



- Name of Property:** Red Rocks Park and Mount Morrison Civilian Conservation Corps Camp
- City, State:** Morrison, Colorado
- Period of Significance:** 1929-1959
- NHL Criteria:** 1, 4
- NHL Theme:** III. Expressing Cultural Values
2. Visual and performing arts
5. Architecture, landscape architecture and urban design
V. Developing the American Economy
7. Governmental policies and practices
- Previous Recognition:** 1990 National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Context:** “Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS”
VII. Political and Military Affairs, 1865-1939
H. The Great Depression and the New Deal, 1929-1941
XVI. Architecture
Y. Rustic Architecture
XVII. Landscape Architecture
- NHL Significance:**
- Red Rocks Park and Mount Morrison Civilian Conservation Corps Camp is an outstanding representation of a public park designed by the National Park Service in collaboration with the City and County of Denver and built by the CCC. The park is an exemplary representation of the use of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) labor to develop a metropolitan park.
 - The outstanding architecture and landscape architecture at Red Rocks Park illustrate the principles and practices of New Deal-era naturalistic park design and master planning in a metropolitan park.



- Mount Morrison CCC Camp is one of the few surviving CCC camps in the nation and it retains the highest concentration of original resources of any extant camp.
- Located within the park, Red Rocks Amphitheatre is arguably the single most ambitious construction project undertaken by the CCC. The architectural and landscape architectural design of the amphitheatre reflect the blending of classical amphitheatre design, contemporary Modern design, and the naturalistic design preferred and promoted by the National Park Service.
- Red Rocks Amphitheatre is one of America's best known performing arts venues, famous for its natural acoustics, design, and setting. It has long hosted world-renowned artists and often appears at the top of lists of the world's premier concert venues.

Integrity:

- The district has a high degree of integrity from the period of significance, retaining the road systems, parking lots, park and camp buildings, and Red Rocks Amphitheatre—integrated into the massive rock formations and designed to capture spectacular views.
- The addition of a metal roof over the amphitheatre stage compromises the historic openness of the stage and has some impact on views toward the city. One other major addition is the visitor center, built in recent years to accommodate visitors' needs and expectations. Its siting at the back of the amphitheatre and mostly below the upper plaza minimizes its impact. Other additions to the park and amphitheatre include concession areas, accommodation for equipment, parking lots, and trails. These changes have been executed with design, materials, and hues sensitive to historic characteristics.
- The CCC camp retains a remarkable degree of integrity. The most significant alteration is the addition of horizontal Masonite siding over original wood siding on several buildings. In addition, the central portions of two of the remaining fourteen buildings were removed, splitting each building into two separate buildings. The buildings (now four) remain in their historic locations.

Owners of Property: The City and County of Denver has owned the park since 1928, when it acquired the property for the Denver Mountain Parks system.

Acreage of Property: 649 acres

Origins of Nomination: Friends of Red Rocks contacted National Park Service staff in the Intermountain Regional Office in Denver to inquire about the potential for NHL designation. Friends of Red Rocks, the City and County of Denver, and the Heritage Partnerships Program-IMR/NPS provided funding to hire a consultant, and contributed staff time to manage the project.

Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:

- National Historic Landmark designation will encourage the continued preservation of the park, amphitheatre, and camp.

Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program: None known.

Landmarks Committee Comments:

Landmarks Committee Recommendation: Designation. Dr. Stevens moved, Dr. Allan seconded; unanimous approval.

Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of 2/10/15):

Casey Tighe, Chairman Pro-tem, Commissioners, Jefferson County, Colorado
Donald Rosier, District No. 3, Board of County Commissioners, Jefferson County, Colorado
Edward C. Nichols, State Historic Preservation Officer, President/CEO, History Colorado, Denver, Colorado
Michael F. Bennet, United States Senator, Congress of the United States, Washington, DC
Cory Gardner, United States Senator, Congress of the United States, Washington, DC
Scott Tipton, Colorado 3rd District, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
Diana DeGette, Colorado 1st District, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
Jared Polis, Colorado 2nd District, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
Doug Lamborn, Colorado 5th District, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
Mike Coffman, Colorado 6th District, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
Ed Perlmutter, Colorado 7th District, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
W. Bart Berger, Chairman, Denver Mountain Parks Foundation, Denver, Colorado
Russ Alaimo, Friends of Red Rocks, Denver, Colorado
Annie Levinsky, Executive Director, Historic Denver, Inc., Colorado
Christoph Heinrich, Frederick and Jan Mayer Director, Denver Art Museum, Colorado
John Litz, Vice Chair, PLAN Jeffco, Lakewood, Colorado
Tom Noel, Professor of History & Director of Public History, Preservation, & Colorado Studies, Department of History, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Denver, Colorado
Joe Tempel, Executive Director, Friends of Dinosaur Ridge, Colorado
Marilyn S. Arado, Elmhurst, Illinois
Melanie Scott-Buscher, Miss Colorado, 1983
Melinda Yeary, Founding Member of Friends of Red Rocks
Marc A. Ross, Executive Director, Rock the Earth, Denver, Colorado
Gil Selinger, Attorney, Fairfield and Woods, P.C., Denver, Colorado
Tony Schwartz
Madeline Grossman
Jordyn Walker
Eileen Charles Hyatt, Denver, Colorado
Steven P. Jeffords, Vice President, Colorado Regional Manager, Kleinfelder
Susan Edwards Baird, Ph.D., Senior Planner (retired), Denver Mountain Parks, Denver Parks and Recreation, Colorado
Christopher J. Herndon, President, Council, City and County of Denver, Proclamation CP15-0051
The Honorable John W. Hickenlooper, Governor, State of Colorado
Tom Hoby, CPRE, Director of Open Space & Parks, Golden, Colorado
Cathy Scott
Bonnie Raitt, Singer/Songwriter, Los Angeles, California



Wendy Stancel, Denver, Colorado

Irene Metelik, Centennial, Colorado

Tracie Wingo, Globus Family of Brands & Volunteer, Denver, Colorado

Vince Minor, Denver, Colorado

Norm Clarke, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, Nevada

Advisory Board Recommendation: