The first park museums resulted largely from philanthropy. A museum at Mesa Verde National Park built with contributions from Stella Leviston of San Francisco and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., opened in 1925, as did a museum at Yosemite funded by the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial. In 1926 the Rockefeller Memorial underwrote the cost of the Yavapai Observation Station Museum at Grand Canyon National Park, and in 1928 it contributed $118,000 for four focal-point museums in Yellowstone National Park. Philanthropy is more than a source of land and money for the parks. It is a means of building and strengthening bonds between the parks and their advocates. Yellowstone National Park contains some of the strangest and most interesting geological features found anywhere in the world. This vast caldera or volcanic basin is the remnant of a giant volcano that blew its top many millennia ago. The area still sits atop a hot spot in the earth's crust and provides us with a unique opportunity to view a fascinating assortment of highly active geothermal phenomena. Hundreds of geysers sleep in placid hot springs for hours or days, then at semi-regular intervals erupt into great plumes of hot water and steam rising hundreds of feet overhead before retiring to their tepid hibernation. You can find geysers in a few other locations around the world, but there are more active geysers in Yellowstone National Park than there are in every other location combined.