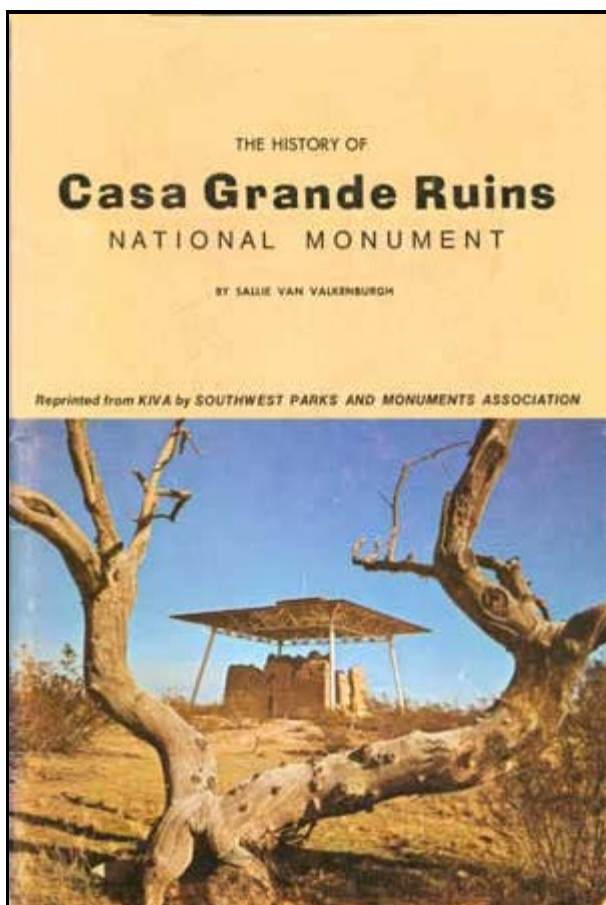


CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



THE HISTORY OF CASA GRANDE RUINS NATIONAL MONUMENT

By
Sallie Van Valkenburgh

February, 1962

Original Release

May, 1971

Reprint

Reprinted from *The Kiva* by
Southwest Parks and Monument
Association

TABLE OF CONTENTS

history/index.htm
Last Updated: 02-Nov-2009

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Cover](#)

Cover picture: Courtesy, Petley Studios

[Abstract](#)

[Introduction](#)

[Geographical Setting](#)

[Archaeological History of the Area](#)

[The Coming of the European](#)

[The Coming of the American](#)

[Casa Grande Becomes a Government Reservation](#)

[Legislative History](#)

[Repair and Protection for the Casa Grande](#)

[Casa Grande as Part of the National Park System](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)

[Notes](#)

[References](#)

Reprinted From
THE KIVA
A Journal of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
February 1962, Vol. 27, No. 3

An Affiliate of the Arizona State Museum
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

Published By
Southwest Parks and Monuments Association

May, 1971

<<< [Previous](#)

<<< [Contents](#)>>>

[Next](#) >>>

history/contents.htm
Last Updated: 02-Nov-2009

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



THE KIVA

VOLUME 27

FEBRUARY, 1962

NUMBER 3

THE CASA GRANDE OF ARIZONA AS A LANDMARK ON THE DESERT, A GOVERNMENT RESERVATION, AND A NATIONAL MONUMENT

SALLIE VAN VALKENBURGH

Sallie Van Valkenburg, currently Museum Curator in Archeology at the Southwest Archeological Center in Globe, Arizona, has a long standing acquaintance with the National Park Service. This relationship began in 1934 when she did archaeological field work at Montezuma Castle National Monument, and has continued over the years with positions as Park Ranger or Archeologist at six field areas and two offices in the Southwest. Her personal knowledge of Casa Grande National Monument is a result of work at the Monument in 1943, 1944, 1955, and 1956.

ABSTRACT

Casa Grande National Monument, situated in the Gila River valley of southern Arizona, protects the Casa Grande or great house and numerous other prehistoric remains. The initial discovery of the Casa Grande was made by Father Kino in 1694. Following the discovery, the site was visited by other explorers in the periods of Spanish and Anglo history in the Southwest. In 1892 a government reservation was established, and in 1918, through a Presidential Proclamation, Casa Grande became a National Monument. Since 1918, there have been many changes at the Monument including the erection of the present roof over the Casa Grande in 1932. Visitor attendance has increased greatly to around 75,000 in 1960.

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



INTRODUCTION

CASA GRANDE NATIONAL MONUMENT, in the Gila River Valley of south central Arizona, protects and preserves the Casa Grande (the Great House) and other remains of villages built and occupied by Indians in pre-Columbian times. The original reservation of 480 acres was made in 1892, under Congressional authority dated March 2, 1889. Administered by the General Land Office until the National Park Service was established, the area became a National Monument in 1918.

Dominating the landscape is the Casa Grande itself, an off-set or stepped tower of caliche, with the central section rising four stories high; within the walled enclosure of its town are the remains of one, two, and three-storied buildings, weathered by the passage of some 600 years of time (Fig. 1). Scattered over the rest of the National Monument are the ruins of additional walled-in villages, or "compounds", and of other prehistoric remains.

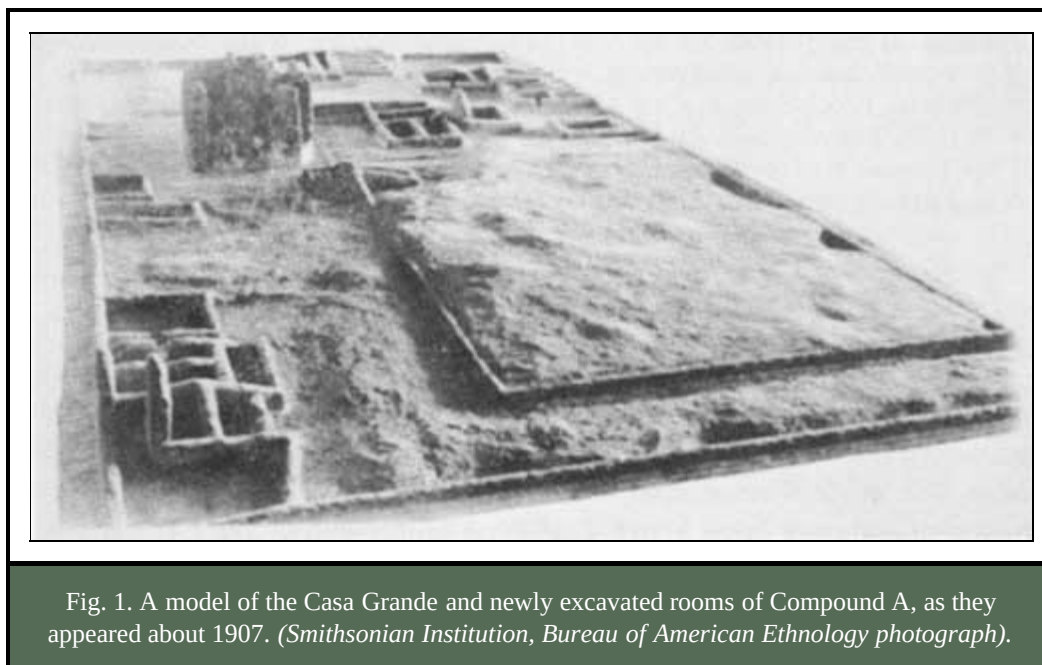


Fig. 1. A model of the Casa Grande and newly excavated rooms of Compound A, as they appeared about 1907. (*Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology photograph*).

The Casa Grande was first visited by a European in 1694, when this region represented the unexplored northwestern frontier of New Spain.

Now it is visited by some 50,000 people a year [1] and lies on a trans-continental highway, halfway between the cities of Tucson and Phoenix, and only a mile from the town of Coolidge, Arizona. The National Monument is open to visitors the year around.

Since 1694 visitors have conjectured as to the origin and history of the builders of the Casa Grande and neighboring ruins; the general outline of their story is fairly well known now, but some of the details are still not clear. There have been periodic archaeological excavations on Casa Grande National Monument since 1891, but no one site has yet been completely

excavated and much investigation remains to be done.

[<<< Previous](#) [<<< Contents >>>](#) [Next >>>](#)

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

The Casa Grande ruins lie one and one-half miles south of the Gila River, about 50 miles above its junction with the Salt River. These two streams, the principal drainages of southern Arizona, head in mountainous regions to the northeast and have cut their shallow valleys, across the plains of their lower courses. Their flow is intermittent and interrupted, but there is evidence of a steadier flow, and of less violent flood runoffs, before the 20th century.

Physiographically, this area is part of the Basin and Range Province—greatly eroded roots of mountain ranges standing a few hundred feet above wide, almost level, plains. The ranges seen from Casa Grande National Monument are pre-Cambrian granites and schists; some are cut by younger granitic rocks, and flanked by Tertiary lava flows (Vandiver 1935). The inter-range plains are basins filled with alluvial debris, the accumulation of millions of years of erosion from higher elevations; near the basin centers the fill may be 2,000 feet deep, and so nearly leveled that the desert floor often shows elevation variations of only a few feet.

This is part of the Sonora Desert, an area of mild winters, high summer temperatures, and low annual rainfall. At the Monument cooperative Weather Bureau station, the annual precipitation was averaged for a recent 15-year period at 9.41 inches (with annual extremes of 4.63 inches and 19.22 inches).

With irrigation, this desert is capable of producing crops of surprising variety and quantity. There is a frost-free period of 263 days. With modern machinery, irrigation, and farming methods, crops have become one of the 3 top sources of income for the state of Arizona. The greater portion of the nation's supply of lettuce is grown in southern Arizona deserts; the irrigated land of Arizona produces more cotton per acre than any comparable area in the world.

Geologically, the formation most affecting the lives of the prehistoric inhabitants here was caliche, the limy hardpan occurring in this area 2 to 4 feet below the ground surface. Caliche is formed when calcium carbonate-bearing ground waters lose either moisture or carbon dioxide; the limy precipitate may occur in almost pure form, or it may cement together sands and gravels at the level of the deposition (Breazeale and Smith 1930). Caliche varies in hardness and in density; it may be impervious to water and result in eventual puddling of irrigated top soil (a condition which is corrected in modern farming by deep-plowing to break up the hardpan); it can be very useful in construction, as shown by the strong and weather-resistant walls of Casa Grande.

To the prehistoric farmers of this area, caliche was probably a mixed blessing. It provided, in a land without suitable building stone, material for lasting and massive house construction. It may also, as an impervious underground layer, have forced the Indians to abandon waterlogged, unproductive, farms and extend their canal system to new lands, until an imbalance between crop production and canal efficiency was reached—and the caliche-walled towns had to be abandoned.

<<< [Previous](#)

<<< [Contents](#)>>>

[Next](#) >>>

history/sec1.htm
Last Updated: 02-Nov-2009

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE AREA

Hunting people are known to have inhabited the Southwest with Pleistocene animals. Excavations at Ventana Cave (Haury 1950), a shelter affording both weather protection and water in the southern Arizona desert, have shown human remains from at least late-glacial times; through a period of wild plant food gathering; to the pottery, corn agriculture, cotton textile, and shell jewelry of the Hohokam.

The Hohoka ("People who are gone" in Pima Indian language) were settled in the Gila and Salt River Valleys, farming by irrigation, and building one-room, wood and dirt houses by A. D. 700 (Gladwin and others 1937). By the tenth century A.D., after generations of work with their stone hoes and wooden digging sticks, hundreds of miles of canals were in operation; corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, and cotton were being grown; over 10,000 people were making their living from these desert valleys [2] (Schroeder 1940; 1953).

During the 12th century another group of farmers came to settle in the irrigated areas of the desert; they were a pueblo people, with some traits common to the subdivisions designated by archaeologists as Sinagua and Salado (Schroeder 1947), and with the distinctive red, black, and white Gila Polychrome pottery of the Salado. This movement of peoples from central and northern Arizona, a resettlement project which probably continued for several generations, added new types of architecture and pottery and new burial customs to the desert life. The architecture was to develop from post-reinforced dirt walls to massive walls of solid caliche which would support multi-room, multi-story dwellings typical of the Pueblo people; villages were to change from scattered one-room houses to compact blocks of rooms surrounded by a compound wall (Haury 1945: 207).

Representing the peak of this architectural development is the 14th century "Compound A" of Casa Grande National Monument, with its Great House towering above all other known prehistoric buildings of this area.

The Casa Grande was designed for height, possibly to compensate for the lack of natural elevations which would have enabled the farmers of the region to easily observe the needs for canal maintenance and water regulation—and the distant approach of unidentified people, who might be a raiding party. The tower room, 35 feet above the plain, stands on walls resting on hardpan five feet below the present ground level and four feet thick at their base; (A. T. Bicknell, personal communication, based on trenching done by Charlie Steen) these walls are part of the 5-room base of the tower, with the entire ground floor filled for additional bracing, and the 5-room plan carried up to the third-story set back. Details of wall load, weight distribution, and room dimensions were evidently well considered before construction began. The excellence of both design and construction is proven by its present existence, a dirt building still four stories high after some 500 years of neglect.

While in use, the Casa Grande commanded a view of the lower part of the main canal, whose intake was at a bend of the Gila River about 16 miles upstream (Larson 1926). As long as the canals carried enough water, to land which was productive enough, the Hohokam-Pueblo

towns prospered. When the balance between people to be fed and food available became seriously disturbed, we don't know. Nor are we yet sure how much such other factors, as periods of drought, inter-town disputes over water rights, malnutrition and disease, and raids by enemy groups, may have affected the final decision. But by the end of the 15th century the walled villages were abandoned. When the Casa Grande was seen by Spaniards in the 1690's the caliche towns were in ruins and many of the canals filled by wind-blown sands; the only Indians in the vicinity were the Pimas, maintaining canals and villages of brush and mud houses close to the river.

[<<< Previous](#) [<<< Contents >>>](#) [Next >>>](#)

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



THE COMING OF THE EUROPEAN

The Spanish penetration into Mexico resulted in 16th century explorations to the southwestern section of the present United States; the territory and the Indians of southwestern Arizona were not directly affected by Europeans until the close of the 17th century. Casa Grande came close to discovery in 1540, when Coronado and his force moved northward through the eastern part of Arizona, but these explorers were looking for gold and had little time for local scenery. The fact that Coronado found no gold probably accounts for the neglect of Arizona for many years to come. Another 150 years passed before the Spaniards began to move into the Arizona deserts.

This time it was men with a different purpose, Jesuit missionaries, whose interests were more in salvation than in exploitation. Such a man was Father Eusebio Francisco Kino, a priest with great missionizing zeal, and a spirit of adventure. He traveled in Pimeria Alta (now the states of Sonora, Mexico and Arizona, U.S.A.), visiting Indian villages and exploring routes to Baja California; he introduced both Christianity and the economic benefits of European crops and livestock to communities which, as *visitas*, (without a resident priest, but on the itinerary of traveling missionaries) developed into a chain of missions holding the northwestern frontier for Spain.

On the northern fringe of this frontier, Pimas spoke of a "hottai ki", a Great House (Kino 1711). In 1694 Kino, guided by Sopaipuri Indians of San Xavier del Bac, penetrated down the Santa Cruz River drainage, and became the first European to record the existence of the Casa Grande.

In the words of Father Kino's journal: "In November, 1694, I went inland with my servants and some justices of this Pimeria, as far as the *casa grande*, as these Pimas call it, which is on the large River of Hila that flows out of Nuevo Mexico and has its source near Acoma. This river and this large house and the neighboring houses are forty-three leagues beyond and to the northwest of the Sobaipuris of San Francisco Xavier del Bac . . . The *casa grande* is a four-story building, as large as a castle and equal to the largest church in these lands of Sonora . . . Close to this *casa grande* there are thirteen smaller houses, somewhat more dilapidated, and the ruins of many others, which make it evident that in ancient times there had been a city here. On this occasion and on later ones I have learned and heard, and at times have seen, that further to the east, north, and west there are seven or eight more of these large old houses and the ruins of whole cities, with many broken metates and jars, charcoal, etc." (Bolton 1948: 127-129).

From now on, the Casa Grande was to be a landmark on the journeys of Spanish, and of the later Americans, across the deserts of southwestern Arizona; nearby was the water of the Gila River and the farming communities of the friendly Pimas, who supplied food for travelers and for their livestock.

Two valuable accounts of the Casa Grande group of ruins resulted from the next Spanish visit, in 1697. This was something of an expedition, arranged by Kino and his friend, Captain

Juan Mateo Manje, as an exploration which would demonstrate to the soldiery the friendliness and hospitality of the Pimeria. Kino and Manje were joined at Santa Cruz de Gaybanipitea, on the San Pedro River, by Captain Cristobal Martin Bernal and 22 soldiers. Chief Coro of the Sobaipuris, and 36 of his men, joined at Quiburi. All proceeded downriver to its junction with the Gila. By November 18th they were in the region of the Casa Grande; Ensign Acuna and several men crossed to the north bank of the river with difficulty (Manje had noted the day before that the Gila "carries so much water that a ship could be navigated," (Karns 1953:84)) and saw a ruin, square and very large, with very high walls more than a yard in thickness. Four leagues farther down the river the whole force came to the Casa Grande; here Father Kino, not yet having eaten, said Mass at 11 in the morning, "because on account of the high wind from the north he had not said it" earlier in the day (Bernal 1856:797-809).

The accounts of Captain Bernal and Captain Manje of the Casa Grande as it stood in 1697 are important, since it was to be 79 years before another traveler would write a detailed first-hand description that survived to the present time. [3]

According to Bernal: ". . . we saw the whole building which is very large and four stories high; the walls are square and very thick, about 2 yards through, of the aforementioned white clay; and although these pagans have burned it a number of times, one sees the 4 stories with good rooms, apartments, and windows curiously plastered inside and out so that the walls are smooth and mortered [plastered?] [4] with a reddish mud; the doors likewise. Just outside are 11 somewhat smaller houses made in the same curious way as the 'casa grande' and its stories. It is also clear that there was a very numerous population and they lived in a community, and over a large area is seen much painted and broken pottery; likewise a main canal is visible of 10 yards in width and 4 in depth, with very thick earthen banks, which extends up to the house through the plain; and while we were in the house 3 gentiles came, chiefs of a rancheria on the river, and with great love they embraced our father Kino . . ."

And Manje: "One of the houses was a large building four stories high with the main room in the center, with walls two *varas* of width made of strong *argamasa y barro* and so smooth inside that they looked like brushed wood and so polished that they shone like Puebla earthenware . . . The walls are 36 paces in length and 21 in width. Good architecture is apparent from the foundations up ... At a distance of an *arcabuz* shot are seen 12 more houses partly caved in. They have thick walls, and the roofs are burnt with the exception of one lower room which is built with smooth round beams—apparently cedar or juniper. On top of these are *otates* and over these a heavy coating of *argamasa* and hard clay has been placed. This room has a high ceiling of very interesting construction. All around there is evidence of many other ruins and high mounds for a stretch of two leagues . . . There is a main canal that flows from the river over the plain, encircling and leaving the town in the center. It is three leagues in circumference, 10 *varas* wide and four *varas* deep . . ." (Karns 1953:85-86). Kino, on this same trip, is more conservative in his estimate of the canal dimensions, giving them as 3 *varas* in depth, and 6 or 7 in width—although he doesn't hesitate to say this canal is wider than "the causeway of Guadalupe at Mexico." (Bolton 1948: 172).

Eighty-two years after the "discovery" of the Casa Grande the first non-Indian colonists crossed the deserts of southern Arizona, led by Lt. Col. Juan Bautista de Anza, and attended by Franciscan Friars Pedro Font, Francisco Garces, and Tomas Eixarch. The prospective California settlers and their military escort had assembled at the Presidio of Tubac and the mission of Tumacacori; the expedition was to end at the Presidio of Monterey, having established the fact that men, women, and children could be safely taken overland from Mexico to California. On October 30, 1775 the group of some 240 persons reached the Gila River in the vicinity of the Casa Grande; a day's rest was ordered by the commander. Font and Garces were among those taking advantage of this opportunity to see the celebrated ruin.

Father Garces' diary refers to the journal of Padre Font for a description of the Casa Grande.

Font relates on Tuesday, October 31 (Coues 1900: 93-95), "I said mass, which some heathen Gila Indians heard with very quiet behavior. Determined the *senor commandante* today to rest the people from the long journey of yesterday, and with this we had an opportunity of going to examine the Casa Grande, that they call Moctezuma, situated at one league from the river Gila, and distant from the place of the laguna [Camani, where they had camped] some 3 leagues to the east-southeast; to the which we went after mass, [5] and returned after midday, accompanied by some Indians, and by the Governor of Uturituc,..." [Observations on the latitude and longitude of the ruin were made, and a plan of the principal buildings was drawn. Much of Font's account concerns his idea of the true history of the ruin, and an Indian legend of its origin; some of his objective observations on the Casa Grande follow S.V.V.] "We made an exact inspection of the edifice, and of its situation, and we measured it with a lance for the nonce, which measurement I reduced afterward to geometrical feet, and a little more or less it is the following: The Casa is an oblong square and perfectly to the four cardinal winds, east, west, north, and south, and roundabout are some ruins, which indicate some inclosure or wall, which surrounded the house and other buildings, particularly at the corners, where it seems there was some structure like an interior castle, or watch-tower, for in the corner which falls on the southwest there is a piece of groundwork with its divisions and an elevation . . . The woodwork was of pine, apparently, and the sierra most near, which has pines, is distant some twenty and five leagues; and also has some mesquite . . . There comes from the river, and from quite afar, an acequia very large with which was supplied with water the population, and it is now very blind [cegada, i. e., indistinct]."

<<< [Previous](#)

<<< [Contents](#)>>>

[Next](#) >>>

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



THE COMING OF THE AMERICAN

The end of the 18th century and beginning of the 19th century saw few non-Indians in the lower Gila Valley. The power of the Spanish Empire was dwindling by the turn of the century; Mexico won her political independence from Spain by the 1820's and, concentrating on the central problems of a new republic, barely maintained the outpost town and garrison at Tucson.

The westward-expanding republic of the United States was, as yet, represented in the southwest only by a few individuals of the hardy breed of mountain men and beaver trappers. Being on the Gila river, a beaver stream in the 1800's, the Casa Grande may have been seen by the Patties, and probably was seen by Powell (Paulino, Pauline) Weaver. There is an inscription on one of its walls which now reads "P. Weaver 18 . . ." One Powell Weaver, "Old Mountaineer" is listed at Tucson, Arizona in the census of 1860; the frontiersman is known to have been in this area in the 1830's. Early references to the inscription give the date variously as 1831, 1832, or 1833; possibly the last digit was not clear even in the late 1880's. But the third digit was plain enough so that it could be described, as Mr. Pinkley did in a letter dated 1938, as a "square topped or draughtsman" 3. And the conclusion is plain enough—the first attention the Casa Grande received from the Americans was not entirely beneficial; later, other travelers were to follow this example and scratch their names into the remarkable plaster of the Great House, until the appearance of some of the walls was destroyed by names of people who visited it the easy way, by train or stage coach.

Other Americans were to add to our knowledge of the ruin by recording its condition at the time of their journey.

In 1846 the United States was at war with Mexico; General Kearny, commanding "The Army of the West" was ordered to cross the southwest to California, exploring military routes, determining the political temper of the inhabitants, and raising the U. S. flag over the towns of the area. The Army came down the Gila and camped at the Pima Villages in the vicinity of the Casa Grande. Lt. William H. Emory, assigned to Kearny as topographical engineer, later submitted "Notes of a Military Reconnaissance from Fort Leavenworth, in Missouri, to San Diego, in California", and records the ruin as it appeared to them on November 10, 1846: "About the time of the noon halt, a large pile, which seemed the work of human hands, was seen to the left. It was the remains of a three-story mud house, 60 feet square, pierced for doors and windows." [By this time debris and wind-blown soil had evidently accumulated to the depth shown in photographs of the 1880's, obscuring the lower story of the tower and making it appear only three storied.] "The walls were 4 feet thick, and formed by layers of mud, 2 feet thick. Stanley made an elaborate sketch of every part; . . ." (Emory 1848: 81-82).

Captain A. R. Johnston's account, is more detailed and includes references to: "The large casa was 50 feet by 40, and had been four stories high, but the floors and roof had long since been burnt out. The charred ends of the cedar joists were still in the wall. I examined them, and found that they had not been cut with a steel instrument; . . . there was no sign of a fireplace in the building; the lower story was filled with rubbish," [excavation in 1891 showed the

second story filled with "rubbish"] "and above it was open to the sky; the walls were 4 feet thick at the bottom, and had a curved inclination inwards to the top; the house was built of a sort of white earth and pebbles, probably containing lime, which abounded on the ground adjacent . . . About 200 yards from this building was a mound in a circle a hundred yards around; the center was a hollow, 25 yards in diameter, with two vamps [ramps?] or slopes going down to its bottom; it was probably a well, now partly filled up; . . . A few yards further, in the same direction, northward, was a terrace, 100 yards by 70. About 5 feet high upon this, was a pyramid about 8 feet high, 25 yards square at top" (Fewkes 1912: 64-65). This is the earliest description of the Casa Grande ball court (later noted by Bandelier 1892: 458) and of the neighboring village, Compound B.

Kit Carson was probably with Emory and Johnston at Casa Grande; Kearny had met him along the Rio Grande and induced Carson to return with them as scout. Lt. John T. Hughes wrote "About sunset the same day they came to the Pimo villages on the south side of the Gila." Captain Johnson observer. Their answer to Carson when he went up and asked for provisions was, "Bread is to eat, not to sell—take what you want" (Fewkes 1912:68).

Following the end of the Mexican War and the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, members of the Mexican Boundary Survey visited the Casa Grande. In July, 1852 John Russell Bartlett wrote of the ruin in some detail, and sketched the ruins from the southwest. Mounded debris against the Casa Grande and the second-story fill of fallen ceiling dirt led him to Emory's mistaken conclusion as to the actual height of the building; he saw the coursed walls as the result of using "cases" or forms, a postulation which was disproven by later observations (Pinkley 1920: 2, 13; 1935: 4, 12, 19). He notes that: "The outer surface of the wall appears to have been plastered roughly; but the inside, as well as the surface of all the inner walls, is hard finished"; and "The southern front has fallen in in several places, and is much injured by large fissures, yearly becoming larger, so that the whole of it must fall etc long. The other three fronts are quite perfect."

Bartlett's account continues with the first recommendation for preservation of the Casa Grande. "The walls at the base, and particularly at the corners, have crumbled away to the extent of 12 or 15 inches, and are only held together by their great thickness. The moisture here causes disintegration to take place more rapidly than in any other part of the building; and in a few years, when the walls have become undermined, the whole structure must fall, and become a mere rounded heap, like many other shapeless mounds which are seen on the plain. A couple of days' labor spent in restoring the walls at the base with mud and gravel, would render this interesting monument as durable as brick, and enable it to last for centuries" (Fewkes 1912: 66-67).

That part of Arizona south of the Gila was bought from Mexico by the United States in the Gadsen Purchase of 1854. Among the travelers who recorded interest in the Casa Grande during the next 30 years were Captain F. E. Grossman, Charles D. Poston, J. Ross Browne, and Richard J. Hinton. J. Ross Browne records observations on the terrain and remains of an ancient canal between Sacaton Station and the Casa Grande, as well as the condition of the ruin. This group of visitors probably did not leave the Great House in quite as good condition as they found it: ". . . we took our departure . . . late in the evening, well laden with curiosities. Every member of the party had his fragment of pottery and specimen of adobe and plaster" (Browne 1869: 120).

The first "resolution" for preservation of the ruin may have been made in 1877 by the group which was showing Richard J. Hinton, a San Francisco newspaperman, the wonders of Arizona Territory. Hinton's *The Handbook to Arizona* describes the Casa Grande as they saw it on December 13, 1877, with a reference to the interior walls having been "coated with some sort of cement or varnish which has a reddish-orange hue, and which at the present

time can be peeled off by a penknife." Then, "The party after holding a meeting and adopting resolutions urging the formation of an archaeological society for Arizona of which they offered to become members, raised a small American Flag upon the walls, took luncheon in the ruins, and went on their way to Tucson" (Fewkes 1912: 69).

<<< [Previous](#)

<<< [Contents](#)>>>

[Next](#) >>>

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



CASA GRANDE BECOMES A GOVERNMENT RESERVATION

By 1880 the Southern Pacific Railroad had been built from the west coast to Tucson, Arizona, with a station, only 20 miles away, named in honor of the Casa Grande. The Great House was now accessible, without undue hardship, to both thoughtful and thoughtless visitors.

For every traveler or settler who carved his name on the ancient walls or took home a broken timber or bowl for a souvenir, there were probably 10 others who only looked and hoped that the building could be preserved and protected for the future.

But there was no protection, in law or in fact. Newspaper articles of the period relate: the plan of an official of the railroad to "take men and tools" and examine the ruins of Casa Grande (*Arizona Daily Star*, 2/10/80); that the "Great House" has been covered with painted signs by a local groceryman (*Phoenix Herald*, 7/27/88); the plan to restore and re-roof the Casa Grande using the building itself as a museum and the nucleus of an Indian training school (*Arizona Republic*, 1/12/91).

The Great House was saved from becoming an unprotected tourist curiosity and hunting ground for souvenir collectors by the awakening of national interest in the archaeology of southern Arizona.

Adolph F. Bandelier, noted anthropologist and historian, wrote of the Casa Grande and its probable significance and background in 1883-1884 (Mindeleff 1896: 297).

In 1887-1888 the Hemenway Southwestern Archaeological Expedition excavated ruins of a similar culture in the Salt River Valley (Haury 1945: 5). Financed by Mrs. Mary Hemenway of Massachusetts and led, first by Frank H. Cushing, and later by J. W. Fewkes, this expedition included Bandelier, Dr. F. W. Hodge of the Bureau of American Ethnology, and Dr. Herman F. C. ten Kate of Holland. The *Boston Herald* of April 15, 1888 carried an account of some of the discoveries of the Hemenway Expedition, written by its home secretary Sylvester Baxter (Haury 1945:9). This, later reprinted as a pamphlet, evidently crystallized the interest of several influential Massachusetts personages in Southwestern Indian history (an interest perhaps already titillated by the New England visits of Frank Cushing accompanied by Zuni and Hopi Indians, in 1882 and 1886).

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

At the request of friends in Boston Captain John G. Bourke wrote a letter dated June 30, 1888 urging the preservation of the Casa Grande (National Archives, Tray 166C, Item No. 1601).

In February 1889 Senator George F. Hoar of Massachusetts laid before the United States Senate a petition from Oliver Ames, governor of Massachusetts; William E. Barrett, speaker of the state's house of representatives; Mrs. Mary Hemenway; William Claffin; Francis Parkman; Dr. Edward Everett Hale; Oliver Wendell Holmes; John Fiske; William T. Harris; and John G. Whittier. The petition called the attention of Congress "to the ancient and celebrated ruin of Casa Grande, an ancient temple of the prehistoric age, of the greatest ethnologic and scientific interest, situated in Pinal county, near Florence, Arizona"; and prayed "that the Government will take further measures to have the ruin protected from injury by visitors or by landowners in the neighborhood" (Congressional Record, Vol. XX, pt. 2, p. 1454; as quoted in the 15th Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology, p. CIII).

Appended to the sundry civil appropriations act, approved March 2, 1889, in which certain expenses of the U. S. Geological Survey were provided for, was the following item:

"Repair of the ruin of Casa Grande, Arizona: To enable the Secretary of the Interior to repair and protect the ruin of Casa Grande, situated in Pinal County, near Florence, Arizona, two thousand dollars; and the President is authorized to reserve from settlement and sale the land on which said ruin is situated and so much of the public land adjacent thereto as in his judgment may be necessary for the protection of said ruin and of the ancient city of which it is a part" (Mindeleff 1897:326).

On April 12, 1889 the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of the General Land Office conferred on the execution of the above law; Special Agent A. L. Morrison, of the G.L.O., was sent to the Casa Grande to investigate methods which should be adopted for its repair and protection. His report, submitted May 15, was considered impractical. The Secretary handed the problem to the Director of the Geological Survey; Victor Mindeleff of the Bureau of Ethnology submitted a report on the ruin in July 1890; a few months later Victor Mindeleff severed his connections with the Bureau. However, his brother Cosmos Mindeleff proceeded to the Casa Grande in December, 1890 and the authorized repair was completed the following year (Mindeleff 1897:327).

The final step in the execution of the law quoted above was taken June 22, 1892, by the following recommendation and indorsement.

Department of the Interior
Washington, June 20, 1892.

Sir: I have the honor to recommend that the SW. 1/4 SW. 1/4, SE. 1/4 SW. 1/4, SW. 1/4 SE 1/4 section 9, NW. 1/4, NW. 1/4 NE. 1/4, SW 1/4 NE. 1/4, NW. 1/4 SW. 1/4, NE. 1/4 SW. 1/4, and NW. 1/4 SE. 1/4 section 16, all in township 5

range 8 east, Gila and Salt River meridian, Arizona, containing 480 acres more or less, and including the Casa Grande ruin, be reserved in accordance with the authority vested in you by the act of March 2, 1889 (25 Stat., 961), for the protection of the ruin.

The Director of the Bureau of Ethnology requests that the reservation be made, and the Acting Commissioner of the General Land Office knows of no objection to such action.

Very respectfully,
John W. Noble
Secretary

[Indorsement by the President]
Executive Mansion
June 22, 1892

Let the lands described within be reserved for the protection of the Casa Grande ruin as recommended by the Secretary of the Interior.

Benj. Harrison

<<< [Previous](#)

<<< [Contents](#) >>>

[Next](#) >>>

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



REPAIR AND PROTECTION FOR THE CASA GRANDE

A thorough and detailed description of the Casa Grande and its group of ruins was written by Cosmos Mindeleff in the *13th Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*; this report remains an invaluable record of the condition of the buildings in 1890 (Fig 2).



Fig. 2. The Great House and other Compound A walls before the 1891 repairs. (Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology photograph).

Specifications, based on the above inspection, were prepared for the authorized repair work. Mindeleff wrote (1897: 327 et. seq.) " ... the amount appropriated was so well known to be inadequate that great difficulty was experienced in obtaining bids ..." The Reverend I. T. Whittemore of Florence was helpful in recruiting bidders. The work deemed necessary was whittled down to the 4 most pressing items; clearing the Great House of rubbish and debris; underpinning wall with brick wherever needed; replacing doorway lintels and filling cavities; tying in the south wall with braces. T. L. Stouffer and F. E. White, of Florence, were the successful bidders, at a contract price of \$1,985. The contractors actually performed more work than the appropriation allowed, putting in about \$600 of their own money to finish the job. Some deviations from specifications had to be made as the work progressed; one brace was extended through the entire building for greater stability; not finding a well defined floor in the west and south rooms, excavations were carried on down through original fill; artifacts found during the job were saved and packed, for shipment to the National Museum, by the contractors.

Mr. Whittemore is referred to by H. C. Rizer, Chief Clerk of the Bureau of Ethnology, in his

contract inspection report of November 24, 1891 (Mindeleff 1897:343), as the man "designated by the honorable Secretary of the Interior as the custodian of the ruin." Mr. Whittemore had offered to "look after the work", and the \$15 difference between money appropriated and contract price was awarded Mr. Whittemore for his interest. The sundry civil appropriation act for the year ending June 30, 1893 made provision for a salaried custodian; Mr. Whittemore was appointed to this position. As a non-resident caretaker, his chief concerns were obtaining a roof over the Casa Grande (one of the items which had originally been included in the 1891 repair list, but deleted because of insufficient funds) and the fencing of the Reservation, with further excavations in mounds adjoining the Great House (National Archives, Tray 166C; letters from Whittemore dated September 20, 1893 and July 25, 1895. Also *Phoenix Herald*, 12/10/96).

The ruins were now protected by law, but there was no resident custodian to explain or enforce that law. After Mr. Whittemore's retirement in 1899, H. B. Mayo submitted a report as Custodian of Casa Grande, dated August 1900 (National Archives, Tray 166C, Item 2885); Mayo's commission began October 2, 1899 (Schroeder 1957:2). There was still an urgent need for someone who was willing to protect the Casa Grande by living on the Reservation.

In 1901 this responsibility was given to Frank Pinkley (Fig. 3), a young man of 20 who had recently come to Phoenix, Arizona, where his uncle was U. S. Land Commissioner, from Chillicothe, Missouri. His first report is dated February 6, 1902, addressed to the "Honorable Commissioner, General Land Office, Washington, D. C. [6] Sir: Carrying out the instructions issued to me on Dec. 12, 1901. I have the honor to make the following report in regard to the ruins of the Casa Grande ..." The report contains a paragraph on "Repairs Needed" and refers the commissioner to the *13th and 15th Annual Reports of the Bureau of Ethnology* (NPS, Administration Casa Grande National Monument).

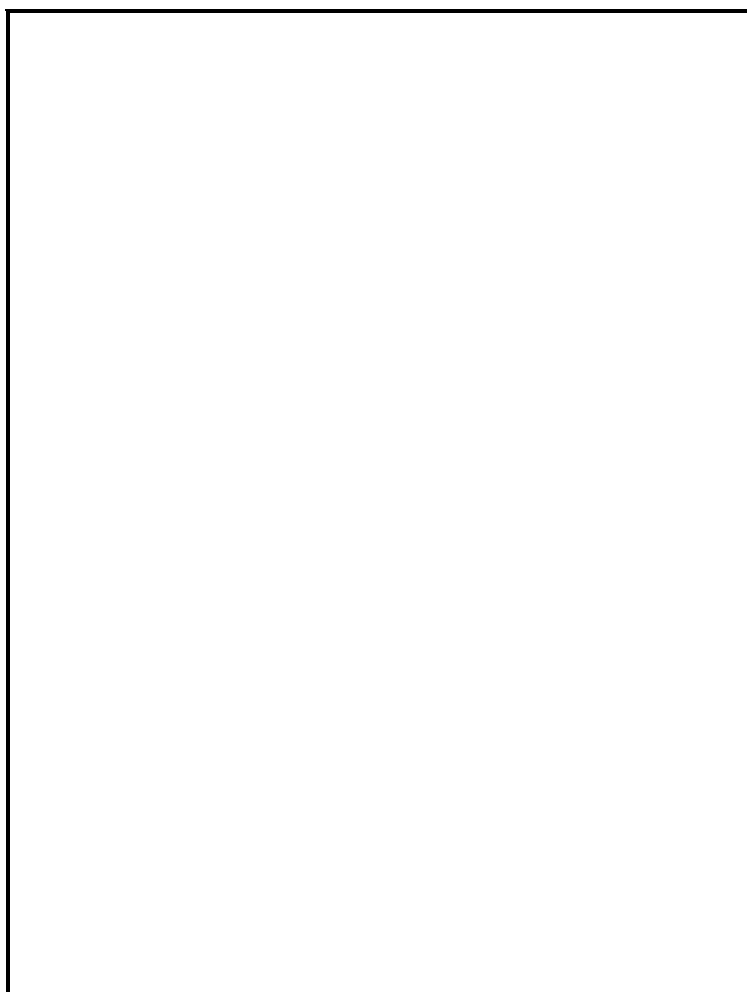




Fig. 3. Frank Pinkley taken about 1925. (*National Park Service Photograph*).

In 1902, on February 6 and again on March 16, Frank Pinkley recommended that a fine for defacing the Casa Grande be extended to excavations and the carrying away of materials (the federal "Antiquities Act" prohibiting these activities was not to become law until 1906). On May 26 of 1902 the Commissioner of the General Land Office recommended to the Secretary of Interior that Congress act on the above recommendation, and that meanwhile offenders be prosecuted under the provision of Section 5456, U.S.R.S. and the Act of March 3, 1875, 18 Stat., 479 (National Archives, Tray 166C, Item 2175). Later in the same year a request for an excavation permit by one Walter C. Young was approved by Mr. Pinkley and the General Land Office, but disallowed by the Bureau of American Ethnology (their letter of November 7, National Archives, Tray 166C).

The first custodian's residence was a tent pitched several hundred yards north of the Casa Grande; a well was dug in 1902 (the caving of this well was reported in September of 1918); by 1906, when Frank Pinkley and Edna Townsley were married, the residence was a frame-sided tent in a grove of mesquite trees just east of Compound A.

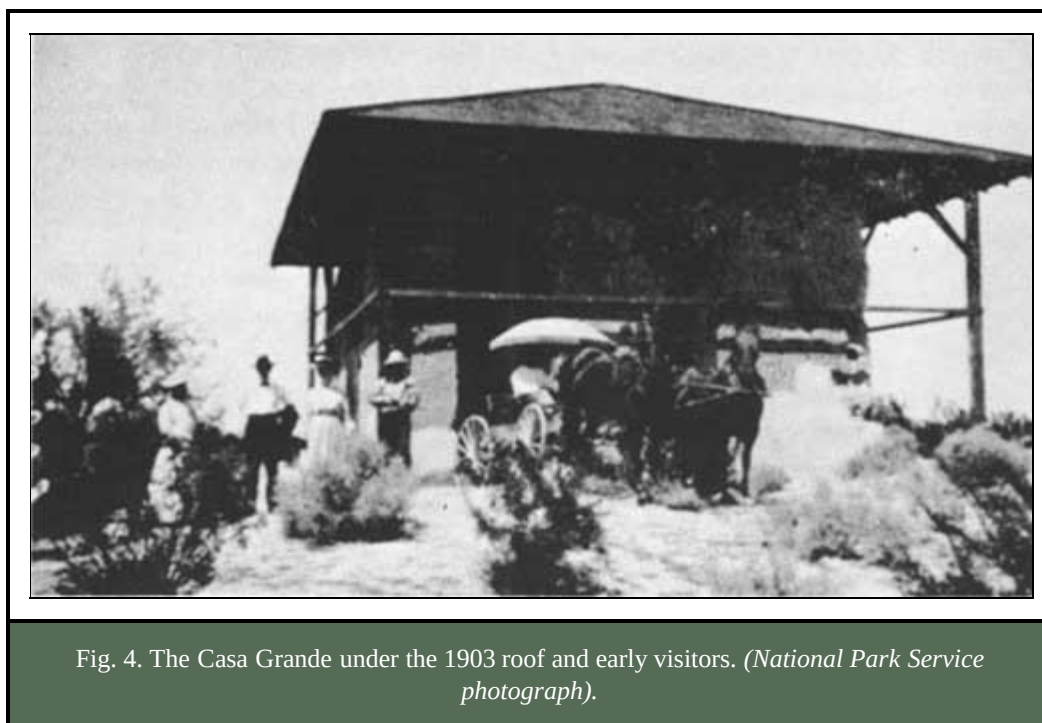
There were few neighbors, with the towns of Florence and Casa Grande 10 and 20 miles away; the closest were the Pima Indians at Blackwater, where Pinkley's parents now operated the Four Mile Trading Post. In 1910 Frank Pinkley built, with his own funds, a two-room adobe house in the southeast corner of Compound A; he did the carpentry work, and Pimas

made and laid the adobes. This house, with the later additions described in a December 7, 1921 letter to Mr. Mather, served as the only residence at Casa Grande National Monument until 1929.

Mr. Pinkley's annual reports through 1915 (National Archives, Box 566) recommend (in 1907) the withdrawal of adjacent mounds for their protection (this was done in 1909); that reprints of Mindeleff's description of the Casa Grande be supplied for distribution to visitors (requested first in 1906, repeated in later reports, pamphlets reported as received in 1913); suggested that artifacts excavated be retained at the area rather than going to museums in other cities (1907); recommends a museum building for Casa Grande (1908—this became a reality in 1922); in 1912 asks for funds to repair the well he dug at his own expense in 1901, and points out the need for an engine or windmill to lift the water; in 1914 reports the installation of a visitor register and the visitor increase due to the number of automobiles in use.

With three exceptions, Casa Grande seems to have gotten little national attention between 1892 and 1918. However, the exceptions were notable.

On June 28, 1902 Congress appropriated money for construction of a roof over the Casa Grande; the roof, a corrugated iron structure supported on redwood timbers, was finished by 1903 (Fig. 4).



Congress made two subsequent appropriations, of \$3,000 each, to be administered by the Smithsonian Institution in the excavation of the Casa Grande group of ruins. Dr. J. W. Fewkes supervised the work, in Compound A during the winter of 1906-1907, and on Compounds B, C, and D, and Clan-house I during the winter of 1907-1908. Fewkes also did some drainage and stabilization work, diverting run-off from Compound A to the prehistoric borrow-pit to the east, and putting cement at the bases of some walls, and adding some bracings of adobe bricks. The excavations and repairs, with list of artifacts recovered, are reported in the *28th Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology*. Frank Pinkley made some field notes on the work; the manuscript notes are at Casa Grande National Monument library.

On December 10, 1909 a change was made in the Reservation boundaries, "eliminating 120 acres on which there were no prehistoric ruins and including a tract of 120 acres adjoining the reservation on the east, on which are located important mounds of historic interest" (see *Glimpses of our National Monuments*, 1930, GPO); a map of the original boundaries, Plate CXXV, *15th An. Rpt., B.A.E.*, shows that the released land was on the northern boundary.

By 1914 the two-year-old State of Arizona was beginning to show some of its future promise as a goal for tourists; there were regular stage trips, daily except Sunday, to the Casa Grande. The stage left the railway town of Casa Grande at 8:00 in the morning, visited Sacaton (the Pima Indian Reservation headquarters), stopped off at the Blackwater Trading Post, and arrived at the ruins about noon. After three hours at the Casa Grande the return trip was made; the round trip covered 50 miles, and the fare was \$5 per person (From the records of the Casa Grande Board of Trade).

During 1916 and 1917 (annual reports in National Archives) James P. Bates was Custodian of Casa Grande Ruins, Mr. Pinkley having resigned in 1915 to serve in the Legislature of the State of Arizona, as representative from Pinal County.

[<<< Previous](#) [<<< Contents >>>](#) [Next >>>](#)

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



CASA GRANDE AS PART OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

In other sections of the country, the idea of a government branch which would be directly responsible for the care of National Parks and Monuments, a National Park Service, was growing. With the 1915 appointment of Stephen T. Mather as assistant to the Secretary of the Interior, in charge of 13 National Parks and 18 National Monuments (Shankland 1951), the right man was in the right place. The idea became a reality with the signing of the National Park Service Act on August 25, 1916.

Estimates for the Casa Grande Ruin were prepared by the National Park Service in 1916 and 1917—without success, as Acting Director Albright wrote Mr. Pinkley on June 7, 1918. However, by the latter year the wheels had begun to move for the Casa Grande and for the National Park Service in the southwest.

Unknown to each other in the early days of the movement, the national figures in conservation and other far-sighted citizens, such as Frank Pinkley, caretaker for an Indian ruin in southern Arizona, had been working toward the same end. The goal was the protection of areas of national significance, by persons dedicated to the principle that the long-term protection of this heritage was more rewarding than the receipt of a high salary. The men of the young National Park Service, like Isaiah in the wilderness, had their reward with them, and their work before them.

The first correspondence between Mr. Mather and Frank Pinkley shows how close was their thinking on the ideal of the National Park Service. On January 24, 1918, Mr. Pinkley wrote: "I have your letter of January 16th in regard to the possible change of custodians at the Casa Grande Ruins . . . The plan to allow the custodian to operate a concession [a suggestion made to compensate for the low salary offered] does not appeal to me. Placing a custodian at the Casa Grande Ruin fulfills two objects from the viewpoint of the Government. 1st, prevention of vandalism, and 2nd having someone to act as host on the part of the Government and to stimulate interest and diffuse information about the Casa Grande Ruin in particular, and the ancient life of America in general. I think you will agree with me that the man who completely attains both these ends could hardly appear in the proper light trying, after an hour lecture on archaeology and ethnology, to extract a fee in the shape of profit on souvenirs. It is only one step removed from accepting gratuities, and that was something I never allowed . . . On the whole, I should not be inclined to stick at the salary with the 10% increase you speak of, making it \$990 for the year . . . I am not looking at my re-appointment entirely from my own standpoint. If I should go back I want to do some good." The letter also voices a hope that application to the Department for a government automobile might be looked upon with favor, since the ruins are five miles from the nearest source of supplies, and with hay now at \$26 a ton the custodian would not be able to afford keep for his own team. Mr. Pinkley suggests that the custodian buy the gasoline: "furnishing my own fuel would be an insurance against over-use of the machine."

On March 4, 1918 Pinkley wrote Mather that he would accept the appointment as custodian

under certain general conditions; with 14 years of previous experience at the Casa Grande, he knew the problems and had given a good deal of thought to their solution. As Pinkley saw it, the work to be done came under three main headings: protection, development, and publicity [at the present time, the last item would probably be called "public relations"; in 1918, and in the future, the ability of the National Park Service to do its job would depend greatly on public awareness and support of the job]. Under these headings, Mr. Pinkley made specific recommendations for the protection of the ruin against vandalism and weather (including a search for a wall-hardening spray for the dirt walls); for a good map of the reservation and a general scheme of development, including excavations; and on arousing public interest in the ruins. He concludes "I think of protection of the Casa Grande against vandalism and disintegration as matters we *must* take care of; the further development and exploration as matters we *want* to take up, as funds can be obtained ..." Pinkley's appointment as "Custodian of Casa Grande Ruin in Arizona" came through dated March 16, 1918.

The next step, securing funds for the area, was discussed in the June 7, 1918 letter from Mr. Albright, with the observation that "Casa Grande occupies a very peculiar position, because it is neither a National Park nor a National Monument, although we have for several years called it a National Park. The jurisdiction of this reservation is assigned the National Park Service by order of the Secretary because it logically belongs to this Bureau. Nevertheless as a matter of law the reservation belongs to the General Land Office. The only way to remedy the situation is to have the President declare the Casa Grande Ruin a National Monument or to have Congress make it a National Park."

This brought immediate concurrence from Pinkley: we are never going to get special appropriations out of Congress under present conditions. I realized that several years ago and it was the main reason for my quitting the service in 1915. I would not advise trying to pass a Park Bill through Congress. Simply declare us a Monument and let us get down to doing something."

Casa Grande became a National Monument by Presidential Proclamation of August 3, 1918.

Meanwhile, Mather wrote to Pinkley on June 19, 1918 "It is not unlikely that in the course of the next fiscal year I shall ask you to represent me in planning the improvement of the old Mission Tumacacori in the Tumacacori National Monument in Santa Cruz County, Arizona." [2] Thus was planted the seed of what was to grow into the Southwestern National Monuments, of the National Park Service, 27 areas over which Frank Pinkley, as Superintendent, was to "represent" the Director. After 1923 more and more of the "Boss's" time was to be required at other areas; but in 1918 there was still pioneering to be done at Casa Grande National Monument.

Frank Pinkley re-entered on duty at Casa Grande April 1, 1918. The first narrative style monthly report submitted to the Director of the National Park Service is dated May 17 and covers projects from gathering together library reference material, to efforts in obtaining a public rest room for the area. There had been an outbreak of name-scratching on the walls of the Casa Grande in recent months; this had been stopped and several hundred penciled names removed from the original plaster. On September 7th a report was submitted for the fiscal year 1917-1918; the letter of transmittal was blunt enough to attract attention to Casa Grande's needs: "This [accomplishments for the year] can all be told in about one word—Nothing. The explanation is nearly as simple—no funds and no records; no figures, files, or records of any kind on the first nine months of the fiscal year."

However, by the end of the 1918 calendar year the monthly reports show the foundation work of a National Monument is well under way. A detailed analysis of natural causes of ruin wall disintegration, and a discussion of methods for their protection has been forwarded.

[Custodian Pinkley, 1918: "I consider this the most pressing need of this reservation." Superintendent Bicknell, 1956: "It still is!"] A large-scale survey and tracing has been made of Compound A. Casa Grande has, by September, received its first National Park Service allotment, \$500 for the current year. A well, replacing that of 1902, has been dug, reaching water at 42 feet 6 inches." Since April 1, 1,298 visitors have been given conducted trips through the ruins. A major contribution toward identification of one of the prehistoric structures has been put on paper.

The latter was a combination of deductive reasoning as to the probable use of what archaeologist Fewkes had called "reservoirs", and of test pits sunk to the floors of three nearby "elliptical mounds." Mr. Pinkley's conclusion, stated in his monthly report for November, 1918, that these were "places for ceremony, games or festivals" was proven correct by the complete excavation of the Snaketown ball court 17 years later (Gladwin and others 1937).

The year 1919 saw the first National Park Service inspection of Casa Grande National Monument, and the area's first representation at a National Parks Conference. In January, Director Mather's friends and colleagues Charles D. Punchard (landscape architect) and Dr. Herbert Gleason (Interior Department inspector) visited the area. In October, a letter signed by Acting Director Cammerer came to Blackwater, Arizona enclosing travel authorization for Mr. Pinkley to attend the Park Conference to be held in Denver and Rocky Mountain National Park, November 13 to 16. Mr. Pinkley attended, and "spent a most profitable four or five days getting acquainted with the men of the Service and gathering information which will be useful to me in the next year's work."

He made two penetrating comments on the conference in his monthly report for November. "A thing I missed ... was a birds-eye view of the future. I did not catch a single glimpse of the scope of the work of the National Park Service ten years or fifteen years in the future . . . it seems to me essential to lay down the ground work of a large plan as well as we can and then block in the details as the years go by."

And "I was rather surprised to find that while I knew something of the parks and park problems and was very interested in anything pertaining to them, the park men knew almost nothing about the monuments." Probably here began Frank Pinkley's life-long struggle to have the National Monuments understood for what they were, not as areas "to be filed in one folder marked 'Miscellaneous, Assorted Monuments'."

His contention was that the only distinction between a Park and a Monument which would hold water in 100% of the cases was the fact that one was created by Act of Congress, and the other by Presidential Proclamation; but that, from the visitors' standpoint (with which Mr. Pinkley had a great deal of first-hand experience) the difference usually implied a need for different National Park Service planning. At a Park the beauty and grandeur of the scenery could be enjoyed without any background knowledge on the part of the visitor; but at a Monument, protecting something of special historic or scientific value, it was up to the National Park Service to provide the key to enjoyment, which came only through understanding. Depending on the way it was presented, the visitor saw the Casa Grande as only a pile of mud, or he saw it as a unique tower built and used by people of America's past.

Cut of this need for interpretation grew the emphasis on area research and on personally guided trips which characterized Mr. Pinkley's work at Casa Grande. As travel increased he became concerned because, by March of 1920, working alone still, he was not able to speak to every visitor; by the next month he was forced to cut down on trips to the outer compounds on busy days and concentrate just on Compound A. But guided trips for every visitor to the Casa Grande continued; by the 1930's Casa Grande National Monument was being used as a

laboratory for studies of visitor reaction and visitor flow in planning interpretation and museums for other southwestern National Monuments.

Two achievements remain to be recorded for 1919. A telephone was installed at the area, connecting with the switchboard at Florence, Arizona; many trips to town were saved, and a wire for Casa Grande National Monument would not have to wait on the next trip to Blackwater to pick up mail left by the stage from the town of Casa Grande. *And*, the fiscal year closed with \$499.60 of the \$500 allotment expended.

By the end of 1922 an adobe museum building had been constructed (prior to this the north room of the Casa Grande had to serve as a museum); local interest was being aroused toward contributing private collections of artifacts to the new museum. (The construction of the museum was matched by another unprecedented event—on March 12, 1922 two inches of snow fell at Casa Grande National Monument.)

In November Mr. Pinkley attended the conference at Yosemite National Park, and on his return submitted the first *Epitaph*, with cover letter dated November 28, 1922, to the Director. This typewritten forerunner of the 1932 mimeographed *Epitaph* and of the widely-distributed *Southwestern Monuments Reports* contained Pinkley's suggestion that people who came to the National Parks and Monuments be referred to as "visitors", instead of the currently used "dudes" and "tourists."

During 1923 the archaeological investigations which Mr. Pinkley had carried on since 1918 were aided by the recruitment of George L. Boundey, a free-lance photographer with some previous experience in mound excavation. Responsibilities at other National Monuments in the Southwest were taking more of Pinkley's time from Casa Grande; Mr. Boundey, who lived in a home made trailer house (possibly one of the country's first) at Florence, agreed he might as well live at the Ruins, and became the Boss's right-hand man.

In September Mr. Pinkley attended a symposium at Chaco Canyon, where Neil Judd was excavating Pueblo Bonita; Judd, Earl Morris of Aztec National Monument, and Pinkley discussed wall preservation—the first of the southwestern conferences on ruins stabilization. The next month, following Mather's request that Pinkley try to interest the Governor of Arizona in the deer problem on the north rim of the Grand Canyon and in Pipe Springs National Monument, a trip was made with Governor Hunt and state officials to those areas. Mr. Pinkley left the party in Utah and traveled to the National Park Service conference at Yellowstone National Park.

It was at this conference that Frank Pinkley was "put in charge of the national monuments of the Southwest", as he phrased it in his annual report for 1923; Mr. Demaray, writing on November 19th, referred to the change as "your new position as Superintendent of Southwestern Monuments." By this time the Custodian of Casa Grande National Monument had done protection work at Tumacacori and Montezuma Castle; inspected Chaco Canyon, El Morro, Petrified Forest, and Pipe Springs; contacted the Custodian of Aztec Ruins; and suggested (successfully) a custodian position for Gran Quivira. By the end of 1924, the roster of National Monuments under Mr. Pinkley's general supervision was to also include Navajo, Rainbow Bridge, Natural Bridges, Capulin, Wupatki, Hovenweep, Yucca House, Papago Saguaro, and the newest addition, Carlsbad Caverns. Official badges were sent to the areas fortunate enough to have a custodian on which to pin them; reports were being received from the custodians, many of them \$12 a year volunteers for the National Park Service. The Southwestern National Monuments were well on their way.

Mr. Pinkley served as both Custodian of Casa Grande National Monument and Superintendent of Southwestern National Monuments, until Hilding F. Palmer was appointed

Custodian of Casa Grande in July, 1931. Staffing and funds lagged away behind visitors and work; Mr. Boundey, placed in charge at Casa Grande by Mr. Pinkley during his absence in January, 1924 (and often thereafter), was promoted to the position of Assistant in January, 1927. In March of 1925 Pinkley reports to Director Mather that Casa Grande has handled as many visitors that winter as Mesa Verde National Park had the previous summer, and "we had to do it with two women on the job . . . next week I will have to go out on my summer work [to the other Southwestern National Monuments] and one man will have to swing the job here . . . You might make a note of this to show the Bureau of the Budget and the Appropriation Committee that the Monuments are under-financed."

Exactly two years later a third member was added to the Casa Grande staff, Francis Seagoe, Ranger. By the end of 1927 there is mention of "Mr. Rudy, our Clerk-Stenographer-Ranger." February of 1928 kept the staff very busy, installing a standardized bookkeeping and accounting system for the Southwestern National Monuments, and also guiding 2,452 visitors through the Casa Grande. Visitors were swiftly increasing, if staff and funds weren't. By 1929 Casa Grande National Monument showed a 297% increase in annual travel over 1925.

Arizona was growing in population; roads were becoming "highways" (there was even some pavement on transcontinental routes), with a Tucson Phoenix route which would border the Monument on the east and north by 1929; in 1925 tracks for the main line Southern Pacific railroad were being laid just east of the Monument; and the San Carlos Irrigation Project was becoming a reality. With the passage of the San Carlos Bill, in 1925, providing for a storage reservoir on the Gila (Coolidge Dam) and irrigation of both white and Indian land in this area, local people celebrated. Mr. Pinkley wrote, In his report for June, a prophecy which came true in his lifetime: "This irrigated district will surround our monument and the time may come when we will have the only bit of typical desert land in this part of the valley." [8]

Modern canal construction in the vicinity brought about a small change in the boundaries of the National Monument, the restoration to public domain of approximately eight acres of the southwestern corner, by Public Law No. 342, approved June 7, 1926. A later request for relinquishment of the northeast corner of the Monument brought Mr. Pinkley's objection, January 31, 1929, that, being directly on two well-traveled highways, this section would be filed on by some individual for personal profit; he suggested that the purpose of the Irrigation District would be better served by granting them a right-of-way through the northeast corner. This was done by Public Law No. 350, approved June 13, 1930.

The desert gods had two surprises for Casa Grande between December 1924 and September 1925—one good, one bad. The first was the discovery, beneath the uppermost floor level of one of the rooms in Compound A, of a remarkable cache of turquoise and shell, including some of the finest mosaic work yet found in the Southwest. The details were reported by Mr. Boundey to the Director on January 24, 1925. The second was a cloudburst on September 18th, which flooded the area of the new museum building and caused its complete collapse. The exhibits were saved, and reconstruction on the original foundations was started immediately. The rebuilt museum, incorporating the original roof beams and surviving fireplace, was completed by January, 1926; the cement foundation was carried up above the possible reach of future storm water, and the building is now a residence, having been converted when the present museum and administration building was constructed in 1931.

Fortunately for the prehistoric dirt walls, some of the long-awaited funds for their protection had come through before the 1925 rainy season. In December 1924 the project had begun, excavating along walls so that a drainage trench would be dug at their base, and concrete protection against "sapping" laid on the walls for some two feet below and above the old floor levels. The protected walls, and the drainage openings on Compound A stood up very well under the 1925 summer rains.

Compound B was to be, the next year, the scene of a proposed reenactment of Arizona prehistory, sponsored by the Arizona Pageantry Association. The project had many influential backers, and the pageant would undoubtedly attract much attention to the National Monument; but Mr. Pinkley approached the plan cautiously, writing Mr. Mather that he foresaw a lot of administrative problems. That was to prove an understatement. The whole story of the Pageants at Casa Grande National Monument is a subject for some future historian; many groups and personalities were involved; the physical problem of providing seating, parking, police protection, sanitary facilities, and lighting for an expected 10,000 people, where only one small picnic area existed, was staggering. It wasn't easy—but the first Pageant was given November 5, 6, and 7, 1926; [9] 13,000 people attended, and the occasion was so successful that the Association voted to make it an annual affair. (Mr. Pinkley had to miss the National Park Service conference later that month in Washington, however, writing that pressure of work and his "run-down physical condition" made it impossible to leave the southwest at that time). Probably a good many people, from Washington to Casa Grande, breathed a small sigh of relief when the Pageants were discontinued after 1930.

Between 1927 and 1931 two cooperative institutions made valuable contributions to the known prehistory of Casa Grande and vicinity. In February, 1927 Harold S. Gladwin, of the Southwest Museum, and his assistants set up camp at the National Monument and began two months of archaeological excavations in the area. The published report on this work was printed in 1928 as *Southwest Museum Papers*, Number Two, "Excavations at Casa Grande, Arizona", by Mr. Gladwin. In January, 1928, Gladwin also furnished funds for additional trenching in Compound B.

The Van Bergen-Los Angeles Museum Expedition excavated on the Monument, and at the nearby Grewe Site, during the winter and fall of 1930 and until February of 1931. A final report on the Monument excavations has not yet been made; the Grewe Site was reported by Arthur Woodward as *Occasional Papers*, No. 1 of the Los Angeles Museum of History, Science, and Art, (Woodward 1931), and in manuscript by Irwin Hayden as "Field Report on Major Antiquities, Grewe Site."

Stabilization of Casa Grande ruins was carried on during the winters of 1927 and 1928, for the latter period under the supervision of Martin Jackson of Montezuma Castle.

With 1929, what might be called the pioneer period of Casa Grande National Monument was coming to an end; a period of physical plant development was to begin in 1930 and continue throughout the Civil Works Administration—Civilian Conservation Corps years.

At the end of one era, it was fitting that the 1918 Ford, known as "Baby" the companion of the Pinkleys on many southwestern trips and much Park Service business, would leave Casa Grande, to be put to pasture at Petrified Forest National Monument. Baby used almost no gasoline, and for 92,000 miles of very rough service, had been only momentarily stopped by Chaco floods, Wupatki cinders, and Gran Quivira sandstorms. Just before retirement she had made the 360-mile trip to Montezuma Castle on "11 gallons and 1 pint of gas." As Mr. Pinkley wrote in his report for April, 1929, "it is a pretty good Ford for the shape it is in."

Until the 1930's (which started inauspiciously with the death, in January 1930, of "our beloved friend" Mr. Mather) the work at Casa Grande National Monument had been concentrated on the primary purposes of the National Park Service, as applied to the Southwestern National Monuments: protection and interpretation. The tradition of greeting and talking with every visitor had been established; vandalism had been stopped by presence of Park Service men who aroused the visitor's interest in the value of the ruins; the ancient walls had been stabilized to the limit of funds available; a museum building had been constructed and outfitted; archaeological and historical investigations had been carried on.

Housing was deficient; the ranger's quarters in April of 1928 consisted of one 8x12 room and a screened porch. By November of that year some money was available for construction, and a new residence was begun; after some delay, because plans had not been previously approved, the present quarters No. 3 was occupied. In April of 1929. A Monument sewer system was installed in 1930. In January, 1931 H. A. Kreinkamp and Tom Vint, of the San Francisco office, visited the area "in connection with the building program."

Contracts were let for drilling a new well; for construction of an administration-museum building (in July, 1931 the Superintendent, the Chief Clerk of the Southwestern National Monuments, and the Custodian of Casa Grande National Monument were all sharing one 12x12 office), two residences, a comfort station, and a tool and implement shop; and for fencing the north and east sides of the Monument (the south and west boundaries of the Monument were to be fenced later, in 1934, under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration).

Kreinkamp found 110 degrees in the shade too uncomfortable, and moved his headquarters to Petrified Forest for the summer, but construction work was completed by January, 1932. The Pinkleys and Palmers moved into new quarters, and the old Pinkley house in Compound A was used as ranger quarters until it was taken down in 1940. Work began on moving the museum collections and arranging exhibits in the new museum-administration building in February of 1932. That same month the surfacing of the entrance road, the entrance gateway, the fence, and the visitor parking area were completed.

The new, drilled well had struck a good flow of almost soft water at a depth of 188 feet; in July, 1931 the pump was delivering 12 gallons per minute; water could be piped to the camp and picnic grounds; a pressure system replaced the obsolete water tank and tower. It was thought the water problem of the area was solved.

The history of wells in this area is the history of the water table, tapped by more and more deep wells for crop irrigation. The first well on the Monument was dug in 1902; it is recalled that Mr. Pinkley said the water stood in this well at from 10 to 16 feet below the ground surface. A new well was dug during September and October of 1918, reaching water at 42 feet six inches. In May of 1925 it is reported that the water supply in this well is almost exhausted "after the drought of the last few years." The well was deepened three times in 1929, for a total of about five and one-half feet, but the water supply was still inadequate. The 186-foot well did solve the problem, for 21 years, until the post-World War II increase in irrigated land brought the water table beyond its reach. In 1952 the Monument well had to be abandoned and arrangements made to buy water from the Arizona Water Company. That company is now pumping from three wells to supply the needs of Coolidge, Arizona; as of June 1956 their newest well is 600 feet deep, and they are pumping from the 300-foot level. [10]

The headline achievement of 1932 was the construction of a new shelter over the Casa Grande. The roof of 1903 had kept rain from falling directly into the Great House, but badly needed repair by 1926. No one had ever approved of its appearance; as Mr. Pinkley wrote to Mr. Mather on August 12, 1926, in answer to a visiting architect's criticism, "The most artistic roof we could put over Casa Grande would be none at all. It is not art we are after, it is protection." But hopes were high in 1931 for a new shelter which would better satisfy both protective and artistic needs; the old roof had been damaged by high winds in June of 1930, and the money had been allotted for a new roof. This allotment had to be transferred, in September 1931, to cover forest fire expenses in some of the National Parks; but reserve funds were made available in 1932. A design was approved, the contract was let to Allen Brothers of Los Angeles, and construction of the shelter began September 19. The old roof was no sooner removed than it began to rain, and the Casa Grande got wet for the first time

in 29 years; but once again "the desert gods were with us", and, although there were cloudbursts nearby, only a light rain fell on the Great House. National Park Service Engineer E. A. Nickel supervised the project, a temporary roof was erected to protect the Casa Grande during construction, and the \$27,724 steel, concrete, and ??trasisite canopy was completed in December of 1932.

With the Casa Grande itself sheltered, attention again was directed to the problem of protecting the outer, exposed ruin walls. During the early 1930's a great deal of research and experimentation, both by commercial companies and the National Park Service, was done on water-proofing materials which could be sprayed on the walls. There had been a lag, but the 1918 recommendation for a study of wall-hardeners was being acted on. Experiments with compounds available at the time proved discouraging; stabilization of caliche walls went back to the prevention of "ground sapping", with some notably successful work in the 1940's on capping the walls with coats of caliche (the protection the original builders had used). A variation of the wall-hardener spray now offers some hope, with the advent of silicone sprays; experiments, still in their early stages on Casa Grande caliche, tend to show that silicone compounds will not harden a wall, but will retard moisture penetration, while allowing evaporation from within the wall.

In August 1933 word was received that Public Works Program funds would be available; the Public Works Administration, Civil Works Administration, and Federal Emergency Relief Administration programs brought a flurry of planning and work to Southwestern National Monument headquarters and several worthwhile projects to Casa Grande National Monument.

Custodian Palmer insisted on first priority for ruins stabilization. In Compound A, the earlier project of building curtain walls at the bases of ruin walls was furthered, and the compound was graded to provide better drainage away from the ruins.

A research project was approved, using Civil Works Administration laborers. An archaeological site in the southeast quarter of the Monument, predating the Casa Grande, was excavated under the direction of Russell Hastings of Gila Pueblo. Work was carried on from December 11, 1933 until February 15, 1934. Field notes, plans, and a catalog of artifacts covering the excavation are in the Monument library; a "Report of Archaeological Excavations at Casa Grande National Monument under Civil Works Administration Program 1934", by Russell Hastings was mimeographed as part of the Supplement to the March 1934 *Monthly Report*. [[11](#)]

A residence, present quarters No. 4, was completed by July 1934.

By 1937 Casa Grande National Monument had received permission for a 50-man Civilian Conservation Corps side camp, 200 miles from the base camp at Chiricahua National Monument. The Army responsibility for the welfare of the boys was transferred to Custodian Albert T. Bicknell, who had come to the Monument in 1936 from a District Ranger-ship at Yellowstone, via Craters of the Moon National Monument. The boys prospered, and the Monument prospered.

Before the camp was recalled in 1940, the Civilian Conservation Corps had assisted in guiding visitors and in the Southwestern National Monuments Naturalist's office, and accomplished the following construction projects: the warehouse, equipment stalls, gas and oil house, repair and blacksmith shop, walls enclosing the utility area, an underground power line for Southwestern National Monuments headquarters; and a pump house and addition to quarters No. 6 for the National Monument.

With extra manpower on the Monument, an experiment in entrance fee collecting was tried,

and the Monument staff assisted in transporting museum materials and exhibits for other Southwestern National Monuments. The collection of an entrance fee, at the Monument gate, 8/10 of a mile from the ruin and visitor center, was found to take three man weeks every week; with the loss of CCC help, it was infeasible to continue the experiment. A fee charge had been applied to eight Southwestern National Monuments in May, 1939, by Order of the Secretary of the Interior. After trying entrance fee collecting later in that year, the designation at Casa Grande National Monument was changed to "guide Fee", enabling the small National Park Service staff to combine protective, interpretive, and collection duties at one center.

In 1940 a conference of Southwestern National Monument Custodians was scheduled for Casa Grande National Monument; it was to be the first time the men from the 27 areas of four states would all gather in one place. While addressing the opening conference session, on February 14th, Frank Pinkley died. The Boss left a solid foundation of accomplishments, and a feeling for the National Park Service and the Southwestern National Monuments that will live in all of his "outfit."

The Casa Grande has seen a steady, healthy increase in visitors since then; the Monument has met, and solved, many problems of the changing times—while adhering to the basic principles of administration as they were developed during its pioneer period.

During the late 1930's a need for developing separate Monument files, library, and Fact File aids was seen; much of the early correspondence on which this history is based was saved from a records disposal program. The building of the Monuments records paid off when the Southwestern National Monument headquarters moved away in the fall of 1942, leaving the Monument completely on its own for the first time since the 1920's.

The period of World War II, with its shortages in National Park Service funds and in manpower (Casa Grande National Monument had three women Park Rangers in succession), saw Casa Grande survive with only one major casualty—ruin stabilization. Funds for protection of the weathering dirt walls continued to be lacking, until a statement, as blunt as that of the 1918 annual report on Casa Grande's needs, "either get some work done on these walls, or let's cover them up and forget about them! " brought stabilization money back to the Monument.

Visitor services have continued to include the guided trip through the Casa Grande; museum improvements have been made whenever money and staffing permitted; because of changing travel patterns the former campground has been converted to a smaller picnic area, primarily for the use of daytime Monument visitors, rather than a recreational area for the growing nearby community. The Casa Grande is now one of the most easily accessible Indian ruins of the Southwest, and, with the growing percentage of older visitors (retired people wintering in southern Arizona), the planning is to maintain that accessibility.

The physical plant of the Monument has been improved with its tie-in to commercial power, and water, and to natural gas mains.

As the seventh centennial of the Great House approaches, 20th century thought is still concerned with its future; it may one day find itself again standing directly under the desert sun protected from the elements by an air-conditioned bubble of transparent plastic.

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writing of this paper (in 1956, as a National Park Service "Area History") would not have been possible without Superintendent Albert T. Bicknell's past care in preserving early Monument records and his administrative and personal support of the project. References not available at the Monument were found in the National Archives by National Park Service Archeologist Albert H. Schroeder. Newspaper clippings were furnished by Joseph Miller of Phoenix. Spanish sources were seen at the Amerind Foundation through the courtesy of Director C. C. DiPeso.

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



NOTES

¹In 1960 the annual visitor count was up to 76,924.

²Estimates on miles of canals built range from 135 to 300, on population from 50,000 to 300,000.

³Bancroft wrote that Padre Keller visited the Casa Grande in 1736, but his diary was not extant, nor was Sedelmair's. Recent translations of Sedelmair's writings show that his description of Casa Grande was almost a paraphrase of that of Manje; Sedelmair very possibly visited the ruin about 1744, but left no original observations on it. Similarly, the description in the *Rudo Ensayo* of 1762 seems to have drawn heavily on earlier sources.

⁴The passage in question is ". . . de manera que estan las paredes encaladas y lisas con un barro algo colorado . . ."

⁵This portion of the Font journal shows that he said his daily Mass in camp, before visiting the Casa Grande. It was Fewkes (1913: 91) who named the standing wall east of the Casa Grande as part of "Font's Room", in honor of the ruin mapping done by the Padre; the idea that Font said Mass at Casa Grande, or in Font's Room, seems to have no foundation in primary sources. Fewkes speculates that Font's Room may have been the one used when Father Kino celebrated Mass at the Casa Grande in 1697.

⁶On February 20, 1893 General Land Office Assistant Commissioner W. W. Rose wrote to the Secretary of the Interior that the reserve of Casa Grande had been placed under the control of the Bureau of Ethnology and he suggested that the Custodian send his monthly reports to that Bureau (National Archives, Tray 166C, Item No. 401). Carbon copies of reports as late as 1918 (NPS; Casa Grande National Monument Administration) are on the General Land Office form for "abandoned military reservation"—this may have been only an economical use of outmoded forms for the area file copy.

⁷This request was later formalized; when Mr. Cammerer transmitted Pinkley's next appointment paper in July 1919, he wrote "your designation as Custodian of Tumacacori National Monument is continued in force under this appointment."

⁸Unfortunately, this "typical Desert" valley scene did not last much past Mr. Pinkley's lifetime: the mesquite trees, whose deep tap roots could no longer reach the fast-sinking water table, died in the 1940's.

⁹This almost obscured another event of importance, the establishment of a Post Office at Coolidge, Arizona, where the Southern Pacific RR now delivered the mail within one and one-half miles of the National Monument.

¹⁰In 1961, three city wells are pumping from the 320, 350, and 320 foot levels; one well has

been drilled to a depth of 1100 feet.

¹¹In 1959-60 an analysis of the available materials and information recovered from these excavations was made by J. R. Ambler (Ambler 1961: 52-165).

<<< [Previous](#)

<<< [Contents](#)>>>

[Next](#) >>>

CASA GRANDE RUINS

The History of Casa Grande Ruins National Monument



REFERENCES

Ambler, J.R.

1961 Archaeological Survey and Excavations at Casa Grande National Monument. Arizona. MS, master's thesis, University of Arizona, Tucson.

Bandelier, A.F.

1892 Final Report of Investigations among the Indians of the Southwestern United States, Part II, *Papers of the Archaeological Institute of America, American Series IV*. Cambridge.

Bernal, C.M.

1856 Relacion del Estado de la Pimeria, Que Remite el Padre Visitador Horacio Polici por el Ano de 1697. Documentos para la Historia de Mexico, Serie III, Tomo IV. Mexico, D.F. Trans. by Dan Matson from microfilm on file at Amerind Foundation.

Bolton, H.E.

1948 *Kino's Historical Memoir of Pimeria Alta*. University of California Press, Berkeley.

Browne, J. R.

1869 *Adventures in the Apache Country*. Harper, New York.

Breazeale, J. F. and H. E. Smith

1930 Caliche in Arizona. *University of Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 131*. Tucson.

Coues, Elliott

1900 *On the Trail of a Spanish Pioneer: The Diary and Itinerary of Francisco Garces*, Vol. 1. Francis P. Harper, New York.

Emory, W. H.

1948 Notes of a Military Reconnaissance from Fort Leavenworth, in Missouri, to San Diego, in California. *30 Congress, 1st Session, Ex. Doc. 41*. Washington, D.C.

Fewkes, J. W.

1912 Casa Grande, Arizona. *Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, pp. 25-180. Washington, D. C.

Gladwin, H. S.

1928 Excavations at Casa Grande, Arizona, February 12—May 1, 1927. *Southwest Museum Papers*, No. 2. Los Angeles.

Gladwin, H. S., E. W. Haury, E. B. Sayles, and Nora Gladwin

1937 Excavations at Snaketown: Material Culture. *Medallion Papers*, No. 25. Gila Pueblo, Globe.

Haury, E. W.

1945 The Excavation of Los Muerros and Neighboring Ruins in the Salt River Valley, Southern Arizona. *Papers of the Peabody, Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology*, Vol. 24, No. 1. Cambridge.

1950 *The Stratigraphy and Archaeology of Ventana Cave, Arizona*. University of Arizona and University of New Mexico Press, Tucson and Albuquerque.

Manje, J. M.

1954 *Luz de Tierra Incognito*. Part 2. Trans. by H. J. Karns. Arizona Silhouettes, Tucson.

Kino, E. F.

1711 Las Misiones de Sonora y Arizona Comprendiendo: La Cronica Titulada: "Favores Celestiales" y la Relacion Diaria de la Entrada al Norueste"??quotemarks pot el Padre Eusebio Maria Kino (Kune). *Archivo General de la Nacion*, Vol. VIII. 1913-1922. Mexico, D. F.

Larson, A.

1926 Map of Prehistoric Canal System, Gila Valley. Arizona State Museum, Tucson.

Mindeleff, Cosmos

1896 Casa Grande Ruin. *Thirteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, pp. 289-319. Washington, D. C.

1897 The Repair of Casa Grande Ruin, Arizona, in 1891. *Fifteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, pp. 315-349. Washington, D. C.

National Archives

1888-1915 Record Group 79. Washington, D. C.

National Park Service

1917-1930 Administration, Casa Grande National Monument, 1917-1930. (Early correspondence and reports saved from old files) Casa Grande National Monument Library.

1918-1926 Annual Reports—Travel Figures, Casa Grande National Monument, 1918-1926. Casa Grande National Monument Library.

1918-1926 General Files, Casa Grande National Monument.

1918-1956 Monthly Reports to the Director (From Sept. 1931 through Dec. 1943 these were mimeographed and distributed as part of the "Southwestern Monuments Monthly Reports").

Pinkley, Frank

1920 Casa Grande National Monument Visitors Handbook. MS, National Park Service, Southwest Archaeological Center library. Globe.

1935 Casa Grande Ruins Talk. MS, transcript of recorded talk, National Park Service, Southwest Archaeological Center library. Globe.

Schroeder, A. H.

1940 A Stratigraphic Survey of Pre-Spanish Trash Mounds of the Salt River Valley, Arizona. MS, master's thesis. University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

1947 Did the Sinagua of the Verde Valley Settle in the Salt River Valley? *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology*, Vol. 3, No. 3, pp. 230-46. Albuquerque.

1943 Letter to Hiroshi Daifuku, dated December 7, 1953, National Park Service, Southwest Archaeological Center library. Globe.

1957 Memorandum to Superintendent, Casa Grande National Monument, dated Jan. 7, 1957. National Park Service, Southwest Archaeological Center files. Globe.

Shankland, Robert
1951 *Steve Mather of the National Parks*. Knopf, New York.

Vandiver, V. W.
1935 Notes on the Geology near Casa Grande National Monument. MS, Casa Grande National Monument library. Casa Grande.

Woodward, Arthur
1931 The Grewe Site, Gila Valley, Arizona. *Los Angeles Museum of History, Science, and Art, Occasional Papers* No. 1. Los Angeles.

[<<< Previous](#) [<<< Contents >>>](#)