

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon National Park Cultural Resources

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



Cultural Resources

Are "...those aspects of the environment-both physical and intangible, both natural and built, that have cultural value of some kind to a group of people." –Thomas King



Cultural resources are the physical remains of the varied and long-term human use of the landscape.



We should manage cultural resources for their long-term preservation as directed by law and policy.



Cultural resources include these general categories:

- Archaeological sites
- Historic structures
- Cultural landscapes
- Ethnographic resources
- Museum collections



Archaeological Resources

Are the physical evidence of past human activity, including evidence of the effects of those activities on the environment.





Artifacts



Landscape features



Homes





Agricultural stone terraces



Rock writings and many other feature types

Historic Structures

A historic structure is a constructed work created to serve some human activity.

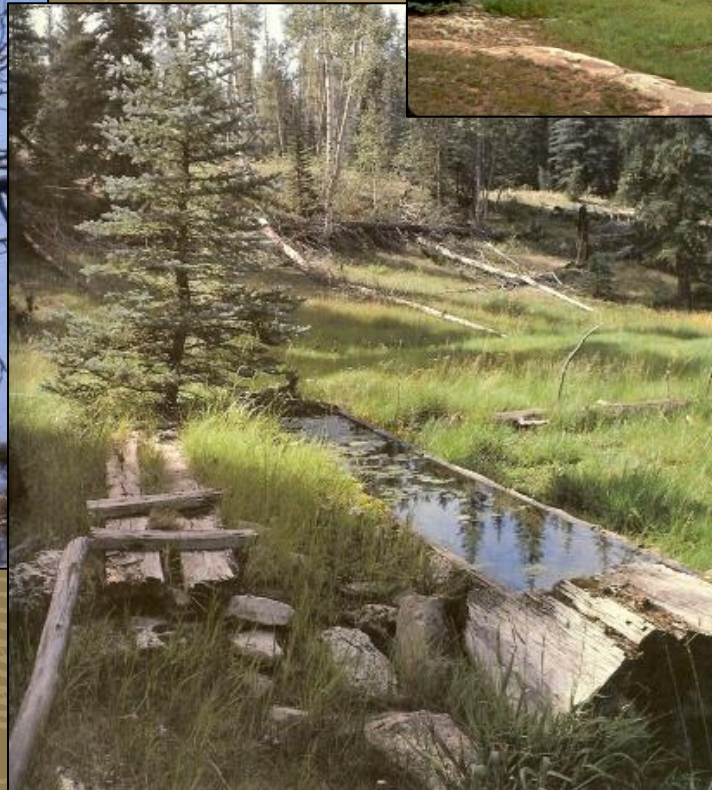




Tree tower



Corral



Water trough



Bridges



Trails



Phone lines

Cisterns





Homes



Grave markers

Cultural Landscapes

A cultural landscape is a reflection of human adaptation and use of the land. The character of a cultural landscape is defined both by physical materials, such as roads, buildings, walls, and vegetation, and by use reflecting cultural values and traditions.

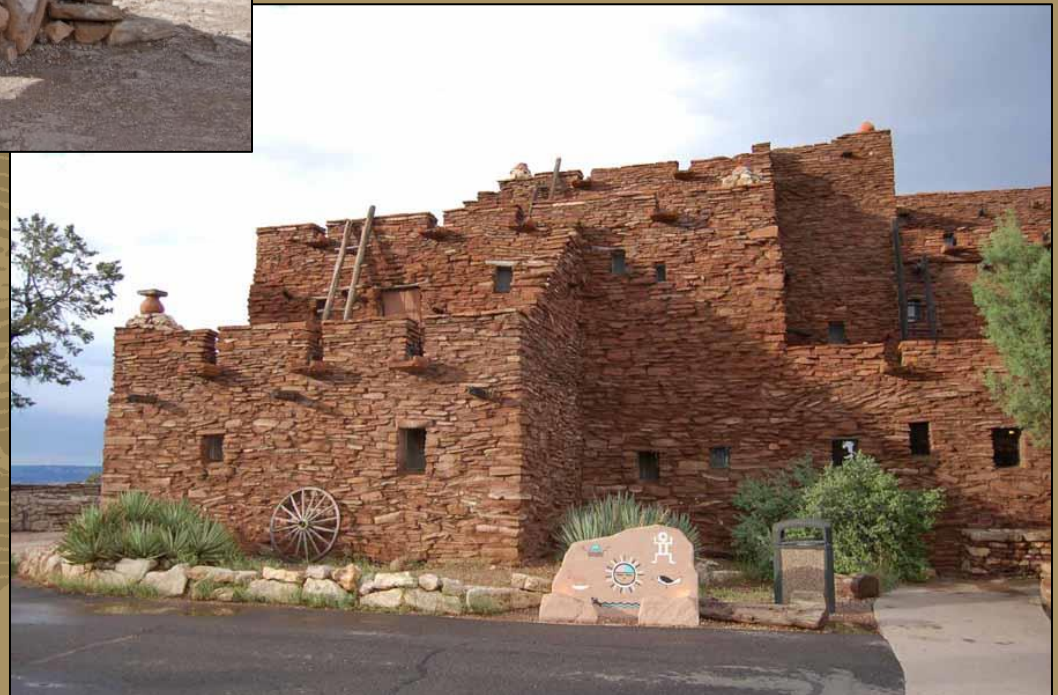




Views



Landscape
features



Historic
buildings



Vegetation

Ethnographic Resources

Ethnographic resources are the cultural and natural features of a park that are of traditional significance to traditionally associated peoples. These are people or communities that have been associated with a park for two or more generations (40 years), and whose interests in the park's resources began before the park's establishment.





Native plants



Wildlife



Archaeological sites

Geological features



Springs and creeks





Mineral deposits



Night skies and
soundscapes
(songscales)



Museum Collections

Are the objects, specimens, archival, and manuscript collections related to a park's history and aid in the understanding of that history for visitors, cooperators, researchers, and park staff.





Photographs



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Objects



A mile deep, miles wide,
 & painted like a sunset

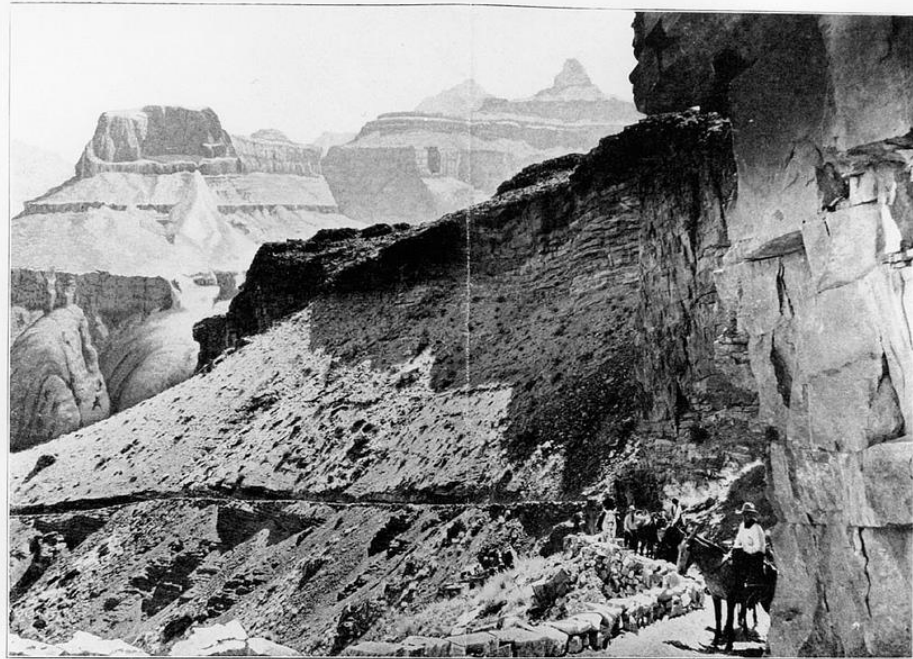
That's the Grand Canyon
 of Arizona

Be get builders of the train
 will buy vehicles
 will buy cars, trucks, etc.
 AT ALL STATIONS
 1914 - 1915 - 1916 - 1917

You can go there in a Pullman to the rim
 at El Tovar on route to Sunny California
 on the train of luxury

The California Limited

Paper records and more



On Trail to Phantom Ranch from South Rim

at 35 cents per car mile, irrespective of mileage or the number of passengers carried.

On all Grand Canyon motor trips, children between the ages of six and eleven are charged half rate.

NOTE—If the demand for regular trip drives is so heavy as to require use of all autos available, special autos will be discontinued temporarily.

Trails to the River

Preliminary.—If you are accustomed to mountaineering in high altitudes, then "hiking days" on the trails will have no great hardship for you. For those who are not used to such altitudes—more than a mile up, for example—the ascent on the return journey is arduous, and therefore they should make use of the trail mules. Don't be alarmed at what may appear to be steep declivities. The fact that for twenty years the mules and guides have taken thousands upon thousands of visitors down these trails, so far without one serious accident, tells its own story. One-, two-, three- and five-day trail trips at present are in operation. The one-day journey—down Bright Angel Trail to the Colorado River and back—is operated mainly for those who have only one day at the Canyon. It takes up the

whole day and therefore leaves little or no time for the rim views.

For your convenience miniature hotels have been built and are operated thousands of feet below the railway terminus.

Phantom Ranch—On the east bank of Bright Angel Creek, a few feet above the level of the Colorado River and overshadowed by the towering temples of the Canyon, is Phantom Ranch. It is not far from Major Powell's ninety-ninth camping place on his memorable voyage down the then almost unknown river. A cluster of artistic stone cottages and dining hall, several tents, a silvery stream, birds, trees, and flowers greet you. It is something new, be you even the most satiated of globe trotters. It makes possible evenings and nights in an atmosphere of unreality, thousands of feet down in the heart of the earth. Here, so the Indian legends say, is Si-pa-pu, where the Skeletonman had his garden. All mankind come from this underworld opening and all return to it.

Hermit Cabins—For those taking the Hermit Trail—the "Trail through the Rainbow's Paintbox"—and the easiest trail in the Canyon, Hermit Cabins, alongside Hermit Creek, offer an additional attraction. They are situated on the inner plateau close to tiny Hermit Creek, 3,700 feet below the rim. There is a central dining hall, also eleven tents with accommodations for thirty persons. Excellent camp meals provided. The tents have pine floors and sides, beds and rugs. If you have a penchant for hiking, do it on the Hermit Trail. The grades are easy, and with the cabins as your center, you can explore the Canyon at will.

Cultural resources are the physical and intangible links to the past. They are the histories of people. You share those histories through your outreach activities. Understand that past and you will be able to advocate for cultural resource protection and teach others to be stewards as well.

