UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME
HISTORIC
Grand Canyon Inn, North Rim Inn, and NPS campground

AND/OR COMMON
North Rim Inn and campground

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
None

CITY, TOWN
North Rim

STATE
Arizona

VICINITY

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Third (Arizona)

COUNTY
Coconino

CODE
005

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
DISTRICT

BUILDINGS(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER

4 AGENCY
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable)
National Park Service - Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER
450 Golden Gate Avenue - Box 36063

CITY, TOWN
San Francisco

STATE
California

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE
Coconino County Courthouse

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

STREET & NUMBER
North San Francisco Street (no number)

CITY, TOWN
Flagstaff

STATE
Arizona

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
Architectural Survey, Grand Canyon, North Rim and Cross Canyon Corridor

DATE
1974

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Denver Service Center and Western Regional Office, Nat'l Park Service

CITY, TOWN
Denver and San Francisco

STATE
Colorado & California
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 73 1/2 feet by 41 feet, 10 inches, with an extension 22 1/2 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 reversible. The vertical 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

Immediately 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.
These cabins, excluding 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.


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

Outside 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 men'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.
PERIOD

_—PREHISTORIC
—1400-1499
—1500-1599
—1600-1699
—1700-1799
—1800-1899
—1900-1999

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

_—ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
—ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC
—AGRICULTURE
—ARCHITECTURE
—ART
—COMMERCIAL
—COMMUNICATIONS
—COMMUNITY PLANNING
—CONSERVATION
—CONSTRUCTION
—ECONOMICS
—EDUCATION
—ENGINEERING
—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
—INDUSTRY
—INVENTION
—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
—LAW
—LITERATURE
—MILITARY
—MUSIC
—PHILOSOPHY
—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
—RELIGION
—SCIENCE
—SCULPTURE
—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
—THEATER
—TRANSPORTATION
—OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1928

STATERMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

8. Significance

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 of significance is based on the following historical summary:

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 Angelés & 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
branch line from Lund to Cedar City, by promoting the development of good
paved roads in the region, and after incorporating 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" accommodations 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
duplicated 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 exclusively
into employee quarters for both the National Park Service (the log cabins,
principally) and the concessioner which replaced Utah Parks, TWA
Industries.


10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Nominated Property 77

UTM References

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
A [1,2] 410,4 [49,0] 410,0 [78,2,5]
B [1,2] 410,4 [48,0] 410,0 [78,0,0]
C [1,2] 410,4 [98,0] 410,0 [71,7,0]
D [1,2] 410,4 [99,0] 410,0 [78,2,5]

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.

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Gordon Chappell, Regional Historian

ORGANIZATION Western Regional Office, National Park Service

DATE October 9, 1981

TELEPHONE (415) 556-4165

CITY OR TOWN San Francisco

STATE California

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X No.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 60 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National. State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

DATE JUL 20 1982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9/4/82

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8/31/82
Site Plan

Grand Canyon Inn
(North Rim Inn)
Coconino County, Arizona

Prepared by Gordon Chappell
1. NORTH RIM INN BUILDING, FRONT
2. NORTH RIM INN AND CAMPGROUND
3. NORTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA
4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PHOTO BY RICK THORUM
5. 1981
6. NEGATIVE AT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
7. VIEW TO WEST
8. PHOTO 1 OF 13
1. NORTH RIM INN BUILDING, SOUTH SIDE AND REAR
2. NORTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA
3. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PHOTO BY RICK THORUM
4. 1981
5. NEGATIVE AT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
6. VIEW TO WEST
7. PHOTO 2 OF 13
1. REST ROOM
   NORTH RIM INN AND CAMPGROUND
2. NORTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA
3. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PHOTO BY RICK THORUM
4. 1981
5. NEGATIVE AT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
6. VIEW TO SOUTH
7. PHOTO 3 OF 13
1. Group Of Log Cabins
   North Rim Inn And Campground
2. North Rim Of The Grand Canyon, Arizona
3. National Park Service Photo By Rick Thorum
4. 1981
5. Negative At National Park Service, Western Regional Office.
6. View To South
7. Photo 4 Of 13
1. CABIN 36 - TYPICAL LOG RESIDENCE
NORTH RIM INN AND CAMPGROUND

2. NORTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA

3. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PHOTO BY RICK THORUM

4. 1981

5. NEGATIVE AT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

6. VIEW TO SOUTHWEST

7. PHOTO 5 OF 13
1. Group of exposed frame cabins
   North Rim Inn and campground
2. North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
3. National Park Service photo by Rick Thorum
4. 1981
5. Negative at National Park Service, Western Regional Office
6. View to Southwest
7. Photo 6 of 13
1. Typical exposed frame cabins
   North Rim Inn and campground

2. North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona

3. National Park Service photo by Rick Thorum

4. 1981

5. Negative at National Park Service, Western Regional Office

6. View to Northeast

7. Photo 7 of 13
1. FRONT OF TYPICAL EXPOSED-FRAME RUSTIC CABIN
   NORTH RIM INN AND CAMPGROUND
2. NORTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA
3. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PHOTO BY RICK THORUM
4. 1981
5. NEGATIVE AT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
6. VIEW TO NORTHEAST
7. PHOTO 8 OF 13
1. Exposed frame cabin near North Rim Inn
   North Rim Inn and campground
2. North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
3. National Park Service Photo by Rick Thorum
4. 1981
5. Negative at National Park Service, Western Regional Office
6. View to South
7. Photo 9 of 13
1. WASHROOM OF EXPOSED FRAME CONSTRUCTION
   NORTH RIM INN AND CAMPGROUND
2. NORTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA
3. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PHOTO BY RICK THORUM
4. 1981
5. NEGATIVE AT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
6. VIEW TO SOUTH
7. PHOTO 10 OF 13
1. Amphitheater with split log seats at campground - campsites in the distance north rim inn and campground

2. North rim of the grand canyon, Arizona

3. National Park Service photo by Rick Thorum

4. 1981

5. Negative at National Park Service, Western Regional Office

6. View to south

7. Photo 14 of 13
1. Stone firewood enclosure (now used for garbage)  
   North Rim Inn and Campground
2. North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
3. National Park Service photo by Rick Thorum
4. 1981
5. Negative at National Park Service Western Regional Office
6. View to northeast
7. Photo 12 of 13
1. Rustic stone drinking fountain at campground North Rim Inn and Campground
2. North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
3. National Park Service Photo by Rick Thorum
4. 1981
5. Negative at National Park Service Western Regional Office
6. View to South
7. Photo 13 of 13