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Yucca House National Monument

Colorado National Parks

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## Master Plan Development Outline for Yucca House from 1952: page 4

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United States is only six miles east on an airline from this monument. However, it is 22 miles by highway to the Park Entrance.

- (b) Hovenweep National Monument is practically due west of Yucca House some 40 miles, but about 44 miles via McElmo or 56 miles via Pleasant View. This monument contains five remarkable groups of prehistoric structures, probably closely related, archeologically, to Yucca House.

- (c) Chaco Canyon and Aztec Ruins National Monuments, to which Yucca House is also believed to be related, are southeast 130 miles and 75 miles respectively.

(2) Accessibility.

- (a) The monument is located on the eastern slope of Sleeping Ute Mountain, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of U. S. Highway 666. One mile is county road; the remainder is unimproved farm road, impassible during wet weather. From the monument turn-off, U. S. 666 extends north 9 miles to Cortez, Colorado, where it joins U.S. 160, which runs east to Durango, Colorado, and west to Monticello, Utah. Thirty-three miles south of the monument turn-off, U.S. 666 joins U.S. 550, running east to Farmington, New Mexico, and at Gallup, New Mexico, 98 miles farther south, it joins U. S. 66, a main east-west highway.

- (b) Regularly scheduled buses operate over U.S. 666 between Cortez, Colorado, and Farmington and Gallup, New Mexico. These buses make connections with other bus lines and trains out of Denver and Durango on the north, Price and Salt Lake City on the east, and Gallup and Farmington on the south. There is no regular transportation service over the county road and it would be necessary to hire a taxi out of Cortez to make the trip.

- (c) The nearest railroad is at Gallup, 127 miles south. Travel from there would have to be by regular bus to Cortez.

- (d) Frontier Airlines from Salt Lake City, Grand Junction, Denver, Albuquerque and other points makes daily scheduled stops at Cortez.

(3) Climatic Conditions

- (a) Weather records are not kept for the monument, but it would be similar to that of Cortez which is north and