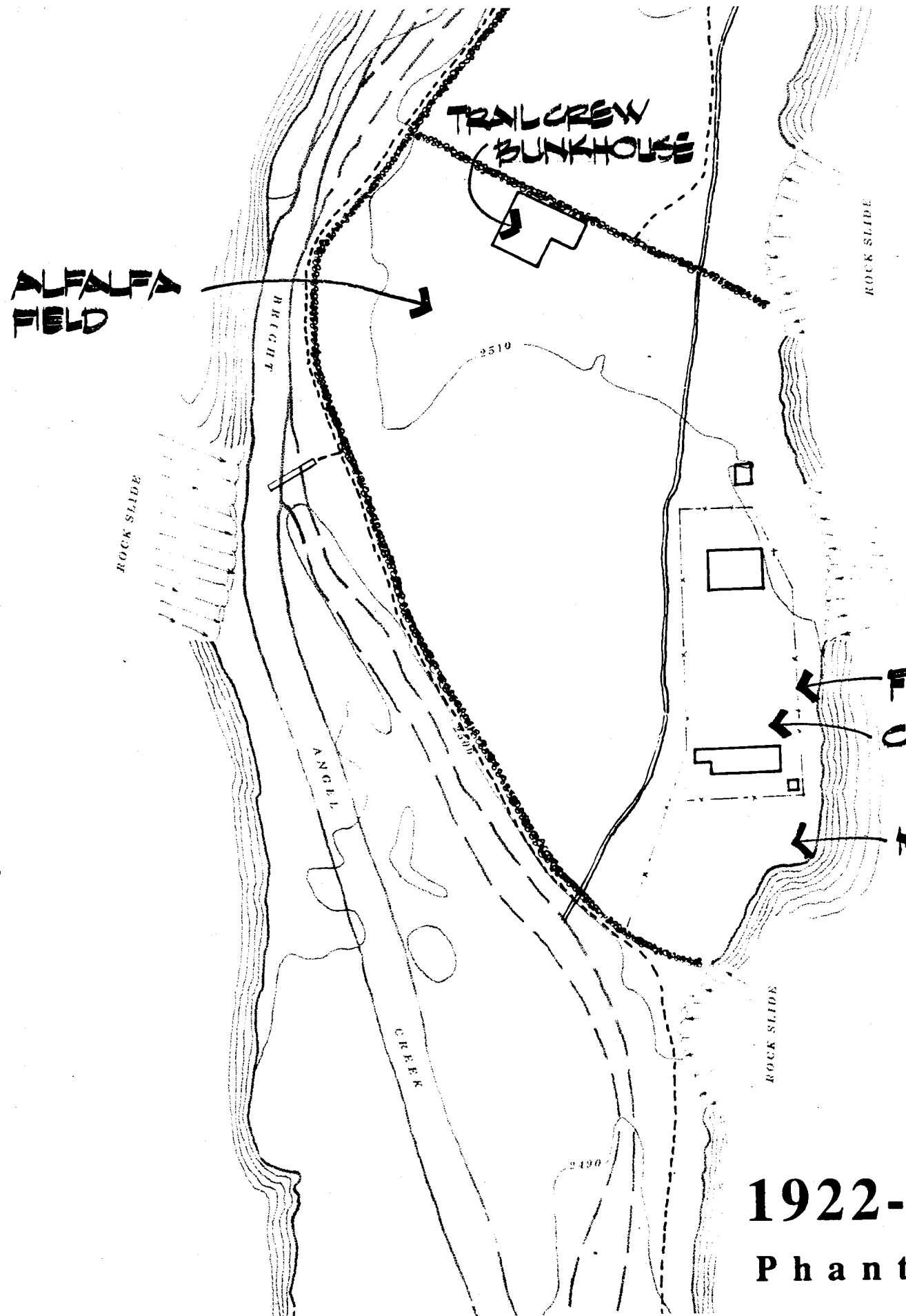
### Phantom Ranch Section 2







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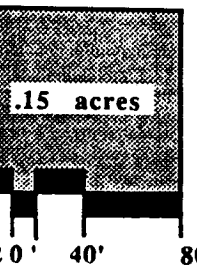


### LEGEND

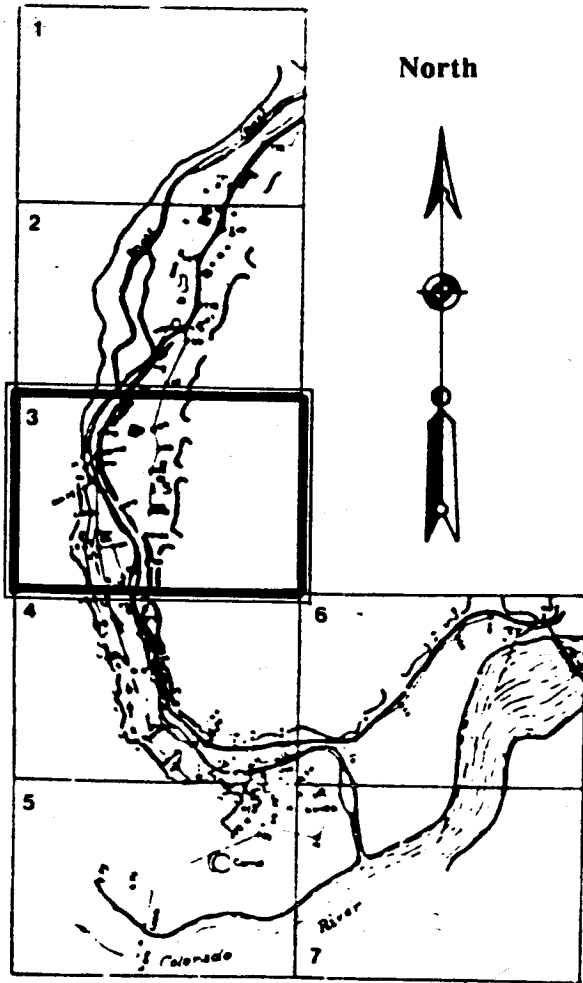
- TRAIL
- ==== IRRIGATION DITCH
- ===== EDGE OF CLIFF
- PRE-1966 STREAM CHANNEL
- ~~~~~ ROCK WALL 3' HIGH & WALL

# 1922-1930

## Phantom Ranch • Section 3

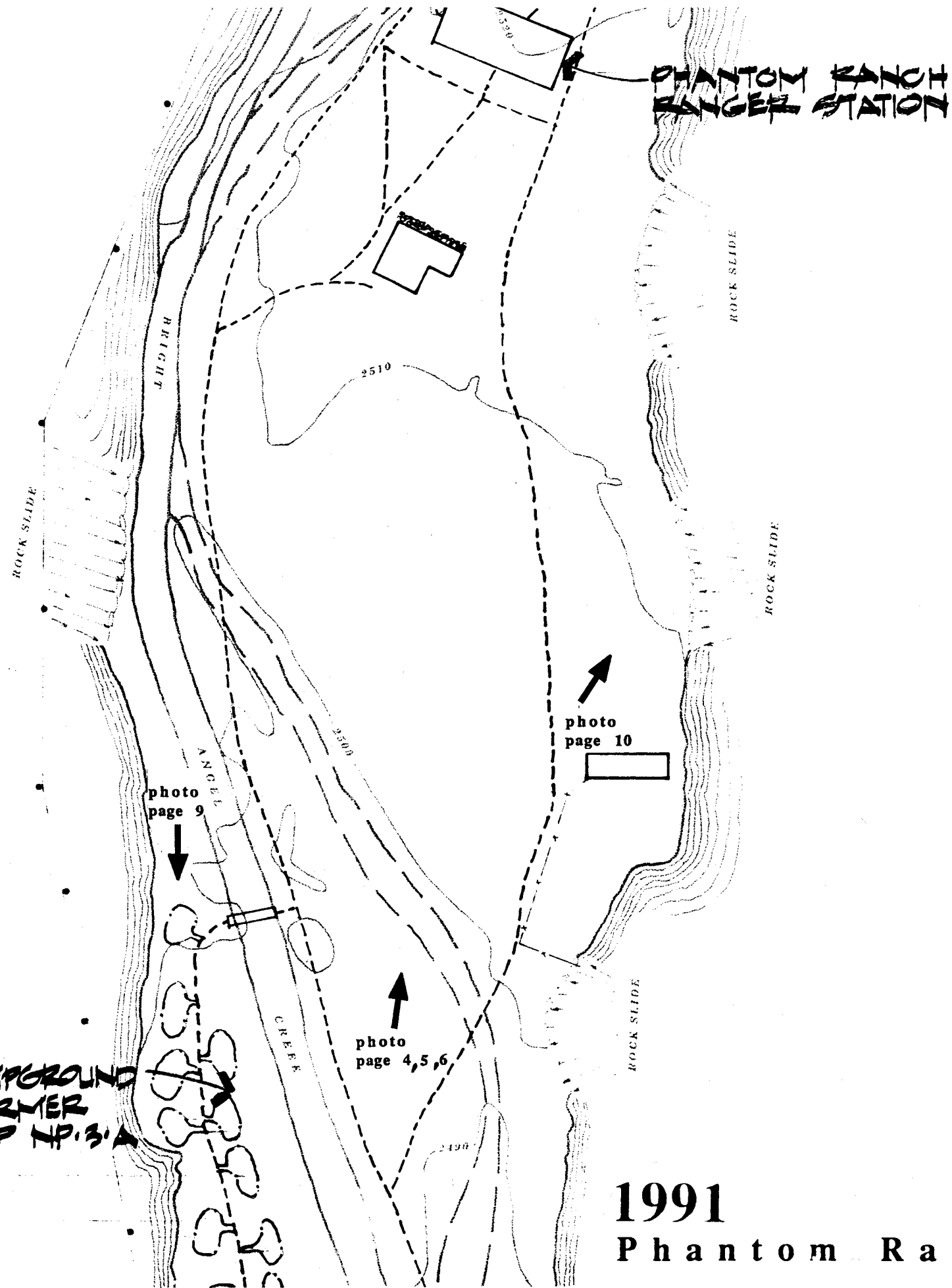


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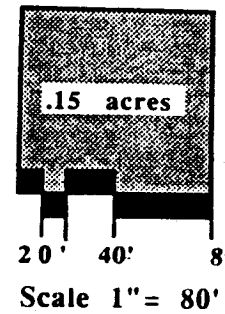
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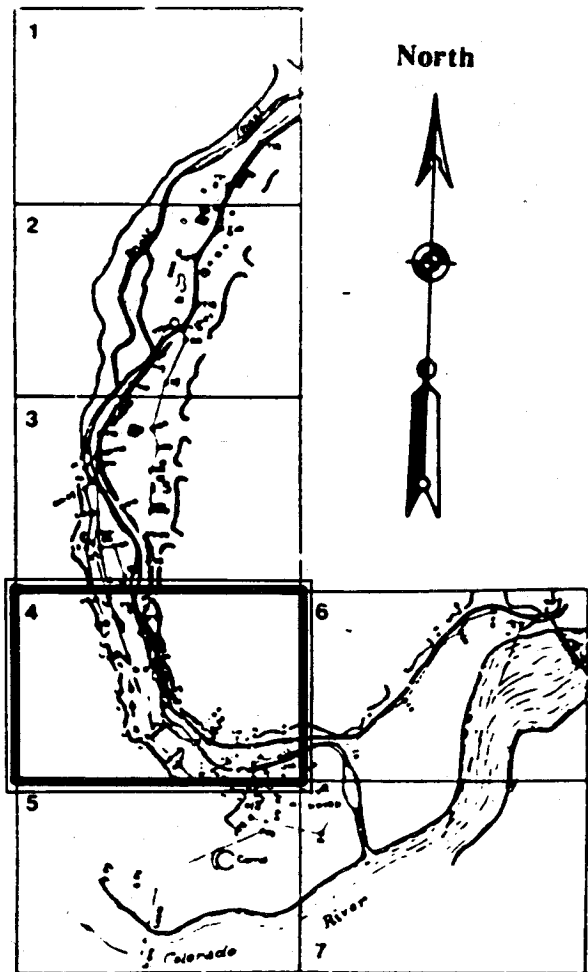
**BRIGHT ANGEL CAMPGROUND  
 33 CAMPSITES, FORMER  
 LOCATION OF CAMP NP.3.A  
 (CCC)**



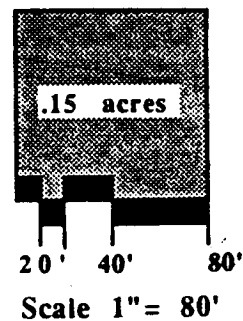
**1991**

**Phantom Ranch • Section 3**



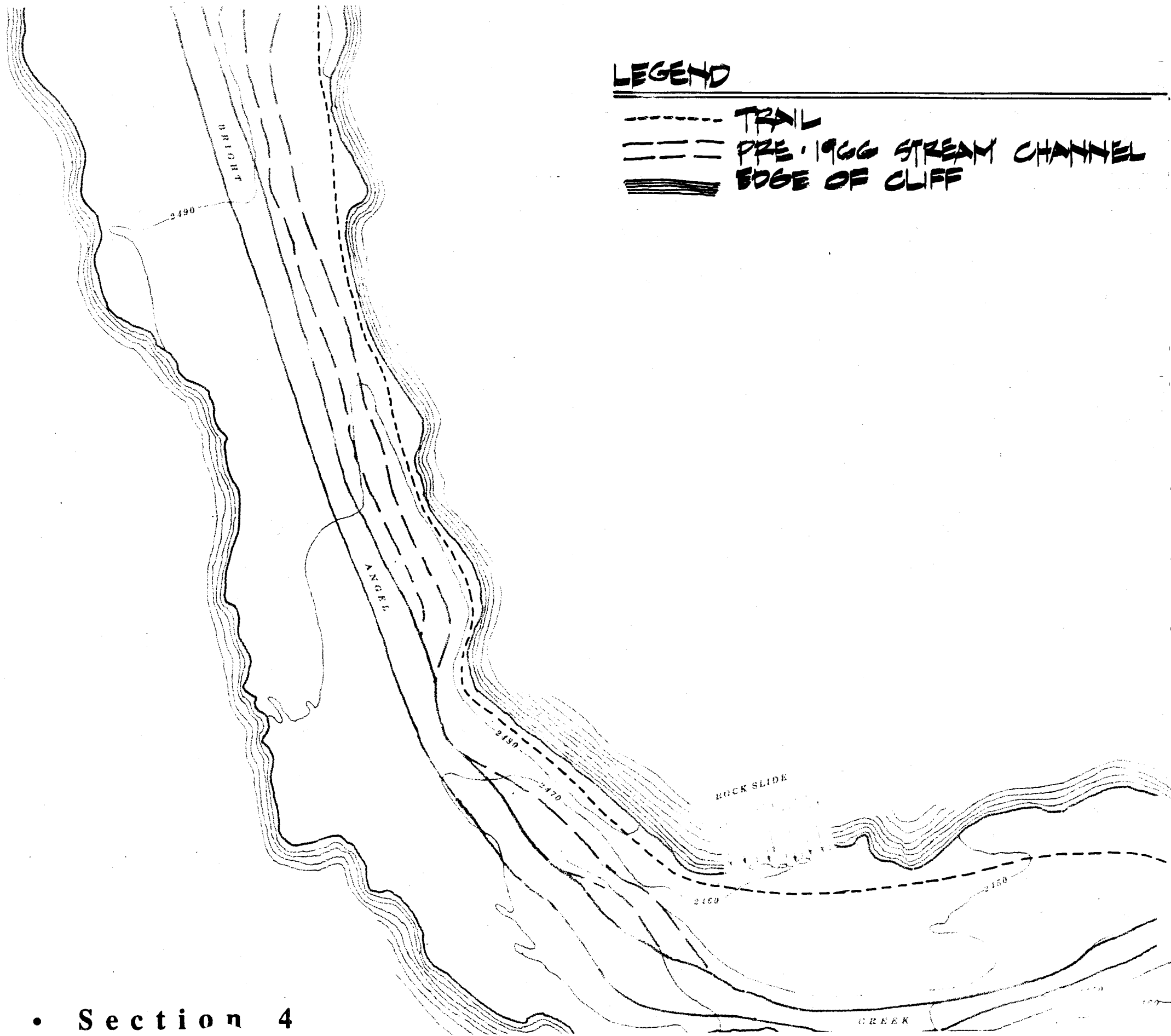


Index Map 1" = 800'



1922-1930

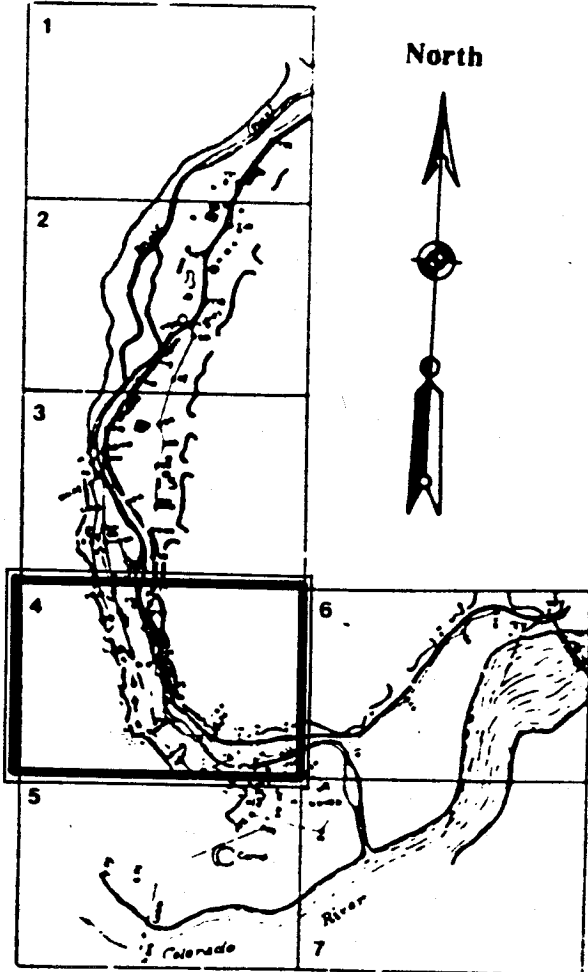
Phantom Ranch • Section 4



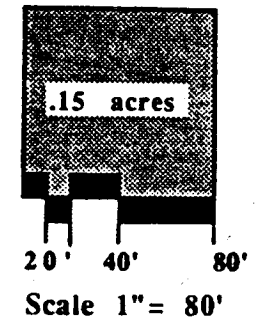
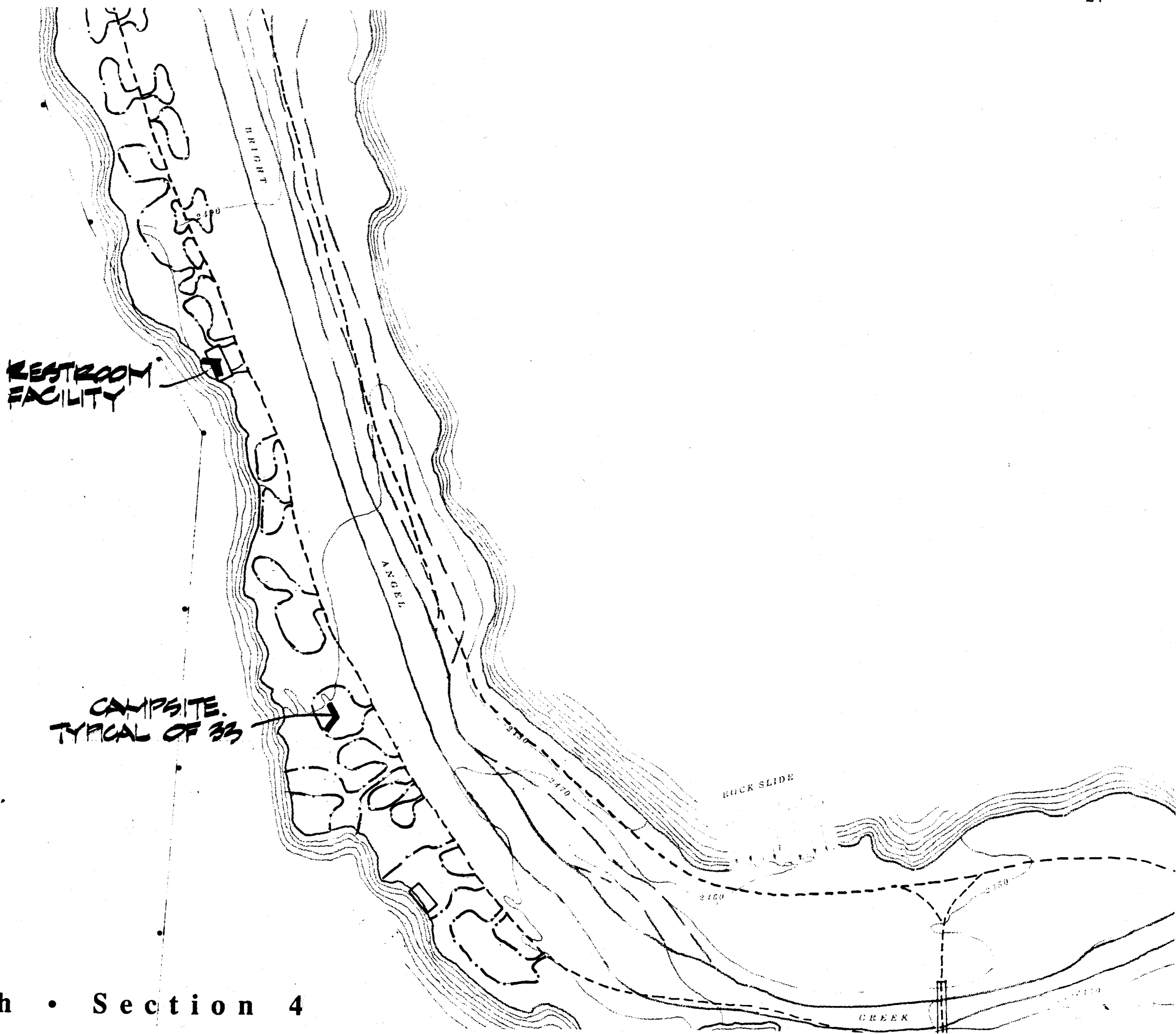
**LEGEND**

- TRAIL
- PRE-1966 STREAM CHANNEL
- ===== EDGE OF CLIFF

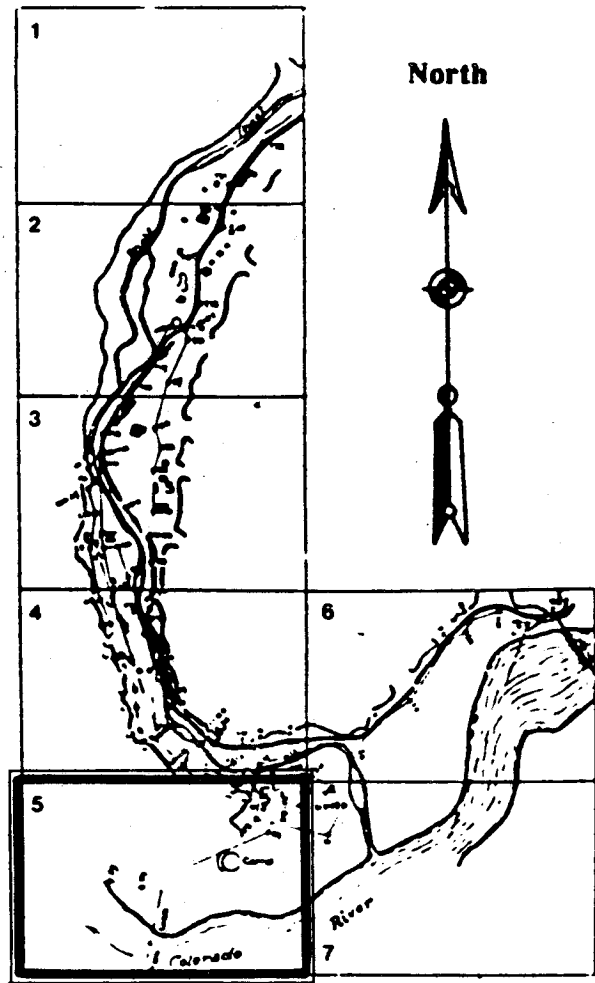




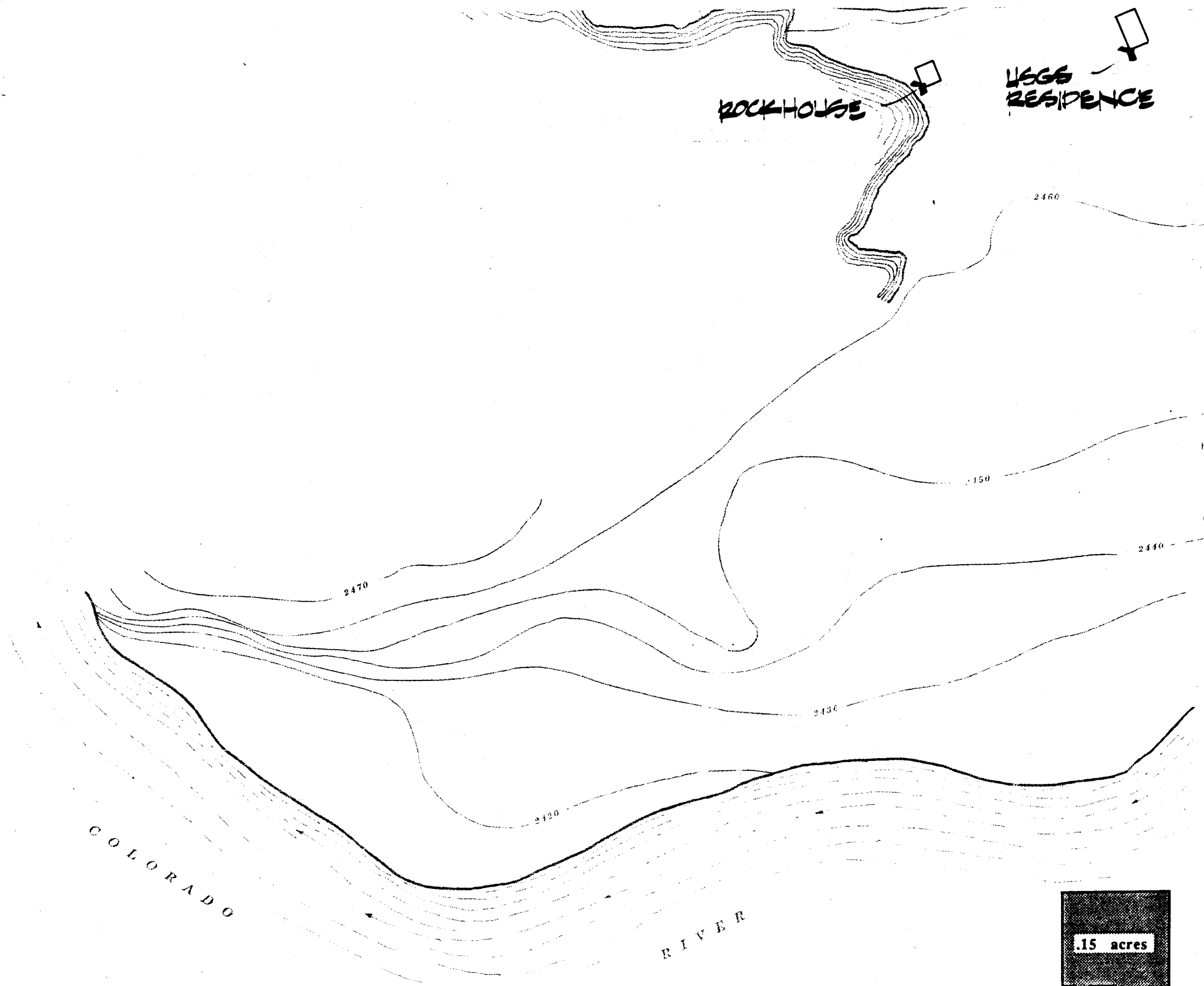
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**1991**  
**Phantom Ranch • Section 4**

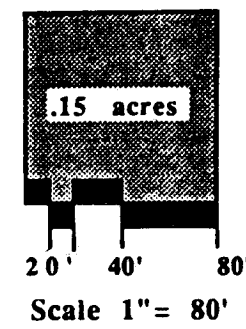


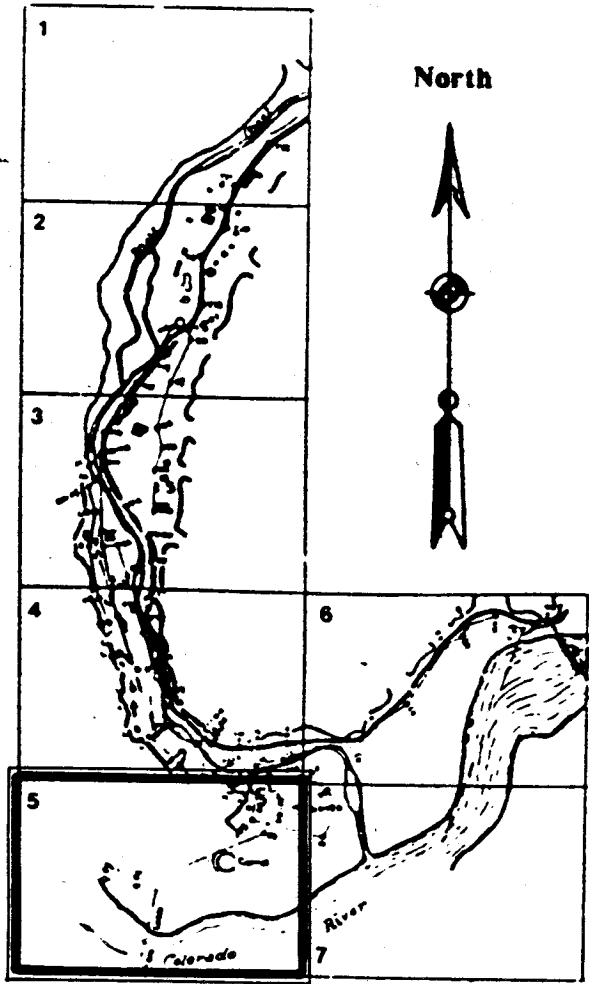
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1922-1930

Phantom Ranch • Section 5

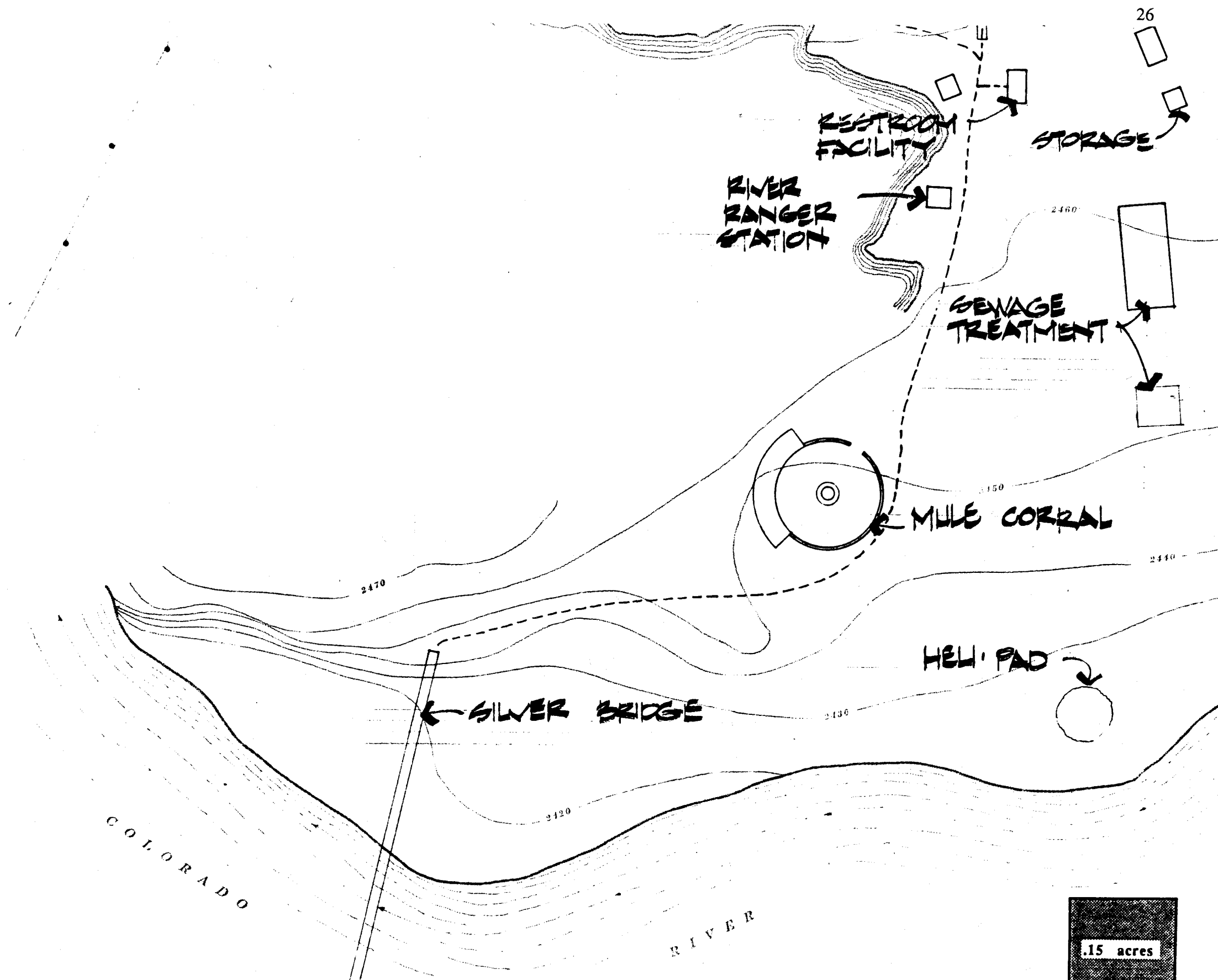




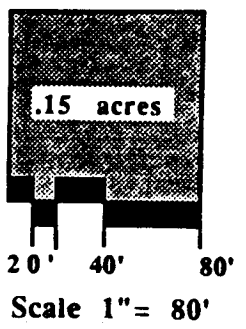
North

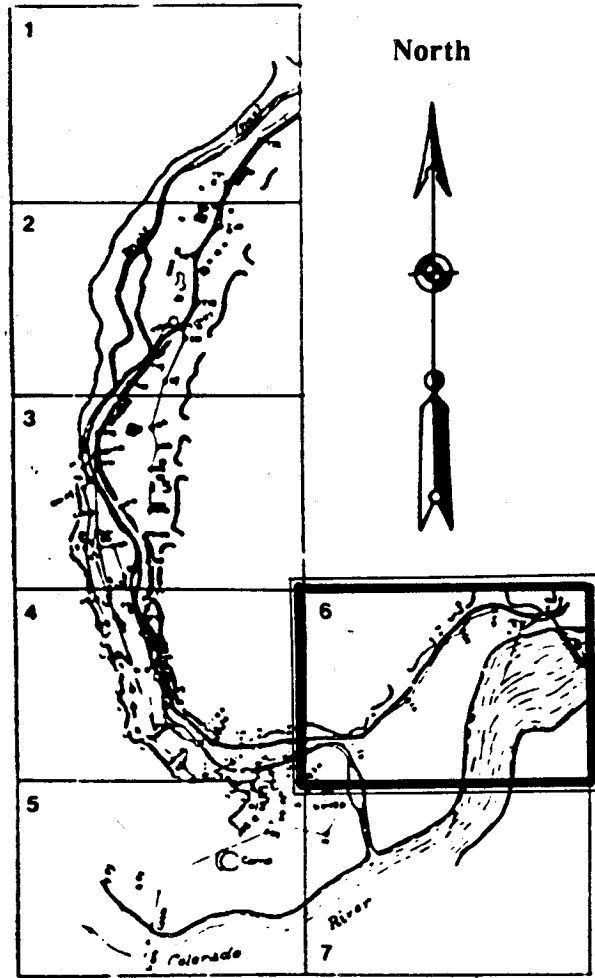


Index Map 1" = 800'



**1991**  
Phantom Ranch • Section 5





ANASAZI SITE  
1060-1150 AD

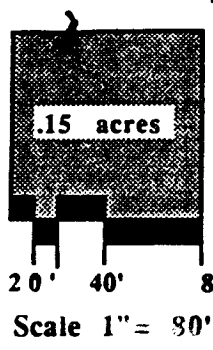
ROCK SLIDE

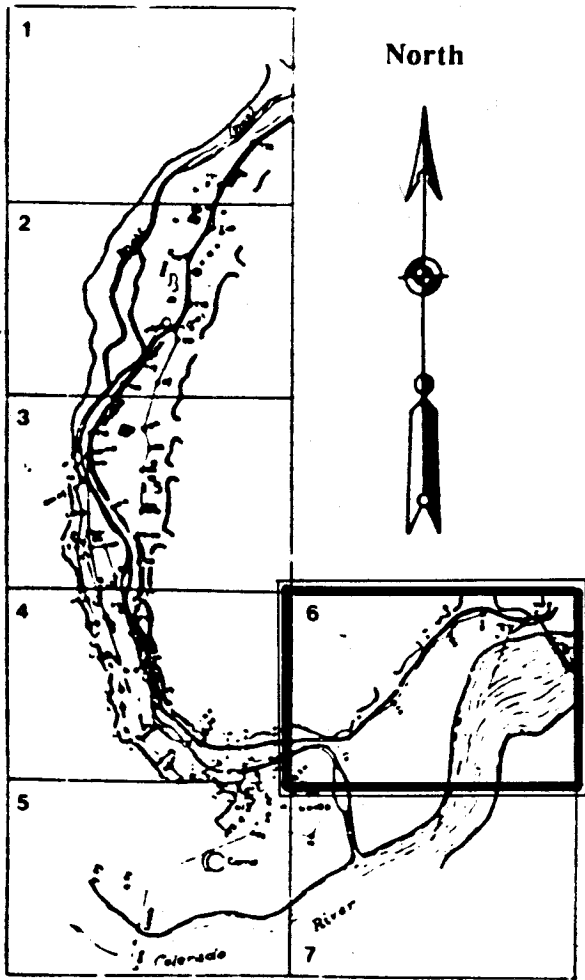
KAIABAB  
SUSPENSION BRIDGE

RIVER

COLORADO

1922-1930  
Phantom Ranch  
Section 6





Index Map 1" = 800'

North



**ANASAZI SITE**  
1060-1150 AD

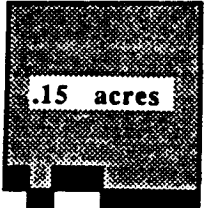
ROCK SLIDE

**KAPAS SUSPENSION BRIDGE**

REVER

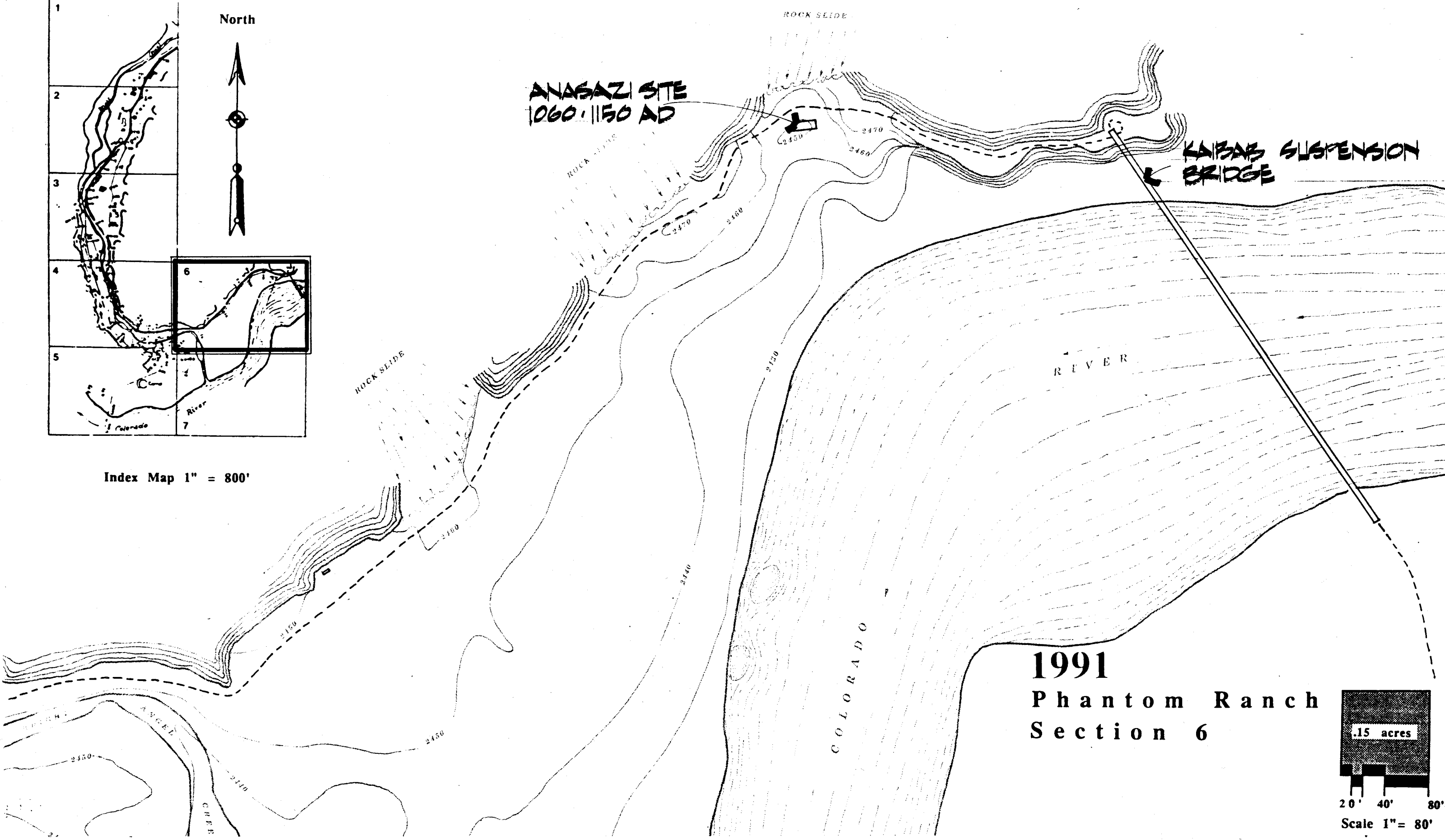
COLORADO

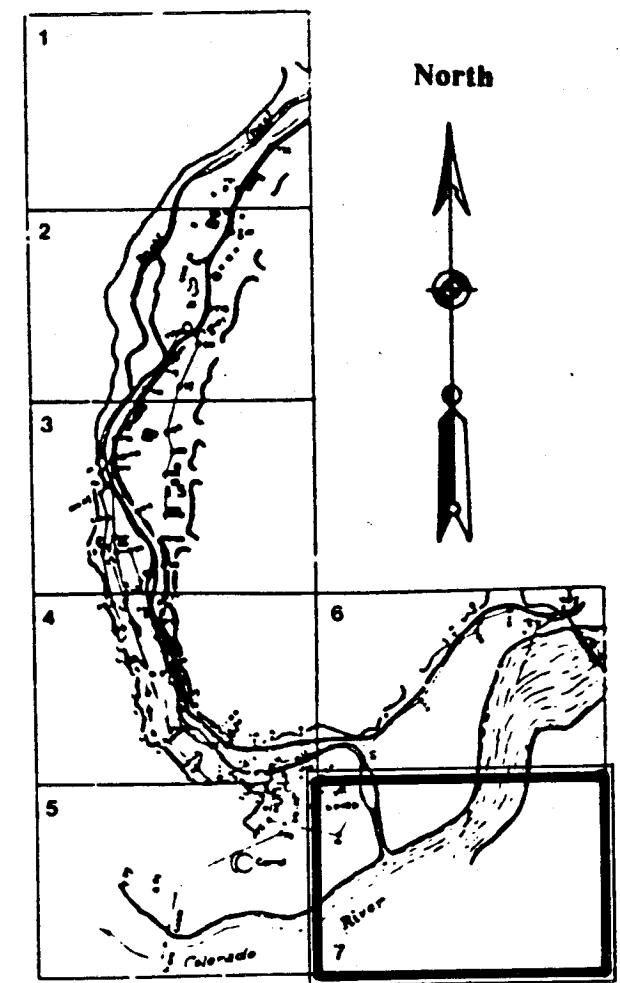
**1991**  
**Phantom Ranch**  
**Section 6**



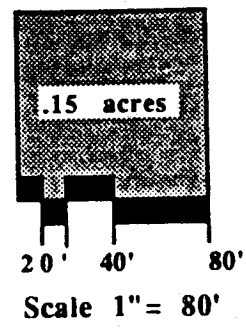
20' 40' 80'

Scale 1" = 80'



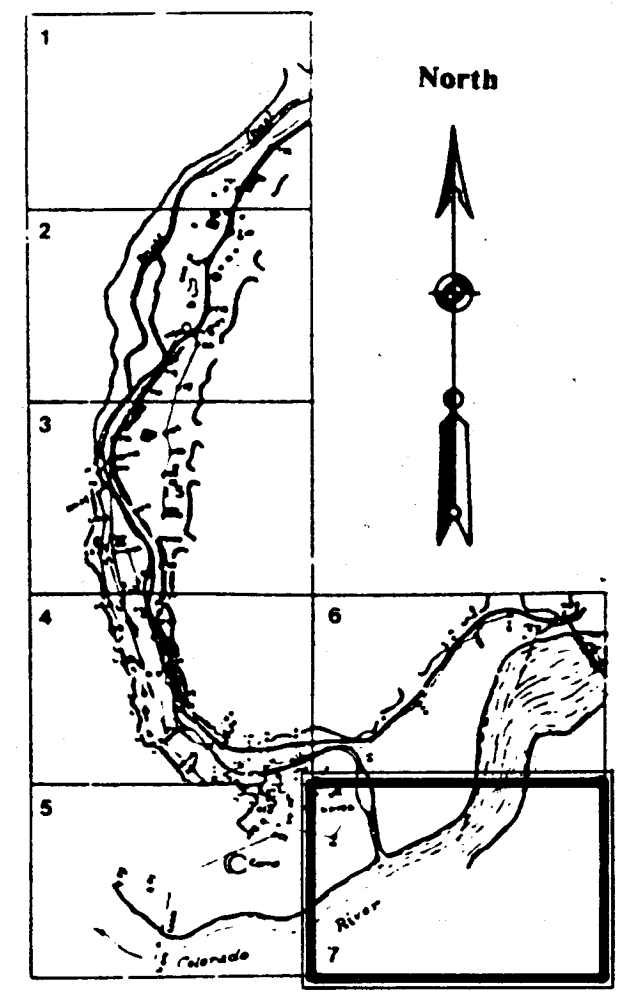
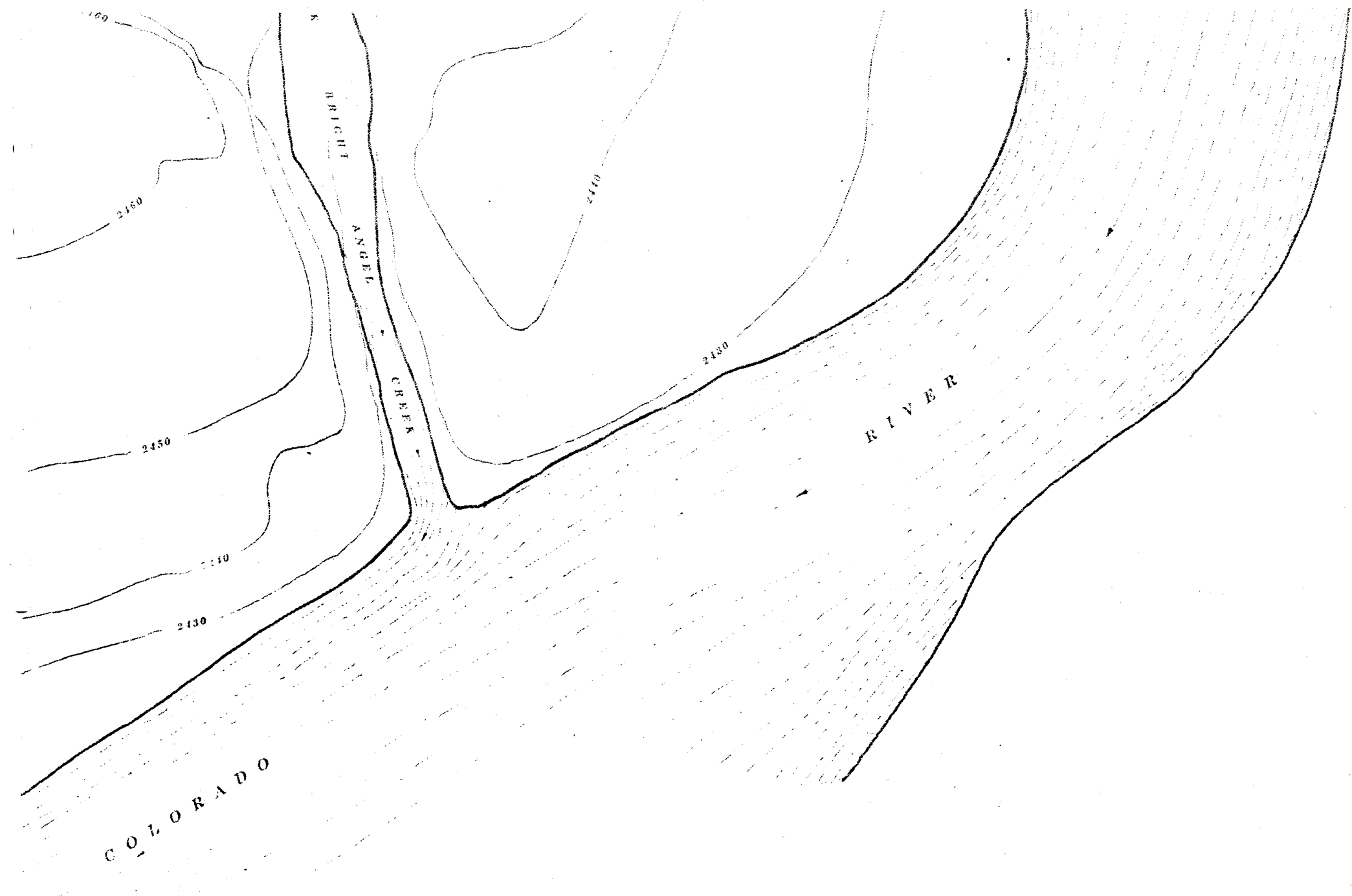


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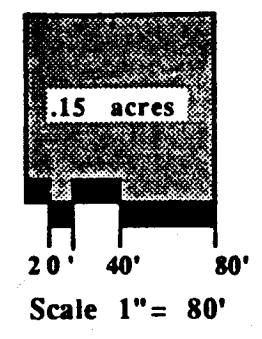


**1922-1930**

**Phantom Ranch • Section 7**



Index Map 1" = 800'



**1991**  
**Phantom Ranch • Section 7**

## GLOSSARY

*The fundamental purpose of the parks is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner and by such a means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.*

The National Park Act

**Historic Context** - An important historic trend or theme such as development of tourism, or America at work, indicating whether the landscape is unique or representative of a time and place.

**Historic Integrity** - A measure of a rural historic landscape's evolution and current condition in terms of how well it conveys the characteristics that existed during the landscape's historic period.

**Historic Significance** - Is meaning or value ascribed to an object, building, structure, site, district, or landscape? These aspects and the National Register's criteria: A, B, C, and D, are used to determine relative historic significance of a property within the framework of a community, region, or state's historic contexts.

**Rural Historic Landscape** - A geographical area that historically has been used by people, or shaped or modified by human activity, occupancy, or intervention, and that possess a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of areas of land-use, vegetation, buildings and structures, roads and waterways, and natural features.

## NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION PROCESS

### IDENTIFICATION

- Develop historic context
- Conduct historic research
- Survey the landscape

### EVALUATION

- Define significance
  - 1) Apply the National Register criteria
  - 2) Select areas of significance
  - 3) Define period of significance
- Assess integrity
  - 1) Apply qualities of integrity
  - 2) Identify changes and threats to integrity
  - 3) Classify contributing & non-contributing structures
  - 4) Weigh overall integrity
- Select defensible boundaries
  - 1) Define the historic property
  - 2) Decide what to include
  - 3) Select appropriate edges

### REGISTRATION

- Complete National Register forms
- Follow registration procedures in 36 CFR part 60



... and so there ain't more to write about, and I am rotten glad of it, because if I'd a knowed what a trouble it was to make a book I wouldn't a tackled it and I ain't agoing to no more. But I reckon I got to light out for the territory ahead of the rest, because Aunt Sally she's going to adopt me and sivilize me and I can't stand it. I been there before.

Mark Twain

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Melnick, Robert Z. 1984. Cultural Landscapes: Rural Historic Districts in the National Park Service. U.S. Department of the Interior. Washington, D. C.

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Thorum, Reho Voices: Compiled Upon the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. On file at Grand Canyon Study Collection, Grand Canyon National Park.

### Personal Communication

Ms. Cathy Gilbert, Historical Architect, NPS Pacific Northwest Regional Office.

Mr. Dave Buccello, NPS Ranger, Zion National Park, Utah.

Mr. Jim Garrison, Historical Architect, Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, Phoenix.

Mr. Doug Brown, Cultural Resources Specialist, Grand Canyon National Park.

Ms. Zehra Osman, Park Landscape Architect, Grand Canyon National Park.

## Maps and Plans

NPS Drawing #113/388 1928. "The A. T. & S. F. Ry. Co. Map Showing Property Under Lease to Fred Harvey with Improvements Thereon and Areas for Future Developments. Being known as Phantom Ranch Grand Canyon, Arizona." On file at NPS Grand Canyon Study Collection, Grand Canyon National Park.

NPS Drawing #GC-5108 1936. "Grand Canyon National Park Topographic Map, Phantom Ranch Area." On file at NPS Denver Service Center, Denver Colorado.

NPS Drawing #113/41042 1972. "Grand Canyon - Phantom Ranch Area." On file at NPS Denver Service Center, Denver Colorado.

