National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2012

Headquarters Loop

Mesa Verde National Park

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Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System:

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources and cultural landscapes. The set of CRIS records for cultural landscapes is referred to as CRIS-CL.CRIS-CL records conform to a standardized data structure known as the Cultural
Landscapes Inventory (CLI).
The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are: Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources) and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)

The CLI is the data structure within CRIS used to document and evaluate all potentially significant cultural landscapes in which NPS has, or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest.
Each CRIS-CL record is certified complete when the landscape is determined to meet one of the following:
Landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation; or,
Landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the National Register; or,
Landscapes does not meet the National Register criteria, but is managed as cultural resources because of law, policy or decisions reached through the park planning process.
Cultural landscapes vary from historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes to historic ethnographic landscapes, but may also fit within more than one type. Those eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state or local level, as well as integrity or authenticity.
The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish…a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places…of historic properties…

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a)…Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA…No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior…

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c) Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying… historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary…

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories…about cultural resources in units of the national park system…Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,… and historic sites…

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

Inventory Unit Description:

The Headquarters Loop is located at the southern end of the 20-mile long park entrance road and begins where the entrance road, Ruins Road, and Headquarters Loop road intersect in a 4-way intersection. From there, the Headquarters Loop extends south to the tip of one of the fingers of Chapin Mesa. The loop is approximately .5 miles long, sits at roughly 7,000 feet above sea level, and covers approximately 112 acres. Canyons surround the unit on three sides, and one of the canyons (Spruce Tree Canyon) contains a predominant cliff dwelling (Spruce Tree House) of the Ancestral Puebloans. The vegetation consists of old-growth pinon-juniper forest that has been recently thinned to reduce hazardous fuels. In 2002, a wildfire destroyed much of the surrounding forest, though it did not actually burn much inside the Headquarters Loop.

Historically, the Headquarters Loop served as the main hub of the park with intermingled administrative, residential, visitor, and utilitarian functions. These functions were grouped accordingly into 7 sub-units, each reflecting a different land use. These sub-units include:

1. Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area: This sub-unit was located at the southern-most tip of the developed portion of Headquarters Loop. Though once home to Spruce Tree Point Lodge (1923), cabins, tent housing, and other amenities, these features were removed in 1969 or 1970. Today, an oblong gravel lot used for RV parking, overflow parking, and maintenance storage primarily defines the area.

2. Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area: This sub-unit has been the center of cultural activity through visitor and administrative use since the park's formation in 1906. Just west of Spruce Tree Canyon, Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area contains remnants of the original Campfire Circle (1915) and was the original location of Fewkes Cabin (1916), which was relocated in 1926 and is extant today near the campground. Still one of the most visited areas within Mesa Verde National Park, Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area houses administration buildings, restrooms, a museum/bookshop, a post office, and a restaurant.

A discontinuous area along the west side of the Headquarters Loop is also included as part of the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area, as it contains the Fewkes Cabin, Chapin Mesa Amphitheater, current Campfire Circle, and a network of trails that connect to the eastern portion of the park headquarters. These features continue to function as an extension of the Headquarters Area, mainly as part of educational and interpretive visitor programs, making it appropriate to associate this discontinuous area with this sub-unit.

3. Residential Area: Sited within the woods by NPS designers and architects under Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum, this sub-unit was constructed in the 1920s and early 1930s as a housing area for permanent park staff. Use in this area has changed very little as it is still used for staff housing and official guest use.

4. Original NPS Utility Area/Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area: Established in the 1920s as the first park maintenance and utility area, this area was located in the center of the loop road. The area housed several buildings—moved in 1934—including a truck shed, warehouse, ice house, garage, and carpenter's shop. As park visitation increased, more land was needed for visitor services, and utility operations were moved to the current day Utility Area, located north of the Headquarters Loop. A tent and cabin area for concessionaires was established in the 1930s; this space assumed part of the northern reaches of the removed utility area, and it also developed the landscape further north—close to the North Entrance Information Plaza. The tents and cabins were later removed sometime after 1950, and today, the area is mostly unused, save some temporary storage units and occasional vehicle storage.

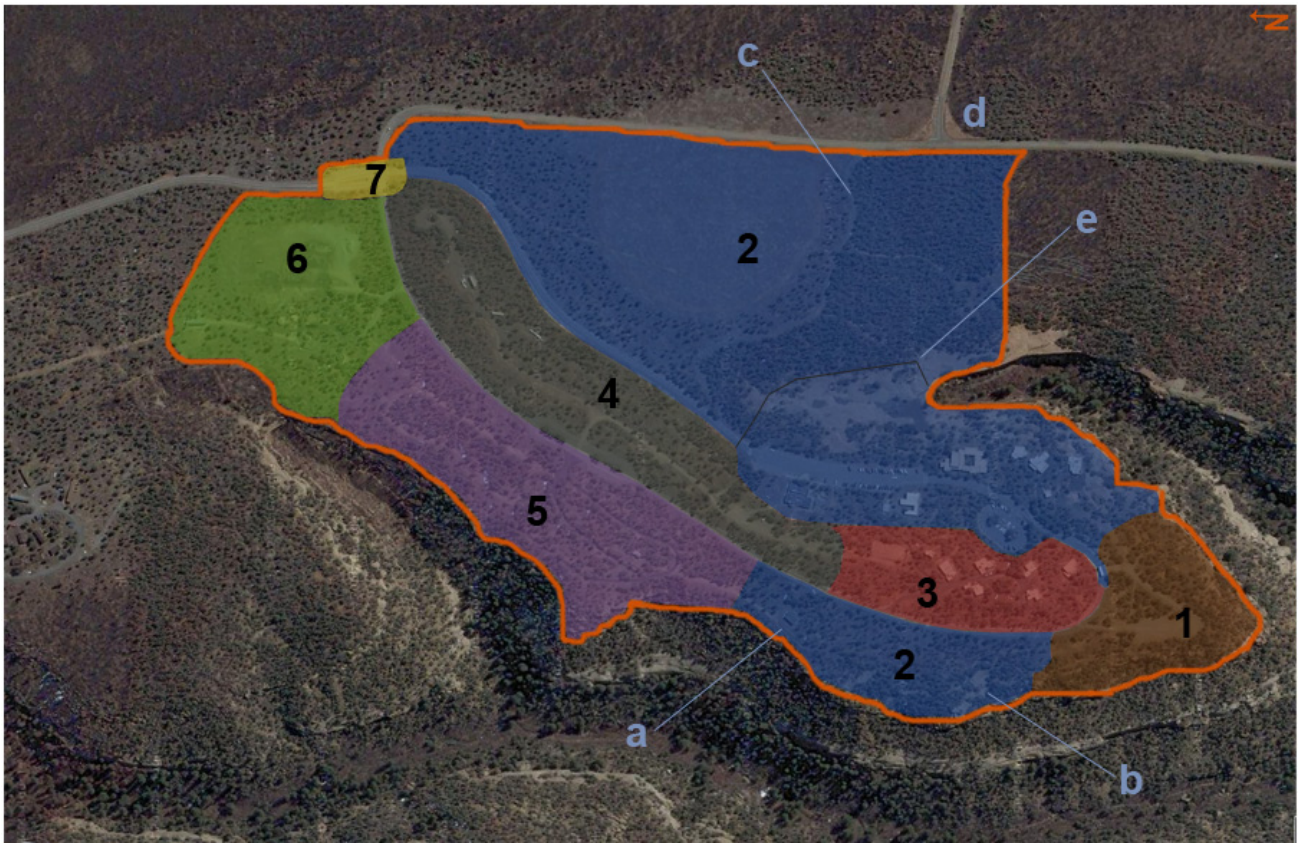
5. Spruce Tree Public Campground: Established in the 1930s, this area offered cabin and tent space for overnight visitors. Separated from the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area by the main loop road to the east, Spruce Tree Public Campground offered comfort stations, fire pits, dumping spaces, and a water supply. Due to overuse of the area by visitors, the campground was converted into a day-use picnic area in 1954. Later in the 1960s, the northern section of the former campground was abandoned. Today, only the southern section continues to offer day-use picnic facilities.

6. Hogan District: Established between 1935 and 1942, the Hogan District was designed to house Navajo park employees. Though initial plans called for the construction of 12 hogans, only 7 hogans were constructed and are extant today. Today, 6 hogans continue to be used for employee housing, while a central hogan serves as a restroom facility for the surrounding inhabitants.

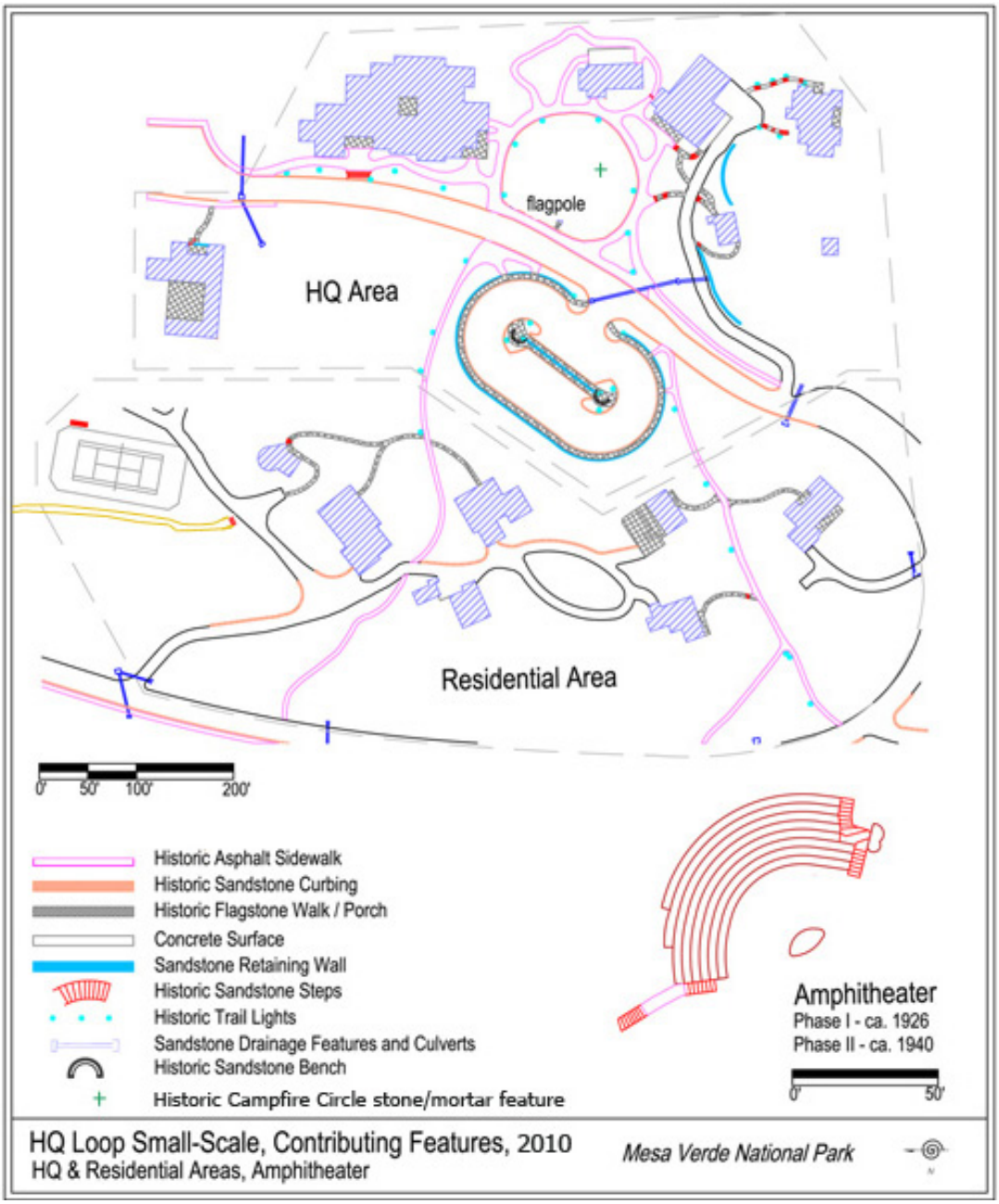
7. North Entrance Information Plaza: Originally established as an important intersection for welcoming and directing visitors near the end of the 20-mile long park entrance road, a checking and information building was constructed in 1934. As the structure was razed at an unknown date, stationary signage directs visitors today. The space is still defined by CCC-constructed sandstone curbs and the oblong, central median—composed today mainly of grass.

Although use of the Headquarters Loop have evolved over time, the organizing structure of the 7 sub-areas remains today. Because of its role within the development of the park, the Headquarters Loop is nationally significant for its exhibition of Community Planning and Development, Landscape Architecture, and Architecture; contribution to Entertainment/Recreation; and association with Politics/Government. The period of significance for the Headquarters Loop at Mesa Verde National Park extends from 1906 to 1942. The park was established in 1906, and between the years of 1906 and 1920 the park began to identify visitor needs as travel increased to Chapin Mesa. In the following years, Park Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum's Administration (1921-1931; 1936-1939; and 1942-1946) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (1933-1942) defined over two decades of park development in a designed, cohesive landscape. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) played an essential role in the development of Headquarters Loop, and the official end of the CCC's presence at Mesa Verde in 1942 marks the end of the component landscape's period of significance. The 36-year period of significance corresponds to the planning, design and construction of most of the buildings, structures, infrastructure, and landscape improvements in the Headquarters Loop. This area retains a significant portion of its historic integrity even though it is the most heavily visited area of the park. Through the analysis and evaluation of this landscape, it is evident that the high quality craftsmanship performed by NPS employees and CCC workers has retained both its functional and aesthetic value. The planning and design efforts of Superintendent Nusbaum in the 1920s had a profound impact on the way that the landscape of Mesa Verde—especially this unit—exists today.

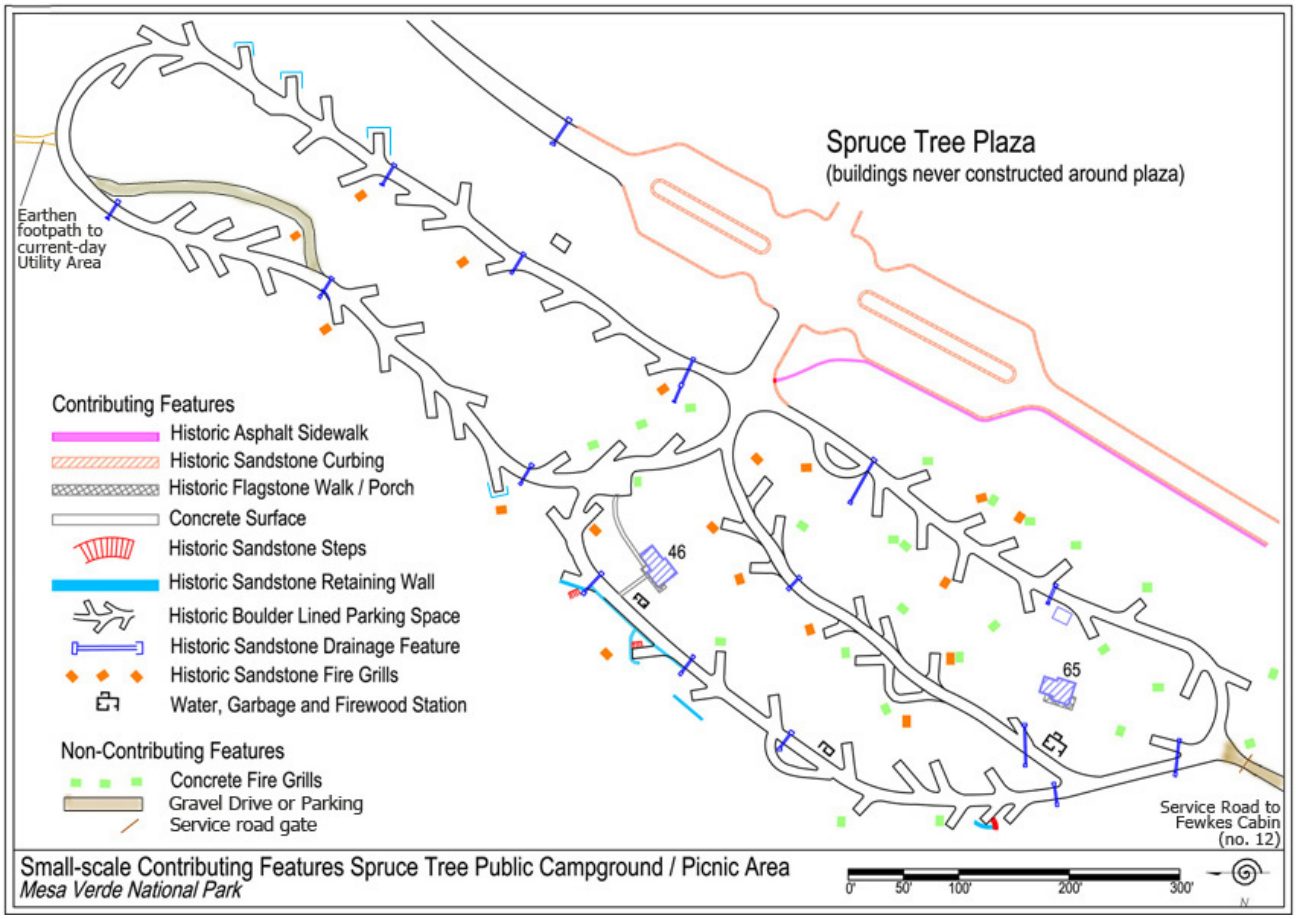
Site Plan



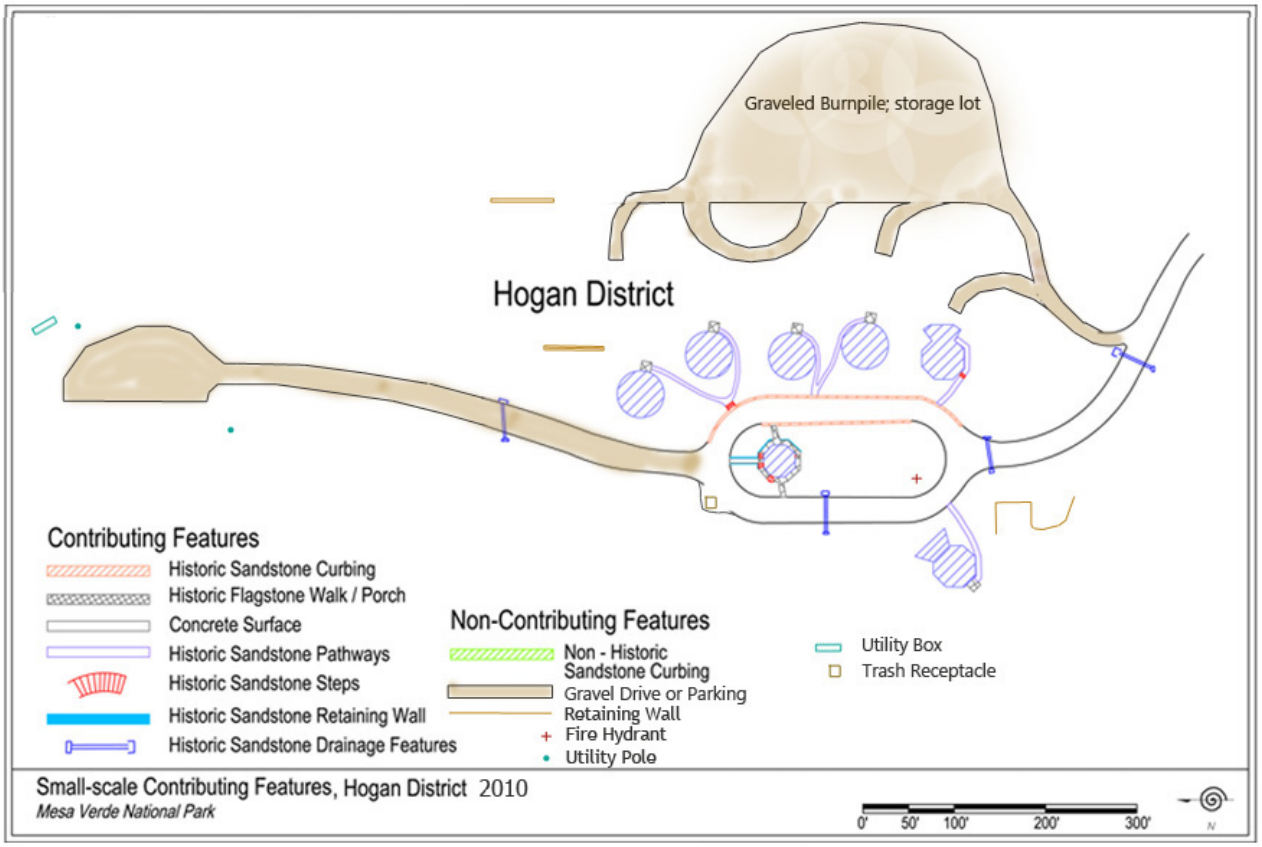
Site plan showing Headquarters Loop sub-units 1-7 as noted in text. (Source: Google Maps, augmented by D. Linn, July 2010).



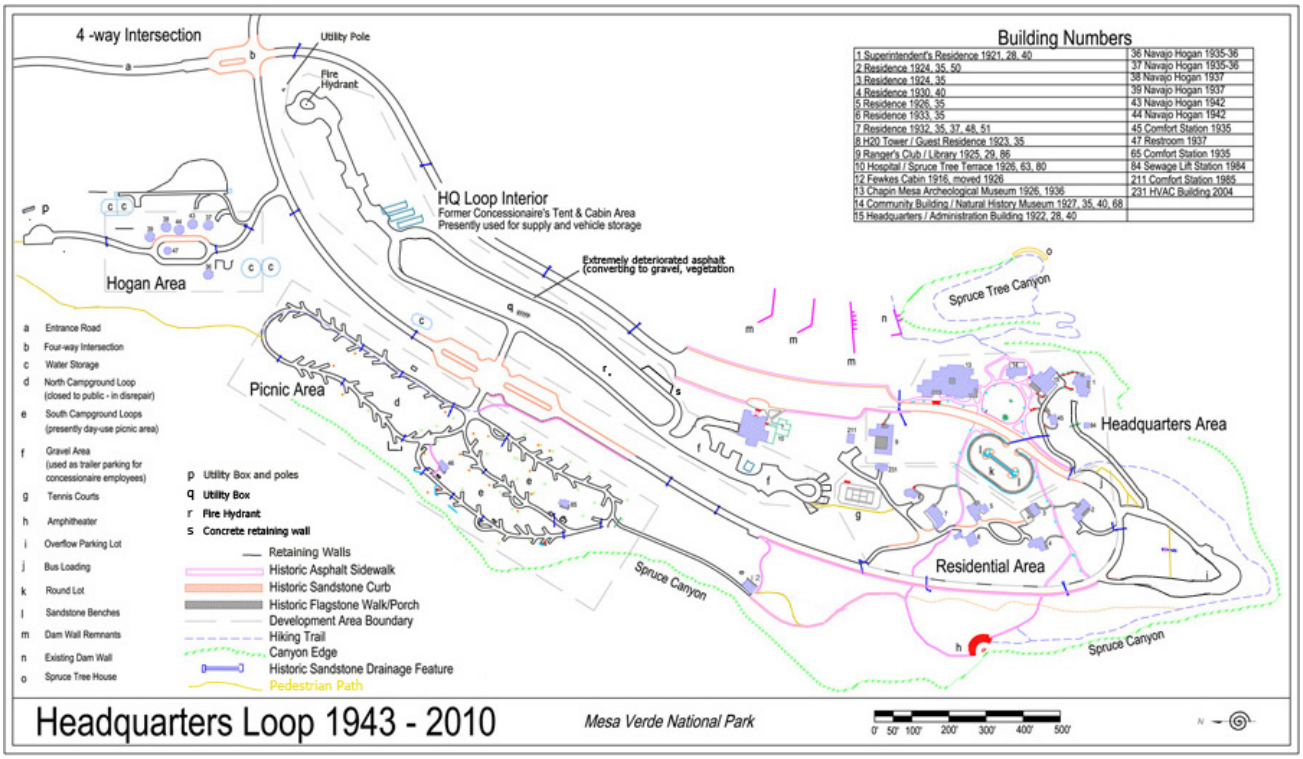
Detail Plan, Headquarters Main Area and Residential Area sub-units (Source: Level II CLI, augmented by D. Linn, July 2010).



Detail Plan, Spruce Tree Public Campground sub-unit (Source: Level II CLI, augmented by D. Linn, July 2010).



Detail Plan, Hogan District sub-unit (Source: Level II CLI, augmented by D. Linn, July 2010).



Site Plan, Headquarters Loop (Source: Level II CLI, augmented by D. Linn, July 2010).

Aerial image with Headquarters Loop Cultural Landscape boundaries (Source: Google Maps, augmented by D. Linn, July 2010).

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Headquarters Loop
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	850241
Parent Landscape:	850243

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Mesa Verde National Park - Headquarters Loop - MEVE
Park Organization Code:	1490
Park Administrative Unit:	Mesa Verde National Park

CLI Hierarchy Description

The Headquarters Loop is one of four component landscapes within the Early Park Development Historic Designed Landscape (parent landscape).

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

A Level II CLI was begun in 2000 by Shapins Associates for the Early Park Development Landscape, which included the Utility Area. Fieldwork was conducted in 2000-2001, with a 95% draft inventory produced in 2001. Revisions were made to the CLI and another draft CLI was produced in December 2004. The final Level II CLI, was completed in April 2007 by Shapins Associates with contributions by Erika Thompson and Kathy McKay, of Mesa Verde National Park. Despite completion of the Level II CLI, it was not uploaded to the CLI database, nor was park Superintendent or Colorado SHPO concurrence sought on the document.

In 2010, three students were hired by the Intermountain Region CLI program to revise and finalize the CLIs. Additional fieldwork was conducted in June 2010 to update the landscape condition and incorporate any changes that had occurred since 2007. This Utility Area CLI was finalized by Derek Linn of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and Carrie A. Mardorf, Regional CLI Coordinator. Concurrence was received in 2012 due to park delays.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 04/16/2012

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

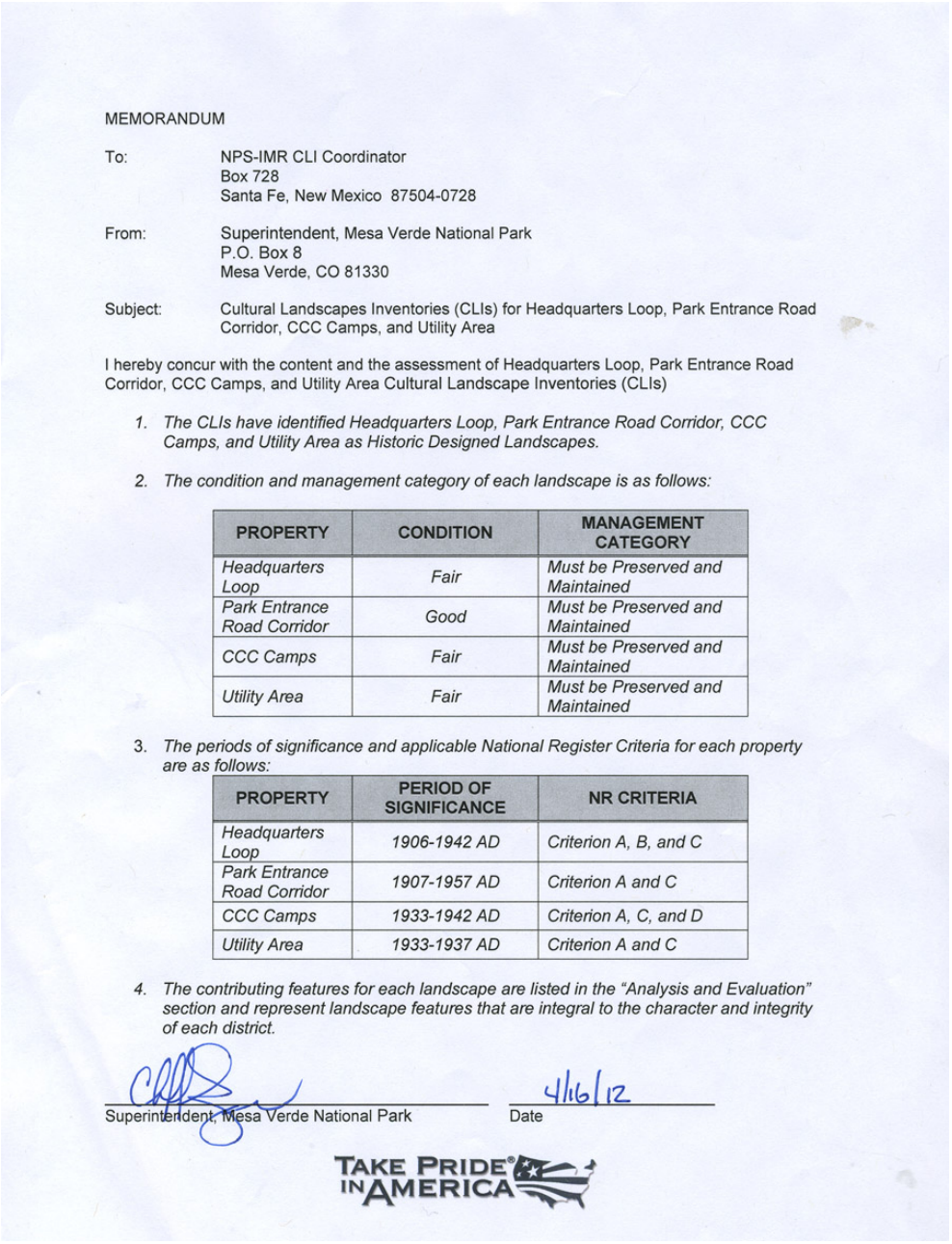
Date of Concurrence Determination: 10/10/2012

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The Colorado SHPO generally concurred that the Headquarters Loop is eligible for the National Register on 10/10/2012.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path



MEMORANDUM

To: NPS-IMR CLI Coordinator
Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0728

From: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park
P.O. Box 8
Mesa Verde, CO 81330

Subject: Cultural Landscapes Inventories (CLIs) for Headquarters Loop, Park Entrance Road Corridor, CCC Camps, and Utility Area

I hereby concur with the content and the assessment of Headquarters Loop, Park Entrance Road Corridor, CCC Camps, and Utility Area Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLIs)

1. *The CLIs have identified Headquarters Loop, Park Entrance Road Corridor, CCC Camps, and Utility Area as Historic Designed Landscapes.*

2. *The condition and management category of each landscape is as follows:*

PROPERTY	CONDITION	MANAGEMENT CATEGORY
Headquarters Loop	*Fair*	*Must be Preserved and Maintained*
Park Entrance Road Corridor	*Good*	*Must be Preserved and Maintained*
CCC Camps	*Fair*	*Must be Preserved and Maintained*
Utility Area	*Fair*	*Must be Preserved and Maintained*

3. *The periods of significance and applicable National Register Criteria for each property are as follows:*

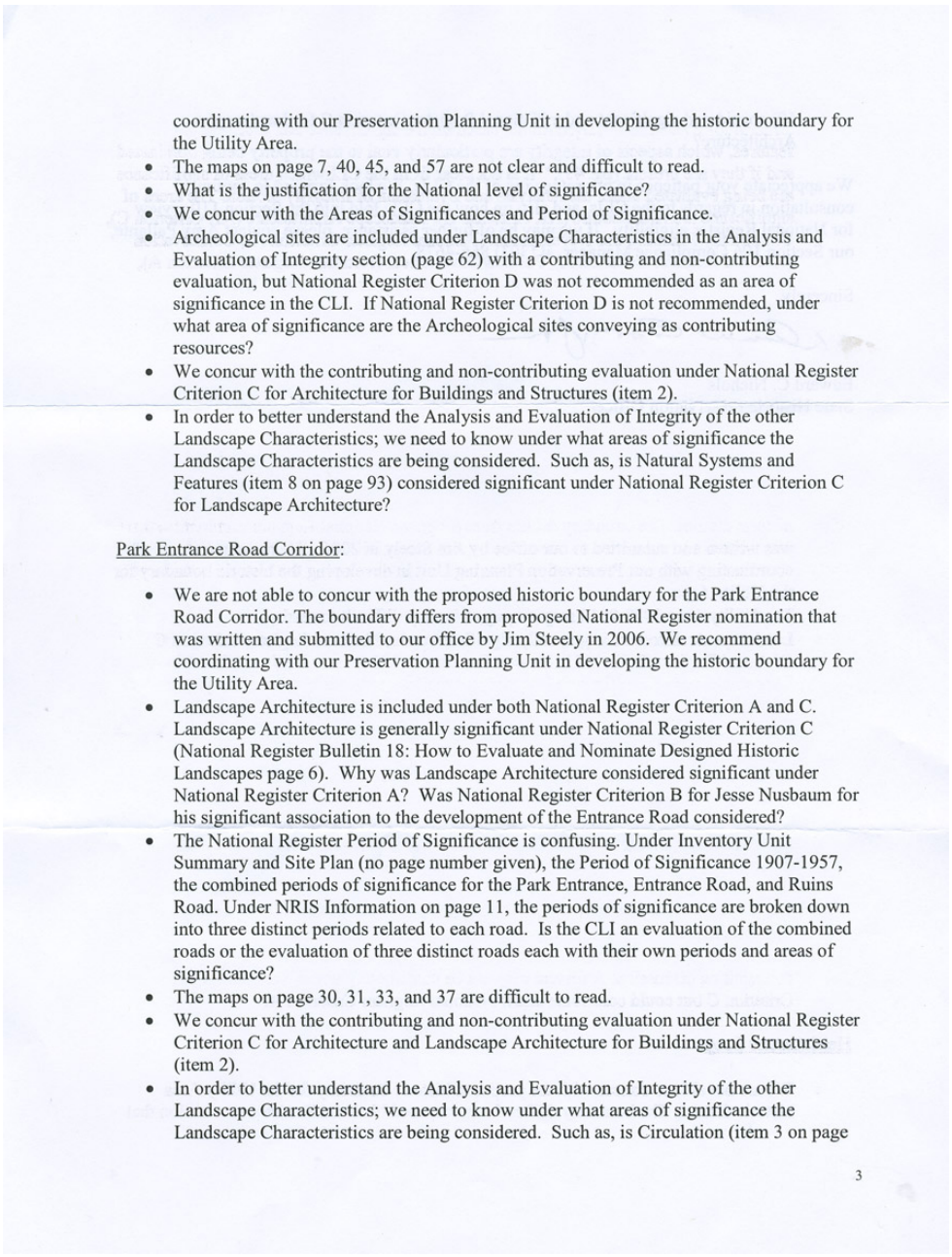
PROPERTY	PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE	NR CRITERIA
Headquarters Loop	*1906-1942 AD*	*Criterion A, B, and C*
Park Entrance Road Corridor	*1907-1957 AD*	*Criterion A and C*
CCC Camps	*1933-1942 AD*	*Criterion A, C, and D*
Utility Area	*1933-1937 AD*	*Criterion A and C*

4. *The contributing features for each landscape are listed in the "Analysis and Evaluation" section and represent landscape features that are integral to the character and integrity of each district.*

Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park — Date 4/16/12

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

Park Superintendent concurrence on the findings of the CLI, 4/16/2012.



coordinating with our Preservation Planning Unit in developing the historic boundary for the Utility Area.

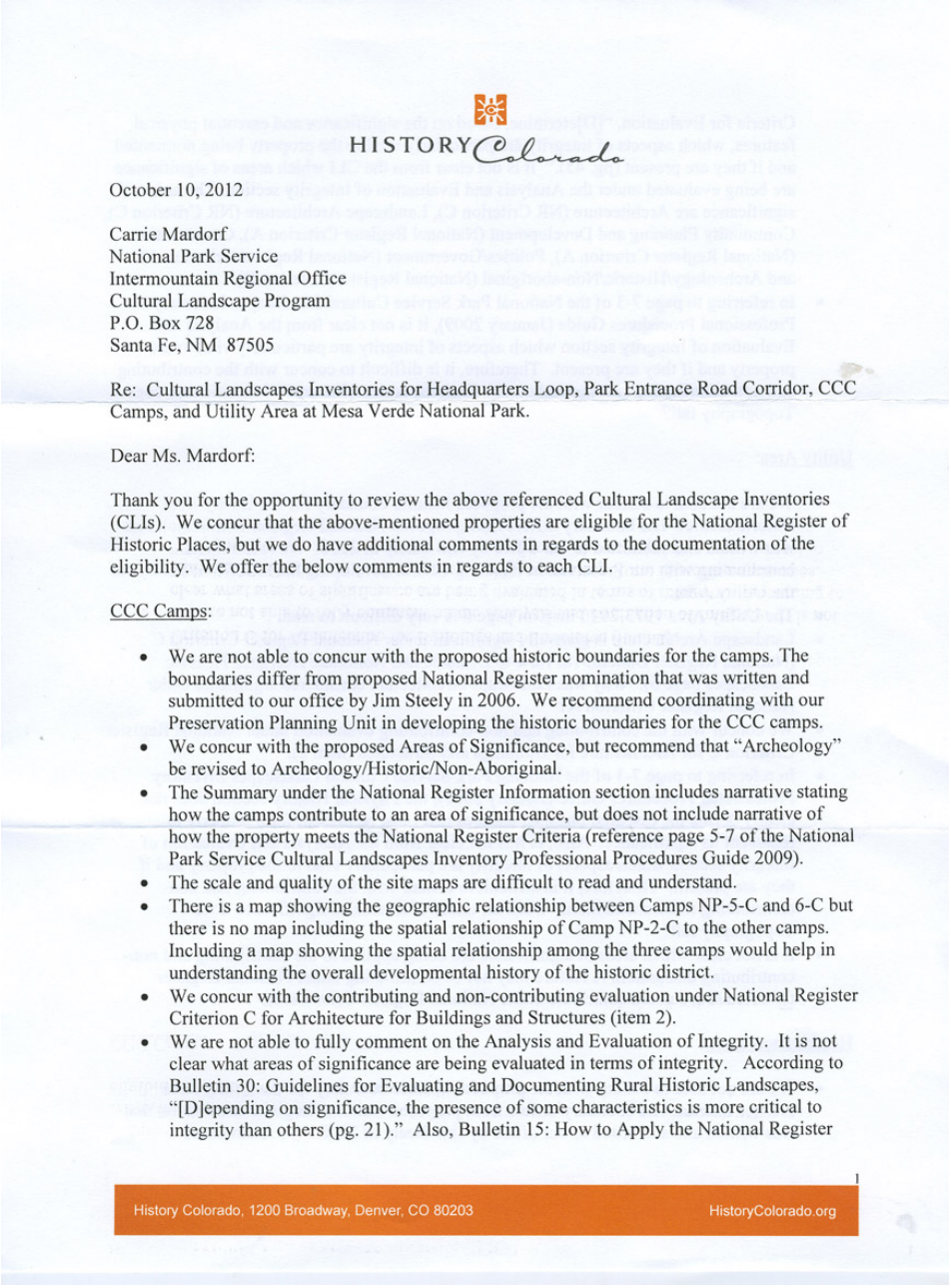
- The maps on page 7, 40, 45, and 57 are not clear and difficult to read.
- What is the justification for the National level of significance?
- We concur with the Areas of Significances and Period of Significance.
- Archeological sites are included under Landscape Characteristics in the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity section (page 62) with a contributing and non-contributing evaluation, but National Register Criterion D was not recommended as an area of significance in the CLI. If National Register Criterion D is not recommended, under what area of significance are the Archeological sites conveying as contributing resources?
- We concur with the contributing and non-contributing evaluation under National Register Criterion C for Architecture for Buildings and Structures (item 2).
- In order to better understand the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity of the other Landscape Characteristics; we need to know under what areas of significance the Landscape Characteristics are being considered. Such as, is Natural Systems and Features (item 8 on page 93) considered significant under National Register Criterion C for Landscape Architecture?

Park Entrance Road Corridor:

- We are not able to concur with the proposed historic boundary for the Park Entrance Road Corridor. The boundary differs from proposed National Register nomination that was written and submitted to our office by Jim Steely in 2006. We recommend coordinating with our Preservation Planning Unit in developing the historic boundary for the Utility Area.
- Landscape Architecture is included under both National Register Criterion A and C. Landscape Architecture is generally significant under National Register Criterion C (National Register Bulletin 18: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes page 6). Why was Landscape Architecture considered significant under National Register Criterion A? Was National Register Criterion B for Jesse Nusbaum for his significant association to the development of the Entrance Road considered?
- The National Register Period of Significance is confusing. Under Inventory Unit Summary and Site Plan (no page number given), the Period of Significance 1907-1957, the combined periods of significance for the Park Entrance, Entrance Road, and Ruins Road. Under NRIS Information on page 11, the periods of significance are broken down into three distinct periods related to each road. Is the CLI an evaluation of the combined roads or the evaluation of three distinct roads each with their own periods and areas of significance?
- The maps on page 30, 31, 33, and 37 are difficult to read.
- We concur with the contributing and non-contributing evaluation under National Register Criterion C for Architecture and Landscape Architecture for Buildings and Structures (item 2).
- In order to better understand the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity of the other Landscape Characteristics; we need to know under what areas of significance the Landscape Characteristics are being considered. Such as, is Circulation (item 3 on page

3

Colorado SHPO concurrence and comments on the CLI, page 3, 10/10/2012.



HISTORY Colorado

October 10, 2012

Carrie Mardorf
National Park Service
Intermountain Regional Office
Cultural Landscape Program
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Re: Cultural Landscapes Inventories for Headquarters Loop, Park Entrance Road Corridor, CCC Camps, and Utility Area at Mesa Verde National Park.

Dear Ms. Mardorf:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above referenced Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLIs). We concur that the above-mentioned properties are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, but we do have additional comments in regards to the documentation of the eligibility. We offer the below comments in regards to each CLI.

CCC Camps:

- We are not able to concur with the proposed historic boundaries for the camps. The boundaries differ from proposed National Register nomination that was written and submitted to our office by Jim Steely in 2006. We recommend coordinating with our Preservation Planning Unit in developing the historic boundaries for the CCC camps.
- We concur with the proposed Areas of Significance, but recommend that "Archeology" be revised to Archeology/Historic/Non-Aboriginal.
- The Summary under the National Register Information section includes narrative stating how the camps contribute to an area of significance, but does not include narrative of how the property meets the National Register Criteria (reference page 5-7 of the National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide 2009).
- The scale and quality of the site maps are difficult to read and understand.
- There is a map showing the geographic relationship between Camps NP-5-C and 6-C but there is no map including the spatial relationship of Camp NP-2-C to the other camps. Including a map showing the spatial relationship among the three camps would help in understanding the overall developmental history of the historic district.
- We concur with the contributing and non-contributing evaluation under National Register Criterion C for Architecture for Buildings and Structures (item 2).
- We are not able to fully comment on the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity. It is not clear what areas of significance are being evaluated in terms of integrity. According to Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes, "[D]epending on significance, the presence of some characteristics is more critical to integrity than others (pg. 21)." Also, Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register

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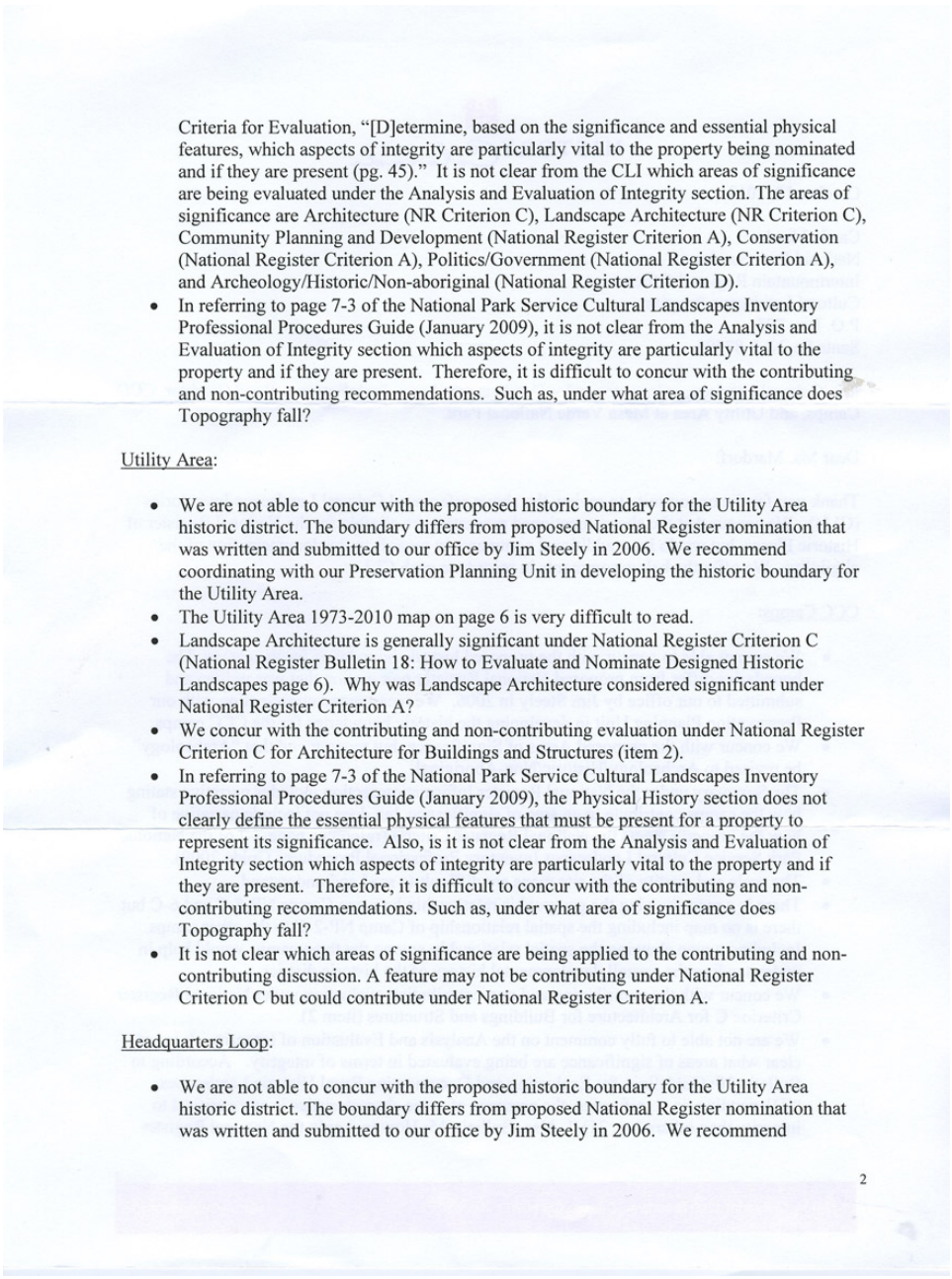
History Colorado, 1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 HistoryColorado.org

Colorado SHPO concurrence and comments on the CLI, page 1, 10/10/2012.



Criteria for Evaluation, "[D]etermine, based on the significance and essential physical features, which aspects of integrity are particularly vital to the property being nominated and if they are present (pg. 45)." It is not clear from the CLI which areas of significance are being evaluated under the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity section. The areas of significance are Architecture (NR Criterion C), Landscape Architecture (NR Criterion C), Community Planning and Development (National Register Criterion A), Conservation (National Register Criterion A), Politics/Government (National Register Criterion A), and Archeology/Historic/Non-aboriginal (National Register Criterion D).

- In referring to page 7-3 of the National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide (January 2009), it is not clear from the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity section which aspects of integrity are particularly vital to the property and if they are present. Therefore, it is difficult to concur with the contributing and non-contributing recommendations. Such as, under what area of significance does Topography fall?

Utility Area:

- We are not able to concur with the proposed historic boundary for the Utility Area historic district. The boundary differs from proposed National Register nomination that was written and submitted to our office by Jim Steely in 2006. We recommend coordinating with our Preservation Planning Unit in developing the historic boundary for the Utility Area.
- The Utility Area 1973-2010 map on page 6 is very difficult to read.
- Landscape Architecture is generally significant under National Register Criterion C (National Register Bulletin 18: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes page 6). Why was Landscape Architecture considered significant under National Register Criterion A?
- We concur with the contributing and non-contributing evaluation under National Register Criterion C for Architecture for Buildings and Structures (item 2).
- In referring to page 7-3 of the National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide (January 2009), the Physical History section does not clearly define the essential physical features that must be present for a property to represent its significance. Also, is it is not clear from the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity section which aspects of integrity are particularly vital to the property and if they are present. Therefore, it is difficult to concur with the contributing and non-contributing recommendations. Such as, under what area of significance does Topography fall?
- It is not clear which areas of significance are being applied to the contributing and non-contributing discussion. A feature may not be contributing under National Register Criterion C but could contribute under National Register Criterion A.

Headquarters Loop:

- We are not able to concur with the proposed historic boundary for the Utility Area historic district. The boundary differs from proposed National Register nomination that was written and submitted to our office by Jim Steely in 2006. We recommend

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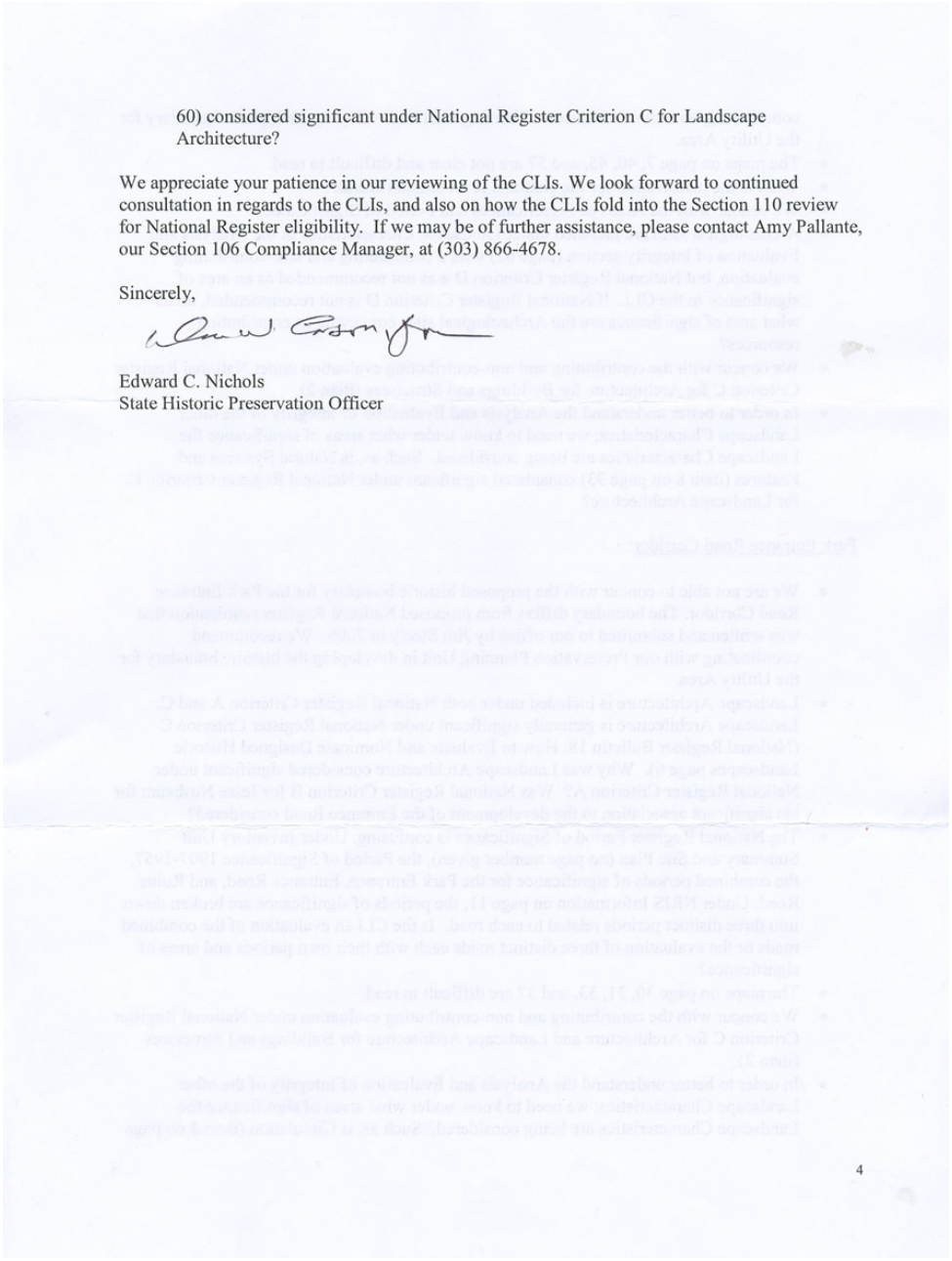
Colorado SHPO concurrence and comments on the CLI, page 2, 10/10/2012.



60) considered significant under National Register Criterion C for Landscape Architecture?

We appreciate your patience in our reviewing of the CLIs. We look forward to continued consultation in regards to the CLIs, and also on how the CLIs fold into the Section 110 review for National Register eligibility. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Amy Pallante, our Section 106 Compliance Manager, at (303) 866-4678.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer

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Colorado SHPO concurrence and comments on the CLI, page 4, 10/10/2012.

Geographic Information

Geographic Information & Location Map

State and County:

State: Colorado

County Montezuma County

Size (Acres) 112.5

Land Tract Number(s)

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Headquarters Loop component landscape is bordered to the south by the confluence of Spruce Tree and Spruce Canyons. The unit is bordered to the east by Ruins Road (Hwy 10) and to the west by Spruce Canyon. The northern border occurs just north of the North Entrance Information Plaza. The edges of Chapin Mesa form the boundary on the west, south and part of the east sides.

Boundary Coordinates:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.1899336113304

Longitude: -108.485336271318

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.190883325673

Longitude: -108.485924291917

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.1910965786755

Longitude: -108.48705491946

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.1892961820128

Longitude: -108.4884212669

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.1876418874402

Longitude: -108.490728873817

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.1862722786839

Longitude: -108.490312413319

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

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Longitude: -108.491513264667

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

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Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

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Longitude: -108.487961938216

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

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Longitude: -108.488030403689

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.1842837536471

Longitude: -108.487483574869

Narrative:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Area

Latitude: 37.1863232861011

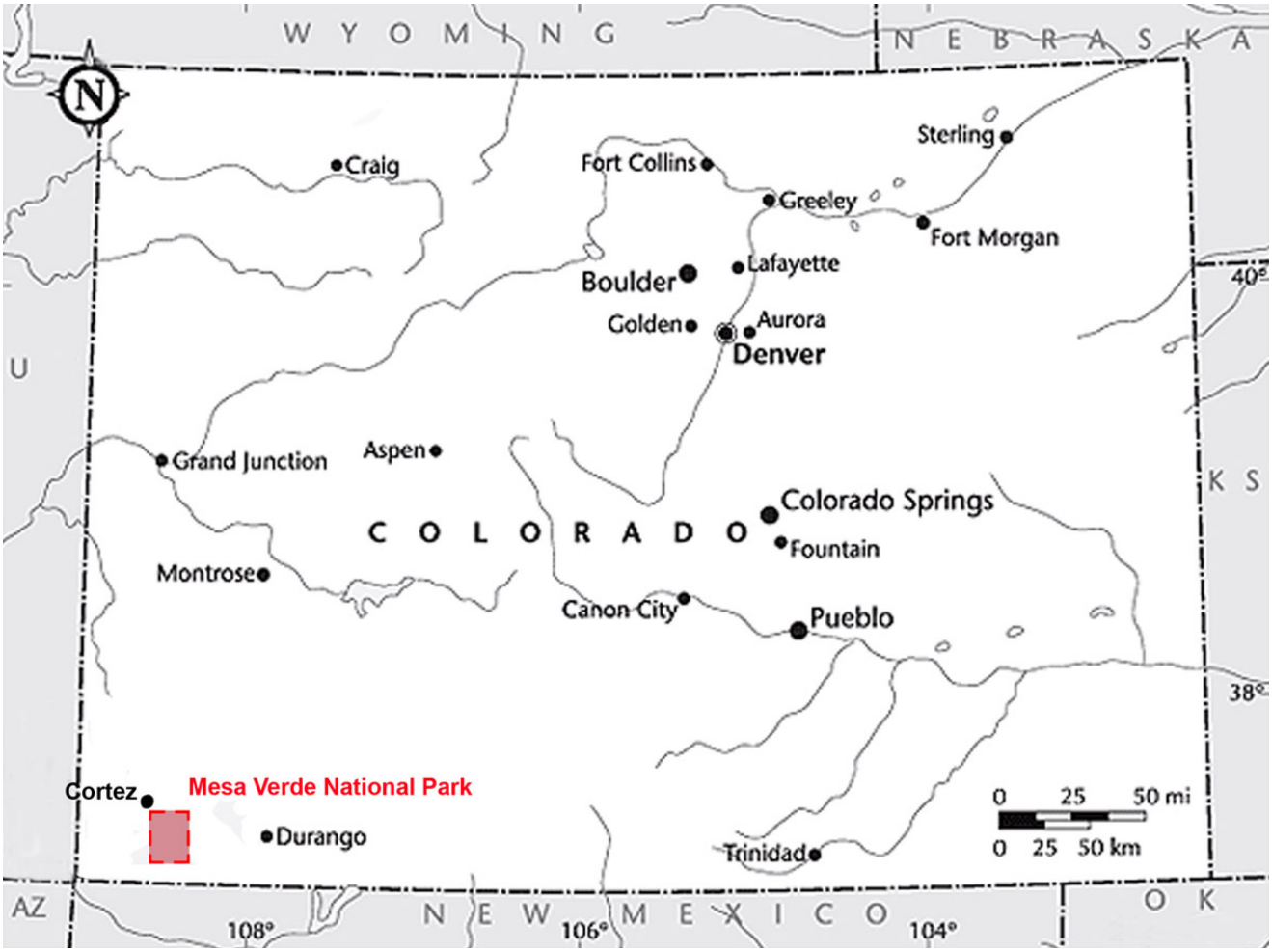
Longitude: -108.487618703314

Narrative:

Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Area
Latitude:	37.1847992370595
Longitude:	-108.485022316287
Narrative:	

Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Area
Latitude:	37.1885924382953
Longitude:	-108.48498653898
Narrative:	

Location Map:



Location map showing Mesa Verde National Park within the State of Colorado.

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Mesa Verde is located in the Colorado Plateau physiographic province, a transitional climatic zone between the desert located to the southwest and the San Juan Mountains to the northeast. The semiarid nature of Mesa Verde accounts for its classification as a steppe. Through the process of uplift and erosion, the mesa rises some 2,000 feet above the neighboring valleys and gradually dips southward in the vicinity of the historic development of the park headquarters.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The 59th Congress, under President Theodore Roosevelt, founded Mesa Verde National Park in June 1906. The congressional act placed 42,000 acres under “public reservation” for the purpose of preserving “the archeological sites which "Pre-Columbian Indians" built on the mesa tops and in the alcoves of a score of rugged canyons.” The actual survey of the southern park boundary proved erroneous when a location line was drawn above the major cliff dwellings to be preserved. To rectify this dilemma, the Brooks-Leupp Amendment (1906), which provided for a “preservation overlay” on lands that extended five miles beyond the original 1906 boundary, was added to the original park bill.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The Headquarters Loop is owned and administered by the NPS. The site is located within the political boundaries of Montezuma County, CO and is situated approximately 31 miles east of Cortez and 57 miles west of Durango.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 04/16/2012

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

This area contains a NHL District and is the primary area visited by the public. This area must be preserved and maintained due to its importance and the fact that it is used by 95% of the visiting public (public survey re: transportation, 2001). The use is appropriate to its traditional use and function. Park Superintendent concurrence was received on 4/16/2012.

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Type of Agreement: Concession Contract/Permit

Type of Context: 12-31-2012

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

The NPS has two ongoing concession contracts within the Headquarters Loop. One contract is with the Mesa Verde Company (ARAMARK), which runs the concession-operated restaurant in the Spruce Tree Terrace Restaurant, (historic hospital building). The original agreement had an extension date and expiration date of December 31, 2006. Since that time, a continuation agreement has been drafted to allow ARAMARK to continue operations (verified June 2010 by Sue Johnson-Erner, Concessions Management Specialist, Mesa Verde National Park).

The second contract is with the Mesa Verde Museum Association. The contract began January 1, 2003 and expires December 31, 2012. The contracts will be renewed as needed.

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative: The majority of the Headquarters Loop is owned outright by the National Park Service; however, legal interest is not clear with regard to the post office. The post office building and the land under it was given to the US Postal Service during the 1950s.

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Public Access:

Type of Interest: Unrestricted

Explanatory Narrative:

The Headquarters Loop offers broad scale access to visitors with restrictions in some facilities and areas.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Land Narrative:

National Register Information

Documentation Status:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

Mesa Verde National Park was listed on the National Register through “Administrative Listing” on 10/15/1966.

Later, the 192.5-acre Mesa Verde National Park Administrative District (Headquarters Loop, Utility Area, and CCC Camps) was determined eligible for the National Register under Criteria A, B, and C by the Keeper of the National Register on December 22, 1978. Approximately a decade later, a 3.17-acre Headquarters Area was determined a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1987.

In 2006, Jim Steely drafted a Multiple Property Documentation Form and a series of National Register nominations for the park, including a draft nomination for the Chapin Mesa Amphitheater. The Colorado SHPO concurred that the amphitheater was eligible for the National Register in 2006. However, despite initial concurrence on the Multiple Property Documentation Form and nominations, the nominations remain in draft form as of 2012.

Despite this previous documentation, the current National Register listing, NHL listing, and determinations of eligibility mainly focus on the buildings of the area, thus leaving out important landscape characteristics that are crucial in understanding the development of the site. This CLI addresses those landscape features in a holistic manner.

Concurrence Narrative:

The Colorado SHPO generally concurred that the Headquarters Loop is eligible for the National Register on 10/10/2012.

NRIS Number:	66000251
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966
NRIS Number:	87001410
Primary Certification Date:	05/28/1987
Other Certifications and Date:	MM/dd/yyyy

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Individual
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	National
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Social and Humanitarian Movements
Facet:	Poverty Relief And Urban Social Reform
Other Facet:	None

Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Developing the American Economy
Subtheme:	Transportation by Land and Air
Facet:	Automobiles, Busses and other Vehicles
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Architecture
Facet:	Rustic Architecture
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Education
Facet:	Vocational Training
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Landscape Architecture
Facet:	Protection Of Natural And Cultural Resources
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Landscape Architecture
Facet:	The 1930's: Era Of Public Works
Other Facet:	None

Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Shaping the Political Landscape
Subtheme:	Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939
Facet:	The Great Depression And The New Deal, 1929-1941
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Transforming the Environment
Subtheme:	Conservation of Natural Resources
Facet:	Origin And Development Of The National Park Service
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	CE 1906 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Transforming the Environment
Subtheme:	Historic Preservation
Facet:	The Federal Government Enters The Movement
Other Facet:	None

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
Area of Significance Category:	Community Planning and Development
Area of Significance Category:	Landscape Architecture
Area of Significance Category:	Entertainment - Recreation
Area of Significance Category:	Politics - Government

Statement of Significance:
The Headquarters Loop is nationally significant under Criterion A and C for its association with community planning and development, landscape architecture, and architecture, as well as its role in entertainment/recreation and politics/government in the early development of Mesa Verde National Park. The area is also significant for its association with Dr. Jesse Walter Fewkes and Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum, under Criterion B. Overall, the development of the Headquarters Loop is an exemplary example of early NPS park planning efforts of the 1920s and 1930s.

The period of significance for the area extends from 1906 to 1942. Development of the area commenced in 1906 with the establishment of Mesa Verde National Park, marking the beginning of the period of significance. The majority of the development within the area ceased in 1942 with the end of CCC operations within the park.

Criterion A - Community Planning and Development, Entertainment/Recreation, Politics/Government

Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum's administration (1921-1931; 1936-1939; and 1942-1946) was instrumental for the initial planning and design of the Headquarters Area as the focus of the park shifted from archeological research to the management of tourism. Although a great deal of research was being conducted in the park, most of the work concentrated on the regions surrounding Mesa Verde rather than in the park itself (Torres-Reyes, 1970).

During Nusbaum's tenures, park headquarters was relocated from Mancos, Colorado, to Spruce Tree Camp (on Chapin Mesa). Nusbaum's vision for the park through the development of Headquarters Loop made the cultural impact on the area a cohesive extension of the natural landscape. His plan, formulated by a design team of BPR engineers George Goodwin, Col. W. Crosby, Frank Kittredge and Fred Hill, and NPS landscape architects Thomas Vint, Merle Sager, and Charles Richey, included specialized use areas for separate administrative, residential, visitor, and utilitarian functions, which helped organize early park development. A loop-road circulation system was constructed to connect these use areas, which accommodated increased visitation and improved traffic flow. These design decisions created an organized circulation pattern, clustering specialized use areas and creating building layouts that were cohesive, efficient and harmonized with the surrounding landscape. Overall, the main loop road and subtle design techniques with the natural topography and vegetation helps organize the Headquarters Loop landscape into private, semi-private, and public use areas; a noteworthy feat for the given amount of space.

Construction of administrative, residential, visitor, and utilitarian facilities occurred simultaneously throughout the 1920s. In 1921, crews under Nusbaum's direction constructed a campground equipped with water lines and toilets that accommodated as many as one-hundred cars. One-way traffic loops and short, 45-degree parking spurs controlled traffic patterns and confined automobiles to limited areas to minimize the impact on vegetation. In 1923, the Spruce Tree Camp Lodge (including tents, cottages and service buildings) was relocated to a ledge overlooking Spruce Tree and Navajo Canyons at Spruce Tree Point. This helped to separate and define use areas allowing more room for each activity and for pathways and vegetation to be established in the now denuded Spruce Tree Camp. Additionally, throughout the 1920s, thirty tents and twenty cottages were constructed in the center of the Headquarters Loop just across from the new campground. These significant improvements in visitor facilities helped provide a better visitor experience. In the years ahead, these areas would again be expanded and improved to meet increased visitor use.

The first major buildings to be erected in the area were seven administrative structures (including the museum) and six permanent residences built in the late 1920s and early 1930s. At the same time, NPS landscape architects and CCC workers carried out Nusbaum's Master Plan and embraced the Rustic design idiom. Rustic design applies to the treatment of the natural features of the landscape as well as to the style of structures (trails, paths, bridges, retaining walls, etc.) and buildings. The design principles dictated the use of indigenous plants and native sandstone and economical siting of buildings in the landscape to blend in with the surroundings.

From 1933-1942, the CCC conducted many park projects including road curbing, walks, trails, campgrounds, telephone lines, water system and plumbing. They also quarried sandstone and helped to build some of the masonry structures that contribute to the rustic character of Mesa Verde's developed areas. The careful craftsmanship of this era is evident on Chapin Mesa and the roads and trails throughout the entire park. This design vision paired with the skills and workmanship of the Civilian Conservation Corps produced a little

changed, shining example of successful NPS Rustic planning efforts that still serves visitors today.

Criterion B - Dr. Jesse Walter Fewkes, Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum

Dr. Jesse Walter Fewkes (1907-1922)

Some contemporary archeological professionals believe Dr. Jess Fewkes was a pioneering archeologist for his time. Though some of his techniques were questionable by today's standards, he is known for considering "architecture as an artifact." He chose to leave ancient dwellings in place and study them in their context. He was the first person at Mesa Verde to stabilize archeological sites in a manner that provided access for the public (routes through the dwellings). Prior to coming to Mesa Verde, he worked at Casa Grande Ruins National Monument in Arizona and for the Bureau of Ethnology. Fewkes was skilled in and had good connects to acquire funds to research at stability archeological sites. One of the dwellings for which he led the stabilization project was Balcony House (Mesa Verde). It was on this project that Jesse Nusbaum worked under Dr. Fewkes.

In 1908, Dr. Fewkes selected Spruce Tree House as the first excavation project at Mesa Verde National Park. Prior to the park's establishment, visitors arrived by horseback to view Spruce Tree House and set up camp close to the cabin, where the present Chief Ranger's Office is located. This site offered a decent water supply and is located close to other major sites on Chapin Mesa. As more visitors came to the park, Dr. Fewkes converted what had become a Ranger Station into a museum (later referred to as the "Old Log Cabin Museum" and "Fewkes Cabin") that was equipped with wall and floor cases to display archeological materials. This museum was one of the first such facilities established in a national park.

Dr. Fewkes also initiated the first campfire program within the NPS. He gave public talks in the Campfire Circle about his daily findings in Spruce Tree House—a tradition that was later carried on by Nusbaum with educational interpretive services. The Campfire Circle was located at the terminus of the park's Entrance Road and center to the Headquarters Area. This area became a very important focus of development that helped guide Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum's decision to establish permanent occupancy in this particular area of the park. The core visitor use and administration structures were built around or in close proximity to the Campfire Circle.

Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum (1921-1932, 1936-1939, 1942-1946)

The arrival of Jesse Nusbaum as Superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park on May 23, 1921, marked the beginning of two decades of park development as a designed, cohesive landscape. Nusbaum's initial goal was to establish permanent Park Headquarters on Chapin Mesa. In addition, his vision and Master Plan for the park included the development of six specific use areas, including a Headquarters Area, Residential Area, Utility Area, Visitor Facilities, Campground, and Hogan District.

During his 36-year career with the NPS, Jesse Nusbaum would serve three times as superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park. Appointed by Director Mather in 1921, Nusbaum's first tenure ended when he was granted a leave of absence to establish and direst the Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He returned to Mesa Verde as Superintendent in 1936, at the height of the CCC period and continued to administer the park through 1939. From 1942 to 1946, Nusbaum was appointed Acting Superintendent at the park. He later served as senior archeologist for the NPS and in 1954 received the Distinguished Service Award from the Department of the Interior. He retired from the NPS in 1957 at the age of 71.

The planning and construction of the Headquarters, Residential, and Camping areas were carried out during Nusbaum's first and second terms as Superintendent (1921-1932 and 1936-1939)—a 14 year period. His influence is still very apparent today. The layout and architecture of these three areas is unique: the buildings in both form and detail mimic the early modern Puebloan style and used native materials. During his first tenure, Nusbaum developed an architecture aesthetic at Mesa Verde known as the "Modified Pueblo Revival Architectural style." At Mesa Verde, he designed and directed much of the work done by CCC craftsmen and laborers.

Nusbaum also implemented the first consistent educational interpretive services at the park. To educate the growing number of visitors, Nusbaum created guided tours through the archeological sites, interpreted artifacts

in the museum, and gave campfire programs. (Torres-Reyes, 1970) These interpretive programs have continued throughout the history of the park and still exist today as popular visitor activities.

Criterion C – Architecture, Landscape Architecture

The buildings and structures in the Headquarters Loop form a cohesive collection of vernacular-style architecture and landscape architecture that are reflective of regionally appropriate forms of NPS Rustic and WPA/CCC-designed construction in western national parks. Specifically, the area demonstrates NPS Rustic and Modified Pueblo Revival styles through a variety of structures and buildings. One of the most notable hallmarks of this design philosophy is hand craftsmanship, in particular the stonework of curbs, walls, foundations and culvert headwalls.

The period between 1921 and 1931 deserves recognition during which Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum most actively conceptualized the park's built aesthetic, which was defined as the Modified Pueblo Revival style. Nusbaum and his wife Aileen studied the architecture and construction techniques of the Pueblo tribes in New Mexico and Arizona, particularly the Hopi. The first structure in the Headquarters Loop, their residence (no. 1), typifies this architectural style. This style, vernacular in philosophy, consisted of a low-profile scale, native red and tan sandstone blocks and flat roofs. This design, which Nusbaum perfected, helped to blend structures in with the natural environment. Nusbaum's residence and the subsequent buildings were the first NPS structures to reflect the cultural heritage of the area as opposed to only natural values in their design. (Soulliere, 1986)

From 1933-1942, NPS landscape architects and CCC workers continued to use a modified rustic design idiom and the rustic style. These principles used indigenous plants, native sandstone and economical siting of structures within a compact area.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Historic Designed Landscape

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Government Office

Primary Current Use: Government Office

Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Administrative Office (HDQS)	Current, Historic
Amphitheater	Current, Historic
Automobile	Current, Historic
Campground/Picnic Area	Current, Historic
Comfort Station (Latrine)	Current, Historic
Concession	Current, Historic

Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Dam - Other	Historic
Domestic (Residential)-Other	Historic
Dormitory (Bunkhouse)	Historic
Equipment/Vehicle Storage	Current,
Exhibit	Current, Historic
Forest	Current, Historic
Hiking Trail	Current, Historic
Hospital (Mental Hospital)	Historic
Interpretation Facility	Current, Historic
Leisure-Passive (Park)	Current, Historic
Library	Current,
Maintenance Facility	Historic
Overlook	Current, Historic
Parking Area	Current, Historic
Pedestrian Circulation	Current, Historic
Plaza/Public Space (Square)-Other	Current, Historic
Post Office	Current, Historic
Ranger Station	Current, Historic
Recreation/Culture-Other	Current, Historic
Removed Structure	Current,
Restaurant (Bar, Lounge)	Current, Historic
Road Culvert	Current, Historic
Road Retaining Wall	Current, Historic
Ruin	Current, Historic
Secondary Structure (Garage)	Current, Historic
Service Station	Historic

Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Single Family House	Current, Historic
Single Tent	Historic
Small Residential Landscape	Current, Historic
Specialty Store (Shop)	Current, Historic
Tennis Court	Current, Historic
Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Site	Current,
Utility Service Structure	Current,
Vehicular Circulation	Current, Historic
View	Current, Historic
Visitor Contact (Visitor Center)	Current, Historic
Vista	Current, Historic
Warehouse (General Supply Storage)	Historic
Wayside Exhibit	Current,

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type Of Name
Mesa Verde Administrative NHL District	Both Current And Historic
Administrative District	Both Current And Historic
Administrative Area	Both Current And Historic
Headquarters Loop	Both Current And Historic
Headquarters Area	Both Current And Historic

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1888	Explored	Wetherill brothers accepted as first Anglo people to discover the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde; several archaeological artifacts were discovered, most of which today are in private collections (Level II CLI).
CE 1897	Established	The Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs formed a committee to fight for the protection of the cliff dwellings (Level II CLI).
CE 1906	Established	Mesa Verde National Park established (nps.gov).

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1907	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area, circa 1907. Concessionaire C.B. Kelly constructs a cabin across Spruce Tree House that provides sleeping accommodations for tourists arriving by horseback from Mancos. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1907	Developed	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area, circa 1907. A tent camping area in the vicinity of Spruce Tree House is designated for visitors. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1908	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area, circa 1908. A dam and spillway are constructed at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon to collect rainwater for park domestic use. The contained water then percolated through the sandstone (for filtration purposes) to a cistern below. Additionally, a trench is constructed to convey spring water to the cistern and to catch the seepage from the canyon walls. Another crude reservoir below that receives the overflow from the cistern. This water source is used for domestic and livestock purposes. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1908	Excavated	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Dr. Fewkes selects Spruce Tree House as the first excavation project, because it is a visitor destination site. It is easily accessible, equipped with water and within a convenient distance of the major dwellings of Chapin Mesa. The decision to focus efforts on the rehabilitation of Spruce Tree House includes future permanent development and visitor use within Spruce Tree Point. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1909	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area, circa 1909. A shallow natural water tank above the cliff at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon in the path of the flood channel is deepened and its capacity increased by construction of a wall on its lower side. In blasting operations connected with this improvement, a leak develops in the bottom of the reservoir, making it useless. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1911	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area, circa 1911. Ranger’s cabin located in the vicinity of the present-day round lot.
CE 1911	Built	Spruce Tree Point Lodge. Emma Martin, wife of Ranger Wesley A. Martin is given the first concession to “furnish meals and sleeping quarters to persons desiring to secure such accommodations and service within the metes and bounds of the Mesa Verde National Park.” Tents are erected that accommodated twelve persons in Spruce Tree Camp. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1913	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Temporary ranger station (12’ x 18’ frame shack of boards and tar paper) is erected at Spruce Tree Camp. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1914	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. A gasoline engine and pump are installed at the cisterns below the springs of Spruce Tree House. Water is pumped to a galvanized tank on the top of the cliff, above the Camp and conducted in pipes to the Camp and to a watering trough for stock. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1915	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. A “fire hole” or campfire circle is established at the present site of museum. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1915	Moved	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Non-concessionaire managed camping area (free camping) is relocated in the vicinity of Spruce Tree Camp. No facilities are provided in this area, including trash receptacles and toilets. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1916	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. A permanent log cabin ranger station (Fewkes Cabin, no. 12) is constructed with a stone foundation at Spruce Tree Camp, overlooking Spruce Tree House. The structure, which included a broad piazza which “as a whole fits into the scene adding rather than detracting from the beauty of the spot.” (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1917	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. The ranger station is converted to a museum equipped with wall and floor cases displaying archeological materials. The facility serves as a public gathering place and for lectures by scientists, including Dr. Fewkes of the Smithsonian Institute. This museum is considered the first such facility established in a national park. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1918	Built	Residential Area. A water tower is constructed above the lodge that enables gravity flow of water to all parts of the camp. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1918	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. A permanent guest facility -- referred to as a “lodge” (26’ x 38’) -- is constructed in the Spruce Tree Camp area and serves as the office and guest registration location. The structure includes a dining room, kitchen, lounge and washroom. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1919	Built	Residential Area. A four-room cottage used as a ranger station is constructed near Spruce Tree Camp and just north of the future round lot. This building was later moved to Hovenweep National Monument to be used as the visitor center.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1920 - 1929	Developed	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area, 1920s. Spruce Tree Camp concessions consists of a lodge (1918) and adjacent outhouses, three rows of floored tents 9' x 12' with board side walls of 4' that are sited on terraces, one above and the other just below the present day Chief Ranger's Office. The camp is electrically lit and a new power plant pumps water from Spruce Tree spring into a stone water tower above the lodge. Cedar benches are placed about the camp; sheds protect automobiles from the weather. Additionally, two rustic cottages and a bathhouse provide services for visitors. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1921	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Campfire circle formally improved (75' diameter). Rail fence is installed and native vegetation is transplanted under the rails and at the entrance areas. Rustic seats are provided for visitors. A fire bowl – based on one discovered by Dr. Fewkes at New Fire House dwelling – is constructed in the middle of the circle. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1921	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Superintendent's residence (no. 1), is constructed on a small rocky ledge directly south (200') from the log-cabin museum. (Noble Jr., 1933)
CE 1921	Moved	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Park headquarters are relocated from Mancos to Spruce Tree Camp, with the appointment of Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum. Spruce Tree Camp, slowly becoming the Headquarters Area, consists of a frame ranger station (ca. 1919), log museum and restroom (ca. 1916), a small water tank building, automobile shed, ice house, a frame shed for the power plant and seven outhouses. A well-designed concept for permanent development becomes the primary focus of Nusbaum's first tenure. Plans for construction of a more appropriate museum and park headquarters are outlined. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1922	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Park headquarters/administration building (no. 15) is constructed
CE 1922 - 1925	Built	Residential Area, circa 1922-1925. A large tent is erected that serves as a health clinic to receive emergency or accident cases in the vicinity of Spruce Tree Camp. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1923	Built	Residential Area. Building no. 8 (water storage tank) is constructed. (Noble, Jr., 1993)

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1923	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. A new storage cistern (4,500 gal. capacity) is constructed at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon. A larger storage and distribution tank (6,000 gal. capacity) is erected above headquarters in a masonry cylinder of “cliff dweller watch tower type.” Various water lines run to parts of the lodge and campgrounds located on the overlook to Spruce Tree House. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1923	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Three additional modern masonry dams on the rim rock at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon are constructed to hold precipitation and runoff. Approximately 1.5 miles of drainage ditches are dug to convey rain and snowmelt to the reservoirs and cisterns. This system performs fairly well, but eventually, evaporation causes too much water loss. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1923	Moved	Spruce Tree Point Lodge. Open camping is abandoned and relocated to the rim of Spruce Tree Canyon about 500’ from park headquarters (perhaps at Spruce Tree Point?). The facility is equipped with water lines and toilets and accommodates up to 100 cars. By 1923, 60% of the visitors use this open camping facility. Spruce Tree Camp, together with its tents, cottages and service buildings is relocated to a location overlooking Spruce Tree and Navajo Canyons called Spruce Tree Point. Roads are constructed to this new location. Six new tents and a toilet are erected on the Spruce Canyon side. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1923 - 1925	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. The Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum (no. 13) is constructed 100’ north of the log-cabin museum and occupies the former site of the lodge. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1924	Built	Original NPS Utility Area. A garage (Building no. 55) is constructed.
CE 1924	Built	Original NPS Utility Area. A warehouse (no. 53), shop building, public comfort station and clerk’s quarters are constructed west and slightly south of the Aileen Nusbaum Hospital. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1924	Built	Residential Area. Building no. 3 (residence) is constructed. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1924	Built	Spruce Tree Point Lodge. Four new cottages, two with fireplaces, replace two tent sites. Three floored tents are constructed east of the lodge. An “Indian type” of pergola is built across the front of the lodge to provide shade. Rustic benches are placed under the pergola. Vines and hollyhocks are planted about the lodge. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1925	Built	Original NPS Utility Area. A bunkhouse (Building no. 16) is constructed.
CE 1925	Built	Original NPS Utility Area. A mess hall (Building no. 58) is constructed.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1925	Built	Original NPS Utility Area. A truck shed (Building no. 49) is constructed.
CE 1925	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. The Ranger's Club (no. 9 - dormitory for single, male rangers) is constructed approximately 50' west of the Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum. Modified in 1928, 1929, 1932, 1934, 1952, and 1986, it is now used as the research library.
CE 1926	Altered	Spruce Tree Public Campground. Foot travel and automobile traffic damage trees and vegetation. In response, Dr. Meinecke urges greater regulation of camping areas including one-way circulation roads, defined parking spaces and a permanent location for campfire grills, tables and tents. (Noble, Jr., 1993) Dr. Meinecke was a pathologist with the U.S. Forest Service. He was a leader in designing campgrounds to reduce human impacts by clearly delineating campsite and each function of the site and by using one-way loops, thereby cutting down on the space needed for circulation.
CE 1926	Built	Hogan District. The Spruce Tree Camp water collection system is completed and consists of a one-acre catchment basin of galvanized corrugated roofing set in a low framework to gather precipitation. Water is passed through a sand filter to two steel tanks (125,000 gal. capacity each) near the hogans, where the current burn pile is located near the 4--way intersection. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1926	Built	Residential Area. Building no. 5 (residence) is constructed. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1926	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. The "Aileen Nusbaum Hospital" (no. 10) is constructed along the entrance road (now the museum parking lot), northwest of the museum. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1926	Built	Spruce Tree Point Lodge. Fourteen comfortable cottages and six floored tents are constructed. Electric refrigeration and other service improvements are implemented, although the dining facilities remain inadequate. The extension of Spruce Tree Camp and erection of a chemical toilet in the lower (southern) portion of the campground replaced the pit toilets. Additional rustic, cedar fencing, transplanted native flowers and shrubbery, and rustic benches improve the aesthetics. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1927	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. The Community Building is constructed (no. 14). In 1940, this building becomes a natural history museum and at an unknown date is converted to the Chief Ranger's Office (CRO).
CE 1927	Moved	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Fewkes Cabin (no. 12) is dismantled and moved to the campground area. (Newman, et. al., 1974)

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1929	Built	Hogan District. A second one-acre catchment unit is constructed adjacent to the existing basins. A subsurface, reinforced concrete tank (two reservoirs at 120,000 gal. capacity each) is built to store water for “general purposes” where the current burn pile is located near the 4-way intersection. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1929	Built	Original NPS Utility Area. Building no. 54 – ice house (also called “processing site” in LCS) converted to electric shop in 1941, now plumbing shop
CE 1929	Built	Original NPS Utility Area. Carpenter’s Shop (Building no. 56) is constructed.
CE 1929	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. A concrete tank (75,000 gallon capacity) is installed underground to retain water pumped from the Spruce Tree Canyon spring for domestic purposes. It is likely placed near the head of Spruce Tree Canyon, but the exact location is unclear. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1929 - 1930	Developed	Spruce Tree Point Lodge, 1929-1930. By 1930, significant improvements to guest facilities (tent lodge) were implemented. Water is piped to convenient outlets, firewood is distributed to guests, all buildings are electrically lit and chemical toilets are provided. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)
CE 1930	Altered	Residential Area. Two (2) rooms are added to Building no. 5 (residence). (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1930	Altered	Spruce Tree Point Lodge. Fewkes Cabin is remodeled as a community house and is today used as an education center. (Newman, et. al., 1974)
CE 1930	Built	Residential Area. Building no. 2 (residence) is constructed. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1930	Built	Residential Area. Building no. 4 (residence) is constructed. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1930 - 1939	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground, circa 1930s. East of the entrance to Spruce Tree campground the plaza was constructed to be the access for four buildings constructed on the east and west side of this area. These buildings would service the campground on the west and the tents and cabins on the east. The buildings were never constructed, but the road access or “plaza” still remains. It is used as a bus parking area today.
CE 1932	Built	Residential Area. Building no. 7 (residence) is constructed. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1932	Planned	Concessionaire’s Tent and Cabin Area. As part of the 1932 Master Plan, employee cabins and tents were to be moved north of the original NPS Utility Area and south of the Hogan District in the center of the Headquarters Loop. Plans were made for cottage units, a cafeteria and lunchroom, community building and bathhouse.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1933	Built	Residential Area, June 1933. Tennis court near stone residences is constructed.
CE 1933	Built	Residential Area. Building no. 6 (residence) is constructed. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1933	Built	Spruce Tree Point Lodge. Floor and first five tiers of sandstone amphitheater are constructed near the edge of Chapin Mesa overlooking Spruce and Navajo Canyons. (Noble Jr., 1993)
CE 1934	Moved	Original NPS Utility Area. Building no. 16 – mess hall moved to housekeeping cabin area. Used as a duplex residence until it burned in the Long Mesa '02 Fire
CE 1934	Moved	Original NPS Utility Area. Building no. 49 - truck shed is moved to the new Utility Area and is used as an equipment storage building/truck shed.
CE 1934	Moved	Original NPS Utility Area. Building no. 53, 55 & 56 are moved the new Utility Area and continue to be used as a warehouse, garage and carpenter shop respectively.
CE 1934	Moved	Original NPS Utility Area. Building no. 58 – bunkhouse moved to housekeeping cabin area. Has been used for several purposes, but mostly a dormitory.
CE 1934 - 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Headquarters parking lot, today referred to as the "round lot", is built as an oval shaped lot with an entry on the east side. Through the center on the long axis is a three-foot high sandstone retaining wall with a built-in curved stone bench at each end.
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area, circa 1935. Building no. 6 – porch is enclosed and the kitchen is extended into the porch area. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area. Building no. 3 – garage & porch added by the CCC. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area. Building no. 4 – CCC add garage.
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area. Building no. 4 – CCC enclose rear porch to serve as an entryway. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area. Building no. 5 – CCC construct rear porch and garage. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area. Building no. 6 – CCC add rear porch and garage. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area. Building no.7 – CCC construct porches and garage. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Altered	Residential Area. CCC enrollees retrofit the water tower (no. 8) into a residence. (Newman, et. al., 1974)
CE 1935	Built	Northern Information Plaza. Information plaza and checking station (no. 64) are constructed at the 4-way intersection where the Headquarters Loop meets the entrance road.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Restroom (no. 45) is constructed, but in 1936, this building is converted into the present-day post office.
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. CCC constructed approximately eighty-five fire grills in the campground. Approximately nine original grills exist today in poor condition. Seven were reconstructed in 2003.
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. CCC constructed a set of stairs and accompanying retaining walls that connect two areas of a campsite separated by a steep slope. This slope is most likely at the southwest corner of the campground. The stair-stepped wall is about two and one-half feet tall and six feet wide. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. CCC constructed buildings no. 46 and no. 65 - Modified Pueblo Revival style comfort stations for the campground. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. CCC constructed eighteen sandstone, dry stack, retaining walls along the circulation roads and campsite parking spaces. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. CCC constructed four sandstone fuel, water and garbage stations in the campground. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. CCC constructed fourteen culverts in campground. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. The CCC constructed two log and sandstone drinking fountains. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Built	Spruce Tree Public Campground. The first campground (not open camping) is constructed on the west side of the Headquarters Loop just north of the amphitheater and Fewkes Cabin. This campground contained a north and south one-way loop. Each site had boulder-lined and angled parking spots, stone fire pit and picnic table. Approximately 80 campsites were in the south loop and 100 in the north loop. Current use is a picnic area (no camping allowed). (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1935	Moved	Original NPS Utility Area. Building no. 54 – ice house is moved to new Utility Area
CE 1935 - 1936	Built	Hogan District. Two family hogans (nos. 36 and 37) are constructed.
CE 1936	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. CCC laborers add on to the Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum (no.13)
CE 1937	Altered	Residential Area. Tennis court resurfaced and a fence is constructed around the court. (Noble, Jr., 1993)

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1937	Built	Hogan District. The comfort station (no. 47) and the first two hogans for single workers are constructed (nos. 38 and 39).
CE 1939 - 1940	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Addition to the park headquarters building (no. 15)
CE 1939 - 1940	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Addition to the Superintendent's residence (no. 1)
CE 1940	Built	Spruce Tree Point Lodge. Upper four tiers of sandstone amphitheater constructed by the CCC. (Noble Jr., 1993)
CE 1940	Removed	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. The three check dams at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon were dismantled in 1940, however the primary dam wall is still intact.
CE 1940 - 1950	Built	Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area. New frame cabins were constructed east of the campground and across the loop road. A "Protective Curbing and Walk Plan", dated 02/1940, indicates 21 cabins with at least four more proposed. A Master Plan, dated 10/1950, shows 24 cabins labeled as "Housekeeping Cabins" and a 10/1952 location plan identifies 31 cabins and 35 tents to the north.
CE 1942	Built	Hogan District. Two additional single worker hogans are built (nos. 43 and 44).
CE 1946	Altered	Hogan District. Hogan no. 36 – porch added
CE 1950	Abandoned	Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area, after 1950. This area was abandoned at an unknown date. All of the tents and cabins were dismantled along with the sandstone curbing along the road. Portions of this area are now used for storage of vehicles, furniture and other supplies.
CE 1950	Altered	Residential Area. Building no. 2 – south porch is enclosed as a bedroom. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1954	Moved	Spruce Tree Public Campground. The south loop of the campground is converted to a day use picnic area and a new campground is now opened in the former water collection system located next to the hogans. (Noble, Jr., 1993)
CE 1959	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Museum parking lot (Long Lot) is constructed.
CE 1960 - 1965	Abandoned	Spruce Tree Public Campground, circa early 1960s. NPS abandons the north loop of the Spruce Tree Public Campground.
CE 1960 - 1965	Moved	Spruce Tree Public Campground, early 1960s. The campground is moved to Morefield Canyon and is today the Morefield Campground.
CE 1963	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Building no. 10 (Aileen Nusbaum Hospital) is converted from a hospital into a snack bar, gift shop and small grocery store. (Newman, et. al. 1974)

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1966	Established	The National Register of Historic Places is established. The Headquarters Loop is administratively listed on the National Register.
CE 1969 - 1970	Removed	1969 or 1970. Spruce Tree Point Lodge and all of its outbuildings, including tents and cabins, are razed.
CE 1978	Established	December 22, 1978. The Keeper of the National Register determines that the Mesa Verde National Park Administrative District (Headquarters Loop) is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A, B, and C.
CE 1985	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Building no. 10 (snack bar, gift shop, groceries) is converted to Spruce Tree Terrace (café, gift shop).
CE 1985	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Building no. 84, a sewage lift station, is constructed.
CE 1985	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Public restroom (Building no. 211) is constructed. The restrooms are removed from downstairs of no. 14 the CRO.
CE 1986	Altered	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. Ranger's dorm (No. 9) is remodeled into a library.
CE 1987	Established	The Administrative District (Headquarters Loop) is listed as a National Historic Landmark.
CE 2000 - 2007	Established	The headquarters loop area is documented in a Level II CLI completed by Shapins Associates and Mesa Verde park staff.
CE 2004	Built	Spruce Tree Camp / Headquarters Area. No. 231 - HVAC building
CE 2006	Established	The Colorado State Historic Preservation Office determines the Chapin Mesa Amphitheater is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
CE 2010 - 2012	Established	The Level II CLI is revised and completed to reflect current conditions.

Physical History:

Prior to Park Establishment: 1880s-1906

Generally, it is accepted that the first Anglo people to “discover” the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde were the Wetherill brothers, a family of five cowboys with a ranch in the Mancos Valley, in 1888. For some years they systematically explored Mesa Verde canyons, named and excavated major archeological sites, collected an immense quantity of artifacts, most of which today are found in private collections.

Of five major cliff dwellings located on Chapin Mesa, Spruce Tree House is the most popular due to its size and accessibility. A spectacular view of this prehistoric site is afforded from the top of the western edge of the canyon where the present-day Headquarters Area is situated. The eventual development of Chapin Mesa can be partially attributed to this particular cliff dwelling. The cuesta tops of Mesa Verde, with their gentle slopes and fertile soil were developed by both the Ancestral Puebloans and the NPS.

As the archeological sites came to be threatened by looting and disturbance, concerned citizens wanted to protect and preserve Mesa Verde as early as 1891. However, no definite or concrete action was taken. In 1897, however, the Colorado Federation of Women’s Clubs formed a committee to fight for the protection of the cliff dwellings. In 1900, the committee was reorganized into the Colorado Cliff Dwellers Association, an incorporated organization dedicated to preservation of the archeological sites. Virginia McClurg and Lucy Peabody were the foremost leaders of the Association. It is unique in the history of the NPS that Mesa Verde National Park was founded through the efforts of women.

Before the park was established, its condition was poor. There were no restraints on camping and the area was littered with tin cans, papers and other trash. Measures were also being considered to protect the reservation against encroachment of unauthorized persons or their residence in the park. This effort led to the establishment of Mesa Verde National Park in 1906 for the protection and preservation of cliff dwellings and artifacts.

Park Establishment: 1906-1920

Approved on June 29, 1906, Congress designated land in Montezuma County, Colorado to be set apart as a public reservation known as Mesa Verde National Park. This park land included the most extensive concentration of prehistoric cliff dwellings in the United States. The park was placed under the exclusive control of the Secretary of the Interior who was authorized to prescribe rules and regulations. These rules would insure the “preservation of the archeological sites and other works and relics of prehistoric or primitive man” within the park boundaries. Similarly protected by the Brooks-Leupp Amendment, were all prehistoric dwellings situated within five miles of the boundaries of the park, on Indian and public lands not alienated by patent from the ownership of the United States.

The major mesas, canyons and archeological sites of the newly established park were widely displayed through the exhibits at the Chicago World Fair. Three of the largest, best-known cliff dwellings, are located on Chapin Mesa: Cliff Palace, Spruce Tree House and Balcony House. When Congress designated the land to become a park, the cliff dwellings were virtually inaccessible to the general public. Although many people knew of the existence of the cliff dwellings and their ancient inhabitants, only a comparatively small number had a definite notion as to their location or features.

In 1908, Mesa Verde National Park’s administrative objectives “were the protection of the cliff dwellings and the improvement of trails/roads in order to make the park more accessible to the public. ” During the parks formative years, circulation systems and guest accommodations became the focus of development. Roads were carved out of the landscape and visitation increased due to easier travel and improved access routes.

Spruce Tree House was located in the Headquarters Area where visitors camped after their long,

hard trip up the mesa. It was the first large cliff dwelling that they viewed. Not only was it easy to access, it offered the best nearby water supply and was within a convenient distance of the other major archeological sites of Chapin Mesa.

Need for Visitor Facilities

Prior to the park's establishment, visitors arrived by horseback to view Spruce Tree House and set up camp on the slickrock above the site. After visitors had made the multi-day trip from Mancos to Cliff Palace and then Spruce Tree House, they needed a place to rest and refuel their bodies and horses. The new Spruce Tree Camp area offered a decent water supply and was located close to other major sites on Chapin Mesa.

In 1906, Mesa Verde's first park ranger, Charles B. Kelly, was granted an outfitting concession to transport visitors to and from the park by horse. The first visitor accommodations were housed in the Kelly Cabin, constructed of spruce logs. It was located just to the east of the current location of the Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum. This building, the first permanent structure in the park, was later moved and converted to a livery (stable) in Mancos, CO. The first tent camping area was designated in 1907 directly across the canyon from the Spruce Tree House. Tents for twelve or more guests were erected one above the other on terraces overlooking the canyon. By 1914, additional accommodations could house up to thirty guests on three separate terraces. Food service expanded along with the new tents.

In 1908, Dr. Fewkes selected Spruce Tree House as the first excavation project at Mesa Verde National Park. Dr. Jesse Fewkes was a pioneering archeologist for his time. He is known for considering "architecture as an artifact" as he chose to leave ancient dwellings in place and study them in their context. He was the first person at Mesa Verde to stabilize archeological sites in a manner that provided access for the public. Prior to coming to Mesa Verde, he worked at Casa Grande Ruins National Monument in Arizona and for the Bureau of Ethnology. Fewkes was skilled in and had good connections to acquire funds to research and stabilize archeological sites.

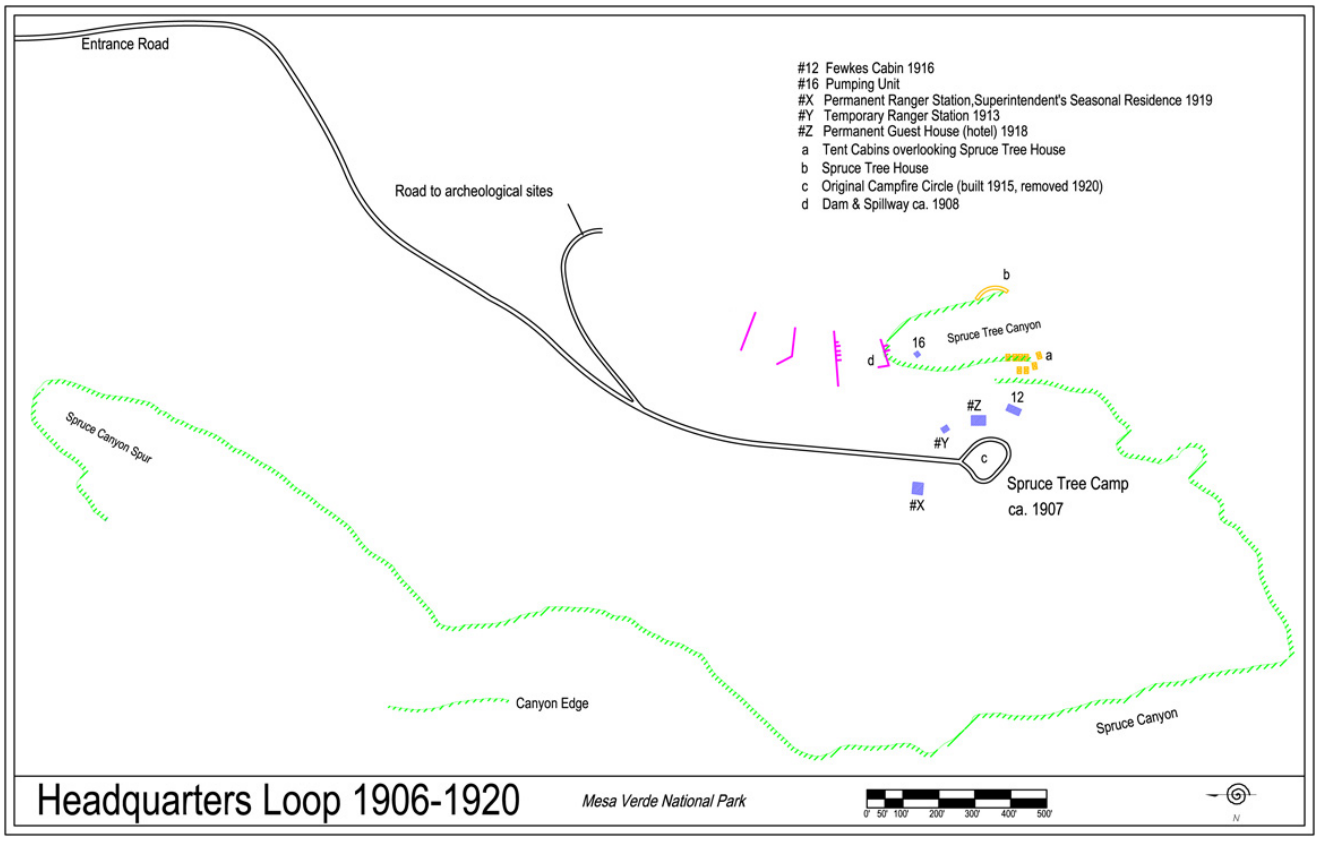
As more visitors came to the park, Dr. Fewkes converted what had become the Ranger Station into a museum (later referred to as the "Old Log Cabin Museum" and "Fewkes Cabin")

In 1916, a ranger station was constructed and soon remodeled as a museum equipped with wall and floor cases to display archeological materials. This museum one of the first such facilities established in a national park. It was outside and just to the west of this building that Dr. Jesse Fewkes would lecture each night about his archeological findings for the day. Some consider this the first campfire program in the NPS. This small lecture area was called the campfire circle. The campfire circle was located at the terminus of the park's entrance road and center to the Headquarters Area. This area became a very important focus of development that helped guide Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum's decision to establish permanent occupancy in this area. Thus, the core visitor use and administration structures were built around or in close proximity to the campfire circle.

In 1918, a 26' x 38' structure was built as the office and guest registration for various tents and cabins in the area. Referred to as the lodge,1 it contained a dining room, kitchen, lounge and washroom. No overnight accommodations were provided in the building. Spruce Tree Camp, commanded a spectacular view of Spruce Tree House. In addition to the lodge, by 1918, Spruce Tree Camp consisted of a guest cabin or lodge, a picturesque log cabin with a balcony overlooking Spruce Tree House giving a magnificent view to the south, approximately twenty-five tent frames and random camp sites. Before the development of permanent campground facilities, camping took place in open meadows or cleared areas. Campers would park randomly in these open spaces and pitch their tents in areas they found most appealing causing widespread damage to vegetation. This increase in facilities can be directly related to improved visitor access via the automobile.

Future development and the placement of individual structures would be governed significantly by the spectacular views and vistas from Chapin Mesa. As development of the Headquarters Area continued to evolve, seven sub-units emerged from Spruce Tree Camp. The seven sub-units included: 1) Headquarters Area/Spruce Tree Camp, 2) Spruce Tree Point Lodge, 3) residential area,

4) original NPS Utility Area, 5) Spruce Tree Public Campground, 6) Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area and 7) the Hogan District. Each of these developed areas evolved both independently and interdependently as the park continued to expand its boundaries.



Site Plan, Headquarters Loop, 1906-1920 (Source: Level II CLI, July 2010).

Park Development During Nusbaum's First Tenure: 1921-1932

In 1918, the NPS Statement of Development Policy merely called for "planning before design and construction." During Nusbaum's first tenure at Mesa Verde (1921-1932), NPS planning principles called for parks to be developed as cohesive units with interconnecting circulation systems and designated areas to serve administrative, maintenance, visitor use and residential needs. Nusbaum's design team included BPR engineers George Goodwin, Col. W. Crosby, Frank Kittredge and Fred Hill and NPS landscape architects Thomas Vint, Merle Sager and Charles Richey. These experts influenced Nusbaum's vision for the park and helped to shape it as a master planned landscape.

In 1921, immediate concerns at Mesa Verde were:
- location of park facilities;
- function and form of park structures;
- circulation to key points within the park via roads and trails;
- safe access to points of scenic beauty, archeological sites and outstanding natural features;
- back-country circulation for park safety and protection efforts including fire fighting
- comfort of visitors provided primarily through concessionaire's services such as food, lodging and gas;
- need for a functional design aesthetic to complement the park's natural character and identify the park as a cohesive unit.

Nusbaum's first concern was to relocate the park headquarters from Mancos, Colorado. Prior to this, no superintendent or ranger resided within the park. Consequently, little was accomplished at Mesa

Verde during the winter months. No significant, permanent visitor facilities had been constructed within the park prior to 1920. Observing the hastily constructed developments overlooking Spruce Tree House, Nusbaum realized the need for functional arrangements of permanent buildings to provide for visitor, residential, administrative and maintenance needs.

Without wasting time, Nusbaum developed plans for the administrative core at Spruce Tree Camp, with the Superintendent's residence to be constructed first (1921). The site was on the bench of a small rocky ledge directly south, about two-hundred feet from the (original) log-cabin museum location and provided views of Spruce Tree Canyon to the east and Navajo Canyon to the south. The design of the buildings emulated the pueblo homes of the Hopi Indians, descendants of the Ancestral Puebloan people of Mesa Verde (Soulliere, 1986) and blended with the surrounding landscape. The period between 1921 and 1931 deserves special emphasis as the time when Nusbaum was actively involved in directing work crews to create a unique building style for the NPS - the "Modified Pueblo Revival style."

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

After the relocation of park headquarters from the town of Mancos to Spruce Tree Camp in 1921, significant infrastructure including permanent structures, water storage facilities and road construction improvements occurred. At the time of Nusbaum's appointment (1921), Spruce Tree Camp consisted of a frame ranger station (ca. 1919), a log museum and restroom (ca. 1916), a small water tank structure, an automobile shed, an ice house, a frame shed for the light plant and seven outhouses.

Both Mr. and Mrs. (Aileen) Nusbaum collaborated on the layout and design for the Headquarters Area, including the Superintendent's residence, ranger dorm, Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum, Community Building, park headquarters and a restroom. The layout and architecture of this district was unique. The buildings, in both form and treatment, adapted the early modern Pueblo Indian style. They were constructed of native materials quarried and mitered by park personnel in the winter. All new structures used the same gold/red local sandstone used in the prehistoric cliff dwellings. The lower courses of sandstone in the stone buildings were laid with cement mortar for strength and water resistance. The upper courses used a mortar of local red earth or cement and pointed with local red earth mortar. The majority of all physical improvements of the headquarters and residential district were carried out during Nusbaum's first and second tenures. Jesse and Aileen's influence on the design, planning and future of Mesa Verde cannot be overemphasized. This aesthetic continues to define the park's architectural style.

During the 1920s, the greatest obstacle that the park faced was the endless quest for a reliable infrastructure to capture and distribute water. Periods of drought resulted in park closures during summers of 1923 and 1924. All development stopped prior to the closures to focus on providing for the needs of visitors. The discovery of nearly two hundred ancient check dam remnants, used for farming, just below Cedar Tree Tower and within a mile from Spruce Tree, demonstrated a successful method of water storage which the park could use. Up to forty feet in length and nearing five-feet in height (Torres-Reyes, 1970), the great numbers of these man-made check dams showed that the quest for water in centuries past was just as serious a problem.

Placement of all the park facilities traditionally occurred in and around Spruce Tree Camp where water distribution facilities existed. A storage cistern (4,500 gallon capacity) was constructed at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon in 1923. A larger, masonry storage and distribution tower (no. 8) with a 6,000 gallon capacity was erected approximately five-hundred feet to the northwest of the headquarters building – it is similar to the towers of the Ancestral Puebloans. Water lines from this tank ran to parts of the lodge and campground on the overlook to Spruce Tree House. Four masonry retention dams were constructed at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon to gather precipitation and runoff. Approximately one and one-half miles of drainage ditches were dug to convey water to this area. Additional reservoirs were planned to saturate the sandstone farther back from the seam where the water was regained after a purifying process of percolation through some two-hundred feet of sandstone. Still, park managers felt that a concrete storage tank of at least 100,000 gallon capacity was needed to carry the park through extended periods of drought. This concrete tank was eventually installed in 1929 and retained water pumped from the Spruce Tree Canyon spring for domestic

purposes.

In 1921, the campfire circle was widened to seventy-five feet in diameter and enclosed with a rail fence. Laborers transplanted native vegetation under the rails and constructed rustic seats and a fire "bowl" in the middle of the circle. The campfire circle's location, in the center of Spruce Tree Camp and literally in the middle of the park's entrance road, was dysfunctional as reported in numerous monthly and annual Superintendents' reports. Problems included the car noise and dust associated with the road. Speakers in the circle were repeatedly interrupted during presentations.

In the early 1920s, the crowding and circulation problems in Spruce Tree Camp fostered the move of park facilities to the lower end of Chapin Mesa. This initiative led to the decision to develop a new amphitheater away from the park's busiest area; visitors could enjoy park interpretive programs without enduring disturbances from automobiles or pedestrians.

Although building no. 10 is not a part of the headquarters/Spruce Tree Camp district, it coincides in time and architectural style with the construction of the buildings in this district. A large tent that served as a health clinic to receive emergency or accident cases was erected in the vicinity of Spruce Tree Camp in 1922. Subsequently, the Aileen Nusbaum Hospital (no. 10) was built in 1926 of native sandstone rock, in the Modified Pueblo Revival style.

Spruce Tree Point Lodge

The first lodge was situated on the southern edge of Spruce Tree Camp in the general vicinity of the current Chief Ranger's Office. The structure included a dining room, kitchen, lounge and washroom and also served as the office and registration room. The lodge consisted of adjacent outhouses, three rows of floored tents (9' x 12') with board side walls of four feet that were sited on terrace rows (just below the present day CRO), one above the other. Accommodations could not be expanded on this site and in 1923, the Spruce Tree Camp Lodge, together with all its tents, cottages and service buildings was moved to a new location, called Spruce Tree Point. This new location was approximately five-hundred fifty feet southwest of the old location and provided a great view of Spruce Tree House and Navajo Canyons. The new lodge layout was in the general shape of the letter U with three sides of the area bounded by canyons. The main lodge was of relatively poor construction and indifferent architecture in relation to the rest of the Headquarters Area. The exterior façade of the lodge consisted of 1' x 12's with battens, painted dark brown. A ramada was built across the front of the Lodge and cedar flower boxes were placed under the windows. Landscaping, including vines, hollyhocks and other shrubbery greatly added to the appearance of the building.

The lodge contained a lobby, soda fountain, grocery store, Indian curios store, reading and writing room, registration desk, manager's office, kitchen and fireplace. A dining room was added to the main building in 1927. No sleeping quarters were provided in the lodge building instead, visitors were assigned surrounding tents and cabins. Tents and cabins, aligned in rows and tiers, were located around the edge of the U. A light plant, laundry, icehouse, toilets and bathhouse were constructed in the center of the U. The light plant consisted of a frame shack that sheltered two gasoline powered engines and generators. The laundry building was of frame structure, which was later extended to include a repair shop, lumber storage and general storage. An ice house consisted of four 2' x 4' uprights nailed to a few 1' x 12's covered with inexpensive paper roofing. The bathhouse area consisted of a small frame shack divided by a partition wall, and two or three outhouses. Specific dates of construction for these outbuildings are unknown. In 1924, a warehouse, shop building, public comfort station and clerk's quarters were constructed. Mrs. Oddie Jeep, concessionaire of the Spruce Tree Camp, added four new cabins, two with fireplaces.

Increased visitation eventually warranted the expansion of roadways, cabins and campsites northward along the rim of Spruce Tree Canyon. At first, the only options for visitors were wood-floored canvas tents. However more comfortable, cottage type buildings were added to the area as visitation increased. These furnished, one room cabins were of frame construction, light materials and without a sub-floor. All were equipped with electricity (no running water) and twelve had stone fireplaces. Situated along the canyon rim between 1922 and 1929, twelve cabins formed a cluster around the central lodge building.

The forty-seven tent houses were furnished with beds, dressers, and chairs and consisted of board floors and regular canvas tents. None were equipped with electricity or running water. Throughout the 1920s, demand for more modern overnight accommodations continued. Although never realized, elaborate plans were drawn for a new lodge to be built in the Modified Pueblo Revival style.

The crowded conditions at Spruce Tree Camp generated concern. Management considered moving the lodge and campground east of its present location, above Spruce Tree House. However, this would have caused major land disturbance, traffic control and circulation would be difficult, many visitors would come and go without seeing the Headquarters Area and the cost of physical improvements would be greatly increased.

Chief Landscape Architect Thomas C. Vint studied the developed areas at Mesa Verde and determined that there was not sufficient space for further expansion. He suggested that the park relocate the NPS Utility Area and the lodge.

Residential Area

The layout of the five stone residences (no. 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7)2 reflect Superintendent Nusbaum's careful attention to community planning and development. Carefully sited in forested locations and screened from public view, these residences were for permanent park staff. The houses, parking lots and a tennis court indicated a permanent NPS presence within the national park. These homes exhibit the same Modified Pueblo Revival style of the Headquarters Area. The tennis court offered a recreational diversion for park employees.

Original NPS Utility Area

The original NPS Utility Area was poorly arranged, inadequate in size and poorly located causing disorganization, inefficiency and disruption to nearby residents. To remedy this situation, a prototypical industrial concept plan including equipment sheds, a garage, a warehouse and shops for machinery, blacksmithing, electrical work, painting, plumbing and carpentry was developed by NPS Chief Landscape Engineer, Charles P. Punchard (1920s). Housing and mess halls for laborers were and buildings were arranged to make maintenance activities more efficient.

The plan for a new Utility Area was a part of the 1932 master plan and called for the relocation and demolition of structures in the original NPS Utility Area. Six of these structures (bunkhouse, mess hall, carpenter shop, ice house, stable, corral and storage shed) were moved to the new NPS Utility Area and two buildings were demolished. Further information regarding this area is found in the Utility Area chapter.

Spruce Tree Public Campground

Increased automobile use compounded the deterioration of vegetation in unregulated areas, a problem occurring on many public lands. Dr. E.P. Meinecke, a Department of Agriculture plant pathologist, developed a concept for campground design throughout the NPS. Meinecke wrote, "Camp planning does not end with the setting aside of a campground. Instead of permitting the campers to do their haphazard planning, the ground must be gone over and divided into individual campsites." Dr. Meinecke's basic campsite concept included short, angled parking spurs that were defined by naturalized barriers (often boulders). The tent site, picnic table and fireplace were grouped near the parking spur. This layout logically organized traffic and confined automobiles to limited areas, minimizing the impact on vegetation. Existing trees protected the campground sites from prevailing winds. Meinecke's plan also called for vegetation between campsites to provide privacy. (Good, 1999) His concepts were adopted at several national parks before the Spruce Tree Public Campground was built at Mesa Verde in the 1930s.

The 1932 Mesa Verde National Park Development Outline states, "The existing campground is approximately fourteen hundred feet long by two hundred forty feet wide. It is situated among the pinon and junipers on the rim of Spruce Canyon. The site is lovely and the new development will

occupy approximately the same ground. The present location is north and west of the Headquarters Area. Improvements in the campground consist of two frame comfort stations, a one-room log cabin that has been used as the Community House for the campers, portable metal containers for garbage and refuse, five water hydrants and an unimproved system of roads. The southern end of this area will be a part of the housekeeping cabin development and the northern end will continue to be used as the new auto campground."

"…Work required to bring the auto camp to modern standards will be as follows: 1) construction of adequate paved roads; 2) replacement of chemical toilets (buildings as well as fixtures) with Modified Pueblo Revival style restrooms and flush sewerage; 3) the installation of sanitary garbage containers and drains to care for wastewater from dishwashing and other general uses; and 4) the construction of adequate drains (drainage structures) to care for heavy run-off from summer storms. This is important to prevent the loss of topsoil and flora." (Park Development Outline, 1932) By 1935, most of the 1932 plan was implemented.

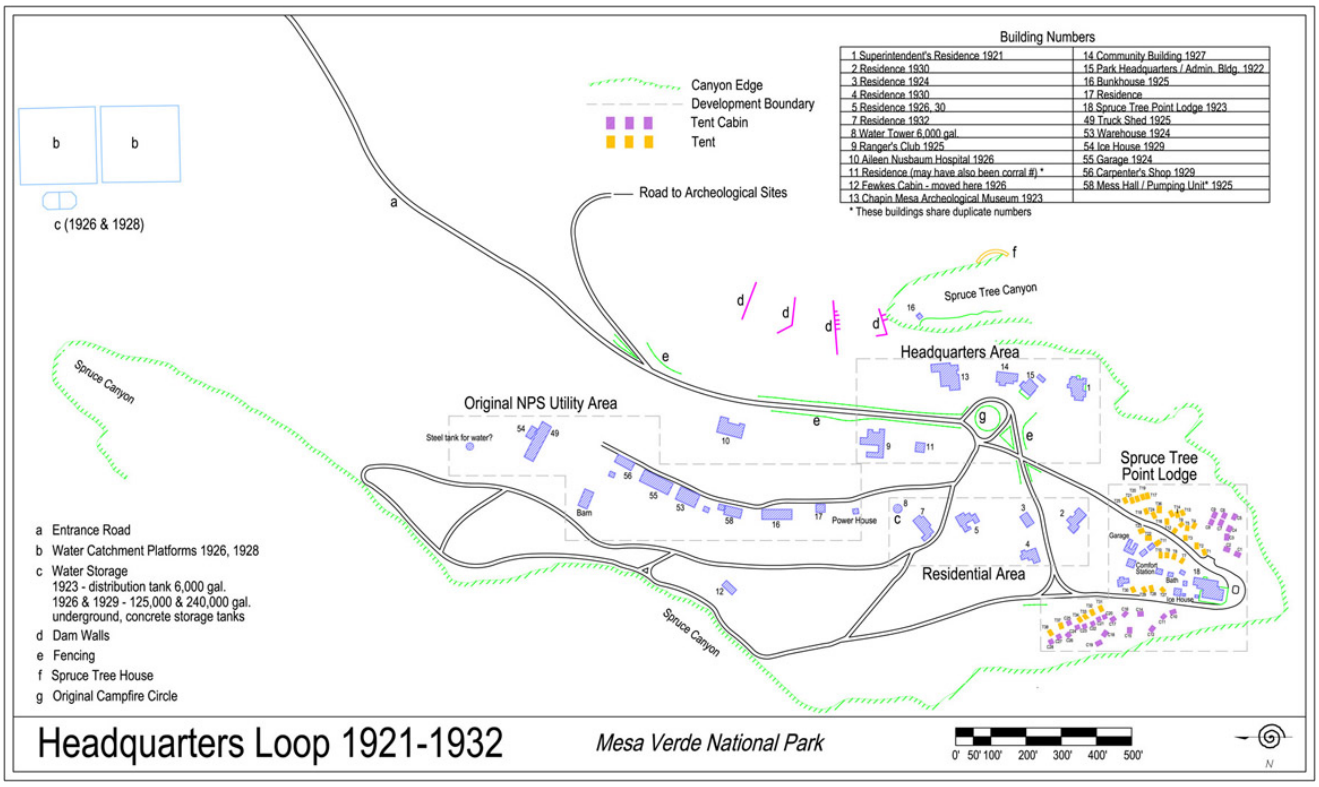
Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area

As part of the 1932 Park Development Outline, employee cabins and tents were to be moved north of the original NPS Utility Area and south of the Hogan District, to the center of the Headquarters Loop. Plans were made to build cottage units, a cafeteria and lunchroom, community building and bathhouse.

Hogan District

This district was not constructed between 1921 and 1932, but elements of this Hogan District were constructed during this time. Ten years prior to the construction of the hogan community, water shortages continuously plagued Spruce Tree Camp. In spite of the 63,000-gallon tank and 20,000¬gallon underground cistern, the water situation was desperate in 1925. In the late fall of 1926, a new system of obtaining water was constructed one-half mile north of the Headquarters Area and directly east of the future Hogan District.

Two, one-acre galvanized corrugated roofing sheets positioned adjacent to each other, were set on a slight grade to collect and carry precipitation down the corrugation aisles. The water then passed through sand filters. After filtration, water was stored in a steel frost-proof tank for the first system and a reinforced concrete tank for the second system, each tank holding 125,000 gallons. Main gravity lines extending 2,000 feet into the Headquarters Area and 1,500 feet for all laterals lines provided water to the area. These catchment areas and tanks stored approximately 400,000 gallons of precipitation per year. The first one-acre catchment system was completed in 1926 and the second one-acre system in 1928. Both systems have since been removed.



Site Plan, Headquarters Loop, 1921-1932 (Source: Level II CLI, July 2010).

The Civilian Conservation Corps: 1933-1942

By the early 1930s, facilities were no longer adequate for the ever-increasing number of park visitors. Additionally, park roads did not conform to alignment standards and were one-car width wide with no drainage. In response to these problems, the six-year development program was keyed to a master plan for the development in and around Spruce Tree Camp. As they developed the master plan, park officials discovered severe damage to vegetation in visitor-use areas. Cutting of vegetation for firewood, social trails and soil compaction by vehicles were primarily to blame. These details were mentioned in the plan along with possible solutions.

The CCC played a large role, particularly with landscape improvements and activities that included: road building, planting, transplanting, restoration of vegetation, check dam construction, trails construction, walks, stairs, fences, development of campsites, construction of buildings, electrical work, etc. Both landscape and infrastructure improvements were given attention in the headquarters. Three CCC camps existed at Mesa Verde: Camp NP-2-C, Camp NP-5-C and Camp NP-6-C.

Due to New Deal policies of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932, park development moved forward by leaps and bounds. Park officials were in a position to immediately coordinate these programs so much of the work was well underway by 1933. Some of the first improvements included water catchment and filtration systems, landscape work, relocation of roads and trails in the Headquarters Area, museum expansion and relocation of the NPS Utility Area.

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

In 1933, CCC enrollees completed extensive road and revegetation work in the Headquarters Area. This work included:

- All existing vegetation was surveyed and mapped before any construction was initiated.
- The original campfire circle was moved and the site rehabilitated. All gravel was removed from the loop road and the ground was plowed for roadwork to commence. Because all topsoil had either been worn or eroded, it was necessary to fill in new soil over the entire campfire circle area (approximately seven-hundred cubic yards of topsoil).
- Three natural rock fills walls were constructed totaling two-hundred thirty feet in length, the highest being six feet. These walls were designed to retard erosion, form barriers to traffic and to provide more planting space.
- Transplanting was difficult as most vegetation had to be imported from other areas of the park. Considerable organic matter had to be plowed into the soil. The operation required two tractors and a truck to transport each large tree. The CCC constructed a low two-wheeled trailer from parts of scrapped equipment to move trees and large shrubs over considerable distance. They planted significant vegetation around buildings and a heavy screen along the Headquarters Loop road. In 1933, plants were placed around the museum, Community Building and Superintendent's residence.

- The primary foot trails connecting all the buildings in this area was trenched and graveled.
- Two underground drainage structures were constructed to funnel surface runoff. These projects required considerable work because of the amount of rock excavation and care needed to work around tree roots and buried pipes without causing damage.

According to the 1932 master plan, the headquarters parking area was subjected to extremely heavy use for short periods of time. As visitation increased, particularly at the newly expanded museum, a parking lot was deemed necessary west of the Headquarters Area. This was the site of a large frame garage and storage shed, for the public utility operator, which former Superintendent Nusbaum had moved to open up the Headquarters Area. After moving these structures in 1933, an unplanned parking area developed due to overcrowding and undirected growth. As cars parked and drove farther into natural areas, the need for more parking was evident. Practically all topsoil in the area had been eroded, and a significant portion of vegetation was lost, with the exception a few large trees.

Construction began in 1934-35 on the new headquarters parking lot, an oval shaped lot (presently called the round lot) with an entry on the east side. Through the center is a three-foot high sandstone dividing wall with a built-in curved stone bench at each end. These built-in benches are an excellent example of CCC craftsmanship. The rear (west) wall, served as a retaining structure for the slope between the lot and the residential area (no. 2-8). This parking lot helped to organize cars in a defined area and screen them with beautiful stone walls.

Other work that occurred during this time period included the following:
- After 1933, the new park naturalist broadened the scope of educational activities. Interpretative trails augmented the educational services.
- The museum was almost at capacity for artifact storage. In 1936, the CCC enlarged the museum to include an entrance lobby, reference library, six exhibition halls, an auditorium, office, classroom, two research studies and a large basement. Collections of flora and fauna were made for display and for research purposes. When complete, this building was regarded as one of the finest museum structures in the Southwest.
- The Mesa Verde post office was housed in a small room under the Community Building (no.14) until 1936. In 1935, a restroom (no. 45) was constructed to the west of the Superintendent's residence and one year later it was converted into the post office.
- In 1940, a natural history museum was opened in the Community Building (no. 14).

Spruce Tree Point Lodge

A defined residential housing cluster never existed for the concessionaire's lodge employees. Space was restricted and employees' cottages or tents were "tucked in" wherever room could be found. There were four employee cabins of frame construction, very poorly built and not equipped with electricity or running water. These cabins were next to the light plant and less than ten feet from the laundry building. Floored canvas tents housed a large portion of the lodge staff. Like the cabins, these tents were not equipped with electricity or running water and were placed among the group of

tents that were reserved for paying guests.

In 1933, the CCC constructed the floor and first five tiers of the sandstone amphitheater3 on the rim of Spruce Canyon. The amphitheater, on the mesa edge, opened to the southwest with a gorgeous view Spruce and Navajo Canyons. This provided a very rustic and aesthetic atmosphere for the campfire ceremonies and Indian dances, for audiences of up to two hundred people. The amphitheater's isolation from roads and developed areas, eliminated the noise of automobile and pedestrian traffic, which had previously caused distraction. Between 1935 and 1936, seven hundred feet of bituminous trails were built leading to the amphitheater. Two short flights of sandstone steps were constructed and all scars made in construction, obliterated. Necessary drainage ditches and culverts were placed in trails and a large culvert with a concealed inlet and outlet was placed under the amphitheater to take care of drainage. In 1940, the CCC added four more tiers of seating to the amphitheater, using larger sandstone blocks than the first phase, some four feet by eighteen inches.

Residential Area

During the early 1930s, the CCC made a record of all existing vegetation. A landscape plan was completed using this information. A small amount of transplanting and screening of residences was implemented where buildings were located close to public walkways and trails. Private connecting trails were altered to accommodate the landscape in some cases. Besides improving the aesthetics of the residential area, these trails made all the residences easily and quickly accessible for fire protection.

The largest project was a nine foot wide by four-hundred and fifty foot long road constructed to replace the numerous short spurs that had developed near each residence causing considerable destruction. A rough sandstone curb bordering each side helped protect the edge of the asphalt surface and limited damage to trees and shrubs. In addition, fifty yards of soil was used to replace the slight erosion that had occurred. This road looked much better than the former rutted roads.

The CCC completed improvements, renovations and additions to all seven of the residential houses including a tennis court. Garages and porches were added to building nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7 in 1935. Building no. 8, originally built as a water tower in 1923, was converted into a residence in 1935. The tennis court, constructed in 1933, was resurfaced in 1937.

Original NPS Utility Area

The use of the area during this time is unknown. However, existing stone steps, approximately seventy feet southwest of the tennis court, are said to have led to a CCC mess hall.

Spruce Tree Public Campground

In 1933, a construction report to the Chief Architect revealed that; "a survey of four were engaged for thirty days in making a record of all trees and shrubs in the future campground area. This will be used later in working out a scheme of roads and camping sites and should prove of value later in checking up on the efficiency of any plan that may be worked out."

Built by the CCC in 1935 along the edge of Spruce Canyon, the campground area consisted of two separate loops branching off in opposite directions at its entrance. The south loop was bisected by a road through its center. To reduce impact to vegetation and soil, the park generally followed Meinecke's plan. The plan clearly designated visitor camping areas. Each site provided space for an automobile, fireplace, tent and privacy insured by vegetative screening. Additionally, the narrow, one-way roads, with parking spaces delineated by large boulders set off at a forty-five degree angle from roads required less space than a two-way road with ninety degree parking.

The CCC laborers constructed two Modified Pueblo Revival style comfort stations (nos. 46 & 65) in the south loop and five fuel, water and garbage stations dating to 1935. (NPMV 3045) As the name implies, each of these four structures contained a space for firewood, a water spigot and garbage cans. The CCC assembled sandstone blocks into three walls configured in a rectangle with no roofs

and one entry opening. A partial wall that provides a place for stacked firewood divides the interior of the rectangle. Although the original campground design included five of these stations, one apparently has been removed or was never built. The present-day campground contains sixteen fireplaces (NPMV 3046) constructed by the CCC in 1935 of native quarry-faced sandstone blocks coursed and mortared with concrete. It is unclear how many were originally constructed, but there are approximately eighty-five shown on the original plans. Six stone retaining walls, fourteen culverts, and three sets of stone stairs are included as contributing features.

Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area

The removal of the original NPS Utility Area opened the ground for construction of a new concessionaire cabin development. New frame cabins eventually were built and stretched out north along the ridgeline directly east of the campground. A "Protective Curbing and Walk Plan," dated February 1940, indicates twenty-one cabins with at least four more proposed. A Development Master Plan, dated October, 1950, shows a total of twenty-four cabins labeled as "housekeeping cabins" and an October 1952 Location Plan that identifies a group of thrity-one cabins and another thirty-five tents north of the cabins.

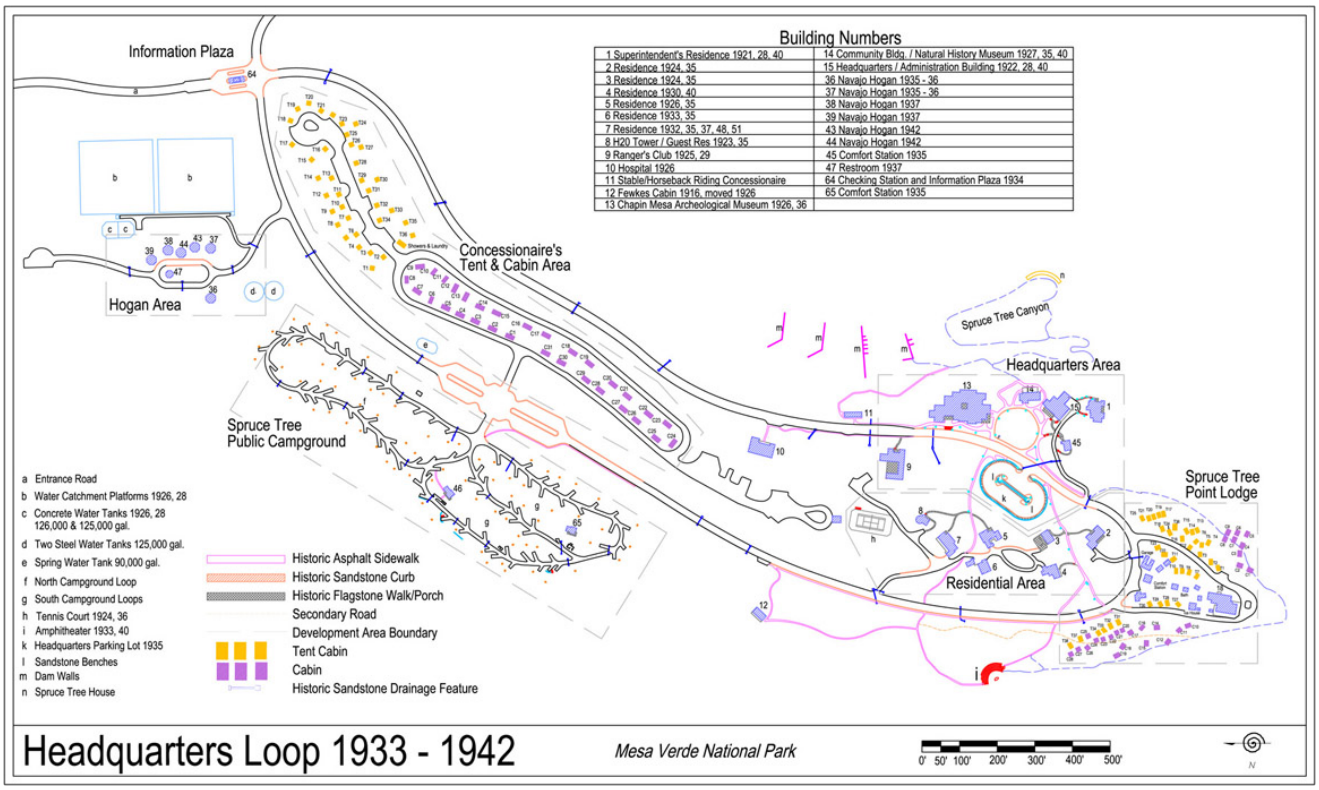
Hogan District

Navajo labor was very important to Mesa Verde during the 1920s and 1930s and the park tried to provide special accommodations for the tribal work force. In 1935, the NPS Branch of Plans and Designs prepared a plan for twelve Navajo hogans arranged in a circular pattern. The word, "hogan," means dwelling-place in the Navajo language. Navajos have constructed hogans for at least three-hundred fifty years. Although the seven Mesa Verde hogans exhibit certain design variations, each one has the characteristic form of the Navajo architectural type. Like other Mesa Verde buildings, the Navajo hogans employed old/red sandstone as a primary construction material. In some respects, the Mesa Verde hogans differed from the classic design. Hogan doors are oriented toward the east to face the sun. In addition, traditional hogans do not have north-facing windows because Navajos believe that ghosts come from the north. The lack of windows on the north side also prevents heat loss from the coldest side of the building. Contrary to conventional hogan construction, the doors into the Mesa Verde hogans face north.

A 1935 drawing by the NPS Branch of Plans and Design suggests a somewhat more ambitious agenda for hogan construction than the end result. Labeled "Navajo Indian Village," this plan called for a total of thirteen hogans - twelve hogans would surround the loop perimeter, with a comfort station in the center. Two of the twelve hogans would provide lodging for Navajo families and the ten remaining hogans would house single Navajo workers. (Noble, Jr., 1993) The outbreak of World War II and the cancellation of the CCC program prevented full implementation of the hogan construction plan. Two family hogans were constructed in 1935-1936. The comfort station and the first two hogans for single workers were constructed in 1937. Two additional single worker hogans were built in 1942 before the war halted construction. (Noble, Jr., 1993)

The external appearance of the Mesa Verde hogans has changed very little since the time of their construction. The few alterations undertaken, for the most part, have only impacted interior spaces. The exception, hogan no. 36, received an exterior modification in 1946, a porch and a skylight.

In 1934, the CCC constructed an Information Plaza and Checking Station adjacent to the Hogan Area along the entrance road (at the present 4-way intersection). This station served visitors who had made the twenty-mile trek up the entrance road. Here, a ranger could guide the visitor and provide necessary information to tour the park. Since this building was razed at an unknown date, the park has continually had difficulty informing visitors, with signage, at this particular point. When there are changes in traffic due to construction projects, etc. in the Headquarters Loop, a staff person is stationed at this intersection to help visitors with directions.



Site Plan, Headquarters Loop, 1933-1942 (Source: Level II CLI, July 2010).

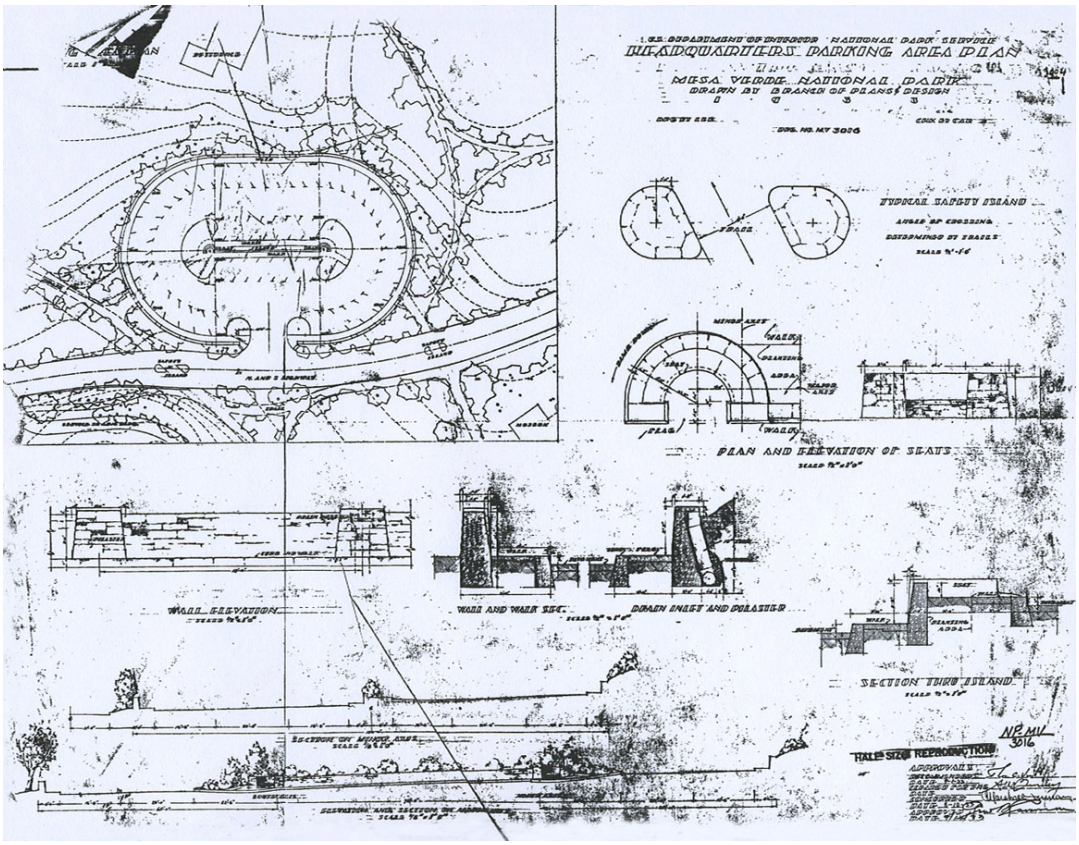
Roadside curbing near Museum, 1934. (Source: Townsend, MEVE archives).

Constructing roadside curbing with graveled pedestrian path alongside, 1934. (Source: Townsend, MEVE archives).

Removing a residential road and replacing with a pedestrian path, 1934. (Source: Townsend, MEVE archives).

Transplanting vegetation into parking area in the Headquarters Area, 1936. (Source: Townsend, MEVE archives).

Completion of pedestrian path (East Trail) to Chapin Mesa Amphitheatre (Camp Fire Circle), 1934. (Source: Townsend, MEVE archives).



Construction drawings for the "Round Lot" at the Headquarters Area, 1933. (Source: NPS e-TIC).

Construction of a Hogan building, 1936. (Source: Level II CLI).

Planting shrubs at the Contact Station at the North Entrance Information Plaza, 1935 (Source: Townsend, MEVE archives).

Planting shrubs at the Contact Station at the North Entrance Information Plaza, 1935 (Source: Townsend, MEVE archives).

"Pictorial Guide to the Center of Activities in Mesa Verde" shows the spatial organization of the Headquarters Loop, 1939. (Obtained from Gaye Ives, MEVE archeologist).

Modern Era to Present 1942-2010

Certain factors, such as the act that established the park, the nature of the terrain and the distribution of the Ancestral Puebloan dwellings imposed limitations on the space available for development. These limitations tremendously influenced the planned use and development of the park.

Before the inception of the Mission 66 program, it became evident that the park's interpretive facilities needed to be expanded to meet the needs of an ever-growing number of visitors. Since 1946, when total visitation was 39,843, it had increased by average annual increments of more than 13,000 to reach a total of 186,808 visitors in 1956.

Mission 66 was a ten-year program initiated in 1956 to develop NPS areas in order to meet the future needs of an expected eighty million national park visitors by 1966. Protection of both the scenic and prehistoric cultural resources was the primary objective of Mission 66 plans for Mesa Verde National Park and was to be accomplished by decentralizing activities and dispersing facilities. Space within the park that could be devoted to development was limited and the plans under Mission 66 proposed to make the most efficient and least damaging use of such space.

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

The Mission 66 reorientation of park activities would be accomplished through a phased program of physical and management improvements. The physical improvement program provided for the rehabilitation of certain existing developments in the Headquarters Loop. Here, the development would consist almost entirely of reconditioning the area and converting it to an archeological interpretive center for day visitor use. Among the improvements contemplated were enlargement of the museum, preparation of a lunchroom, road improvements, a large parking area, walks, picnic area and the removal of all buildings not essential to the planned use of the area.

The Mission 66 Master Plan Narrative, December 11, 1961, provided for the development of three new sites for visitor use - Morefield Canyon, Navajo Hill/Far View, Wetherill Mesa - and the rehabilitation and improvement of the existing Headquarters Loop.

The original proposal was 1) to develop Wetherill Mesa as a complete interpretive unit similar to and as an alternative to Chapin Mesa and 2) to establish Navajo Hill as a control and dispersal point with a large, well-equipped visitor center. In other words, Wetherill Mesa would be equal to Chapin Mesa in the number of people it could accommodate, the number of archeological sites open to the public, and the facilities provided. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)

From 1942 to 2007 little has changed in this area. Some of the changes include:
- 1959 – construction of the museum parking lot which meant the removal of the corral. Horse concessions were no longer run from this area. A horse concession was later developed in Morefield campground.
- 1984 - construction of a sewage lift station (no. 84) eighty feet west of the Superintendent's residence.
- 1985 – construction of a comfort station (no. 211) forty feet north of the library
- 2004 – construction of an HVAC building (no. 231) just thirty feet west of the library

Spruce Tree Point Lodge

The Spruce Tree Point Lodge was demolished sometime around 1970 and the area has since been used as an overflow parking lot for oversized vehicles.

Residential Area

A preservation crew reconstructed the flagstone porch and pathway to quarters 4 in 2007. The area continues to serve as an era for permanent park employee residences.

Original NPS Utility Area

This area is now used as RV Camp and as a parking area for concessionaire employees who work at Spruce Tree Terrace.

Spruce Tree Public Campground/Picnic Area

The use of this site as a campground continued until about 1957 when a new camping area was located near the large water collection system next to the Hogan District. Spruce Tree campground was converted to its present use as a day-use picnic area. Currently, only the south loop of the old campground is maintained, open to traffic and used as picnic grounds for the public. The north loop has been closed for some time but has physically remained intact. The concessionaire uses the north loop to provide a “chuckwagon” lunch to visitors.

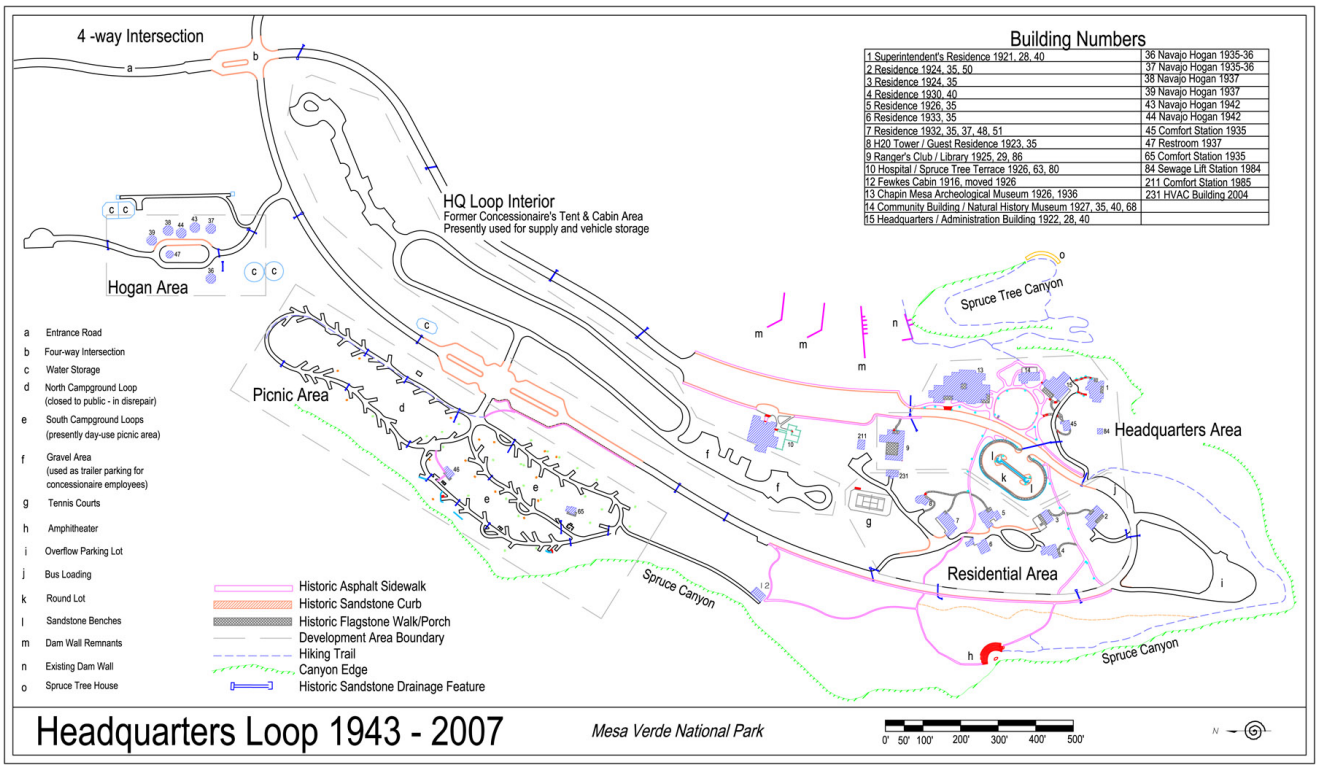
In 2003, two masons reconstructed seven of the original campfire grills. Though rehabilitation was the original goal, the grills were very fragile and had no integrity. Seven more grills remain in very poor condition. An NPS preservation crew rehabilitated/repaired the retaining walls and stairs in the campground during the winter of 2006-2007.

Concessionaire’s Tent and Cabin Area

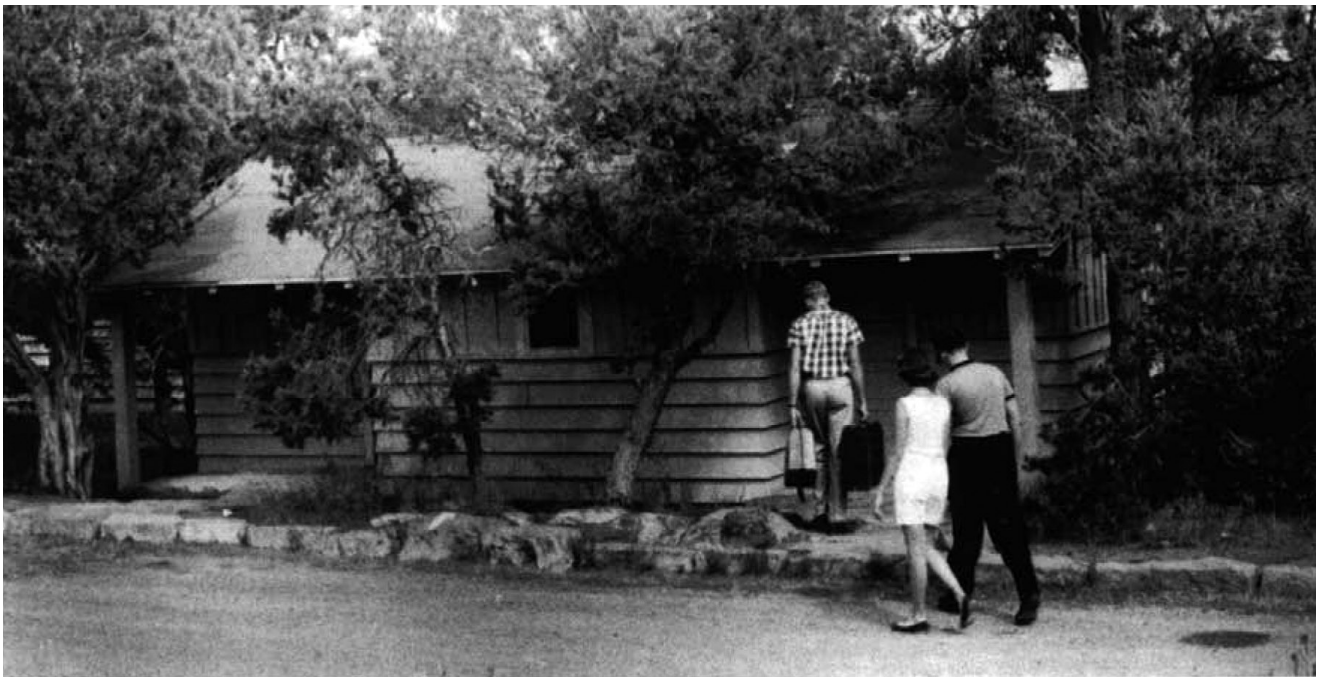
The tents and cabins in this area were removed sometime between 1954 and 1970. In the early 2000s three metal storage units were placed here.

Hogan District

This area has not changed since 1942. The corral that was located in this area was removed. The water collection area is now used as a burn pile for the park. The hogans continue to be used as residences for seasonal employees.

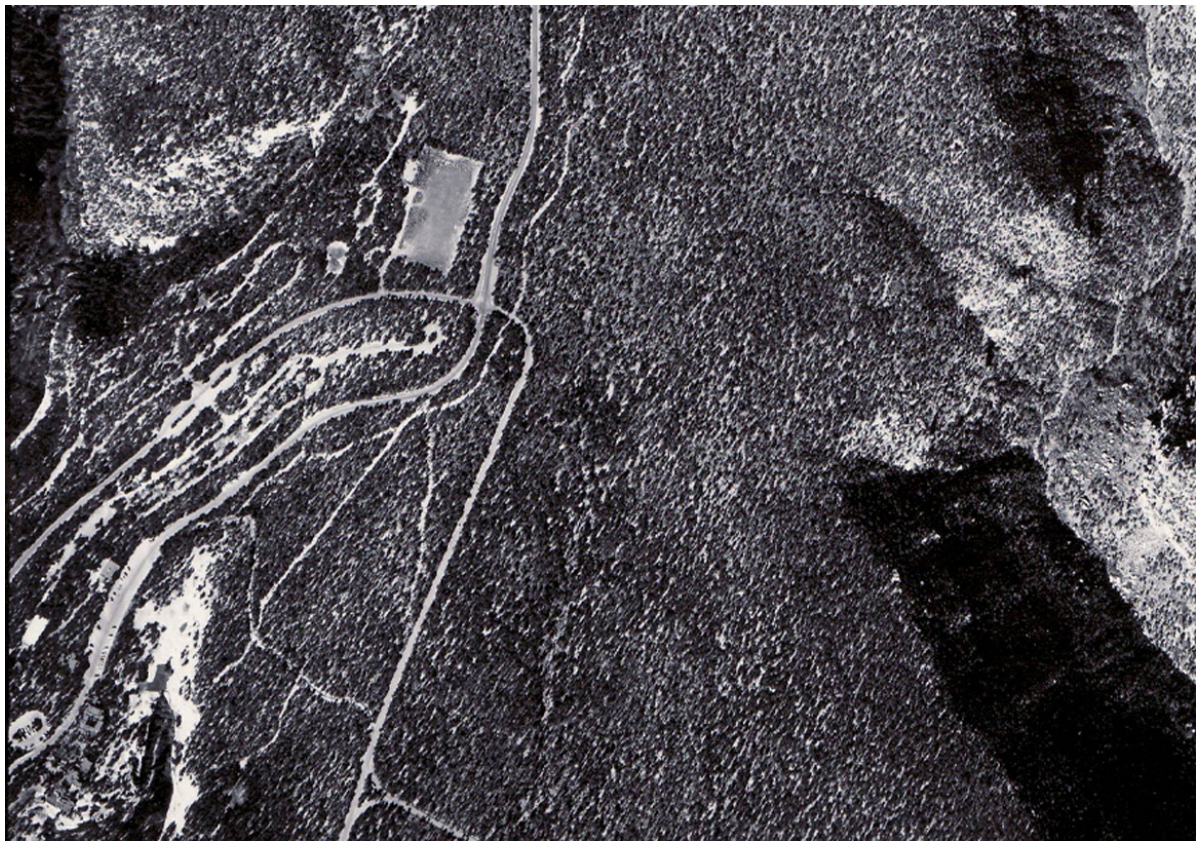


Site Plan, Headquarters Loop, 1943-2007. (Source: Level II CLI).



View of Rustic cabins at Headquarters Loop, 1950s. (Source: Level II CLI files).

View of economy cabins at Headquarters Loop, 1950s. (Source: Level II CLI).



Aerial image of the upper (NE) region of Headquarters Loop. Note general spatial organization and hierarchy of circulation paths throughout the area, 1976. (Source: Kucera & Associates; MEVE Archives).

Aerial image of lower (south) Headquarters Loop, 1990. (Source: Amber & Associates; MEVE archives).

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Historic integrity is determined by “the extent to which the general character of the historic period is evident, and the degree to which incompatible elements obscuring that character can be reversed” (Page, Gilbert, Dolan 72). The Headquarters Loop as a whole retains integrity. The descriptions listed below discuss integrity through each of the seven aspects as outlined by the National Register of Historic Places.

LOCATION

Location is the physical place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. The location of a property is an important factor in determining why the property was created. If a property is separated from its location, the recapture of a sense of historic meaning and character is fragmented.

The location of the Headquarters Loop has not changed since the end of the period of significance. The developed area continues to occupy the southern portion of Chapin Mesa and overlooks the surrounding Navajo, Spruce, and Spruce Tree Canyons. This location was chosen for its panoramic views, ease of access to the Spruce Tree House, and generally flat topography which eased construction. Overall integrity for location has been retained.

SETTING

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Whereas location refers to the physical place where a property was built or an event occurred, setting refers to the character of the site. Setting includes the physical elements of a site, such as spatial organization, land use, vegetation, topography, circulation, and small-scale features. Setting also includes the character of the contextual lands that surround a historic property.

Although the natural landscape of Headquarters Loop has experienced some clearing and vegetation removal since the 1930s, the developed area appears much as it did during the historic period. The edge of the mesa limits the developed area and vegetation still provides shade and screening, but the vegetation in the canyons surrounding the Headquarters Loop has been affected by drought, fire, and pests. The Long Mesa Fire of 2002 most recently altered this vegetation and views from the developed area across the surrounding canyons. Because the area is so large and complex, the alteration of vegetation does not eliminate the integrity of setting. Integrity of setting is retained.

DESIGN

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property or its significant alteration. The design of a historic property reflects the functions, technologies, and aesthetics of its period of significance, and can include elements such as massing, spatial arrangement, site layout, texture and color of materials, style of ornamental detailing, and type of vegetation.

The aspect of design is evident in terms of spatial organization, building form, circulation configuration, and use of native materials and vegetation throughout the Headquarters Loop. The site plan of the whole area is principally organized around separating use areas and screening particular use areas from view of the major public spaces. The organizing framework for the design is a curvilinear vehicular road (main Headquarters Loop road), which is economical in terms of acreage required for road construction. Buildings are organized in accordance with roads, drives and parking areas. A design vocabulary and prototypical buildings style – flat roofs, stone exterior, pueblo-like construction and scale --contributes to complementary building assembly. Small-scale features, such as sandstone curbing, are constructed of local materials and appropriately scaled

within the context of the surrounding natural areas.

Overall the design philosophy of the Headquarters Loop espoused a close relationship between man-made structures and the natural environment. Known as the Rustic style (derived from NPS architecture which used native materials and blended building with the landscape), it served as the framework for the design and site planning. The Rustic style became the building and landscape envelope within which the maintenance and residential facilities were constructed in a manner that was sensitive and appropriate to the natural surroundings. Integrity of design is retained.

MATERIALS

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. The choice and combination of materials reveal the preferences of those who created the property and indicate the availability of particular types of materials and technologies.

Stone and wood used to construct buildings and landscape features continues to serve as an identifiable design element endorsed by NPS Rustic designers from the period of significance. In buildings, this is most evident in the structural supports (timbers), façade surfaces (stone) and building foundations and chimneys (sandstone). The use of native stone materials [mitered sandstone blocks (curbing), flagstone (stairs, walls, culvert features) and large boulders (retaining walls)] and asphalt surfacing used in landscape features reflects a conscious effort to design with locally available materials that fit with the indigenous landscape. Additionally, the use of native vegetation and protection of existing vegetation during construction, represents the efforts to respect and harmonize with the surrounding landscape. Overall, materials integrity is retained.

WORKMANSHIP

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. It is the evidence of artisans' labor and skill in constructing or altering a building, structure, object, or site. Workmanship can apply to the property as a whole or to its individual components.

A number of buildings, structures, and landscape features form a cohesive collection of Modified Pueblo Revival and Rustic style design that is reflective 1920s and 1930s park planning ideals and CCC-implemented projects. One of the most notable hallmarks of this design philosophy is evidence of hand craftsmanship, particularly as it relates to hand-hewn timbers and the stonework of buildings, curbs, walls, foundations, chimneys, culvert headwalls, and drop inlets. Additionally, the Hogan District exemplifies the talents of the CCC through the Navajo architecture style. Integrity of workmanship is retained.

FEELING

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character. In conjunction with location and setting, feeling describes what the property feels like or the senses it evokes to a person on the property.

Headquarters Loop, as a whole, evokes the character of an earlier era in which considerable thought and hand craftsmanship were important components in the design of service-oriented and domestic districts that “fit” within the surrounding natural environment. The buildings, curvilinear circulation system, materials, and spatial organization collectively contribute to the organic, rustic feeling associated with this component landscape. Integrity of feeling is retained.

ASSOCIATION

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and an historic property. A property retains association if it is the place where the event or activity occurred and is sufficiently intact to convey that relationship to an observer. A property with high integrity of association portrays its historic character through physical elements and their relationships to each other. Like feeling, association is based on individual and/or community perceptions.

The Headquarters Loop, as a whole, continues to function in the capacity for which it was designed - as the hub of visitor and administrative services as well as a residential community. Most physical elements that have association with the CCC and Rustic style design survive and are evidenced through the design of buildings, circulation systems, materials and organization. The overall plan and form of the Headquarters Loop is also closely associated with park planning efforts of the 1920s and 1930s that advocated separation of uses – particularly visitor and administrative uses – which is conveyed through the distinct, separations of areas by land use. Overall, the area retains integrity of association.

OVERVIEW OF LANDSCAPE INTEGRITY

Based on the analysis and evaluation of the Headquarters Loop component landscape, the historic landscape retains integrity from the period of significance 1906-1942. Though some sub-units contribute to integrity more than others, the whole component landscape embodies all seven aspects of integrity.

Landscape Characteristic:
Archeological Sites

Though numerous archaeological sites are found throughout Mesa Verde National Park, through few are related directly to the development of the Headquarters Loop from 1906 to 1942. In the late 1990s as part of Phase III of a waterline replacement project, some archeological sites were surveyed within the Headquarters Loop area. Primary below-ground features and sites included the foundation of the carpenter shop (no. 56) in the Original NPS Utility area and historic trash pits. Other potential archeological sites may exist related to former building sites from the period of significance.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Foundation of the carpenter shop (no. 56) in the Original NPS Utility area
- Historic trash pits
- Potential archeological sites related to former buildings, 1906 to 1942

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Archeological sites dating to outside the 1906 to 1942 period of significance

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Foundation of carpenter shop (no .56)

CLI Feature ID: 162726

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Historic trash pits

CLI Feature ID: 162728

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Potential archeological sites, 1906-1942

CLI Feature ID: 162730

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Archeo sites dating after period, 1943

CLI Feature ID: 162786

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Throughout the period of significance and still today, numerous buildings characterize the Headquarters Loop. Because the buildings each display a function and architectural style, a discussion on architectural styles within national parks is provided first as context, followed by a more in-depth discussion on the specific buildings within the 7 sub-units.

National Park Architectural Styles

Utilitarian Style

The utilitarian architectural style shares many characteristics with NPS Rustic design in terms of scale, form and simplicity. The most notable difference is the absence of hand workmanship and use of architectural details, such as stone foundations and hand-hewn logs. Wood timber frames that are covered by corrugated sheet iron and painted natural colors characterize the buildings in the Utility Area that exemplify this style. The straightforward construction and minimal use of materials affords for inexpensive construction and ease of renovation, adaptive use and translocation. This building style is typically constructed for utilitarian and functional needs and often serves in the capacity of materials or equipment storage, or workshops. Park staff constructed buildings in the original Utility Area in this style.

NPS Rustic Style

The NPS Rustic architectural style, embraced by the NPS from the 1920s to the 1940s, is evidenced in the design of structures and landscape features in the Utility Area and housekeeping cabin area. This style is rooted in the nineteenth-century English gardening tradition and popularized in the United States by the pastoral ideas conveyed in writings of Andrew Jackson Downing during the 19th century. In 1918, development policy drafted by the newly formed NPS stated, “in the construction of roads, trails, buildings and other improvements, particular attention must be devoted always to the harmonizing of these improvements with the landscape” (NPS – Report of the director of the NPS, 1918).

“Successfully handled, it is a style that, through the use of native materials in proper scale… gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with natural surroundings and with the past” (Good, 1938). The expression of this cultural tradition is characterized by the use of timber columns with stone foundations, pitched, overhanging roofs, board and batten siding, exposed rafters and straightforward forms that respond to the surrounding rugged, wooded environment of utility and housekeeping cabin area.

Modified Pueblo Revival Style

This architectural form is associated with the first administration term of Superintendent Jesse Nusbaum who was involved in the design development of the park’s administration area between 1921 and 1931. Both the building materials and construction techniques are associated with the Modified Pueblo Revival style borrowed primarily from the Hopi Native American Tribe. All of the buildings in the Headquarters Loop except Fewkes Cabin and the hogans are built in this style. The buildings are constructed of the same type of local sandstone and red earth mortar as in the prehistoric dwellings. The stone building foundations are laid with cement mortar for strength and water resistance; the upper courses use a mortar and are pointed with local red earth mortar.

Navajo Architecture Style

Navajo labor was very important to Mesa Verde during the 1920s and 1930s, and the park tried to provide special accommodations for the tribal work force. In 1935, the NPS Branch of Plans and Designs prepared a plan for twelve Navajo hogans arranged in a circular pattern. The word, “hogan,” means dwelling-place in the Navajo language. Navajos have constructed hogans for at least three-hundred fifty years. Although the seven Mesa Verde hogans exhibit certain design variations, each one has the characteristic form of the Navajo architectural type. Like other Mesa Verde buildings, the

Navajo hogans employed old/red sandstone as a primary construction material. In some respects, the Mesa Verde hogans differed from the classic design. Traditionally, Hogan doors are oriented toward the east to face the sun. In addition, traditional hogans do not have north-facing windows because Navajos believe that ghosts come from the north. The lack of windows on the north side also prevents heat loss from the coldest side of the building. Contrary to conventional hogan construction, the doors into the Mesa Verde hogans face north.

Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area

Historically, the Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area contained the lodge, garage, comfort station, bath, ice house, 27 cabins, 36 tents, and 8 unidentified outbuildings. Development of the area with the first buildings occurred in 1923 when visitor accommodations were moved outside of the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area. The lodge, the largest of the buildings, was sited within the center of the area with views to the south. The garage, comfort station, bath, ice house, and unidentified outbuildings were located to the north of the lodge in a “common” area. To the east and west, two tent and cabin areas were clustered along the edges of the mesa with views to the surrounding canyons. Cabins were located closest to the mesa edge, while tents were located farther inland. All buildings were removed in 1969 or 1970. Today, no buildings remain within the sub-unit.

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

Within the early days of Spruce Tree Camp, only five buildings and several tent cabins defined the camp area. The tent cabins were located along the edge of Spruce Tree Canyon for spectacular views of the Spruce Tree House Ruins. The buildings were located farther west, clustered around a loop turnaround drive with central campfire circle. On the east side of the circle was a temporary ranger station built in 1913, a permanent guest house (hotel) built in 1918, and Fewkes Cabin built in 1916. To the west of the circle was a permanent ranger station, later Superintendent’s residence, constructed in 1919. Within the canyon itself was a pumping unit that pumped water from the early cistern to the top of the mesa for domestic use.

As the Spruce Tree Camp became crowded, visitor accommodations and employee residences were relocated outside of the area. Fewkes Cabin was also relocated, and all other buildings were removed. New buildings erected in the 1920s included a new Superintendent’s residence (no. 1) built in 1921, park headquarters/administration building (no. 15) built in 1922, a community building built in 1927, and the Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum built in 1923-1935. To the west, a residence (no. 11), Ranger’s Club (no. 9), and Aileen Nusbaum hospital (no. 10) were also constructed. The Ranger’s Club was built in 1925 and the hospital followed one year later in 1926.

In the 1930s, further changes were made to the buildings and structures of the Headquarters Area. The residence (no. 11) was removed, and two additional buildings were added. One of these was a stable/horseback riding concessionaire building (no. 11) located north of the museum (no. 13). The other building constructed during this time was a comfort station (no. 45), sited to the west of the headquarters building (no. 15). In addition, the Chapin Mesa Amphitheater and Round Lot—an oval shaped parking lot—were also constructed during the 1930s.

Today, the majority of these buildings remain with some exceptions. The stable/horseback riding concessionaire building (no. 11) was removed, likely during the construction of the large rectangular parking lot adjacent to the hospital (no. 10). Added to the area was a comfort station (no. 211) and a sewage lift station (no. 84). Additional details on the existing buildings and structures follows:

Superintendent’s Residence (Quarters 1, no. 1): The Superintendent's residence is a one-story, flat-roofed building with buff sandstone ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas on all facades, and parapet walls of varied heights. It is rectangular in plan with projecting bays on all sides. Firmly set on an exposed sandstone ledge, the residence has a commanding view of the canyon and Spruce Tree House. The residence is typical Modified Pueblo Revival Style construction and actually incorporates many sandstone blocks from Spruce Tree House. Originally constructed in 1921 as a four-room residence, an addition was constructed in 1928 and again in 1940.

Research Library (Ranger's Club, Ranger's Dorm, no. 9): This Modified Pueblo Revival building is a one-story, flat-roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls. The floor plan is rectangular with a U-shaped addition and 1 projecting bay. Built in 1925, the building was originally designed as quarters for unmarried rangers and other park personnel. A sleeping porch was added around a courtyard in 1929. This courtyard was originally designed to have a small pool in its center. Most recently, the building was remodeled in 1986 as the park's library.

Spruce Tree Terrace (Aileen Nusbaum Hospital, no. 10): This building, a one-story U-shaped shaped native sandstone building with recessed entry, was constructed during the summer of 1926 as a hospital/first aid center with a portion of building used as an apartment for the resident nurse. The building has numerous window openings with wood lintels and a low sloped roof supported by log vigas. Designed by Aileen Nusbaum, the structure was originally named in recognition of her efforts toward the health and care of park employees and visitors. Since 1963, the concessionaire has used it as a snack bar, gift shop and small grocery store. This Modified Pueblo Revival building was and was remodeled in 1963 and again in the late 1980s. A contemporary open porch (construction date unknown) also lines the south side of the building Today, the building functions as the "Spruce Tree Terrace Restaurant" located to the north of the Ranger's Club.

Fewkes Cabin (Old Log Cabin Museum, no. 12): The simple, one-story, rectangular log cabin exhibits a side-facing gable roof and a roofed porch along the west side. The walls are built of logs chinked with strips of wood and red mortar. The roofing is green asphalt shingle. It was originally built in 1916 as a ranger station to replace a 12-foot by 18-foot shack of boards and tarpaper. It originally was positioned on a stone foundation where the Chief Ranger's Office (no. 14) is now located. It is of typical log cabin construction except it has log posts at the corners rather than interlocking logs. The horizontal logs that make up the walls rest on a stone foundation, that is dry laid and adjoins the corner posts.

Fewkes Cabin was used as a museum, displaying artifacts to the public until the collections were transferred in 1925 to the Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum (completed in 1926). Because of these early displays, the cabin is considered to be the first museum in the National Park Service, thus beginning the development of museum and interpretive displays in parks throughout the nation.

In 1926, Fewkes Cabin was dismantled to make way for the Community Building (no. 14) and moved to a location near the campground, where it was finally rebuilt in 1930 about 100 feet west of the Headquarters Loop road and just south of the campground area. Given it's proximity to the campground, the relocated building was used as a campground community house. Subsequently, it was converted into a seasonal employee quarters. Today, the building houses the park's education staff.

Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum (no. 13): The museum is a sprawling flat-roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. It has a partial basement, and a main floor at varying levels around a courtyard. The great success of the Fewkes Cabin (Old Log Cabin Museum) clearly demonstrated the need for a larger museum facility at Mesa Verde. Construction of the Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum began in 1923 but serious drought delayed completion until 1926. The CCC built a major addition to the Museum in 1936. This well-designed example of Modified Pueblo Revival architecture contains an entrance lobby, six exhibit halls, a 175-person auditorium, offices, a classroom and three multi-purpose rooms. The courtyard displays native plant species.

Chief Ranger's Office (Community Building, Natural History Museum, no. 14): This building is a flat-roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. It has a partial basement, and a rectangular floor plan with projecting bays. Designed by Jesse and Aileen Nusbaum, this Modified Pueblo Revival structure was constructed in 1927 and has a commanding view of Spruce Tree House from the back porch. Originally, one large room and a view porch were constructed on the foundation of the Fewkes Cabin. In 1935 and 1936 the basement area of the building was remodeled as a public restroom and is presently used as an office. In 1940, the building was converted into a Natural History Museum and served this function until 1968 when the Chief Ranger's Office, previously located in the Museum auditorium, was moved to the building.

Park Headquarters/Administrative Offices (no. 15): The park headquarters building is constructed of native sandstone bearing walls, with a flat roof and parapets, and has one main level plus a partial basement. The building is rectangular with projecting bays on both levels. Located immediately north of the Superintendent's residence (no. 1), it was constructed in 1922, after the completion of the Superintendent's residence. The Modified Pueblo Revival architecture retains much of its old charm, primarily through its exterior stonework and vigas. There have been various additions to the headquarters building in 1928 and 1940.

Post Office (Comfort Station, no. 45): This small, single-story Modified Pueblo Revival building features battered, native buff sandstone bearing walls of random ashlar pattern, parapet walls, a flat membrane roof, and projecting vigas. Located west of the headquarters building (no. 15), the building was originally constructed as a public restroom until it was remodeled into the Mesa Verde Post Office in 1936. At that time, the basement of the Community Building was converted from a post office to public restrooms. This placed the restroom closer to the path to Spruce Tree House and thus, more accessible to the public. This remodel allowed the post office to have its own building and identity. The building has continued to serve as the Mesa Verde post office since that time.

Chapin Mesa Amphitheater (current Campfire Circle, HS-X03): Located at the edge of Spruce Canyon, the amphitheater is of semicircular, mitered sandstone construction with nine stone seating rows around a sand performance area. It is located at the edge of Chapin Mesa, with a commanding view of Spruce Canyon and Navajo Canyon. The performance area, containing a stage and fire pit, is located at the lowest point of the amphitheater (closest to the canyon edge). The fire pit, which consists of a simple dirt floor, has a concealed vent in the bottom that forces the smoke upwards and over the heads of the audience. The seating tiers rise in elevation to the east. The first five seating tiers were constructed in 1933 and four additional tiers were later added in 1940—both built by CCC crews. Sandstone blocks within the amphitheater average approximately 30" by 18" by 18". At the top of the structure, three (3) sandstone block stairs approach the middle of the amphitheatre and serve as an entrance feature. Repairs were made to some of the stonework in the 1980s or 1990s.

Sewage Lift Station (no. 84): This structure was constructed in 1984 and sits just south of the Post Office (no. 45) and west of the Superintendent's residence (no. 1).

Comfort Station (no. 211): This facility was constructed in 1985 and is located north of the Research Library (no. 9). The building provides contemporary restroom facilities to visitors withint the area.

Other Structures: Additional structures listed in the List of Classified Structures (LCS) database include the Round Lot (Headquarters Parking Lot, HS-X01), the Mather Plaque (HS-PLAC 1), the National Historic Landmark Plaque (HS-PLAC.2), and the World Heritage Site Plaque (HS-PLAC.3) along the museum walls. Further detail about these structures is included in the Circulation and Small-Scale Features sections.

Residential Area

Historically, the Residential Area contained six residences and a tennis court clustered together within the interior of the Headquarters Loop road. All residences and the tennis court remain today, with the addition of a seventh building—an HVAC Building (no. 231) constructed in 2004. Additional details on each of these buildings and structures follows:

Quarters 2 (no. 2): Residence no. 2 is a one-story, flat-roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. It is rectangular in plan with an attached projecting garage, lower in height than the main house. The building is located across the main road from headquarters and is the only residence not accessed by the one-way residential loop road. Rather, access is via a driveway from the main Headquarters Loop road. Typical of Modified Pueblo Revival architecture, it was constructed in 1924 and remodeled in 1935 and 1950.

Quarters 3 (no. 3): Residence no. 3 is a one-story, flat roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. It is rectangular in plan with a garage of

similar construction, attached to the house by a porch. Located to the north of residence no. 2, this Modified Pueblo Revival residence was constructed in 1924 and remodeled in 1935. It is set in a lightly forested area of pinon and juniper trees, and probably served as the Chief Clerk's residence, as it was the second permanent residence constructed within the area.

Quarters 4 (no. 4): Residence no. 4 is a one-story, flat roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. It is rectangular in plan with projecting bays, an attached garage, and an enclosed porch. Also located to the north of residence no. 2 and west of residence no. 4, the residence is accessed via the one-way residential loop road, and it is well shielded from public view by pinon and juniper trees. It is typical Modified Pueblo Revival architecture constructed in 1930 and possibly remodeled in 1940.

Quarters 5 (no. 5): Residence no. 5 is north of residence no. 4, also obscured from the public by pinon and juniper trees. Like the other residences, it is of typical Mesa Verde Pueblo Revival architecture, showcasing a single-story, flat-roof, buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. The house has three bays, stepped in plan, with an attached garage.. The structure was originally built in 1926 or 1927 (records vary on date) and was remodeled in 1935.

Quarters 6 (no. 6): Located immediately to the west of residence no. 5 on the one-way residential loop road, this Modified Pueblo Revival structure is a one-story, flat-roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. The house consists of one volume connected by a porch to an attached garage. The CCC constructed this structure in 1933 added to it in 1935. Adjacent to residence no. 6 is a small garage.

Quarters 7 (no. 7): As one of the larger residences within the area, residence no. 7 is a one-story, flat-roofed building with buff sandstone coursed ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. It is rectangular with an attached garage, a northwest portal, and projecting bays on the southeast side. Originally constructed as the Assistant Superintendent's residence, it is located immediately north of residences no. 5 and no. 6. The building was built in 1932 by the CCC; it was remodeled in 1935, 1937, 1948, and 1951.

Quarters 8 (no. 8): Residence no. 8 is a small, circular, two-story tower structure with a somewhat rectangular single-story addition on the south side. Similar to other residences in the area, it is flat-roofed with buff sandstone ashlar exterior walls, projecting vigas, and parapet walls. Although constructed in the Modified Pueblo Revival architectural style, it is substantially different from the other buildings, as it was originally built in 1923 as a two-story water tower. It was remodeled into a residence in 1935. The residence is located immediately northeast of residence no. 7.

Tennis Court: The tennis court at the northern end of the Residential Area is rectangular in form and was constructed in 1933. Later reconstructed in 1937, the court was regraded and resurfaced, and a chain link fence was installed surrounding the perimeter. Light fixtures were also added to the top of the fence at that time.

HVAC Building (no. 231): A heating, ventilating, and air conditioning structure was constructed just west of the Research Library (former Ranger's Club, no. 9) in 2004. The structure straddles the area between the Residential Area and the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area.

Original NPS Utility Area/Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area

Fourteen buildings and structures were located within the Original NPS Utility Area during the early development of the Headquarters Loop in the 1920s and 1930s. Buildings (from south to north) included a powerhouse, residence (no. 17), bunkhouse (no. 16), mess hall/pumping unit (no. 58), two unidentified outbuildings, warehouse (no. 53), garage (no. 55), carpenter's shop (no. 56), unidentified outbuilding, barn, truck shed (no. 49), ice house (no. 54), and steel tank for water storage. All buildings with the exception of the barn and water tank were aligned in a linear arrangement, fronting an access road. The majority of these buildings were relocated in 1934 to the present-day Utility Area. More detailed building descriptions for each can be found in the Utility Area Cultural

Landscape Inventory (CLI).

As the area was developed into the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area in the mid-1930s, a number of buildings were added to the landscape. Buildings included 31 cabins, 36 tents, and a shower and laundry building. These structures remained until the areas was abandoned sometime after 1950.

Today, the only buildings and structures of the area include three temporary metal storage units and a small storage shed. The three storage units were placed parallel to each other at the north end of this sub-unit's loop road in the early 2000s. The 8-foot by 10-foot wood shed (of unknown date) sits west of the Hospital/Spruce Tree Terrace (no. 10).

Spruce Tree Public Campground

During the period of significance buildings and structures within the campground were limited to two restroom facilities and five fuel, water, and trash stations. These buildings and structures remain today.

Restroom (no. 46): This Modified Pueblo Revival restroom facility is a one-story rectangular building with a projecting bay on the front. The walls are native sandstone blocks, and the roof is flat with a continuous parapet. Vigas and canales project from all four elevations. The building was constructed in 1935, the year the campground was built, as the southern of two comfort stations. Today, the building continues to provide restroom facilities for the former campground area.

Comfort Station (no. 65): This restroom facility, built in 1935, is a one-story rectangular building with one projecting bay. It consists of native sandstone bearing walls, random ashlar, with projecting vigas, a flat roof, and a continuous parapet. Also constructed in the Modified Pueblo Revival style, it is the northern of two comfort stations and continues to function as a restroom for the former campground.

Fuel, Water, and Garbage Stations (HS-X05.1, HS-X05.2, HS-X05.3, HS-X05.5): Five sandstone structures were constructed by the CCC in 1935 to provide camper services, including water, wood for campfires, and a place to deposit garbage. The four extant Fuel, Water, and Garbage Stations are a standard rectangular design with a break in the front elevation for entrance. The walls are 12" thick sandstone masonry. Each station has three separate chambers, one with a water facet, another for wood storage, and the last for garbage disposal. The wood gates, lids, and framing for the garbage can bins/chambers are missing. The structures are open on top.

Fuel, Water, and Garbage Station 1 is located west of Comfort Station (no. 46) on the east side of the central segment of the south loops. The façade faces west. In addition to the standard three chamber rectangular plan this Fuel, Water, and Garbage Station has an additional chamber on the exterior of the east wall creating a pinwheel configuration. The structure is approximately 14 feet long by 11 feet wide and has walls which vary in height from 28" to 42". The east and southern walls are stepped.

Fuel, Water, and Garbage Station 2 is located west of Comfort Station (no. 65) and opens west towards the road. It measures 11'6" from east to west and 16' from north to south. The structure's walls are stepped in height and vary from 28" to 34". There are several types of floors on the interior: concrete, sandstone, and dirt.

Fuel, Water, and Garbage Station 3 is on the east side of the southwest loop road, opposite pull-out #34, and opens west towards the road. It measures 15' long by 9'6" wide and has sandstone walls stepped in height from 26" to 36". Little remains of the wall spur defining the northwest and northeast chambers. The structure has a dirt floor.

Fuel, Water, and Garbage Station 5 is on the east segment of the former north loop. The station is rectangular and opens to the west. The floor is flagstone, and the north and east walls are stepped.

Other Structures: Additional structures listed in the List of Classified Structures (LCS) database

include the campground roads, parking spurs, and curbing (HS-X04), fire pits/grills (HS-X06), culverts (HS-X07), and four stone retaining walls (HS-X08.11, HS-X08.26, HS-X08.40, HS-X08.32). Further detail about these structures is included where appropriate in the corresponding Circulation, Constructed Water Features, and Small-Scale Features sections.

Hogan District

Hogan (no. 36): This hogan is an octagonal, one-story building with buff sandstone walls, a parapet, and a low-slope roof. It contains a living room, kitchen, bedroom, and bath. The east side of the building has an enclosed ramada. The building was built in 1935-1936 and altered in 1939 and 1946.

Hogan (no. 37): Building 37 is an octagonal, one-story hogan with buff sandstone walls, a parapet, and a low-slope roof. The east side of the building has an enclosed screen porch. The building contains a living room, kitchen, bedroom, and bath. Built in 1935-1936, it was later altered in 1939 and 1946.

Hogan (no. 38): This hogan is a round, one-story structure with buff sandstone walls, a parapet, and a stucco dome roof. Interior is a single, open, domed room with a kitchen area. There is no bathroom. The building was built in 1937 and altered in 1939 and 1946.

Hogan (no. 39): Building 39 is a round, one-story hogan with buff sandstone walls, a parapet, and a stucco dome roof. The interior is a single, open, domed room with a kitchen area. There is no bathroom. Built in 1937, it was later altered in 1939 and 1946.

Hogan (no. 43): Building 43 is a round, one-story hogan with buff sandstone walls and a stucco dome roof. The interior of the building is a single, open room with a kitchen area. There is no bathroom. Cribbed log ceiling is a dominant architectural element. The building was built in 1942.

Hogan (no. 44): This building is a one-story hogan with buff sandstone walls and a stucco dome roof, built in 1942. The interior of the building is a single, open room with a kitchen area. There is no bathroom. Cribbed log ceiling is a dominant architectural element.

Hogan District Comfort Station (no. 47): The comfort station is an octagonal, 1-story hogan with buff sandstone parapet walls, and a low-slope roof with monitor. It contains men's and women's shower and toilet rooms and a common laundry. The building was constructed in 1937.

North Entrance Information Plaza

The only building within the North Entrance Information Plaza was a checking station located in the central median of the 4-way intersection. Built in the Modified Pueblo Revival style, the building was removed sometime during the mid to late 20th century. No buildings remain within this sub-unit.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Superintendent's Residence (Quarters 1, LCS 011356, HS-0001)
- Research Library (Rangers' Club, Ranger Dorm, LCS 011355, HS-0009)
- Spruce Tree Terrace (Aileen Nusbaum Hospital, LCS 602946, HS-0010)
- Fewkes Cabin (Ranger's Station; Old Log Cabin Museum, LCS 011364, HS-0012)
- Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum (Museum, LCS 011351, HS-0013)
- Chief Ranger's Office (Community Building, Natural History Museum, LCS 011352, HS-0014)
- Administration Building (Park Headquarters, LCS 012890, HS-0015)
- Post Office (Comfort Station, LCS 011353, HS-0045)
- Chapin Mesa Amphitheater (LCS 051750, HS-X03)
- Round Lot (Headquarters Parking Lot, LCS 051748, HS-X01)
- Residence No. 02 (Quarters 2, LCS 011357, HS-0002)
- Residence No. 03 (Quarters 3, LCS 011358, HS-0003)
- Residence No. 04 (Quarters 4, LCS 011359, HS-0004)
- Residence No. 05 (Quarters 5, LCS 011360, HS-0005)

- Residence No. 06 (Quarters 6, LCS 011361, HS-0006)
- Residence No. 07 (Quarters 7, LCS 011362, HS-0007)
- Water Tower Residence No. 08 (Quarters 8, LCS 011363, HS-0008)
- Tennis Court (LCS 051749, HS-X02)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Comfort Station (LCS 011367, HS-0046)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Comfort Station (LCS 023048, HS-0065)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 1 (LCS 051752, HS-X05.1)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 2 (LCS 619651, HS-X05.2)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 3 (LCS 619652, HS-X05.3)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 5 (LCS 619654, HS-X05.5)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Roads/Parking Spurs/Curbing (LCS 051751, HS-X04)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Fireplaces (LCS 051753, HS-X06)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Road Culverts (LCS 051756, HS-X07)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 11 (LCS 051754, HS-X08.11)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 26 (LCS 051755, HS-X08.26)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 40 w/Stairs (LCS 613231, HS-X08.40)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 32 (LCS 619655, HS-X08.32)
- Hogan (LCS 011368, HS-0036)
- Hogan (LCS 011369, HS-0037)
- Hogan (LCS 011370, HS-0038)
- Hogan (LCS 011371, HS-0039)
- Hogan (LCS 011372, HS-0043)
- Hogan (LCS 011373, HS-0044)
- Hogan District Comfort Station (LCS 011374, HS-0047)

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Sewage Lift Station (no. 84)
- Comfort Station (no. 211)
- HVAC Building in Residential Area
- Three (3) metal storage units in Concessionaire’s Tent and Cabin Area
- Storage Shed in Concessionaire’s Tent and Cabin Area

MISSING FEATURES:
- Lodge at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Garage at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Comfort station at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Bath at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Ice house at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Twenty-seven (27) cabins at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Thirty-six (36) tents at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Eight (8) unidentified outbuildings at Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 4
- Checking Station at North Entrance Information Plaza

MANAGED AS CULTURAL RESOURCES:
- Mather Plaque (LCS 051079, HS-PLAC 1)
- National Historic Landmark marker (LCS 606743, HS-PLAC.2)
- World Heritage Site Plaque (LCS 606751, HS-PLAC.3)

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Superintendent's Residence

CLI Feature ID: 162736

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11356

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Superintendent's Residence No. 01

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0001

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46040

Feature Name: Research Library

CLI Feature ID: 162734

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11355

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Research Library

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0009

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46069

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Terrace

CLI Feature ID: 162732

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 602946

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Store

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0010

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46073

Feature Name: Fewkes Cabin

CLI Feature ID: 162789

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11364

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Fewkes Cabin

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0012

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46060

Feature Name: Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum

CLI Feature ID: 162792

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11351

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Museum

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0013

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46066

Feature Name: Chief Ranger's Office

CLI Feature ID: 162795

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11352

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Chief Ranger's Office

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0014

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46067

Feature Name: Administration Building

CLI Feature ID: 162798

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 12890

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Park Headquarters

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0015

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46068

Feature Name: Post Office

CLI Feature ID: 162801

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11353

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Post Office

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0045

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 111925

Feature Name: Chapin Mesa Amphitheater

CLI Feature ID: 162804

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51750

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Chapin Mesa Amphitheater

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X03

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46070

Feature Name: Round Lot

CLI Feature ID: 162807

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51748

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Headquarters Parking Lot

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X01

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46063

Feature Name: Residence No. 02

CLI Feature ID: 162810

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11357

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Residence No. 02

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0002

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46041

Feature Name: Residence No. 03

CLI Feature ID: 162813

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11358

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Residence No. 03

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0003

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46043

Feature Name: Residence No. 04

CLI Feature ID: 162816

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11359

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Residence No. 04

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0004

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46044

Feature Name: Residence No. 05

CLI Feature ID: 162819

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11360

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Residence No. 05

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0005

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46045

Feature Name: Residence No. 06

CLI Feature ID: 162822

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11361

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Residence No. 06

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0006

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46046

Feature Name: Residence No. 07

CLI Feature ID: 162825

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11362

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Residence No. 07

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0007

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46047

Feature Name: Water Tower Residence No. 08

CLI Feature ID: 162842

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11363

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Water Tower Residence No. 08

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0008

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46048

Feature Name: Tennis Court

CLI Feature ID: 162832

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51749

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Tennis Court

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X02

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Comfort Station

CLI Feature ID: 162835

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11367

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Comfort Station

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0046

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46025

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Comfort Station

CLI Feature ID: 162838

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 23048

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Comfort Station

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0065

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46026

Feature Name: Spruce Tree CG Fuel/Water/Garbage 1

CLI Feature ID: 162841

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51752

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 1

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X05.1

Feature Name: Spruce Tree CG Fuel/Water/Garbage 2

CLI Feature ID: 162853

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 619651

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 2

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X05.2

Feature Name: Spruce Tree CG Fuel/Water/Garbage 3

CLI Feature ID: 162859

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 619652

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 3

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X05.3

Feature Name: Spruce Tree CG Fuel/Water/Garbage 5

CLI Feature ID: 162862

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 619654

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Fuel/Water/Garbage Station 5

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X05.5

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Roads/Parking Spur

CLI Feature ID: 162866

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51751

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Roads/Parking Spurs/Curbing

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X04

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Fireplaces

CLI Feature ID: 162872

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51753

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Fireplaces

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X06

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Road Culverts

CLI Feature ID: 162876

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51756

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Road Culverts

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X07

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 11

CLI Feature ID: 162910

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51754

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 11

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X08.11

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 26

CLI Feature ID: 162912

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51755

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 26

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X08.26

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 40

CLI Feature ID: 162918

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 613231

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 40 w/Stairs

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X08.40

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 477164

Feature Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 32

CLI Feature ID: 162917

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 619655

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 32

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X08.32

Feature Name: Hogan

CLI Feature ID: 162919

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11368

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Hogan

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0036

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46049

Feature Name: Hogan

CLI Feature ID: 162921

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11369

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Hogan

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0037

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46050

Feature Name: Hogan

CLI Feature ID: 162923

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11370

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Hogan

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0038

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46052

Feature Name: Hogan

CLI Feature ID: 162925

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11371

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Hogan

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0039

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46053

Feature Name: Hogan

CLI Feature ID: 162926

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11372

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Hogan

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0043

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46055

Feature Name: Hogan

CLI Feature ID: 162928

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11373

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Hogan

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0044

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46056

Feature Name: Hogan District Comfort Station

CLI Feature ID: 162944

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11374

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Hogan District Comfort Station

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0047

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46057

Feature Name: Sewage Lift Station (no. 84)

CLI Feature ID: 162959

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0047

Feature Name: Comfort Station (no. 211)

CLI Feature ID: 162960

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0047

Feature Name: HVAC Building

CLI Feature ID: 162969

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Three (3) metal storage units

CLI Feature ID: 162961

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Storage Shed

CLI Feature ID: 162963

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: National Historic Landmark marker

CLI Feature ID: 162953

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 606743

CRIS-HS Resource Name: National Historic Landmark Plaque

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-PLAC.2

Feature Name: Mather Plaque (HS-PLAC 1)

CLI Feature ID: 162965

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: World Heritage Site Plaque (HS-PLAC.3)

CLI Feature ID: 162967

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

View of the museum (no. 13) and surrounding landscape within the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area sub-unit (Source: NPS, June 2010).

The post office (no. 45) was originally constructed as a comfort station in 1935. (Source: NPS, June 2010).

View of the current-day Research Library (no. 9), formerly used as a Ranger's Dorm (Source: NPS, June 2010).

The current-day Spruce Tree Terrace(no. 10) was originally built as a hospital in 1926 (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Chapin Mesa Amphitheater, located west of the main Headquarters Loop road, facing northeast (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Fewkes Cabin, constructed in 1916, was moved to its current location between the amphitheater and campground in 1926, facing north (Source: NPS, June 2010).

One of four remaining Fuel, Water, and Garbage Stations built by the CCC (1935) and comfort station (no. 46), also constructed by the CCC in 1935; facing northeast (Source: NPS, June 2010).

One of two stone benches in a central median in the Round Lot in the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area; facing northwest (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Quarters 8 in the Residential Area exhibits the Modified Pueblo Revival Style through its use of materials and construction techniques, facing northwest (Source: NPS, June 2010).

The Tennis Court with surrounding chain link fence and historic light fixtures is located at the north end of the Residential Area (Source: NPS, June 2010).

View of one of the hogans within the Hogan District (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Circulation

Overall Circulation

Horse and wagon were the primary mode of transportation during the park's formative years. Sub-standard routes led from the park's northern boundary to Spruce Tree Camp. Much of the park's initial development was focused on road construction and improvements to existing routes. In 1906, it took an entire day to travel from Mancos to Chapin Mesa. It was impossible to promote tourist travel under those circumstances. The Wetherill's route to the Spruce Tree Camp was via horseback. Visitation was unfeasible without a route for carriages and other vehicles. (Horton, 1994)

Work on the road to Spruce Tree Camp included extensive clearing, grading and widening as this road had previously been used only for horse and carriage. In May 1914, a road safe for auto travel was formally opened. The road consisted of a narrow 2-lane route that ended in a loop turnaround west of the early ranger station. A separate spur road to the north provided access to the ruins and archeological sites. With the road in place, tourists were now crowded in the park's limited facilities. By 1916, the road from Denver to the southern part of the state brought many auto travelers from east of Colorado. As a result, by 1918 very few horse-drawn vehicles entered the park. The day-long drive with a horse team was now reduced to a few hours traveling by car; a park visit could be accomplished in a day.

Between 1921 and 1932, a number of circulation routes were added throughout the area. Road segments were added along the edge of Spruce Canyon, within the residential area, around Spruce Tree Point Lodge, and throughout the administrative area. Together, these roads created a confusing system of unorganized roads. In addition to an increasing number of visitors to the area which further impacted the area with traffic congestion, soil compaction, and vegetation damage, the inadequacies of the road system soon became apparent.

Without wasting time, Superintendent Nusbaum created a master plan in 1933, which reorganized

the circulation of the area and provided separation between administrative, residential, utility, and public use areas. The challenge was to guide development that was sympathetic with the natural environment and efficiently accommodate the increasing number of vehicles. Hard surfacing and widening of the roads became great necessities during the 1920s. Problems continued to develop regarding circulation, road conditions, and parking congestion, particularly in the hotel and camping areas as visitor traffic increased throughout the 1920s and 1930s.

One-way roads, defined parking spaces, and permanent locations for camping facilities were recommended to alleviate the problem. One-way roads were economical and would eliminate unnecessary backtracking that often led to congested roads (Torres-Reyes, 1970). The primary one-way loop road was the main Headquarters Loop, which would provide access to all other secondary roads and separate use areas. Constructed of existing road alignments to the east and new road alignments to the west, the main Headquarters Loop road became the primary circulation route within the area and also the main organizing element in terms of spatial organization. The road was constructed of asphalt with sandstone curbing and stone gutters.

In conjunction with surfacing improvements on the entrance road and the construction of the Headquarters Loop road, one-way loops included in the Headquarters Loop area include:

• a one-way loop road around Spruce Tree Point Lodge to funneled traffic around the hotel and its associated tents, cabins and facilities
• a one-way loop road provided access to residences nos. 3-7
• a one-way loop in the concessionaire's tent and cabin area
• three one-way loops in the campground/picnic area
• a one-way loop in the Hogan District

Other circulation features constructed during the 1930s and 1940s included the Information Plaza, parking lot between the campground and concessionaire's tent and cabin area, and oval parking lot near the administrative complex. The unorganized system of road was removed, as was the spur road leading to the ruins and archeological sites.

In addition, pedestrian circulation routes were also added as part of the 1933 master plan. Once people arrived in the Headquarters Loop, they usually parked and walked to their destination from their car. As a result, the CCC constructed paths that led people from overnight accommodations or residential areas to day-use and administrative areas. The paths meandered through the pinon-juniper forest and created an intimate connection with the surrounding landscape. Defined pathways also helped to reduce impacts to soil and vegetation.

Continuing congestion eventually necessitated the construction of additional parking areas. Sometime during the mid-20th century, a rectangular parking lot north of the museum and administrative buildings was added. The Spruce Tree Point Lodge area was also converted to parking, and a bus pull-off was developed along the Headquarters Loop near the residential area.

Traffic congestion continued during the Mission 66 era of the 1950s and 1960s. One of the purposes of the Mission 66 Program was to solve overcrowding problems within the Headquarters Loop area. The redistribution of park activities through phased physical and management improvements reduced visitor congestion and improved automobile circulation. The program provided new sites for visitor use; Morefield Canyon, Navajo Hill (Far View) and Wetherill Mesa, thus dispersing activities from the Headquarters Area.

Relatively few changes have occurred to circulation patterns within the Headquarters Loop since Mission 66. In 2010, plans were made to resurface the entire main Headquarters Loop road. Nevertheless, many of the vehicular and pedestrian routes developed as part of master planning efforts remain extant today.

Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area

With the development of Spruce Tree Point Lodge in 1923, the development of circulation features

within the sub-unit soon followed. From 1921 to 1932, the area was accessed by a one-way loop road that entered the area from the northwest, looped to the south of the lodge, and exited to the northeast. A small traffic island was located in the drive south of the lodge, likely to separate traffic and provide limited parking for loading and unloading. A small pull-off was also located along the drive to the east of the lodge, also likely for loading and unloading in the visitor tent and cabin area.

With the 1933 master plan improvements, the circulation system of the Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area remained relatively the same. As the main Headquarters Loop road was constructed, the southernmost segment was aligned to the north of the visitor tent and cabin cluster, effectively dividing the lodge area from the adjacent employee residences. The original one-way access road with traffic island and pull-off was retained. A hiking trail, known as the Rim Trail, was also built at this time.

In 1969 or 1970, the lodge and associated visitor tent and cabin area were removed. With the removal of the structures, the traffic island was removed and the southern end of the access drive was enlarged into an irregularly-shaped parking area. The parking area encompasses the footprint of the former lodge building. Today, the one-way access road, parking area, and small pull-off remain.

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

Upon the establishment of Spruce Tree Camp in circa 1907, circulation was restricted to horse and wagon trails. As the area became more developed with the construction of more permanent buildings, horse and wagon routes became more formalized with widening and grading. In 1914, the first automobile road was constructed leading to the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area. The road consisted of a narrow 2-lane route that ended in a loop turnaround west of the early buildings. The original campfire circle was located at the interior of the loop turnaround. A separate spur road to the north provided access to the ruins and archeological sites.

Between 1921 and 1932, relatively few improvements were made to circulation patterns within the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area. The road and loop turnaround remained, through additional spur roads were constructed to the south and west of the loop turnaround. From the turnaround, the southern spur road led west to the Residential Area, passing between two residences before ending in a “T” intersection with a central triangular island. One western spur roads led on a southwest angle, becoming the access road to the lodge area. Another western spur road headed northwest through the Residential Area.

Circulation routes within the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters area changed drastically as part of master plan efforts from 1933 to 1942. The 1914 access road was widened and became the east segment of the main Headquarters Loop road. Additionally, the southern spur road became part of the main Headquarters Loop road. The loop turnaround, spur road to the ruins, and two west spur roads were converted into asphalt pedestrian walks. Additional asphalt and flagstone pedestrian paths were added around the new headquarters buildings and around the amphitheater area—some of which displayed sandstone curbs. A hiking trail was also added that led to the ruins in Spruce Tree Canyon. Other changes included the addition of a narrow service drive that extended from the Headquarters Loop road to the administration building (no.15).

One significant change was construction of an oval parking lot between the headquarters area and the residential area. Known as the Round Lot, the CCC built the asphalt parking area in late 1934 and early 1935 of quarried sandstone laid in an ashlar pattern using native mortar. The parking lot is located on the west side of the Headquarters Loop road with perimeter and center island sandstone walls, walks, and curbing. At the center of the lot is a 3-foot high wall with a built-in curved stone bench at each end. A stone wall at the perimeter of the lot visually separates the parking area from adjacent uses and also serves as a retaining wall (Noble, Jr., 1993). Sandstone slab walkways also follow the perimeter.

Between 1943 and today, additional changes were made to the circulation routes of the area. To accommodate an increasing number of visitors, a large rectangular parking lot was added along the main Headquarters Loop road to the north of the headquarters buildings. To do this, the horseback

concessionaire building (no. 11) and CCC-era pedestrian walks around the building and around the hospital (no. 10) were removed. A bus drop-off was also added between the access road to the lodge area and the service drive leading to the administration building (no. 15). As of June 2010, the main Headquarters Loop road was to be resurfaced with asphalt.

Despite these changes, the majority of current vehicular and pedestrian circulation routes within the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area reflect the conditions present during the period of significance.

Residential Area

The first circulation routes within the Residential Area developed between 1921 and 1932. One road led from the loop turnaround at the campfire circle on a westward alignment between residences no. 2 and no. 4. A second road headed on a northwest angle divided the area between residences no. 5 and no. 7. From this latter road, two parallel spur roads branched off to the north, both leading to the adjacent Original NPS Utility Area.

Between 1933 and 1942, the circulation patterns of the Residential Area were simplified and reorganized. As part of Nusbaum's concept of separating areas by use, the roads that divided the area were removed and converted into asphalt pedestrian paths. The parallel roads leading to the adjacent utility area were removed entirely. Instead, residences were accessed by an interior loop road. This new road was accessed from the western segment of the main Headquarters Loop road. It was aligned on a southeast direction, where at residences no. 7 it branched to the north and south. The northern portion accessed residence no. 8 and a small parking area for the Ranger's Club (later the Library, no. 9), while the southern portion ended in an oval loop that provided access to driveways at residences nos. 3, 4, 5, and 6. A separate service drive was constructed for residence no. 2. A number of flagstone walks and cobblestone-line walks were also constructed throughout the Residential Area to link the buildings to main pedestrian paths.

Since 1942, minimal circulation changes have taken place. Routine maintenance and repair has occurred on the interior loop drive and walks. Some path materials have also been changed over time.

Original NPS Utility Area/Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area

Circulation routes from 1921 to 1932 were mainly functional in use to access the Original NPS Utility Area. One north-south road led from the adjacent Residential Area and provided access to the east side of the utility area. A second road paralleled the first road, but accessed the western side of the utility area. This latter road also looped around and connected to a road that followed the edge of Spruce Canyon.

By 1934, the utility area was relocated away from the Headquarters Loop and the two roads associated with the area were removed. As construction began on the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area, located to the north of the former utility area, additional circulation patterns were developed. An elongated loop road surrounded the cabin area in the center of the space, while to the north and south spur roads were built with pull-offs and parking areas. The northern road, pull-offs, and parking areas accessed the tent area. The southern road accesses temporary trailer parking and storage areas. Although the tents and cabins were removed circa 1950, vestiges of the circulation patterns can still be seen today.

Spruce Tree Public Campground

Prior to the construction of the more formal campground in 1935, the area contained a series of access roads that paralleled the edge of Spruce Canyon and linked to the Original NPS Utility Area. Although camping had been permitted in the area as early as 1926, only these early roads provided access. Lack of additional roads and formalized camping areas led to significant automobile traffic, compacted soils, and damaged trees.

In the 1930s, plans were made for the design of a more formal campground. The western segment of the main Headquarters Loop road ran along the east side of the proposed campground area. Along which was a parking plaza at the entrance to the Spruce Tree Campground. From the parking plaza a west access drive led to the campground, which contained a north and two south one-way loops with delineated parking pull-offs. Constructed in 1935 by the CCC, approximately 100 campsites were built in the north loop, and 80 were built in the south loop. Large boulders defined each campsite parking spot.

By 1954, the campground had been converted into a day use picnic area. Despite the change in use, the circulation patterns remained. However, by the early 1960s, the north loop was abandoned, leaving only the south loop open to picnic use. Since then the pavement of the north loop road and parking areas has deteriorated, although the road and parking spaces are still visible today. The parking plaza also remains; it is used as a bus parking area today. At some point, likely in the mid-20th century, a gravel service drive was constructed from the campground to Fewkes Cabin (no. 12).

Today, the southern loops, both extant, are tiered and share a central automobile artery. The southern road system is still marked by the one-way circulation patterns essential to the original campground design plan. The eastern most segment is a southbound road, and the central and western roads are northbound. All are asphalt. The roads vary in width but are typically 10' wide.

Most of the parking spaces on the southern loops are original automobile parking spurs, also known as pull-outs, constructed per the Meinecke influenced Spruce Tree Public Campground plan. There are forty-three parking spaces clearly visible. Thirty-nine of the parking spaces are parking spurs, three parking spaces are now pull-throughs but appear to have been pull-outs, and one space on the southwest loop was modified and paved with asphalt by NPS to accommodate handicapped visitors.

The parking spurs consist of a rectangular gravel area partially outlined by native sandstone boulders or by curbing of cut, ungrouted, weather-faced sandstone blocks. In several instances the curbing also served as a retaining wall or has become a retaining wall over time. There are parking spurs on both sides of the roads—most extend at a forty-five to thirty degree angles to the road. The parking spurs vary in size but are generally eight to ten feet wide, and twelve to twenty feet in depth.

The curbing at the entrance to the Spruce Tree Public Campground consists of native buff-colored rectangular blocks, with weathered faces. The blocks are about twelve inches deep, about twenty-four inches in length and range in height from eight inches on the north to sixteen inches on the south side of the road. On the south side, two stone steps are integral with the curb. The steps are part of a trail leading to the Chapin Mesa Amphitheater and park administrative buildings.

Hogan District

The first circulation routes within the Hogan District were developed in the late 1930s and early 1940s with the construction of the hogan buildings. During this time, the area was accessed by a secondary road leading north and northwest from the main Headquarters Loop road. The road encircled the restroom building (no. 47) in an oval loop before continuing to the north to a storage area. A separate service drive branched to the east to access water catchment platforms and water storage tanks east of the hogans.

Few changes have occurred in the circulation patterns within the Hogan District since 1942. Over time, an informal path has been established between the Hogan District and the park Utility Area to the north. Today, the interior loop road consists of asphalt and gravel with limited sandstone curbs along the east side of the oval loop.

North Entrance Information Plaza

The North Entrance Information Plaza was built in 1935 as part of construction efforts related to the 1930s master planning efforts. During this time, the main Headquarters Loop road was constructed and the access road to the ruins (Ruins Road) was realigned. Together with the park entrance road,

the Headquarters Loop road, and Ruins Road created a 4-way intersection at the northern end of the Headquarters Loop. Three traffic islands were also constructed as part of the North Entrance Information Plaza—one larger island for a checking station and two smaller islands to separate traffic.

At some point after 1942, the two smaller traffic islands were removed. Today, the larger island remains and serves as a gateway to the Headquarters Loop area.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Headquarters Loop road (one-way, includes 1914 automobile road)
- Access road to former Spruce Tree Point Lodge (one-way)
- Pull-off along access road to former Spruce Tree Point Lodge
- Rim Trail
- Trail along former alignment of spur road to ruins
- Circular walk at Headquarters Area (former loop turnaround with central campfire circle)
- Trail to ruins in Spruce Tree Canyon
- Two (2) walks leading from Headquarters Area to Residential Area (former spur roads)
- Asphalt and flagstone pedestrian paths around Headquarters Area
- Asphalt pedestrian paths around amphitheater area
- Sandstone curbs throughout Headquarters Loop
- Stone gutters along Headquarters Loop road
- Service drive to administration building (no. 15)
- Round Lot (Headquarters Parking Lot, LCS 051748, HS-X01)
- Sandstone slab walkways along perimeter of Round Lot
- Interior loop road at Residential Area (one-way)
- Service drive for residence no. 2
- Flagstone walks throughout Residential Area
- Cobblestone-lined walks throughout Residential Area
- Remnants of elongated loop road at Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area (one-way)
- Remnants of south spur road, pull-offs, and parking areas at Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area
- Remnants of south spur road, pull-offs, and parking areas at Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area
- Parking plaza east of Spruce Tree Public Campground
- Remnants of north loop with delineated parking pull-offs at Spruce Tree Public Campground (one way, Spruce Tree Public CG Roads/Parking Spurs/Curbing, LCS 051751, HS-X04)
- Two (2) south loops with delineated parking pull-offs at Spruce Tree Public Campground (one way, Spruce Tree Public CG Roads/Parking Spurs/Curbing, LCS 051751, HS-X04)
- Interior loop road at Hogan District (one way)
- Service drive at Hogan District
- 4-way intersection at North Entrance Information Plaza
- One (1) traffic island at North Entrance Information Plaza (former location of checking station)
- Historic paving materials (i.e. asphalt, sandstone, flagstone, boulder edging)

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Irregularly-shaped gravel parking area on site of former Spruce Tree Point Lodge
- Rectangular asphalt parking lot north of the Headquarters Area
- Bus drop-off
- Gravel service road from Spruce Tree Campground to Fewkes Cabin (no. 12)
- Contemporary paving materials (i.e. concrete, brick pavers, concrete masonry units)
- Informal trail between Hogan District and park Utility Area to the north
- Informal social paths between use areas

MISSING FEATURES:
- Horse and wagon trails
- Traffic island within access road to former Spruce Tree Point Lodge
- Road segments and spur roads from 1921-1932 era
- CCC era pedestrian paths around horseback concessionaire building (no. 11)

- CCC era pedestrian paths around hospital (no. 10)
- Two (2) parallel spur roads leading to Original NPS Utility Area
- Access roads to late 1920s campground
- Two (2) traffic islands at North Entrance Information Plaza (formerly separated traffic)

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Headquarters Loop road

CLI Feature ID: 162738

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Road to former Spruce Tree Pt Lodge

CLI Feature ID: 162740

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Pull-off along access road to STP Lodge

CLI Feature ID: 162742

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Rim Trail

CLI Feature ID: 163049

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Trail along former alignment of spur rd

CLI Feature ID: 163037

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Circular walk at Headquarters Area

CLI Feature ID: 163035

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Trail to ruins in Spruce Tree Canyon

CLI Feature ID: 163031

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Two (2) walks from HQ to residences

CLI Feature ID: 163039

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Asphalt and flagstone pedestrian paths

CLI Feature ID: 163041

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Sandstone curbs throughout HQ Loop

CLI Feature ID: 163029

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Stone gutters along HQ Loop Road

CLI Feature ID: 163055

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Service drive to admin bldg (no. 15)

CLI Feature ID: 163045

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Round Lot

CLI Feature ID: 163051

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 51748

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Headquarters Parking Lot

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-X01

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46063

Feature Name: Sandstone walkways at Round Lot

CLI Feature ID: 163061

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Interior loop road at Residential Area

CLI Feature ID: 163063

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Service drive for residence no. 2

CLI Feature ID: 163065

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Flagstone walks, Residential Area

CLI Feature ID: 163043

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Cobblestone-lined walks, Res. Area

CLI Feature ID: 163027

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Remnants of elongated loop road

CLI Feature ID: 163053

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Remnants of south spur road/pulloff/park

CLI Feature ID: 163059

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Parking plaza east of ST Public Camp

CLI Feature ID: 163047

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Remnants of north loop at campground

CLI Feature ID: 163033

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Two (2) south loops at campground

CLI Feature ID: 163073

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Interior loop road at Hogan District

CLI Feature ID: 163081

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Service drive at Hogan District

CLI Feature ID: 163079

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: 4-way intersection at N Entrance Plaza

CLI Feature ID: 163075

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Traffic island at N Entrance Plaza

CLI Feature ID: 163077

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Historic paving materials

CLI Feature ID: 163085

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Gravel parking area at STP Lodge

CLI Feature ID: 163091

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Parking lot N of Headquarters Area

CLI Feature ID: 163097

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Bus drop-off

CLI Feature ID: 163089

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Service road from ST Camp to HS-12

CLI Feature ID: 163095

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Contemporary paving materials

CLI Feature ID: 163093

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Trail b/t Hogan and Utility to N

CLI Feature ID: 163083

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Informal social paths between use areas

CLI Feature ID: 163087

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Gravel parking area and one-way access drive at former location of Spruce Tree Point Lodge, facing south. The area is now used for overflow parking and materials storage (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Main Headquarters Loop road with sandstone curbing and Round Lot in the distance (left); looking northeast (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Round Lot with stone walls, walkways, and central planted island; looking southeast (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Sandstone curbs line pedestrian paths in the Headquarters Area near the main cluster of visitor and administration buildings; looking south from near the Visitor Center, facing south (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Elongated loop road in Concessionaire Tent and Cabin Area; note asphalt deterioration, facing SSW (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Large rectangular parking lot adjacent to former hospital (no. 10) and north of the Headquarters Area, looking north (Source: NPS, June 2010).

The North Entrance Information Plaza is the 4-way intersection of the park entrance road, Ruins Road, and the Headquarters Loop road (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Cluster Arrangement

Not used: see Spatial Organization.

Landscape Characteristic:
Constructed Water Features

Overall Constructed Water Features

In Superintendent Randolph's annual report of 1908, he noted that the natural supply of water in the park was limited and insufficient for future use. In the 1920s, the scarcity of water nearly resulted in multiple park closures. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, a number of constructed water features were built to combat water issues within the park. For ease of discussion, the following narrative describes constructed water features according to the 7 sub-units.

Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area

While no constructed water features were historically located within the Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area, the area had access to a steady water supply in 1918 with the construction of a water tower in the Residential Area. Reliable water supply continued through the 1920s, and by 1930 water was piped to convenient outlets throughout the area.

Today water features consist of an east-west drainage ditch that flows through the center of the former tent area. Though the date of the ditch is unknown, it is possible that it dates to the CCC era (1933 – 1942), as a sandstone culvert is present along a pedestrian path that crosses the ditch.

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

Water features at Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area were constructed incrementally over time as new technologies developed and the demand for water increased. Circa 1908, a dam and spillway were constructed at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon to collect rainwater for park domestic use. The contained water then percolated through the sandstone (for filtration purposes) to a cistern below. Additionally, a trench was constructed to convey spring water to the cistern and to catch the seepage from the canyon walls. Another crude reservoir was built below that received the overflow from the cistern to be used for both domestic and livestock purposes.

Approximately one year later in 1909, a shallow natural water tank above the cliff at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon was deepened and a wall was constructed on its lower side to create a reservoir. In blasting operations connected with this improvement, a leak developed in the bottom of the reservoir, and the project was abandoned.

Later in 1914, a gasoline engine and pump were installed at the cisterns below the springs of Spruce Tree House. Water was pumped to a galvanized tank on the top of the cliff, above the Spruce Tree Camp and conducted in pipes to the camp and to a watering trough for stock.

In 1918, a water tower was built within the Residential Area that provided water to the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area. Throughout the 1920s, a power plant pumped water from Spruce Tree spring into the water tower.

A few short years later in 1923, new water systems were constructed. A new storage cistern (4,500 gal. capacity) was constructed at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon, and a larger water tower and distribution tank (6,000 gal. capacity) was erected within the Residential Area. Various water lines ran to parts of the lodge, campgrounds, and headquarters areas. That same year, the discovery of nearly 200 Ancestral Puebloan check dams within a mile of Spruce Tree Camp modeled a water collection system for the park. Three additional modern masonry dams were constructed on the rim rock at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon to hold precipitation and runoff, which continued to percolated through the sandstone to the cistern below. Approximately 1.5 miles of drainage ditches are also dug to convey rain and snowmelt to the reservoirs and cisterns. This system performed fairly well, but eventually, evaporation caused too much water loss. In 1926, the majority of the water supply system was moved to the Hogan District. The three check dams were dismantled in 1940; however, traces of the foundations are still evident today.

By 1929, a concrete tank (75,000 gallon capacity) was installed underground to retain water pumped from the Spruce Tree Canyon spring for domestic purposes. It was likely placed near the head of Spruce Tree Canyon, but the exact location is unclear. (Torres-Reyes, 1970)

Today, only the dam at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon and the foundations of the three check dams remain. Remnants of the cistern, trenches, reservoir, or underground water lines may also exist, but were not noted during the 2010 site visit. Other constructed water features include a number of stone culverts along the Headquarters Loop road and drainage ditches and culverts at the amphitheater.

Residential Area

A water tower was built in 1918 to enable gravity flow of water to the adjacent Spruce Tree Point Lodge area and Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area. While it is unknown when this water tower was removed, it was likely removed around 1923 with the construction of a new water tower (no. 8) at the north end of the residences. In 1923, the new tower consisted of a 6,000 gallon distribution tank. By 1935, the use of the water tower was no longer needed, and the structure was converted into a residence (no. 8) by the CCC. Today, other constructed water features include stone culverts and drainage features along the residential loop access road.

Original NPS Utility Area/Concessionaire’s Tent and Cabin Area

Little information is known about constructed water features within the Original NPS Utility Area and

Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area. Between 1921 and 1932, it was likely that a steel tank for water was erected at the north end of the Original NPS Utility Area. This tank was likely removed when the utility area was relocated in 1934. Shortly thereafter in the development of the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area, a 90,000 gallon water storage spring tank was built along the Headquarters Loop road. This structure was likely removed with the removal of the tent and cabin area after 1950.

Spruce Tree Public Campground

As part of the campground development in 1935, the CCC constructed 14 stone culverts and 2 two log and sandstone drinking fountains within the Spruce Tree Public Campground. Water spigots were also incorporated into five Fuel, Water, and Garbage Stations throughout the area. The majority of these features remain today.

Today, there are ten culverts on the south loop roads of the former campground: eight are historic, one is partially historic, and one is non-historic. All culverts, except for the non-historic one, have stone drop inlets. The outlets are corrugated metal pipes. Some outlets are integral to walls or covered by stones/slabs.

Hogan District

In late fall of 1926, substantial improvements were made to the overall water collection system. Located .5 miles north of the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Areas within the eastern section of the present-day Hogan District, the system consisted of a 1-acre catchment basin of galvanized, corrugated roofing set in a low framework to gather precipitation. The catchment basin was oriented on a slight grade to collect and carry precipitation down the corrugation aisles. The water then passed through sand filters and was stored in a steel frost-proof, reinforced concrete tank (125,000 gal. capacity). From there the water was distributed through gravity and lateral lines throughout the Headquarters Loop area. Two years later in 1928, a second catchment basin and underground concrete storage tank were added to the system. Although there were wells in the park, this system provided a good water supply at a minimum expense.

Between 1933 and 1942, two additional 125,000-gallon capacity water storage tanks were added to the southwest section of the Hogan District. Sometime in the mid to late 20th century, the two 1-acre catchment basins were removed, as were the two water storage tanks to the southwest. However, the two water storage tanks to the east remain. It is possible that underground gravity and lateral lines also exist. Other constructed water features include a series of stone culverts and drainage features.

North Entrance Information Plaza

There are no known constructed water features within the North Entrance Information Plaza.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- East-west drainage ditch at center of Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Dam headwall at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon
- Remnants of three (3) check dams at Spruce Tree Canyon (removed in 1940)
- Former water tower (now residence, no. 8)
- Two (2) log and sandstone drinking fountains at Spruce Tree Public Campground
- Water spigots within fuel, water, and trash stations at Spruce Tree Public Campground
- Two (2) concrete water storage tanks (125,000 gallons) at Hogan District
- Sandstone culverts and drainage features through Headquarters Loop

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES: None.

MISSING FEATURES:
- Water tower in Residential Area (1918)
- Steel tank at north end of Original NPS Utility Area

- Water storage spring tank at Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area (90,000 gallon capacity)
- Two (2) 1-acre catchment basins at Hogan District
- Two (2) steel water storage tanks (125,000 gallons each) at Hogan District
- Galvanized water storage tank
- Watering trough for livestock
- Concrete water storage tank (75,000 gallon capacity)

FEATURES THAT MAY REMAIN, BUT WERE NOT NOTED IN SITE VISIT:
- Cistern (circa 1908)
- Trench to the cistern
- Reservoir below cistern
- Reservoir at the head of Spruce Tree Canyon
- Cistern (4,500 gal. capacity, 1923)
- Underground water lines
- Drainage ditches (1.5 miles)

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: E-W drainage ditch at STP Lodge area

CLI Feature ID: 162748

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Dam headwall head of ST Canyon

CLI Feature ID: 162744

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: 3 check dams at Spruce Tree Canyon

CLI Feature ID: 162746

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Former water tower (now residence no. 8)

CLI Feature ID: 163067

Feature Contribution: Contributing

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 11363

CRIS-HS Resource Name: Water Tower Residence No. 08

CRIS-HS Resource Number: HS-0008

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 46048

Feature Name: 2 log/sandstone drinking fountains

CLI Feature ID: 163069

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Water spigots at ST Campground

CLI Feature ID: 163099

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: 2 concrete water storage tanks at Hogan

CLI Feature ID: 163100

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Sandstone culverts and drainage features

CLI Feature ID: 163071

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Dam headwall on Spruce Tree Canyon, just north of Spruce Tree Terrace; looking northeast from Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Check dam remnants (pictured above is one of a series of three remnants) located north of the dam headwall in the upper reaches of Spruce Tree Canyon; facing east (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Cultural Traditions

Thomas Vint (NPS, 1922-1961), a Master Plan for Mesa Verde National Park (1933) was generated for all existing and future developed areas. The site plan for the Headquarters Loop illustrates organization patterns of buildings and circulation, distinct land uses (zoning) and infrastructure. The Headquarters Loop landscape continues to express an association with 1930s-era park planning.

Architectural Traditions

Historically, the designers and planners of America's national parks have advocated the concept that buildings and structures should visually compliment the natural landscape setting. Additionally, park architects have attempted to evoke some variation of local vernacular construction technique and workmanship in the design of park buildings. In the same vein, the materials employed in fabrication of structures were often drawn from surrounding forests and quarries. Such construction resulted in buildings that were subordinate to the exterior environment.

Early park planners and directors as well as park superintendent Jesse Nusbaum had promoted the idea of an architectural theme for park structures and buildings during the 1910s and 1920s. The materials, type of construction and details of park structures were often determined by the natural qualities of each site, including climate, weather, presence of local stone or timber, topography and the quality of the surrounding landscape. (McClelland, 1998) In the Headquarters Loop, the Modified Pueblo Revival and Rustic styles are predominant.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- National Park planning traditions
- Architectural traditions

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES: None.

Landscape Characteristic:
Land Use

Overall Land Use

There was no permanent development in the park prior to Nusbaum's term as superintendent. Between 1906 and 1920 the land was mainly used for park administrative functions and visitor recreation. As visitation increased and space demands were realized, specific "use areas" were delineated and began to shape the Headquarters Loop. Public and private uses in the park gradually grew into more cluster-like arrangements of buildings and facilities. From 1921 to 1932, land uses included administrative use (park headquarters), residential use (employee residences), utilitarian use (park utility and maintenance area), and recreational use (visitor lodging and camping).

Since the early 1920s, the land use in the Headquarters Loop has changed somewhat, but administrative, residential, utilitarian, recreational and visitor uses remain. Although there have been some use changes associated with converting the campground into a picnic area and relocating the park Utility Area, land uses largely remained unchanged.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Administrative use
- Residential use
- Utilitarian use (storage areas)
- Visitor use
- Recreational use (hiking, picnicking)

MISSING FEATURES:
- Utilitarian use (park maintenance facilities)
- Recreational use (lodging, camping)

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES: None.

Landscape Characteristic:
Natural Systems and Features

Geomorphology

Mesa Verde National Park is located on a high plateau approximately fifteen miles long and eight miles wide dividing the Mancos and Montezuma Valleys in southwestern Colorado. The Mancos River cuts the park's eastern edge and forms a canyon 1,000 to 2,000 feet below the cuesta.5 Over time, water has eroded portions of the cuesta into finger-like projections above a labyrinth of narrow, lateral canyons. The remaining cuesta slopes gently southward and is drained by the Mancos River and its tributaries. Deep canyons begin with small depressions at the north end of the cuesta and southward become deeper as they approach the Mancos River. (Wenger, 1991)

A slow but powerful erosive process is responsible for the unique geographic features of canyons and cuesta. Underlying the Montezuma Valley is a mass of soft clay or shale known by geologists as "Mancos shale." Overlying this shale are several hundred feet of a porous sandstone formation called the "Cliff House sandstone," the youngest rock stratum of Mesa Verde. Cliff House sandstone caps Chapin Mesa from Park Point to the southern boundary of the park. This sandstone enabled construction of cliff dwellings within the alcoves.

The Ancestral Puebloans selected various alcoves formed by wind and water erosion within the Cliff House sandstone to build their houses. One of the most spectacular cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde, Spruce Tree House, is located in Spruce Tree Canyon just across from the Headquarters Area. During the park's early days, visitors stayed at Spruce Tree Camp after their long and difficult trip to the top of the cuesta. Spruce Tree House was the first large cliff dwelling that they saw, it was relatively easy to access, had a good nearby water supply, and was within a convenient distance to the other major cliff dwellings on Chapin Mesa. Ancestral Puebloan construction was directly related to geomorphologic features. In turn, the evolution of Spruce Tree Camp and later, the core of historic park development follows this same pattern.

Climate

Mesa Verde National Park has a semi-arid climate. It is usually dry with a very limited water supply. Except for the Mancos River on the eastern edge of the park, there are no rivers or running streams at Mesa Verde. Water does run in most canyons only following heavy rainstorms or intermittently during spring snow melt. There is a long, frost-free growing season and few cold periods in the winter. Mesa Verde has an annual average high temperature of 62.2 degrees Fahrenheit and an average low of 36.5 degrees Fahrenheit. Average precipitation is 18.10 inches, most of which is snowmelt. Mesa Verde receives considerably more rainfall than a true desert area and supports vegetation typical of the upper Sonoran/Sierra Madrean life zones.

General climatic patterns have probably changed little from 1300 years ago. Droughts, severe at time, have occurred in Mesa Verde from AD 1276, the latest being in the late 17th century. The people of Mesa Verde chose the middle mesas around 7,000 feet in elevation to live. Here, there were deep soils usually rich in phosphorus and nitrogen from the decaying organic material. Soils in the canyon are sandy, usually rich in phosphorus and nitrogen from the decaying organic material. Soils in the canyon are sandy loam; a deep, coarse textured soil resulting from wing and water sorted sediments.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Narrow, lateral canyons
- Gently sloping cuesta
- Mancos shale
- Cliff House sandstone
- Chapin Mesa
- Spruce Canyon
- Spruce Tree Canyon
- Semi-arid climate
- Sandy loam soils

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES: None.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Spruce Canyon along western edge of Headquarters Loop landscape, facing SSE (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Small Scale Features

A number of small-scale features were present during the period of significance, as well as those present today. The following narrative is broken down by the seven sub-units for ease of discussion.

Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area

Though no buildings or structures remain here, small-scale elements are still extant in this sub-unit. Historically, small-scale features would have included utility poles, signs, fencing, sandstone curbing, and tent platforms for visitors. Today, concrete and wooden tire stops line the current day overflow parking area, a fence divides the cleared, graveled area from the central vegetated zone, and some sandstone curbing still remains.

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

Of the seven sub-units, the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters contains the most small-scale features. During early development of the area, features mainly included wood signs, rustic log fences, a log flagpole, metal pipe railing around the water catchment dams, and the original campfire circle.

During the 1930s, small-scale features of the area were altered through CCC era improvements. Throughout the majority of the Headquarters Loop area (Spruce Tree Camp/ Headquarters Area, Spruce Tree Point Lodge, Residential Area, parking plaza at Spruce Tree Public Campground, Hogan District, and the North Entrance Information Plaza), the CCC installed approximately 6,572 feet of hand-mitered sandstone curbing to delineate the extent of parking and vehicular access areas.

In addition, curbing was installed around the periphery of traffic islands to protect existing vegetation.

The sandstone used for the curbing was feasibly excavated from the park sandstone quarry located approximately 1.75 miles north of the present-day Utility Area. Individual curbstones were mitered to a thickness [depth] of 8 to 9 inches with a length of approximately 36 inches. Stones vary in length from 32 to 48 inches and were set to expose six inches above the parking surface grade. Though much of the curbing has deteriorated, the park repaired it as funds allow. As a small-scale feature, the curbing continues to complement other site and architectural masonry features of the site, such as building foundations and retaining walls.

Other features include sandstone steps, rustic light fixtures along pedestrian paths, sandstone retaining walls, sandstone headwalls and inlets, sandstone benches (in the Round Lot), an operating flagpole, flagstone walks/porches/landings, metal pipe railings, stone benches, and a small (approx. 8” x 8”) sandstone landscape element at the old campfire circle.

Non-contributing features include modern drinking fountains, trash/recycle bins, guardrails, interpretive signage, utility box (just northeast of Fewkes Cabin), modern wood fencing, modern chain link fencing and a metal vehicular service road gate.

A Mather plaque, National Historic Landmark marker, and World Heritage Site plaque are also extant within the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area along the walls of the museum. While the plaques and markers area not contributing, they are managed as cultural resources by the park.

Residential Area

Many of the extant small scale features in this sub-unit were constructed by the CCC from 1933 to 1942. Features include stone steps, flagstone porches/plazas/landings, sandstone curbing, sandstone pathway light fixtures, and sandstone retaining walls. The tennis court fence and light fixtures also date to 1937. Other non-contributing features include contemporary chain link fencing at residence no. 7.

Original NPS Utility Area/Concessionaire’s Tent and Cabin Area

The few contributing small-scale features in this sub-unit include a 1930s wooden electric utility pole in the northeast corner of the area and a 2.5-foot metal post, just southeast of three temporary storage units. Historically, sandstone curbing would have delineated roads and parking areas within the area. Non-contributing features include a utility box/unit, a modern culvert, a concrete retaining wall, three 1950s fire hydrants, and small (1 ft x1 ft x 2 inch), rectangular, moveable concrete slabs.

Spruce Tree Public Campground

Several small-scale features are extant throughout the Spruce Tree Public Campground. Features include stone steps, sandstone curbing, sandstone retaining walls, sandstone headwalls/inlets, sandstone campfire grills/fire pits, boulder-lined parking spurs, and picnic tables. Structures identified in the List of Classified Structures (LCS) database are detailed below.

Retaining Wall 11: This structure is a curved wall on the southeast side of the east segment of the south automobile loop road. This single course wall is constructed of six large buff-colored sandstone boulders and slabs which are loose laid. The wall defines the side of the road in addition to retaining earth.

Retaining Wall 26: This is a curved wall located north of Parking Spur 26. It is on the south end of the west segment of the former north automobile loop road. The wall is two stones high and stepped back in plan. It is 37 feet long and reaches a maximum height of 24 inches. The irregularly-shaped sandstone slabs range from 36 to 48 inches long. Each stone is approximately 24 inches thick and 10 to 12 inches high. Unlike the other retaining walls this one is not associated with a road or pullout.

Retaining Wall 32: This retaining wall is on the west side of the west segment of the south automobile loop road. Near parking spur 32, the retaining wall is on the edge of the Spruce Canyon. The wall is slightly serpentine in plan and 35' long. It varies in height from 24" to 36". The dry-laid retaining wall is constructed of fairly uniform stone blocks which are about 6" x 16". The wall varies from 3 to 7 courses of stone.

Retaining Wall 40: This retaining wall is located west of parking spurs 39 and 40—along the canyon's edge near the south end of the west segment of the south loops. The canyon views from this location are highly significant. The wall is 12' long and 4' feet high. Fairly straight in plan, the wall consists of 11 stepped courses of rectangular sandstone blocks set between rough boulders. It is drylaid. The blocks are about 6" high and 16" long. A set of ten stone stairs are integral to the design. The stairs curve around the south end of retaining wall. They are constructed of individual native cut sandstone slabs, about 30" wide and 6" high, and edged by rough boulders.

Campfire Grills/Fire Pits: The Spruce Public Tree Campground contains approximately 45 fireplaces in various conditions. Some of the fireplaces are CCC constructed, others are reconstructed non-historic stone and brick fireplaces, and the remaining are non-historic metal fire grills.
Three of the fireplaces constructed by the CCC maintain their integrity and are contributing resources. These fireplaces are constructed of three low walls of either sandstone blocks or irregularly-shaped uncut stones mortared with concrete. A metal grate of parallel flat bars rests on top; two have firebrick linings.

Other CCC-built fireplaces within the campground are partially intact. Some of the CCC style fireplaces are reconstructions using stones from former authentic CCC constructed fireplaces at the campground. The remaining stone fireplaces were based on historic design but constructed with larger stones—the larger stones deemed a better masonry material.

Hogan District

Several contributing and non-contributing small-scale features are extant in this sub-unit. Contributing features that remain from the period of significance include stone steps, flagstone porches/plazas/landings, sandstone road curbing, sandstone retaining walls, sandstone headwalls, and sandstone inlets.

Additional contemporary small-scale features have been added since the period of significance and include fire hydrants, utility poles, utility meter boxes, utility manholes, and a burnpile/gravel storage lot.

North Entrance Information Plaza

Remaining historic small-scale features in this sub-unit include sandstone curbing that lines the asphalt roads. At some point in time, 275 feet of the original sandstone curbing was removed at the the 4-way intersection at the North Entrance Information Plaza—likely when the two small traffic islands were removed. Other small-scale features include way-finding signage. Although the signage fits the NPS Rustic style, it is a more recent, contemporary installation.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Sandstone curbing
- Stone steps
- Flagstone porches/plazas/landings
- Light fixtures along sandstone paths
- Sandstone retaining walls
- Sandstone headwalls and inlets
- Two (2) sandstone benches in the Round Lot
- Metal pipe railings
- Flagpole at old campfire circle
- Small (approx. 8"x8") sandstone landscape element at old campfire circle
- Tennis court fence

- Tennis court light fixtures
- 1930s wood utility pole

2.5-foot metal post at former Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin area

- Spruce Tree Public CG Roads/Parking Spurs/Curbing (LCS 051751, HS-X04)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Fireplaces (LCS 051753, HS-X06)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 11 (LCS 051754, HS-X08.11)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 26 (LCS 051755, HS-X08.26)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 32 (LCS 619655, HS-X08.32)
- Spruce Tree Public CG Retaining Wall 40 w/Stairs (LCS 613231, HS-X08.40)

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:

- Storage areas/stockpiles
- Concrete and wood tire stops
- Modern drinking fountains
- Trash/recycle bins
- Guardrails
- Modern wood fencing
- Modern chain link fencing
- Metal vehicular service road gate
- Contemporary culverts
- Concrete retaining wall
- Concrete blocks/ slabs
- Picnic tables
- Fire hydrants
- Utility poles
- Utility boxes
- Utility manholes
- Signage

MISSING FEATURES:

- Rustic wood signs
- Log fences
- Log flagpole
- Metal pipe railing around the water catchment dams
- Original campfire circle
- 275 feet of sandstone curbing at North Entrance Information Plaza

MANAGED AS CULTURAL RESOURCES:

- Mather Plaque (LCS 051079, HS-PLAC 1)
- National Historic Landmark marker (LCS 606743, HS-PLAC.2)
- World Heritage Site Plaque (LCS 606751, HS-PLAC.3)

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Sandstone curbing

CLI Feature ID: 162750

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Sandstone steps

CLI Feature ID: 162752

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Flagstone porches/plazas/landings

CLI Feature ID: 162754

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Light fixtures along sandstone paths

CLI Feature ID: 162995

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Sandstone retaining walls

CLI Feature ID: 162981

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Sandstone headwalls and inlets

CLI Feature ID: 162977

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Two (2) sandstone benches at Round Lot

CLI Feature ID: 162975

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Metal pipe railings

CLI Feature ID: 162979

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Flagpole at old campfire circle

CLI Feature ID: 162997

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Sandstone element at old campfire circle

CLI Feature ID: 162989

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Tennis court fence

CLI Feature ID: 162993

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Tennis court light fixtures

CLI Feature ID: 162999

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: 1930s wood utility pole

CLI Feature ID: 162991

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: 2.5-foot metal post at Concession Tent

CLI Feature ID: 162983

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Storage areas/stockpiles

CLI Feature ID: 162987

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Concrete and wood tire stops

CLI Feature ID: 162971

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Modern drinking fountains

CLI Feature ID: 163001

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Trash/recycle bins

CLI Feature ID: 162973

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Guardrails

CLI Feature ID: 163007

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Modern wood fencing

CLI Feature ID: 163013

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Modern chain link fencing

CLI Feature ID: 163003

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Metal vehicular service road gate

CLI Feature ID: 163017

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Contemporary culverts

CLI Feature ID: 163005

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Concrete blocks/ slabs

CLI Feature ID: 163011

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Picnic tables

CLI Feature ID: 163009

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Fire hydrants

CLI Feature ID: 163015

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Utility poles/boxes/manholes

CLI Feature ID: 163019

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Concrete retaining wall

CLI Feature ID: 163025

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Sandstone steps and curbing are common small-scale features throughout the Headquarters Loop; direction unknown (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Wood benches and fences are just two of number of small-scale features are present throughout the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area (Source: NPS, June 2010).

One of many metal pipe handrails that remain throughout the Headquarters Loop area. The majority of these handrails are along pedestrian paths in the Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area (Source: NPS, June 2010).

CCC-constructed fire pits/grills at campsites of the Spruce Tree Public Campground remain (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Boulder-lined parking spurs at the Spruce Tree Public Campground define individual campground parking spaces (Source: NPS, June 2010).

A 1930s utility pole remains at the north end of the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Spatial Organization

Overall Spatial Organization

When Mesa Verde was designated a national park in 1906, few modern people had visited the park, and evidence of prehistoric human impact on the landscape included only trails and archeological sites. As visitation increased, new facilities were randomly constructed. Temporary development and overnight facilities were jammed within a small area overlooking Spruce Tree House. The first known tent camping area was erected in 1907 at Mesa Verde across the canyon from Spruce Tree House on a southern finger of Chapin Mesa. The view of Spruce Tree House and accessibility to water were some major reasons that visitor "settlement" occurred at Spruce Tree Camp. It made sense to locate administrative and visitor facilities where people congregated to view Spruce Tree House. However, within this initial development, functional arrangements of buildings, roads and trails to provide for park, residential, and visitor needs were sorely lacking. It was not until Superintendent Nusbaum's first term from 1921-32 that park facilities were planned and designed.

In 1921, Aileen and Jesse Nusbaum shaped a conceptual plan for the future development of a headquarters group at Spruce Tree Camp which included a new headquarters building, checking station, museum, comfort station, and accommodations for visitors and employees. The plan called for separation of administrative, residential, utility, and public use areas. Nusbaum used distance between development bubbles, changes in grade, clustering buildings, vegetative screening, specific circulation patterns, wider roads and trails in public use areas, and narrower ones in private use areas to separate these "bubbles." As a result, each of these areas were grouped near each other, yet were a unit unto themselves by concentrating activities and clustering development together functionally and aesthetically.

Smaller projects called for in Nusbaum's plan included extensive revegetation. For example, large trees were moved from other areas of the park and replanted, creating instant spatial separation between use areas. As the vegetation continued to mature, use areas were better defined. New development required the CCC to construct access points by constructing and extending certain roads and trails systems, but also to reclaim others. By using vegetation, new circulation patterns (roads and paths), the orientation of structures and clustering, the development bubbles were visually and physically separated thus offering more space to develop adequate facilities for each bubble.

As part of Nusbaum's plan, the lodge, visitor tents, visitor cottages, and service buildings were moved to a new at Spruce Tree Point in early 1923. Views across the canyons were astonishing and it seemed to be a logical location for these facilities. The lodge and cabins were spread out along the rim to take advantage of the views. A one-way road was constructed to the new, centrally located facilities of the lodge and additional sites were added to the public campground located along the canyon rim. Public campgrounds became necessary in 1926 to meet the increased visitor use. Additional roadways and campsites were built northward along the rim of Spruce Tree Canyon, essentially bridging the gap between the lodge and campground.

The residential area began to mature in the 1930s as the CCC began its era of building and improvements in Mesa Verde. These low profile private residences were kept a distance from the canyon rim and were tucked into vegetated areas to avoid public visibility. Additionally, they were sited in such a way that from one house to the next, views were blocked by the arrangement of windows and siting of each building. When vegetation was not adequate, laborers transplanted trees and shrubs to provide privacy for the residents between each house and to separate the housing from public areas.

The Headquarters Area, Residential Area, and the Hogan District are grouped roughly in a circle. Circulation is thus focused in the center of the building layout, creating a safe and intimate feeling. Residences in the Residential Area are tucked within the trees and sit at a slightly higher elevation than the Loop Road. These two spatial characteristics help maintain privacy in the sub-unit and screen the direct viewsheds from the public. Similarly, the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area is screened by vegetation and sits at a higher elevation from the road. This helps screen this administrative-use area from public eyes.

By contrast, Spruce Tree Point Lodge, Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area, Chapin Mesa

Amphitheater and Spruce Tree Public Campground were constructed along the canyon rim to take advantage of the canyon views. The campground still gives the feeling of a small village because of the close proximity of campsites which are generally screened from each other.

Further discussion of the spatial organization of each of the seven sub-units within the Headquarters Loop is provided below.

Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area

Spatial organization within the Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area was tightly clustered at the southernmost tip of Chapin Mesa. The lodge and other common facilities (bath, ice house, garage, comfort station) were centrally located, while tents and cabins flanked the areas to the east and west. A one-way loop road roughly separated the lodge and common facilities from visitor tent and cabin accommodations. Approximately 18 cabins and 6 tents were located to the west overlooking Spruce Canyon. To the east, 9 cabins and 19 tents overlooked the surrounding landforms. An additional 11 tents were also located adjacent to the common facilities within the center of the complex. Cabins were generally located closest to the canyon rim for the most spectacular views.

This spatial arrangement was retained until 1969 or 1970 when the lodge and all associated visitor accommodations were removed. The one-way loop road was retained, though expanded to include a large parking area at its southernmost point. This parking lot includes the footprint of the former lodge building. Today, the spatial organization of the area is somewhat open along the road and parking area. The surrounding areas of the former common facilities, tents, and cabins are more enclosed with vegetation that has grown since the 1970s.

Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area

The arrangement of the Spruce Tree Camp was in the early 20th century was tightly clustered at the edge of Spruce Tree Canyon. A tent cabin area was located immediately on the canyon rim for views to the adjacent ruins. Early administrative buildings and residences were located to the west and northwest of the camp, arranged around a loop turnaround with central campfire circle.

As the area developed and more space was needed for additional administrative, visitor, residential and utilitarian functions, the tent camping area was relocated and the early buildings were removed. Four new buildings (Superintendent's residence, park headquarters, community building, and museum) were constructed in a similar located between the canyon edge and circular loop turnaround. The buildings were roughly aligned in a row, though oriented different directions for view of the Spruce Tree House ruins. On the opposite (west) side of the road, two additional buildings (residence, Ranger's club) were also erected.

As NPS planning efforts came to fruition in the 1930s and 1940s, additional changes were made to the spatial organization of the area. Additions were made to the museum and park headquarters buildings, and a comfort station (later post office) was also constructed within the main administrative cluster. Vehicular circulation changed with the development of the main Headquarters Loop road, which served as the primary artery through the headquarters area. Vehicle parking was accommodated with the construction of an oval parking lot (Round Lot) to the west of the main loop road. The alignment of former circulation routes was retained as roads were converted to pedestrian walks. Of particular note, the loop turnaround was also converted into a pedestrian walk and the central campfire circle was moved to the Chapin Mesa Amphitheater along the edge of Spruce Canyon to the west.
During the 1930s and 1940s construction, every effort was made to preserve the natural vegetation and breathtaking views across Spruce and Navajo Canyons. Where vegetation couldn't be preserved, additional native plantings were added to screen views and augment the existing plant materials. This is especially noted within the amphitheater where pinon pine were used to flank the edges of the space and frame a view to the west into Spruce Canyon.

Throughout the mid to late 20th century, additional changes were made to accommodate increasing numbers of visitors. Two large changes included the construction of a bus drop-off and large

rectangular parking lot north of the Headquarters Area. Additionally, some changes in use were also noted. Use of the amphitheater was reduced dramatically after the demolition of the lodge in 1969 or 1970 and the conversion of the campground into a day-use picnic area.

Nevertheless, the overall spatial organization of the period of significance remains today. Administrative and visitor use buildings are clustered tightly together at the edge of Spruce Tree Canyon. The Headquarters Loop road and Round Lot continue to provide access and parking within the area. A series of 3-foot wide trails totaling 700 linear feet, lead from the Headquarters Area to the amphitheater and along the canyon rim. Views to the surrounding canyons remain prominent.

Residential Area

During the period of significance, the buildings and structures of the Residential Area were clustered together around a one-way loop road. Sited at a higher topographic elevation and screened by vegetation, the area exhibited limited external views and was spatially separated from the adjacent more-public Headquarters Area. A series of paths and walks also cut through the space, linking the area with park headquarters to the east and the amphitheater to the west. A tennis court was also located to the north at the edge of the area. Today, the spatial organization remains intact.

Original NPS Utility Area/Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area

The Original NPS Utility Area was arranged linearly along an access road. Buildings fronted the road, providing easy and economical access to move machinery and materials throughout the area. This spatial arrangement remained until 1934 when the buildings were relocated to the present-day Utility Area.

The development of the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area was also arranged in a somewhat linear fashion—confined to the interior of the Headquarters Loop road. The cabins were located in the center of the space, encircled by a one way loop road. The tent area was located to the north, accessed by a central road with pull-offs and parking areas. A similar spatial arrangement was likely planned to the south with a central road; however, it does not appear that the southern area was ever fully developed into tents or cabins.

The spatial organization of the Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area drastically changed in 1950 when the concessionaire's facilities were removed. Today, only the one-way loop road and north and south spur roads remain. The clusters of tents and cabins no longer remain.

Spruce Tree Public Campground

In general, the campground was spatially organized along a north loop road and two southern loop roads. Based on E.P Meinecke's concepts of minimal environmental impact, the campground sites were clustered in a very regular pattern with identical features along the one-way vehicular roads. Each camp site included a parking space set off at a forty-five degree angle from the road with a boulder-lined parking space, a permanent stone campfire grill, table and tent pad. This arrangement helped to control traffic/pedestrian patterns and confine automobiles and people to minimize the impact on vegetation and soil. Two restroom buildings and five water, garbage, and firewood stations were also constructed within the campground. This spatial organization remains today.

Hogan District

Historically, the Hogan District contained seven hogan structures located on a loop road north of the campground. Six hogans were located around the perimeter of a loop road. The seventh hogan was a comfort station that occupies the center of the loop. The cultural traditions of the Navajo required unique building and orientation guidelines, yet it was still possible to organize this cluster around a one-way loop road. To the east of the hogans, was the area used for water catchment basins and storage tanks. Two additional water storage tanks were also located to the southwest of the hogans.

Today, the spatial arrangement of the area remains very similar to that of the historic period. All seven hogans remain clustered around the one-way loop road. The four water tanks also remain, although the catchment basins have been removed. The former catchment basin area generally retains its flat topography and open character and is now used for storage and stockpiling operations.

North Entrance Information Plaza

During the period of significance, the North Entrance Information Plaza contained a 4-way intersection with central median and checking station and two smaller traffic islands. Today, the 4-way intersection remains, but the checking station and two smaller traffic islands have been removed.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Spatial relationships based on canyon views and vistas
- Separation of administrative, residential, visitor use, recreational, and utilitarian uses
- Screening between separate use areas for privacy and limited views
- Blending of buildings and circulation within the surrounding landscape
- Minimal disturbance to vegetation during construction
- Buildable area influenced by topography of Chapin Mesa
- Clustering of development within Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area along canyon edge
- Clustering of residences around one-way loop road within interior of Headquarters Loop road
- Clustering of residences around loop road at Hogan District
- Clustering of campground spaces with views to Spruce Canyon
- Clustering of tourist amenities along canyon rims
- Development of amphitheater with views to Spruce Canyon

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Alterations to spatial organization of Spruce Tree Point Lodge
- Alterations to spatial organization of Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters area with bus drop-off
- Expansion of Headquarters Loop Road into rectangular parking lot, near Spruce Tree Terrace
- Alterations to spatial organization of Original NPS Utility Area/Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area
- Alterations to spatial organization of eastern portion of Hogan District

MISSING FEATURES:
- Clustered arrangement of lodge, cabins and tents within Spruce Tree Point Lodge Area
- Linear arrangement of utility buildings within Old NPS Utility Area
- Clustered arrangement of cabins and tents within Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

View of the clustered building arrangement of Spruce Tree Camp/Headquarters Area from the head of Spruce Tree Canyon, facing southwest (Source: NPS, June 2010).

View of overall spatial organization of southern end of the Headquarters Loop with the Sewage Lift Station (no. 84) in the foreground and the Residential Area screened from view in the background, facing west (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Topography

Overall Topography

Topography on Chapin Mesa has changed very little since the period of significance. The gently sloping ground plane of Chapin Mesa, access to water, its fertile soil, and widespread vegetation made it very attractive as a development site for the Headquarters Loop, and applies collectively to all sub-units of this component landscape. The topography of the area also provided expansive views overlooking the surrounding canyon/mesa landscape or Navajo, Spruce, and Spruce Tree Canyons.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Gently sloping terrain

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES: None.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

The gently sloping topography of Chapin Mesa surrounded by steep canyon walls made the area a practical location for the park headquarters (Source: Google Maps, July 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Vegetation

Overall Vegetation

Historically, the vegetation of the Headquarters Loop consisted of pinon-juniper forest, including pinon pine, Utah juniper, and Douglas fir, which accounted for the mesa's name, meaning "green table." Native Americans of the area harvested the wood for construction and fires.

As visitors came to Mesa Verde, the vegetation within the Headquarters Loops area was altered. Before park establishment, the vegetation around Spruce Tree Camp was sparse and degraded due to unregulated camping and overgrazing. However, during the 1920s and 1930s, efforts were made to revegetate the Spruce Tree Camp and many other areas. During this time, the park staff and CCC laborers planted 16,789 plants in newly developed areas, many of which were large trees and shrubs salvaged from construction areas. These plants provided much needed shade, privacy and screening between use areas. In many cases, plants were used along with check dams to help control erosion.

Today, the transplanted trees and shrubs from the 1920s and 1930s have continued to transform and improve the aesthetics of the Headquarters Loop by adding textures, colors, massing; defining both vertical and horizontal planes; and screening areas from view. Despite hazard fuel reduction, beetle kill, and fires, as the surviving trees and shrubs have matured, they have defined, softened and blended the developed areas with the surrounding landscape.

The park's pinon-juniper forest also remains and is comparatively dense in relation to the historic era—mostly due to the absence of clearing or harvesting trees and past fire policies requiring full suppression of all fires. The dense forest, downed timber, drought-stressed and beetle-killed trees make the forest especially vulnerable to lightning-caused fires. Beginning in 1994, the park practiced selective thinning to reduce hazardous fuels, thus reducing the fire risk in the park. This activity changed the visual component of the landscape in the Headquarters Loop in particular. Despite the fuel reduction efforts, recent fires in the summers of 1996, 2000, 2002 and 2003 have burned approximately 2/3 of the park. The Long Mesa Fire in 2002 burned the perimeter of the Headquarters Loop.

Other vegetation features that are of particular note are plantings that frame the vista to the surrounding canyon at Chapin Amphitheatre, the maintained grass lawn areas near the Information Plaza, and vegetative growth in formerly cleared areas within the Spruce Tree Public Campground and Concessionaire's Tent & Cabin Area. A number of non-native, invasive species are also present throughout the area.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Pinon-juniper forest (pinon pine, Utah juniper, and Douglas fir)
- Use of vegetation to screen developed areas from view

Plantings from 1920s and 1930s
- Plantings that frame vista at Chapin Amphitheatre
- Lawn area at the Information Plaza

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Non-native, invasive species
- Altered vegetation patterns due to fire, hazard fuel reduction, soil compaction

NON-CONTRIBUTING / COMPATIBLE FEATURES:
- Vegetative growth in formerly cleared areas within the Spruce Tree Public Campground and Concessionaire's Tent & Cabin Area

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Pinon-juniper forest

CLI Feature ID: 162760

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Use of veg to screen developed areas

CLI Feature ID: 162758

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Plantings from 1920s and 1930s

CLI Feature ID: 162756

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Plantings that frame vista at Ch. Amphit

CLI Feature ID: 162945

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Lawn area at the Information Plaza

CLI Feature ID: 162946

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Non-native, invasive species

CLI Feature ID: 162950

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Altered veg due to fire/drought/pests

CLI Feature ID: 162958

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Feature Name: Veg in formerly cleared areas

CLI Feature ID: 162955

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Vegetation throughout the Headquarters Loop area screens separate use areas from visitor view, facing north (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Vegetation within the Spruce Tree Public Campground provides shade and comfort for visitors, facing north (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Landscape Characteristic:
Views and Vistas

Overall Views and Vistas

Perhaps the single most influencing factor originally guiding the location of built facilities and roads at Mesa Verde National Park was the opportunity for views and vistas. The original buildings of the area were located at the edge of the mesa overlooking Spruce Tree Canyon. Later development in the 1920s and 1930s continued to follow this general pattern. Visitor facilities were placed at the edges of the mesa for views to the surrounding canyons, while the majority of park facilities were placed at the center of the mesa for limited views to the areas. The main Headquarters Loop road separated these distinct areas while focusing views to the surrounding canyons and minimizing views of the internal park facilities. Rustic and Modified Pueblo Revival architectural styles were used to blend the buildings with the surrounding landscape, thus limiting visual impacts to the area. Additional vegetation was also planted around the buildings to screen views.

Today, many of these same views remain today. Views from Chapin Mesa to Spruce and Spruce Tree Canyons and the view to Spruce Tree House are main visitor attractions in the area. Views down the Headquarters Loop road focus on the road corridor, with vegetation that screens views to adjacent developed areas, particularly the Residential Area, Hogan District, and former Concessionaire's Tent and Cabin Area. Views within each of the seven sub-units of the Headquarters Loop are primarily internally focused with views of buildings, structures, and landscape features screened from adjacent areas by vegetation. Exceptions to this include views to Spruce Tree House and Spruce Tree Canyon from the Headquarters Area and a framed vista from Chapin Amphitheatre to Spruce Canyon. A number of contemporary features (storage areas, parking lots, signs) have been added throughout the Headquarters Loop, somewhat changing historic views.

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Views from Chapin Mesa to Spruce and Spruce Tree Canyons
- Views to Spruce Tree House
- Corridor views down Headquarters Loop road
- Screened views of developed areas from Headquarters Loop road
- Internal views of buildings, structures, and landscape features
- Framed vista from Chapin Amphitheatre to Spruce Canyon

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:
- Views of non-contributing features (storage areas, parking lots, signs)

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Views from Chapin Mesa to Spruce Canyon

CLI Feature ID: 162766

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Views from C. Mesa to Spruce Tree Canyon

CLI Feature ID: 162762

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Views to Spruce Tree House

CLI Feature ID: 162764

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Corridor views down Headquarters Loop Rd

CLI Feature ID: 162924

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Screened views of developed areas

CLI Feature ID: 162911

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Internal views of buildings/landscape

CLI Feature ID: 162916

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Framed vista from Ch. Amphit to canyon

CLI Feature ID: 162930

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Views of non-contributing features

CLI Feature ID: 162937

Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

View of Spruce Tree House and surrounding landscape from back porch of Chief Ranger's Office; facing east (Source: NPS, June 2010).

View of Spruce Tree Canyon from behind Superintendent's Residence (no. 1); facing SSE (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Framed vista at Chapin Amphitheatre to Spruce Canyon, facing southwest. Large pinon trees to left and right frame the vista (Source: NPS, June 2010).

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 08/30/2024

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Poor

Assessment Date: 04/01/2007

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:
The Level II CLI completed in 2007 found the landscape to be in poor to good condition. No explanation was given for this wide condition range, but it is assumed that some areas of the headquarters loop were in poor condition and other areas were in good condition at that time.

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 04/16/2012

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:
Much of the Headquarters Loop landscape is in fair condition with a few areas in poor condition and some recently rehabilitated features in good condition. Scott Travis, Chief of Cultural Resources, confirmed this condition assessment of fair in June 2010. Park Superintendent concurrence was received on 4/16/2012.

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 08/30/2018

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:
The Headquarters Loop remain in Fair condition. Mostly deferred maintenance and other modern improvement have eroded the condition. The park is seeking a CLR for the Headquarters Loop and plans are to implement those recommendations. Furthermore, restoration improvement the housing building is planned for FY2020. Superintendent concurrence on 8/30/2018.

Stabilization Measures:

Impacts

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Most of the landscape features have not been maintained or have had little maintenance. Items include sandstone roadside curbing, stone campfire grills, water garbage and fuel stations, flagstone pathways, stone steps, stone retaining walls, and vegetation. Funding is difficult to acquire for these purposes. Impact level is severe.

Type of Impact:	Erosion
Other Impact:	
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The high desert's harsh climate and recent fires have led to vegetation loss and soil erosion in most areas throughout this landscape. Impact level is severe.
Type of Impact:	Fire
Other Impact:	
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The Long Mesa Fire of 2002 burned to the edge of this landscape and burned some of the vegetation. Due to this fire (and summer fires of 1996, 200, and 2003), vegetation has continued to die. Fire suppression efforts included a tree thinning operation, leaving many residential buildings unscreened and easily visible – counter to the intention of the designers. Many historically planted and intended trees were cut. Additionally, a 12-acre safety zone was clear cut adjacent to this landscape. From the Headquarters Loop, the safety zone appears to be of a meadow where there was historically a pinon-juniper forest. The intimacy of the wooded landscape has been lost in the last seven years due to hazard fuel reduction, beetle kill and loss of vegetation due to drought. Impact level is severe.
Type of Impact:	Inappropriate Maintenance
Other Impact:	
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Stone features such as the water, garbage and fuel stations in the campground have been maintained by applying Portland cement mortar carelessly over the joints. Portland cement deteriorates the sandstone and also wears much more slowly than the sandstone. Impact level is severe.
Type of Impact:	Improper Drainage
Other Impact:	
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The CCC and other laborers in the 1920s established a complex system of drainage pipes in the Headquarters Loop. These drainage systems have not been properly maintained and may have flaws. These non-functioning drainage systems have caused erosion and siltation, thereby degrading slopes, parking areas, and stone work. Impact level is moderate.

Type of Impact: Pests/Diseases

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: A severe drought has plagued the southwest leading to vegetation loss, including much of the pinon-juniper forest. The drought has compounded the effects of wildland fire and has caused enough stress to pinon trees that beetles have infested Mesa Verde's pinon population causing approximately a 75% mortality rate at this time. Impact level is severe.

Type of Impact: Neglect

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The landscape features throughout the Headquarters Loop including stone curbing, trails, campfire pits, water/garbage/fuel stations, walkways, walls, steps, and vegetation have been neglected. The integrity of several of these features is highly threatened. Some have been repaired. Impact level is severe.

Type of Impact: Removal/Replacement

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The cabin/tent concession in the center of the Headquarters Loop was removed during the 1950s and 1960s. This area has degraded and is used as a storage area. The only remaining evidence of this area is the road. Impact level is low.

Type of Impact: Soil Compaction

Other Impact:

External or Internal: None

Impact Description: People are walking over areas that were not intended for walking, causing loss of vegetation and soil compaction. This is reducing the effect of screening from a wooded environment. Impact level is severe.

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Please see sections on soil compaction, erosion, fire, microclimate, pests/disease and visitation for further information on the condition of vegetation. The 2002 Long Mesa Fire burned around and into the Headquarters Loop. This, along with the suspension of funding for our weed program, has allowed the further intrusion of exotics, including thistle. Impact level is severe.

Type of Impact:	Visitation
Other Impact:	
External or Internal:	External
Impact Description:	Social trails and little or no maintenance of landscape features have led to degradation of landscape features, vegetation, and soil compaction. Impact level is low.
Type of Impact:	Vegetation/Invasive Plants
Other Impact:	
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	See Vegetation and Views/Vistas in the Landscape Characteristics section. Unintended post-period of significance vegetation has increased in areas that were originally intended for vehicular circulation—especially in the abandoned northern loop of the Spruce Tree Public Campground and on the eastern prong of the Concessionaire's Tent & Cabin Area loop road.

Stabilization Costs

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

There is no approved landscape treatment for the Headquarters Loop.

Approved Treatment Completed:

Approved Treatment Costs

Landscape Approved Treatment Cost Explanatory Description:

There is no approved landscape treatment for the Headquarters Loop.