

784



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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Horace M. Albright Training Center,  
other names/site number Albright Training Center, Kowski Hall and Student Residences

### 2. Location

street & number Albright Avenue and Center Road  not for publication  
city or town Grand Canyon  vicinity  
state Arizona code AZ county Coconino code 005 zip code 86023

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Signature of certifying official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Way Edson H. Beall

9.30.13

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
6		<b>Total</b>

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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education, School

---



---



---



---



---



---

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education, School

---



---



---



---



---



---

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement

---



---



---



---



---

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Concrete Block

Wood

roof: Membrane and standing seam metal

other: Glass

---



---

---

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The Horace M. Albright Training Center (Albright Training Center) is the western facility of the National Park Service's employee training operations. It is located on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park on the northwest corner of Albright Avenue at the intersection of Center Road. Albright Training Center includes Kowski Hall, the classroom and administration center, and five Student Residence dormitories that were all built during the National Park Service's Mission 66 construction program (1956-1966). The Modernist style, one-story, gabled roofed Kowski Hall has many of the design attributes of the Park Service's visitor center construction program from the same era. The building, dedicated October 26, 1963, was enlarged in 2001-2006 with an architecturally compatible southwest wing to provide additional office space; it is separated from the original building with a hyphen connector. The interiors of Kowski Hall were totally removed and reconstructed at the same time. Located west of Kowski Hall, the five nearly identical dormitories, Student Residence Buildings, A through E, provide studio units for students and two staff apartments, as well as a registration office. The two-story, gabled roof dormitories have continuous porches on each elevation providing access to the front and rear entrances of the individual units. Buildings A and B were constructed with Kowski Hall in 1962-1963, Building C was built one a year later, and Buildings D and E were built in 1965. All of the dormitory interiors were totally reconfigured in 2001-2006 to create the studio units and to improve the lounge-recreation spaces of Building D. At the southeast façade of Kowski Hall, a curved driveway extends from Albright Avenue and connects to parking along the southeast end elevations of the dormitories. Concrete walkways edged with stone block curbing edge the original driveways and new concrete paved walkways provide pedestrian access through the site that retains the native vegetation of the South Rim of Grand Canyon.

---

### Narrative Description

The Horace M. Albright Training Center complex, consisting of Kowski Hall classroom building and five Student Residence dormitories, is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Albright Avenue and Center Road in Grand Canyon village on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. The environs include a large maintenance area across Albright Avenue, nearby residential areas, and new construction to the northwest. The site retains native plant material including pinon pine juniper, and ground cover. Kowski Hall faces southeast onto Albright Avenue. A circular drive enters the site from the northeast and curves in front of the building before exiting onto the avenue. Short term parking is located in front of the building adjacent to the original wide scored walkway leading to the main entrance, near the southwest corner of the original Kowski Hall. A similar walkway is located in front of Kowski Hall along the curve of the circular driveway. The driveway also connects to the parking areas of the dormitories along their aligned southeast end elevations that also have stone block curbing. Dormitory A is at the northeast end of the row nearest Kowski Hall. Near the southwest end, between Student Residence, Building D and E, is a driveway connecting to Albright Avenue. An extension of the parking extends southwest of the driveway providing for overflow parking and serving Buildings D and E. Concrete walkways connect the Student Residences with Kowski Hall along the parking areas, between the buildings along each long elevation, and connect the northwest end elevations with the classroom building. At the southeast façade of Kowski Hall, original sidewalks follow the curved driveway adjacent to a sandstone block curb. The original walkway to the main entrance is scored concrete forming large square blocks. The 2001-2006 addition to Kowski Hall extends from the southwest end of the original building and has concrete walkways connecting around it and to the walkways from the Student Residences providing access into Kowski Hall's rear entrances and the northwest covered patio enclosed with low concrete block walls. Extending off of the northeast end elevation of the building is an enclosed pentagonal-shaped service yard with a southeast entrance and a short driveway extending to the southeast circular drive.

#### Kowski Hall

Kowski Hall is a lineal one-story building constructed in 1962-1963 of pinkish concrete block, 8" x 14" x 4" high, and has an irregular gabled roof system. The walling block is laid in stack bond, on a concrete foundation. Typically, the larger window units, with fixed center glazing and upper and lower awning-type sash, have vertical board and batten above the heads and below the sills forming spandrel panels to the foundation. One-by-four battens are overlaid on the joints of 1x8 vertical siding. The membrane covered roof, replacing a built-up asphalt roof, of the original structure of Kowski Hall consists of a gabled front section with the ridge parallel with the southeast facade, though the southwest gable end is narrower than the northeast gable end. In the center, a shed roof structure heightens the rear slope over the larger classrooms and extends over the lower ridge to form a southwest ventilation monitor. The shed roof integrates into the

northeast roof over the service wing and rises above south roof section where it is faced with concrete block. The gable ends are open and have wide overhangs trimmed with barge boarding matching the fascia of the eaves that have hidden gutters. Typically, the soffits of the eaves are sheathed in plywood with a narrow batten over the joints. The southeast roof monitor is infilled with board and batten walling that forms vents by omitting the vertical siding. A concrete block chimney rises above the north section's rear slope and serves the building's furnace in the mechanical room. In 2001-2006 the building was extended southwest to create new offices for the faculty. The addition, on a concrete foundation, reflects the original building's architectural materials and detailing in nearly every aspect, but is constructed in common bond and the upper awning-type sash were omitted in the windows. A low, narrow connecting hyphen with a shallow gabled roof extends from the original southwest elevation and connects to the new office wing that has a wide, open gabled roof facing southwest; the ridge aligns with main roof ridge. The roof light colored terne metal with integrated gutters.

The southeast façade of Kowski Hall includes the 2001-2006 south wing with its roof eave extending over six ganged window openings separated by mullions set within common bond concrete block corners. Each window unit, typical of the office wing, has awning type lower sash and fixed light upper sash. Board and batten walling extends from the window heads to the soffit of the eave. Similar board and batten walling forms a spandrel below the sill and extends into the concrete foundation. The set back connecting hyphen has no window openings in the concrete block walling also built in common bond. The hyphen extends to the gable end of the original building that necessitated the removal of four ganged windows. Three window units remain and have retain board and batten heads and spandrels and original fixed sash with awning type top and bottom sash. Extending from the window jam a section of stack bond concrete block extends to the corner of the projecting bay of the building's lobby.

The bay is clad in stack bond 8-inch high concrete block that is set at nearly the depth of the roof extension over the main entrance feature; a shallow soffit projects beyond the walling. On the 8" block wall are individually mounted, cast aluminum "Extended Californian" style letters reading, "NATIONAL PARK SERVICE/ Horace M. Albright /Training Center/ United States/Department Of The Interior." Ghost marks indicate that the word, "ACADEMY" after "NATIONAL PARK SERVICE," seen in early plans and photographs, has been removed. To the east of the recessed entrance, the building is identified also as "Kowski Hall" dedicating the building to Frank F. Kowski, the first Supervisor of the training center. The cast aluminum block letters, of a different dimension, were installed in 1966 honoring his departure. Perpendicular to the entrance the side wall of the bay is fully glazed with a large fixed plate glass window extending from floor to a fixed transom window that matches the transom over the pair of glazed double doors and over the adjacent sidelight with its plate glass window. The latter has an awning type sash in the transom. A rectangular section concrete block column supports the north corner of the roof extension over the entrance feature. Extending southeast on the façade is concrete block walling topped with a ribbon of six awning type windows continuing the transom window feature from the entrance. These clerestory windows light the public restrooms off of the lobby. Beyond is a gang of 22 windows set within board and batten head and spandrel. The ganged windows terminate at a section of concrete block walling that extends to the north corner.

At the northeast elevation, a gang of three window openings is set into the concrete block walling that extends to a concrete block wall of the enclosed service yard. The service wing, set back from the corner structure of the main building, has a secondary doorway with glazed double doors and a transom set above a stoop with six concrete steps to grade in the enclosed service yard. Above the doorway's transom, a board and batten hood extends to the verge of the gable end infilling much of the northwest soffit. The hood is supported on a concrete block column rising from a podium edging the stoop. Pipe railings extend down the steps. Within the enclosed service yard, the gable end of the service wing continues with concrete block walling that is set with a pair of louvered doors below a louvered transom serving the furnace room. Further northeast a large louvered panel replaces a gang of three windows and a glazed service doorway opening at grade and set below a deep two-light transom window. Narrow openings with upper and lower awning type windows flank a service garage doorway with a newer roll up metal door. Originally, the door was designed with panels.

The service yard is enclosed with an approximately eight-foot high concrete block wall with parallel front and rear walls extending perpendicular from the northeast elevation. The wall is constructed of four-inch block veneer on both sides of an eight-inch block core and is capped with block. The walls angle to a prow forming the pentagonal yard area. Near the center of the southeast elevation of the wall is a vehicular access that defined by pedestals the height of the wall. At the north corner, a pedestrian access opens to a walkway along the northwest elevation of the service wing that has no windows and projects under an extension of the roof. On the southwest elevation of the service wing projection, a ribbon of four windows is sent into the block walling.

A shallow loggia extends across the northwest rear elevation providing a partially covered terrace from the service wing projection to a wing wall at the south corner. The heightened loggia is set under a roof extension of the higher shed roofed structure of the rear roof. Rafters and roof decking are exposed in the ceiling of the loggia. The eave of the loggia is supported on 6x6 wooden columns that form nine bays twelve feet on center; the end bays are narrower. Each secondary

doorway that opens into the end bays have glazed panels and a two-light transom. The doorways abut adjacent block walls of the service wing and the wing wall. Board and batten walling extends across the rear elevation of the loggia. Two gangs of windows flank a central section set with two clerestory windows with awning type sash. The bays correspond to the twelve-foot spacing of the columns with three windows per bay. Tall fixed sash have upper and lower awning type sash in each unit. The concrete paved loggia has a long ramp with pipe railings extending from the south corner at a landing with steps from a walkway that angles around the wing wall. A low concrete block wall with a concrete cap extends parallel to the edge of the loggia paving in front of the wooden columns. The wall angles perpendicularly at the fifth bay forming a larger patio area edged by northwest walling and a rectangular planter enclosed by walling of a similar height and detailing. The planter extends beyond the wall to meet a low wall that extends towards the south corner of the service wing projection leaving a pedestrian walkway along the northwest service wing. The patio is paved with scored concrete that integrates with the 12-foot spacing of the columns and the windows within the bays.

The southwest wing of the training center building is set back from the wing wall of the loggia. It has a gang of six windows in the typical configuration of fixed center sash and awning type sash in the upper and lower sections. Board and batten walling infills above and below the window unit that infills the entire elevation extending to a short wing wall at the south corner that is set at depth of the eave. The new hyphen connector has a gang of three window units set into board and batten walling. Large fixed sash have awning type sash at the bottom. The hyphen connects to the northeast elevation of the office wing. Two pairs of window units are set into the common bond block wall that also has a recessed doorway. The window units are fixed light upper sash and awning type lower sash. The doorway has a glazed door with a sidelight and a transom. A concrete ramp extends from the stoop to the main sidewalk extending from the rear elevation to the loggia ramp to the walkway to the Student Residence dormitories. The ramp has pipe railings.

A gang of six windows is centered in the northwest elevation of the office wing within board and batten walling flanked by concrete block corner construction. Typically, each unit has a fixed upper sash and an awning type lower sash. The gable end southwest elevation of the office wing has a gang of twelve windows in the same configuration as the northeast elevation, though the board and batten walling above the window heads extends into the open gable. The corners are concrete block.

Kowski Hall's interiors were totally reconstructed in 2001-2006 when it was discovered that it would be necessary to provide new mechanical and electrical systems meeting modern needs as well as the need to remove asbestos. The remodeling of the administrative area provided for a new corridor through the connecting hyphen with one office and into the office wing with eight offices, a preparation/archive room, and a storage room. Virtually, every room in the original 10,600 square-foot building was updated. The floor plan was generally retained with two large training rooms at the rear, surrounded by a U-shaped corridor providing access to series of spaces including the restrooms, offices, breakout rooms, a computer room and a break room on the southeast front. The L-shaped lobby space in the south corner of the original building retains some historic character with its a sloped ceiling and exposed beams running parallel with the southeast façade and the glazed entrance bay. The back wall facing the entrance was altered to provide a reception counter opening into a former administration office. New exhibits were designed for the space.

#### Student Residences, Buildings A to E

Located to the southwest of Kowski Hall, the five Student Residence dormitories are nearly identical and are constructed parallel to each other with their southeast gable end elevations paralleling the parking areas. Buildings A and B were built in 1962-1963, followed with Building C in 1963. Buildings D and E were built in 1965. The 6,200 square-foot dormitories are two-story, rectangular buildings with porches and balconies along each long elevation. Typically, the walls are constructed of stack bond pinkish four-inch high concrete block set nearly at grade. The rebuilt gabled roofs with metal terne roofing that replaced asphalt built-up roofing. The roofs have wide eaves and verges with enclosed soffits. As rebuilt, hidden gutters were removed and gutters, leaders, and downspouts were installed that drain into designed swales between the buildings. New concrete walkways connect to concrete paved porches at the first floor of each dormitory and connect to parallel walkways along the parking lots and at the northwest elevations.

Each building faces northeast with the main entrances of the studio units opening to a concrete paved porch or to a second floor balcony that is supported by ten bays of 6x6 wooden columns. Stairways, masked by vertical 2x4 members that extend from the concrete porch floor to the soffits, are located at each end of the balcony. The stairways have divided runs with an intermediate landing and are set flush within the columnar bays. At the rear, southwest elevation of each dormitory, the secondary doorways from each unit open to a concrete porch or to a second floor balcony. Access to the rear second floor is by an enclosed stairway that projects from the two central columnar bays. Each stairway has divided runs with an intermediate landing that are masked by 2x4 vertical members that integrate into the balcony railings forming the upper landing. The runs are set behind a full height vertical member screen infilling the other bay. Trash receptacles are enclosed under the top landing at the first floor. Balcony railing balusters are 2x4 members spaced similarly to the stairway enclosures. As originally designed, the balusters were notched over the flooring and the fascia to provide a drop

below the fascia. The top of each baluster was also notched to receive a 3x8 handrail set vertically. All of the balconies and stairway enclosures were replaced with engineered materials matching the original design, though the balcony railings were modified to provide a continuous rail with a cap set on it. The engineered members are dark brown contrasting to the cream colored columns, exposed balcony floor structure at the first floor ceilings, and at the enclosed ceilings of the second floors, retaining the original color scheme.

The gable end elevation of each Student Residence dormitory has a gang of three window openings set within board and batten walling that extends into the apex of the gable. The windows are double hung with minimal mullions. Flanking the windows is walling of the concrete block that forms wing walls at each corner enclosing the porches and balconies. The southeast elevations of the dormitory entrances were modified to accommodate the new student studio unit configurations that required the insertion of new doorways into two areas at each floor that were formerly occupied by two bedrooms. To accommodate new doorways the center windows of the three ganged windows were cut down to provide a doorway leaving to windows to form flanking sidelights at the front and rear elevations of the dormitories. Solid core doors are set with storm doors. All of the alterations were designed to be minimal to retain the character of the openings behind the colonnades of each floor.

Originally designed to have very flexible student room arrangements, the buildings' floor plans were totally remodeled in 2001-2006. Living rooms were able to open to one or two bedrooms that could accommodate families staying with trainees. Eleven such units were in each dormitory. With shorter training sessions and the prohibition of bringing one's family, this arrangement was totally removed in all five dormitories and studio apartments accommodating typically 15 one-student studio apartments were constructed. Each has one room with a private bathroom and a small kitchenette area that opens to the rear porch or balcony. Two, two-bedroom faculty apartments were retained in the southeast end of Building D that also was redesigned to accommodate a larger lounge-recreation room with a kitchen on the first floor. Each building, except Building D, has an accessible room. Laundry facilities are located in two of the dormitories on the first floor. All the dormitories each have a central mechanical room on the first floor.

#### Alterations

The National Park Service funded a project, "Rehabilitate Albright Training Center," that was begun in early 2001 with the preparation of a landscape plan and schematic plans for Kowski Hall and the five Student Residence dormitories. Construction drawings were prepared by the Architectural Resource Group of San Francisco, CA, by April of 2002. The construction project was completed in 2005 to 2006 at the cost of \$8 million. Included was the construction of the hyphen wing and office wing of Kowski Hall that meets the National Park Service's "Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation." Though remaining exterior of Kowski Hall was not altered, its interior was totally remodeled with new finishes and mechanical and electrical systems. The exterior of the five Student Residences were altered around 1995 with the replacement of vertical 2x4 screens of the stairways and the balcony railings and other minor upgrades. In 2005-2006, the interiors of the Student Residence dormitories were totally removed and replaced with 72 new single-occupancy studio units. Two two-bedroom faculty apartments were retained in Building D where the lounge was expanded and equipped with a new kitchen facility.

Throughout the 2001-2006 planning and construction projects the Park Service took special care to preserve the exteriors of the buildings to minimize removal of original fabric or alter the original design intentions. The addition to Kowski Hall was designed to match the original building, though the concrete block construction pattern and window details were subtly changed to common bond from stack bond. The office and the connecting hyphen addition to Kowski Hall meets the Secretary's Standards for Rehabilitation by meeting the requirements for distinguishing new construction. The end result of the rehabilitation project is that Albright Training Center meets 21<sup>st</sup> century needs without compromising the overall integrity of the complex. Important features of Kowski Hall remain including the unique modernist designed main entrance feature and the ribbon windows of the façade, the rear elevation overlooking the terrace, as well as certain landscape features including the stone curbing of the walkways and driveways.

**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)

- 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.
- 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Community Planning and Development

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1961-1966

**Significant Dates**

October 26, 1963

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Cecil J. Doty, Architect

Charles "Chick" Sigler, Architect

**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.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

1961-1966 is the design and construction period for Kowski Hall and the five Student Residences, Buildings A through E, during the Mission 66 program of the National Park Service.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The Albright Training Center was part of the National Park Service's Mission 66 construction program from 1956-1966 during which time there were major construction projects to upgrade and rehabilitate the facilities in the national parks across the country. The architecture of the training center campus, reflecting the switch to modern design in the Park Service during the post World War II era, is unique in the National Park System and represents the work of Architect Cecil J. Doty. He had worked in the Rustic style of 1930s and is best known as the designer of many of the new visitor centers of the Mission 66 program.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

The Horace M. Albright Training Center campus is significant under Criterion A for its funding and construction during the National Park Service's Mission 66 construction program. Though it has many attributes of the Modernist style era that were reflected in the construction of visitor centers, it is a unique complex that was built specifically for training Park Service employees to meet the new needs of ranger activities associated with the expansion of facilities in the parks. As such it meets Criterion C for its Modernist style architecture that is characteristic of the Mission 66 era. The campus was primarily designed by National Park Service Architect Cecil J. Doty, who was a leader in Park Service modernism and was responsible for many of the best designs of visitor centers and other structures throughout the parks in the western states during the Mission 66 program. The complex is significant at the state level.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

Albright Training Center is significant for its contribution of the education of the workforce of the National Park Service. It is the western training center balancing the eastern Stephen T. Mather Training Center in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Albright Training Center focused on the needs of particularly ranger development that provided training on all aspects of park management from law enforcement, fire protection, resources protection, interpretation, and facilities management. The training was designed to meet the new staffing needs generated by the updating of the National Park System initiated by the ten-year Mission 66 program. The construction program, the largest ever undertaken by the National Park Service to update facilities in parks to meet the needs of a new traveling public after World War II, necessitated an increase in staffing and the need to professionalize that workforce.

Mission 66 projects often focused on planning developments that created or augmented villages in many parks including Grand Canyon National Park where the "civic center" shifted from the railroad depot and the El Tovar Hotel to the new 1957 visitor center and nearby commercial area grouped around its parking. New employee housing infilled and expanded earlier residential developments in the park. Planning for the new Albright Training Center provided a new campus complex that was a totally new endeavor for the Park Service, as the Harpers Ferry facility involved the rehabilitation of older buildings. Albright's location in a western park was designed to provide ranger skills necessary for particularly western parks to manage resources and promote an educational environment for the public that was a new theme of the Mission 66 program.

The modernist architecture of Albright Training Center was characteristic of the Mission 66 program as the labor intensive Rustic style architecture of the 1930s, the product of the WPA-CCC era, gave way to modern design in order to facilitate the national shift to new design inspiration and expedite construction. To accommodate the requirements of the massive program the Park Service relied on the Eastern and Western Offices of Design and Construction in Philadelphia and San Francisco to provide services. The design team in San Francisco was headed by architect Cecil J. Doty, who had been instrumental for much of the best Rustic style buildings in the West. In the late 1940s he experimented in modernism with several designs and from San Francisco he designed the prototype Grand Canyon National Park Visitor Center. Doty designed over half of the 100 visitor centers that were the pivotal new buildings of the Mission 66 program in the modernist style. His experience in designing visitor centers provided the impetus for the design of the unique Albright Training Center campus that reflected his innovative signature style.

**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

Albright Training Center

Frank F. Kowski, who was the National Park Service Protection Training Officer in Washington, DC, was the driving force in the establishment of National Park Service training centers, an idea that had been discussed since the early 1930s. Early training programs had been accomplished at the park level, though some specialized training was offered periodically at the regional level and in the Washington Office, which continues to manage the two centers at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and at Grand Canyon National Park as part of the Division of Training and Development. The "Horace M. Albright Training Center Program" from the early years of the Albright campus notes that with the onset of the Mission 66 program, "...it was decided that, as a corollary to the development of physical plan and protective and interpretive resources required for conservation and visitor enjoyment in the National Park system, Service must also design a program for employee growth and development." Kowski, who had been working on the idea since 1956, took

the lead and issued "A Proposal to Establish a National Park Service Training Center" that was signed by Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth on February 5, 1957.

With the signing of a proposal to establish a training center in 1957, Frank Kowski directed the temporary establishment at Yosemite National Park that was modeled after the FBI National Academy. "Thus, the National Park Service Training Centers emerged as an integral part of the personnel development phase of Mission 66," according to the "Horace M. Albright Training Center Program." In 1958 Kowski moved forward with "A Proposal to Establish a Permanent National Park Service Training Center" and then petitioned the Park Service Director, Conrad L. Wirth, in October 1959, to consider establishing two training centers including Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, as an eastern center. For the western center, he suggested Yosemite, Rocky Mountain, or Grand Canyon National Parks as a location to put it in a "typical" National Park. Preference was ultimately given for Grand Canyon National Park, selected in 1960 because of the park's year-round operation, up to date facilities and available space, and the proximity between two large western regional offices and many national parks.

Preliminary design drawings for the training center at Grand Canyon were prepared by October 24, 1961 and \$700,000 was appropriated through the Mission 66 program for construction. Construction drawings were completed May 1, 1962, for the "Training Center—School Building," three "Trainee Apartments," and faculty residences. As Supervisor, National Park Service Training Center, Kowski oversaw the construction of the Albright Training Center. It was constructed by the T. C. Bateson Construction Company in joint venture with J. K. Cheves Construction Company of Mesa, Arizona, and signed June 14, 1962. The center and the first two dormitories were begun May of 1962 at a cost of \$203,453. Five three-bedroom faculty houses built off site within the Grand Canyon housing areas cost \$162,322. Site development, roads, walks, parking and utilities cost \$303,061. A third dormitory, costing \$86,500, was planned as an alternate, but was not constructed until a year later in 1963 based on reissuing a set of "Trainee Apartment" drawings dated May 1963. The center, with two dormitories, was dedicated October 26, 1963, commemorating the construction and honoring of Horace M. Albright, who spoke at the dedication. Two additional dormitories were eventually constructed, based on reissued drawings for "Trainee Apartments" dated May 1965, for \$313,000, completing the training center complex in 1966. The Building D design was modified to meet Frank Kowski's concept that there should be a lounge included for "live-in lectureships."

At Grand Canyon, the partially completed training center was dedicated 1963 and named in honor Horace M. Albright. He had been the second Director of the National Park Service who was nationally known for his association with ranger activities and with conservation. Simultaneously, Harpers Ferry was begun in 1961 with the purchase by the Park Service of Storer College that was rehabilitated into a training center and dedicated in 1964. It was named after the first Director of the National Park Service becoming the Stephen T. Mather Interpretative and Research Training Center. Both training centers were initially known as the "National Park Service Academy" that provided, according to the "Albright Administrative History, Program Overview, 2008," "...for orderly absorption of the increased park staff programmed under Mission 66."

Frank Kowski moved the western training center from Yosemite at a cost of \$68,800 as soon as the initial buildings were completed in June of 1963 and the first training session there was initiated in September of 1963. He was the first Supervisor of the Training Center and held that position until 1966 at which time the classroom building was named Kowski Hall in his honor. Kowski Hall has two large classrooms that could accommodate 40 trainees and the smaller spaces could accommodate 15 to 20 trainees concurrently. The "Horace M. Albright Training Center Program" states that it is, "...an in-Service training activity designed to promote the orderly orientation, indoctrination career development of new employees who aspire to managerial roles in the National Park Service." Much of the curriculum was based on the Yosemite training courses. Objectives included four goals:

"To develop a basic knowledge and understanding of National Park Service objectives, philosophy, policies, organization, administration, legislation, and operating programs;

To develop physical and mental skills in the public information, interpretation, resource conservation, and managerial aspects of park operations; to develop proper attitudes and points of view with respect to human and work relations;

To, to public service in general, to specific phases of National Park conservation, and a career in the National Park Service; and

To foster a dedication to the work of the Department of the Interior and of the National Park Service, and a willingness to promote Departmental and Service objectives through thoughtful application of individual and group efforts to achieve the successful accomplishment of the total National Park Service program."

The Albright Training Center program that grew out of the goals was designed to last 12 weeks with two or more sessions conducted per year. A set curriculum included topics in Organization and Policy, Park Administration, Park and Visitor Protection, and Park Interpretation with a wide variety of classes under each topic. Trainees were chosen to participate during their first two years of employment with the intent being to train all new park employees. The "Introduction" courses continued until 1979 when they were replaced by "Ranger Skills" courses that were shortened to 8 weeks and held three times a year. The curriculum has since been expanded to include Visitor and Resource Protection. Once at Albright Training Center, the Service-wide Natural and Cultural Resource Stewardship courses have been moved to Mather Training Center. However, Albright's primary function remains the class "NPS Fundamentals II"

### Mission 66

The National Park Service's Mission 66 program (1956-1966) was the main impetus for the construction of the Albright Training Center. As such it is can be an associated property type of the program as documented by Sarah Allaback in *Mission 66 Visitor Centers, The History of a Building Type* and by Ethan Carr in *Mission 66: Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*. As the largest multi-year construction program in Park Service history, Mission 66 and the subsequent Parkscape Program, which lasted through 1972, were a major effort to upgrade the National Park System to meet escalating visitor demands in the post World War II era. Conceived in 1955 by National Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth, Mission 66 was initiated in 1956 to substantially improve the facilities in the parks for the public and employees by 1966. Within the national parks, Mission 66 resulted in the construction of employee housing, maintenance/utility areas, entrance stations, comfort stations, roads, parking lots, campgrounds, concession buildings, and visitor centers, Architecturally, the visitor center most fully expressed the Mission 66 program as a new property type that combined multiple functions. As such, the construction of over 100 visitor centers significantly affected the design and construction of the Modernist style buildings such as the Albright Training Center at Grand Canyon National Park.

In 1949, Park Service Director Newton Drury described the parks as "victims of war." Sarah Allaback wrote that, "Neglected since the New Deal era improvements of the 1930s the national parks were in desperate need of funds for basic maintenance, not to mention protection from an increasing number of visitors." In 1931, three and a half million people visited the national parks. By 1948, that number increased to almost 30 million. However, Allaback noted, "...park facilities remained essentially as they were before the war." 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 purchase personal automobiles. Indeed, the number of automobiles doubled between 1945 and 1955 to 60 million, according to Ethan Carr. This new mobility enabled Americans to visit the national parks, particularly those of the west, which has often been the realm of the railroads, who provided access and services to a limited number of visitors. In response, the Park Service needed new facilities to accommodate the crowds and it needed those facilities to be designed and built quickly and in a way that would protect the parks from resource damage.

Director Conrad L. Wirth first instituted the idea of modernizing the parks through a massive, multi-year redevelopment program after the centralization of Park Service planning into the Eastern and Western Offices of Planning and Design in Philadelphia and San Francisco in 1954. With centralized offices, Wirth began to conceptualize on the efficiency of a ten-year budget rather than submitting a yearly budget. Wirth, who "...envisioned the Park Service's dilemma through the eyes of a congressman....," according to Ethan Carr, requested a decade of funding, "...thereby ensuring money for building projects that might last many years." Wirth patterned it after similar programs of the Bureau of Public Roads, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Army Corps of Engineers. 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 administrative buildings, improve employee housing, and obtain land for the parks...to elevate the parks to modern standards of comfort and efficiency, as well as...conserve natural resources." In February of 1955, Wirth introduced the idea to the Secretary of the Interior, James Douglas McKay, and by September Wirth was able to present the concept through several pilot projects in a report given at a national conference of superintendents. The program was presented on January 27, 1956, to President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his cabinet, where it received immediate approval. Subsequently, the Mission 66 program was introduced to Congress and the American public. Legislation was passed and Congressional funding for the construction program was made available for the Fiscal Year 1956 starting in July and it was underway.

## Architecture

At the heart of the new Mission 66 program was the concept of the visitor center that set the design standards of the era when over 100 were constructed. Mission 66 resulted in a distinctive new type of Park Service architecture that reflected the new ideas. Sarah Allaback called it "Park Service Modern." Modern architecture was the prevalent architectural style in the postwar period and Mission 66 architects, such as Cecil J. Doty, brought that design ethic to the national parks. Modernist architecture utilized new inexpensive materials and labor-saving techniques, many of which were developed by the military during the war. The assemblage of materials became the focus of the designs. The flexibility of modern architectural design also allowed for open interiors and expansive circulation. By contrast, the Rustic style that the Park Service had earlier used required large labor forces for small Rustic style buildings. The budget did not permit that level of labor intensive construction nor was it deemed advisable to attempt to erect large rustic buildings that would resemble lodges. However, it was determined that since Rustic style buildings blended into the natural surrounds, that Park Service Modern, according to Sarah Allaback, "...reinterpreted the long-standing commitment to 'harmonize' architecture with park landscapes..." but accomplished in a different way. In addition to new buildings in the parks, a new strategy for management of the parks was deemed equally important. Frank Kowski capitalized the need to train particularly the new employees that resulted in the development of the two training centers. Albright, though, required a type of facility and its campus grew out of the visitor center construction phenomenon as represented by the Kowski Hall administration and classroom building completed in 1963.

For the Albright Training Center campus, Mission 66 planners addressed the fact that development of a campus was to be a major addition to the Grand Canyon village and should reflect its function through architectural design while blending with the architecture of the South Rim. Architect Cecil J. Doty (1907-1990), the chief designer of the training center, was responsible for a substantial amount of Mission 66 planning and design from his position as Principal Architectural Designer at the Western Office of Design and Construction in San Francisco. Doty received a degree in architectural engineering from Oklahoma A & M (now Oklahoma State University) in 1928. He was trained in the neoclassical *beaux-arts* tradition that was favored at the time, though he always had a propensity towards a more modern adaptation of this classicism according to Sarah Allaback. Doty began his career in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Oklahoma parks program with Herbert Maier where he designed many buildings in the Rustic style as part of that program. He began working for the NPS in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where, in 1939, he designed the Puebloan style Region III Headquarters building. Doty was responsible for many park buildings and was a master of what became known as the Park Service Rustic style, or "Parkitecture." He moved in 1940 from Santa Fe to San Francisco's Region IV office where he became a proponent of what was to become Park Service Modern. As early as 1943 he developed the concept of a "visitor center" for Crater Lake's Museum (drawing CRLA 106-2037). It is apparent that this preliminary design was the prototype for Grand Canyon's "Public Use Building," designed by Doty and built in 1957. That visitor center was a prototype for many of the Mission 66 visitor centers that followed including those in Arizona, where Doty designed the visitor centers at Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Sunset Crater National Monument, and Tonto National Monument. He also designed additions to earlier structures including the visitor centers at Chiricahua Visitor Center, Casa Grande Ruins, and Walnut Canyon National Monuments. Doty also provided preliminary designs for visitor centers at Montezuma Castle, Navaho, Organ Pipe, and Wupatki National Monuments.

Doty was instrumental in the shift from rustic to modernist architecture through his designs and through influence on his colleagues. According to Ethan Carr in *Mission 66: Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*, Doty was placed in the forefront of the NPS design with the reorganization of the planning and design offices into Eastern and Western divisions in 1954. Given the title of Principal Architectural Designer, Doty went on to design more than 50 visitor centers and three visitor center additions for the NPS that were built during the Mission 66 program. Most, like the addition at Chiricahua National Monument, were unique and carefully adapted to their sites and the park culture. After modeling the Grand Canyon National Park Service Visitor Center on a modern interpretation of Puebloan style, Doty became more influenced by the modern architecture of California, especially Southern California where architects like Richard Neutra and Rudolph Schindler had been championing modernism since 1923. California modern permeated design in the state for years to come and the influences were major. Designs employed low profiles and horizontal elements that became a hallmark of Park Service architecture of the Mission 66 era. The preliminary design and the construction drawings prepared for the Albright Training Center followed these principles and represent Cecil Doty's mature style.

Doty was assisted in the design of the training center by Charles "Chick" Sigler. He was an architect trained at Ohio State University in the late 1920s. He worked in Santa Fe, New Mexico, before going to San Francisco where in 1958 he was providing oversight on the Painted Desert Community that was designed by Richard Neutra for Petrified Forest National

Park. In 1959 he designed an addition to the Aztec National Monument Visitor Center. Within the Western Office of Design and Construction, Sigler managed the office responsible for the preparation of construction drawings.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form)

Allaback, Sarah. *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type*. Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 2000.

"Albright Administrative History, Program Review, 2008." Bermultinational Limited, Organization Development and Management Consultants, 2008.

Carr, Ethan. *Mission 66, Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*. Amherst, Massachusetts: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007.

National Park Service, Albright Training Center archive, Grand Canyon National Park. Grand Canyon, Arizona

National Park Service, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon National Park Museum Collection. Grand Canyon, Arizona.

National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center. Denver, Colorado.

Sturgell, Frank, and Christine Whitacre. National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex, 2002-2003.

**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:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: **See above.**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 10 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

**UTM References**  
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>12</u>	<u>1120756</u>	<u>360305</u>	3	<u>12</u>	<u>1120811</u>	<u>360301</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>12</u>	<u>1120811</u>	<u>360258</u>	4	<u>12</u>	<u>1120800</u>	<u>360307</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary starts at point 1 at the intersection of Albright Avenue and Center Road and extends approximately 1320 feet west along the right shoulder of Albright Avenue to point 2. There it extends approximately 360 feet north at the end

of the parking lot to point 3 where it extends approximately 1080 feet northeast paralleling the curve of Albright Avenue to Point 4 at Center Road. The southeast boundary extends approximately 420 feet along the right shoulder of Center Road to point A at the intersection with Albright Avenue.

**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary, set by agreement with Grand Canyon National Park, includes the six structures of the Albright Training Center complex, the entrance driveways, the parking lots, and the walkways connecting the buildings. Also included are the natural landscape features that extend around the buildings and isolate the complex from other developments in the area.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Rodd L. Wheaton, Architectural Historian

organization The Collaborative, Inc. date May 2010

street & number 3021 S. Cornell Circle telephone 303 789-9550

city or town Englewood state CO zip code 80113

e-mail TSARRODD@aol.com

---

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

---

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**Name of Property:** Horace M. Albright Training Center

**City or Vicinity:** Grand Canyon

**County:** Coconino

**State:** Arizona

**Photographer:** Rodd L. Wheaton

**Date Photographed:** October 2009

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:** 17 total

- 1 of 17. Southeast façade looking northeast showing the entrance signage and original southeast wing.
- 2 of 17. Southeast entrance feature looking northwest showing the approach walkway.
- 3 of 17. Southeast façade of original wing looking northeast showing ribbon windows.
- 4 of 17. Northeast elevation looking west showing northeast end of the façade wing and the service courtyard.
- 5 of 17. Northeast elevation detail looking northwest showing garage opening into the mechanical area.
- 6 of 17. Northwest elevation looking northeast showing rear patio and a section of the original northwest wing.
- 7 of 17. Detail of northwest patio wall and planter looking west.
- 8 of 17. Detail of northwest rear elevation showing original northwest wing and the 2000 northwest connecting structure to the 2000 office wing shown to the right.
- 9 of 17. West corner of the 2000 office wing showing compatible window details of the northwest and southwest elevations.
- 10 of 17. South corner of the 2000 office wing showing its southeast elevation and the southwest elevation of the original building in the background.
- 11 of 17. North elevation of typical Residence Building "A" looking east showing the main classroom and office building in the background.
- 12 of 17. South elevation of typical Residence Building "A" facing the parking area and looking north showing a section of the rear west elevation.
- 13 of 17. South elevation of typical Residence Building "A" showing a section of the east façade looking north.
- 14 of 17. Detail of the east façade of a typical Residence Building looking west and showing the screening of an end stairway and the balcony railing.
- 15 of 17. East façade of a typical Residential Building looking north.
- 16 of 17. Detail of a typical west elevation central stairway of a Residence building looking south.
- 17 of 17. Detail of a typical Residence Building porch looking north showing original masonry openings and a 2000 doorway flanked by sidelights to the rear.

**Property Owner:**

(complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Superintendent, Horace M. Albright Training Center

street & number P. O. Box 477 telephone 928 638-7981

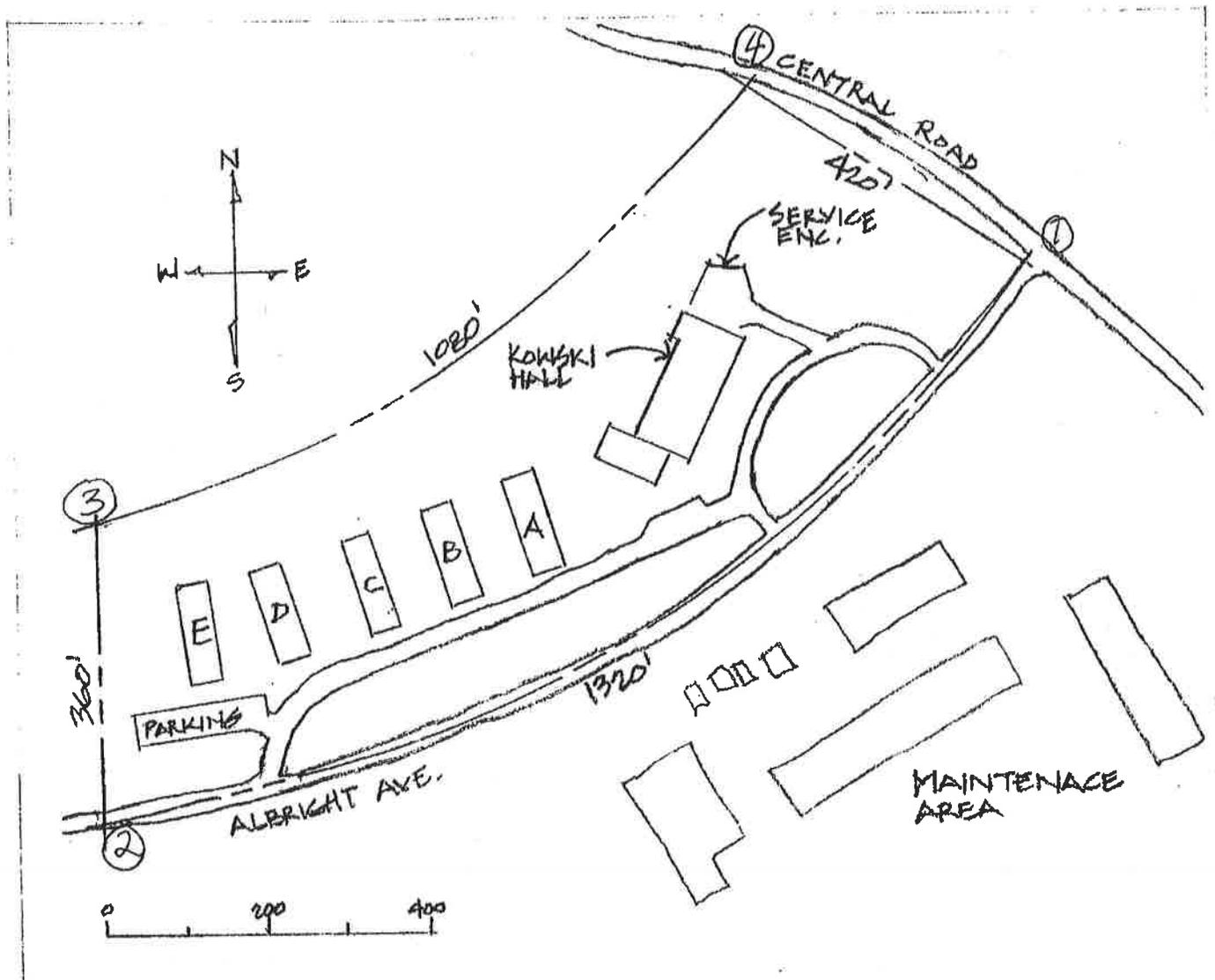
city or town Grand Canyon state Arizona zip code 86023

**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.460 et seq.).

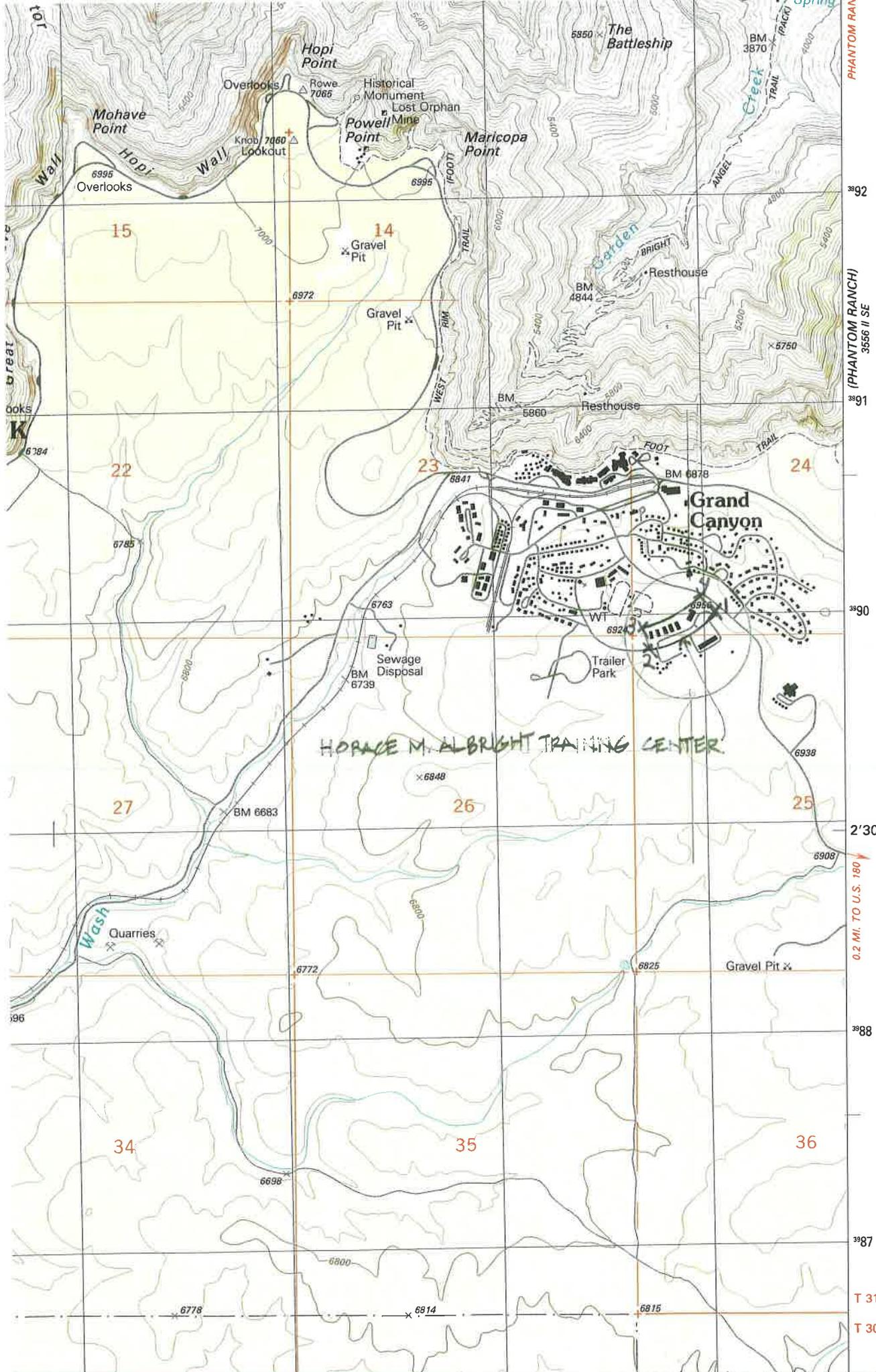
Horace M. Albright Training Center  
Name of Property

Coconino, Arizona  
County and State

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



HORACE M. ALBRIGHT TRAINING CENTER  
 GRAND CANYON, COCONINO COUNTY, AZ

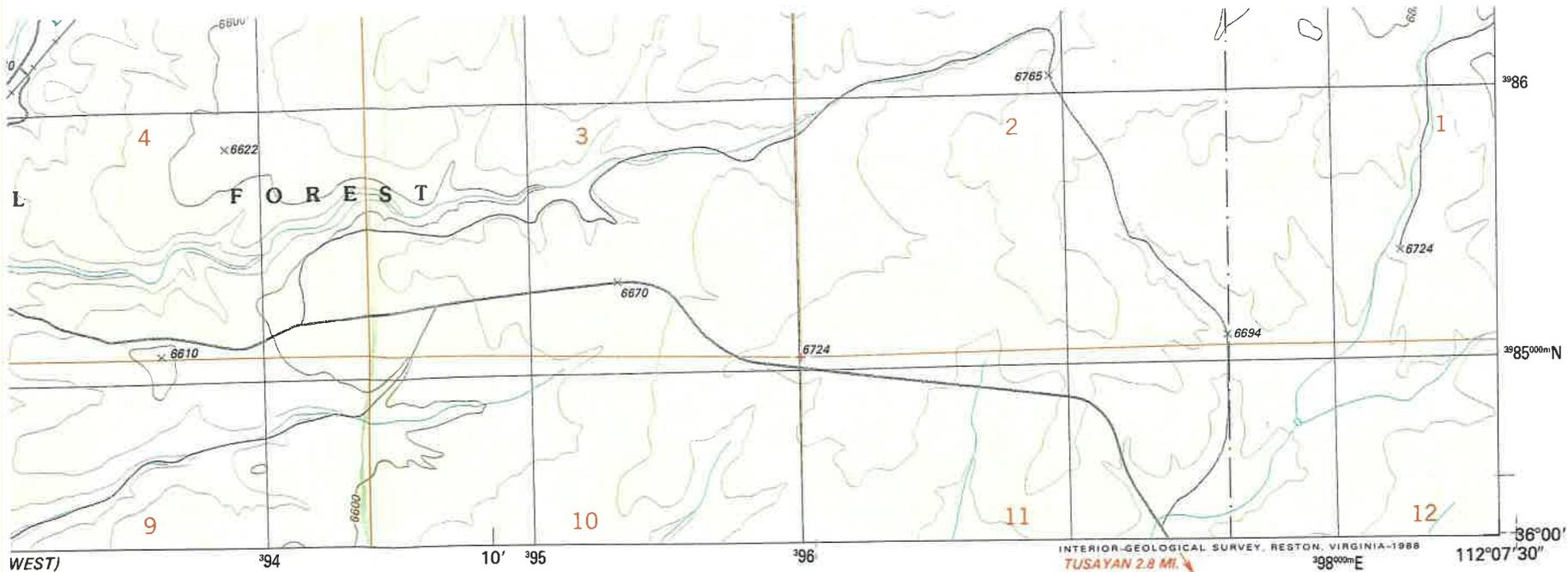


20% TOTAL RECOVERED FIBER

H.M. ALBRIGHT TRAINING CENTER  
 GRAND CANYON, COCONINO CO., AZ

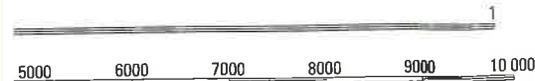
- 1. 1120756 E 340305 N
- 2. 1120811 E 340258 N
- 3. 1120811 E 340301 N
- 4. 1120808 E 340307 N

T 31 N  
 T 30 N



WEST)  
W

24 000 Scale 1:24 000



VAL 40 FEET  
ICAL DATUM OF 1929



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA-1988  
TUSAYAN 2.8 MI.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface . . . . .
- Secondary highway, hard surface . . . . .
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface . . . . .
- Unimproved road . . . . .
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route

(TUSAYAN EAST)  
3655 / NE

GRAND CANYON, ARIZ.

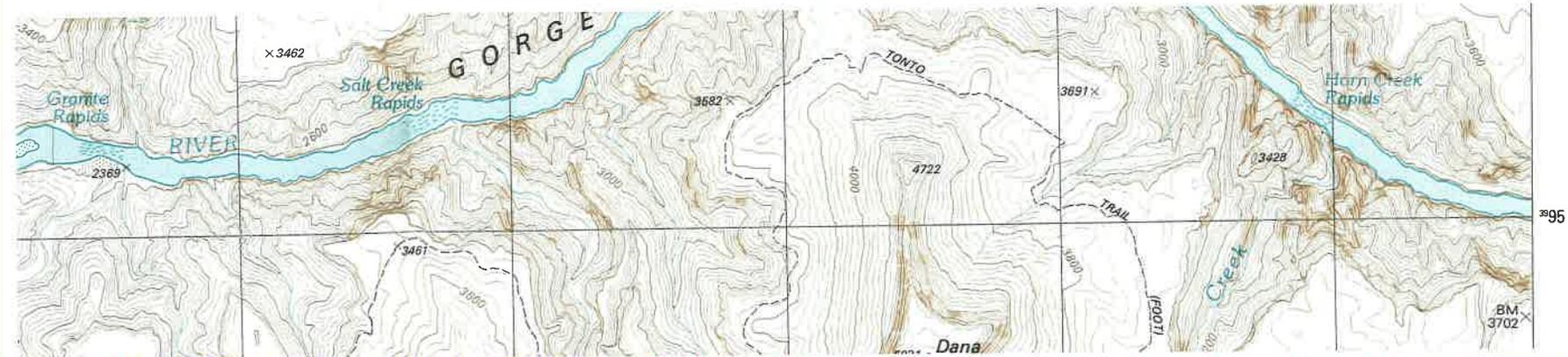
SW/4 BRIGHT ANGEL 15' QUADRANGLE  
36112-A2-TF-024

1988

DMA 3556 II SW-SERIES V898



L MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
ND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Horace M. Albright  
Training Center

United States  
Department Of The Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Horace M. Albright  
Training Center

United States  
Department Of The Interior

KOWSH HALL























A



Student Residence  
Building A

Horace M. Albright Training Center

A







