



MEMORANDUM

Date: January 15, 2015

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Canoa Ranch Report: July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014**

Attached is a January 6, 2015 report from the Canoa Ranch Manager regarding activities at Canoa Ranch over the last six months. As you can see, Canoa Ranch is increasingly utilized by the community for a number of public events.

Restoration of the historic elements of Canoa Ranch continues, and the property is an integral component of the County's public recreation system.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Chris Cawein, Director, Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation
Linda Mayro, Director, Office of Sustainability and Conservation
Robert Vaughn, Canoa Ranch Manager, Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 6, 2015

To: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator
John Bernal
Deputy County Administrator

From: Robert Vaughn, Canoa Ranch Manager
Special Projects and Trades Division Manager

Subject: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa Construction
and Program Update

July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

The restoration of the Historic Canoa Ranch and the development of visitor programming is ongoing through the dedicated efforts of county staff, community volunteers, and an amazing degree of public interest. Many improvements to the Historic Hacienda de la Canoa (HHdLC) buildings have been undertaken and are nearing completion. The volunteer program continues to expand and attract new volunteers to help restore the buildings and tell the story of the ranch to an increasing number of visitors.

The last of the funding from the ASARCO settlement and Canoa Ranch budgeted funds have been used to hire Weber Water Resources to rehabilitate the in ground well structure in preparation for future use. Work completed the fall of 2014 includes video, clean-out, swab and bail, installation of a new 10-inch casing, install new cement seal and well pad, and test pump at 200-300 gpm. The below ground improvements to the structure of the well has been completed and the above ground infrastructure will be installed later as funding is available.

Many individuals have made modest donations for the restoration as well as donating artifacts to be displayed at the ranch. The Canoa Ranch Conservation fund continues to accept donations from visitors, other interested individuals, and community groups. Donated ranch related artifacts are on display in the historic buildings.

Adobe Wall Maintenance

The severe monsoon weather this year affected the plaster on some of the courtyard walls and buildings. Pieces of the plaster approximately 5 feet on each side failed and fell off the buildings. NRPR staff, together with community volunteers, used their expertise in adobe restoration and preservation to make repairs as soon as the weather allowed. NRPR staff continues the basic repair and maintenance of the adobe walls and building structures.

The southwest corner of the utility building has been rebuilt to correct a design flaw that was allowing the cement door header to sag and crack. Original construction methods contributed to the on-going collapse of the southwest adobe corner of the tack room. A support beam was constructed and installed

to support the header structure during the repairs. The issue was the corner adobe bricks were not interlaced but stacked side by side which allowed the wall to bow out and gravity pulled the heavy cement beam down.

- The old adobe bricks were cut out and the surrounding bricks removed so the reinstallation of adobe bricks is interlaced correctly.
- A steel support pole was installed inside the exposed wall to support the south west concrete garage door header.
- New adobe bricks have been installed, along with a new coat of lime plaster, and lime wash.
- At the same corner of the utility building, a new wooden support post setting on a new concrete footer will be installed to help support the southeast corner of the utility shed structure.

Restoration work on Howell Manning Jr./Schnauffer Residence

Interpretive Signage and Oral Histories

New interpretative signage has been developed as new or additional information is discovered about the history of the ranch. Through personal interviews conducted by NRPR staff additional information has become known detailing Bill and Clare (Manning) Schnauffer's life at the ranch. Howell Sr. and his wife Evelyn sold the remaining ranch holdings to Bill and Clare (Manning) Schnauffer in 1961. They took over the ranching operations and raised award-winning cattle and horses.

Courtyard Gates and Garden Restoration

SPT staff completed the restoration on the two courtyard gates on the Howell Manning/Schnauffer House. Work has started on restoring the interior courtyard garden in a cooperative project with the Green Valley Garden Club. SPT staff have removed the flagstone walk and approximately 2 inches of dirt that has accumulated over the years. A new flagstone walk will be installed after the irrigation system is in place for the new garden layout. The landscape design work for the garden is an SPT, NPN, and GVGC cooperative project.

South Bedrooms

NRPR Special Projects and Trades division staff and community volunteers have completed a large portion of the restoration of the interior of the two south bedrooms in this building. The work was undertaken to make the space available for displaying artifacts from the future donation of the George Redondo Proctor Collection. The work to date includes the following:

- Concrete floors stripped and cleaned
- Damaged concrete due to carpet tack strip from earlier remodeling filled and sanded smooth
- Primed and repainted floors with same color as found under past carpeting
- Stripped paint from all of the woodwork trim in both bedrooms
- Refinished wood trim (Mexican cedar) using natural period appropriate finishing materials
- Restored the two bedroom entry doors, Two closet, and two bathroom doors (Mexican cedar) to natural period appropriate finishing materials
- Repaired damage to north west bedroom ceiling (damage caused by earlier restoration inspection cut-outs)
- Installed attic access door in north west bedroom
- Repainted walls in both bedrooms

- Stripped walls in glassed-in Arizona room, repaired plaster below the ceiling line, and re-painted green walls
- Refinished wood work trim in the glassed-in Arizona room to a natural period appropriate finishing materials

Risk Management GAP Analysis and Safety Improvements

Repairs and other safety upgrades have been completed as noted by Risk Management personnel. Work included placing appropriate fire extinguishers in the historic buildings, maintenance area electrical and lighting upgrades, reducing trip hazards, and adding additional safety signage throughout the historic site. New hardened paths have been added to the entrance area to improve visitor ADA access.

Anza Day Interpretive Display

An extensive interpretive display detailing the La Canoa connection to the 1776 de Anza Expedition has been installed in the Grain Room. The twelve Anza interpretive panels were funded in part by a grant (\$2500.00) from the National Park Service with additional funding from NRPR GeoMedia Division and Canoa Ranch general funds. The displays detailing the colonists and the expedition were developed and produced by NRPR GeoMedia staff.

The Anza expedition settlers, with their military escorts and support workers (vaqueros mule packers and Indian guides) comprised a group of about 240 people and more than 1,000 head of livestock traveled from Tubac to the area that is now San Francisco. Led by Juan Bautista de Anza, the people, their supplies and livestock resembled a traveling town making its way through the desert. Spain's goal was to establish the first colony in a place they called *el río de San Francisco*. Anza's goal was to safely deliver the settlers to the San Francisco bay area and establish a Spanish colony on the west coast of the continent.

Installation of the additional interpretive displays describing the Anza Expedition along the east berm trail and the Anza Expedition interpretative display in the Grain Room and under the porch of the Utility Building now enhance the visitor experience. NRPR GeoMedia staff produced the interpretative materials including arranging for period correct Anza Expedition clothing and equipment displayed on three mannequins.

Landscape Improvements

- Canoa Ranch staff working cooperatively with staff for the Native Plant Nursery (NPN) have replanted the fruit orchard located south of the Howell Manning Senior house.
- The landscape plan for the orchard and required irrigation system were designed by Jessie Byrd, NPN manager. Canoa staff and NPN staff planted the trees and installed the drip irrigation system.
- Trees planted include the following: Malus "Anna" (apple), Malus "Dorsett Golden" (apple), Prunus persica "Red Barron" (peach), Prunus persica "Stark Saturn" (peach), Pyrus pyrifolia "20th Century" (Pear), Pyrus salicina "Santa Rosa" (plum), Pyrus salicina "Inca" (plum), Ficus carica "Black Mission" (Fig), Citrus Kumquat Fukushu, and Citrus Orange Valencia Dwarf.
- The tree species were selected for their compatibility with soil, weather, and growing season at Canoa Ranch as well as documentation from the Canoa Ranch Master Plan identifying historic plantings at the ranch.
- New picnic tables have been installed in the mesquite grove north of the Forman's House to improve the visitor experience. To date, several large guided tour groups have used the picnic area for lunch after their tour.

Expanded programs and activities

- Tour and special event planning continued through December of 2014. Tour schedules and other special event schedules were adjusted to meet public demand.
- Guided and self-guided tours were scheduled on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
- Special tours were scheduled for special interest groups.
- Restoration tours were scheduled every other Wednesday.
- New subject matter tours and activities are under development by NRPR staff, the Green Valley Garden Club, the Anza Trail Riders, and other organizations.
- The second annual Anza Day event was held at Canoa Ranch on October 26, 2014. The Raúl M. Grijalva Canoa Ranch Conservation Park, or Canoa Ranch as it is commonly known, is the newest addition to the month of Anza Days commemorations in the Santa Cruz River Heritage Area. The second annual Anza Day took place Sunday, October 26, at the Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, the former headquarters for the ranch. During Anza Day, Pima County unveiled a new permanent exhibit at the Historic Hacienda focusing on the families of the Anza Expedition, made possible by county funding and in part by the support of the National Park Service.

Presentations to the Public:

- Presentations were given to the public on the following dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Presentation to:</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Approx. no. of guests</u>
9/20/14	Canoa Ranch	10:30 am	Anza Club	Santa Fe Ranch, Nogales, AZ	21
10/14/14	Canoa Ranch	9:00 am	OLLI (classroom)	Met Life Insurance, GV	40
10/07/14	Canoa Ranch	9:45 am	La Posada group	La Posada Community Center, GV	27
10/07/14	Canoa Ranch	11:00 am	P.E.O Chapter	La Posada Campus (2 nd Fl). GV	55
10/28/14	Canoa Ranch	8:30 am	OLLI (classroom)	Continental School, GV	23
12/10/14	Canoa Ranch	7.30 am	Rio Rico Rotary Club	El Splendor Resort, Rio Rico	20
12/19/14	Canoa Ranch	11:00 am	DAR (GV)	La Posada, Perla Building	40

The number of visitors to the Historic Hacienda de la Canoa during the 2013-2014 fiscal year along with the numbers of donated labor hours by Tour Volunteers and Special Project Volunteers are listed below:

- Public Tour/special event Attendance – 1338 (July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014)
- Guided Tour Participants – 609 (July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014)
- Walk-in Self-Guided Visitation – 301 (July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014)
- Volunteer Tour Guide Hours – 312.5 (July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014)
- Special Project Volunteer Hours – 221. (July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014)

NRPR staff continued to expand the volunteer programs at the HHdIC during 2013-2014. Community involvement continues to increase. The improved volunteer programs have generated additional interest and good community feedback.

Tour and event planning for the 2014-2015 fiscal year

Guided Tour of Hacienda de la Canoa

- A walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters to gain insights into the fascinating stories of the people that lived and worked on the ranch. Visit the historic ranch buildings and corrals and enjoy scenic views of the Santa Cruz River Valley. Reservations required.
- Tuesdays and Saturdays throughout the winter visitor season. The schedule was adjusted during the summer season to accommodate lower demand for tours and self-guided visitors.
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Outdoor Family: Bats & Bugs

- Bring the family out for a fantastic show-and-tell under the open skies at Florida Canyon. UA biologists Carl Olson and Ronnie Sidner will give us a glimpse into the amazing world of arthropods and bats and the important roles they play in the environment. Children ages 5-12 and their families. Reservations required.
- Scheduled at Canoa Ranch several times during the year

Heritage Area Structures Rehabilitation Tour

- Architectural preservationist Simon Herbert will discuss the processes and materials used for the rehabilitation of the structures at Historic Hacienda de la Canoa as he leads this behind-the-scenes tour. Participants will also learn about the work that has transformed the structures from deteriorating ruins to functional buildings. Reservations required.
- Every other Wednesday through the visitor season. Once per month during the summer months.

Star Gazing Tour - a Night with the Stars

- Explore the wonder and unfold the mysteries of the night sky. Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association volunteers provide an introduction to the night sky and set up telescopes for celestial viewing. Feel free to bring your lawn chair. Weather permitting.

Special Events held during the 2014-2015 fiscal year

During five days in July, NRPR Recreation Centers brought summer youth program participants to the ranch for a day of ranch related activities. A special Stargazing at Canoa Ranch was also held and well attended.

On Saturday, September 13, 2014, the Kick In for Anza at Canoa Ranch event took place at the HHdIC. This fundraiser luncheon is hosted by BAJA Sporting Club in partnership with Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation. Activities at the event included; a self-guided tour, visiting information booths, talks with members of the Anza Trail Color Guard, a lecture by a Heritage scholar, and lunch with entertainment. Donations were used to fund the Anza Trail Color Guard's participation in the White Elephant Parade in Green Valley on October 25, 2014 and the Second Annual Anza Day at Canoa Ranch on October 26, 2014.

On October 26, 2014, the second Anza Day event was held at Canoa Ranch. The event brought 549 visitors to the HHdIC during the Sunday event. At the start of the event, Jerry Carlyle, Vice-Chairman of the San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation blessed the event and site in a very moving traditional ceremony. The Anza Riders rode into the central courtyard in full costume and spoke to the gathered spectators about the Anza Expedition and life in Spanish Colonial Mexico. Additional tours were available during the day. Informational and educational tables were placed inside the Howell Manning Junior House with representatives including the Friends of Canoa, Tubac Presidio, Tumacacori National Monument, the Anza Coalition of Arizona, Rio Rico Chamber of Commerce, BAJA Sports Group, Have Some Fun, FICO, Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, and others.

Three Heritage Scholars, arranged by Dawn Morely, also presented lectures that were well attended. The Power from the Past members and their vintage tractors and other equipment were right at home under the Equipment Shed and the Green Valley Gardeners talked about their work at the ranch along with tips on vegetation in this area. Everyone at the event loved the baby animals with their young owners from the Green Valley/Sahuarita 4-H Club.

The third Anza Day event has been scheduled at Canoa Ranch on October 25, 2015.

Public Outreach

NRPR staff have been working to promote Canoa Ranch to increase public awareness of the site and increase attendance numbers. Staff have answered questions and distributed publications at:

- Fiesta Sahuarita - 10,000 in attendance
- Tucson Meet Yourself – thousands in attendance
- 2014 Sahuarita Pecan Festival - 25,000 in attendance
- La Fiesta de Anza at Las Lagunas near Nogales

Historic Canoa Ranch will participate in the 2015 Business Expo/Taste of the Valley event at Desert Diamond Casino hosted by GV/Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce.

Public Private Proposals

An initial review of the Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce September 2015 - International Rodeo Event Plan has been completed. County staff are waiting for a response to organizational questions forwarded to the organizers.

Donations of artifacts to the Historic Hacienda de la Canoa

Vern Butler, one of the Canoa Ranch volunteers, has donated his life-long collection of antique tools and has worked on building the display fixtures for them. They have been installed in the tool room next to the Blacksmith's Building. The tools and Vern's explanation of their uses were a great attraction at Anza Day.

Small artifacts continue to be donated to the historic site. Items received this fall include a sewing cabinet and hard wood bench circa 1930s, additional antique hand tools, and other ranch related items.

Cash Donations 2013 - 2014

Visitors and other interested individuals and groups have donated \$869.00 to the Canoa Conservation Fund (2351) July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014. A donation total of \$2,682.36 has been received since the donation box was installed at the ranch on February 5, 2014.

Efforts will be made to increase donations with a focus on raising funding to cover electrical and plumbing repairs to the Howell Manning Jr./Schnauffer Residence. This building has the greatest potential for hosting events such as weddings, meetings, presentations, etc. that will generate revenue.

In recent communications with the Friends of Canoa Heritage Foundation, the president indicated that the organization is not currently interested in meeting with NRPR regarding cooperative efforts and that they do not plan to do fund raising. Given this loss of momentum in the group, other options will be

explored to raise critical funds for projects at the ranch and to build matching funds for the upcoming bond election.

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of Historic Hacienda de la Canoa at the Raúl M. Grijalva Canoa Ranch Conservation Park. NRPR staff and community volunteers are all looking forward to future developments at this special site.

Robert Vaughn
Canoa Ranch Manager
NRPR Special Projects and Trades Division Manager

Cc: Chris Cawein, NRPR Director