

TIMELESS CAMERON TRADING POST TURNS 100

A swayback suspension bridge was erected over the Little Colorado River in 1911, creating the first easy access over the gorge. Soon after, brothers Hubert and CD Richardson established the Cameron Trading Post at one end, visited at that time only by the Navajo and Hopi locals to barter their wool, blankets and livestock for dry goods. A trip to the post to trade could take days by horse-drawn wagon.

Guests were always treated as family, fed and housed by the Trading Post during their stay. Understanding local dialects and customs, the brothers were trusted by the local Native American people in matters concerning confusing new United States legal and social systems.

As roads improved and interest in the area grew, the Trading Post's convenience to the Grand Canyon and other marvels made it popular for other travelers. Cameron Trading Post's restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, with American, Mexican and local cuisines. Its motel has spectacular views right alongside the Little Colorado River Gorge, with beautiful sunsets toward the Grand Canyon.

The Cameron Trading Post is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2016. The head of the operation is descended from the original founders, delivering the same philosophies of hospitality and respect today. The people who work here have done so for generations.

Travel is easier today—about an hour north of Flagstaff on US 89. ■

