

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Parunuweap Canyon Archaeological District
other name/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Zion National Park not for publication
city or town Springdale vicinity
state Utah code UT county Washington code 053 zip code 84767

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Rowland Bowers Date 9/20/96
Signature of certifying official

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Wilson S. Martins Date 8/9/96
Signature of commenting or other official

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Barbara J. Ditt Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 11/7/96

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)
 private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)
 building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
36	7	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
36	7	Total

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - Single dwelling _____

Domestic - Multiple dwelling _____

Domestic - Secondary structure _____

Domestic - Camp _____

Domestic - Village site _____

Recreation and Culture - Rock art _____

Agriculture/Subsistence - Processing _____

Agriculture/Subsistence - Storage _____

Industry/Processing/Extraction - Processing site _____

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture - outdoor recreation _____

Landscape - conservation area _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Aboriginal _____

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls Stone - sandstone _____

roof Cottonwood, birch, phragmites _____

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.

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 a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Archaeology - Prehistoric

Education

Ethnic Heritage - Native American

Period of Significance

Formative A.D. 800-1250

Proto-Historic A.D. 1200-1850

Historic

Significant Dates

1933/1934; 1955

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation

Virgin Anasazi

Southern Paiute

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Zion National Park

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A Presidential Proclamation creating Mukuntuweap National Monument was signed by President Howard Taft on July 31, 1909. The area became known as Zion National Monument in 1918, and acquired National Park status in 1919 when management was transferred to the National Park Service. The original monument was comprised of Mukuntuweap (or Zion) Canyon. It was set aside specifically for its geological, geographical, and archaeological values. In 1918, Parunuweap Canyon was added to Zion National Monument specifically because of the archaeological sites it was known to contain.

Parunuweap Canyon is an extremely steep-sided canyon formed by the East Fork of the Virgin River cutting through sedimentary rock of Jurassic and Triassic age consisting of Navajo sandstone, Kayenta formation, Moenave formation (including the Springdale sandstone member), and the upper layer of the Petrified Forest member of the Chinle formation (Stokes 1986). The canyon trends generally northeast to southwest through the southern portion of Zion National Park. The section of the canyon considered in this nomination is that portion within Zion National Park in Washington County, Utah. In this 4.2-mile-long section, the bottom of the canyon ranges between 4,280 and 4,520 feet (1,305 to 1,378 m) elevation with the top of the Navajo sandstone cliffs at the rim of the canyon ranging between 4,800 and 5,600 feet (1,463 to 1,707 m) elevation; the canyon averages 0.6 mile (975 m) in width. The canyon falls within the transition area of the upper and lower Sonoran life zone. The river and high relief of the canyon result in the presence of a wide variety of plant and animal species in a restricted geographic space. Riparian habitat is present along the East Fork of the Virgin River. Away from the river, vegetation is characteristic of the upper and lower Sonoran desert, including the northernmost extent of mesquite trees, the pinyon-juniper zone including shadscale and sagebrush, and the pine-oak belt with an occasional ponderosa pine and Douglas fir. Reptiles, birds, and small and large animals are abundant in the canyon. Desert bighorn sheep have been successfully reintroduced into the canyon. The climate is one of great extremes in temperature, but precipitation averages nearly 14 inches, and the growing season is about 200 days per year. The combination of climate and diversity of available natural resources in Parunuweap Canyon made it a suitable environment for sustaining a viable population throughout the Anasazi period and possibly during the Southern Paiute occupation of the region, though little is known of the Southern Paiute occupation of the canyon. The virtually unaltered state of the canyon is indicated by its near pristine native vegetation community. Whereas Zion Canyon has seen considerable development and is completely accessible to park visitors, Parunuweap Canyon is undeveloped and access has always been somewhat restricted.

Parunuweap Canyon is unique in the region because the prehistoric landscape has not been significantly altered. Except for some agricultural development [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Historic activities in the canyon have not resulted in major leveling of terraces for farming or habitation, as has been the case in nearby canyons, where many archaeological sites have been disturbed or destroyed. As has been the case throughout the region, Parunuweap Canyon has been subject to lateral erosion that has probably impacted or removed an unknown number of archaeological sites [REDACTED] (Hereford 1994). Other nearby canyons, but not Parunuweap Canyon, have been further modified by natural slump block dams

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that have resulted in the burial or erosion of archaeological sites; the results of these natural dams are Sentinel Lake (ca. 4,000 B.P.) in Zion Canyon and Hop Valley Lake (ca. 1,500 B.P.) in Hop Valley. Because Parunuweap Canyon has seen minimal modification, the full range of prehistoric activities that occurred in the canyon appears to be represented in the archaeological record. This appears to be a unique situation. Sites in Parunuweap Canyon are located in nearly every environmental niche available. The pattern of site distribution and the site types represented are probably an accurate and comprehensive representation of prehistoric use of the area.

Documentation and investigation of the archaeological sites in Parunuweap Canyon began in 1933. The Civil Works Administration provided funds for archaeological work in Zion National Park late in 1933. Work was conducted under the direction of Ben Wetherill beginning on December 28, 1933 and ending on May 26, 1934, then resuming again for six weeks beginning in August 1934. Wetherill recorded 14 sites in Parunuweap Canyon and excavated all or parts of at least 5 of these. Excavations in Parunuweap Canyon were pursued because the sites in the canyon were representative of what was then termed "Basket Maker," "Modified Basket Maker," and "Pueblo" occupations. In addition, Wetherill recorded 40 additional sites outside the park for comparative purposes on his own time. No provisions had been made for the preparation of a report detailing the recordation and excavation of sites in the park, but Wetherill spent his free time writing a report. A brief summary of the investigations in the park was published (Wetherill 1934), as was a report about the excavations [REDACTED] (Smith 1934). Much of the final report manuscript and most of the field notes for the excavations in Parunuweap Canyon were destroyed by a fire before Wetherill had finished his writing. In 1955, by using the written information that survived along with a small amount of information that had been collected in the park in the intervening years and, apparently, by reanalyzing much of the collected artifact materials, Albert H. Schroeder prepared a comprehensive report about the Anasazi occupation of Zion National Park, particularly Parunuweap Canyon (Schroeder 1955).

Between 1941 and 1946, Russell K. Grater, Park Naturalist for Zion National Park, documented 57 sites in the park. This included revisiting several of the sites recorded and excavated by Wetherill in Parunuweap Canyon and assigning Zion Archaeological Survey (ZAS) numbers to them. It was not until 1982 that Cindy Beaudett and Deborah Armstrong, working for the National Park Service, attempted to relocate the sites recorded by Wetherill and Grater in Parunuweap Canyon. No report nor site forms seem to have resulted from this effort, though there are field notes. Two years later, in 1984, crews from the Midwest Archeological Center in Lincoln, Nebraska, returned to the park under the direction of Susan Vetter. They examined portions of Zion National Park, including Parunuweap Canyon, that might be subject to impacts from visitor use. Numerous new sites were cursorily recorded at that time and several earlier recorded sites were relocated (Connor and Vetter 1986). In 1991, the National Park Service contracted with Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc. of Montrose, Colorado, to conduct an assessment of prehistoric structural remains in Zion National Park, the majority of which are in Parunuweap Canyon (Firor and Perry 1993). This resulted in the rerecording of 16 sites in Parunuweap Canyon previously recorded by Wetherill, Grater, and Vetter. As a result of the assessment, structural stabilization was conducted at four of the sites in Parunuweap Canyon by Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc. in 1993 (Firor 1994) and by Zion National Park personnel (Frank 1995). For this nomination, additional information about numerous of the sites in Parunuweap Canyon was required, mainly those recorded by

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Vetter. This information was gathered by Barbara Frank and Laird Naylor of Zion National Park in 1994 (Frank 1994; Naylor 1994; Naylor and Frank 1994).

At the present time, 43 archaeological sites have been identified in Parunuweap Canyon. In general, the larger village-like sites [redacted] sites tend to become smaller and probably more resource specific and occupied for shorter periods. Five of the sites are of unknown cultural affiliation, four have Southern Paiute components, and thirty-seven are identifiable as Virgin Anasazi. The distribution of sites in Parunuweap Canyon is determined to a great extent by the steep and rough topography of the canyon. Most of those portions of the canyon suitable for prehistoric use have been examined to some degree. Extremely steep canyon sides and talus portions of the canyon appear to be nearly devoid of sites; however, most slump terraces in the canyon have not been intensively inventoried. Figure 1 is a representative cross-section of the canyon showing the extremely high relief and typical site locations. It is expected that any new sites found in the canyon will be small and that their cultural affiliation and function may not be immediately apparent. These sites will all be elements of the long-term Parunuweap Canyon cultural community and may be considered to be important elements of the community on that basis alone.

Parunuweap Canyon is within the culture area of the Virgin Branch of the Anasazi. The Anasazi are recognized as a Formative stage people that occupied southern Utah, southwestern Colorado, northwestern New Mexico, and northern Arizona. The Anasazi shared certain cultural attributes including agriculture, similar ceramics, and similar domestic and ceremonial architecture. Several regional variants of the Anasazi have been defined. Among these is the Virgin Anasazi of southwestern Utah and northwestern Arizona, centering on the Virgin River drainage. As with other Anasazi manifestations throughout the culture area, the Virgin Anasazi is divided into temporal phases along the lines of the Pecos Classification. In this, the Virgin Anasazi is divided into the Basketmaker II (300 B.C.-A.D. 500), Basketmaker III (A.D. 500-700), Pueblo I-II (A.D. 700-1100), and Pueblo III (A.D. 1100-1150). At the present time, it appears that Parunuweap Canyon contains sites dating from Basketmaker III to Pueblo III. With the end of the Formative, probably as a result of increasing unreliability of agriculture due to climatic variation, inhabitants of the area seem to have returned to a hunting and gathering way of life. During this later Protohistoric period, the principal inhabitants of the area were the Southern Paiute. The origins of the Southern Paiute, whether migrants to the region or the direct descendants of the Virgin Anasazi, has been the subject of considerable debate. At any rate, the Southern Paiute were the inhabitants of the area at the time of Euroamerican contact beginning in the late 1700s.

Table 1, below, provides descriptive information about the known sites in Parunuweap Canyon. This information is summarized in Table 2 for sites that are contributing elements of the National Register District. Sites 42WS119, 42WS122, 42WS1157, 42WS1158, 42WS1161, and 42WS1163 have been excavated either completely or partially. These sites have already contributed important information to our understanding of the Virgin Anasazi culture and, in fact, have been instrumental in defining this regional Anasazi manifestation. Sites 42WS120, 42WS121, 42WS122, and 42WS1163 have noteworthy architectural values that may provide additional information with further study. Other sites with architectural elements are 42WS104, 42WS119, 42WS149, 42WS1157, 42WS1158, 42WS1160, 42WS1162, 42WS1165, 42WS1565, 42WS1778, 42WS1779, 42WS1792, 42WS1793, 42WS2804, 42WS2866 and 42WS2894; buried

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architecture may be present at sites 42WS1784, 42WS1786, 42WS2590, and 42WS2900. Sites 42WS120, 42WS121, 42WS122, 42WS1158, 42WS1160, 42WS1162, 42WS1164 have rock art present that may be suitable for stylistic studies, may be indicative of past spirituality, or may be considered to be of significance to present day Native Americans for religious reasons. Sites 42WS104, 42WS119, 42WS120, 42WS122, 42WS146, 42WS149, 42WS1157, 42WS1158, 42WS1159, 42WS1160, 42WS1162, 42WS1163, 42WS1165, 42WS1565, 42WS1778, 42WS1779, 42WS1781, 42WS1784, 42WS1785, 42WS1786, 42WS1788, 42WS1789, 42WS1791, 42WS1792, 42WS1793, 42WS2590, 42WS2804, 42WS2835, 42WS2836, 42WS2865, 42WS2866, 42WS2894, and 42WS2900 appear to have intact cultural deposits that may yield important information. In all, 36 sites (listed in Table 2) contain archaeological values for which they are considered to be contributing elements of the Parunuweap Canyon Archaeological District. The remaining 7 sites are not considered to be contributing elements of the district because they have not provided important information used in developing an understanding of the culture history of the region, and do not contain architectural elements, intact archaeological deposits, or rock art.

Section 7 page 5 contains restricted information and is not included in this document.

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Table 1. Descriptive information for the known archaeological sites in Parunuweap Canyon.

Site Number(s)	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Description	Artifacts	Archaeological Work	Subsurface Potential	References
42WS104 (ZAS-3)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II-III Southern Paiute	Short-term habitation	3 rockshelters, 2 habitation structures, possible pitstructure, possible hearths	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics, bone	Recorded 1941; revisited 1982, 1984; Rerecorded 1991, 1994	Good	Rudy and Stirland (1950) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Naylor (1994)
42WS119 (ZNP-12)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II-III	Long-term habitation	Habitation structure, storage structure, storage cist, rockshelter	Chipped stone and ceramics	Recorded and burial excavated 1934; rere- corded 1941; revisited 1982, 1984; Rerecorded 1991; Stabilized 1994	Some intact deposits	Rudy and Stirland (1950) Schroeder (1955) Firor and Perry (1993) Frank (1995)
42WS120 (ZNP-32)	Virgin Anasazi Basketmaker III to Pueblo I	Long-term habitation	Habitation structure, 2 storage structures, pictograph panel	Hammerstone, chipped stone, and ceramics	Recorded 1934; rerecorded 1941; revisited 1982, 1984; rerecorded 1991; stabilized 1993	Small amount of intact deposits	Rudy and Stirland (1950) Schroeder (1955) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Firor (1994)
42WS121 (ZNP-8)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo I-II	Long-term habitation	3 habitation structures, 4 storage structures, 1 habitation/storage, 1 undetermined struc- ture, pictograph panels	Ceramics	Recorded and pos- sibly excavated 1934; rerecorded 1942 and 1991; stabilized 1993	All cultural fill has been removed	Rudy and Stirland (1950) Schroeder (1955) Firor and Perry (1993) Firor (1994)
42WS122 (42WS1; ZNP-21)	Virgin Anasazi Basketmaker II to Pueblo II	Long-term habitation	2 habitation structures, 8 storage structures, 9 storage cists, 1 enclosure wall, pictographs	Chipped stone and ceramics	Recorded and excavated 1934; rerecorded 1942 and 1991; stabilized 1993	Nearly all cultural deposits have been removed	Rudy and Stirland (1950) Schroeder (1955) Firor and Perry (1993) Firor (1994)
42WS146 (ZAS-47, 48, and 49)	Virgin Anasazi Southern Paiute	Multiple camps	7 boulder overhang shelters, wall remnant	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1946; revisited 1982, 1984; revisit and map 1991; sites combined 1993	Intact depos- its within overhangs	Rudy and Stirland (1950) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Frank (1993)

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Site Number(s)	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Description	Artifacts	Archaeological Work	Subsurface Potential	References
42WS149 (ZAS-50)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II	Short-term habitation	Possible structure, artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1946; revisited 1982, 1984; rerecorded 1991	Some subsurface deposits possible	Rudy and Stirland (1950) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993)
42WS1157 (42WS2, 42WS218, ZNP-1)	Virgin Anasazi Basketmaker III to Pueblo II	Village	Pitstructure, 12 upright slab structures, 2 depressions with rubble, 2 stone concentrations	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics; variety of tools	Recorded 1933; portion excavated 1934; revisited 1982, 1984, 1994; rerecorded 1962, 1991; stabilized 1994	Intact deposits still exist	Aikens (1965) Schroeder (1955) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Frank (1995)
42WS1158 (42WS219; ZNP-5)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II	Village	Pitstructure and 3 room blocks; 5 habitation rooms, 12 storage rooms, petroglyph	Ceramics and maul	Recorded and portions excavated 1934; rerecorded 1991; stabilized 1994	Intact deposits still exist	Aikens (1965) Schroeder (1955) Firor and Perry (1993) Frank (1995)
42WS1159 (ZNP-13)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo I	Multiple camps	2 boulder overhang shelters	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1934; revisited 1982, 1984; updated 1991; rerecorded 1994	Intact deposits within overhangs	Schroeder (1955) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1160 (42WS217) (ZNP-14)	Virgin Anasazi	Camp and rock art	Petroglyphs and artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1934; rerecorded 1962, 1994	Intact deposits suspected	Aikens (1965) Schroeder (1955) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1161 (ZNP-30)	Southern Paiute	Activity locus	Artifact scatter in rock overhang	Ceramics	Recorded and tested 1934; revisited 1982, 1984, and 1994; rerecorded 1991, 1994	None	Schroeder (1955) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1162 (ZNP-33)	Virgin Anasazi or Fremont	Storage and rock art	2 possible storage rooms and pictograph panel	Ceramics	Recorded 1934; revisited 1984, 1994	Overhang collapsed ca. 1984-1992 deposits likely under rockfall	Schroeder (1955) Connor and Vetter (1986) Naylor and Frank (1995)

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Site Number(s)	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Description	Artifacts	Archaeological Work	Subsurface Potential	References
42WS1163 (ZNP-52)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II	Long-term habitation	Pitstructure, roomblock of at least 6 rooms, midden, 3 boulder overhang shelters	Chipped stone, cores, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded and partly excavated 1934; revisited 1984; rerecorded 1991; stabilized 1993	Much of site still intact	Schroeder (1955) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Firor (1994)
42WS1164 (ZNP-65)	Unknown	Rock art	Pictographs	Ground stone	Recorded 1934; rerecorded 1994	None	Schroeder (1955) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1165 (ZNP-66)	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II-III	Short-term habitation	Rockshelter, walls, midden	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1934; revisited 1984; rerecorded 1991	Some intact deposits	Schroeder (1955) Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993)
42WS1565 (ZNP-31)	Virgin Anasazi	Storage	2 storage rooms	Ceramics	Recorded 1934; rerecorded 1982 and 1991	Some intact deposits are possible	Schroeder (1955) Firor and Perry (1993)
42WS1777	Virgin Anasazi	Camp	Artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded and tested 1994	None	Connor and Vetter (1986) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1778	Virgin Anasazi	Activity locus	Rock overhang shelter, 1 storage cist	Chipped stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Low	Connor and Vetter (1986) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1779	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II-III	Multiple camps	2 boulder overhang shelters, possible stor- age cist, artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1991	Intact depos- its present	Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993)
42WS1780	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II	Activity locus	Artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	None	Connor and Vetter (1986) Naylor and Frank (1994)
42WS1781	Unknown	Activity locus	Boulder overhang shelter	Chipped stone	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1991, 1994 revisited 1994	Low	Connor and Vetter (1986) Firor and Perry (1993) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1782	Unknown	Activity locus	Artifact scatter	Chipped stone	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	None	Connor and Vetter (1986) Naylor and Frank (1995)

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Site Number(s)	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Description	Artifacts	Archaeological Work	Subsurface Potential	References
42WS1783	Virgin Anasazi	Camp	Boulder overhang shelter	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	None	Connor and Vetter (1986) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1784	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II-III	Short-term habitation	Artifact scatter, structures possible	Chipped stone, ground stone ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986) Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1785	Virgin Anasazi	Camp	2 boulder overhang shelters	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1786	Virgin Anasazi BMIII-PII	Short-term habitation	Artifact scatter, midden, soil stain	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1787	Virgin Anasazi	Camp	Boulder overhang shelter	Chipped stone, ground stone, core, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	None	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1788	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II	Camp	Artifact scatter, rock cairns	Chipped stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1789	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo I-II	Long-term habitation	6 to 8 structure roomblock	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1790	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo I-II	Camp	Artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	None	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1791	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II-III	Short-term habitation	Artifact scatter and boulder overhang shelter	Chipped stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; revisited 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS1792	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II	Short-term habitation	Artifact scatter, possible structure	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)

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Site Number(s)	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Description	Artifacts	Archaeological Work	Subsurface Potential	References
42WS1793	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo I-II	Short-term habitation	2 structures	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1984; rerecorded 1994	Good	Connor and Vetter (1986); Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS2590	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo period	Probable habitation	Midden, cist, probable structures	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1990; rerecorded 1994	Intact deposits present	Naylor (1994)
42WS2804	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo period	Storage	Cist	Chipped Stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1994	Good	Naylor (1994)
42WS2808	Virgin Anasazi BMIII-PII	Camp	Artifact Scatter	Chipped stone, ceramics	Recorded 1994	Unknown	Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS2835	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo I-II	Activity locus	Artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1994	Good	Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS2836	Southern Paiute	Activity locus	Artifact scatter	Chipped stone, ceramics	Recorded 1994	Good	Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS2865	Unknown	Activity locus	Artifact scatter	Chipped stone	Recorded 1994	Good	Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS2866	Virgin Anasazi Basketmaker	Storage	Cist	None	Recorded 1994	Good	Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS2894	Virgin Anasazi BMIII-PII	Short-term habitation	Structure	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Tested and recorded 1994	Intact deposits present	Naylor and Frank (1995)
42WS2900	Virgin Anasazi Pueblo II	Short-term habitation	Structure	Chipped stone, ground stone, ceramics	Recorded 1994	Intact deposits present	Naylor and Frank (1995)

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Sites in Parunuweap Canyon are significant under criteria c and d. The sites are distinctive of the Virgin Anasazi culture, have played a significant role in enhancing our understanding of the Virgin Anasazi, and have the potential to contribute additional important information about the Virgin Anasazi and the succeeding Southern Paiute cultures. The excavations undertaken by Ben Wetherill in 1934 resulted in the recovery of artifactual and architectural data that have been used in defining the Virgin Anasazi as a distinctive variant of the Anasazi culture. It is important to note that the sites in Parunuweap Canyon were and are considered to be representative of the prehistory of the region. Intact cultural deposits that could provide additional important data remain at some of the sites excavated by Wetherill. Numerous other sites in Parunuweap Canyon are unexcavated and appear to contain intact cultural deposits of importance. Wetherill focused his excavations on the larger sites in Parunuweap Canyon, leaving the smaller sites intact. Because Parunuweap Canyon is isolated, its archaeological resources have remained almost completely undisturbed except for those already scientifically investigated. Parunuweap Canyon is distinctive in that it is one of the few remaining locations in the Virgin Anasazi culture area where a geographically discrete body of sites representative of a long-term community has remained undisturbed. Such a setting is ideal for future research because the interrelationships of geographically, culturally, and temporally related sites can be studied without ambiguity. The sites appear to be representative of the activities of a small community of people utilizing the resources of the canyon over a long period of time. All of the activities of the community are probably represented by the archaeological sites in the canyon from long-term habitations in a village-like setting to probable field house locations to short-term or one time resource procurement locales. Changing use of the canyon may be represented by the sites as well. For instance, during times that the larger village-like sites were not occupied, smaller long-term sites may be represented. The Parunuweap Canyon sites appear to have the potential for documenting the dynamics and mechanisms of changing demographics and resource utilization in the canyon over time. This may have important implications beyond Parunuweap Canyon and may add insights into the Virgin Anasazi culture as a whole. It is possible that Southern Paiute occupation in the Virgin Anasazi region represents a continuity of use of the resources of Parunuweap Canyon. This is not to say that there is a demonstrated archaeological continuance from Anasazi to Southern Paiute in the canyon, only that utilization of the resources of the canyon may have continued to historical times and may be accounted for in the sites that are present. At the present time, no Archaic or Paleoindian sites have been identified in Parunuweap Canyon; additional work may reveal their presence. The setting of Parunuweap Canyon is also unique because it is the northernmost extension of the lower Sonoran life zone and is transitional to the upper Sonoran life zone. Future research may be able to address issues related to adaptations to this arid environment.

Sites within the Parunuweap National Register District are significant in several ways. Several sites have been scientifically excavated and have contributed information important to our understanding of the Virgin Anasazi culture. A number of sites contain architectural components that are distinctive of the Virgin Anasazi culture. In addition to being

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distinctive, future study of their architecture may contribute important data concerning building technology, use of site space, and adaptation to the surrounding environment. Several sites include rock art panels; these are both pictographs and petroglyphs. Rock art not only has aesthetic significance, but can add insight into past human thought. Rock art may have also been religiously significant to the cultures that produced the art and may have continued importance to present day Native American groups. Many of the sites in Parunuweap Canyon contain intact cultural deposits that have potential to provide additional, important data about the cultural groups who resided there. Data contained in the sites can put the sites into chronological context, provide information about technology, subsistence, social and environmental change and adaptation, interrelationships with other culture groups, seasonality of use, and site function. Furthermore, Parunuweap Canyon's archaeological sites appear to represent the entire range of prehistoric activities that took place in the canyon. Table 2, below, lists the contributing sites in Parunuweap Canyon and indicates the important values the sites in Parunuweap Canyon contain. Table 3, below, lists the sites that are considered to be non-contributing to the archaeological district and justification for their non-contributing status.

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Table 2. Important Archaeological Values Represented at Contributing Parunuweap Canyon Sites

Site #	Excavated	Architecture	Intact Deposits	Rock Art
42WS104		X	X	
42WS119	X	X	X	
42WS120		X	X	X
42WS121	?	X		X
42WS122	X	X	X	X
42WS146			X	
42WS149		X	X	
42WS1157	X	X	X	
42WS1158	X	X	X	X
42WS1159			X	
42WS1160		X	X	X
42WS1161	X			
42WS1162		X	X	X
42WS1163	X	X	X	
42WS1164				X
42WS1165		X	X	
42WS1565		X	X	
42WS1778		X	X	
42WS1779		X	X	
42WS1781			X	
42WS1784		?	X	
42WS1785			X	
42WS1786			X	
42WS1788			X	
42WS1789		X	X	
42WS1791			X	

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Site #	Excavated	Architecture	Intact Deposits	Rock Art
42WS1792		X	X	
42WS1793		X	X	
42WS2590		X	X	
42WS2804		X	X	
42WS2835			X	
42WS2836			X	
42WS2865			X	
42WS2866		X	X	
42WS2894		X	X	
42WS2900		X	X	

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Table 3. Justifications for sites not contributing to the Archaeological District.

Site #	Explanation of Non-contributing Assessment
42WS1777	Absence of subsurface archaeological deposits. Erosion and historic disturbance. No architectural elements or rock art. Has not contributed to the understanding of the area's prehistory.
42WS1780	Absence of intact subsurface archaeological deposits. Erosion and historic disturbance. No architectural elements or rock art. Has not contributed to the understanding of the area's prehistory.
42WS1782	Absence of subsurface archaeological deposits. Erosion and historic disturbance. No architectural elements or rock art. Has not contributed to the understanding of the area's prehistory.
42WS1783	Absence of intact subsurface archaeological deposits; site is eroded. No architectural elements or rock art. Has not contributed to the understanding of the area's prehistory.
42WS1787	Absence of intact subsurface archaeological deposits; site is eroded. No architectural elements or rock art. Has not contributed to the understanding of the area's prehistory.
42WS1790	Absence of intact subsurface archaeological deposits; site is eroded. No architectural elements or rock art. Has not contributed to the understanding of the area's prehistory.
42WS2808	Absence of subsurface archaeological deposits. No architectural elements or rock art. Has not contributed to the understanding of the area's prehistory.

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Aikens, Melvin C.

1965 *Excavations in Southwest Utah*. University of Utah Anthropological papers, No. 76.

Beals, Ralph L., George W. Brainerd, and Watson Smith

1945 *Archaeological Studies in Northeast Arizona: A Report on the Archaeological Work of the Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expedition*. University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology 44(1). University of California Press, Berkeley.

Connor, Melissa, and Susan Vetter

1986 *Archaeological Investigations at Zion National Park*. Midwest Archeological Center Occasional Studies in Anthropology No. 19. National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Firor, James

1994 *Structural Stabilization of Six Prehistoric Sites in Zion National Park, Utah*. Report prepared for the National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver. Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Montrose.

Firor, James, and Diane Perry

1993 *Preservation Assessment of Prehistoric Sites in Zion National Park, Southwestern Utah*. Report prepared for the National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver. Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Montrose.

Frank, Barbara

1995 *National Park Service Rocky Mountain Region Archeological Project Report: 1994 Zion National Park Annual Archeological Site Stabilization Report (Draft)*. On file at Zion National Park, Springdale, Utah.

Hereford, Richard

1994 Personal communication, Richard Hereford to Laird P. Naylor, II, Zion National Park, Springdale, Utah.

Naylor, Laird P., II

1994 Intermountain Antiquities Computer System Site Forms for sites 42WS2590 and 42WS2804. On file at Zion National Park, Springdale, Utah.

Naylor, Laird P., II, and Barbara Frank

1995 *National Park Service Rocky Mountain Region Archeological Project Report: Preparing for a National Register Archeological District Nomination, Archeological Site Recording in Parunuweap Canyon in 1994 (Draft)*. On file at Zion National Park, Springdale, Utah.

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Rudy, Jack R., and Robert D. Stirland

1965 *An Archeological Reconnaissance in Washington County, Utah.* University of Utah Anthropological Papers, No. 9.

Schroeder, Albert H.

1955 *Archeology of Zion Park.* University of Utah Anthropological Papers 22.

Smith, Elmer R.

1934 A Brief Description of an Indian Ruin Near Shunesburg, Utah. *Zion and Bryce Nature Notes* 6(1).

Stokes, William Lee

1986 *Geology of Utah.* Utah Museum of Natural History and Utah Geological and Mineral Survey, Salt Lake City.

Wetherill, Ben W.

1934 Summary of Investigations by the Zion National Park Archaeological Party. *Zion and Bryce Nature Notes* 6(1).

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

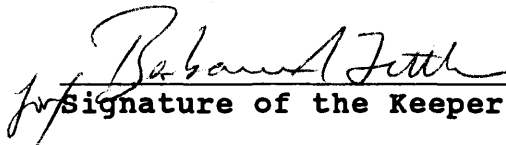
NRIS Reference Number: 96001235

Date Listed: 11/07/96

<u>Parunuweap Canyon Archeological District</u>	<u>Washington</u>	<u>UT</u>
Property Name	County	State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

11/7/96

Date of Action

=====
**Amended Items in Nomination:
Significance:**

Areas of Significance should omit "Education," and therefore include "Archeology - Prehistoric" and "Ethnic Heritage - Native American."

Period of Significance should include "A.D. 500 - 1150" and "A.D. 1200 - 1850."

Significant Dates should be blank; the dates listed pertain to particular archeological investigations and not to the significance of the archeological district.

This district is significant at the national level because the canyon was added to Zion National Monument for its archeological values; no other specific case is made.

This information was confirmed with Laird Naylor, archeologist at Zion National Park.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)