

CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT  
(Attach 4" x 5" Black and White Photograph)

51312

REGION RMR PARK/AREA NAME ZION N.P. PARK NUMBER 1590

STRUCTURE NAME Gateway To The Narrows Trail STRUCTURE NUMBER RT 5

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE Gateway to the Narrows PARK LOCATION CODE PG

NATIONAL REGISTER \_\_\_\_\_ DATE:  / / MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: (A) (B) (C) (D)

NPS LEGAL INTEREST FEE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: No Mgnt. Agreement

Check all of the following categories for which NPS has treatment responsibility:

Stabilization  Cyclic Maintenance  Routine Maintenance  Approved Ultimate Treatment

(ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION USE ONLY)

APPROVED ULTIMATE TREATMENT OR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN, CULTURAL COMPONENT DESIGNATION:

Preservation	(PP)	Restoration	(RR)	Reconstruction	(CC)
Adaptive Preservation	(AP)	Adaptive Restoration	(AR)	Adaptive Reconstruction	(AC)
Neglect	(NG)	Remove	(RM)	No Approved Treatment	(NO)

Approval Document \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Document Date:  / /

Estimated Treatment Costs \_\_\_\_\_

Stabilization:	\$ _____	Date:	<u> / /</u>	Level of Estimate:	(A) (B) (C)
Approved Treatment:	\$ _____	Date:	<u> / /</u>	Estimator:	(Region) (DSC) (A&E)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: N.P.S. built self-guiding nature walk and hiking trail of architectural and historical significance.

Date of Construction:  /07/1929 Date of Alterations: 19/68+70/ 1982  
 Architect/Designer: Guy D. Edwards Historical Theme(s): Transportation  
 History of Structure: The Narrows Foot Trail was surveyed on 06/1928 by Guy D. Edwards, Asst. Engineer Field Headquarters Zion N.P. Edwards completed the trail blueprints in Jan. 1929 at the Office of Chief Engineer, San Francisco, Calif. and they were approved the following Feb. Trail construction began in the middle of April 1929 under the supervision of Park building foreman, Walter Ruesch. 20-25 men were employed in building the trail which was 70% complete by May. By July 1929, daily field trips held on trail.  
 Evaluation of Structure: Historic Theme Contributing X Non-Contributing \_\_\_\_\_  
 National Register Criteria: A B Cx D (Include integrity statement)  
Constructed with native materials and associated with the "NPS-Rustic" architectural style, the Gateway to the Narrows Trail possesses structural integrity. Designed with vertical curves and winding alignment to suggest Nature's work rather than man's.  
 Bibliography: Edwards, Guy D., "Report on Engineering Activities Zion N.P., 1928." "Reports to Supt., Zion N.P., 1929." Zion N.P. "Completion Reports" for 1929, 1970.  
 Representation in Other Surveys: No.

If structure has been removed, how? \_\_\_\_\_ Date:  / /

Report prepared by: James Jurale Date: 09/06/84

12/31/84

LOCATION: Section undetermined State Utah USE: CURRENT INTERIOR USE (NPS 28 CODE) N/A  
 Township 40 S County Washington Original Use Footpath  
 Range 10 W Intermediate Uses Self-guiding nature trail  
 PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION (NPS 28 CODE) HI

OWNERSHIP: Present Owner: NPS Profile Note Book No. 19M-7, 19M-8  
 Original Owner: NPS Negative No. Roll 21, View 3  
 Intermediate Owner(s): NPS

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**\*\*\*PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION\*\*\***

(DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.)

Starting from the Temple of Sinawava at the end of the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive, the trail follows the Virgin River to the north for a distance of one mile. At this point the Canyon becomes so narrow that there is no longer room for both river and trail. One of the least strenuous and most popular trails in Zion, it is utilized as both a naturalist-guided and self-guided walk. It is entirely paved, climbs less than 100 feet from start to finish and was improved for handicapped access in 1982.

The trail was surveyed and designed by Guy D. Edwards, working out of the office of the Chief Engineer, San Francisco, California. Edwards was Assistant Engineer to Chief Engineer, F.A. Kittredge at Zion N.P. Field Headquarters in 1928 and 1929. Edwards designed the path--whose construction was supervised by Park building foreman Walter Ruesch--to be of a smooth surface and still blend in with the landscape as much as possible. Prior to its completion in July 1929, the Narrows path was only a narrow trail and, "pedestrians had to wade in loose powdery sand--ankle deep, and were choked by dust."

The original pavement was an asphalt and gravel mixture, the gravel being spread and rolled, and the bitumuls (emulsified asphalt) applied by the penetration method. Grading work was handled to avoid all damage to the surrounding landscape and avoid unnecessary scars to rocks. In all, about 112 cubic yards of cement rubblemasonry were built. Sections of the original serpentine sandstone retaining walls exist at present.

On August 1, 1968 a rock slide buried a 250' section of the trail under a pile of debris from 3 to 20 feet. Reconstruction work was started during Sept. 1968 and a helicopter was flown in from the Grand Canyon to transport men and equipment onto the cliffs above the slide area. Rather than remove the small mountain created by the slide, the trail was reconstructed over the top. In the course of the project, which was completed in April 1970, rock retaining walls were constructed to help stabilize the loose slide material.

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**SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES (INCLUDING INTERIOR AND SETTING) FOR PARK PLANNING PURPOSES:**



LES No. RT 5

Photo No. Bell #21, View 3

Subject Gateway to the Narrows  
Trail

Descrip. of View \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Subject Gateway to the  
Narrows W. 10.

Location of Negative BMRO

By James Jurale Date 8/84