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Form No. 10-306 (Rev. 10-74)

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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EXCELLENT TGOOD X_FAIR	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	_XUNALTERED _XALTERED (Some altered, some not)	x_ORIGINAL MOVED	SITE DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Grand Canyon Inn, also called the North Rim Inn, consisted of a main building, 27 exposed frame cabins, and ten duplex log cabins. It offered a lower priced tourist accommodation than the more elegant Grand Canyon Lodge. Adjacent to it the National Park Service established a campground whose physical plant consisted of roads, outdoor fireplaces, stone enclosures for firewood, rest rooms and shower facilities, and an amphitheater for interpretive programs. The Inn and the campground stand in a forest of Ponderosa pine and quaking aspen above the head of, but screened by the forest from view of, Transept Canyon, and the Grand Canyon itself. Its location, therefore, was less desirable from the perspective of most tourists than Grand Canyon Lodge, which featured magnificent views from the tip of Bright Angel Point.

#### Main Inn Building

Built in 1929, the main building of Grand Canyon Inn, which serves today as a store and recreation hall, originally provided a food service facility for the tourists using the frame and log cabins, and the nearby campground. Later it was called the Cafeteria, and today it is a store and recreation hall. It is a large, gable roofed structure, rectangular in floor plan, measuring 731/2 feet by 41 feet, 10 inches, with an extension 221/2 by 30 feet on the rear, and a smaller extension 12 feet square on the east side. The rustic design of the structure employs exposed frame construction between large peeled log corner posts. A shed-roofed porch on peeled log posts occupies two thirds or more of the front of the building, but has been enclosed to create more indoor room. This is an important alteration, but the alterations still have not significantly changed the character of the original design concept, and are reversable. The verticle peeled logs serve as a visual focus in harmony with the surrounding pine forest, and consequently are the primary contributors to the structure's rustic character.

# Exposed Frame Duplex Cabins - Nos. 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, Manager's cabin, 90-91

Immediatly behind the main building of Grand Canyon Lodge are four, exposed-frame duplex cabins, arranged in two rows, now used as employee quarters. These small gable-roofed structures have exterior frames with planking inside. The frame is dominated by the heavier 4 by 4 corner posts which replicate the verticality of the forest. Built in 1934, they were remodeled on the interior in 1961. The interior walls are covered with wallboard, painted, and the floors are finished in linoleum. Each room has its own small bathroom with toilet, sink, and stall shower. One half of each bathroom, side by side, forms a gable roofed extension fo the main structure, so that the floor plan is basically a "T" with a very shallow upright leg.

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

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These cabins, exclusing the extension, measure roughly 16 by 29 feet. One which lacks the bathroom extension was the manager's, its interior space divided into two rooms and a bathroom.

#### Duplex Log Cabins - Nos. 30-31, 32-33, 34-35, 36-37, 38-39, 40-41, 42-43, 44-45, 46-47

Northwest of the main building is a complex of ten "sharing shower" duplex log cabins on limestone foundations with a limestone porch and steps at each end, which duplicate in original disign the "standard", "regular", or "economy" cabins of Grand Canyon Lodge. Built in 1929 along with the main Inn building, these are true log cabins with notched corners, divided basically into two rooms with a bathroom containing a sink, toilet, and shower stall, which is accessible from each room. The toilet is, in fact, entered from a tiny hallway which is separated from each of the bedrooms by a door; thus the cabin can be opened up for use by a single family although to pass from one bedroom to the other it is necessary to pass through two doors and the small hallway between. The gable roofs are finished with wood shingles. A small log extension at the middle of one side contains a heater. Each cabin contains about 318 square feet, and is about 12 by 27 feet.

# Exposed Frame Cabins - Individually Number 1 through 27 (Old Nos. 935-961)

Northeast of the Main building is a complex of 27 small, square, gableroofed exposed frame single family cabins, each basically 13 feet square (exterior dimensions), not counting a six foot wide bathroom wall which extends two feet beyond the basic square of the floor plan on the exterior. The tiny four foot square bathroom contains a toilet, sink, and stall shower. This bathroom is to the immediately left of the entrance door, and occupies one half of the front wall. The other half features a single window, while each of the other three sides has two windows. The roofs are shingled. As with the employee quarters behind the main building, the verticality of the exposed frame replicates that of the mixed forest of the North Rim.

#### Miscellaneous Inn Structures Nos.922, 923, 924

In the complex of exposed frame cabins, one such structure, (No. 923) of typical exterior design and size, is a Laundry and Firehose House. Its interior lacks the usual bathroom.

Also in that complex is a double-size exposed frame structure with gable

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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roof which served as a washroom (Old No. 922) which at one time appears to have been a women's dormitory.

Out side of the complex to the north but adjacent to it is a linen house built in 1929 (old No. 924), which was a typical gable-roofed exposed frame building except that it had a shed-roofed porch along its longer axis on one side, and its roof was refinished in corrugated aluminum.

Amid the complex of log "sharing shower" cabins was a log rest room building of identical exterior size and design, with the interior equally divided into men's and women's rest rooms, each with four toilets. the mens's with two sinks and two urinals, the women's with three sinks.

#### Campground Structures

Adjacent to the south to the Grand Canyon Inn is the North Rim Campground, which contains some modern rest rooms and an entrance kiosk, as well as six rustic stone woodpile enclosures, now used for garbage, two log restrooms, a stone drinking fountain, and an amphitheater with split log seats. The log restrooms and the stone enclosures and drinking fountain are considered to have local significance in terms of their rustic design. The amphitheater is not considered significant but it is harmonious and not an intrusion.



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				Tourist industry

SPECIFIC DATES 1928

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Utah Parks Co.

Grand Canyon Inn is of local historical significance as part of, The Utah Parks Company's original developments on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. It is of local architectural significance as an example of inexpensive "rustic" architecture intended, without highly stylized or sophisticated design or expensive materials, to replace the original tent camp with a more substantial yet still low cost tourist facility.

The above statement sofosignificance is based on the following historical for size of prosummary:

Grand Canyon had been established as a National Monument under U.S. Forest Service management in 1908, although it had then been promoted as a tourist attraction from the south side by the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad and its successor, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, for more than a quarter of a century. Still, there was no tourist development of the North Rim until 1916, when William W. Wylie, a well known concessioner in Yellowstone National Park, established his tourist camp above the head of Transept Canyon in the trees near Bright Angel Point. At first, the Wylie Way Camp consisted of a Main dining tent and ten sleeping tents, accommodating about twenty people. Due to the severity of North Rim winters, it was operated only during the summer months.

Before the beginning of the 1924 season, Wylie's daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Thomas H. McKee, took over the camp. In 1926, they began adding frame cabins to the camp, enhancing both its capacity and its permanence.

By 1927, the camp included a main pavilion, 38 wood-roofed cabins, sixteen tent-roofed cabins, sheds, and a Kohler light plant.

The same year Wylie began development of the North Rim the National Park Service was formed, and three years later, 1919, Grand Canyon was made a National Park under the new agency. Subsequently its Director toured the parks in nearby southern Utah (Zion and Bryce Canyons) and then approached the Union Pacific Railroad, whose subsidiary San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railway crossed the region, asking the company's help in developing the parks for tourism. The railroad undertook to do so by building a

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Crosby, Anthony, "Architectural Survey, Grand Canyon North Rim and Cross Canyon Corridor," (Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1967) ms., 41 pp.

Hughes, J. Donald, <u>The Story of Man at Grand Canyon</u>. (Grand Canyon: Grand Canyon Natural History Association, 1978) pp. 33, 87, 97 111, esp.

## **10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary constitutes a rectangle with the longer axis running 2100 feet north-south, and the shorter sides 1600 feet east-west, encompassing more than 50 buildings and structures, most grouped into three complexes extending around the north and west of the North Rim Inn main building, the remainder widely spaced throughout the campground. The corners of the rectangle are established by the above UTM points.

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ORGANIZATION Western	Regional Office,	National Park	. Service	DATE	October 9, 1981
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branch line from Lund to Cedar City, by promoting the development of good paved roads in the region, and after incorportaing in 1923 as a wholly owned subsidiary the Utah Parks Company to manage such interests, buying out the concessions at Zion, Bryce, and the McKee camp at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, as well as the Escalante Hotel in Cedar City.

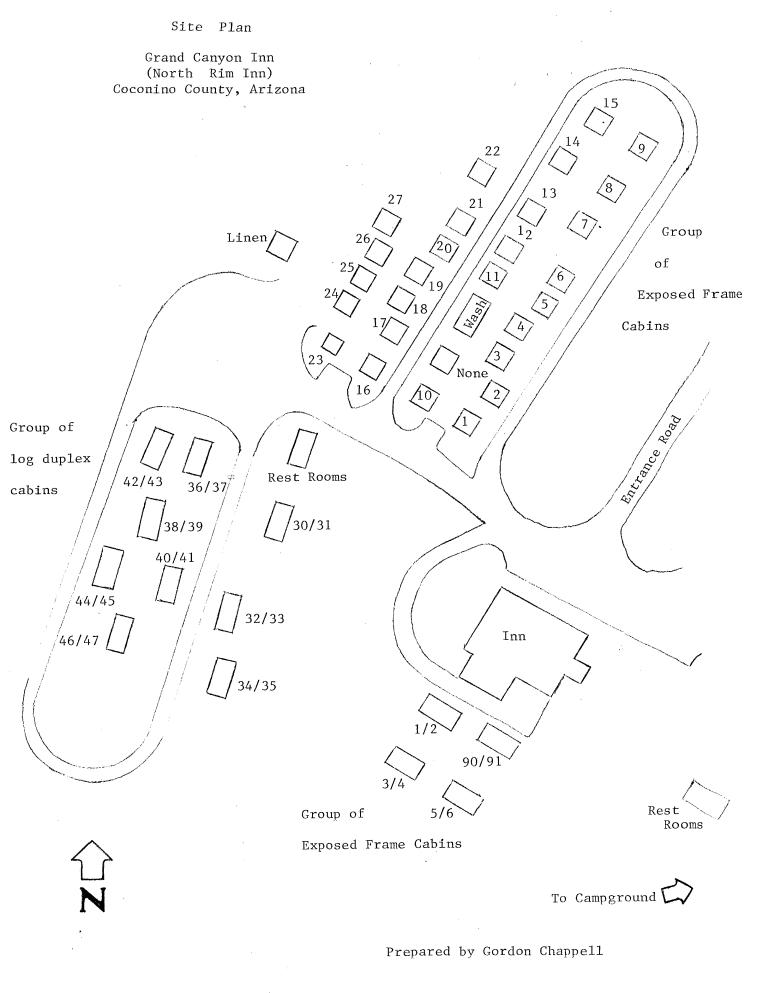
The Utah Parks Company hired Architect Gilbert Stanley Underwood to design a new lodge to provide more expensive, "deluxe" accomodations at the tip of Bright Angel Point and to rebuild the Wylie Way Camp to provide lower cost accommodations.

The Utah Parks Company erected a main building of stylized but still simple rustic design, as well as a group of log cabins identical to the "Standard" or "economy" cabins at the new lodge. Native log structures on native sandstone foundations, these harmonized well with the Kaibab forest in which they stood. They also built a group of exposed frame cabins not dulicated architecturally elsewhere on the North rim. The Grand Canyon itself was not visible through the trees from this location.

Adjacent to this development on the south, the National Park Service established a campground with numerous campsites, whose patrons could also make use of the services offered by the main building of the Inn. The only structures in this area were also of a rustic design, and consisted of log rest rooms, stone enclosures for campfire wood, later used for trash, and an amphitheater for interpretive programs.

All of the buildings and structures of "rustic" design in the Grand Canyon Inn area and the campground contribute to the significance of this historic district.

In later years, the main Inn building was converted into a Cafeteria, and still more recently it has served as a store and recreation room without food service, while the adjacent family and "sharing shower" cabins run by the Union Pacific's Utah Parks Company have been converted exculusively into employee quarters for both the National Park Service (the log cabins, principally) and the concessioner which replaced Utah Parks, TWA Industries.



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