

Introduction

HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES:  
BUILDING CONDITIONS  
ASSESSMENT REPORTS AND  
CERTAIN CONSTRUCTION  
DOCUMENTS  
POSTER FROST ASSOCIATES -  
WINTER/SPRING 2004



The architectural resources at Canoa Ranch are centered around the Canoa Ranch Headquarters, a collection of buildings and ranch features recently nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. In the great variety of architectural resources present at the Ranch Headquarters, there is a remarkable cohesiveness to the complex based on a uniformity of materials, scale, texture, color and the repetition of architectural features, including shed roofs with tree trunk posts.

In the layout of the site, there is a clear distinction between the Mexican vernacular buildings to the southwest and the architect-designed ranch houses to the northeast. Most of the buildings and site walls are adobe, reflecting the strong Sonoran influence throughout the complex.

For each of the 10 buildings outlined in this report, a preservation matrix is included that illustrates the significance and integrity of the major architectural features of each building. Many of the buildings display a high degree of integrity and possess many original features. At the same time, the condition of several of the buildings is compromised by neglect and lack of maintenance. Currently, several projects are underway to stabilize portions of the complex that are the most compromised. Two buildings, 103 and 105, are scheduled for more extensive rehabilitations later this year. A comprehensive preservation plan, including direction on the periodic maintenance of adobe should be completed with the stabilization plans currently being developed.

Building descriptions included in this report were borrowed from the National Register Nomination prepared by Scott O'Mack and

Janet Parkhurst and building condition assessment reports prepared by Poster Frost Associates. Both resources provide additional descriptions and historical information that are not covered in this report.

Literature Cited in the Architectural Resources Section

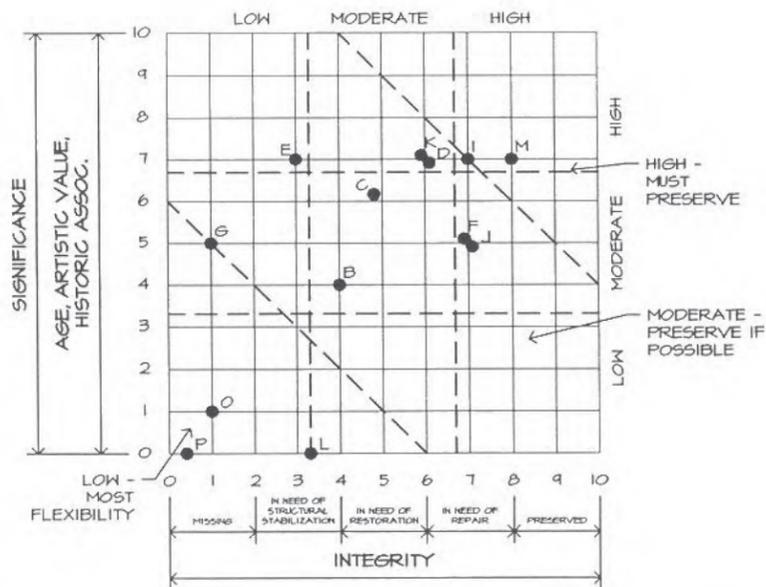
2003 National Register of Historic Places Registration for Canoa Ranch (AZ DD:4:74 [ASM]). Scott O'Mack and Janet Parkhurst. Prepared for Pima County Archaeology and Historic Preservation Department, Tucson.  
2004 Building Assessment Reports for 10 Buildings at Canoa Ranch. Poster Frost Associates. Prepared for Pima County.

## Building 105 Employee's House

This employee's cottage of approximately 1,000 square feet includes a living room, kitchen, office, bedroom, and bathroom. It is sited as a stand-alone structure among the landscape some 100 yards to the west of the main headquarters complex. The stuccoed adobe wall surfaces are capped by a vernacular cross-gabled corrugated metal roof. The structure is "transitional" in that it fuses vernacular adobe wall technology with Euroamerican mass-production elements such as wood truss roof framing, metal roofing, and wood windows and doors. Two ample porches are a large part of the romantic appeal of the cottage giving interest to the form, shading the interior of the building, and creating sheltered outdoor areas. Heavy masonry piers and knee walls convey a feeling that the porches have been carved out of the mass of adobe walls. A substantial chimney with stepped trunk anchors the south elevation. Interiors are plaster walls, finished concrete floors, and board-and-batten ceilings. Planning of the interior is done in a variation of the Hispanic tradition of stringing "unspecialized" single rooms together in a linear process. (Description from PFA Assessment, 2004.) *NOTE: Building 105 is scheduled to undergo a rehabilitation project in 2006 and will serve as a caretaker's residence.*



View looking northeast from the southwest  
Photo courtesy of Poster Frost Associates, 2004



- B. FOUNDATIONS
- C. EXTERIOR WALLS
- D. EXTERIOR DOORS
- E. EXTERIOR WINDOWS
- F. ROOF FRAMING
- G. ROOFING
- I. PORCHES / EAVES
- J. INTERIOR WALLS
- K. INTERIOR DOORS
- L. FLOORING
- M. CEILING
- O. BUILT-INS
- P. INSULATION AND WEATHER STRIPPING

Preservation Matrix  
Courtesy of Poster Frost Associates, 2004

