

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Utah	
COUNTY: Wayne	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fruita Schoolhouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
North side of Highway #24

CITY OR TOWN:
Fruita

STATE Utah	CODE 49	COUNTY: Wayne	CODE 055
----------------------	-------------------	-------------------------	--------------------

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both NPS	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>vacant</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 - 19th Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D. C.	CODE 08
------------------------	-------------------

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Wayne County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Loa

STATE Utah	CODE 49
----------------------	-------------------

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1965**

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Utah Heritage Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
603 E. South Temple

CITY OR TOWN:
Salt Lake City

STATE: Utah	CODE 49
-----------------------	-------------------

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Utah**
COUNTY: **Wayne**
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

CONDITION

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fruita Schoolhouse is a one-story, one-room building built of squared log construction. The outside dimensions are 17'0" by 20'-0". The floor sills and exterior log walls are set on masonry foundation walls that were built of squared blocks of wingate sandstone. The logs of the exterior walls are somewhat variable in size and form. Those on the front (south) wall are fairly uniform and squared and the thin joints are chinked neatly with lime mortar. On the sides and rear of the building the logs are more variable in size and some are slabbed with rounded corners; there the mortar chinking is much wider. At all corners the logs are carefully notched and fitted. The gabled ends and shingled roof, which replaced the original sod roof, were added just prior to World War I. Facia trim and soffit boards are of pine. The casing trim on the exterior jambs is plain, but the head has a pedimented design with moulds and brackets; it is suggestive of design of the Victorian period. The trim on the head of the door is quite similar, but a diamond escutcheon is added. The original door is missing. The logs and exterior trim had not been painted or otherwise treated until the 1960's, but in the arid climate they are quite well preserved.

The tongue-and-groove wood flooring is in fair condition, and is set on 2" x 6" wood joists. Apparently the original log walls were unfinished on the inside, but when roof reconstruction was carried out, the interior walls were refinished with lime plaster. A seven inch mounded baseboard was added. When the new gabled roof was added, the ceiling was raised about 2'-4" above the eave line. The sloping underside of the roof, and the flat portion of the ceiling were finished with 3-1/2" beaded ceiling board. Rafters and ceiling joists are 2" x 4" in size. To prevent the danger of fire where the stove pipe met the ceiling, a concrete chimney base was supported on the ceiling rafters. Above this base the brick flue was built and extends about two feet above the ridge of the roof.

Near the door on the inside front wall there is a simple coat rack built with pegs in a board which is attached to the plastered wall. Interviews with local residents who attended the school indicate that the first desks and benches were of the homemade type; later, standard double desks, with inkwells, were installed. A pot-bellied stove was used for heating. The schoolhouse is located on the north side of Sulphur Creek, just north of Highway 24. It is picturesquely situated at the base of 800-foot sandstone cliffs on the Capitol Reef escarpment.

by Melvin M. Rotsch
from HABS report.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

Constructed early 1890's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fruita Schoolhouse is one of the few remaining early structures in this region of Utah. Because of the geographical isolation of the valleys of Sulphur Creek and Fremont River, this section of the state was the last to be explored and settled. The first permanent settler, Niels Johnson, located a homestead near the junction of the streams in 1880. The tillable land in the narrow valleys could support only 8 to 10 families, and the almost impassable roads isolated the community from the outside world.

As the earliest schoolhouse of the area and typical of certain log structures built at the time, it is a significant building. It is a well-constructed building of squared logs; the sturdy structure, and fine detailing of window and door trim is a tribute to the local builders who probably had little professional assistance.

The one-room school building was built by the pioneers of the community who were largely members of the L.D.S. Church. It was constructed on the site where it now stands in the early 1890's. Elijah Cutler Behunin donated the ground before 1892, and inquiries indicate that Behunin and others of the community built the structure in 1892, or possibly as late as 1894. Nettie Behunin, daughter of the above, was the first teacher, and eleven children of Behunin, Pierce and Pendleton families were enrolled early. In 1895 the district was organized and known as the Junction School Precinct. It continued to be used as the grade school of the community until 1941. Since that date it has remained unoccupied.

By Melvin M. Rotsch
from HABS report

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brochure, Capitol Reef National Monument, Utah, May, 1963, Department of Interior, National Park Service.
 Brown, Lenard E., The Fruita Schoolhouse, Capitol Reef National Monument, Utah, Furnishing Study, Parts C & D, Division of History, Office of Archeology & Historic Preservation.
 Historic American Buildings Survey, "Fruita Schoolhouse, Capitol Reef National Monument," Western Office Report # U-21, 1964.
 William T. Krueger, "Historic Structure Report, Part I," National Park Service, July 2, 1964.

(Continued)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 17' 15"	111° 14' 45"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.2

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Gary D. Forbush

ORGANIZATION: Utah Historical Society DATE: May 18, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 603 E. South Temple

CITY OR TOWN: Salt Lake City STATE: Utah CODE: 49

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Milton L. Weilenmann
 Title: Utah State Liaison Officer
 Date: May 18, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 23 1972

Date _____

ATTEST:
William M. Stewart
 Keeper of The National Register

FEB 11 1972

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

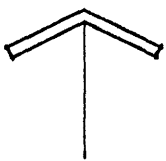
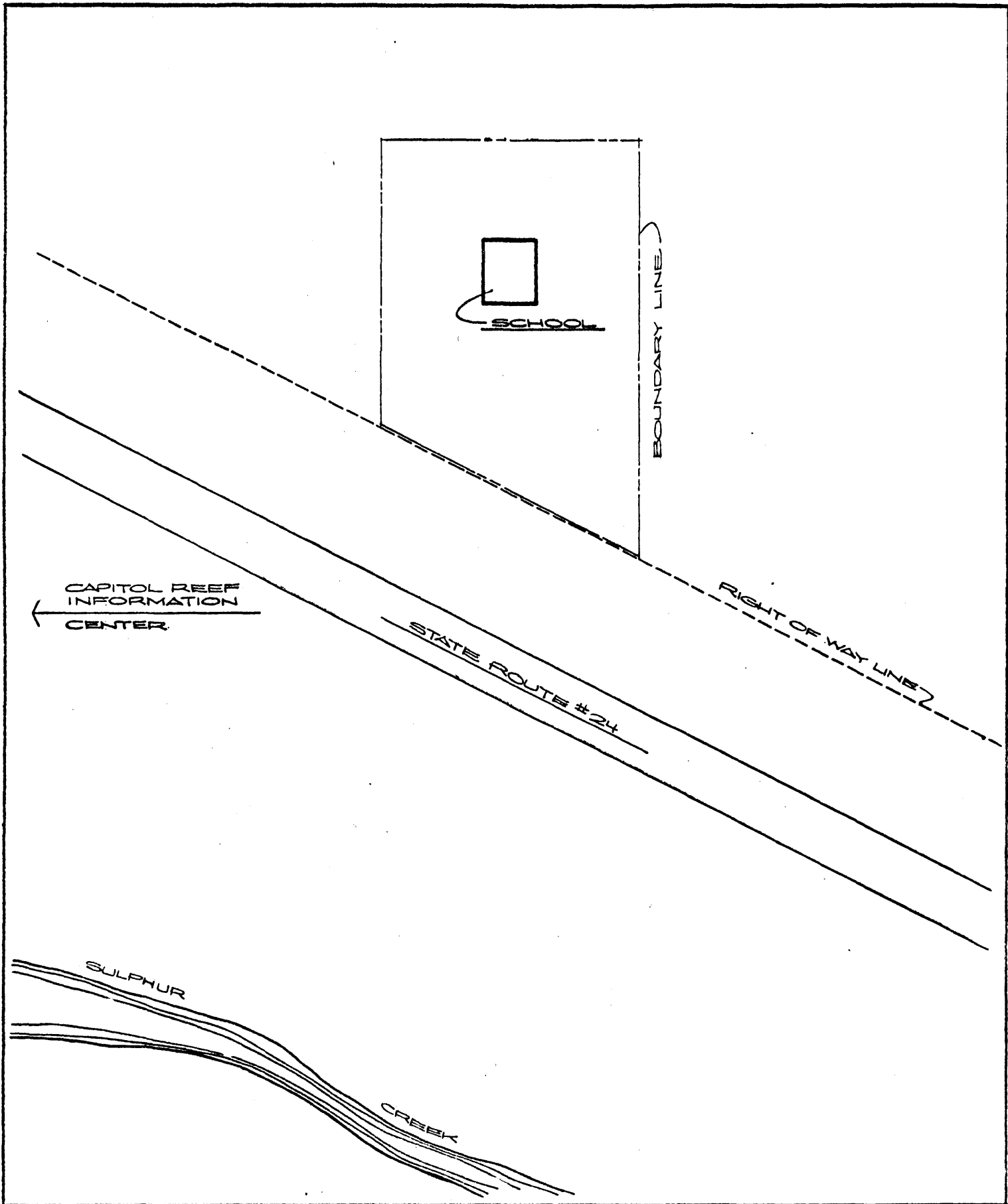
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Utah	
COUNTY	
Wayne	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FEB 23 1977	

(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References (continued):

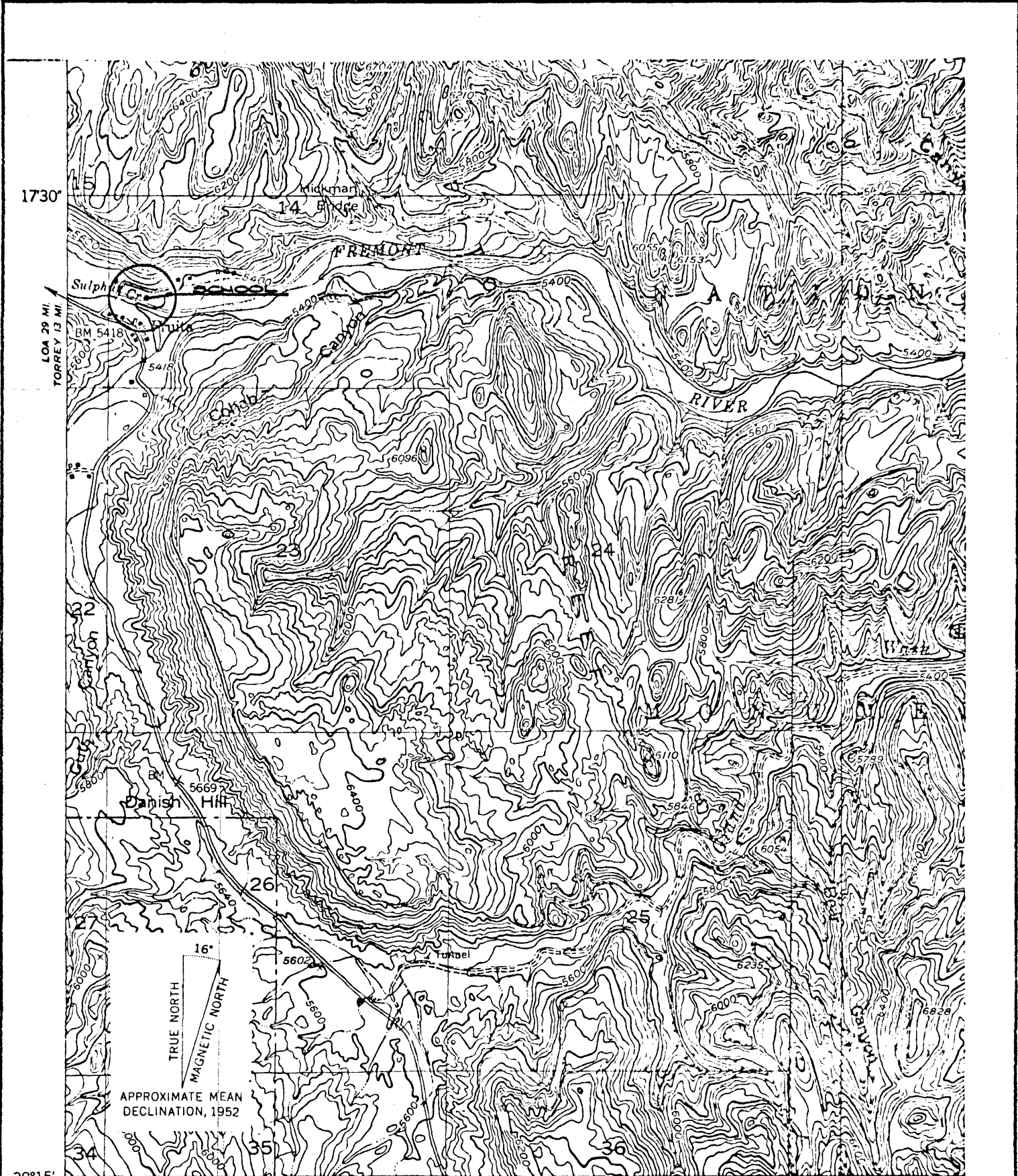
- Robert W. Olsen, Jr., "Historic Structure: Report, Part II for the Fruita Schoolhouse," MS report, National Park Service, February 1966.
- Robert W. Olsen, Jr., "Historic Structures Report, Part I, HB 3, Fruita Schoolhouse, Capitol Reef Monument," MS report, National Park Service, January 1966.



FRUITA SCHOOLHOUSE
FRUITA, UTAH

LATITUDE : 38° - 17' - 15"
LONGITUDE : 111° - 14' - 45"

DATE : MAY 1971
SCALE : 1" = 40'



FRUITA SCHOOLHOUSE
FRUITA, UTAH

LATITUDE : 38° 17' 15"
LONGITUDE : 111° 14' 45"

DATE : MAY 1971
SCALE : 1" = 2000'

