

THE GRAND CANON

A WORLDWIDE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE GRAND CANYON AND LOWER COLORADO RIVER REGIONS
IN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Appendix III

Variants of N. H. Darton's *Story of the Grand Canyon of Arizona* (1917–1987)

Compiled by Earle E. Spamer

[Go to Darton listings in bibliography](#)

NELSON HORATIO DARTON (1865–1948) was a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. The firm of Fred Harvey commissioned him to prepare a booklet on the geology of the Grand Canyon, first published in September, 1917. Fifty editions (printings) have been documented through 1987, making this title the longest-running among continuously available Grand Canyon–Colorado River titles, at least 71 years. How much longer beyond 1987 that the 50th edition was available is not known.

Copyright and edition information is printed on the bottom of the last page in all variants except the 1st. In the 5th to 33rd eds. the edition number and “Revised and Enlarged Edition” also appear on the title-page, but thereafter only “Revised and Enlarged Edition” is printed there. The text content was occasionally edited, but the geology was never updated except for some minor changes. The format, place of publication, and most notably the cover were changed from time to time. This is a complete itemization of all copies seen. There are variations of illustration placement throughout the series. The illustration as the frontispiece appears in all variants, but “frontispiece” is itemized in the pagination description only when it appears separate from the pagination. Reorganization of illustrations, particularly the maps, is noted, but pagination is unaffected unless indicated otherwise. Variants for which no data are listed (—) have not been seen. See Notes at end of table for details on imprints, volume sizes, and wrap styles. Wrap styles are [illustrated](#) at the end of this Appendix.

© Earle E. Spamer 2022

[GO TO NAVIGATION PAGE](#)
[GO TO BIBLIOGRAPHY TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

APPENDIX III. VARIANTS OF N. H. DARTON'S *STORY OF THE GRAND CANYON OF ARIZONA*

ITEM NO.	Ed.	Stated Date	Pagination	Wraps	Notes
21.730	1st	1917 September	[iii], frontispiece, 81	style 1	Title and subtitle: <i>Story of the Grand Canyon of Arizona : a popular illustrated account of its rocks and origin</i> . Plain end papers. Maps in front of frontispiece. Frontispiece is photograph, "Zoroaster from the River". Printed by La Rue Printing Co., Kansas City. Copyright on title-page verso.
21.731	2nd	1919 February	75 [80]	style 1	[As above] Printed by Bishop Press
21.732	3rd	1920 January	frontispiece, 75 [80]	style 1	[As above, but no printer indicated]
21.733	4th	1921 March	frontispiece, 75 [80]	style 2	[As above] Maps follow title-page
21.734	5th	1922 April	73 [80]	style 2	"Revised and Enlarged" noted on title-page. Text reset. Maps moved to end of text. [NOTE: The notation "Revised and Enlarged" remains in all subsequent eds.]
21.735	6th	1922 October	75 [80]	style 2	Preface included, signed "The Publishers" (pp. 3-4). Frontispiece illustration moved to title-page verso.
21.736	7th	1923	74 [80]	style 2	[As above]
21.737	8th	1925	74 [80]	style 2	[As above]
21.738	9th	1926	74 [80]	style 2	[As above]
21.739	10th	1926	74 [80]	style 3	Cover main title changed: <i>Story of the Grand Canyon</i> . Subtitle block on cover as above but omits notice "Published by Fred Harvey". Text reset. Printed by Townsend Printing Co., Kansas City.
21.740	11th	1929	74 [80]	style 4	[As above, but printer not indicated] Subtitle text on cover reset, and "Published by Fred Harvey" restored
21.741	12th	1931	74 [80]	style 5	Sub-title change on cover: <i>Story of the Grand Canyon of Arizona : how it was made</i> . Text reset. New title-page verso illustration, photograph of "The View from Hopi Point". Printed by Burd and Fletcher Co., Kansas City.
21.742	13th	1934	74 [80]	style 5	[As above, but printer not indicated]
21.743	14th	1935	74 [80]	style 5	Illustrated end papers. Preface is not signed.
21.744	15th	1936	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]
21.745	16th	1937	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]
21.746	17th	1939	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]
21.747	18th	1940	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]
21.748	19th	1941	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]
21.749	20th	1946	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]
21.750	21st	1947	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]
21.751	22nd	1948	74 [80]	style 5	[As above]

(continued)

APPENDIX III. VARIANTS OF N. H. DARTON'S *STORY OF THE GRAND CANYON OF ARIZONA*

21.752	23rd	1950	74 [79]	style 6	Title font on cover changed. Text reset. Title-page verso illustration changed, photograph of "Grand Canyon from Yavapai Observation Station."
21.753	24th	1950	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.754	25th	1951	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.755	26th	1952	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.756	27th	1953	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.757	28th	1955	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.758	29th	1956	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.759	30th	1956	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.760	31st	1957	74 [79]	style 6	[As above]
21.761	32nd	1959	74 [79]	style 7	[As above]
21.762	33rd	1961	64	style 8	Complete makeover. Maps on inside covers. Text reset, and color photographs included in text. Price \$1.00 printed in upper-right corner of cover
21.763	34th	1962	64	style 8	[As above]
21.764	35th	1963	64	style 8	[As above]
21.765	36th	—	—	—	—
21.766	37th	1966	64	style 8	[As previously above]
21.767	38th	—	—	—	—
21.768	39th	1968	64	style 8	[As previously above]
21.769	40th	1970	64	style 8	[As above]
21.770	41st	1971	64	style 8	[As above]
21.771	42nd	—	—	—	—
21.772	43rd	—	—	—	—
21.773	44th	—	—	—	—
21.774	45th	1977	64	style 8	[As previously above]
21.775	46th	1978	64	style 8	[As above; price increased to \$1.25]
21.776	47th	1980	64	style 8	[As above]
21.777	48th	1984	64	style 8	[As above, but price on cover omitted]
21.3704	49th	1986	64	style 8	[As above] [Copy seen with Fred Havey original price sticker, \$1.95]
21.3705	50th	1987	64	style 8	[As above] Printed by Mike Roberts Color Productions, Oakland, California

Notes follow

APPENDIX III. VARIANTS OF N. H. DARTON'S *STORY OF THE GRAND CANYON OF ARIZONA*

Notes

— Information not determined for this table

“ITEM NO.” refers to the item number as listed in THE GRAND CANON

Main Title

1st–9th eds. *Story of the Grand Canyon of Arizona*
 10th–50th eds. *Story of the Grand Canyon*

Subtitle

1st–11th eds. *A Popular Illustrated Account of Its Rocks and Origin*
 12th–50th eds. *How It Was Made*

Spine Title

1st–32nd eds. only *Story of the Grand Canyon* (Spine titles read from bottom to top, the reverse of American convention)

Imprint

1st–13th eds. Fred Harvey, Kansas City, Missouri
 14th–50th eds. Fred Harvey, Grand Canyon, Arizona

Volume Size (see *wrap styles* for additional information)

1st–11th eds. 21 cm
 12th–32nd eds. 20 cm
 33rd–50th eds. 19 cm

Wrap Style — See following page for illustrated guide to styles

Style 1 (1st–3rd eds.): Heavy paper stock; text only; ink colors blue and silver; text block side-stapled, wraps glued; wraps yapped

Style 2 (4th–9th eds.): Heavy paper stock; text only; ink colors gray and silver; text block side-stapled, wraps glued; wraps yapped

Style 3 (10th ed.): Heavy paper stock; pictorial, drawing of Hermit Camp; ink colors black and tan; text block side-stapled, wraps glued; wraps yapped; artwork introduced to cover 4 (and retained in all subsequent eds.)

Style 4 (11th ed.): Heavy paper stock; pictorial, drawing of Hermit Camp; ink colors black and dark tan; text block side-stapled, wraps glued; wraps yapped

Style 5 (12th–22nd eds.): Heavy paper stock; pictorial, drawing of two mounted riders at Colorado River; ink colors black, blue, green, and orange (sky is green); subtitle used for first time, “How It Was Made”, and in all eds. hereafter; text block side-stapled, wraps glued

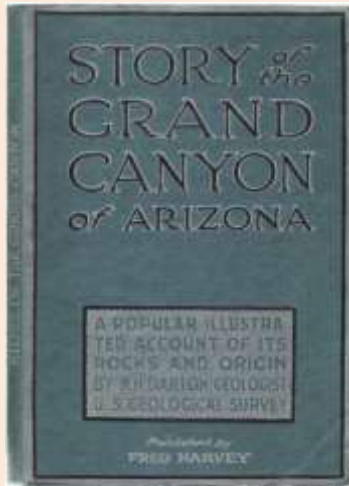
Style 6 (23rd–31st eds.): Heavy paper stock; pictorial, drawing of three mounted riders at Colorado River; Fred Harvey logo substitutes for block printing; ink colors black, red, mauve, and blue (sky is blue); text block side-stapled, wraps glued

Style 7 (32nd ed.): Heavy paper stock; pictorial, drawing of three mounted riders at Colorado River; Fred Harvey logo substitutes for block printing; ink colors black, orange, purple, and blue (sky is blue); saddle-wired, spine title retained despite saddle wiring

Style 8 (33rd–50th eds.): Glossy stock wraps and text block; wraps with pictorial, wrap-around color photograph of South Rim view; saddle-wired, no spine title

(continued)

Wrap Style Variants for *Story of the Grand Canyon of Arizona*



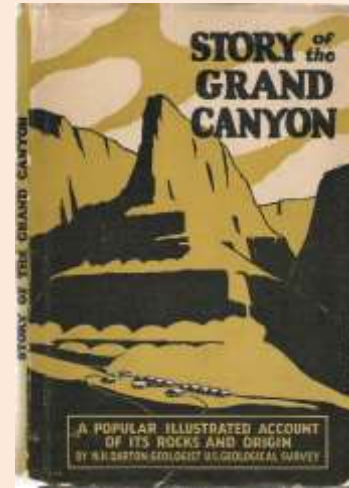
Style 1 (1st–3rd eds.)

EXAMPLES: 1st ed.

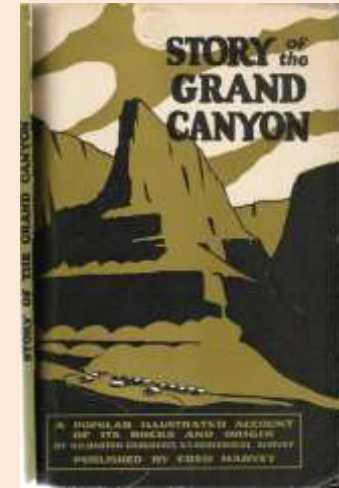


Style 2 (4th–9th eds.)

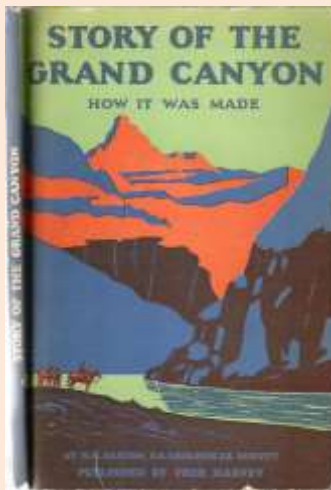
4th ed.



Style 3 (10th ed. only)

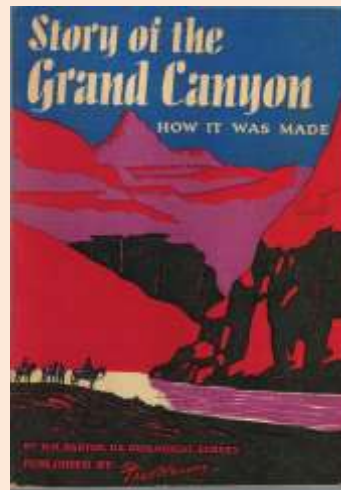


Style 4 (11th ed. only)



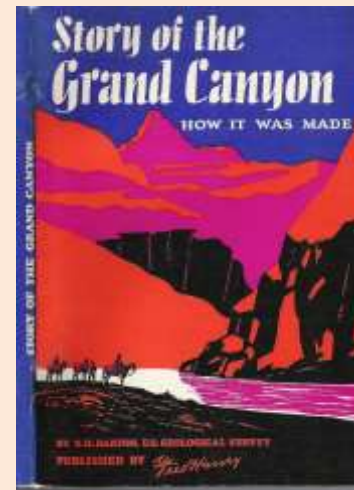
Style 5 (12th–22nd eds.)

EXAMPLES: 12th ed.

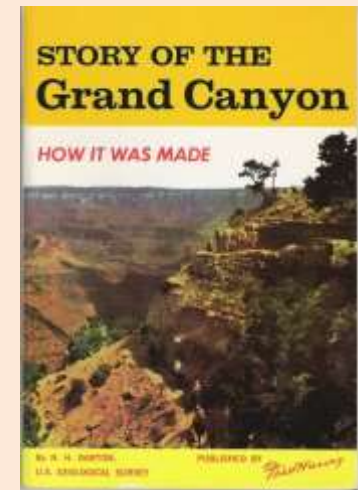


Style 6 (23rd–31st eds.)

28th ed.



Style 7 (32nd ed. only)



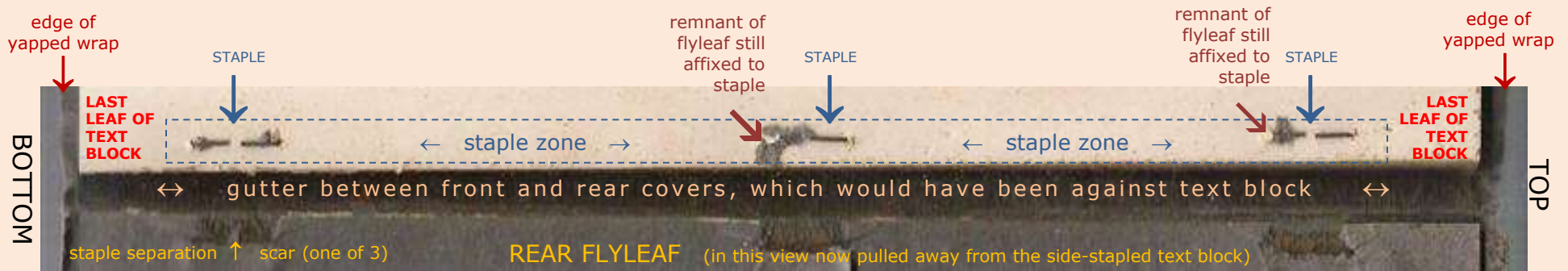
Style 8 (33rd–50th eds.)

48th ed.

Illustration examples on these pages from the collection of Earle Spamer

(continued)

Details of binding styles for Styles 1–4 and 7



Detail of binding in Styles 1–4 (example from 9th ed., interior view, fully opened to rear) showing side-stapled text block. In the example shown here the rear flyleaf (gray) has pulled off from the staples but is still glued to the rear-cover yapped wrap. (Yapped wraps are the fashion in which the wraps are larger than and overhang the text block; more noticeable at the right in this view.) Normally this view is not seen when the flyleaves are intact. In an intact copy, the flyleaves are stapled to the text block and the yapped wraps are glued to the flyleaves along strips parallel to the staple zone.



Detail of binding in Style 7 (exterior view, fully opened), showing spine title printed on a saddle-wired binding edge, unique to the 32nd edition (arrows point to wiring.) Previous editions were perfect-bound, with spine titles printed in the gutter between covers 1 (lower part of view) and 4 (upper part of view). Subsequent editions, also saddle-wired, omit the spine title. Possibly, the 32nd edition had been planned to continue the binding style of previous editions but was reformatted to a more economical wiring.