

MYSTERIES OF THE GRAND CANYON RIM

September 29, 2003



Recently, I traveled to the rim of the Grand Canyon to camp and survey possible locations for the cave described in a [previous report](#). The drive to the rim was a tricky one. It involved navigating a maze of unnamed dirt roads on the edge of the Navajo Reservation. Even with directions, an atlas, several maps and a satellite image, I still managed to make a few wrong turns.

After driving for about an hour, I arrived at the edge of the canyon and was treated to a fantastic view of the sun setting behind the north rim in front of me. Its really impossible to impart the [vastness of the canyon](#) and I was standing right on the edge with no trails, no visitors center and no other people around me. Standing there so alone in front of something so vast really brought the size of the canyon into perspective for me.

I got back in my car and continued driving along the edge of the rim until I located a suitable spot to set up camp. It was just before sunset and I was running out of time before it would get totally dark. As I stepped out of my truck I could feel the wind whipping around me. With the windy conditions, I could tell it would not be easy to set up the tent alone.

Still, with the help of some rocks to keep things weighted down, I set my tent up and began working on building a fire with wood I had bought in town. Once the fire blazed into life, I realized I might have made a mistake as small burning embers were picked up by the wind and blown out into the desert. I worried that I might start a brush fire, so over the next hour I constructed a tall ring of stones around the camp fire. Luckily, nothing outside of the ring ever caught.

As the darkness enveloped me, I sat back and stared into a sea of stars that lit up the night sky. The moon hadn't yet risen and even with the light of my fire, I could still see more stars than I'd ever witnessed before. As I ate my dinner, I watched as a shooting star slowly burned out across the canyon and was lost behind the north rim.

It was at this time that I started to think about how alone I was. I thought I could make out two distant fires from other campers, but I never heard them or saw any people. I was completely alone. Then my mind started to wander and I began to think about the stories I've heard from others who have also camped on the rim of the canyon.

You might think these stories are crazy, but I believe the people who imparted them to me to be sincere. I won't name names or even get into specifics, but here are a few of the things I have heard about:

- Rocks placed on the ground were later found to have moved back to

HOME MISSION

UnexplainedEarth is an online journal of my personal accounts of exploring mysterious places and unexplained phenomena.

[more »](#)

NEWSLETTER

enter your email address

[about the newsletter »](#)

REPORTS

[Mysteries of the Grand Canyon Rim](#)

[The Giants of Blythe](#)

[Kalimu & the Sphinx of Los Angeles](#)

[A Lost City in the Grand Canyon?](#)

[more »](#)

GEAR

[Gear List](#)

[Kitchen](#)

[more »](#)

RESOURCES

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Web Links](#)

CONTACT

contact@unexplainedearth.com



their original locations.

- A strange, unnaturally thin, tall being was witnessed to run towards the rim and then literally run *down* the side of the canyon, appearing to completely ignore gravity.
- Strange clicking sounds were heard but the source could not

be located.

- Objects have later been identified in photos of the canyon that were never witnessed with the naked eye.
- People have seemed to appear out of nowhere, even though you can see uninterrupted for miles and hear a pin drop in the silence.
- As two storms approached in the dead of night and in total darkness, the lightning lit up the desert. In that brief flash, three men, approximately twelve feet tall, could be seen watching over the campers.

It was this last story that particularly stuck in my mind as I sat out there alone. If you've visited the Grand Canyon and experienced anything odd or out of the ordinary, I would love to **hear from you**. The canyon is an ancient and mysterious place that still holds many secrets.

As the wind picked up in intensity and the tent thrashed about noisily, I decided that sleeping in my SUV was probably the smart thing to do. After some reading, I fell sleep to the sound of the wind whistling through the cracked windows.

Perhaps an hour later, I awoke to the truck rocking side to side. No, I wasn't being attacked by giants; the wind was actually blowing that hard. I took a deep breath and tried to fall back asleep.

Then I heard it. Crunch. Was that a footstep? It really sounded like one. No... Couldn't be. Crunch. Close by. It really sounded like a footstep. But it can't be... Crunch. It sounded like someone was sneaking around the outside of the SUV, but doing it very slowly so as not to wake me.

This continued for some time. I finally worked up the courage to look out the window. I saw the tent had disgorged all its stakes and was blowing madly about in the wind, but I couldn't see anyone around me. Needless to say, I got very little sleep that night.

As the sun finally rose, I awoke and began to break down camp. I rationalized that I was probably hearing the wind or perhaps some animal outside my truck, but I'll probably never know for sure. After setting up my pack and munching on a Power Bar, I was ready to hike.

I set off north along the rim towards an old cliff dwelling I had spotted the previous day. After about an hour, I reached it. I dropped my pack and climbed down the rocks until I was inside. While mildly interesting, the cliff dwelling was really not unusual. There were a few old walls remaining. I examined them and took some pictures. While it was small, I had to admit that the former occupants had a fantastic view!



I climbed back up to my pack and continued to hike for several miles. I examined several potential cave sites, but from the rim, I couldn't see anything that I would definitely classify as a cave. Of course, Kincaid supposedly located the cave from the river and it is entirely possible that the cave is not visible from above.

All was not lost though. This trip gave me a real appreciation for the massive size of the Grand Canyon. Words, photos and even video just don't do it justice. Before this trip, I had worried that a GPS unit might not have a clear enough view of the sky to work properly in the canyon. I now believe a GPS will work fine and I plan to bring one. I was also unsure of certain parts of my route, but from above, I could see that hiking along the river should not be too difficult.

I returned to my car and began the drive back towards the highway, nervous and excited for my journey yet to come.

