

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

734



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name TONTO NATIONAL MONUMENT VISITOR CENTER

Other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Tonto National Monument (TONT), Arizona State Highway 188

not for publication

city of town Roosevelt

vicinity

State Arizona code AZ county Gila code 007 zip code 85545

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this 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 meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Adrian L. Mott
Signature of certifying official

(Designated)
Federal Preservation Officer
Title

July 29, 2010
Date

National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting official

State Historic Preservation Officer

Title

Date

Arizona State Parks

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain:)

Linda McCluskey
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

9-9-10

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Government, Government Office

Recreation and Culture, Museum

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Government, Government Office

Recreation and Culture, Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other; Park Service Modern

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Concrete and stone

roof: Metal and ceramic tile

other: _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The flat roofed, two-story, irregular plan Tonto National Monument Visitor Center was designed in 1962 and built in 1963-1964. It is set on a concrete foundation, with a partial basement at the north end, and is constructed of concrete block that is stuccoed. Windows and doors are aluminum framed. The visitor center is located on the west side of a loop parking area that is the terminus of the park road that extends south approximately a mile uphill into the canyon setting from State Highway 188 southeast of Roosevelt, Arizona. The loop parking area is accessed by hairpin turn from the entrance road and is enclosed by a low stuccoed concrete block wall on the east side and north end. The visitor center borders the parking on the east and is built into the slope of the canyon wall. A landscaped island is in the middle and a stone masonry retaining wall extends south from the visitor center, where it is integrated into the building, and connects to stuccoed concrete block retaining wall that extends to the entrance road. In total, Tonto National Monument is comprised of 1120 acres.

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets, Section 7

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Tonto Visitor Center represents one phase of the redevelopment of Tonto National Monument. The park's redevelopment was a project of the "Mission 66" program of the National Park Service (NPS) between 1956 and 1966. Mission 66 was extended beyond to completion during the "Parkscape" program that ended in 1972. Because of increased visitation to Tonto National Monument after World War II, it was determined that the park was in need of a facility to provide visitor services, including an information desk, and a museum, and park offices for administrative activities. The new visitor center, designed by architect Cecil J. Doty of the National Park Service's Western Office of Design and Construction (WODC) was set into the canyon slope abutting the loop parking and incorporated a "comfort station," restroom building constructed in 1953. The concept was to provide a covered entrance to the trail head that went up to two archeological sites, pre-historic cliff dwellings set into alcoves. Thus, the park staff was able to provide introductory information to the visitors and then direct them up an enclosed stairway to a roof terrace with a shade pavilion where interpretive programs could be given before accessing the trail to the pre-historic ruins.

The visitor center is an associated property type within the established context of the NPS Mission 66 and the later Parkscape programs. It has a high level of integrity reflecting its original location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. While it has been reroofed, has restrooms altered to meet accessibility standards, and the roof shade pavilion was enclosed and subsequently restored, the building retains its somewhat southwestern Puebloan style, although as a totally modern style building. Its character is reflected by being set into the canyon slope where it appears to step up as defined by its roof planes.

Cecil Doty conceived his design to anchor the original trail head that leads up to the two pre-historic cliff dwellings above the west side of the parking area that was paved with a comma shaped island in the middle forming the loop. Doty set the new visitor center into the slope of the canyon wall, which was excavated out for the construction and incorporated a 1953 restroom building into the new structure. The primary public spaces of the building parallel the slope on a north-south axis and the administration wing is offset approximately 20 degrees to the northeast and parallels the restroom building site. This earlier building was constructed of concrete block, had inset entrances into the two restroom spaces and had a shed roof that sloped to the west. The restroom building was seamlessly incorporated into the new structure, though its façade was stuccoed. A porch, originally supported on timber columns and now steel, extends along the façade of the administration wing and terminates at the main entrance that faces south at the end of the administration wing. The porch follows a sidewalk that parallels the parking area. At the rear, the second floor roof deck opens directly to the canyon wall slope and the trail up to the two ruins. The slope behind the visitor center is a Sonoran Desert landscape with saguaro cacti and other vegetation. Similar natural landscaping extends around the parking area. The comma-shaped island is planted with native species, including cacti, reflecting the surrounding landscape. There are no plantings immediately adjacent to the building, though a planter was designed for the north end of the administration wing. The visitor center, constructed between 1963 and 1965, reflects a modern design with Puebloan influences. Foremost is the stepped façade that features bold blocks of construction fronted by a *portolla* porch that shelters the entrances into the lobby, the restrooms, and the offices. At the south end of the public spaces structure, a medium height ashlar stone masonry wall gently curves from the arroyo spilling down the canyon slope and merges into the stone masonry of the structure that contains the museum topped with the roof deck. The south elevation of the museum and the parapet above it is also stone masonry. The deck, which had ceramic quarry tile flooring, is now a waterproof mastic surface to stop leaking. It is enclosed with a low stone masonry parapet that was set with a wooden railing, now recreated in steel. The deck opens to a roof top pavilion that

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the *portolla* were replaced with square section steel columns that replicate the original design.

The entire visitor center structure was reroofed in 1988-1989; the five-ply built up roof was covered with a standing seam metal roof in a dark brown color over insulation that thickened the eaves. At the roof deck, the surface was renewed with Thinset Quarry Tile that extended under the roof pavilion and the open terrace area. (drawing 358/89005) All of this was replaced in 2008 with a waterproof membrane roof system designed to prevent leaks and provide a safer walking surface. It is colored to match the quarry tile. In the public space of the lobby and museum, the book sales area was created in 1989 with new shelving and lighting. The information counter has been rebuilt to form an L-shaped configuration using oak pattern laminate.

In the 1990s the parking area was enlarged further to provide for large vehicle parking. This necessitated new retaining walls below grade and guard wall parapets around the north and east sides.

In 1994, the concrete walkway across the east façade was altered to provide better accessibility to the south entrance, to the restrooms, and to the "vending machine porch" constructed east of the planter in front of the south office window. The porch constructed with two walls of stuccoed concrete block and a north wooden louvered wall is all under a shed roof.

In 1999, the roof pavilion was enclosed to provide a darkened audio-visual room. The structural system of the façade was enclosed within the walls and a partition was constructed at the south elevation that included installing a door into the room at the top landing of the stairway. All of this new construction was removed in 2007 to restore the roof pavilion to its original appearance. Most of the architecture existed in the walling and missing components were constructed using the original construction drawings and existing components.

Restoration of the open roof pavilion significantly restored the integrity of the building. This project also prompted the restoration of exterior paint colors in 2008 that will include dark trim and lighter walling in colors complimentary to the red sandstone masonry of the south end of the visitor center.

End

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Entertainment/Recreation

Community Planning and Development

Architecture

Period of Significance

1962-1966

Significant Dates

1962, 1963-1964

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Doty, Cecil J.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

Designed in 1962 and constructed in 1963-1964, Tonto National Monument Visitor Center meets National Register Criterion A as an associated property type of the National Park Service (NPS) Mission 66 and Parkscape planning and design programs. The largest multi-year construction program in NPS history, Mission 66 and its subsequent Parkscape Program were a major effort by the Park Service to upgrade the national park system to meet escalating visitor demands in the post World War II era. Conceived in 1955 by NPS Director Conrad L. Wirth and initiated in 1956 to substantially improve the facilities in the parks for the public and employees by 1966, the program was dubbed "Mission 66." It was continued after 1966 through 1972 for the 100th anniversary of Yellowstone National Park, as the Parkscape program under NPS Director George B. Hartzog, Jr. The Tonto Visitor Center is an exceptional representation of the Mission 66 program that was a significant change in NPS planning, management, and architecture. Within the national park system, according to Ethan Carr in his book, *Mission 66, Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*, the program was a major focus program that resulted in the construction of headquarters buildings, employee housing, maintenance/utility areas, entrance stations, comfort stations, museum exhibits, roads, parking lots, campgrounds, concession buildings and, most importantly, the newly conceived concept of a "visitor center." Architecturally, the latter most fully expressed the Mission 66 program as a new property type that combined multiple functions. Typically, within one structure could be found administrative activities, museum space for exhibits on a park's natural and cultural resources, and public restrooms. In addition, there was often an auditorium for video presentations and ranger talks. However, at the Tonto Visitor Center the scope was reduced and the auditorium was eliminated in favor of a rooftop deck and a roof pavilion shade structure where ranger talks and other programs could be given. In her book, *Mission 66 Visitor Center: The History of a Building Type*, which is the context for evaluating NPS visitor centers, author Sarah Allaback states that the visitor center was "the centerpiece of the new era in planning for visitor services in American National Parks," that significantly influenced the development of similar visitor centers throughout the country at parks and historic sites and throughout the world.

The Tonto Visitor Center also meets National Register Criterion C as an exceptional example of Mission 66 visitor center design by Cecil J. Doty, who was the NPS Principal Architectural Designer of the Western Office of Design and Construction in San Francisco. Doty, the premier architect of over 50 visitor centers during the Mission 66 program, completed and signed a preliminary design drawing for the Tonto Visitor Center on July 3, 1962. (drawing TONT 3110-A) The construction drawings, completed September 1963, also note that Doty designed the structure. (drawing TONT 3110-C)

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

See Continuation Sheets, Section 8

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheets, Section 8

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tonto National Monument was established December 19, 1907, to protect the two cliff dwellings in alcoves located above the visitor center. Six hundred and forty acres were transferred to the National Park Service from the US Forest Service in 1933. In 1937 the park was expanded to 1120 acres. A rudimentary park road extended up to a flattened parking area where the Southern Pacific Railroad had built a Caretaker's Lodge for the U. S. Forest Service. It was a small stone masonry structure on the east side of the parking area, which the Park Service turned into an Exhibit Room in 1933. The flat roofed building with vigas was located downhill from the parking area until the area was regraded to span a ravine and provide larger level access. According to the Tonto Superintendent's Monthly Reports, the 1932 building was stuccoed in 1951, which give it a more southwestern character. The parking lot was redesigned and expanded in 1963. On January 7, 1965, the old visitor contact station was demolished prior to dedication of the new visitor center.

The Tonto National Monument Visitor Center reflects several key elements of Mission 66 design criteria. Included is the introduction of modernist architecture into the park as the primary visitor contact area. Window walls provided expansive views of the natural features of the surrounding canyon wall slopes across the parking area and functions were centralized within one complex having a floor plan that encouraged visitor and employee flow through the building. Unique to this structure, the visitor center was at the trail head that provided control through the building and up the stairway to the interpretive space on the roof and access to the trail to the two alcove cliff dwellings. Typically, the use of natural materials reflects the adjacent landscape and park cultural features. The modernist style of Mission 66 architecture, while often criticized, was embraced by NPS architects and planners, even those who had helped formulate the NPS Rustic style now known as "Parkitecture." Sarah Allaback notes that, "The Park Service Modern, as developed by the Park Service designers during the Mission 66 era, became as influential in the history of American national and state park management as the Park Service Rustic Style had been."

Although Tonto National Monument Visitor Center is less than 50 years old, it is eligible for the National Register under Criterion Consideration G as an exceptional example of NPS Mission 66 planning and Park Service Modern Style visitor center architecture in Arizona and ranks with other Arizona national park visitor centers including that at Grand Canyon South Rim, also designed by Cecil Doty as the prototype "visitor center." The NPS theme study, Sarah Allaback's *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type* provides a contextual basis for considering National Register eligibility for the over 100 Mission 66 visitor centers throughout the United States. Allaback outlines the registration requirements for Mission 66 visitor centers as follows: 1) the visitor center must have been originally planned and built as part of the Mission 66 and fall within the 1945-1972 period of significance; 2) it should retain most of all of the distinguishing characteristics of a Mission 66 visitor center; 3) it should possess physical integrity; and, 4) it should be a successful reflection of the principles of Park Service Modern. In terms of Criterion Consideration G, Allaback notes that: "The historical context developed for Mission 66 visitor centers indicates that only those visitor centers that service as early prototypes (1945-1956) or which were part of the original finite group of Mission 66 visitor centers (1956-1966) potentially possess exceptional importance." The Tonto Visitor Center, which was one of the original Mission 66 visitor centers designed by Cecil J. Doty, meets the requirements for National Register listing in accordance with Criteria A and C during the period of significance 1962-1966.

Mission 66

Mission 66 was a large-scale effort by the NPS to upgrade the nation's parks in the period following World War II. In 1949, NPS Director Newton Drury described the parks as "victims of war." Sarah Allaback notes that, "Neglected since the New Deal era improvements of the

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1930s the national parks were in desperate need of funds for basic maintenance, not to mention protection from an increasing number of visitors." In 1931, 3.5 million people visited the national parks; by 1948, that number increased to almost 30 million. However, Allaback writes that, "park facilities remained essentially as they were before the war." Contributing to the growth in the number of visitors after World War II was the post-war economic boom and the ability of more and more Americans to purchase personal automobiles; indeed the number of automobiles doubled between 1945 and 1955 to 60 million, according to Ethan Carr in *Mission 66, Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*. This new mobility enabled Americans to visit the national parks, particularly those of the west which has previously often been the realm of the railroads providing access and services to a limited number of visitors. This included the Southern Pacific Railroad which built the first structure at Tonto National Monument for the US Forest Service in 1932. In response, the NPS needed new facilities to accommodate the crowds and it needed those facilities to be designed in a way that would protect the parks from resource damage.

NPS Director Conrad L. Wirth first instituted the idea of modernizing the parks through a massive, multi-year redevelopment program after the centralization of NPS planning into the Eastern and Western Offices of Planning and Design in Philadelphia and San Francisco in 1954. With centralized offices, Wirth began to conceptualize on the efficiency of a ten-year budget rather than submitting a yearly budget. Wirth, who "envisioned the Park Service's dilemma through the eyes of a congressman," according to Ethan Carr, requested a decade of funding, "thereby ensuring money for building projects that might last many years." Wirth patterned it after similar programs of the Bureau of Public Roads, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Army Corps of Engineers. As envisioned by Wirth, "Mission 66 would allow the Park Service to repair and build roads, bridges, and trails, hire additional employees, construct new facilities ranging from campsites to administrative buildings, improve employee housing, and obtain land for parks to elevate the parks to modern standards of comfort and efficiency, as well as an attempt to conserve natural resources." In February of 1955 Wirth introduced the idea to the Secretary of Interior, James Douglas McKay, and by September Wirth was able to present the concept through several pilot projects in a report given at a national conference of superintendents. The program was presented on January 27, 1956, to President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his cabinet, where it received immediate approval. Subsequently, the Mission 66 program was introduced to Congress and the American Public. Congressional funding for the construction program was made available for Fiscal Year 1956 starting in July and it was underway.

At the heart of the new Mission 66 program was the concept of the visitor center; the final report of 1956 stated that visitor centers were the most pressing need and they became the highest priority according to Ethan Carr. The visitor center would act as a "one-stop" service unit, equipped with an information desk, uniformed ranger, lobby exhibits, illustrated talks, museum, and restrooms. Generally, the center also provided space for administrative offices, which were removed from the public areas and often accessed through separate entrances. Visitor center design was a major departure from the earlier NPS concept of a decentralized "park village," where different park functions were spread out in individual, Rustic style buildings. In an efficient and economic combination of services, the Mission 66 visitor center, according to Sarah Allaback, "brought these activities together in single large building intended to serve as a control point for what planners called 'visitor flow,' as well as a more efficient means of serving far larger numbers of visitors and cars in a more concentrated area." Like a modern shopping center, the visitor center made it possible for people to park their cars at a central point, and from there have access to a range of services and attractions. In 1956, the NPS proposed that 100 new visitor centers would be needed. Thus, the program grew from an original request of \$786 million; Wirth noted in 1966 that the program eventually cost almost a billion dollars during its ten-year program, nearly four times the budget of the previous ten years.

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In addition to a new strategy for management, Mission 66 also resulted in a distinctive new type of NPS architecture that reflected the new ideas. Sarah Allaback calls it "Park Service Modern." Modern architecture was the prevalent architectural style in the postwar period and Mission 66 architects, such as Cecil J. Doty, brought that design ethic to the national parks. Modernist architecture utilized new inexpensive materials and labor-saving techniques, many of which were developed by the military during the war. The assemblage of materials became the focus of the designs. The flexibility of modern architectural design also allowed for open interiors and expansive circulation to meet the "visitor flow" and efficiently provide for separation of public and administrative spaces. By contrast, the rustic style that the Park Service had earlier used required large labor forces for small rustic buildings. The budget did not permit that level of labor intensive construction nor was it deemed advisable to attempt to erect large rustic buildings that would resemble lodges. However, it was determined that since rustic buildings blended into the natural surroundings, that Park Service Modern, according to Sarah Allaback, "reinterpreted the long-standing commitment to 'harmonize' architecture with park landscapes," but accomplished that in a different way in stone and concrete.

At Tonto National Monument, Mission 66 planners addressed the fact that the park, established in 1907, had only a one-room facility for museum exhibits that was built in 1932 and a restroom building built in 1953 along with rudimentary housing that included a tent structure. Thus, it was decided to improve the entrance road and parking, build a visitor center around the existing comfort station and construct residences and maintenance facilities below the visitor center site away from the public view.

Tonto National Monument Visitor Center

The Tonto Visitor Center project was conceptualized by Western Office of Design and Construction Principal Architect Cecil J. Doty, who provided a "Preliminary" design for fiscal year 1963 and dated July 3, 1962. (drawing TONT 3110-A) The NPS and Cecil Doty selected the location on the west side of the existing parking loop in order to incorporate the existing 1953 comfort station, the restroom building, into the new visitor center. The concrete block restroom building was designed by NPS Omaha, Nebraska, Region II architects Sigler and Williams (drawing TONT 2043) Thirteen sheets of visitor center construction drawings were prepared and dated September 1963 (drawing TONT 3110-C); these mirror Doty's preliminary design and have the notation that Doty designed the building. The park files contain a second preliminary design, which is not in Doty's hand that shows the visitor center extending northeast from the 1953 restroom building. It shows an irregular plan with a large lobby and exhibit space and an office wing wrapping around the north end of the parking area. (drawing TONT 2040-A)

Architect Cecil J. Doty (1907-1990) was responsible for a substantial amount of Mission 66 planning and design from his position as Principal Architectural Designer at the NPS Western Office of Design and Construction in San Francisco. Doty received a degree in architectural engineering from Oklahoma A & M (now Oklahoma State University) in 1928. He was trained in the neoclassical *beaux-arts* tradition that was favored at the time, though he always had a propensity towards a more modern adaptation of this classicism according to Sarah Allaback. Doty began his career in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) state parks program with Herbert Maier, according to Ethan Carr, where he designed many buildings in the Rustic style as part of that program. He began working for the NPS in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and in 1939 he designed the Region III Headquarters building in the Pueblo style. In addition, Doty was responsible for many park buildings and was a master of what became known as "Parkitecture." He moved in 1940 from Santa Fe to San Francisco's region IV office where he became a proponent of what was to become Park Service Modern. As early as 1943 he developed the concept of a "visitor center" for Crater Lake's Museum (drawing 106-2037). It is apparent that this preliminary design was the prototype for Grand Canyon's "Public Use Building," designed by Doty in 1954-1955. The Grand Canyon Visitor Center was built in 1957, and was.

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itself, a prototype for most of the Mission 66 visitor centers that followed. Doty, who was instrumental in the gradual shift from rustic to modernist architecture through his designs and through influence of his colleagues, according to Ethan Carr, was placed in the forefront of the NPS design with the reorganization of the planning and design offices into Eastern and Western divisions in 1954. Given the title of Principal Architectural Designer, Doty went on to design more than 50 visitor centers for the NPS that were built during the Mission 66 era. Most, like that at Tonto National Monument, were unique and carefully adapted to their sites and the park culture.

At the visitor center site at Tonto National Monument, the parking area was redesigned based on a landscape plan dated April 1963. (drawing TONT 3113). As designed by WODC, the plan called for a "bar-bell" configuration as the center island that was to be landscaped. The original parking lot was filled to the east in order to expand the parking spaces and called for the demolition of the old visitor contact station built in 1932; this was done by December 12, 1964, and the site was landscaped on February 2, 1965. The landscaping was commenced on December 10, 1964, under the direction of Hubert Earle, Desert Botanical Gardens of Phoenix, Arizona. Wheat's Nursery of Mesa, Arizona, supplied plants based on Earle's design. The redesign of the parking was completed in March of 1966.

Regarding the construction of the visitor center, the Superintendent's Monthly Reports for 1961-1967 indicate that an invitation for bids was announced on September 7, 1963; a contractor site visit was held on October 4. The low bidder was announced on December 5, 1963, as Frontier Construction, Co., of Tucson, Arizona; Reppel Steel and Supply of Phoenix, Arizona, supplied the structural steel. Notice to proceed was issued January 4, 1964, and Richard T Gabauer was the NPS project inspector. Arizona Sash, Door and Glass Co. provided the aluminum framed doors and windows and provided the information desk built in five sections in a lineal design. Hagan Construction Co. of Globe, Arizona, completed the relocation of the water line and the changes to the parking area radii at about the same time that the Tonto Visitor Center was substantially completed July 4, 1964. It was dedicated February 21, 1965, with temporary exhibits installed by Archeologist Earl Johnson. The first audio-visual system was installed in May of 1965. This was replaced in 1966 with a reverse projection system that included a tapered tunnel that extended all the way from a Plexiglas screen in the roof pavilion north wall to the glass block wall over the stairway. This in turn was replaced in 1967 with a lapse dissolve slide projector system; several other schemes followed.

The exterior woodwork was repainted in 1967 and numerous times since then. A new 1989 roof system of the roof deck terrace and the new standing seam metal roofing was designed by the Architectural Design Group of San Francisco for the Western Regional Office. In 1994, the walkway in front of the east façade of the visitor center was reworked to provide better accessibility to the south entrance doors and the north doorways of the administration wing. At this time vending machines were relocated into a shed roofed "vending machine porch" extending to the east from the planter in front of the south office window. 1999 construction documents detailed a new restroom building at the north end of the parking loop. (drawing 358/65,001) It was not completed.

End

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

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
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.9
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>12</u> Zone	<u>489521</u> Easting	<u>3722813</u> Northing	3	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary encloses the building and its south retaining wall, indicated by a single UTM, by extending parallel with the north elevation, across the east façade through the parking loop island, west up the ravine to include the stone retaining wall and south elevation, and hence parallel with the museum wing across the rear west elevation.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary includes the visitor center, its south retaining wall, and the original west half of the loop parking area. The east half of the parking loop and the entrance into the loop have been expanded and reworked in recent years with new stuccoed retaining walls.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rodd L. Wheaton, Architectural Historian

organization _____ date August 2007

street & number 3021 S. Cornell Circle telephone 303-789-9550

city or town Englewood state CO zip code 80113-3012

e-mail _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE**Archival**

National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center; Denver, Colorado. Tonto National Monument documents.

National Park Service, Tonto National Monument archives; Tonto National Monument, Roosevelt, Arizona. Construction documents, photographs, and Superintendent's Monthly Reports.

Manuscripts

Carr, Ethan, Elaine Jackson-Rotondo, and Len Warner. National Register of Historic places, Multiple Property Documentation Form, National Park Service Mission 66 Resources; draft proposal, January 2006

Sturgell, Frank, and Christine Whitacre, National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Colorado National Monument Visitor Center Complex, 2002-2003.

Publications

Allaback, Sarah. *Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type*. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 2000.

Carr, Ethan. *Mission 66, Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Tonto National Monument Visitor Center

City or Vicinity: Roosevelt

County: Gila

State: Arizona

Photographer: Gavin Gardner

Date Photographed: 5/12/2009

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 6. **AZ_GilaCounty_TontoNationalMonumentVisitorCenter_0001**
Visitor Center Front View, camera facing west
- 2 of 6. **AZ_GilaCounty_TontoNationalMonumentVisitorCenter_0002**
Visitor Center From Overhead, camera facing east
- 3 of 6. **AZ_GilaCounty_TontoNationalMonumentVisitorCenter_0003**
Visitor Center Patio, camera facing southeast
- 4 of 6. **AZ_GilaCounty_TontoNationalMonumentVisitorCenter_0004**
Visitor Center Patio Overview, camera facing north
- 5 of 6. **AZ_GilaCounty_TontoNationalMonumentVisitorCenter_0005**
Visitor Center Close Up, camera facing north
- 6 of 6. **AZ_GilaCounty_TontoNationalMonumentVisitorCenter_0006**
Visitor Center Overview, camera facing northwest

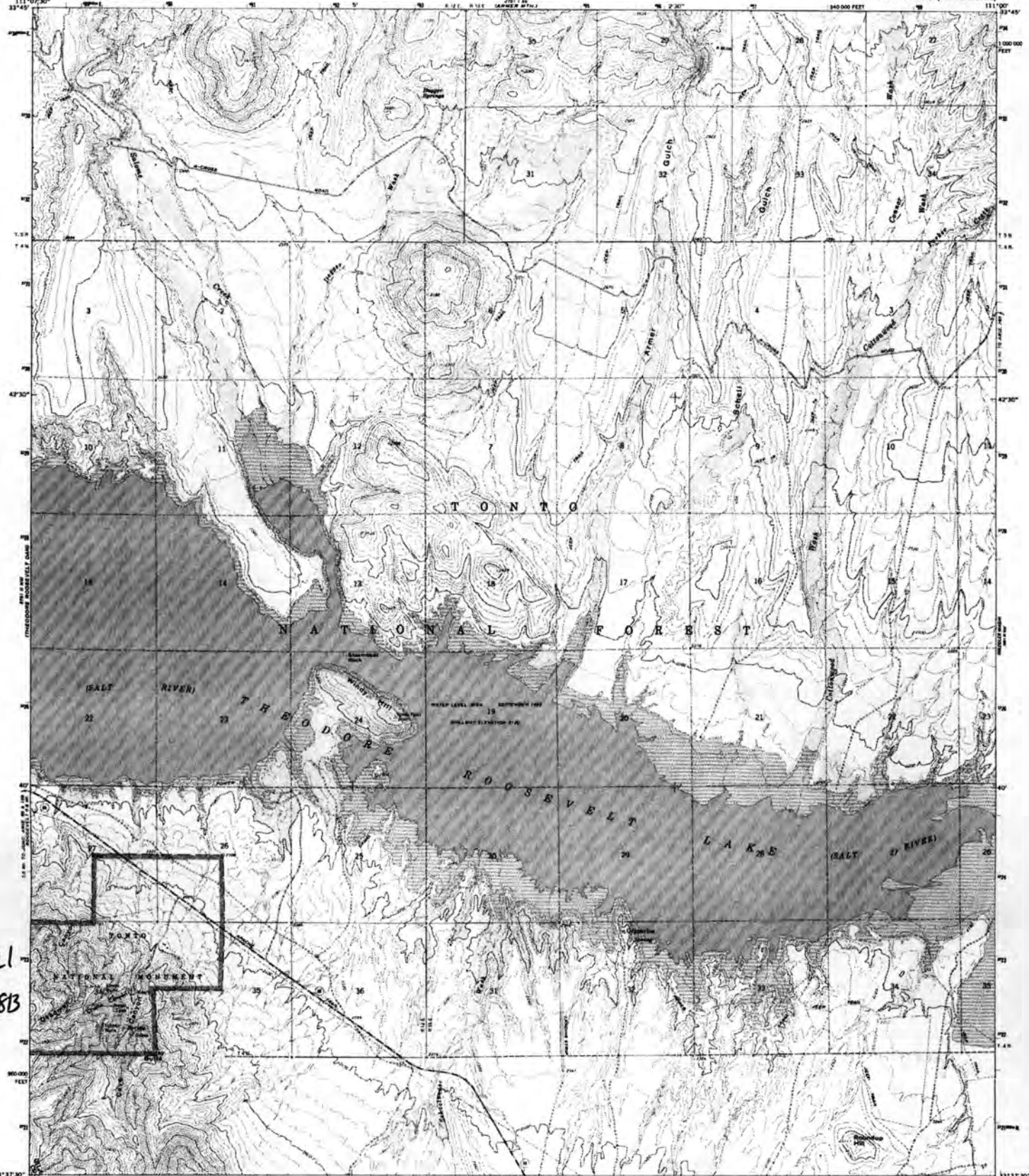
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Tonto National Monument Visitor Center

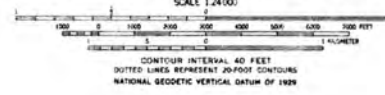
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WINDY HILL QUADRANGLE
ARIZONA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



12
489521
3728B

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USGS/OS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1964.
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum,
10,000-foot grid based on Arizona meridian system, east zone,
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 12, shown in blue.
To show on the modified North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 2 meters south and
33 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks.
Area covered by dashed light-blue pattern
is subject to controller jurisdiction.
Where omitted, land lines have not been established.
Fine dashed lines indicate selected fence lines.
There may be private holdings within the boundaries of the
National or State reservations shown on the map.



THIS MAP COMPLETS WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80202, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Map (photocopy) 1973
No. maps, outline or change charges (street)

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Medium-duty ———— Light-duty ————
Unimproved dirt - - - - -
State Route ○

WINDY HILL, ARIZ.
33111-91 1F-024
1964
PHOTODUPLICATIONS 1079
564 275 1 RE-SERIES 1989

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Tonto National Monument Visitor Center

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARIZONA, Gila

DATE RECEIVED: 7/29/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/23/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/07/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/12/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000734

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Built 1962-66, this Mission 66 visitor center is one of approximately 50 designed by Cecil B. Doty, who was one of the NPS's principal architects during Mission 66. An NPS designer from the early 1930s, Doty is attributed with the design of the visitor center prototype, which he designed for Grand Canyon's South Rim in 1957. The property type is a highly important one associated with Mission 66 design. Examples of

RECOM./CRITERIA

Crut. Con. G. Accept C+A

REVIEWER

L McCulland

DISCIPLINE

History

TELEPHONE

DATE

9/9/10

DOCUMENTATION

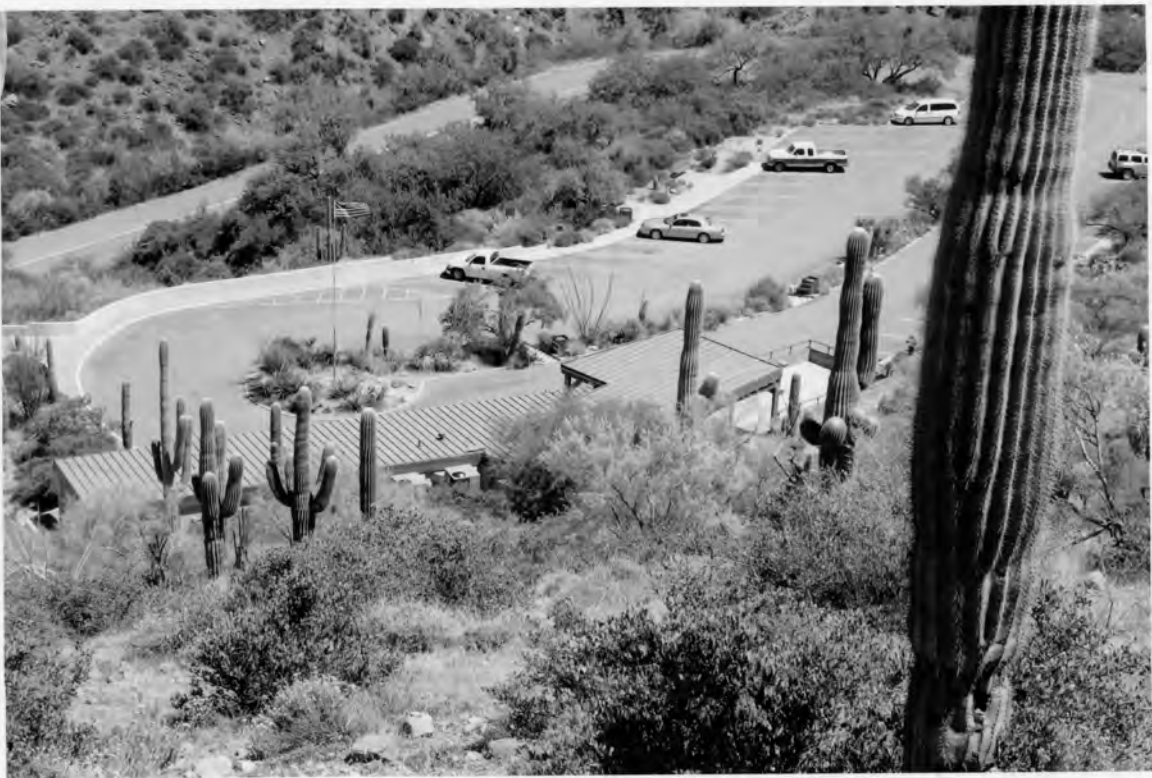
see attached comments

see attached SLR

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

Study on M 66 visitor centers. Letter explains lack of SAHO signature due to loss of orig. nomination.

Doty's work are considered exceptionally important in the registration requirements for S. Allaback conduct of theme



Tonto National Monument
Visitor Center

AZ-Gila-Tontoc-0001

Tonto National Monument
Visitor Center

AZ-GILA-Tontoc-0002

~~Tont~~ Tonto



Tonto National Monument
Visitor Center

AZ-GILA-Tontoc-0003

Tonto National Monument
Visitor Center

AZ-GILA-Tontoc-0004

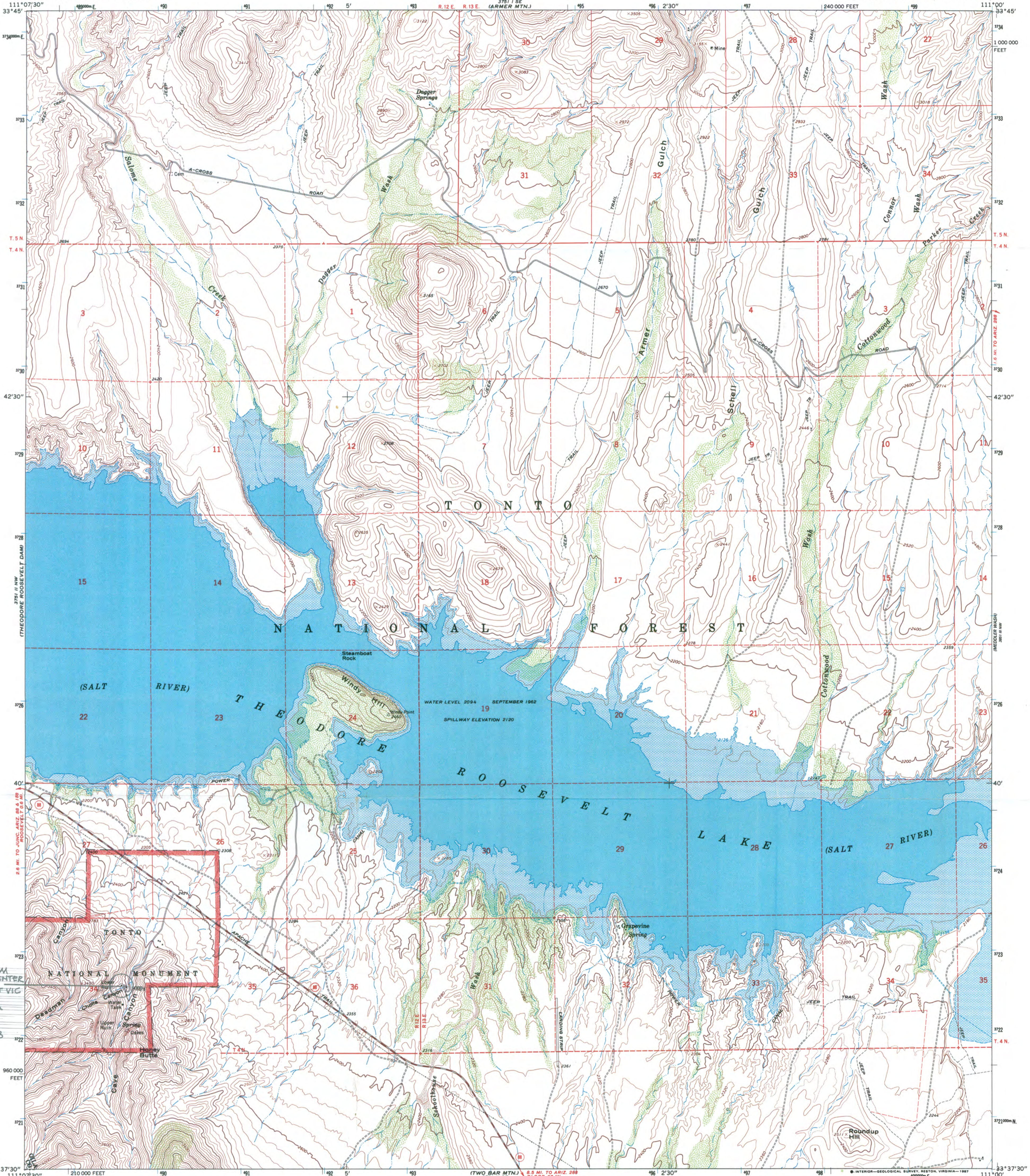


Tonto National Monument
Visitor Center

AZ-GILA-tontve-0005

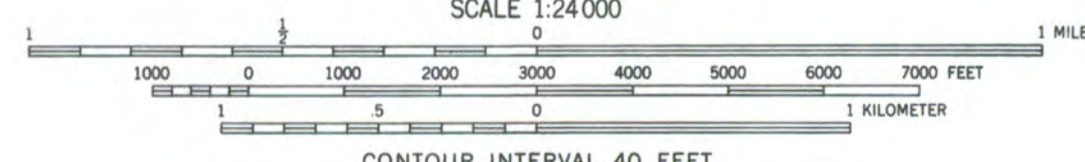
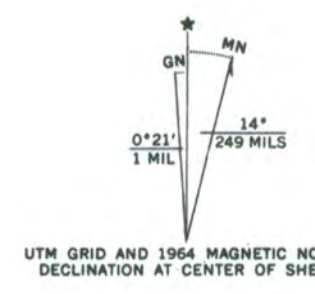
Tonto National Monument
Visitor Center

AZ-GILA-tontve-0006

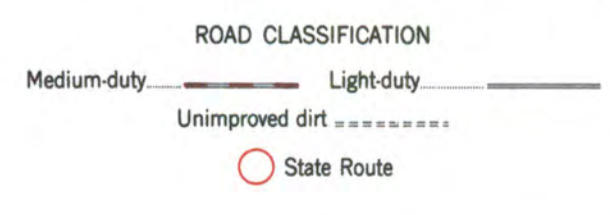


TONTO NM
VISITOR CENTER
ROOSEVELT VIC
GILA CO
ARIZONA
ZONE 12
E 489521
N 3722813

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1964
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arizona coordinate system, east zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
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Area covered by dashed light-blue pattern
is subject to controlled inundation
Where omitted, land lines have not been established
Fine dashed lines indicate selected fence lines
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the
National or State reservations shown on this map



CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 20-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Map photostereographed 1978
No major culture or drainage changes observed

WINDY HILL, ARIZ.
33111-F1-TF-024
1964
PHOTOINSPECTED 1978
DMA 3751 II NE--SERIES V898



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20240

Memorandum

To: Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks

From: Chief Historian, National Park Service

Robert D. Matthews

Re: Tonto Visitor Center and Tuzigoot Visitor Center

9/15/10

Enclosed please find the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) nominations for two National Park Service visitor centers in Arizona. I have signed both nominations as eligible for the National Register. Both nominations are being nominated under Applicable Criterion C and with architecture as the area of significance.

The Tonto Visitor Center documentation has been recreated because of the loss of the original. The Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (AZSHPO) has confirmed by email and with a pdf of the signature page the concurrence on the eligibility of the visitor center.

The AZSHPO disagrees with me concerning the eligibility of the Tuzigoot Visitor Center. I believe the restroom addition during the Mission 66 period of National Park Service construction does not detract enough from original architecture to render the building ineligible for loss of integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 17 2009

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name TONTO NATIONAL MONUMENT VISITOR CENTER

Other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Tonto National Monument (TONT), Arizona State Highway 188

not for publication

city of town Roosevelt

vicinity

State Arizona code AZ county Gila code 007 zip code 85545

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

X national statewide local

James W. Garrison
Signature of certifying official

22 JUNE 2009
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer
Title

Arizona State Parks
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

 entered in the National Register

 determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

Tonto National Monument Visitor Center

Gila County
ARIZONA 10000734

Start the clock
my account
1965 +
Disk
coming
ask me if questions
Bever

Tonto National Mo



10000734