

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

APR 05 1989

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name RURAL ROUTE 66: PARKS

other names/site number Old Route 66 / Forest Road 146 / AR-03-07-02-1002

2. Location

street & number Forest Road 146 / /not for publication  
city, town Parks /xx/vicinity  
state Arizona code AZ county Coconino code 005 zip code N/A

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)		buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		structures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	1	objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		Total
		1	

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic US Route 66 in Arizona

Number of contributing resources  
previously listed in the National  
Register

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

*Erwan O. DeBlois*

3-16-89

Signature of certifying official

Date

USDA - Forest Service

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

*Shereen Lerner*

February 22, 1989

Signature of certifying official

Date

*Arizona State Historic Preservation Office*

State Historic Preservation Office

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

*Bruce J. Noble, Jr.*

5/19/89

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for  
the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for  
the National Register.

removed from the National  
Register.

other, (explain: \_\_\_\_\_)

*for* Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
TRANSPORTATION/road-related (vehicular)

[Interstate Highway]

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
local highway

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)  
N/A

Materials enter categories from instructions)  
foundation  
walls  
roof  
other earth fill, asphalt and concrete surfacing, concrete culverts

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

This 6.5 mile (10.5 km) section of Rural Route 66 is used today as a local access road. The road is paved with asphalt, except for a 3.3 mile segment that is covered with Portland cement. Standard concrete box culverts span several washes. The pavement has been in place since this was officially Route 66. Aside from some patch repairs, the roadway has changed little in appearance since the historic period.

This section of road was built in 1931 as part of Forest Aid Project 89-E. The 24' wide oil surfaced (later asphalt surfaced) roadway replaced a circa 1920 alignment located to the south. The magazine Arizona Highways proclaimed that construction of this section would ". . . eliminate 18 miles of narrow, crooked, poorly surfaced road which is particularly dangerous in dry weather due to ravelling and innumerable potholes". The new road featured a straight alignment, improved road surface, and standard concrete box culverts. The 1931 realignment through the community of Parks (then called Maine) moved Route 66 a few feet south of the existing businesses which had grown up along both sides of the earlier alignment. The focus of the community then shifted to the south. The principal business today is the Parks in the Pines general store and Post Office, in place since 1933.

The road passed through the scenic high country of the Coconino Plateau: beginning at the open watered meadows of Pitman Valley, ascending Oak Hill to Garland Prairie Vista, and ending at the small community of Parks. Several tourist-related facilities along the roadside remain standing today, although some are no longer in use.

This section of Route 66 was upgraded in 1939 and 1941. Work in 1939 included excavating deeper through and bank cuts to lessen grades, new pavement (including several miles of Portland cement paving, still extant), some new culverts, and guard rails. Nearly all of the work was contained within the existing 1931 right-of-way, except for one mile east of Parks, which was realigned slightly to the south in 1941 (thereby creating "Abandoned Route 66: Parks (1931)--see separate nomination form). One mile of this realignment is still in active use and is included within the nominated property.

This property was abandoned to Coconino County with completion of Interstate 40 in 1964. Coconino County maintains it under an easement agreement with the Kaibab National Forest and private property owners. It is actively used as a local access road.

#### 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
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Transportation	1931-1941	
Cultural Affiliation N/A		
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Affiliation N/A	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

This section of Rural Route 66 is significant for its association with Historic US Route 66 in Arizona and the theme of transportation in America between ca. 1920 and 1944.

Route 66 through Parks offered travelers many scenic attractions and amenities. The community of Parks, midway between Flagstaff and Williams had a small store, gas station, restaurant, school, post office, spring water, and campground. Just north and west of Parks, the Fireside Inn offered tourists cabins, a gas station, and barbecue lunch counter. Continuing west, campers could stay at Spitz Springs Forest Camp or at the scenic Garland Prairie Vista with its spectacular view of the San Francisco Peaks. Winter recreationists found a short ski run and shelter on Oak Hill. In Pitman Valley, at the west end of this nominated property, the two story log cabin McHat Inn (later known as the Wagon Wheel Lodge) provided guest cabins and a filling station. The Elmo Dance Hall was across the road. Large stone monuments along the roadside gave directions to Grand Canyon National Park, the turnoff to which was just east of Williams.

Many of the associated properties on this stretch can still be found along the roadway, although most no longer fulfill their original function. The Parks in the Pines general store and nearby campground are still open, but all of the other tourist facilities along the way have closed and stand empty. Camping is no longer permitted at Garland Prairie Vista, and the Oak Hill Ski Run is now a snow play area for sledgers. Although abandoned, the historic properties still convey a strong sense of association with historic Route 66. There are few modern encroachments.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2

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The Parks section is an excellent example of Rural Route 66. The cross-section template and pavement from the historic period remain intact. A drive down this part of old Route 66 imparts a strong feeling of historic association to the traveler. It retains integrity of design, workmanship, location, feeling, association, and setting.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

"As Built" plans dated 1/29/32 and 11/25/40 Federal Aid Project 89-E; and 5/15/43 Federal Aid Project 89-D: Ash Fork-Flagstaff Highway. On file at ADOT Engineering Records Division, Phoenix.

Kaibab National Forest Recreation Plan 1940. On file in Kaibab NF historical records.

Kaibab National Forest right-of-way file 2730: Roads and Trails.

Arizona Highways July 1931.

Jack D. Rittenhouse A Guide Book to Highway 66, Jack D. Rittenhouse, Los Angeles CA, 1946.

Personal communication, Ronald F. Tissaw.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.  
 previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

See continuation sheet.

Primary location of additional data:

State hist. preservation office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Specify repository:

Kaibab National Forest

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 104 acres

UTM References

A	<u>1 2 </u>	<u>4 0 4 8 7 5 </u>	<u>3 9 0 2 6 0 0 </u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	
C	<u>1 1 </u>	<u>1 1 </u>	<u>1 1 </u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	

B	<u>1 2 </u>	<u>4 1 5 3 9 0 </u>	<u>3 9 0 1 9 4 0 </u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	
D	<u>1 1 </u>	<u>1 1 </u>	<u>1 1 </u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	

### Verbal Boundary Description

This property is a 6.5 mile (10.5 km) long section of Rural Route 66 (Forest Road 146) in the vicinity of Parks, AZ maintained by Coconino County. The east end is defined by obliterated Route 66 and the west end is defined by the end of the original alignment (see UTM references). The sides are defined by the original right-of-way, 66 feet to each side of the centerline (marked in this section by steel I beams). See attached map.

See continuation sheet

### Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the property type "Rural Route 66" defined in the multiple property form. All improvements associated with this property are contained within the original right-of-way.

See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Teri A. Cleeland, Archeologist

date August 4, 1988

organization Kaibab National Forest

telephone (602) 635-2681

street & number 800 S. Sixth St.

state AZ zip code 86046

city or town Williams

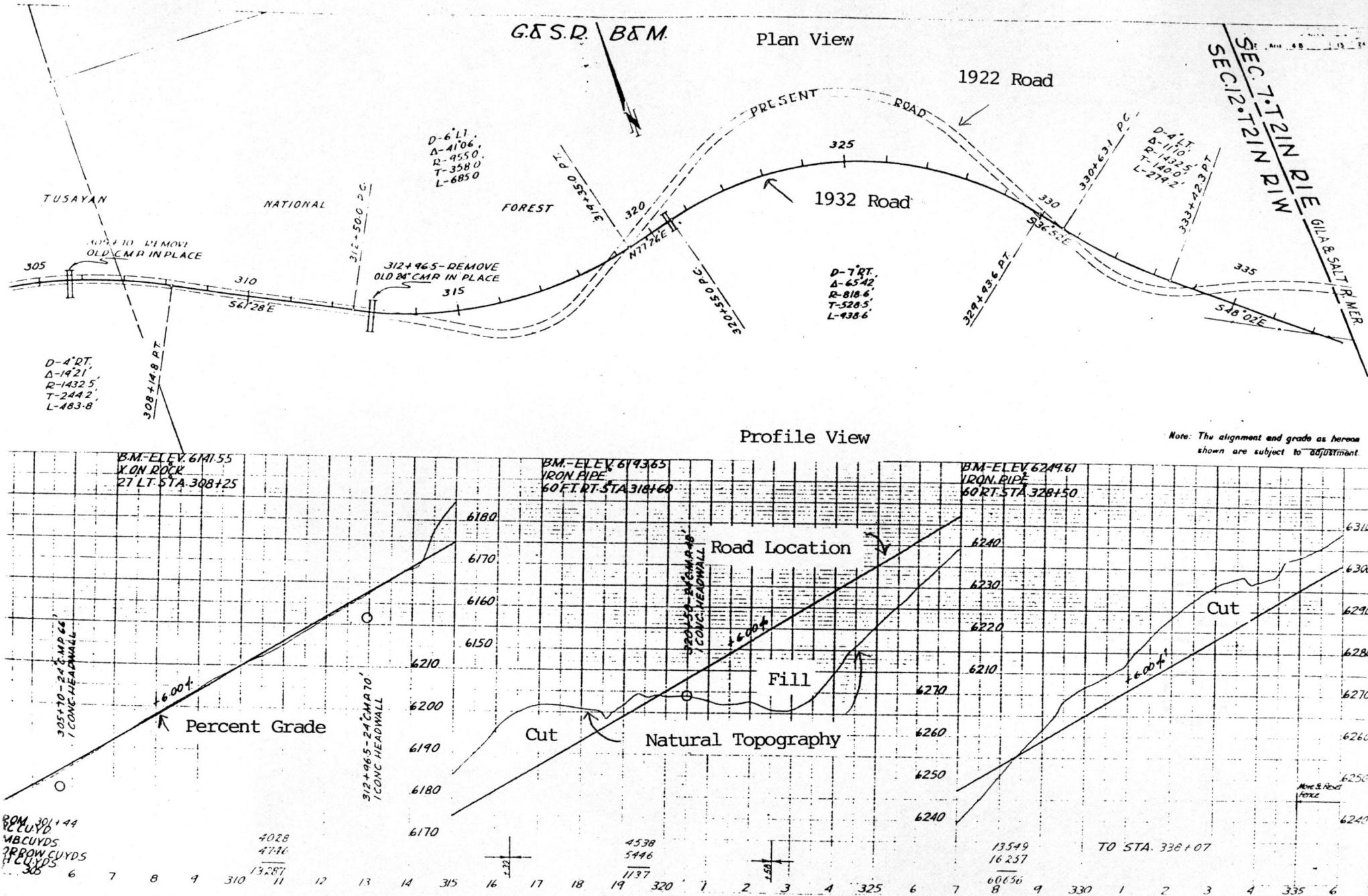


Figure 5. Project 4-B, Route 66 Realignment Engineering Plan, vicinity of Ash Fork Hill (1932). Distance shown is approximately 1/2 mile. (Arizona Department of Transportation Plan).

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

PHOTOGRAPHS      Page 1

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THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS THE SAME FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHS ACCOMPANYING THIS NOMINATION:

- 1). Rural Route 66: Parks
- 2). Vicinity of Parks, Arizona
- 3). Teri A. Cleeland
- 4). June, 1988
- 5). Kaibab National Forest, Williams, Arizona

INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES:

- 6). Facing east, toward Oak Hill
- 7). #1
  
- 6). Facing east, from Garland Prairie Vista toward the San Francisco Peaks.
- 7). #2
  
- 6). Facing E, Rural Route 66: Parks right; Abandoned Route 66: Parks (1931) left.
- 7). #3

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Historic US Route 66 in Arizona MPS

Coconino County, ARIZONA

COVER

Substantive Review

Date Listed

5/19/89

1. Abandoned Route 66, Parks (1921) Substantive Review

5/19/89

2. Abandoned Route 66, Parks (1931) Substantive Review

5/19/89

3. Abandoned Route 66, Ash Fork Hill Substantive Review

5/19/89

4. Rural Route 66, Brannigan Park Substantive Review

5/19/89

5. Rural Route 66, Parks Substantive Review

5/19/89

6. Rural Route 66, Pine Springs Substantive Review

5/19/89

7. Urban Route 66, Williams Substantive Review

5/19/89

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Rural Route 66, Parks  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Historic US Route 66 in Arizona MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARIZONA, Coconino

DATE RECEIVED: 4/05/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/19/89  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/05/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/20/89  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000374

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: Y PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: Y SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: Y

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 5/19/89 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Historically significant example of the Rural Route 66 property type.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A  
REVIEWER Noble  
DISCIPLINE Historian  
DATE 5/19/89

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

## CLASSIFICATION

count        resource type

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**STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

## **FUNCTION**

historic current

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**DESCRIPTION**

- architectural classification
- materials
- descriptive text

## SIGNIFICANCE

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

## **GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM coordinates       boundary justification

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**ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION**

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sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

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**OTHER COMMENTS**

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

## Phone

Signed

Date



Rural Route 66: Parks

#1



Rural Route 66: Parks

#2



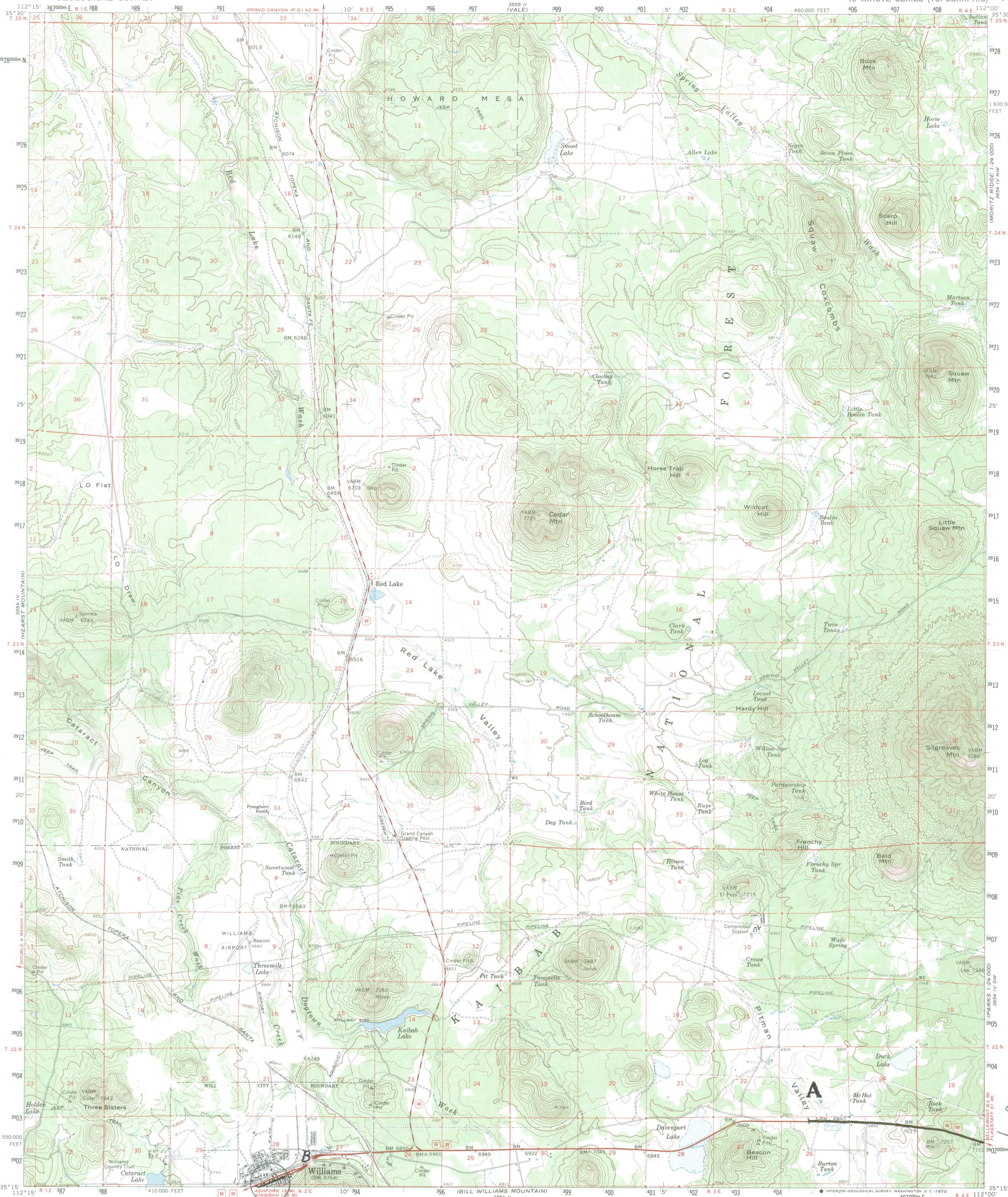
Rural Route 66: Parks

#3

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WILLIAMS QUADRANGLE  
ARIZONA—COCONINO CO.  
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

35° 30' N  
112° 00' W  
(EBER-7 MN)



NOTE: THIS QUADRANGLE PREDATES INTERSTATE 40  
AND THUS DOES NOT INDICATE ITS LOCATION.  
BEST AVAILABLE QUADRANGLE.

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey with  
cooperation by the Arizona Interstate Stream Commission

• Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods

Aerial photographs taken 1958. Field check 1960

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum

10,000-foot grid based on Arizona coordinate system, central zone

100-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,

zone 12, shown in blue

Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations

UTM GRID AND 1960 MAGNETIC NORTH

DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

0° 39' 12" M

14½ MILS

258 MILS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SCALE 1:62500  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET  
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 20-FOOT CONTOURS  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

1 2 3 4 MILES  
3000 0 3000 6000 9000 12000 15000 18000 21000 FEET  
1 2 3 4 KILOMETERS



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

WILLIAMS, ARIZ.  
N3515—W11200/15

1960

AMS 3554 I-SERIES V798

Historic U.S. Route 66 in Arizona  
Coconino County  
"Rural Route 66: Parks"  
Zone 12 A: 404875E; 3902600N



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Kaibab  
National Forest

800 S. 6th Street  
Williams, AZ 86046

Reply to: 2360 Special Interest Areas

Date: January 20, 1988

Subject: National Register Nomination of Historic U.S. Route 66 in Arizona

To: Regional Forester, R-3

Enclosed for your review is the documentation for nomination of Historic U.S. Route 66 in Arizona to the National Register of Historic Places. The Arizona Historic Sites Review Committee unanimously recommended its nomination to the National Register at the National level of significance. The State Historic Preservation Officer has certified the nomination.

The documentation includes a Multiple Property nomination form, seven individual nomination forms for segments of the property within the Kaibab National Forest and in Williams, Arizona, six USGS maps delineating the properties, and photographs of the properties. Also included is a copy of the transmittal letter from the Arizona SHPO to the Kaibab National Forest certifying the nomination. Copies of the notification letters to local officials and some responses are also included. The Coconino County Board of Supervisors, the Coconino County Highway Department, and the City of Williams did not respond to the notification letters.

*Leonard A. Lindquist*  
LEONARD A. LINDQUIST  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures

cc: Hanson  
2360 file

JAN 24 1988

RECREATION 5053		Date	Init
Director	Secretary		
	Woodworth		
Archaeology &	Propper		
Forest History	Gillie		
Secretary	Sanchez		
Land Uses	Maynard		
Secretary			
Recreation			
Wilderness	Bradby		
Secretary	Long		
Visual Resources	Larsen		



Caring for the Land and Serving People

FS-6200-28b(4/88)



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Washington  
Office

12th & Independence SW  
P.O. Box 96090  
Washington, D.C. 20090-6090

Reply To: 2360

Date: 20 MAR 1989

Carol Shull, Chief of Registration  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

APR 05 1989

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

Dear Ms. Shull:

The enclosed National Register nomination for the Historic U.S. Route 66 in Arizona (multiple properties), Kaibab National Forest, Coconino, Arizona is being submitted for your review and consideration for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Debloois*  
EVAN I. DEBLOOIS  
Preservation Officer, Recreation Management

Enclosures (11)/27 pictures



Caring for the Land and Serving People

FS-6200-28b(4/88)