

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Cross Canyon Corridor Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

Bright Angel, South Kaibab, North Kaibab Trails

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Grand Canyon National Park

STATE

Arizona

VICINITY OF

CODE

04

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

COUNTY

Coconino

CODE

005

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36063

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

VICINITY OF

STATE

California

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Coconino County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

North San Francisco Street (no number)

CITY, TOWN

Flagstaff

STATE

Arizona

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historical-Architectural Survey, North Rim and Grand Canyon-Cross Canyon Corridor

DATE

1975

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Quality Control and Complinace Div., Denver Service Center 25287

P.O. BOX

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cross Canyon Corridor Historic District includes the Bright Angel <sup>Trail</sup>, the South Kaibab <sup>Trail</sup>, the connecting river trail, and the North Kaibab Trail. Most structures of an architectural nature (with the exception of the trailside shelters, the mule corral and stable at the confluence of Bright Angel Creek and the Colorado River, and various structures at Phantom Ranch) are not important in themselves, but only as they relate to the trail and hence to the natural environment of the canyons. ~~The one other structure of importance is the pumphouse at Roaring Springs, but it is considered as an integral part of the Grand Canyon Lodge Historic District because of its close functional relationship to that complex on the North Rim.~~

### TRAILSIDE SHELTERS - describe them + incl. dimensions, material + date of construction

The 4 trailside shelters are extremely significant to the integrity and understanding of Bright Angel Trail. Architecturally they are successful from an aesthetic as well as from a functional standpoint. While generally similar in their organic design, they have individual character resulting from their proximity to the trail which influences minor design differences, and their construction materials which differ as different materials were available.

*Statement of significance*  
Functionally the shelters provide a place of psychological as well as physical shelter. The psychological importance is the reintroduction of the human scale into a dramatic natural environment. The effect is obvious. People stop near the shelters whether they ever enter into them or not. For the moment they are provided with a basically familiar setting, not to be preferred over the natural settings, but rather to enhance both by the contrast. Their importance as physical shelters is in providing adequate facilities under normal circumstances. They are obviously not adequate to provide complete protection from sun and rain under peak use conditions, but they were probably never intended to fulfill those needs.

The removal or unsympathetic alteration of any of the present shelters, or the addition of other shelters would adversely affect their historical and architectural qualities. The only acceptable alterations would be those changes which result in a clearer statement of their original design concept, which apparently has been compromised to a minor degree, normal maintenance and repair, and the removal of a limited number of visual intrusions.

### PHANTOM RANCH AREA ALONG BRIGHT ANGEL CREEK *necessary?*

The area at the confluence of Bright Angel Creek and the Colorado River consists of Phantom Ranch, a complex of approximately 20 buildings used by the Fred Harvey Company for concession functions and various National Park Service structures such as Ranger Stations, dorms, a comfort station, and a camping shelter. The structures are located along the final half mile of the creek with Phantom Ranch located at the northern end of the area. The most significant portion of the area is Phantom Ranch itself.

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Phantom Ranch

The five original buildings, primarily of stone, were constructed in 1922. They were designed, as was apparently the site planning for the complex, by Mary Jane Colter for the Fred Harvey Company. Eight other stone and frame cabins, four tent frame cabins, an addition to the 1922 dining hall, a generator shelter, a shower building, and comfort station, a recreation building, a barn and various walls and fencing existed by 1928.

*need more complete descriptions*  
The five Colter buildings exhibit an extremely pleasing use of native stone, wooden roof supports, and other wood features such as doors, windows, and, in two cases, wood gables. The masonry is composed primarily of angular rather than river worn stones with a gray tinted mortar. In the buildings constructed after 1922 a much higher portion of river boulders are used with an untinted mortar. This later mortar also appears to have a much greater percentage of portland type cement as a major component. The extended purlins and rafters are finely detailed and *how?* the combination and sensitive handling of these as well as the window and door details are an extremely important factor in the overall effect of these buildings.

1. The Dining Hall, Building No. 892

*describe them*  
This is one of the original buildings designed by Mary Jane Colter and constructed in 1922. A major addition that increased the size of the actual dining area was constructed by 1928 onto the south end of the original. The addition is extremely sympathetic with the original being different in details but compatible in overall effect of the whole. Its construction apparently coincides with the construction of the later stone and wood cabins and the other circa 1927 buildings. The original is constructed primarily of stone whereas the addition is of stone piers with board and batten walls. This is the principal difference between the two portions. There are also some differences in the rafters, the type stone and the actual way the stone is used.

*when? Describe them...*  
There have been other changes to the original building in the form of utilitarian additions added to the west side. These additions have contributed to the general reference to the west side as "the rear". Photographs taken circa 1924 often show people sitting around tables on the west side of the building facing Bright Angel Creek. Presently, however, the obtrusive additions are probably seldom ever seen by most people since the main pedestrian trail through the area is on the east side of the building.

*more complete description necessary - dimensions, etc  
much too general*

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2. Stone Cabins, Building Nos. 883, 888, 890, 891

These cabins, <sup>and</sup> (along with the Dining Hall,) were also designed by Colter, made up the complex in 1922. The three cabins to the north, west, and southwest of the Dining Hall, numbers 888, 890, 891 are very similar to plan with some dimensional differences being approximately 28 feet by 18 to 20 feet. However, building number 891 appears to be different than the other two because of a totally different roof system. In this case, the main gable roof is perpendicular to the main axis of the building in contrast to the simple on-axis gable roof of the other two. Turning the gable 90 degrees required an additional shed to cover the enclosed porch on the rear and a separate gable roof over the projecting rest-room. This, as well as many more subtle differences reflect a vitality that is missing in the later stone and wood frame cabins which are simply near exact replications of each other.

all  
tail  
↑

Building number 883, the Manager's Cabin, located to the east of the Dining Hall is smaller, the main stone portion being approximately 17 feet square. A 14 feet wood frame addition extends the usable floor space to the east. This cabin also differs in having board gables, similar to the gable of the small porch on the north side of the Dining Hall, rather than the stone gables of the other three cabins designed by Colter.

3. Recreation Building, Number 878

This building was constructed of wood frame and stone piers with a large stone fireplace dated 1927. The western two-thirds was an open recreation room with exposed beams supporting the ceiling, and a bathroom and showers was in the eastern third. The overall dimensions of the structure which originally included two open porches on the north and south sides is approximately 51 feet by 38 feet. These side porches, approximately 38 feet by 12 feet, were enclosed to provide additional dorm facilities in 1977.

little  
caption

A low stone and pole fence extends 20 feet east from the front of the building and north along what was the east side of the swimming pool constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935. The pool was used until it was filled up with rock and earth in 1972. Another stone and pole fence enclosed a circular area that is still used as the mounting and dismounting area for mule riders.

4. Shower and Bath House, Building Number 879

The shower and bath house was also constructed circa 1927 and may have originally been planned to be a combination of wood frame and stone piers, but was actually constructed almost entirely of stone. The maximum dimensions of the irregular plan is approximately 38 feet by 28 feet.

see  
6 11

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The piers and walls are made up primarily of river cobbles. However there is a noticeable difference in the actual masonry work as the mortar joints of the piers are recessed and neatly finished whereas the mortar in the wall masonry is much more roughly finished. The corner piers project approximately one foot from the fore of the wall at its base, but since they are battered, the face of the pier projects very little at the tops of the walls.

5. Stone and Wood Frame Guest Cabins, Building Numbers 880, 881, 882, 884, 885, 886, 887, 889

*one complete  
ca.  
ref, etc)*

The eight guest cabins constructed circa 1927 fall within the general theme of most other buildings in the Phantom Ranch area. The construction material is stone used as corner piers and wood frame as the walls. The piers are battered and the exterior surface of the walls is board and batten. The overall dimension to the extreme corners of the stone piers is approximately 17 feet by 18 feet with the actual room size being approximately 13 feet by 14 feet. Small frame rest rooms have been added inobtrusively to one end of the cabins.

6. Corral, Building Number 872

*ref, etc*

This corral is used by the concessioner and originally had a stable building <sup>as</sup> well as a chickenhouse, fenced area and rabbit runs, and apparently a black-smith shop. A rock slide destroyed everything except the corral and stable building although a concrete slab remains immediately north of the existing corral. The existing building was constructed of stone circa 1927, and is located against the cliffs along the east side of the canyon.

7. Prefabricated Cabins, Laser Research Building, Reservoir, and Toilet, Building Numbers 895, 897, 899, 900, 901, 902

There are several other structures located at the north end of Phantom Ranch, east of the main pedestrian trail. These are of no historical significance and could easily be altered or removed with no effect on the primary significance of the area. However, any changes in the form of additions would still need to respect the scale and materials of the area's significant buildings.

Four tent frame cabins, formerly building numbers 899, 900, 901 and 902 were removed in 1977 and replaced with prefabricated wood frame cabins of approximately the same size and on the sites of the tent frames. The tent frame buildings, in place by 1928, were later covered by vertical board siding, a front porch and a shingle roof.

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National Park Service

The structures primarily related to the operations of the National Park Service are described separately because of a different functional relationship to the area from the buildings related directly to the activities of the concessioner, ~~in the (inner canyon)~~ Many of these structures were built <sup>at a similar time</sup> ~~at a similar time~~ under similar conditions, and consequently <sup>they</sup> are similar in size as well as construction methods and materials.

1. National Park Service Corral, Building Number 222

The corral consists of a building with stalls and tack and feed rooms, <sup>and</sup> an enclosed area with ~~a~~ watering and feed troughs. The circular canal is enclosed around two thirds of its circumference by a stone pier and pipe fence, and around the remaining one third by a building. The building is in the form of a segment of a circle measuring approximately 90 feet along the canal side. Both river worn cobbles and slabular stone are utilized in the masonry. Two rooms, approximately 15 feet on the side, are located at each end of the structure. *more complete description*

Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935 the complete structure relates exceptionally well to its site. Its circular plan respects a slight concave portion of the cliffs immediately to the northwest and the roof line of the building steps down from north to south reflecting the sloping site.

2. The Rock House, Building Number 154

*dimensions? roof?*  
The Rock House was built prior to 1928 immediately south of Bright Angel Creek near the existing trail bridge. It was constructed of stone piers with an exposed heavy timber frame and reverse board and batten walls. The stone piers on the southeast and southwest corners were removed later when an extension added on the south end approximately doubled the size of the structure. Presently the wood portion is painted a dark brown, typical of most of the structures in the area, but was a light tan as late as 1976. (Interior, wiring, plumbing-rehabilitated in 1979.) *structure?*

3. River Ranger Station, Building Number 91

*more complete description*  
Originally constructed between 1928 and 1935 of stone piers with wood frame walls this building has been added onto three different times, more than doubling its size. It is located against the canyon cliff, south of the Rock House on a slight rise above the main pedestrian trail from the Silver Bridge. (Interior, wiring, plumbing rehabilitated in 1979 with a small bathroom added on the rear, west wall.) *sentence*

4. Trail Crew Bunkhouse, Building Number 870

~~Also typical of the area, being~~ Constructed of stone piers with vertical board

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walls this building is located southwest of the curve of Bright Angel Creek just before it empties into the Colorado River. The original exterior dimensions are approximately 30 feet by 16 feet. An addition measuring approximately 6 feet by 8 feet projects from the west wall near the north west corner. The projecting room was added between 1976 and 1979. *more complete description*

5. Comfort Station, Building Number 871

This small stone pier with board and batten walls structure is located immediately southeast of the trail crew bunkhouse. It replaced an earlier comfort station located nearer the bunkhouse in 1935, only a concrete slab remains now of this earlier structure.

6. Cowboy Dorm, Building Number 875

*note  
alteration  
to  
interior*  
The cowboy dorm, circa 1927, is located south of the Phantom Ranch concession area. It is used presently by the National Park Service to satisfy some of their housing requirements. Constructed of wood frame with stone corner piers, the building was altered significantly after a flood in 1966 destroyed portions of it. The changes were made using similar materials and while the form of the building is somewhat different presently, the more general appearance as it relates to its site is similar. The existing low stone wall which abuts the entire north frame wall of the building is apparently the remains of a stone wall that separated the previous orchards immediately to the north from former alfalfa pastures associated with the concessioners mule corral to the south.

7. U.S.G.S. Residence, Building Number 440

This building is now used for National Park Service housing. It was constructed of concrete block immediately north of the cowboy dorm, building number 875, in 1966. It has no historical or architectural significance.

8. Camping Shelter, Building Number 288

The camping shelter is located in the camping area on the west side of the creek. Constructed in 1961 it has no specific architectural or structural significance although it is a compatible additon to the area.

Summary

The entire Phantom Ranch area has evolved naturally as its needs developed. This natural evolution is an important aspect of the area and should be allowed to continue. (However, the existing character of the relationship of the buildings to the natural environment should not be altered.) This character is reflected

*necessary?*

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in the location of building sites having been dictated by the topography and the gentle subserviance of the man-made to the natural. (The addition of new buildings or the removal of existing buildings should continue to reflect the established character. The exceptions to this type of acceptable change are (1) the mule corral on the Colorado River, Building number 222, (2) the Dining Hall, Building number 892, and (3) the stone cabins designed by Mary Jane Colter, Building numbers 883, 888, 890, 891. These buildings should be retained in their existing form and any repair or replacement be of like material and technique.)

OTHER STRUCTURES

*more complete record / date of activity*  
The only architecturally significant structure at Cottonwood Campground is the residence. It is constructed of stone and wood, with a shingle roof. It is "T" shaped in plan, but was originally constructed as an "L". (If the intended use as a residence is not warranted, it is important that an adaptive use be considered so that the structure can continue to exist as a viable part of the district.)

The architectural significance of the buildings at Indian Gardens is relatively minor with the exception of the trailside shelter, and it is important primarily because of its relationship to the other trailside shelters along Bright Angel Trail. It is somewhat removed from the other structures and consequently seems to relate more to the trail. *described it*

The earliest structures at the site of a lesser degree of importance are the first stone pumphouse (1932), the park ranger residence (1932), and a stone caretakers residence (1943). Other structures at Indian Gardens are a frame comfort station (1961), a frame bunkhouse (1965), and a second pumphouse (1967).

The relationship of the major buildings and appurtenances to the natural character of the immediate environment is somewhat obscure. As the trail enters the area, it splits and becomes all but lost among the buildings and associated paths. This could be positive in providing a contrast to the precisely defined trail which leads to and away from Indian Gardens. However, the positive aspect is adversely affected by the location of refuse and storage areas.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

It is important for the Cross Canyon Corridor Historic District to retain the historical relationships of the natural to the manmade. However, this relationship is one of change being organic in the truest sense of the word. Consequently, the natural evolution of the structures within the district should continue as new needs develop. The exceptions to this are the trailside shelters along Bright Angel Trail, and the various structures in the Phantom Ranch area.



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Within the basic concept of the elements in the district being evolving, living things is the necessity to retain the ultimate importance of the district, i.e., the natural environment and man's relationship to it. This relationship could be endangered by intrusions which are extraordinarily obvious calling attention away from that important relationship.

*Check How to Complete N.R. Forms*

*Total length of trail ?  
" width of corridor*

*Complete description of all significant  
and contributing structures*

*geology, topography, etc. potential elements of the district*

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

*Opening paragraph should concisely summarize all areas checked here.*

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Tourism
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES: C. 1890 - present  
 BUILDER/ARCHITECT: Ralph D. Cameron, CCC, NPS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

One section--the Bright Angel Trail--of the Cross Canyon Corridor has served as a safe pathway for both humans and passenger--carrying mules to the bottom of mile-deep Grand Canyon since the early 1890s. Other parts such as the Kaibab and River Trails date to the late 1920s and early 1930s. Today this well-known trail system with its attendant rest shelters, freshwater springs, bridges, and the Phantom Ranch (near the confluence of Bright Angel Creek and the Colorado River) continues to serve the increasing number of tourists who visit Grand Canyon National Park annually. Including its ancillary features, this trail system possesses <sup>QUALITIES</sup> nationally historical, engineering, and architectural ~~significance~~. However, several structures located within the historic district display no significance.

The Bright Angel Trail, known for many years as the "Cameron Trail," was begun in 1890 by a group of northern Arizona businessmen: Peter D. Berry, Robert Ferguson, C. H. McClure, and Miles J. Cameron, to provide access to their inner-canyon mining claims. (Incidentally, these claims later proved to have little value.) This early trail followed aboriginal paths down to Indian Gardens, an area some 3,500 feet below the South Rim, which had been under cultivation by Havasupai Indians for hundreds of years.

In 1891, when Berry filed a petition to change the status of the trail to a toll road, a problem arose that was not resolved for well over three decades. When the 10-year lease expired in 1901, Ralph Cameron, Niles' brother bought out the original trail owners and began charging tourists a dollar a head to descent Bright Angel Trail. Eventually the franchise reverted back to Coconino County in 1906, but Cameron received permission to collect the toll for the county's coffers.

He also had proprietary rights to Indian Gardens, the only place to secure fresh water along the Bright Angel Trail. Unfortunately, due to neglect and lack of maintenance, Indian Gardens became ~~a real pesthole~~, an eyesore for those traveling down into the inner canyon. This confusing ownership question caused much ill will and litigation between 1901 and 1928 when the county deeded the trail to the Federal government in exchange for Washington's promises to build a good highway to Grand Canyon.

Meanwhile, in the early 1900s, the Fred Harvey concern--a South Rim concessioner--initiated daily muleback excursions deep into Grand Canyon. Through the intervening decades, these trips have acquired an international reputation and have become an institution at Grand Canyon National Park as thousands of tourists have been both awed and frightened as they rode the sturdy animals down the trail. Then too, American composer Ferde Grofe immortalized these adventures in his renowned work "The Grand Canyon Suite."

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To provide better access for early visitors to the inner canyon, limited trail improvement occurred in the early 1900s. A United States Geological Survey party, headed by Francois E. Matthes, descended from the North Rim through Bright Angel Canyon to the Colorado River in 1902. A year later, E. D. Wooley, a local canyon promoter invested \$5,000, and with the aid of Jim Emmett, organized the Cross Canyon Transportation Company, a loosely organized scheme to provide transport across the inner canyon. Wooley's son-in-law, David D. Rust, took charge of the project. A work crew upgraded the trail in the 1905-1907 interval, and in 1907 a cable which had been hauled down to the river on two mules was strung across the Colorado. A ~~small cage~~ <sup>that was</sup> large enough to carry a mule, was suspended from the cable.

Meanwhile, the construction workers had established a small tent camp near the mouth of Bright Angel Creek, subsequently known as Rust's Camp. The crew also planted trees and dug small irrigation ditches to water the area. Some years later, in 1913, Theodore Roosevelt rested at the Rust Camp, and for years afterward, it was called Roosevelt's Camp.

Hardy visitors utilized the cable crossing to reach Roosevelt's Camp or the crude Bright Angel Canyon trail until 1921 when the National Park Service built a \$17,000-suspension bridge across the Colorado. Pack trains brought all the construction materials to the river, including the cables. That summer the NPS erected a 420-foot span, 56 feet above the river, supported by two 7/8-inch cables.

In 1928, the NPS erected a second suspension bridge a few feet directly above the earlier one. Except for the 550-foot-long cables moved down the trail by 42 Havasupai Indians, all building materials were hauled into the inner canyon by mule. (The sure-footed animals carried materials less than 10-foot long, 200 pounds in weight.) The new 440-foot span, 78 feet above the Colorado, was linked to a new South Rim trail by a 105-foot-long tunnel. The bridge was suspended by eight cables, each 1-1/2 inches in diameter, anchored to the rock walls on either side of the Inner Gorge. Other thinner cables prohibited lateral movement.

Regarding the seeming, interminable impasse over the Bright Angel Trail, the NPS wanted action in the 1920s since Grand Canyon had been included in the National Park System. Ralph Cameron, by then a U.S. Senator representing Arizona, exploited his congressional influence to block an appropriations bill for Grand Canyon National Park in the early 1920s. This negative activity resulted from his endeavors to lash back at the NPS for its "meddling" in northern Arizona. In 1924, Congress authorized \$100,000 for the purchase of the Bright Angel Trail from Coconino County, but local voters repudiated the bid. As a counter ploy, the NPS used the sum to build a new toll-free trail. (Thus the cross-canyon Kaibab Trail entered at Yaki Point, three miles east

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*This should be in the physical description*  
of Grand Canyon Village, followed a spur jutting out into the abyss, then wound down to the Tonto Plateau and to the river. The "new" four-and-one-half foot-wide Kaibab Trail joined the older "Gable Trail" near the Tipoff; the earlier trail had connected this area with Indian Gardens and the controversial Bright Angel Trail.)

On the North Rim side of the Colorado, the new trail followed the general outline of the old Kaibab Trail upward. The portion of the trail completed in 1927 crossed Bright Angel Creek only four times, whereas in the past a person had to ford the swift current 68 times in less than four miles. The workmen built several bridges with steel beams, concrete floors, and woven-wire guard rails; the spans varied from 16 to 25 feet in length. As the men worked their way up the canyon they stopped at the Cottonwood area where they built a small campground, and later in the 1930s, a residence for a ranger.

The 1920s brought great improvement in inner-canyon accessibility for tourists, and this in turn encouraged other activity. When the first suspension bridge was completed, the private sector invested money at Bright Angel Creek near its confluence with the Colorado. In 1921, the Fred Harvey concern spent over \$20,000 for a new resort at the old Rust/Roosevelt Camp. The South Rim operation made this area the focal point for an overnight mule trip to the canyon bottom. Fred Harvey built permanent stone and frame structures to house their guests. Named Phantom Ranch for a nearby canyon by a Fred Harvey designer, Mary Jane Colter, the complex featured a stone dining hall, and four stone cabins.

*A cultural theme is selected?*  
*How?*  
Mary Jane Colter was an exceptionally talented architect who worked for the Fred Harvey Company for a number of years having designed other important structures at Grand Canyon in addition to her work at Phantom Ranch. The concessioner's building at Hermits Rest, ca. 1914, Lookout Studio, ca. 1914, and the Desert View Watch Tower, ca. 1932 are fine examples that reflect her vast talents as a designer. The buildings designed by Colter on the South Rim and at Phantom Ranch were to set a precedent for what was to follow. Her buildings related extremely well to their site by using local materials which were similar in color and texture to the surrounding environment. At times Ms. Colter would also rely on a structure that reflects a cultural theme to emphasize this natural setting. One building that exemplifies a cultural theme as well as using local materials is the Desert View Watch Tower. But the normal relationship of this architecture to the environment is a subordinate one. This became the theme for building design throughout the National Park Service. The four trail side shelters on the Bright Angel trail are excellent examples of this development.

Through the years, the Phantom Ranch has gained a wide reputation and romantic aura, and many articles have been written about it. In the 1970s, Phantom Ranch remains a popular place to visit, especially for the unhurried Grand Canyon visitor.

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Besides its "dude ranch" function, the Phantom Ranch served as a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) winter encampment in the 1930s. The young enrollees built several additional buildings as well as a swimming pool fed by Bright Angel Creek. Probably the most important project completed by the Phantom Ranch CCC contingent was the River Trail, connecting Bright Angel Trail and the NPS Kaibab Trail on the south side of the Colorado River. In order to make a loop from the South Rim, the hiker or mule rider can traverse the two-mile trail which is blasted into the face of the cliff several hundred feet above the river.

Although the Phantom Ranch buildings remain extant--including those from the early 1920s; the CCC camp was dismantled in the 1940s. The following description, prepared by a visiting army officer, indicates the camp's appearance in 1934:

First is seen the recreation field for volleyball and basketball and a white canvas screen for outdoor movies, next to two parallel rows of large pyramidal tents, framed and floored and provided with electric lights, the current for which comes from a gasoline engine. Each tent contains six Gold Medal cots and a small coal stove. The coal comes down the trail by pack mule, just like everything else. Seven large storage tents, also framed and floored, are joined to make a combined mess and recreation hall. The kitchen tent adjoins.<sup>1</sup>

The CCC campsite is presently the Bright Angel Campground. *Encampment site  
at large in ITEM 7*

Besides the inner-canyon's recreational features, the Cross-Canyon Corridor has continued to play an important role in providing water for the two rims. Near Roaring Springs, 3,780 feet below the North Rim, the Union Pacific built a power house and pumping station in 1928 to provide the new Grand Canyon Lodge complex with an adequate electrical and water supply, an operation still used in 1975. As for the South Rim, the Santa Fe had to haul in water in tank cars, then store it. Seeing that this would not suffice in the long run, the railroad let a contract in 1931 for a pumping station at Indian Gardens.

A cable tramway lowered men and supplies to the area, and a two-and-one-half mile, six-inch pipe was laid; water could then be lifted to the South Rim. (The water trains ceased operations in 1932.)

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<sup>1</sup>Major Robert P. William, "Out of the Grand Canyon on a Litter: A Sequel," The Military Surgeon, LXXV (July, 1934), 4.

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In July, 1970, the NPS completed a 12-mile pipeline to carry water from Roaring Springs to Indian Gardens; the force of gravity pushed the water almost halfway up the South Rim, and the pumping station completed the task. This project, which had been begun in 1965, was almost wiped out by a flash flood in 1966, but the NPS finally completed it four years later.

*see closing paragraph*

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 372

UTM REFERENCES

A	12	40511010	4008300	B	12	4063510	400631010
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	12	4072510	4004650	D	12	406375	4003000
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the Bright Angel trailhead (near the Kolb Studio) and 50 feet on each side of this and other trails described herewithin, northeast through Indian Garden, then to the point where the Bright Angel Trail intersects the River Trail, then eastward along the River Trail to the point where it crosses the Colorado River via the waterpipe bridge, then along the river to Bright Angel Creek. From the point where the River Trail meets the waterpipe along the River Trail to the point where it intersects.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ronald W. Johnson, Ph.D., Historian; Tony Crosby, Historical Architect February 7, 1980

ORGANIZATION

DATE

National Park Service, Denver Service Center

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

755 Parfet Street, P.O. Box 25287

(303) 234-5050

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Denver

Colorado 80225

## 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ NONE \_\_\_

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is \_\_\_ National \_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Local

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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- Simpson, Elizabeth J. Recollections of Phantom Ranch. Grand Canyon Natural History Association, 1979.
- Strong, Douglas Hillman. "The Man Who 'Owned' Grand Canyon". The American West, VI (September, 1969), 33-40.
- "Superintendent's Annual Reports" (1920-1940), Grand Canyon National Park Library.
- Verkamp, Margaret M. "History of Grand Canyon National Park". Unpublished Masters thesis, University of Arizona, 1940.
- Williams, Major Robert P. "Out of the Grand Canyon on a Litter: A Sequel". The Military Surgeon, LXXV (July, 1934), 1-7.



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the South Kaibab Trail, then southward along the South Kaibab Trail to its trailhead at Yaki Point. From the point where the South Kaibab Trail and River Trail intersect, across the suspension bridge over the Colorado River, then westward along the river to Bright Angel Creek, then northward along the creek through Phantom Ranch, northward through Cottonwood Camp, then Roaring Springs to the North Kaibab trailhead on the North Rim. At certain points, in particular Indian Garden, the old mule corral near the Colorado River, Phantom Ranch, and Roaring Springs, the district will include certain structures or features located more than 50 feet from the trail corridor.

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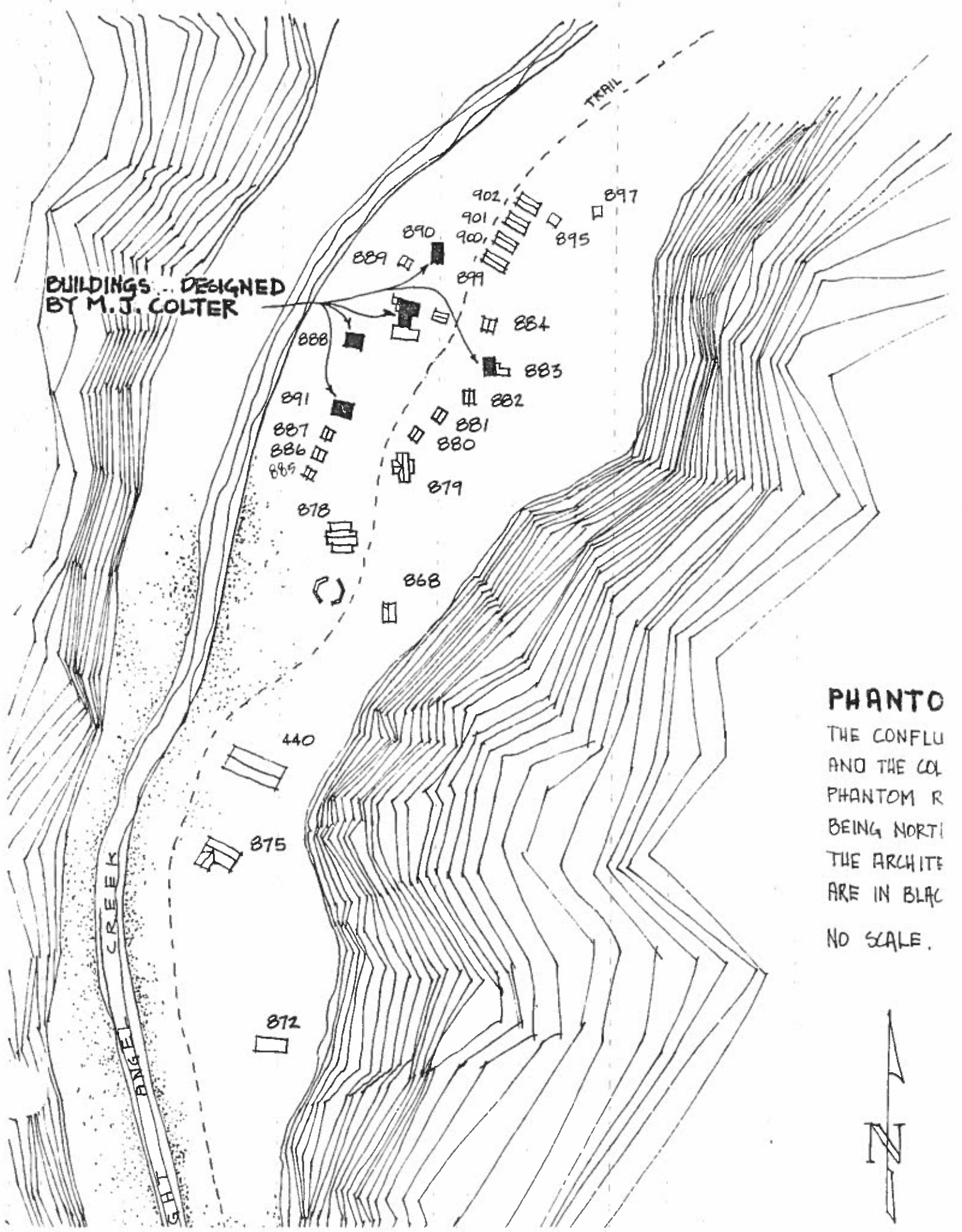
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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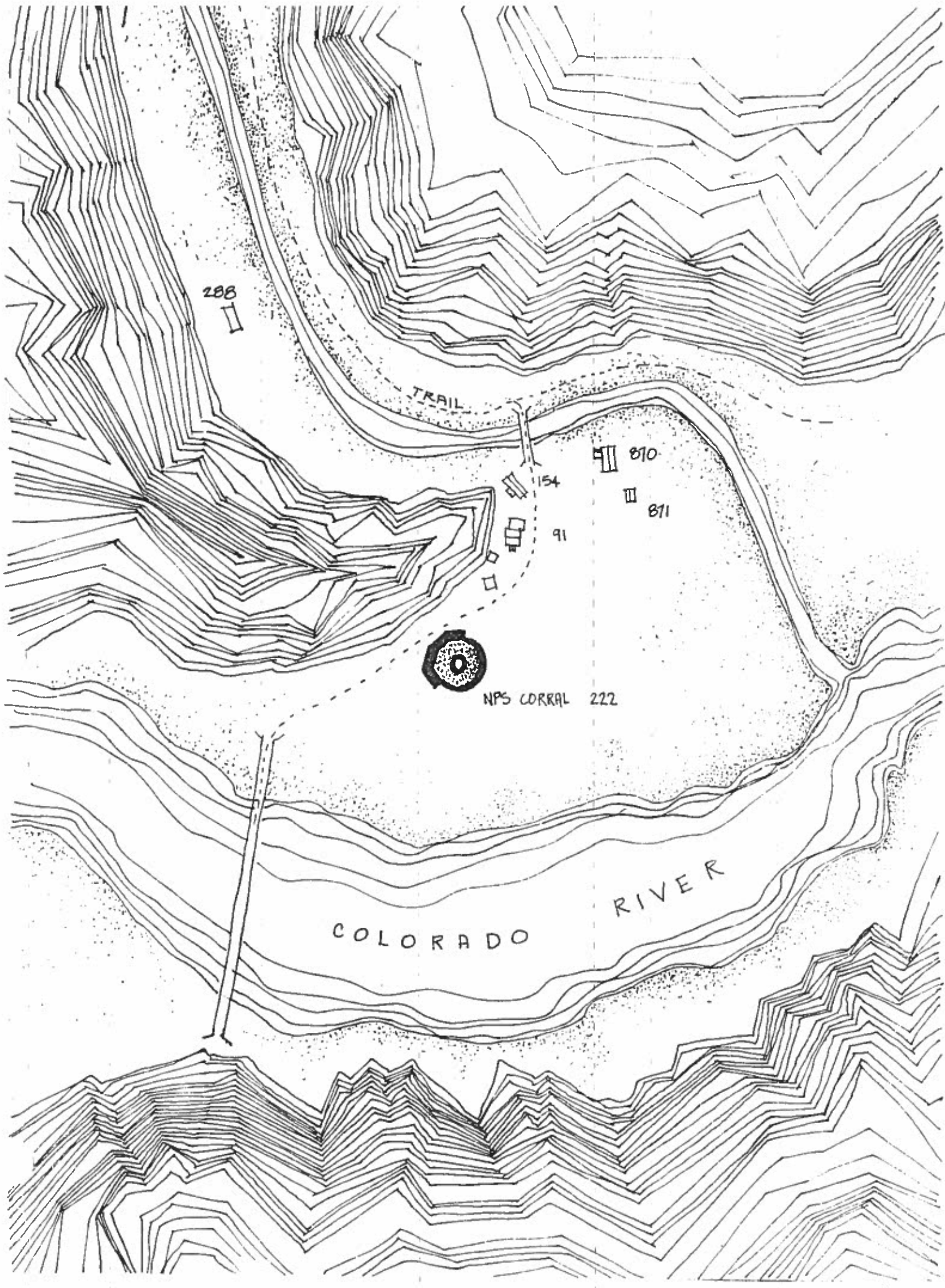
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F	12	403-550	3999-100
G	12	402-400	3997-350
H	12	401-450	3996-000
I	12	401-550	3995-400
J	12	402-050	3995-400
K	12	402-250	3995-000
L	12	402-150	3994-050
M	12	402-250	3993-350
N	12	401-700	3992-700
O	12	401-850	3991-900
P	12	402-400	3990-850
Q	12	401-300	3995-000
R	12	400-000	3995-250
S	12	400-075	3994-400
T	12	400-000	3994-000
U	12	399-600	3994-2.50
V	12	398-850	3993-550
W	12	398-500	3993-000
X	12	397-775	3991-650
Y	12	397-000	3991-000
Z	12	397-150	3990-750



BUILDINGS DESIGNED BY M. J. COLTER

PHANTO  
 THE CONFLU  
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 BEING NORTI  
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 ARE IN BLAC  
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NPS CORRAL 222

COLORADO RIVER