REGION: RMRO  PARK/AREA NAME: Canyonlands Natl Park  PARK NUMBER: 1340

STRUCTURE NAME: Murphy Trail  STRUCTURE NUMBER: ISKY-19

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Vicinity of Murphy Point  PARK LOCATION CODE: PG

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

NPS LEGAL INTEREST: FEE  MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: NO

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

Stabilization (X)  Cyclic Maintenance (X)  Routine Maintenance (X)  Approved Ultimate Treatment (X)

(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: / /

Approved Treatment: $ _________  Date: / /

Level of:

Approval Document:  ( ) Document Date: / /

Estimated Treatment Costs: __________________________

Stabilization: $ _________  Date: / /

Approved Treatment: $ _________  Date: / /

Level of:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Date of Construction: / / 1917  Date of Alterations: / / unknown

Architect/Designer: J. Idiart/D. Allie  Historical Theme(s): Ranching Late (VII A4)

History of Structure: Built as a trail to move herds from summer to winter range before trucks became readily available and abandoned after NPS started cancelling grazing leases in 1964. The trail presently is used as a hiking path in Canyonlands National Park.

Evaluation of Structure: Historic Theme Contributing (X)  Non-Contributing ( )

National Register Criteria: A ( ) B ( ) C ( ) D ( ) (Include integrity statement)

The built-up parts of the trail retain a high degree of physical and locational integrity and offer a readily visible explanation of their and the trail's function.


Representation in Other Surveys: 1975 LCS (not visited)

If structure has been removed, how? N/A  Date: / /

Report prepared by: S. Mehls  Date: 4 /18/ 96

Condition: Good

Documentation: Fair

Significance: L

Internal Impacts: L/POP/WEA

External Impacts: L/POP/ERO
**CONTINUATION FROM FRONT SHEET - STRUCTURE NAME**

**Murphy Trail**

**LOCATION:**
- Section: 36, Unsurveyed
- Township: 28S
- Range: 18, 19 E
- State: Utah
- County: San Juan

**OWNERSHIP:**
- Present Owner:
- Original Owner: Unknown
- Intermediate Owner(s):

**USE:**
- Current Interior Use (NPS 28 Code): VC
- Original Use: Transportation
- Intermediate Uses:

**PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION (NPS 28 Code):**
- HI

**DRAWING NO.**
- TAR 9
- TAA 14

**NEGATIVE NO.**
- CAB 2, # 13, 14, 15, 16

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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.)

**Type:** OT (Trail)

**Material:** EA/ST

**Dimensions:** 2' to 4' wide; 3 miles (approximately) long that at numerous points shows the work of man through cribbing and filling as well as scattered debris (lumber) — see photos

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

![Diagram of Murphy Trail and surrounding area.](image-url)
CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT
(Attach 4" x 5" Black and White Photograph)

REGION: RMRO
PARK/AREA NAME: Canyonlands Natl. Park
PARK NUMBER: 1340

STRUCTURE NAME: Murphy Trail Bridge
STRUCTURE NUMBER: ISKY-18

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Murphy Trail
PARK LOCATION CODE: PG

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

NPS LEGAL INTEREST FEE:
MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: NO

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:
Estimated Treatment Costs:

Stabilization: $________ Date: / /
Level of Estimate: (A) (B) (C)
Approved Treatment: $________ Date: / /
Estimator: (Region) (DSC) (A&E)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Date of Construction: / / 1917 Date of Alterations: / / unknown
Architect/Designer: J. Idiart/D. Alli
Historical Theme(s): Ranching Late (VII A4)

History of Structure: Built to bridge small gap along cliff face to complete the Murphy Trail. It first was used for moving livestock from summer to winter range and now as a part of a hiking trail that follows the old stock trail:

Evaluation of Structure: Historic Theme Contributing XX Non-Contributing
National Register Criteria: AX_ B_ C_ D_ (Include integrity statement)

The bridge retains integrity of location and a high degree of physical integrity. It is closely associated with an obviously man made portion of the Murphy Trail.

Bibliography: Historic Site Files, Island in the Sky Ranger Office

Representation in Other Surveys: NO

If structure has been removed, how? N/A Date: / /

Report prepared by: S. Mehls Date: 4/8/86

Condition: Good/Fair
Documentation: Fair
Significance: L
Internal Impacts: L/POP
External Impacts: L/POP/ERO
**CONTINUATION FROM FRONT SHEET - STRUCTURE NAME**

**Murphy Trail Bridge**

**LOCATION:**
- Section: Unsurveyed
- Township: 28S
- Range: 19E
- State: Utah
- County: San Juan

**OWNERSHIP:**
- Present Owner: NPS
- Original Owner: Unknown
- Intermediate Owner(s): BLM

**USE:**
- Original Use: Transportation
- Current Interior Use (NPS 28 Code): VC
- Intermediate Uses: Same

**PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION (NPS 28 CODE):**
- III

**DRAWING NO.**
- CAB 2, # 12, 14

**NEGATIVE NO.**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

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

- Material: WD (split, rough hewn logs, log poles)
- Type: BR (log girder bridge)
- Dimensions: 12'x4' approximate (varies)

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

- Cliff face
- Log girders
- Built up area
- Rough cut and planing
- Up

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''''PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION'''''

(Description and background history including construction date(s), physical dimensions, materials, major alterations, existing equipment, and important builders, architects, engineers, etc.)

Material: WD (split, rough hewn logs, log poles)
Type: BR (log girder bridge)
Dimensions: 12'x4' approximate (varies)
The Murphy Trail Complex (ranching theme):

Murphy Trail Bridge
Murphy Trail

These two structures are of vernacular style. They are constructed of locally available materials. The trail is made from stone, mostly random field stone, and earth. Parts of it follow natural ledges, a wash, and other features along its route. The bridge is constructed of logs and split logs and is of a beam design. Both these resources retain a high degree of physical integrity, probably because they are used today as a hiking trail within Canyonlands National Park and as such are monitored by Park staff members for deterioration and repaired as needed with materials of the same type as used historically. Both are in their original locations. The Murphy Trail and Bridge constitute the best example of a stock trail within Canyonlands National Park.
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88001236 Date Listed: 10/7/88

Murphy Trail and Bridge San Juan UT
Property Name County State

Canyonlands National Park MRA
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews 10/7/88
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Resource count should be one site and one structure. This issue has been discussed with Mary Shivers Culpin of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)
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By: S. MENTZ
Date: 4/82
Roll: 2, 4/14/82