

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Riggs Spring Fire Trail

other name/site number: Riggs Spring Loop Trail

2. Location

street & number: Bryce Canyon National Park

not for publication: a
vicinity: X

city/town: Bryce Canyon

state: Utah code: UT county: Kane code: 025 zip code: 84717

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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.)

[Signature] 3/14/95
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
National Park Service
State or Federal agency or bureau

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

[Signature] 2-21-95
Signature of commenting or other official Date
Utah State Historic Preservation Office
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
 see continuation sheet
- removed from the National Register
 see continuation sheet
- other (explain):

for Signature of the Keeper
[Signature]

Date of Action
4/25/95

Riggs Spring Fire Trail

Name of Property

Kane County Utah

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Government-Federal

Number of Resources within Property

Category of Property: Structure

Contributing

Noncontributing

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

00

building(s)

Name of related multiple property listing: Bryce Canyon National Park Multiple Property Submission

00

sites

10

structures

00

objects

10

Total

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Transportation; pedestrian related

Current Function:

Recreation, outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

N/A

Materials:

foundation: N/A

walls: N/A

roof: N/A

other: N/A

Narrative Description

The Riggs Spring Fire Trail is approximately eight miles in length and varies in width between four and five feet. For most of its length it is a graded trail with an unpaved natural surface. Exceptions include eroded trail segments in the drainage bottom where the trail has been reestablished through use rather than through deliberate construction. From Rainbow Point, the trail descends to Yovimpa Pass, and from there into the bottom of the Lower Podunk Creek drainage to Riggs Spring where there a new fence protects the spring from wildlife. From Riggs Spring the trail turns northward where it parallels Mutton Hollow. The trail alternately ascends and descends two north/south oriented ridge systems before the final gradual ascent along the base of north side of the "Promontory" and its return to Rainbow Point. On the plateau, the trail passes through ponderosa pine forest. Below in the drainage bottoms, one finds stands of aspen in well watered areas and oak in drier sites.

In general, the integrity of the trail is good. Although it has suffered from natural erosion and a general lack of maintenance, comparison of historical maps with the modern alignment indicates that the location of the has not changed significantly.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Areas of Significance: Government, Recreation

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1936-1944

Significant Person(s): N/A

Significant Dates: 1936

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: NPS (CCC)

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Riggs Spring Fire Trail has local significance under National Register Criterion A for its association with the development of National Park Service (NPS) infrastructure in Bryce Canyon National Park (BRCA), and the involvement of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in such undertakings. National Register areas of significance include government and recreation. The period of significance dates from the initial construction of the trail in 1936 through the end of the historical period as defined by the National Register. This resource is included in the property type that includes resources associated with NPS administrative development, and this nomination is part of the Bryce Canyon National Park Multiple Property Submission.

The Riggs Spring Fire Trail represents the last segment of administrative fire trail constructed by CCC enrollees from Camp NP-3, during the 1936 field season. This segment of trail provided access to the southern-most backcountry areas of the park, and supplemented the access provided by the major administrative trail, the Under-the-Rim Trail. The design and construction of this trail fell under the auspices of the park engineer and landscape architect, and the trails system as a whole was included in park mater planning documents. The availability of CCC labor enhanced the ability of the park to complete construction of various administrative facilities, including the park circulation system.

The segment of the Riggs Spring Fire Trail that parallels Lower Podunk Creek likely overlaps a previously existing road or trail. Riggs Spring, located in the Lower Podunk Creek drainage, is a reliable source of water even in dry years, and local ranchers used the spring and the drainage corridor prior to the establishment of the park. Indeed the relatively gentle grad of Lower Podunk Creek on the east side of Yovimpa Pass paired with that of Podunk Creek on the west side of the pass offers an effective travel corridor linking the top of the plateau with the valleys to the east. Historical maps indicated that a two track road led southeast from the park boundary. A similar road provided access from the E. Fork of the Sevier River west to Yovimpa Pass.

9. Major Bibliographic References

"Trail Program Map", 1932; Map No BC-5000 "Bryce Canyon National Park Under Rim Fire Trail Section B" June 1935; Map No. B-4978 "Bryce Canyon National Park Under-Rim Fire Trail" 1934. Map No. 8118 "construction Map Oct.1, 1934 to March 31, 1935"; Map No 2102 "Road and Trail System Plan" 1942; Map No. 2301-G "Trail System" 1969; all available in "Trails File", Maintenance Office, BRCA Headquarters. USGS Bryce Canyon Quadrangle 1966.

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 -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property: \pm 24 acres

Maps 3, 5

UTM References:

Zone
A 12

Easting
See continuation sheet

Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the trail is indicated as a dashed line on the accompanying USGS topographic map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the trail and the area within 10 feet on either side of the trail.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Janene Caywood

organization: Historical Research Associates, Inc.

date: December 31, 1994

street & number: P.O. Box 7086

telephone: 406 721-1958

city or town: Missoula

state: MT

zip code: 59807-7086

Property Owner

name/title: Bryce Canyon National Park

street & number: telephone: 801 834-5322

city or town: Bryce Canyon

state: UT zip code: 84717

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 and Photographs Page 1

Riggs Spring Fire Trail
Kane County, Utah

UTM References

UTM Point A Zone 12 388840 4146790
Point B zone 12 390380 4147850
Point C Zone 12 390350 4145350
Point D Zone 12 390500 4146970
Point E Zone 12 391800 4146310
Point F Zone 12 391720 4147900
Point G Zone 12 390660 4148010

Photographs

1. Riggs Spring Trail, Bryce Canyon NP
 2. Kane County, Utah
 3. Janene M. Caywood (HRA, Missoula MT)
 4. June, 1992
 5. NPS Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, Colorado
- (Information in items 1-5 applies to all photos of Riggs Spring Fire Trail)

Photo #1

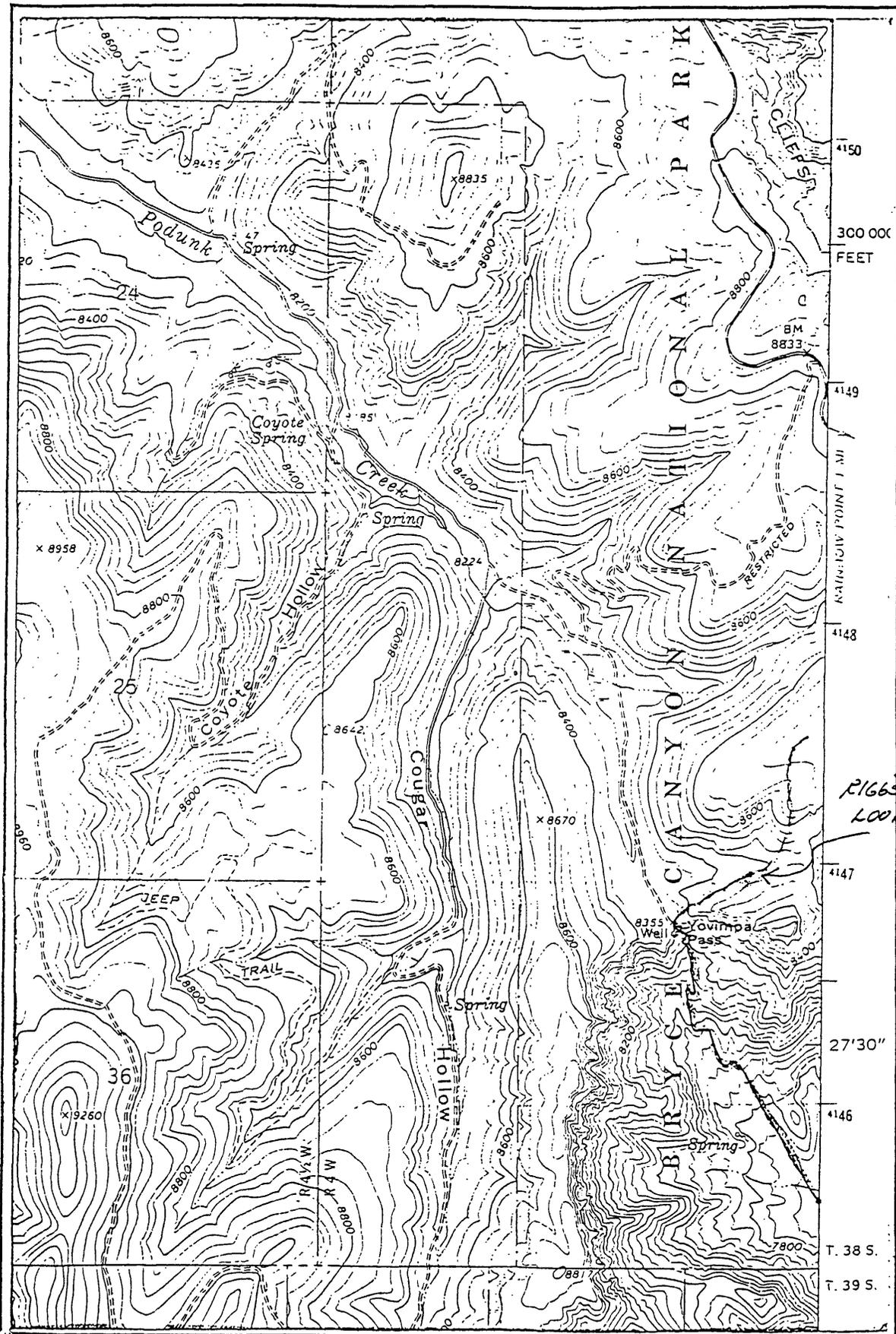
Riggs Spring Loop Trail. Looking SE to trail in canyon bottom--between Yovimpa Pass and Riggs Spring.

Photo #2

Riggs Spring Loop Trail, Looking SE to trail ford in canyon bottom.

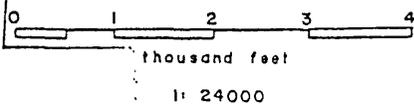
Photo #3

Riggs Spring Loop Trail. Looking north along hillslope segment of trail. Corral Canyon in background.

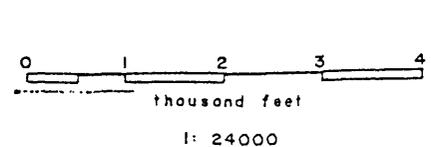
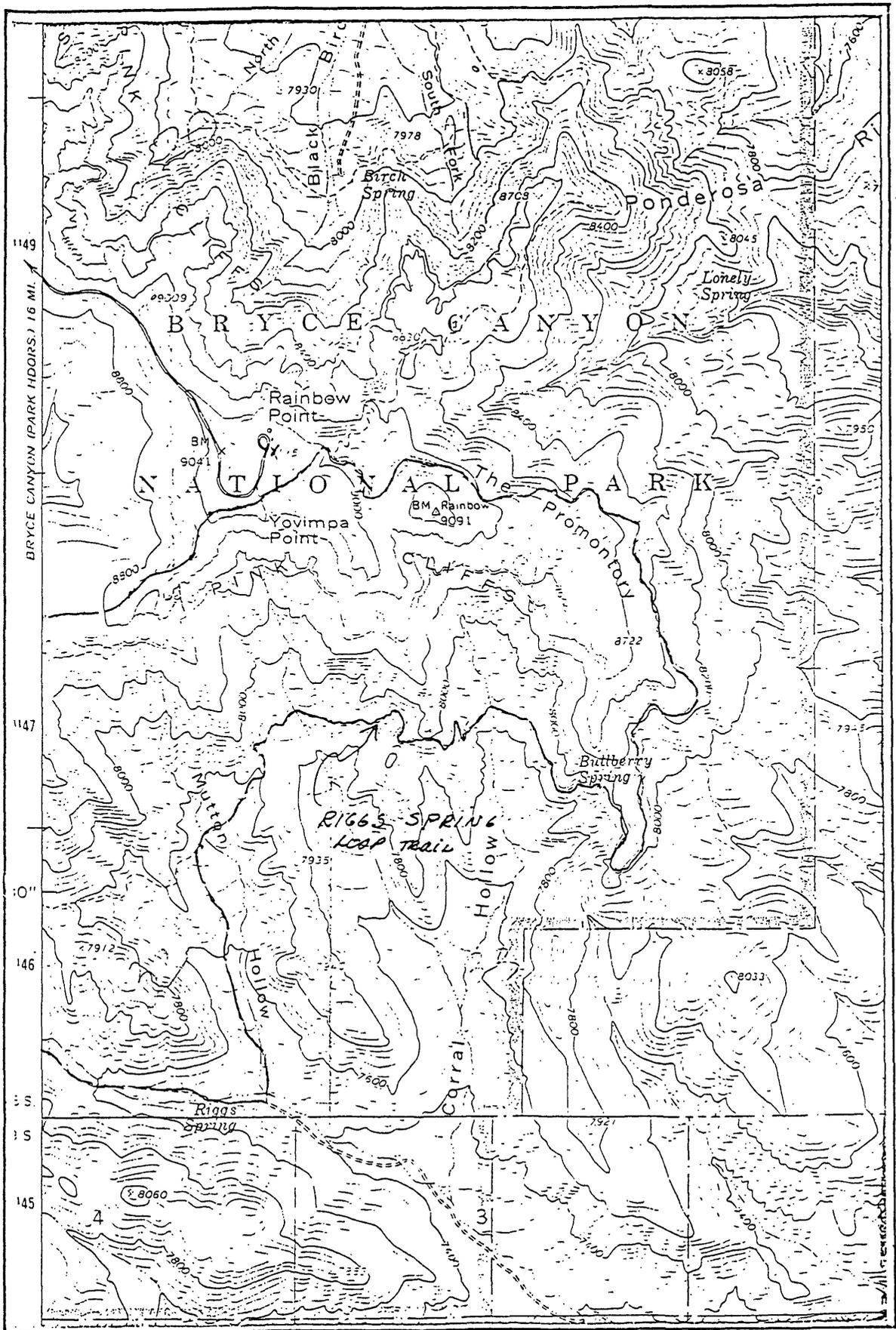


4150
300 000
FEET
4149
NATIONAL POINT 1 MI
4148
4147
27'30"
4146
T. 38 S.
T. 39 S.

RIGGS SPRING
LOOP trail



USGS 7.5' Quad Podunk creek
Sec. 31 & 32 T. 38 S R. 4 W
County KANE



USGS 7.5' Quad RAINBOW POINT
 Sec. 29, 29, 32, 33 T 38S R 4W
 County KANE