

CARTOGRAPHIC CAMPSITES OF 1869: MAJOR POWELL'S MOMENTOUS POSSIBILITIES
by Richard D. Quartaroli 2009 GTS

“The Major as usual has chosen the worst camping-ground possible,” George Y. Bradley secretly wrote on June 11, 1869, in the Canyon of Lodore. Bradley, a crewmember of John Wesley Powell’s expedition down the Green and Colorado rivers, continued, “If I had a dog that would lie where my bed is made tonight I would kill him and burn his collar and swear I never owned him.”

Many Powell 1869 campsites of his momentous pioneer river trip remain unknown to this day, but have had speculative campsite identification. Powell and his men spent 25% of their 99-day river trip in the Grand Canyon. I would like to commemorate the 140th anniversary of Powell’s successful river trip in this brief poster presentation, relying on the following sources, and my own best guesses.

Dock Marston: “1869 Powell,” unpublished manuscript, the Otis R. “Dock” Marston Collection, Box 422 Folder 1, The Huntington Library.

Drifter Smith: “The Powell Expedition of 1869,” unpublished manuscript, Boatman Training Seminar, 1989.

Dr. Michael P. Ghiglieri: *First Through Grand Canyon: The Secret Journals and Letters of the 1869 Crew Who Explored the Green and Colorado Rivers.*

overall camp	JWP journal camp	GC camp		Dock	Drifter	The good Dr.	Q
51	24	GC 1	08/04/1869	sandbar @ Paria mouth	Paria	Paria	abv Paria
52	25	GC 2	08/05/1869	bel Soap Crk R. on sandbar, eddy R	same as Dock	same as Dock	same as Dock
53	26	GC 3	08/06/1869 08/07/1869	CRM 20 on R maj & bro see S Cyn 15 mi dist	betw 19 mile and Ind Dick		21.3 to 23 mile R
54	27	GC 4	08/08/1869	on L under water-carved marble cliff CRM 25 1/4 @ head of light rap	cave on L, 1/2 mi bel Cave Spr R.		same as Drifter 26 mile
55	28	GC 5	08/09/1869	prob in mesq grove on sand bar @ ft of Pres. Harding Rapid	L nr Buckfarm or Ryl Arches		L across fr Anasazi Bridge
56	29	GC 6	08/10/1869 08/11/1869 08/12/1869	on L 100 yds bel Flax River (LCR)	same as Dock	[same as Dock]	same as Dock
57	30	GC 7	08/13/1869	R abv Hance Rapid	L @ Hance Rapid	@ Hance Rapid	same as Dock
58	31	GC 8	08/14/1869	mid-portage of Grapevine on R	same as Dock	same as Dock	same as Dock
59	32	GC 9	08/15/1869 08/16/1869	under large willow @ Silver Crk (BA)	same as Dock	same as Dock	same as Dock

overall camp	JWP journal camp	GC camp		Dock (1)	Drifter (2)	The good Dr. (3)	Q
60	33	GC 10	08/17/1869	on L @ head of Hermit Rapid	same as Dock		same as Dock
61	34	GC 11	08/18/1869	on R betw Crystal and Tuna	same as Dock		same as Dock @ Tuna Crk R
62	35	GC 12	08/19/1869	on L @ mile 105	103 or 104 mile		same as Drifter, on L
63	36	GC 13	08/20/1869	on R nr old Indian ruins abv Shin Crk	108 mile Lower Bass	108 mile Lower Bass?	107-108 Hotauta to Bass
64	37	GC 14	08/21/1869	on L among willows nr Fossil C CRM 125	Conquistadore Aisle		same as Drifter, 121-122 mile
65	38	GC 15	08/22/1869	at head of Dubendorff Rapid	same as Dock	bel Dubendorff	same as Dock
66	39	GC 16	08/23/1869	on L nr Kanab Crk	same as Dock		same as Dock
67	40	GC 17	08/24/1869	under ledge @ L @ head of a rapid @ or near CRM 164	~ 164 mile		~ 164-165 mile on L
68	41	GC 18	08/25/1869	on R, prob abv Spring C. nr Parashant	190-200 mile	mile 190?	190-202 mile on R
69	42	GC 19	08/26/1869	stole squash @ Spring C.; camp on R ~ 4 mi bel D.C.	bet Diamond C and Travertine C		~ 227-228 mile on R
70	43	GC 20	08/27/1869	on L in gulch @ Separation Rapid	same as Dock	[same as Dock]	same as Dock
71	44	GC 21	08/28/1869	on L nr CRM 253 1/2			same as Dock
72	[45]	GC 22	08/29/1869	on L just bel Grand Wash Cliffs	bel Grand Wash Cliffs		~ 296 mile on L, South Cove/
73	[46]	GC 23	08/30/1869	on R @ mouth of Virgin River	same as Dock	same as Dock	same as Dock, 323 mile

All campsite photos Richard D. Quartaroli, 2008, except:

Grapevine: Robert Brewster Stanton photo, National Archives and Record Administration, courtesy Desert Laboratory Repeat Photography Collection.

Hermit: Richard Jackson photo, USGS Old-Timers' Collection, NAU Cline Library, NAU.PH.94.37.137.

Across from Separation: Margaret Eiseman photo, Margaret Eiseman Collection, NAU Cline Library, NAU.PH.2004.8.2.58a.

Map & Diorama: USGS & GCNP, John Wesley Powell Display Collection, NAU Cline Library, NAU.PH.268.1.23 & NAU.PH.268.2.13.

Separation Plaque: Margaret Eiseman photo, Margaret Eiseman Collection, NAU Cline Library, NAU.PH.2004.8.2.58a.6.

J.W. Powell photo: John Wesley Powell Display Collection, NAU Cline Library, NAU.PH.268.1.4.

George Y. Bradley illustration: Cañons of the Colorado, John Wesley Powell Display Collection, NAU Cline Library, NAU.PH.268.2.4.

Oramel and Seneca Howland: *The Howland Quarterly*, The Pilgrim John Howland Society, July 1986, Volume 1, No. 4.

Walter Henry Powell: Michael P. Ghiglieri, *First Through Grand Canyon*.

John C. "Jack" Sumner: Robert Brewster Stanton, *Colorado River Controversies*.

William "Missouri Rhodes" Hawkins: Robert Brewster Stanton, *Colorado River Controversies*.

Andy Hall: David Lavender, *River Runners of the Grand Canyon*.