

A Historical Building Inventory of North Mountain Park in the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona

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Submittal 2

Logan Simpson Technical Report No. 2350186

SURVEY REPORT ABSTRACT

Report Title:	A Historical Building Inventory of North Mountain Park in the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona
Project Name:	North Mountain
Project Location:	North Mountain Park is located within the Phoenix Mountains Preserve in north Phoenix.
Project Locator UTM:	N3716443.5, E401053.7, Zone 12 NAD 83
Project Sponsor:	City of Phoenix (COP)
Sponsor Project Number(s):	COP PA75200612-1; S'edav Va'aki Museum (SVM) Number: 2023-013
Lead Agency:	COP Historic Preservation Office & Parks and Recreation Department
Other Involved Agencies:	N/A
Applicable Regulations:	City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 8, Section 802[B2])
Funding Source:	COP (Parks and Recreation Department)
Description of the Project/Undertaking:	<p>The COP is preparing a park master planning and improvement project at North Mountain Park in north Phoenix. Per the request prepared by the City Archaeology Office (CAO), Logan Simpson understands that in advance of improvements, an archaeological survey, a comprehensive cultural overview, and a historical survey of the built environment must be completed. The archaeological survey and comprehensive cultural review will be prepared in a separate report.</p> <p>The primary goal of the study presented in this report was to provide an inventory of historic built resources present within North Mountain Park, evaluate their National Register of Historic Places (National Register) and local register eligibility, and assess potential impacts to those historic built resources that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register or local register that might be caused by planned park improvements. The fieldwork and assessment were performed by Thomas Jones and Andrea Gregory on August 3, 2023. Logan Simpson documented three building groups with multiple associated features and structures within the project area, none of which are currently listed in the National Register or local register. This report summarizes the results of the building inventory.</p>
Project Area:	The project area consists of 23.7 acres of both developed and undeveloped, COP-owned municipal land within North Mountain Park in north Phoenix.

SURVEY REPORT ABSTRACT

Legal Description:	The project area is in Sections 20 and 29, Township 3 North, Range 3 East (Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian; Sunnyslope, Ariz. USGS topographic quadrangle map).
Land Jurisdiction:	COP (North Mountain Park)
Total Acres:	23.7 acres
Acres Surveyed:	Not applicable
Acres Not Surveyed:	Not applicable
Consultant Firm/Organization:	Logan Simpson
Project Number:	2350186
Permit Number(s):	N/A
Date(s) of Fieldwork:	August 3, 2023
Number of Buildings Recorded:	3 building groups (Bldg. Groups 1–3) and one proposed historic district
Eligible Buildings:	Individually eligible: 1 (North Mountain Park Historic District) Contributing to a potential district: 3 Building Groups
Ineligible Buildings:	0
Unevaluated Sites:	0
Building Summary Table	(see below)

Summary of Historical Building Inventory					
Building Group No. ¹ (Bldg. Group)	Parcel No.	Name	Construction Date	National Register Recommendation	
				Individually Eligible	Contributor to Potential District
1	159-17-004	North and Central Picnic Area	1967–1968	No	Yes
2	159-17-004	Admin Area and Ramadas	1957–1958, 1967–1968	No	Yes
3	159-17-004 159-42-003	Southern Picnic Area	1957–1958, 1967–1968	No	Yes
	159-17-004 159-42-003	North Mountain Park Historic District	1957–1958, 1967–1968	Yes	No

¹Contributing structures and features of the three building groups (i.e., ramadas, restrooms and office, BBQ pits, a drinking fountain, stone walls, etc.) are discussed in more detail in the HPIFs (Appendix A).

Comments:

The historic building groups of North Mountain Park are recommended as contributing to the eligibility of the park, including the ramadas and tables, the restrooms, and original ranger station (Building Groups 1–3). The lesser features of each building group, including tables, barbeque pedestals, drinking fountain, plazas, and retaining walls, are recommended for preservation when possible, although many have been altered during the modern period. In addition to the building groups, the circulation system of the overall recreation area is also recommended as contributing to the district, including the pedestrian trail network (HIS 1) and vehicular access (the main access road and the two main parking areas). The main access road has been altered somewhat on its south end, effectively closing the original southern access from 7th Street. Nonetheless, the road retains sufficient integrity as a contributor to the district. Parking areas for independent ramadas have been expanded and altered in recent decades and no longer retain integrity so are not recommended as contributing to the proposed district. Observed road features (i.e., culverts, cobble borders) appear to be modern and are not recommended as contributors. The light posts at the building groups appear to be original and are considered as contributing to the eligibility of the proposed district, although not necessarily character-defining features of the district; loss of these elements would not affect the eligibility of the historic district.

Logan Simpson recommends coordination between the COP HPO and Parks and Recreation Department during planning and implementation of improvements made within the proposed historic district. It is recommended that as many of the main buildings (e.g., ramadas, ranger station, and bathrooms) be preserved and maintained as possible. While the loss of a single ramada within each building group, or even the loss of an entire building group, would not necessarily result in sufficient loss of integrity to render the historic district ineligible, the cumulative effects of building losses may result in an insufficient proportion of contributors making up the historic district. Therefore, prior to demolition and/or replacement of buildings, it is recommended that consultation occur with the COP HPO to ensure that sufficient integrity of the historic district is maintained to allow the district to continue to convey its historical significance and remain eligible.

As noted above, the proposed district boundary encompasses the historic built environment of North Mountain Park that includes the three building groups and circulation system. A thorough inventory beyond the project area was not possible at this time due to the current project's limited scope. Should previously undocumented features and structures such as trails and other supporting infrastructure be identified at a future date outside of the project area, Logan Simpson recommends continued coordination between the COP HPO and Parks and Recreation to evaluate and assess these features as contributors to the proposed district, as well as to determine whether the historic district boundaries should be expanded.

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INTRODUCTION

The City of Phoenix (COP) is preparing a park master planning and improvement project at North Mountain Park (Park) in north Phoenix. The Final Master Plan Concept will utilize the existing footprint to create three unique destinations throughout the park. Two of the parking lot locations will provide access to the different trailheads, such as North Mountain's popular Trail 44, which has been re-routed for better ease of access and a safer connection. Additional parking throughout the whole park will allow more visitors to enjoy the trails and nearby facilities. At the heart of the park, an event space, new restroom, and playground will give guests an ideal gathering space for large groups, bolstered by a scenic backdrop and the revitalized historic ramadas. Lastly, by eliminating vehicular access on the west side of the park, pedestrians will reclaim access to the walking loop, creating a safer and more naturalized environment for visitors, fauna and flora. The project is subject to compliance with the City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 8, Section 802[B2]) and the Arizona Antiquities Act (AAA; A.R.S. §15-1631 and §41-841 *et seq.*). At the request of Laurene Montero, COP Archaeologist, Logan Simpson conducted a historic building inventory and assessment in advance of the improvements. An intensive Class III cultural resource survey and ethnographic study were likewise conducted for this project, the results of which are presented in a separate report (Darling et al. 2024).

Logan Simpson completed this study to provide an inventory of historic built resources present within the project area, evaluate their National Register of Historic Places (National Register) and local register eligibility, and assess potential impacts to those historic built resources that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register or local register that might be caused by the planned improvements. The fieldwork and assessment were performed by Thomas Jones and Andrea Gregory on August 3, 2023. The inventory identified three buildings groups (Building Groups 1–3, ramada areas with restrooms and picnic infrastructure), none of which are currently listed in the National Register or local register. This report summarizes the results of the building inventory.

PROJECT AREA

The North Mountain Park is located within the Phoenix Mountains Preserve in north Phoenix. The project area comprises 23.7 acres of both developed and undeveloped COP-owned municipal land within Sections 20 (SE $\frac{1}{4}$) and 29 (NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$), Township 3 North, Range 3 East (Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian), as depicted on the Sunnyslope, Ariz. USGS topographic quadrangle (Figure 1). The project area occurs along Seventh Street, which skirts the slopes and lesser hills of North Mountain and the Phoenix Mountains Preserve. The park was initially developed by Maricopa County as a regional park in 1957–1958 but was acquired by the COP in 1959–1960, shortly after annexation of the general area. Although modern urban development has surrounded the park in recent decades, the park and recreation area are well preserved and maintained as an open space park (Figure 2).

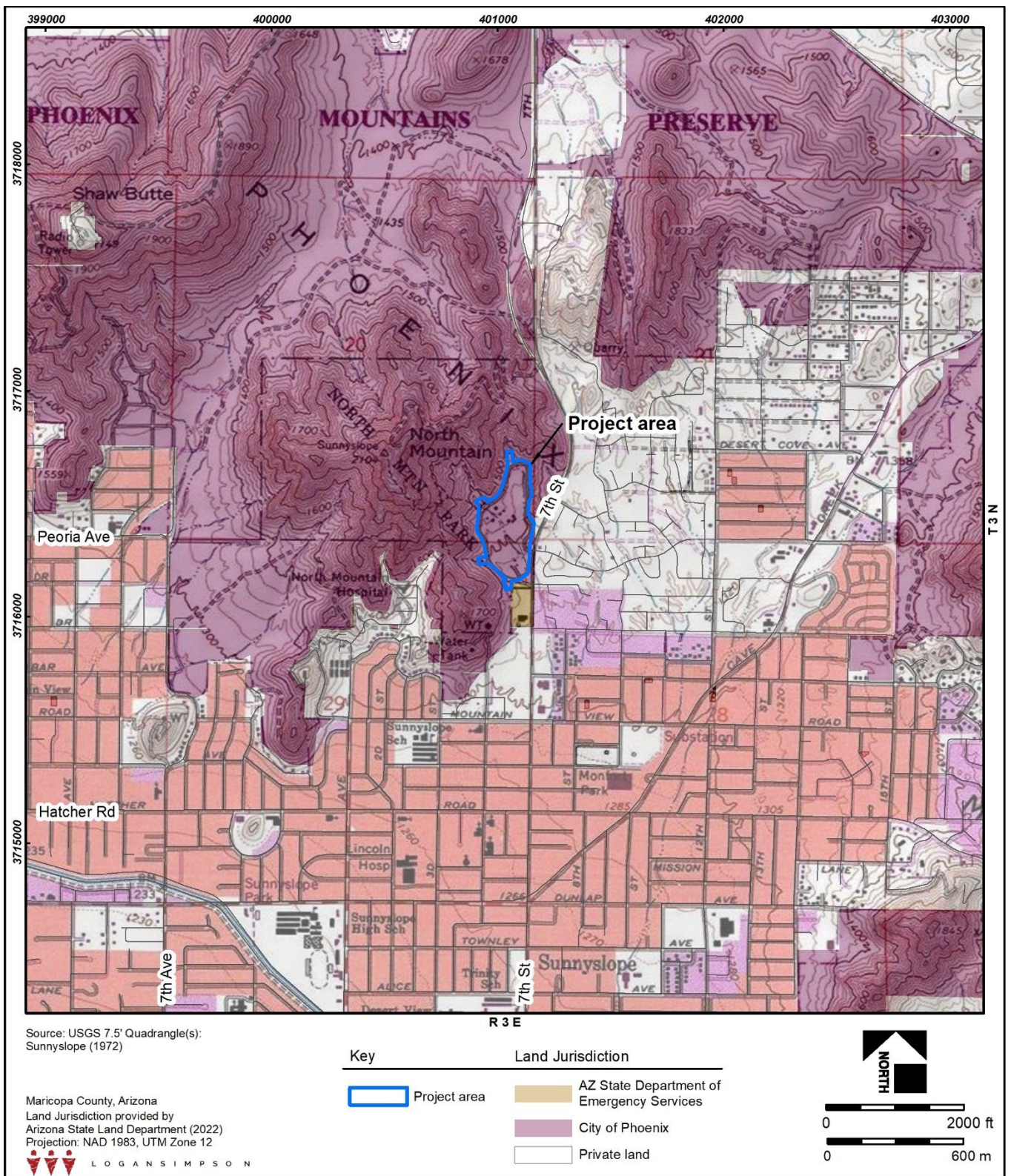


Figure 1. Portion of the USGS 7.5' Sunnyslope, Ariz. topographic quadrangle, showing the location of the project area and land jurisdiction.

Additional COP-owned lands occur in the immediate vicinity of the park and Phoenix Mountains Preserve. Because these lands are not part of this project and will not be impacted by proposed park improvements, these additional city-owned lands are not displayed.

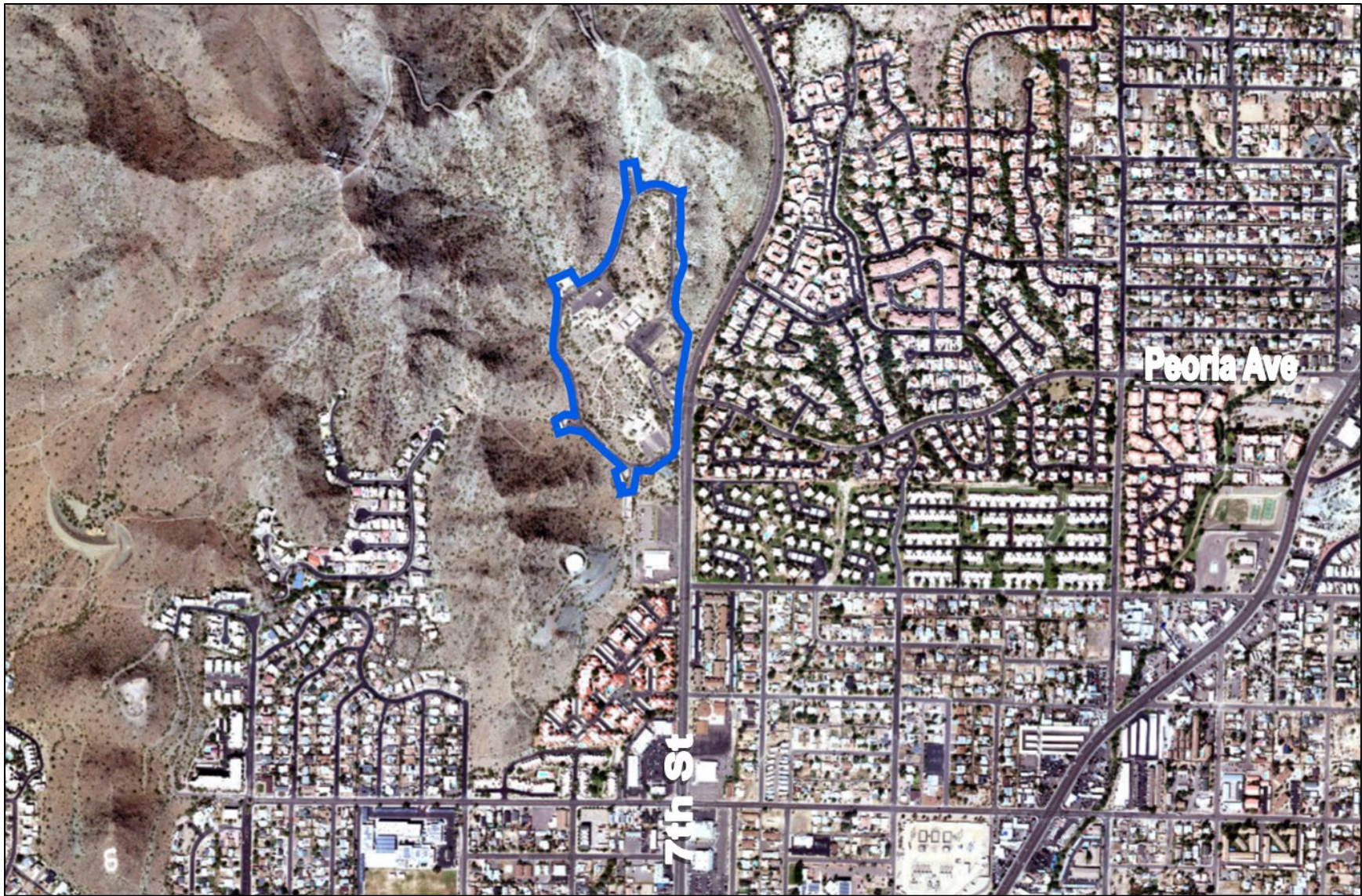


Figure 2. Contemporary aerial of the project area and immediate surroundings.

Topographically, the project area is situated on the east slope of North Mountain, which is a component of the Phoenix Mountains. Formed over a long period of time, the mountain range trends roughly northwesterly, comprising multiple individual peaks, including North Mountain and Shaw Butte. Piestewa Peak is the most prominent landmark of the Phoenix Mountains range, with an elevation of 2,608 ft above mean sea level (amsl). Formed over a long period of time, the mountain range consists primarily of Proterozoic metamorphic and granitic rock. Folding and faulting over time have resulted in the formation of overlying materials, including rhyolite, quartzite, and phyllite. North Mountain itself comprises primarily Greenstone and metavolcanics, as well as metamorphic rhyolite. The greenstone is the oldest geologic unit of the Phoenix Mountains range (estimated at 1,700–2,000 million years ago) (Johnson et al. 2003). Elevations within the project area generally range from 1,380–1,600 ft above mean sea level (amsl). Noted disturbances throughout the project area (aside from construction and maintenance of access roads and park infrastructure) include a light scatter of modern trash, drainage ditches adjacent to access roads, ornamental landscaping, and surface rock landscaping in certain areas of the park. Natural erosion is also evident throughout the park area.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PHOENIX

In 1865, the U.S. Army established Fort McDowell in the lower Verde River valley, purportedly along an important travel corridor of the Tonto and Western Apache (Peplow Jr. 1958; Ryden et al. 1991). It has been suggested that the establishment of Fort McDowell provided sufficient protection for settlers and homesteaders with which to establish Phoenix and other communities on the Salt River. In truth, these communities were able to thrive largely because of the presence of the Akimel O’Odham and Piipaash in the Phoenix Basin. The Apache and Yavapai, though frequently conducting raids across the Phoenix Basin, nonetheless understood that this vast area was the traditional homeland of the O’Odham. In 1867, Jack Swilling, and other citizens of Wickenburg, organized the Swilling Irrigating and Canal Company, initiating excavation of an irrigation canal amidst the remnants of the long-abandoned prehistoric Hohokam canals near the location of the modern Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. The success of the Swilling canal soon brought other settlers to the valley. To accommodate homesteading and settlement, the U.S. General Land Office (GLO) began conducting cadastral surveys of the Arizona Territory in 1867. By 1870, approximately 240 people lived in the Salt River Valley (SRV). In October of that year, valley residents approved the selection of a 320-acre parcel of undeveloped land demarcated by the General Land Office as the northern half of Section 8, Township 1 North, Range 3 East, for a town they named Phoenix (Luckingham 1989).

Although the COP was not a boomtown, it had the advantage of a central location with respect to many other territorial settlements. Growth and prosperity led to the designation of the COP as the territorial capital in 1889. By 1910, the city had a population of 11,150 and was the third-largest city in the territory (Sargent 1988). Only Tucson and Clifton/Morenci were larger. The expansion of COP and other communities in the SRV was further influenced by the completion of Theodore Roosevelt Dam in 1911, ensuring a more stable water supply for irrigation and flood protection. With a population of 29,100 by 1920, Phoenix became Arizona’s largest city. The COP was now the central hub of commercial and industrial activity in Arizona. The SRV by this time comprised multiple independent communities (for example, Glendale, Peoria, Tempe,

Mesa, Scottsdale and Chandler) that were separated by thousands of acres of agricultural land for which water was supplied through a complex system of canals and laterals.

Arizona was not exempt from the effects of the Great Depression of the 1930s, but not all of those effects were negative. Some of the New Deal programs involved construction of public buildings, improvements of highways and canals, and implementation of soil conservation measures, which offered employment to many in the community. Population of the COP grew from 48,150 in 1930 to 65,480 by 1940 (Sargent 1988). The rural landscape of the SRV (isolated communities separated by irrigated farmland) following World War II (1939/1941–1945) began to change as increasing numbers of new residents migrated to the valley looking for work, fueling home construction and aggressive expansion of valley communities. Over several decades, the COP expanded and grew at a pace second only to Los Angeles. By the 1970s–1980s, the SRV was transformed into a crowded metropolis of urban development.

Postwar Growth of North Phoenix

A review of historical aerials of the Phoenix area (Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023) reveals that by 1949, residential development was occurring along State Route 69 (the future I-17 corridor) between the Grand Canal and Bethany Home Road. North of Bethany Home Road, lands retained their rural character, with the exception of Sunnyslope, which was experiencing urban growth as an independent community under the shadow of North Mountain. Between 1950 and 1960, the COP rapidly annexed lands north of the original town center. Sunnyslope became part of the metropolitan corridor of Phoenix in 1959, despite multiple efforts to incorporate as an independent municipality. This expansion likewise encompassed North Mountain (Ordinance G-281) and other peaks of the Phoenix Mountains range.

Whereas the Grand Canal had once marked the northern limits of the COP, Pinnacle Peak Road represented the northern edge in 1972. The COP was striking for its incredible postwar growth, particularly between 1950 and 1960, when the city limits expanded tenfold from a modest area of 17.1 square miles (10,944 acres) to an area of about 185 square miles (118,400 acres) (Buchanan 1978; Collins 2005) (Table 1). Hundreds of subdivisions were established in north Phoenix through the end of the historic period (1974). Development and improvement of the ever-expanding arterial street system encouraged growth, along with infrastructure to support electrical power and dependable water supplies. In 1952, the city signed an agreement with SRP, wherein the city would take water directly from the canals for use in its municipal delivery system. With the completion of the Central Arizona Project Canal, the city was able to take advantage of yet another water source (City of Phoenix 2016; Kupel 2003)

RECREATION AND TOURISM IN PHOENIX (1912–1975)

In 1912, when the COP became the new state capitol, community park facilities comprised the Courthouse Plaza and City Hall Square (both part of the original townsite), Neahr's Park (aka Library Park) (1880), Eastlake Park (1889), and Central Park (1912). Residents of Phoenix and other communities took advantage of the natural landscape of the SRV for recreational activities, spending time in the undeveloped desert areas of what would become the city's mountain parks, such as Piestewa Peak, Papago Park (Hole-in-the-Rock), and the South Mountains (Hartz and Hartz 2007; Janus Associates 1986). By 1930, six parks were located

within the municipal limits of the COP, of which three were owned and maintained by the city (Janus Associates 1986).

Table 1. Summary of Annexation Activity in North Phoenix (1958–1971)¹

Ordinance No.	Date	Description ²
G-256	04/14/1958	North of Grand Canal to Camelback Rd, generally from 19th Ave–27th Ave.
G-257	04/21/1958	South of the Arizona Canal to Thomas Rd, from 19th Ave–51st Ave. Included portions of the current APE and the bulk of Maryvale.
G-281	03/23/1959	Covers all of Sunnyslope, and bulk of North Mountain Preserves, as well as areas south of the Arizona Canal to Bethany Home Rd from 7th Ave–16th St.
G-349	03/07/1960	Between Camelback and Cactus Rd, from 35th Ave–43rd Ave.
G-417	06/26/1961	Between Cactus Rd and Sweetwater Ave, from 19th Ave–35th Ave. Included portions of North Mountain Preserves and Westtown subdivisions.
G-464	04/30/1962	Between Cholla St and Cactus Rd, from 19th Ave–35th Ave. Included portions of Westtown subdivisions.
G-644	4/20/1965	Between Sweetwater Ave and Bell Rd, between 15th Ave–43rd Ave.
G-760	10/18/1966	North of Peoria Ave to Poinsettia Dr, from 35th Ave–39th Ave.
G-842	02/20/1968	North of Peoria Ave to Cholla St, from 28th Dr–35th Ave.
G-912	04/08/1969	North of Arizona Canal to Peoria Ave, from 35th Ave–43rd Ave.
G-1093	05/03/1971	Between Dunlap Ave and Thunderbird Rd, from 19th Ave–51st Ave.
G-1241	12/19/1972	Area generally north of Bell Rd to Pinnacle Peak Rd, from 19th Ave to Cave Creek Rd. Also includes a large tract surrounding the Deer Valley Airport and annexation of the Adobe townsite.

¹ Ordinance numbers and general boundary descriptions presented are based on an informal review of the online interactive map of the Maricopa County Assessor (2023).

² Bold text indicates the ordinance that incorporated North Mountain Park.

As noted above, growth and expansion of the COP was unabated through the Great Depression; city planners and advocates worried that the ever-growing city would not have enough park space for its citizenry. In 1933, voters approved a Public Works bond, from which funds would be used in tandem with federal New Deal loans and grants to acquire and develop parks across the city. The voters also approved the establishment of the Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation Board. By 1937, the city boasted 14 city parks, including a baseball stadium (Collins 2005:128–130; Janus Associates 1986:30–39). In 1948, the COP planning commission developed a Master Park and Recreation Plan to address the inadequacies of the park system. By this time, the Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation Board was now known as the Parks and Recreation Department. The master plan, as envisioned by the commission, was to acquire land and develop parks in the expanding city as far north as Glendale Avenue, south to the Salt River, east to 44th Street, and west to 31st Avenue (Phoenix City Planning Commission 1948:6–10). The plan appeared to have had some success with multiple bond programs approved by voters between 1933 and 1961, providing more than \$13,000,000 for the acquisition and development of parks in and around Phoenix. By 1969, the Parks and Recreation Department was maintaining 79 parks for an estimated 500,000 citizens. Importantly, a number of these parks were mountain parks, including South Mountain, Papago Park, Piestewa Peak, and North Mountain (City of Phoenix Planning Commission 1969:25–28).

DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTAIN PARKS IN PHOENIX (CA. 1914–1975)

A 1967 article in the *Arizona Republic* summarized the mountain parks in Phoenix (Table 2). City residents and leaders had invested heavily over the course of the twentieth century in the preservation of mountain parks in and around the growing city. In 1967–1968, the City of Phoenix invested \$615,000 of bond funds and federal grants for improvements at each of the four mountain parks listed below. Improvements included trail construction and renovation, improved vehicular access to and around the parks, and construction of new facilities (e.g., ramadas, restrooms, and other picnic structures) (Arizona Republic 1968). In the closing decades of the twentieth century, Phoenix aggressively pursued acquisition of additional lands as part of the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, including Camelback Mountain. Because of this approach, the city now maintains more than 41,000 acres of mountain parks and desert preserves (City of Phoenix 2017). Foremost among them is South Mountain Park, which encompasses an estimated 16,000 acres (considered among the largest municipal parks in the country).

Table 2. Summary of Mountain Parks in 1967¹.

Park	Established	Acreage	Comments
South Mountain	1929–1930	14,817	Multiple hiking and riding trails, picnic areas, park facilities, and paved access roads
Papago	1959	1,176	Picnic facilities at Hole-in-the Rock and lagoons, as well as a golf course
Piestewa Peak	1959	546	Renovated hiking and riding trails; picnic facilities and restrooms under construction.
North Mountain	1959–1961	275	Picnic facilities and restrooms under construction
Total		16,814	

¹ Arizona Republic (1967a; 1967b) Gart (1996), and Janus Associates (1986)

Before Open Space: Early Use and Development of the Phoenix Mountains

The Phoenix Mountains were largely undeveloped through the first half of twentieth century, save for limited mining at Dreamy Draw and Piestewa Peak, and isolated prospecting by individuals in other area of the range or more intensive mining operations at Dreamy Draw. Grazing allotments were also established in the area surrounding Piestewa Peak, although it is not currently known how extensive grazing was in the immediate area. The mountainous landscape of the Phoenix Mountains was well visited, however, by local residents of Phoenix and Sunnyslope, as shown in vintage photographs (Hartz and Hartz 2007:103).

Limited mining and homestead activity at North Mountain occurred north of the project area (Jones and Davis 2018). However, a review of Master Title Plats maintained by the GLO that an estimated 320 acres encompassing the project area was withdrawn from settlement, mining, and acquisition by the federal government as early as 1925 (Figure 3–Figure 4; Table 3). This withdrawn land was set aside for use as a campground for students at Phoenix Indian School (as well as their families who visited them during



Figure 3. Portion of the 1949 aerial photograph (Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023), depicting withdrawn lands for the Phoenix Indian School campground (red outline, project area in yellow).

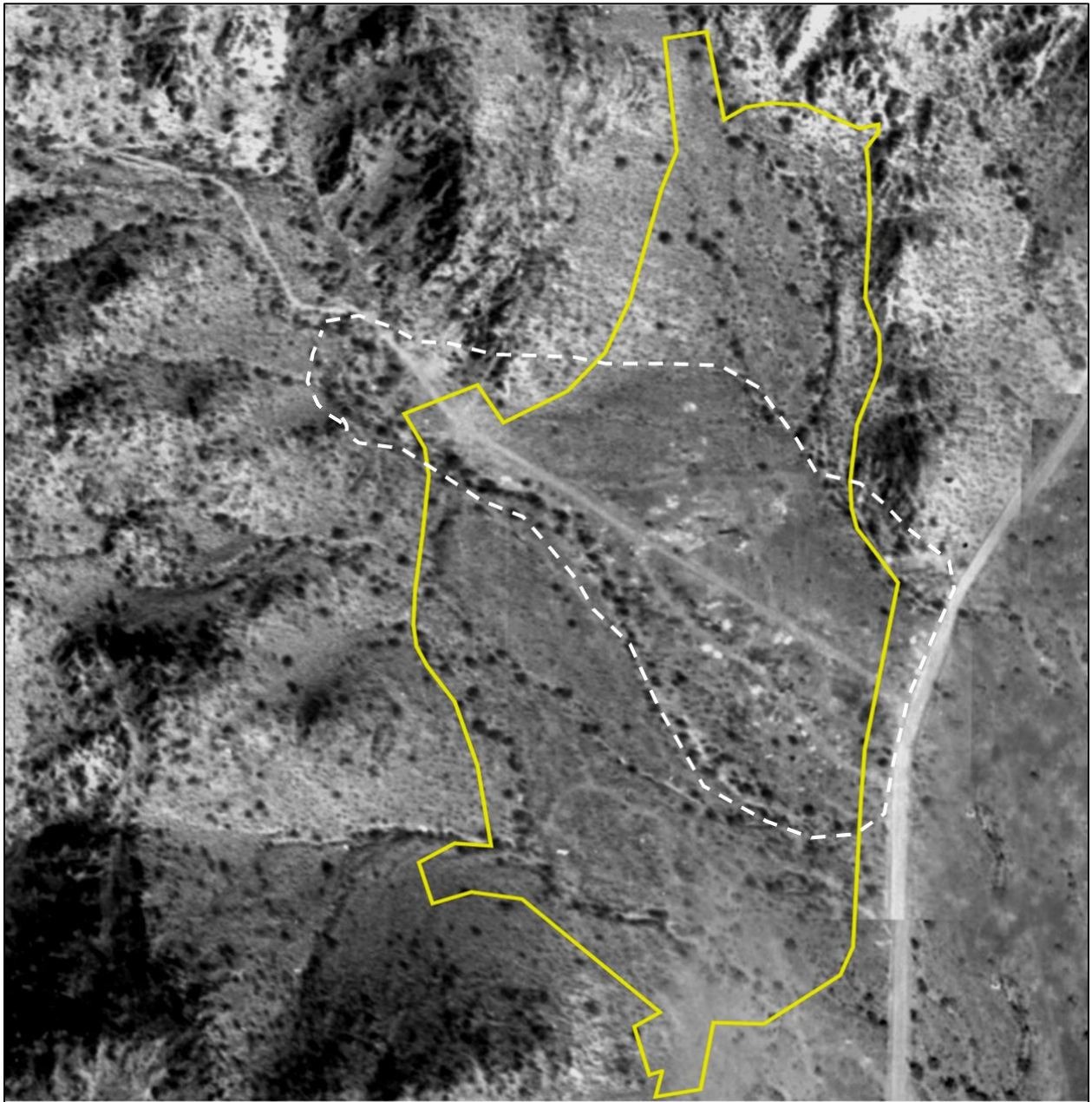


Figure 4. Portion of the 1949 aerial photograph (Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023), depicting temporary tent structures in the future site of North Mountain Park (shown in yellow).

It would appear that most of the indigenous families camped along the access road that originated on the future alignment of 7th Street (white dashed line), continuing well beyond the project area.

Table 3. Summary of Federal Land Transactions in and Around the Project Area¹.

Year	Authority	Acreage	Description
1925	Executive Order No. 4163 (Feb. 27, 1925)		Lands withdrawn and reserved for use as a campground for the pupils of the Indian School at Phoenix, Arizona.
1926	H.R. 8652, Chapter 63 (March 22, 1926)	320.0 ²	Congressional approval of the executive order.
1955	Quit Claim Deed (Docket 1659, page 284) (May 12, 1955)		Quit claim deed of Indian School Campground lands (I-Ariz-410) to Maricopa County for recreational purposes. County was obliged to hold property for 20 years as a recreational facility.
1970	Patent No. 02-71-0040 ³ (AR 034008, Dec 18, 1970)	~60.0	Land patent under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (June 4, 1954)

¹ Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) BLM-GLO Land Records: <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>

² The bulk of these lands subsequently were transferred to the COP in 1959 (275 acres):

T3N, R3E, Section 20 (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$), Section 29 (N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$).

³ Additional lands in the immediate area (beyond the project area) patented by the COP as part of the North Mountain:

T3N, R3E, Section 20 (Lots 16–17, 24–25 [E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$], Section 29 (Lot 1 [NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$]).

the year). The distance between the school and North Mountain was approximately six miles. Over a period of several decades (1925–1955), this withdrawn land was occupied seasonally by Native American families, as shown in Figure 4. At the height of activity at Phoenix Indian School, an estimated 23 Nations, most from the American Northwest and Southwest (primarily Arizona Tribal communities), were represented at the school (Lindauer 1996:2–4). Unfortunately, archival research conducted at multiple institutions and repositories recovered very little information about this campground.

Maricopa County's North Mountain Park

As indicated in Table 3, the federal government deeded a portion of the withdrawn land (and former campground) to Maricopa County in 1955 for recreational purposes. Importantly, the deed stipulated the following (Quitclaim Deed, Docket 1659, page 284, Indian School Camp Grounds [I-Ariz-410]):

1. For a period of twenty years, the property would be used and maintained as a public recreational park.
2. Maricopa County would submit biennial reports to the federal government, summarizing their progress on continued use of the property for recreational use.
3. Maricopa County could not sell or dispose of any portion of the property without approval of the federal government.
4. In the event of a breach of any condition in the deed, the federal government could enter and possess the property.

Beginning in 1953, the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission embarked on an ambitious program to establish regional parks to better serve the county's growing population. In the first decade of this new program (1950s), Maricopa County had established two regional parks—Estrella Mountain Regional Park (initially 860 acres) and North Mountain Park (initially 275 acres)—and applied for an additional 68,000 acres from the federal government. By 1965, the county maintained at least nine regional parks across the

county (Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission 1965). The concept of the regional park was to preserve natural topography, geology, and vegetation, and to provide an alternative form of recreation from traditional “quickie parks” (Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission 1965:5):

Regional parks are urgently needed in our increasingly urbanized, mechanized and over-organized culture to function as a retreat, an escape from the bustle of modern living, a place to “get away from it all” in the quiet of solitude. The urban neighborhood “quickie” parks are to regional parks what a drive-in hamburger stand is to the quality supper club. *In the regional park, “development” as an end to itself in the name of “progress” can be more a curse than blessing [emphasis added].*

In April 1957, the D. and D. Construction Co. was awarded a contract to install park amenities at the two regional parks. At North Mountain, these amenities included an event slab, ramadas, and barbeque pits (Arizona Republic 1957b). The park was opened to the public in December 1957, as observed in the Arizona Republic, which also included stereotypical remarks about Native American families who were still camping at the park (Arizona Republic 1957a):

Maricopa County’s 275-acre North Mountain Park will be formally opened to the public today. Equipped for picnics, barbecues, and dancing, the park is located on North Seventh Street, a half-mile north of Sunnyslope....

Moonlit picknickers need not be surprised if they see shadowy wigwams and Indian braves [emphasis added]. For years the park was maintained by the U.S. government as a campground for Indians coming to Phoenix to visit their children in the Indian School here, according to Kenneth Smithee, county parks director.

Maricopa County has spent approximately \$25,000 so far developing it. Hart [James G. Hart] said the International Harvester Co. did approximately \$35,000 worth of work in developing park roads without cost to the county.

Presumably, construction of the park continued into the next year, considering the formal opening of North Mountain took place almost a year after its initial public opening (November 1958) (Arizona Republic 1958). A review of historical aerials indicates that this first phase of development at North Mountain Park occurred in Building Groups 2 and 3 (Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023) (Figure 5). Within Group 2, Building 2A was completed, as well as the concrete event slab (both inventoried by Logan Simpson). Five ramada structures were also completed in this area, all of which have since been replaced by modern structures. In addition, the concrete event slab and one ramada structure were completed in Building Group 3 (as with Building Group 2, the ramada has since been replaced with a modern structure). As shown in Figure 5, ramadas constructed by the county featured “thatched” roofs. While difficult to see in the figure, the tables appear to have been metal structures laid out on the ground surface. The ranger station (Building 2A) was the primary, permanent structure, constructed with concrete block and low-pitched gable roof. Finally, the main access road was completed as a paved corridor with two entrances off of 7th Street. The south entrance is no longer present, with a portion reconfigured for one main entrance into the park (see Figure 2).



Figure 5. Overview of the new county regional North Mountain Park in 1957 (Arizona Republic 1957a).

This view depicts early structures of Building Group 2. The four ramadas, picnic tables, and barbeque shown in the photograph have since been replaced with modern structures, but the concrete slab is still present. So, too, is the ranger station (recorded as Building 2A).

Inheriting Open Space

Within a year (1959), however, Phoenix had annexed all the surrounding lands, including Sunnyslope (see Table 1). Consequently, Maricopa County began formulating plans to transfer the park to the COP. Formal transfer of the park occurred on July 26, 1960; however, given the deed restrictions set forth previously by the federal government (notably formal approval by the government), it took three years for the COP to formally acquire the 275-acre park (Arizona Republic 1963). The COP was committed over the next decade to acquiring additional undeveloped public lands surrounding this park, as well as Squaw Peak Park (later designated Piestewa Peak Park and Phoenix Mountains Preserve/Park) (see Table 1 for example).

After several years, the COP in 1967–1968, using bond funds and federal grants (an estimated \$615,000), completed improvements to its four mountain parks (South Mountain, Papago Park, Piestewa Peak, North Mountain) (Arizona Republic 1968). Construction activity at North Mountain in 1967 was summarized in a newspaper article (Arizona Republic 1967b):

Workmen of the Norton Connor Construction Co., Phoenix, place pieces of concrete roofing atop ramada supports at North Mountain Park, 10600 N. Seventh St. Six ramadas capable of seating 40 to 100 people each, two restrooms, and one large concrete recreation slab are being built at the park for first use in mid-September. Several ramadas are also being built at South Mountain Park. Cost of construction at both parks will be \$142,430.

It was at this time that development at North Mountain Park was implemented at the COP (1967–1968). Building Group 1 was completed, with a ramada, restroom, and two picnic table areas (the ramada has since been replaced, as have some tables). Additional infrastructure in Building Group 2 was also completed at this time (Buildings 2B, 2C, and 2D) (Figure 6). Finally, all buildings recorded in Building Group 3 were completed at this time (Buildings 3A–3K [Buildings 3A and 3B encompassed the original event slab]). No other construction or additions to the park were completed in the Historic period (pre-1975), although additional tables, playground equipment, and lesser features (barbecues, firepits, etc.) could certainly have been added.

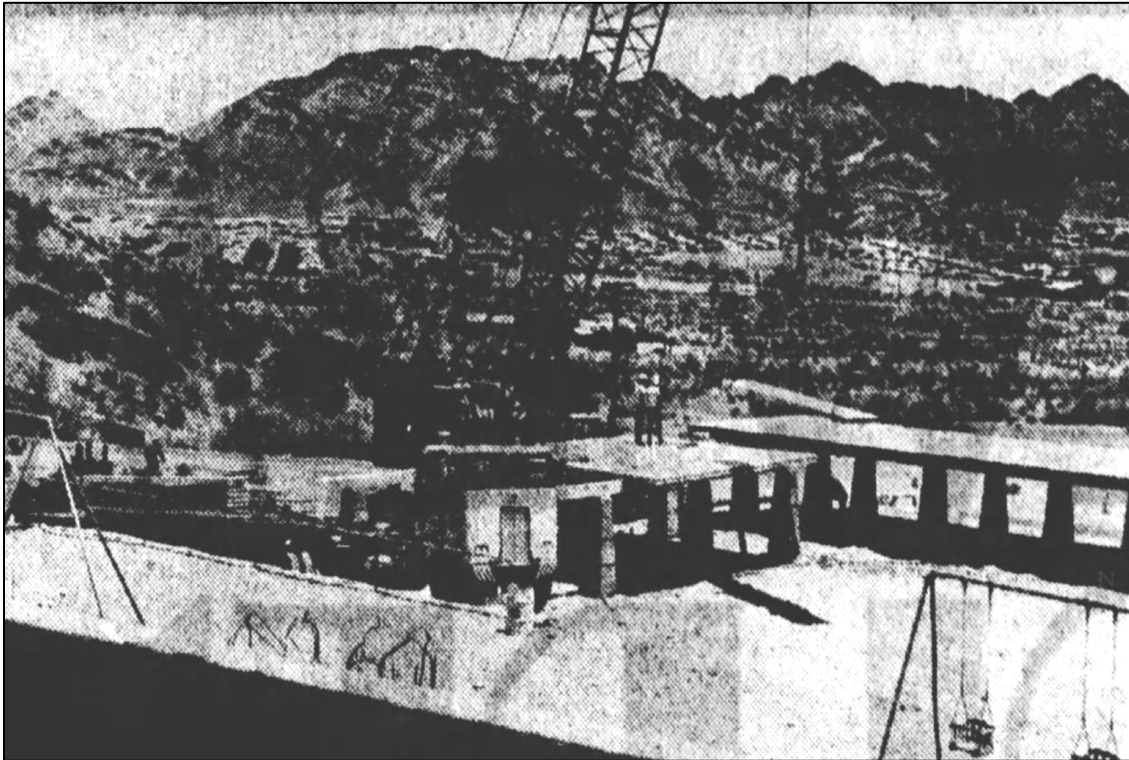


Figure 6. Overview of ongoing park improvements at North Mountain Park in July 1967 (see quote above) (Arizona Republic 1967b).

This photograph, facing south-southeast is currently part of the Havasupai Ramada (Building 2D).

The Phoenix Mountains: A Grand Vision

While North Mountain and Piestewa Peak Parks were significant achievements for the COP, the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department and other concerned leaders continued formulating plans for the development of additional open space in the Phoenix Mountains. From 1970–1972, Van Cleve Associates, Inc. was contracted to develop the *Open Space Plan for the Phoenix Mountains* (Van Cleve Associates 1972), which recommended an additional 9,000 acres of land (encompassing Shaw Butte, North Mountain, Piestewa Peak, Lookout Mountain, Shadow Mountain, and Stoney Mountain [Dreamy Draw separates Stoney Mountain and Piestewa Peak]). Camelback Mountain and Mummy Mountain were not included in the study (Van Cleve Associates 1972:9), but were targeted by the COP in later years (Figure 7).

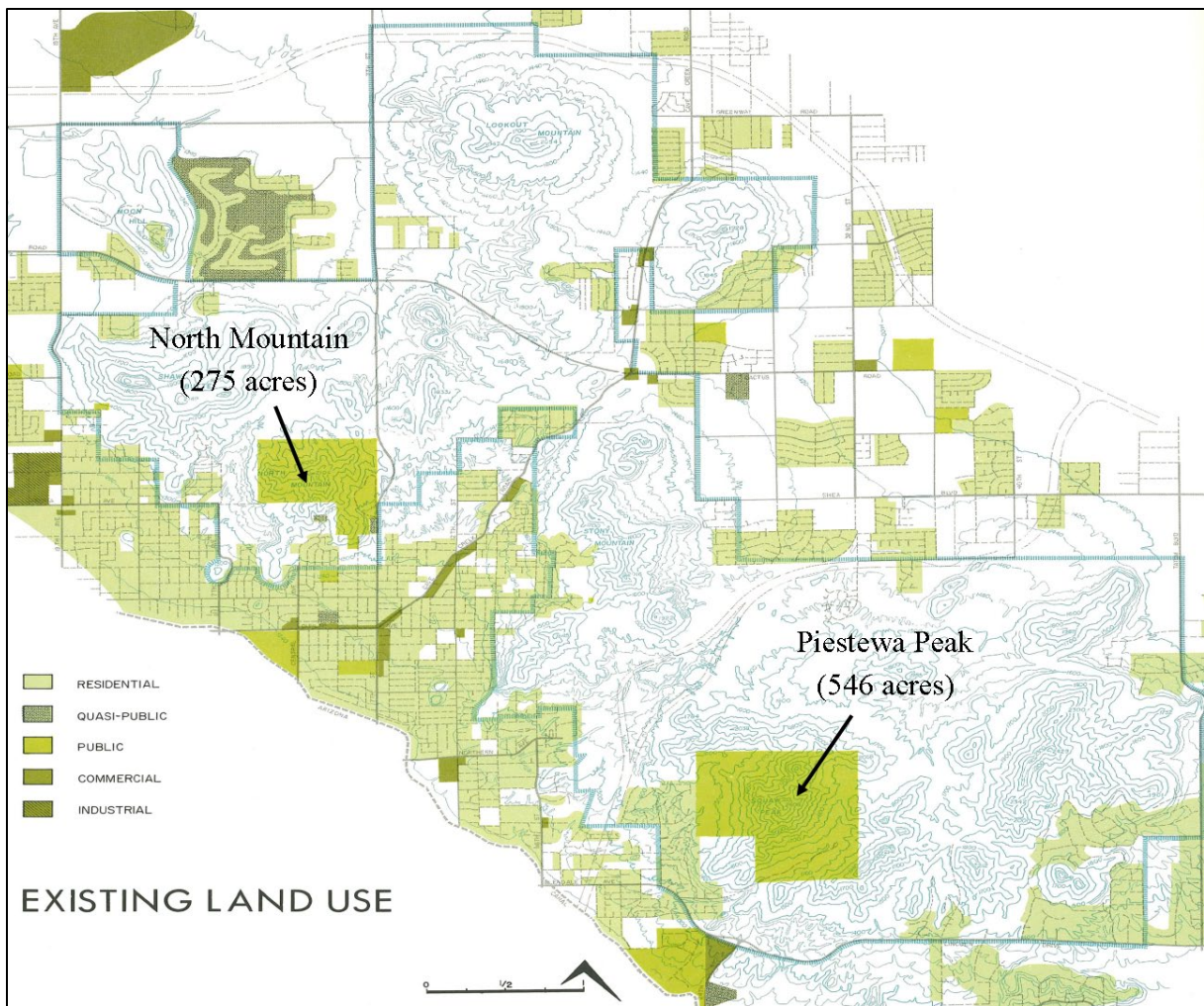


Figure 7. A 1972 map of North Phoenix, showing land use at the time, as well as the North Mountain and Piestewa Peak Parks (Van Cleve Associates 1972:20).

The blue outline in the figure represents the proposed Phoenix Mountains Preserve, as envisioned in 1972.

The plan recommended the following (Van Cleve Associates 1972:41–45):

- Preservation of an estimated 9,700 acres of undeveloped land (the bulk of which was privately owned, with a small portion owned by the federal government). County, state, and federal lands were expected to be transferred to the city, while the city would be responsible for acquiring all private lands through fee purchase or easement dedications.
- Private development would be limited only to level or low-slope areas immediately adjacent to the more rugged slopes.
- Preservation would be the primary mission of the plan, with recreation limited to hiking and horse trails. Park facilities would only be constructed on lower elevations of the preserve, with facilities constructed in a manner sensitive to the natural environment.
- Classification of resources areas, such as:

- Scenic view areas,
- Unique natural areas,
- General outdoor recreation areas, and
- Intensive recreation areas.

The plan envisioned servicing a wide range of activities beyond the existing recreation facilities at Piestewa Peak and North Mountain—much of which never materialized. An archery range was proposed to the northeast of North Mountain with multiple picnic areas and community park (Figure 8). An amphitheater and equestrian center would be constructed at Dreamy Draw (at the current location of Dreamy Draw recreation area). At Piestewa Peak, a large area immediately surrounding the peak would be reserved for a “Nature Study Center and Sanctuary” that would be divided into the wildlife, geological, and botanical exhibit areas, as well as a central location housing an interpretive building, outdoor classrooms, an assembly area, observatory, and a weather station.

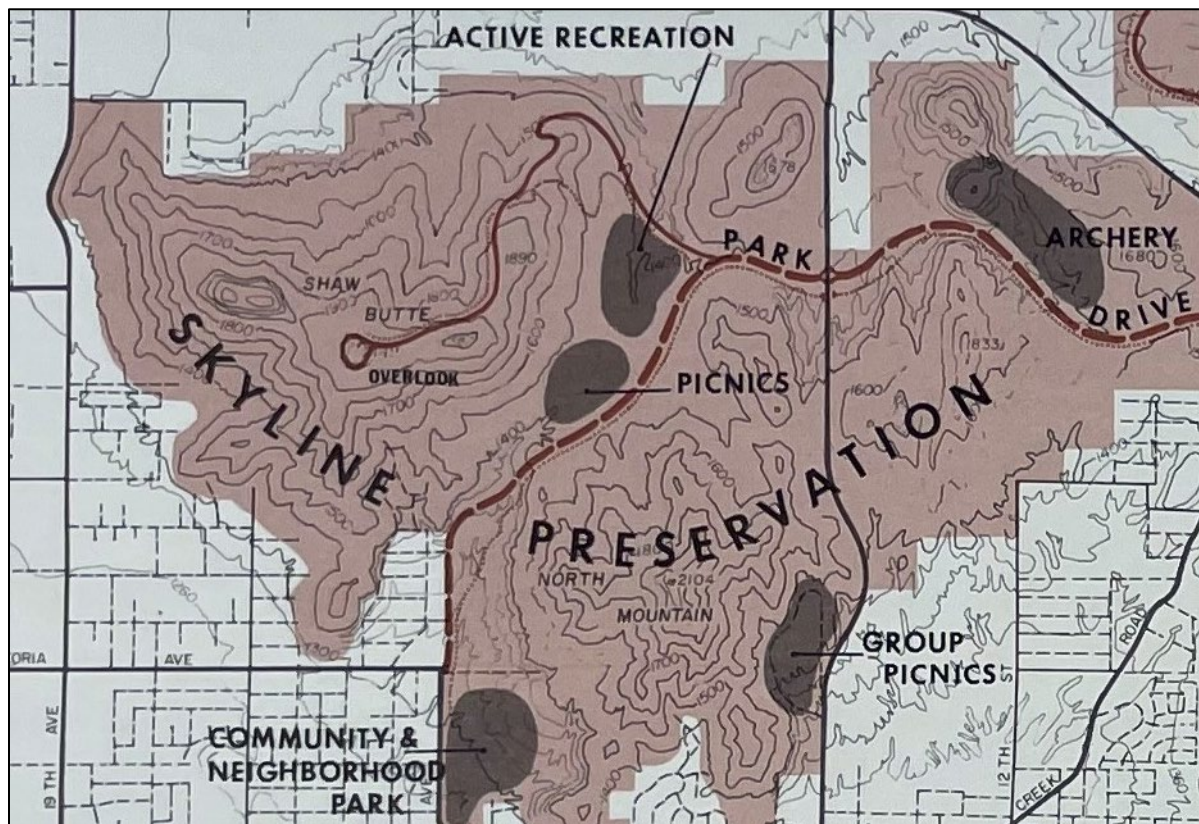


Figure 8. Portion of a 1972 master plan map, depicting proposed activities and facilities in the immediate vicinity of North Mountain Park (labelled as “Group Picnics in the lower right corner”) (Van Cleve Associates 1972).

The master plan was unanimously approved by the City Council in 1972. Mayor John D. Driggs assembled a 100-member commission, known as the Phoenix Mountains Preservation Commission, to develop a plan for acquiring the thousands of acres for the preserve. The commission recommended an open space bond fund that was subsequently voted on and approved by summer of 1973 (Gilbert 1993). Several bond funds

were approved in the final decades of the twentieth century (approved in 1979, 1984, and 1988) to continue the mission of acquiring lands under the Phoenix Mountains Preserve (Gilbert 1993). The bold proposals for development of the Phoenix Mountains laid out in the original 1972 master plan (summarized above) were never fulfilled; nonetheless, a large portion of the mountain range has been preserved, including Camelback Mountain. Currently, the city maintains more than 41,000 acres of mountain parks and desert preserves, the most recent of which is the Phoenix Sonoran Preserve, an extensive area of about 17,000 acres that stretches on either side of the Carefree Highway (Gilbert 1993).

MID-CENTURY MODERN RECREATION ARCHITECTURE IN PHOENIX (1960S–1975)

Previous documentation of Piestewa Peak Park (currently Phoenix Mountains Park) (Jones and Gregory 2017) included an in-depth summary of *Architecture in the Mountain Parks of Phoenix (ca. 1933–1975)*. This study included a summary of early architecture at South Mountain and Papago Parks, which was influenced by the National Park Service’s (NPS) publication of *Park Structures and Facilities* (U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service 1935). As emphasized by the NPS, park structures in regional or open space parks were to blend with the park’s natural environment through the use of native materials (see Figure 9). The previous study also provided a summary of Modernism and the variety of Modernist-influenced architectural styles that emerged in the first half of the twentieth century (e.g., International, Art Moderne, Brutalist, Neo-Expressive, and Neo Formalism) (Jones and Gregory 2017).

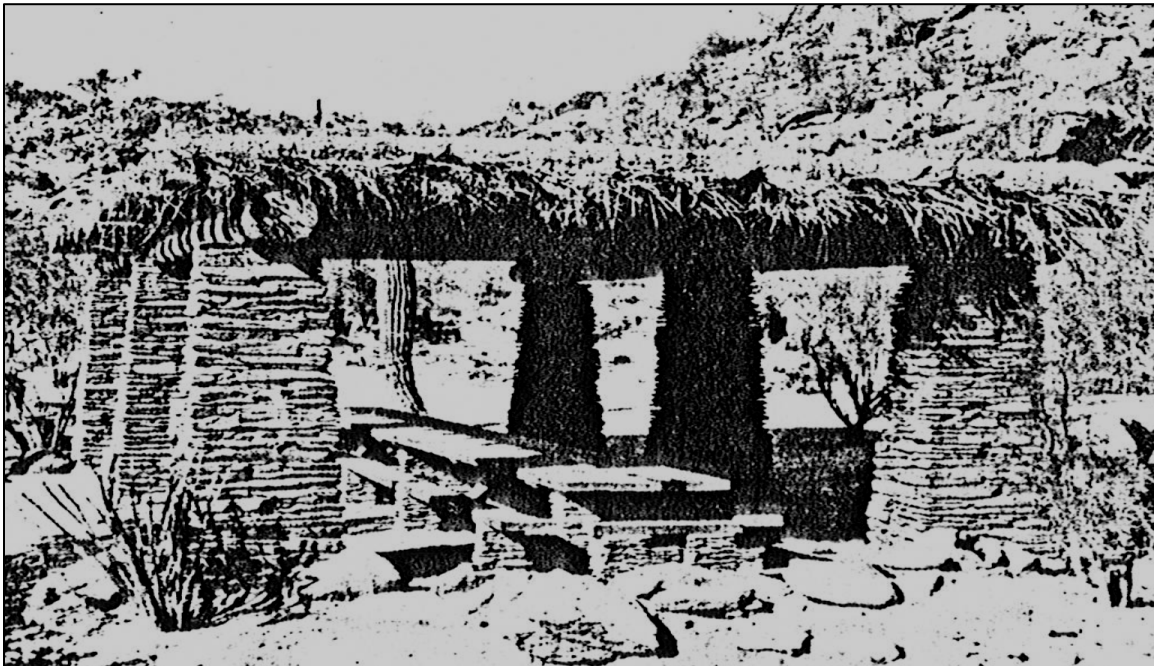


Figure 9. A 1935 photograph of a finished ramada at South Mountain Park in Phoenix (U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service 1935:123) (compare with Figure 5).

One of the common features of these architectural styles was the use of concrete, arguably the most common construction material of the twentieth century. Many architects of the Southwest, notably Frank Lloyd Wright, combined concrete with natural materials to develop what became known as Organicism (City of Phoenix Preservation Office and Ryden Architects 2010):

This design approach, not a style, emphasized building design that is concordant with the processes and structures of nature rather than imposed by a popular taste or cultural precedent (p.32).

Organic architecture, as a part of the modern movement, is a philosophy rather than a style. It promotes harmony between buildings and nature through design methods sympathetic to and integrated with the site so that the building and local environment become a unified composition (p.34).

Maricopa County's initial development at North Mountain Park was influenced in part by the previously constructed NPS structures at South Mountain and Papago Parks. While using modern materials for the infrastructure of the ramadas (metal frames and posts [Figure 9]), the thatched roofs mimicked the natural environment (see Figure 5). The COP in this period also sought to minimize the visual impacts to modifications of the natural environment with the use of exposed aggregate concrete, which was cheaper, more durable, and easier to install.

The use of exposed aggregate as a concrete finish was initially developed in the 1920s and 1930s, but not used extensively until the postwar era when the American Concrete Institute and the Portland Cement Association developed standards and guidelines for the use of this material. In this postwar era, when Brutalism and other modern styles were prevalent, the use of exposed aggregate concrete panels increased significantly (Cellini 2008:12–14, 102–103). The use of exposed aggregate in the construction of community landscape features (e.g., planters, refuse containers) was also common in the postwar period, as exemplified by their ubiquitous appearance on the campus of Arizona State University in Tempe. One can arguably observe that the use of this finish on landscape and park features promoted the ideals of Organic Architecture, as observed by the COP in 1974 (City of Phoenix ca. 1974): "Ramadas have been built to blend in with the natural desert environment". Park structures at Piestewa Peak Park, Dreamy Draw Park, and North Mountain Park are precast concrete structures that exhibit exposed aggregate. Similar structures have also been observed at South Mountain and Papago Parks (Jones and Gregory 2017). It is worth noting that mid-century modern view of exposed aggregate concrete being an alternative to "organic" stone and other materials appears to have changed in recent years (City of Phoenix 2015):

The ramada's tapered, cast-in-place concrete piers appear to be in fair condition but their mass and spacing allows limited space for seating and circulation. The precast concrete tongue and groove roof panels and beams also appear to be in fair condition. The wood fascia is missing in several locations and is poorly attached to the concrete roof panels. The exposed wood is weathered, lacks a protective paint finish, and is in poor condition. *The ramada's concrete piers are disproportionate to its overall size and do not compliment the natural environment* [emphasis added].

PREVIOUS BUILDING DOCUMENTATION

No architectural studies or property evaluations have been undertaken at North Mountain Park, although a recent study was completed at Piestewa Peak Park (currently Phoenix Mountains Park) (Jones and Gregory 2017). This inventory documented five ramada areas and three individual structures. Completed by Archaeological Consulting Services, Ltd. (ACS), the authors recommended that most of the documented structures and features were contributors to the proposed Piestewa Peak Park Historic District, encompassing an estimated 646 acres that were incorporated into the park by 1975. The district was

recommended eligible under Criterion A for its for its significance under the historic contexts of *Recreation and Tourism in the Phoenix Mountain Parks (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (1914–1975)*. As noted above, all documented ramada areas, structures, and features were recommended as contributing to the proposed district (save for culverts and gutters [Features 1–6, and 9]) (Jones and Gregory 2017).

Other open space parks have received more vigorous documentation, notably South Mountain and Papago Parks. These parks have been listed in the local register by the COP Historic Preservation Office (HPO) (City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Office 2023):

- *South Mountain Park & Preserves*
Listed October 1989 (Criteria A and C)
Period of Significance (1933–1942)
- *Papago Park*
Listed October 1992 (Criteria A and C)
Period of Significance (1932–1946)

In recent years, COP HPO has endeavored to complete a nomination of the expansive South Mountain Park for listing in the National Register for its association with archaeology, landscape planning, and architecture of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and National Park Service (NPS) in the era of New Deal Programs (Jones and Gregory 2017). Several properties within the current Papago Park boundaries have been listed in the National Register, including (City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Office 2023):

- *Hunt Bass Hatchery Caretaker's House / Ruby's House*
Listed January 2008 (Criterion A)
Development of State Fish Hatchery's in Arizona (1935–1953)
- *Hunt's Tomb*
Listed June 2008 (Criterion C, Criteria Consideration C)
Pyramidal Monuments in Arizona (1925–1943)
- *Webster Auditorium*
Listed June 1990 (Criterion A)
Early Development of the Desert Botanical Garden (1939–1940)

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

To be eligible for inclusion in the National Register, historic properties must be at least 50 years old and meet one or more of the criteria set forth in 36 CFR 60.4:

- Criterion A: applies to properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

- Criterion B: applies to properties that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- Criterion C: applies to properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- Criterion D: applies to properties that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition to meeting one or more criteria, properties must be significant within the context of prehistory or history. Significant historic properties must also possess integrity, which is the composite of seven qualities: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. All of these qualities do not have to be present for a historic property to be eligible for the National Register. In fact, the integrity of archaeological properties is usually based on the degree to which the remaining evidence can provide *important* information about the prehistory or history of an area.

All cultural resources have the potential to yield information, but assessment of the information's importance is a critical factor. To utilize the criteria effectively, the NPS developed the concept of historic context, which consists of a time (e.g., late Historic period), a place (e.g., Phoenix), and a theme (e.g., community development). Multiple historic context studies on the prehistory and history of Arizona have been developed by the NPS and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Several thematic categories have been previously identified to capture the full range of historical activities and property functions within the Phoenix Mountains Park and vicinity (Jones and Gregory 2017). Those pertinent to the current project include:

- Urban Development of North Phoenix in the Postwar Period (1945–1975)
- Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)
- Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (1914–1975)
- Architecture of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (ca. 1933–1975)

ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Archival research was conducted to gather primary and secondary information relating to the historical development of North Mountain Park and the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, as well as specific information regarding the early use of the project area as a campground for Native American families from 1925–1955. Resources requested and/or reviewed included maps, master plan reports, pamphlets, inventory reports, and lease, deed, and warranty records. The following institutions and repositories were contacted or visited:

- *Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records* (office visit)
- *Phoenix Historic Preservation Office* (office visit)
- *Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department* (email correspondence [no response])
- *Burton Barr Library (Phoenix Public Library)* (email correspondence [responded])
- *Bureau of Land Management Main Phoenix Office* (email correspondence [no response])

- *Maricopa County Parks and Recreation* (email correspondence [no response])
- *Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Native American Connections)* (email correspondence)
- *Previous Local and Regional Class III and Historic Building Studies:*
 - A Historic Building Inventory of the Phoenix Mountains Park and Recreation Area, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona (Jones and Gregory 2017).
 - Class III Cultural Resource Survey of the North Mountain Road Connector Trail in the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona (Jones and Davis 2018).
- *General Internet Research*
 - Phoenix Historic Preservation: <https://www.phoenix.gov/pdd/historic-preservation>
 - Flood Control District Maricopa County Historical Aerials: <https://gis.maricopa.gov/GIO/HistoricalAerial/index.html>
 - Nationwide Environmental Title Research's HistoricAerials.com <https://www.historicaerials.com/>
 - Arizona Memory: <https://azmemory.azlibrary.gov/>
 - Newspapers.com: <https://www.newspapers.com/>
 - BLM-GLO Records Site: <https://glorerecords.blm.gov/>
 - Maricopa County Assessor and Recorder's Office: <https://maps.mcassessor.maricopa.gov/>
<https://recorder.maricopa.gov/recdocdata/>

HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY: METHODS

The historic built environment inventory for this project was conducted in accordance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Evaluation* (NPS, U.S. Department of the Interior 1983). National Register criteria of eligibility (see above) were used to assess the historic significance of each property inventoried. Inventoried properties were evaluated individually for their National Register eligibility as well as for their potential contribution to a possible historic district.

The evaluation of historic integrity of each property inventoried for this study was conducted with consideration of its historic context, potential area and period of significance, and property type. The inventory fieldwork involved examining, photographing, and completing a Historic Property Inventory Form (HPIF) for historic-age resources within the project area. As construction of the project is imminent, for purposes of this study, all resources built in 1974 or earlier are considered historical in age. Additional structures constructed post-1974 were not inventoried but are noted on overview maps of the built environment at North Mountain Park.

Assessment of Historic Integrity

Integrity refers to the characteristics of a property that allow it to convey its significance and historical character. To be considered eligible for the National Register, a property must retain integrity of its basic form and character-defining features to the degree that it still provides an authentic representation of its historic appearance. The criteria used to evaluate the historic integrity of properties in this study were drawn from

the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (National Park Service 2017), *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Register of Historic Places 2002), and the Arizona SHPO policy statement on eligibility (Arizona State Historic Preservation Office 2011).

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (National Park Service 2017:28) provides standards for rehabilitation (referred to hereafter simply as "Standards"), identifying the types of changes that can be made while still retaining the property's historic integrity:

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships. Where a treatment and use have not been identified, a property will be protected, and if necessary, stabilized until additional work may be undertaken.
2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection and properly documented for future research.
4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
6. The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
8. Archaeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Some changes to historic buildings, structures, and objects are allowable under certain conditions. For example, the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (National Park Service 2017:78) state:

Some exterior and interior alterations to a historic building are generally needed as part of a **Rehabilitation** project to ensure its continued use, but it is most important that such alterations do not radically change, obscure, or destroy character-defining spaces, materials, features, or finishes. Alterations may include changes to the site or setting, such as selective removal of buildings or other features of the building site or setting that are intrusive, not character defining, or outside the building's period of significance.

There are seven aspects of integrity that must be considered when evaluating the National Register eligibility of a property: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Location

"Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred" (National Register of Historic Places 2002:44). Structures moved from their original location are usually ineligible for listing in the National Register. An exception to this is National Register Criteria Consideration B, which states that if the moved property is significant primarily for architectural value or if it is the surviving property associated with a historic person or event, it may be eligible for listing.

Design

"Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property" and "...includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentations, and materials" (National Register of Historic Places 2002:44). An eligible property should exhibit important elements of its design from its period of significance, such as roof type, fenestration, and decorative elements, or in the case of historic districts, layout, plan, circulation, and other related design aspects (see Standards #2, #3, and #9). Modifications that were made during the period of significance may be considered an essential part of a building's history (see Standard #4). If modifications were made after the period of significance and were sensitive to the original design, a building may still retain enough of its character-defining features to communicate its historic character.

Setting

"Setting is the physical environment of a historic property" and "refers to the *character* of the place in which the property played its historic role" (National Register of Historic Places 2002:45). Setting involves the relationship of a property to its surrounding natural and built environment considered both within the boundaries of the property and, especially in the case of historic districts, between the property and its surroundings (National Register of Historic Places 2002:45). Redevelopment and infill construction, demolition of nearby properties, widening of streets, and proximity of poorly maintained properties and vacant buildings can adversely impact integrity of setting (see Standard #9). Modifications to a property's setting made during the period of significance are typically considered an essential part of the setting's history (see Standard #4).

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” (National Register of Historic Places 2002:45). A property’s materials dating from the period of significance should be preserved, maintained, and visible to the greatest extent possible (see Standards #2, #5, #7, and #9). Materials used for repairs and maintenance should be similar to those that were used in the original construction (see Standard #6). The loss of a building’s original materials is most evident in walls where brick masonry has been painted, stucco has been applied over brick or concrete block, or metal, vinyl, or other siding materials have been applied to exterior walls; such applications are usually irreversible. However, modification to a property’s materials made during the period of significance may be considered an essential part of the property’s history (Standard #4).

Workmanship

“Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. Workmanship can apply to the property as a whole or to its individual components” (National Register of Historic Places 2002:45). To maintain integrity, character-defining features of workmanship original to the property (or added during its period of significance [Standard #4]) must be preserved and remain visible (Standards #5 and #9). Workmanship also includes small-scale features such as curbs, walls, sidewalks, and objects.

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” (National Register of Historic Places 2002:45). To retain integrity, a property must be able to communicate the historic character from the period of significance (Standards #2, #5, and #9).

Association

“Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a 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” (National Register of Historic Places 2002:45). Properties must be associated in an important way with the area and period of significance and must still be able to convey that association (Standards #1 and #2).

Evaluating Aspects of Integrity

All historical resources undergo change over time. While it is not essential that all seven attributes of integrity have been preserved intact, an eligible property must convey the time period during which it attained its significance. To assist in evaluation of a property’s integrity, former Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer James Garrison (1989) prepared a chart showing those aspects of integrity that must be present for different property types to remain eligible for the National Register (Table 4). While additional aspects of integrity are important, the chart provides a guide for evaluating the most important aspects of integrity depending on the criteria for significance. For example, this matrix shows that if a building is being considered

for eligibility under Criterion C (Design/Construction), at least four of the seven aspects of integrity must be present: design, workmanship, materials, and feeling.

Table 4. Evaluating Aspects of Integrity*

Criteria	Property Types				
	Building	District	Site	Structure	Object
A. Event/History	Location, Materials, Feeling, Association	Location, Setting, Feeling, Association	Location, Setting, Feeling, Association	Location, Materials, Feeling, Association	Materials, Feeling, Association
B. Person	Materials, Feeling, Association	Location, Setting, Materials	Location, Setting, Association	Materials, Feeling, Association	Materials, Feeling, Association
C. Design/ Construction	Design, Workmanship, Materials, Feeling	Setting, Design, Feeling, Materials	Setting, Design, Feeling	Design, Workmanship, Materials, Feeling	Design, Workmanship, Materials, Feeling
D. Likely to Yield/ Has Yielded Information Potential	Workmanship, Materials	Location, Materials	Location, Materials	Workmanship, Materials	Workmanship, Materials

*From Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, James Garrison (1989)

The evaluation criteria help to define major and minor adverse impacts on integrity. Integrity of design and materials are generally considered to be present if a building’s historic plan, form, massing, fabric, and fenestration are evident. A major adverse impact, such as sheathing of exterior walls or changes to the basic geometry of the building, could make a property ineligible. Three or more minor alterations, such as replacement of windows or roofing material with different types, paint or stucco over previously natural brick masonry, or removal of decorative elements, may also render a building ineligible due to loss of integrity. Per the Arizona SHPO and Historic Sites Review Committee policy statement, “These policies are primarily designed to address the eligibility of buildings as contributors to historic or architectural districts. The eligibility of an individual building will often require the presence of a higher level of integrity” (Arizona State Historic Preservation Office 2011:1).

Historical Wall Material Must Be Intact and Visible

The loss of historical materials is most evident for exterior walls where stucco plaster has been applied over brick or concrete block, or where exterior walls have been sheathed with metal, vinyl, or other siding materials. Standards # 9 and #10 are applicable to this issue, and guidance is provided by NPS: “[i]f the historic *exterior* building material is covered by non-historic material (such as modern siding), the property can still be eligible *if* the significant form, features, and detailing are not obscured” (National Register of Historic Places 2002:47).

Following this guidance, in a case where stucco has been applied to the exterior of a building, it will be considered a minor impact to historic integrity if it does not conceal or alter significant features or detailing (Standard #5) such as where stucco is applied over an original window opening, covers decorative architectural details, or is significantly built up around window and door openings, effectively changing the

architectural features on the primary façade of a building. Such significant alterations are considered a major impact to the architectural integrity of the building. In cases where brick masonry has been painted, it will be treated as a minor alteration, as much of the original texture is still visible and because painted brick may be indicative of the period of significance. If the original exterior materials of a building are one of its character-defining features, sheathing application that obscures the original wall material is considered a major impact to historic integrity.

Additions Must Be Sensitive to the Historical Design and Materials of the Building

Additions to historical buildings are evaluated according to their visual impact from the street or public right-of-way. Additions to the rear of a building generally do not detract from its historic appearance from the primary façade as long as the addition is limited in size and scale relative to the historic building. Additions to the front or sides of a building may not adversely affect its historic appearance if they reflect design, construction, materials, and scale similar to the original building and do not detract from its historic massing, plan, and general appearance (Arizona State Historic Preservation Office 2011:2–3). If a building has additions that alter or obscure the original fenestration and articulation of the façade, or that exhibit a roof type or materials that are different from the original building, it will be considered to have lost integrity. The addition should be clearly differentiated from the historic building, but compatible with mass, materials, relationship of open to closed space, and color of the original. In addition, if the addition is taller than the historic building, the front roof slope should be behind the original building (Arizona State Historic Preservation Office 2011:2–3). Additions that protrude into the historic setback, or that radically alter the plan and massing associated with the historic architectural style, are considered major adverse impacts to integrity.

Fenestration Patterns Must Be Intact and Visible

The historic openings for doors and windows should be evident with little or no alteration. Particular attention is given to evaluating replacement of windows with different types, typically with modern aluminum or vinyl windows and/or fixed picture windows. Original window types can be determined by assessing the building’s architectural style and age, through comparison with similar properties, or with specific historical information about a building’s historic appearance. If the original window openings or fenestration patterns are not altered, replacement of window types is a minor change that by itself would not render a property ineligible.

Roof Types Must Retain Their Original Form

The *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (National Park Service 2017:98) indicates that “Removing or substantially changing roofs which are important in defining the overall historic character of the building so that, as a result, the character is diminished” will cause a loss of historic design integrity. The basic shape and appearance of the roof—i.e., hip, gable, or flat with parapet—must remain the same as it was when the building was constructed. While changes to the basic form and contours of the roof would be considered a major alteration, replacement of roofing materials with a different type would be a minor alteration unless the original roofing materials (e.g., Spanish tile) were a defining feature of the buildings’ architectural style.

To Be Considered a Contributor to a Historic District, a Property Must Be Contiguous to Other Contributing Properties

A historic district must have compact boundaries and a high proportion of contributing properties. A contributing property cannot be isolated from the rest of the historic district or surrounded by noncontributing properties.

Areas of Significance

The historic significance of properties in the project area is derived from their relationship to the historic contexts of *Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (ca. 1914–1975)* (Criterion A) and under Criterion C for any distinctive character and construction of the ramada areas. Together, these provide the historic context for the development of North Mountain Park from 1957–1975. As the park has been the subject of improvements and rehabilitation through the modern era, only buildings and features that could be determined with certainty to be original were assessed for eligibility, either individually or as contributors to a district.

Arizona Historic Property Inventory Forms

HPIFs were completed for building groups within the project area that contained a historic age building or structure. The HPIFs are presented in Appendix A. Where the specific information needed to fill out certain categories on the HPIF may not be self-evident, it is discussed below. These guidelines for specific data fields were used to ensure that all forms were filled out consistently.

Survey Site Number

Each building was assigned an inventory field identification number, although some clusters of related individual buildings were combined and treated as one property for the purposes of this inventory.

Address

The primary street address for North Mountain Park currently on record with Maricopa County Assessor records was used for all properties.

Tax Parcel Number

This identifying information is based on data from the Maricopa County Assessor's Office, which maintains information on listed parcels, current property ownership, and effective construction dates.

Construction Date

Construction dates for the structures and features within the three building groups were derived from a careful review of archival materials, including newspaper articles, aerial photographs (1949, 1959, 1969, 1976), master plan documents, and park pamphlets. An initial construction date was used if one could be determined. A circa (ca.) date is indicated on the form when an absolute original construction date is unknown, and an estimated date based on available data is used.

Structural Condition

The physical condition of a building is based on evidence of reasonable maintenance and repair, or visible structural damage or deterioration. However, problems with structural condition are not necessarily an indication of a building's integrity, which is based on an evaluation of whether character-defining architectural elements are intact, missing, or altered.

HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY RESULTS

The historical building inventory was conducted by Thomas Jones and Andrea Gregory on August 3, 2023. The primary goal of this study was to determine if any historic properties would be affected by the planned improvements. Field recording of buildings included a physical and architectural description and at least one photograph of each primary building with associated buildings, structures, and features, with additional notes and photographs documenting general characteristics and features of the project area. If archival resources or other sources were not available to determine exact date of construction, an estimated date was applied, based on available documentation and analysis of construction methods and materials. Buildings were further assessed for architectural integrity and eligibility to the National Register and local register, including historical significance to the applicable historic contexts identified above. In addition to individually eligible properties, properties were also evaluated as contributors to a potential historic district associated with the Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix, and specifically North Mountain Park.

Logan Simpson inventoried three building groups (Building Groups 1–3), none of which have been individually listed in the National Register or local register. In addition to these building groups, an HPIF was completed for the proposed North Mountain Park Historic District, which encompasses the main park itself (Figure 10; Table 5). A summary of these results is presented below. HPIFs are provided in Appendix A. No surface remnants of the former Phoenix Indian School Campgrounds were identified in either inventory effort. As summarized above, buildings were evaluated under the historic contexts of *Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (ca. 1914–1975)* (Criterion A), as well as under Criterion C for any distinctive character and construction of the ramada areas. It is worth noting again that only buildings and features that could be determined with certainty to be constructed between 1957 and 1974 were assessed for eligibility, either individually or as contributors to a district.

Building Groups 1–3 which contain the ranger's office, ramada areas, restrooms, and other structures and features, along with historical circulation patterns and the historical trail system documented in the park retain integrity, and convey a strong sense of setting, feeling, and association with the original park. Although the building groups are not recommended individually eligible, they are recommended as contributors to a proposed district. The North Mountain Park Historic District is recommended eligible for listing in the National and local registers under Criterion A for its significance under the historic contexts of *Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (1914–1975)*.

The proposed historic district and features are not recommended eligible under Criterion C, either individually or as contributors. Although the exposed aggregate materials used in the construction of structures of the recreation area are applied throughout the Phoenix Mountains Park system (including modern facilities at

the Dreamy Draw recreation area [constructed in the mid-1980s]), the use of such materials extends beyond the parks, and are used frequently across the Salt River Valley on landscape features (e.g., planters and trash receptacles), as well as for decorative components of mid-century modern commercial buildings (see Jones and Gregory 2017). Additionally, the construction style of the ramadas is not distinctive to North Mountain Park, or to other parks of the Phoenix Mountains Preserve. It was implemented in a style to minimize impacts to the natural environment, consistent with an approach utilized by the NPS at national parks across the American Southwest. Other features such as barbeque grills, drinking fountains, and benches are made from a range of materials including natural stone, exposed aggregate, and concrete and are present in a variety of styles within North Mountain Park and the larger Phoenix Mountains Preserve.

BUILDING INVENTORY SUMMARY

The proposed North Mountain Park Historic District, recommended eligible under Criterion A, would encompass only the built environment portion of the of the park (Building Groups 1-3, vehicular circulation, and trail network) (27.30 acres). Logan Simpson documented all historical resources within the current project area, including the building groups and associated features, as well as the circulation system. The trail network, as noted, was documented as a historical in-use structure (HIS 1) in the Class III survey (Darling et al. 2024). Given the limited scope of the project, a thorough inventory of all of North Mountain Park is not possible at this time (including trails and other features). Logan Simpson acknowledges that future improvement projects within and immediately adjacent to the proposed historic district may identify additional contributing features and structures and may also necessitate reconsideration of historic district boundaries of North Mountain Park.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The historic building groups of North Mountain Park are recommended as contributing to the eligibility of the park, including the ramadas and tables, the restrooms, and original ranger station (Building Groups 1–3). The lesser features of each building group, including tables, barbeque pedestals, drinking fountain, plazas, and retaining walls, are recommended for preservation when possible, although many have been altered during the modern period. Maintenance and improvements at the park are evident, including the following:

- Construction of modern children’s playground;
- Building new barbeque pedestals and installing new picnic tables where necessary;
- Adding concrete walkways, cobble and dirt pedestrian paths, and new retaining walls;
- Constructing Americans with Disabilities Act access ramps and paths where necessary; and
- Installing ornamental landscape vegetation, surface gravel in some areas, and features along portions of the access road (rock alignments, etc.).

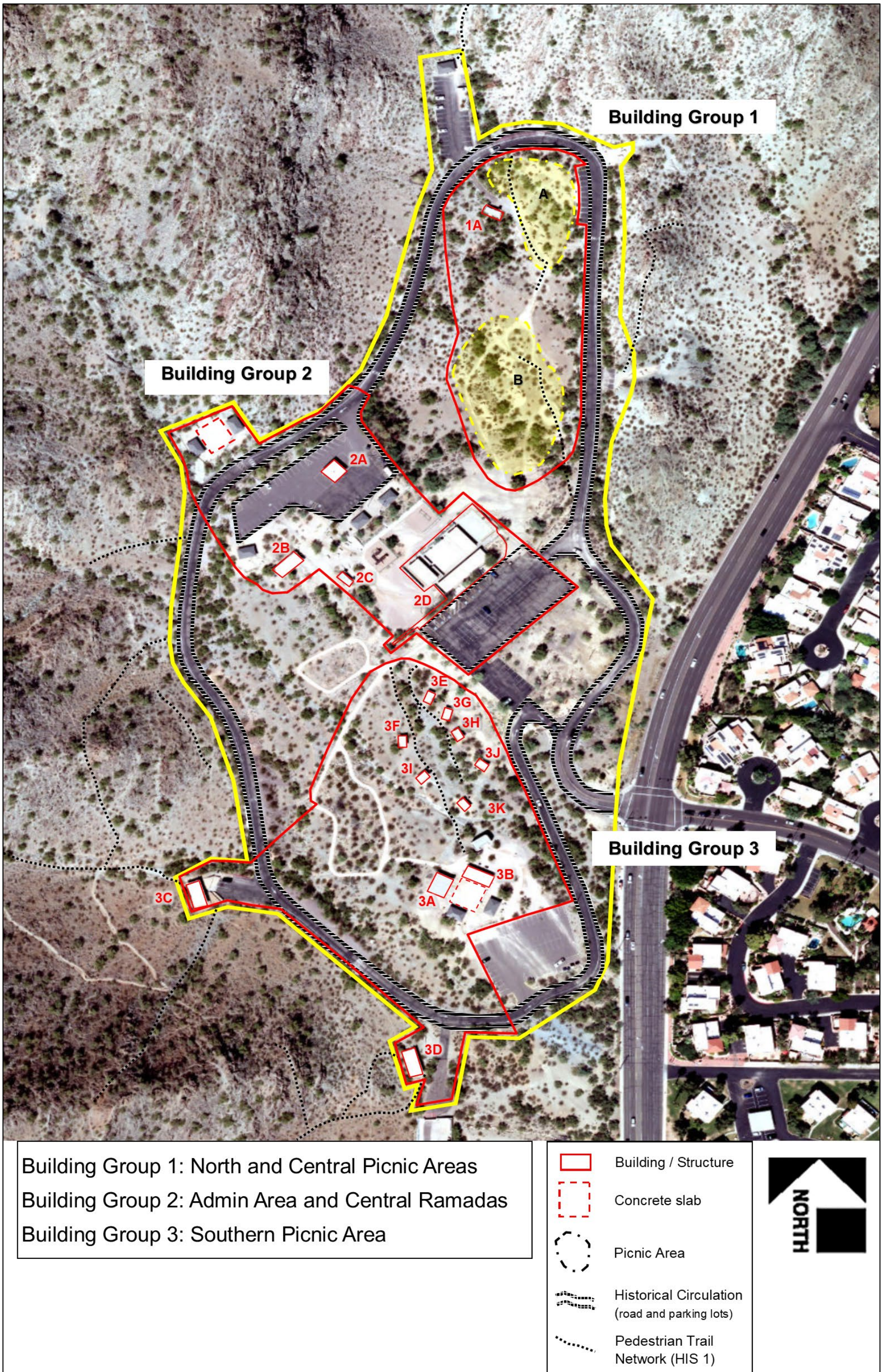


Figure 10. Contemporary aerial of the project area, showing building groups structures and building groups inventoried by Logan Simpson, as well as circulation of the recreation area and miscellaneous features.

Historical trail segments were documented as HIS 1 in the Class III survey (Darling et al. 2024)

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Table 5. Summary of Historic Building Inventory Data at North Mountain Park ¹.

Name	Building No. (Bldg.)	Parcel No.	Construction Date	Recommendation of Eligibility		
				<u>Individually Eligible</u>	<u>Contributor to Potential District</u>	
North and Central Picnic Area	Bldg. Group 1	Building 1A (Maricopa Restroom) Two picnic areas with multiple tables and grills (Areas A-B).	159-17-004	1967–1968	No	Yes
Admin Area and Central Ramadas (Ranger Station, Parking Lots, Havasupai and Tewa Ramadas)	Bldg. Group 2	Building 2A (Ranger Station) Building 2B (Ramada) Building 2C (Restroom) Building 2D (Havasupai Ramada) Concrete slab surfaces, wet-laid stone walls, drinking fountain, stairs	159-17-004	1957–1958, 1967–1968	No	Yes
Southern Picnic Area (Yavapai, Quechan, and Ak-Chin Ramadas and Restrooms)	Bldg. Group 3	Building 3A and 3B (Yavapai Ramadas) Building 3C (Quechan Ramada) Building 3D (Ak Chin Ramada) Buildings 3E–3K (small ramadas) Multiple tables, and grills	159-17-004 159-42-003	1957–1958, 1967–1968	No	Yes
Proposed Historic District						
North Mountain Park	Circulation	Main access road Pedestrian trail network (HIS 1) ² Parking Areas (I and II)	159-17-004 159-42-003	1957–1958, 1967–1968	Yes	No

¹ See Appendix A for additional information.

² The trail system network was documented in the separate Class III survey report as HIS 1 (Darling et al. 2024).

In addition to the building groups described above, the circulation system of the overall recreation area is also recommended as contributing to the district, including the pedestrian trail network (HIS 1) and vehicular access (the main access road and the two main parking areas). The main access road has been altered somewhat on its south end, effectively closing the original southern access from 7th Street. Nonetheless, the road retains sufficient integrity as a contributor to the district. Parking areas for independent ramadas have been expanded and altered in recent decades and no longer retain integrity so are not recommended as contributing to the proposed district. Observed road features (i.e., culverts, cobble borders) appear to be modern and are not recommended as contributors. The light posts at the building groups appear to be original and are considered as contributing to the eligibility of the proposed district, although not necessarily character-defining features of the district; loss of these elements would not affect the eligibility of the historic district.

Logan Simpson recommends coordination between the COP HPO and Parks and Recreation Department during planning and implementation of improvements made within the proposed historic district. It is recommended that as many of the main buildings (e.g., ramadas, ranger station, and bathrooms) be preserved and maintained as possible. While the loss of a single ramada within each building group, or even the loss of an entire building group, would not necessarily result in sufficient loss of integrity to render the historic district ineligible, the cumulative effects of building losses may result in an insufficient proportion of contributors making up the historic district. Therefore, prior to demolition and/or replacement of buildings, it is recommended that consultation occur with the COP HPO to ensure that sufficient integrity of the historic district is maintained to allow the district to continue to convey its historical significance and remain eligible.

Original circulation routes (trails, access road, and parking areas) should be maintained. This does not preclude alternate surfacing of the road and parking areas or routine maintenance, such as installation or replacement of culverts, concrete culverts, concrete stops, and other infrastructure. The conversion of portions of the road to pedestrian trails, expansion of parking areas, and addition of trails does not necessarily compromise the integrity of the district, as long as the original location and association of these circulation routes is maintained.

As noted above, the proposed district boundary encompasses the historic built environment of North Mountain Park that includes the three building groups and circulation system. A thorough inventory beyond the project area was not possible at this time due to the current project's limited scope. Should previously undocumented features and structures such as trails and other supporting infrastructure be identified at a future date, Logan Simpson recommends continued coordination between the COP HPO and Parks and Recreation to evaluate and assess these features as contributors to the proposed district, as well as to determine whether the historic district boundaries should be expanded.

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APPENDIX A Historic Property Inventory Forms

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STATE OF ARIZONA

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

Please type or print clearly. Fill out each applicable space accurately and with as much information as is known about the property. Use continuation sheets where necessary. Send completed form to: State Historic Preservation Office, 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ, 83007.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION

For properties identified through survey: Site No. Bldg Group 1 Survey Area: North Mountain Park, Phoenix Mountains Preserve

Historic Name(s): North and Central Picnic Areas

(Enter the name(s), if any, that best reflects the property's historic importance.)

Address: 10608 N 7th St

City or Town: Phoenix Vicinity County: Maricopa Tax Parcel No.: 159-17-004

Township: 3N Range: 3E Section: 20 Quarter Section: SE1/4 SE1/ Acreage: ~ 4.0

Block: _____ Lot(s): _____ Plat (Addition): _____ Year of plat (addition): _____

UTM reference: Zone 12 Easting 401084.9 Northing 3716583.5 USGS 7.5' quad map: Sunnyslope, Ariz.

Architect: _____ not determined known (source): _____

Builder: Norton Connor Construction Co. not determined known (source): AZ Republic (07/13/1967, page 4)

Construction Date: 1967-1968 known estimated (source): AZ Republic (11/20/1968, page 5)

STRUCTURAL CONDITION

GOOD (Well-maintained; no serious problems apparent)

FAIR (Some problems apparent) Describe: _____

POOR (Major problems; imminent threat) Describe: _____

RUIN / UNINHABITABLE

USES/FUNCTIONS

Describe how the property has been used over time, beginning with original use.

Ramada and picnic area, parking lot

Sources:

Historical aerials, AZ Republic (11/20/1968, page 5)

PHOTO INFORMATION

Date of photo: August 3, 2023

View Direction (looking towards):

North

Negative No.: BG1 IMG 6813



SIGNIFICANCE

Survey Site No.: Bldg Group 1

To be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a property must represent an important part of the history or architecture of an area. Note: a property need only be significant under one of the areas below to be eligible for the National Register.

A. HISTORIC EVENTS/TRENDS (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated either with a significant historic event, or with a trend or pattern of events important to the history of the nation, the state, or the local community.)

B. PERSON (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated with the life of a person significant in the past.)

C. ARCHITECTURE (On a continuation sheet describe how the property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.)

Outbuildings: (Describe any other buildings or structures on the property and whether they may be considered historic.)

INTEGRITY

To be eligible for the National Register, a property must have integrity, that is, it must be able to visually convey its importance. Provide detailed information below about the property's integrity. Use continuation sheets if necessary.

1. LOCATION Original Site Moved date: _____ Original Site: _____

2. DESIGN (Describe alterations from the original design, including dates - known or estimated - when alterations were made)

See continuation form

3. SETTING (Describe the natural and/or built environment around the property)

This facility is an open space mountain park at the base of North Mountain. Urban development surrounds the park.

Describe how the setting has changed since the property's period of significance:

General setting within the park remains relatively unchanged.

4. MATERIALS (Describe the materials used in the following elements of the property)

Walls (structure): Concrete Foundation: Concrete Roof: Concrete, wood trim, wet-laid stone

Windows: Steel frame, mesh

If the windows have been altered, what were they originally? _____

Wall sheathing: Exposed aggregate, unpainted

If the sheathing has been altered, what was it originally? _____

5. WORKMANSHIP (Describe the distinctive elements, if any, of craftsmanship or method of construction)

See continuation form

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS (if listed, check the appropriate box)

Individually Listed Contributor Noncontributor to: _____ Historic District

Date Listed: _____ Determined eligible by keeper of the National Register date: _____

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY (opinion of HPO staff or survey consultant)

Property is is not eligible individually.

Property is is not eligible as a contributor to a potential historic district.

More information needed to evaluate.

If not considered eligible, state reason: See continuation form

FORM COMPLETED BY

Name and Affiliation: A. Gregory and T. Jones, Logan Simpson Form Date: September 7, 2023

Mailing Address: 51 W. 3rd St., Ste. 450, Tempe, AZ 85281 Phone: 480-967-1343

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building Group 1

Continuation Sheet No. 1

=====

This building group represents the Northern and Central Picnic Areas of North Mountain Park, encompassing one restroom (Maricopa Restroom) and two picnic areas (i.e., tables and barbeque pits) (Figure 1–Figure 2). This area was developed as a component of the park in 1967–1968 by the City of Phoenix. The Maricopa Ramada and parking area (modern) are often full, considering this is location is where hikers congregate for hiking on Trail 44. Because the ramada and parking area are modern, they are not considered components of Building Group 1 (Arizona Republic 1967, 1968; Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023).

DESIGN AND WORKMANSHIP

The restroom facility (Building 1A) is a rectangular structure that is made entirely of concrete with an exposed aggregate finish. The building includes two restrooms, as well as a storage room; entries for all are on the front façade. A drinking fountain and water station are built into the front façade (also made from exposed aggregate concrete). Two small open windows on the side façades are protected by wire mesh. The roof is a precast concrete slab, although wood-framed extensions (exposed eaves) are evident above windows and front façade. A paved walkway has been constructed from the main access road to the restroom. The facility is well maintained.

Two picnic areas in the building group include multiple tables and barbeque pits. Picnic Area A (north area near Building 1A) comprises at least nine tables with six barbecue pits and three wet-laid cobble pedestals that may have once functioned as barbecue pits. Picnic Area B also includes at least nine tables with wet-laid cobble barbecue pits and/or pedestals. Many of the barbecue pits appear to be modern, although they incorporate the use of natural materials.

RECOMMENDATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Criterion A

Although not recommended individually eligible for listing in the National or local registers, Building Group 1 is recommended eligible as a contributor to the proposed North Mountain Park Historic District under Criterion A for its association with the themes of *Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (ca. 1914–1975)*.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building Group 1

Continuation Sheet No. 2

=====

North Mountain Park was established as a county park in 1957, and transferred to the City of Phoenix when the area was annexed in late 1959–1960. Over the course of several decades, and with the passage of several bond initiatives, North Mountain Park, Piestewa Peak Park, and other isolated peaks of the Phoenix Mountains are now components of the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, which encompasses more than 41,000 acres of open space, including South Mountain and Papago Parks (Gilbert 1990). The building group, which includes one restroom facility and two picnic areas, was constructed in 1967–1968 at a time when the preserves were taking shape. The restroom, tables, and barbecue pits retain a high level of integrity and convey a strong sense of setting, feeling, and association to the original park.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building Group 1

Continuation Sheet No. 3

=====

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1. Overview of Picnic Area A, view facing north.

As shown, tables are made from concrete (exposed aggregate legs and slab tops), while barbecues are wet-lain stone.



Figure 2. Overview of Picnic Area B, view facing northwest.

As shown, tables are made from concrete (exposed aggregate legs and slab tops), while barbecues are wet-lain stone.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building Group 1

Continuation Sheet No. 4

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STATE OF ARIZONA

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

Please type or print clearly. Fill out each applicable space accurately and with as much information as is known about the property. Use continuation sheets where necessary. Send completed form to: State Historic Preservation Office, 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ, 83007.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION

For properties identified through survey: Site No. Bldg Group 2 Survey Area: North Mountain Park, Phoenix Mountains Preserve

Historic Name(s): Admin Area and Central Ramadas

(Enter the name(s), if any, that best reflects the property's historic importance.)

Address: 10608 N 7th St

City or Town: Phoenix Vicinity County: Maricopa Tax Parcel No.: 159-17-004

Township: 3N Range: 3E Section: 20 Quarter Section: SE1/4 SE1/4 Acreage: ~4.1

Block: _____ Lot(s): _____ Plat (Addition): _____ Year of plat (addition): _____

UTM reference: Zone 12 Easting 401010.3 Northing 3176468.5 USGS 7.5' quad map: Sunnvslope, Ariz.

Architect: _____ not determined known (source): _____

Builder: Multiple (see cont. form) not determined known (source): See continuation form

Construction Date: ca. 1957, 1967-1968 known estimated (source): See continuation form

STRUCTURAL CONDITION

GOOD (Well-maintained; no serious problems apparent)

FAIR (Some problems apparent) Describe: _____

POOR (Major problems; imminent threat) Describe: _____

RUIN / UNINHABITABLE

USES/FUNCTIONS

Describe how the property has been used over time, beginning with original use.

Administration and ramada area, parking lot

Sources:

Historical aerials, AZ Republic (12/1/1957, page 16 and 11/20/1968, page 5)

PHOTO INFORMATION

Date of photo: August 3, 2023

View Direction (looking towards):

Northwest

Negative No.: BG2 IMG 6795



SIGNIFICANCE

Survey Site No.: Blde Group 2

To be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a property must represent an important part of the history or architecture of an area. Note: a property need only be significant under one of the areas below to be eligible for the National Register.

A. HISTORIC EVENTS/TRENDS (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated either with a significant historic event, or with a trend or pattern of events important to the history of the nation, the state, or the local community.)

B. PERSON (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated with the life of a person significant in the past.)

C. ARCHITECTURE (On a continuation sheet describe how the property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.)

Outbuildings: (Describe any other buildings or structures on the property and whether they may be considered historic.)

INTEGRITY

To be eligible for the National Register, a property must have integrity, that is, it must be able to visually convey its importance. Provide detailed information below about the property's integrity. Use continuation sheets if necessary.

1. LOCATION Original Site Moved date: _____ Original Site: _____

2. DESIGN (Describe alterations from the original design, including dates - known or estimated - when alterations were made)

See continuation form

3. SETTING (Describe the natural and/or built environment around the property)

This facility is an open space mountain park at the base of North Mountain. Urban development surrounds the park.

Describe how the setting has changed since the property's period of significance:

General setting within the park remains relatively unchanged.

4. MATERIALS (Describe the materials used in the following elements of the property)

Walls (structure): Concrete Foundation: Concrete Roof: Concrete, wood trim, wet-laid stone

Windows: Steel frame, mesh

If the windows have been altered, what were they originally? _____

Wall sheathing: Exposed aggregate, unpainted

If the sheathing has been altered, what was it originally? _____

5. WORKMANSHIP (Describe the distinctive elements, if any, of craftsmanship or method of construction)

See continuation form

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS (if listed, check the appropriate box)

Individually Listed Contributor Noncontributor to: _____ Historic District

Date Listed: _____ Determined eligible by keeper of the National Register date: _____

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY (opinion of HPO staff or survey consultant)

Property is is not eligible individually.

Property is is not eligible as a contributor to a potential historic district.

More information needed to evaluate.

If not considered eligible, state reason: See continuation form

FORM COMPLETED BY

Name and Affiliation: A. Gregory and T. Jones, Logan Simpson Form Date: September 7, 2023

Mailing Address: 51 W. 3rd St., Ste. 450, Tempe, AZ 85281 Phone: 480-967-1343

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 1

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Building Group 2 represents the Administration and Central Ramada Area, which are located centrally within the park. This building group is the central congregating area for large families and parties, as indicated by the two large parking lots. Other historical structures within the building group include the ranger station (Building 2A), an unnamed ramada (Building 2B), a restroom facility (Building 2C), and a sizeable ramada and recreation area (Havasupai Ramada, Building 2D). Modern structures are also present, including five additional ramadas (with modern tables) and a playground. Building Group 2 was initially developed by Maricopa County in 1957–1958 (ranger station, upper concrete event slab, and ramadas). Most of the inventoried infrastructure, however, was developed by the City of Phoenix in 1967–1968 (Arizona Republic 1957, 1958, 1967, 1968; Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023) (Figure 1–Figure 8).

DESIGN AND WORKMANSHIP

Building 2A, the ranger station, is a small, rectangular building made with painted cinder block and exhibiting a low-pitch, front gable roof (rolled asphalt). The roof is extended on all façades to provide cover for cinder block screens leading to two restrooms. Windows installed on the front and rear gables reflect a contemporary building style (Vinson et al. 2016). The ramadas that comprise Buildings 2B and 2D are made entirely of concrete, featuring tiered support columns with crossbeams which, in turn, support the concrete flat roof. Exposed aggregate on the tiered columns and wood framing along the perimeter of the roof slab provide a visual contrast. While many tables in the two documented ramada areas (Buildings 2B and 2D) are original, some have been replaced, particularly under modern ramadas. The restroom facility (Building 2C) is similar to Building 1A and is characterized as a rectangular building made entirely of concrete with an exposed aggregate finish.

Located on the east slope of North Mountain, Building Group 2 comprises three levels, including the upper level on the northwest end (Tewa Ramada, with an original concrete event slab and modern ramadas), mid-level (parking lot, ranger station, restroom, and unnamed ramada [Buildings 2A–2C]), and a lower level (Havasupai Ramada [Building 2D] and modern ramadas and playground). These areas are accessible via multiple sets of stairs and steps (wet-laid stone or concrete) and are bounded by stone retaining walls (some of which reflect modern replacement, extension, or maintenance).

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 2

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The Havasupai Ramada features a central concrete event slab that is encompassed by three ramadas (including a large ramada) and is surrounded by retaining walls. This arrangement effectively forms a recreation courtyard for large gatherings. Lesser features observed in the Havasupai Ramada included a stepped concrete pedestal built into the stone retaining wall. This was an original drinking fountain that is no longer operational. Overall, Building Group 2 is well maintained by the City of Phoenix.

RECOMMENDATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Criterion A

Although not recommended individually eligible for listing in the National or local registers, Building Group 2 is recommended eligible as a contributor to the proposed North Mountain Park Historic District under Criterion A for its association with the themes of *Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (ca. 1914–1975)*. North Mountain Park was established as a county park in 1957, and transferred to the City of Phoenix when the area was annexed in late 1959–1960. Over the course of several decades, and with the passage of several bond initiatives, North Mountain Park, Piestewa Peak Park, and other isolated peaks of the Phoenix Mountains are now components of the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, which encompasses more than 41,000 acres of open space, including South Mountain and Papago Parks (Gilbert 1990). The building group, which includes one restroom facility and two picnic areas, was constructed in 1967–1968 at a time when the preserves were taking shape. The restroom, tables, and barbecue pits retain a high level of integrity and convey a strong sense of setting, feeling, and association to the original park.

STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 3

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1. Overview of the new county regional North Mountain Park in 1957 (Arizona Republic 1957).

These were among the earliest structures constructed at North Mountain Park, including the ranger station (Building 2A) in the background. Constructed by Maricopa County, the original ramadas, picnic tables, and barbeque shown in the photograph have since been replaced with modern structures, but the concrete slab is still present. This area represents the upper level of the sloping Building Group 2.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 4

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 2. Contemporary view of upper concrete event slab with modern ramadas, view facing southeast (compare with Figure 1).

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 5

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 3. View of modern concrete tables with the unnamed ramada in background (Building 2B), view facing northwest.



Figure 4. Overview of restroom facility (Building 2C) with modern stone retaining wall and steps, view facing south.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 6

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 5. Overview of large Havasupai Ramada (Building 2D) and lower-level parking lot that forms the southeast boundary of Building Group 2, view facing northwest.



Figure 6. One of the ramadas that surround the concrete event slab in Building 2D. The placement of ramadas and perimeter retaining walls (wet-laid stone and/or concrete) effectively forms a recreation courtyard. View facing west.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 7

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 7. One of the ramadas of Building 2D that encompass the concrete event slab, surrounded by with wet-laid stone and concrete retaining walls. View facing northeast.



Figure 8. Overview of a stepped concrete pedestal that was once a drinking fountain. Located in the recreation courtyard of Building 2D (Havasupai Ramada), view facing northwest.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: Building Group 2

Continuation Sheet No. 8

References Cited

Arizona Republic.

- 1957 "New County Park Will Open Today". *Arizona Republic*. Sunday, December 1. Phoenix, Arizona. Page 16.
- 1958 "County Sets Dedication of New Park". *Arizona Republic*. Saturday, November 1. Phoenix, Arizona. Page 23.
- 1967 "For Family Fun". *Arizona Republic*. July 13, 1967:4. Phoenix, Arizona. Page.
- 1968 "Park Improvements Dedication Scheduled". *Arizona Republic*. November 20, 1968:5. Phoenix, Arizona. Page.

Flood Control District of Maricopa County

- 2023 Current and Historical Aerial Photography. Electronic document. <https://gis.maricopa.gov/GIO/HistoricalAerial/index.html>, accessed August 10, 2023.

Gilbert, Dorothy V.

- 1990 The Phoenix Mountains Preserves: A History. Manuscript on file, Arizona Collection. Hayden Library, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.

Vinson, Mark C., Vic Linoff, and Ron Peters

- 2016 *And TiKo-Tu? The Midcentury Architecture of Greater Phoenix's East Valley*. Rio Salado Architecture Foundation, Phoenix, Arizona.

STATE OF ARIZONA

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

Please type or print clearly. Fill out each applicable space accurately and with as much information as is known about the property. Use continuation sheets where necessary. Send completed form to: State Historic Preservation Office, 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ, 83007.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION

For properties identified through survey: Site No. Bldg Group 3 Survey Area: North Mountain Park, Phoenix Mountains Preserve

Historic Name(s): Southern Picnic Area

(Enter the name(s), if any, that best reflects the property's historic importance.)

Address: 10608 N 7th St

City or Town: Phoenix Vicinity County: Maricopa Tax Parcel No.: 159-17-004, 42-00

Township: 3N Range: 3E Section: 20, 29 Quarter Section: _____ Acreage: ~6.30

Block: _____ Lot(s): _____ Plat (Addition): _____ Year of plat (addition): _____

UTM reference: Zone 12 Easting 401040.2 Northing 3716277.3 USGS 7.5' quad map: Sunnyslope, Ariz.

Architect: _____ not determined known (source): _____

Builder: Multiple (see cont. form) not determined known (source): See continuation form

Construction Date: ca. 1957, 1967-1968 known estimated (source): See continuation form

STRUCTURAL CONDITION

GOOD (Well-maintained; no serious problems apparent)

FAIR (Some problems apparent) Describe:

Concrete wear on roof columns. Trim along the roof is worn.

POOR (Major problems; imminent threat) Describe:

RUIN / UNINHABITABLE

USES/FUNCTIONS

Describe how the property has been used over time, beginning with original use.

Ramada and picnic area, parking lot

Sources:

Historical aerials, AZ Republic (12/1/1957, page 16 and 11/20/1968, page 5)

PHOTO INFORMATION

Date of photo: August 3, 2023

View Direction (looking towards):

West

Negative No.: BG3 IMG 6819



SIGNIFICANCE

Survey Site No.: Bldg Group 3

To be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a property must represent an important part of the history or architecture of an area. Note: a property need only be significant under one of the areas below to be eligible for the National Register.

A. HISTORIC EVENTS/TRENDS (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated either with a significant historic event, or with a trend or pattern of events important to the history of the nation, the state, or the local community.)

B. PERSON (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated with the life of a person significant in the past.)

C. ARCHITECTURE (On a continuation sheet describe how the property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.)

Outbuildings: (Describe any other buildings or structures on the property and whether they may be considered historic.)

INTEGRITY

To be eligible for the National Register, a property must have integrity, that is, it must be able to visually convey its importance. Provide detailed information below about the property's integrity. Use continuation sheets if necessary.

1. LOCATION Original Site Moved date: _____ Original Site: _____

2. DESIGN (Describe alterations from the original design, including dates - known or estimated - when alterations were made)

See continuation form

3. SETTING (Describe the natural and/or built environment around the property)

This facility is an open space mountain park at the base of North Mountain. Urban development surrounds the park.

Describe how the setting has changed since the property's period of significance:

General setting within the park remains relatively unchanged.

4. MATERIALS (Describe the materials used in the following elements of the property)

Walls (structure): Concrete Foundation: Concrete Roof: Concrete, wood trim, wet-laid stone

Windows: Steel frame, mesh

If the windows have been altered, what were they originally? _____

Wall sheathing: Exposed aggregate, unpainted

If the sheathing has been altered, what was it originally? _____

5. WORKMANSHIP (Describe the distinctive elements, if any, of craftsmanship or method of construction)

See continuation form

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS (if listed, check the appropriate box)

Individually Listed Contributor Noncontributor to: _____ Historic District

Date Listed: _____ Determined eligible by keeper of the National Register date: _____

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY (opinion of HPO staff or survey consultant)

Property is is not eligible individually.

Property is is not eligible as a contributor to a potential historic district.

More information needed to evaluate.

If not considered eligible, state reason: See continuation form

FORM COMPLETED BY

Name and Affiliation: A. Gregory and T. Jones, Logan Simpson Form Date: September 7, 2023

Mailing Address: 51 W. 3rd St., Ste. 450, Tempe, AZ 85281 Phone: 480-967-1343

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building 3

Continuation Sheet No. 1

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Building Group 3 comprises the Southern Picnic Area and includes three large ramada areas (Yavapai Ramada [Buildings 3A–3B], Quechan [Building 3C], and Ak-Chin [Building 3D]). Each of these areas features limited parking areas that have been altered; these parking areas are not historical in age and are not considered components of these ramada areas. In addition, Building Group 3 also includes seven single-family ramadas with tables and barbeques (Buildings 3E–3K). Modern landscaping and sidewalks are evident, as is a modern restroom facility. This building group was initially developed by Maricopa County in 1957–1958 (concrete event slab and ramada in the Yavapai Ramada; the original ramada is no longer present). The bulk of the inventoried infrastructure, however, was developed by the City of Phoenix in 1967–1968 (Arizona Republic 1957, 1958, 1967, 1968; Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023) (Figure 1–Figure 6).

DESIGN AND WORKMANSHIP

The ramadas that comprise the building group are made entirely of concrete featuring tiered support columns with crossbeams which, in turn, support the concrete flat roof. Exposed aggregate on the tiered columns and wood framing along the perimeter of the roof slab provide a visual contrast. While many tables in the building group are original, some have been replaced. The Yavapai Ramada comprises two documented ramadas that are constructed on the perimeter of a concrete event slab that was constructed in 1957–1958 by Maricopa County. A modern restroom and two modern ramadas are also located in the Yavapai Ramada. Buildings 3C and 3D (Quechan and Ak-Chin Ramadas) are constructed on slopes with wet-laid stone retaining walls that appear to be modern. The concentration of smaller ramadas (Buildings 3E–3K) comprise a single table and barbecue. These ramadas were made for smaller gatherings. Building Group 3 is well-maintained by the City of Phoenix.

RECOMMENDATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Criterion A

Although not recommended individually eligible for listing in the National or local registers, Building Group 3 is recommended eligible as a contributor to the proposed North Mountain Park Historic District under Criterion A for its association with the themes of *Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (ca. 1914–1975)*. North Mountain Park was established as a county park in 1957, and transferred to the City of Phoenix when the area was annexed in late 1959–1960. Over the course of several decades, and with the passage of several bond initiatives, North Mountain Park, Piestewa Peak Park, and other isolated

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building 3

Continuation Sheet No. 2

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peaks of the Phoenix Mountains are now components of the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, which encompasses more than 41,000 acres of open space, including South Mountain and Papago Parks (Gilbert 1990). The building group, which includes one restroom facility and two picnic areas, was constructed in 1967–1968 at a time when the preserves were taking shape. The restroom, tables, and barbecue pits retain a high level of integrity and convey a strong sense of setting, feeling, and association to the original park.

References Cited

Arizona Republic.

- 1957 "New County Park Will Open Today". Arizona Republic. Sunday, December 1. Phoenix, Arizona. Page 16.
- 1958 "County Sets Dedication of New Park". Arizona Republic. Saturday, November 1. Phoenix, Arizona. Page 23.
- 1967 "For Family Fun". Arizona Republic. July 13, 1967:4. Phoenix, Arizona. Page.
- 1968 "Park Improvements Dedication Scheduled". Arizona Republic. November 20, 1968:5. Phoenix, Arizona. Page.

Flood Control District of Maricopa County

- 2023 Current and Historical Aerial Photography. Electronic document. <https://gis.maricopa.gov/GIO/HistoricalAerial/index.html>, accessed August 10, 2023.

Gilbert, Dorothy V.

- 1990 The Phoenix Mountains Preserves: A History. Manuscript on file, Arizona Collection. Hayden Library, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building 3

Continuation Sheet No. 3

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1. Overview of Yavapai Ramadas (Buildings 3A and 3B), surrounding a concrete event slab, view facing south.



Figure 2. Overview of Building 3A and the concrete event slab. A modern restroom facility is to the rear. View facing north.

STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET

Name of property Building 3

Continuation Sheet No. 4

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 3. Overview of Quechan Ramada (Building 3C), view facing west.

The retaining wall appears to be modern (post 1974) and well maintained.



Figure 4. Overview of Ak-Chin Ramada (Building 3D), view facing southwest. The retaining walls appear to be modern (post 1974).

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building 3

Continuation Sheet No. 5

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 5. Overview of smaller ramadas, each with a single table and barbecue pit (Buildings 3E-3K). View facing northwest.



Figure 6. Overview of Building 3K, a small ramada table and barbecue. View facing southeast.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property Building 3

Continuation Sheet No. 6

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STATE OF ARIZONA

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

Please type or print clearly. Fill out each applicable space accurately and with as much information as is known about the property. Use continuation sheets where necessary. Send completed form to: State Historic Preservation Office, 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ, 83007.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION

For properties identified through survey: Site No. NM Park Dist Survey Area: North Mountain Park, Phoenix Mountains Preserve

Historic Name(s): North Mountain Park Historic District

(Enter the name(s), if any, that best reflects the property's historic importance.)

Address: 10608 N 7th St

City or Town: Phoenix Vicinity County: Maricopa Tax Parcel No.: 159-17-004, 42-00

Township: 3N Range: 3E Section: 20, 29 Quarter Section: _____ Acreage: ~23.70

Block: _____ Lot(s): _____ Plat (Addition): _____ Year of plat (addition): _____

UTM reference: Zone 12 Easting 401053.7 Northing 3716443.5 USGS 7.5' quad map: Sunnvslope, Ariz.

Architect: _____ not determined known (source): _____

Builder: Multiple (see cont. form) not determined known (source): See continuation form

Construction Date: ca. 1957, 1967-1968 known estimated (source): See continuation form

STRUCTURAL CONDITION

GOOD (Well-maintained; no serious problems apparent)

FAIR (Some problems apparent) Describe: _____

POOR (Major problems; imminent threat) Describe: _____

RUIN / UNINHABITABLE

USES/FUNCTIONS

Describe how the property has been used over time, beginning with original use.

Maricopa County Park (1958-1959)

City of Phoenix Mountain Park and

Recreation Area (1959-present)

Sources:

Historical aerials, AZ Republic
(12/1/1957, page 16 and 11/20/1968,
page 5)

PHOTO INFORMATION

Date of photo: August 3, 2023

View Direction (looking towards):

Northwest

Negative No.: District IMG 6783



SIGNIFICANCE

Survey Site No.: NM Park Dist

To be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a property must represent an important part of the history or architecture of an area. Note: a property need only be significant under one of the areas below to be eligible for the National Register.

A. HISTORIC EVENTS/TRENDS (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated either with a significant historic event, or with a trend or pattern of events important to the history of the nation, the state, or the local community.)

B. PERSON (On a continuation sheet describe how the property is associated with the life of a person significant in the past.)

C. ARCHITECTURE (On a continuation sheet describe how the property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.)

Outbuildings: (Describe any other buildings or structures on the property and whether they may be considered historic.)

INTEGRITY

To be eligible for the National Register, a property must have integrity, that is, it must be able to visually convey its importance. Provide detailed information below about the property's integrity. Use continuation sheets if necessary.

1. LOCATION Original Site Moved date: _____ Original Site: _____

2. DESIGN (Describe alterations from the original design, including dates - known or estimated - when alterations were made)

See continuation form

3. SETTING (Describe the natural and/or built environment around the property)

This facility is an open space mountain park at the base of North Mountain. Urban development surrounds the park.

Describe how the setting has changed since the property's period of significance:

General setting within the park remains relatively unchanged.

4. MATERIALS (Describe the materials used in the following elements of the property)

Walls (structure): Concrete Foundation: Concrete Roof: Concrete, wood trim, wet-laid stone

Windows: N/A

If the windows have been altered, what were they originally? N/A

Wall sheathing: Exposed aggregate, unpainted

If the sheathing has been altered, what was it originally? _____

5. WORKMANSHIP (Describe the distinctive elements, if any, of craftsmanship or method of construction)

See continuation form

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS (if listed, check the appropriate box)

Individually Listed Contributor Noncontributor to: _____ Historic District

Date Listed: _____ Determined eligible by keeper of the National Register date: _____

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY (opinion of HPO staff or survey consultant)

Property is is not eligible individually.

Property is is not eligible as a contributor to a potential historic district.

More information needed to evaluate.

If not considered eligible, state reason: See continuation form

FORM COMPLETED BY

Name and Affiliation: A. Gregory and T. Jones, Logan Simpson Form Date: September 7, 2023

Mailing Address: 51 W. 3rd St., Ste. 450, Tempe, AZ 85281 Phone: 480-967-1343

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District Continuation Sheet No. 1

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The proposed historic district encompasses the built environment portion of North Mountain Park. North Mountain is a landmark component of the Phoenix Mountains, which also includes Piestewa Peak, Camelback Mountain, Stoney Mountain, Shaw Butte, and Lookout Mountain. North Mountain was initially utilized as a campground for Native American families visiting students at the Phoenix Indian School (1925–1955). Maricopa County established a regional park at North Mountain in 1957, constructing the ranger’s office, ramadas, concrete event slabs, and main access road over a two year period (1957–1958). The City of Phoenix acquired the park in 1959 and expanded park infrastructure in the late 1960s, including pedestrian trails and parking areas. Over time, the Phoenix Mountains Preserve would encompass North Mountain Park, Piestewa Peak Park, and other landmarks portions of the Phoenix Mountains (Arizona Republic 1957, 1968; Flood Control District of Maricopa County 2023; Gilbert 1993; Van Cleve Associates 1972) (Figure 1–Figure 7).

DESIGN AND WORKMANSHIP

The proposed historic district encompasses only the built environment portion of the of the park (Building Groups 1–3 and circulation system) (27.30 acres). Logan Simpson documented all historical resources within the current project area (ca. 1957–1974), including the building groups and associated features, and circulation system (paved access road, two parking lots, and historical trails). Continued maintenance of the recreation area and contemporary trail system seeks to comply with the City of Phoenix’s mission to preserve open space for the enjoyment of its residents.

RECOMMENDATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Criterion A

The North Mountain Park Historic District is recommended eligible for listing in the National and local registers under Criterion A for its significance under the historic contexts of *Recreation and Tourism in Phoenix (1912–1975)* and *Development of Mountain Parks in Phoenix (1914–1975)*. The ranger’s office, ramada areas, picnic areas, restrooms, and circulation documented within the park retain integrity, convey a strong sense of setting, feeling, and association to the original park, and are recommended as contributors to the proposed district.

The main buildings of North Mountain Park are recommended as contributing to the eligibility of the park, including the ramadas and tables, the restrooms, and original ranger station (Building Groups 1–3). The lesser features of each building group including tables, barbeque pedestals, drinking fountains, plazas, and retaining walls, are recommended for preservation when possible,

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District Continuation Sheet No. 2

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although many have been altered during the modern period. Maintenance and improvements at the park are evident, including the following:

- Construction of modern a children’s playground;
- Building new barbeque pedestals and installing new picnic tables where necessary;
- Adding concrete walkways, cobble and dirt pedestrian paths, and new retaining walls;
- Constructing wheel-chair access ramps and paths where necessary; and
- Installing ornamental landscape vegetation, surface gravel in some areas, and features along portions of the access road (rock alignments, etc.).

References Cited

Arizona Republic.

- 1957 "New County Park Will Open Today". *Arizona Republic*. Sunday, December 1. Phoenix, Arizona. Page 16.
- 1968 "Park Improvements Dedication Scheduled". *Arizona Republic*. November 20, 1968:5. Phoenix, Arizona. Page.

Flood Control District of Maricopa County

- 2023 Current and Historical Aerial Photography. Electronic document. <https://gis.maricopa.gov/GIO/HistoricalAerial/index.html>, accessed August 10, 2023.

Gilbert, Dorothy V.

- 1993 A History of the Phoenix Mountains Preserve. Manuscript on File. Arizona Collection, Hayden Library, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.

Van Cleve Associates, Inc.

- 1972 *An Open Space Plan for the Phoenix Mountains*. Manuscript on file, City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Office, Phoenix, Arizona.

STATE OF ARIZONA
 HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
 CONTINUATION SHEET

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District

Continuation Sheet No. 3



Figure 1. Contemporary aerial of the project area, showing building groups structures and building groups inventoried by Logan Simpson, as well as circulation of the recreation area and miscellaneous features.

Also shown are historical trail segments located within and immediately adjacent to the project area.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District

Continuation Sheet No. 4



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**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District

Continuation Sheet No. 5

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 2. Overview of the park and natural setting from Building Group 2, view facing south-southwest.



Figure 3. Overview of Picnic Area B in Building Group 1, view facing northwest.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District

Continuation Sheet No. 6

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 4. Overview of lower parking lot in Building Group 2, view facing northwest.



Figure 5. Overview of main access road from the west end of the park (near Building 3C), view facing north.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District

Continuation Sheet No. 7

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 6. Overview of a possible historical trail at Building 3C, view facing southeast.



Figure 7. Possible historical pedestrian trail in Picnic Area B (Building Group 1), view facing.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Name of property: North Mountain Park Historic District

Continuation Sheet No. 8

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