

# A Story of Arizona Told in 100 Buildings

HOW THE  
GRAND CANYON STATE  
HAPPENED



CRUDEN BAY BOOKS

# INTRODUCTION

If those walls could talk...this is what they would say. A story of Arizona.

Cattle...retirement communities...the "Bandit Queen"...iron horses...kissing bridges...sugar beets...border inspection stations...fire towers...the CCC...range wars...horse racing...kit houses...the golden age of motoring...irrigation canals...early aviation...the rise of suburbia...metal dams...Buffalo soldiers...trading posts...spring training...Frank Lloyd Wright...movie sets...stringer bridges...This book will have you telling stories like a native in no time.

The photos and stories collected here are a fast and fun way to learn the explanations behind the quirks, the traditions and the secrets that make Arizona uniquely Arizona. Why is it always 11:44 in Florence? Solved. What was the largest tract of real estate ever sold in Arizona? A mystery no more. What Arizona airport did flying legend Charles Lindbergh design? Identified. The oldest resort in Arizona? Revealed.

Imagine a group of settlers arriving in an undeveloped location. First come shelters in which to live and then structures in which to work and shop. There are buildings for worship and education. As the community grows government buildings are required. With prosperity comes places in which to spend leisure time. And each step along the way builds a story only Arizona can call its own. That story is all around you in the buildings you can see on Arizona streets. A story told in 100 buildings.

Almost all of the selections within are open to the public, or at least visible from public spaces. So, if you haven't seen these landmarks in person, fire up your GPS and get out and see the story of the Grand Canyon State standing in plain sight on Arizona streets!

**A STORY OF ARIZONA TOLD IN 100 BUILDINGS  
...HOW THE GRAND CANYON STATE HAPPENED**

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# Oraibi Pueblo

Kykotsmovi Village

1100s



The Hopi village may or may not be the oldest continuously inhabited community in the United States. Spanish explorers stumbled into the pueblo in the early 1500s but contact was mostly non-existent for the next 100 years until a mission was established at Oraibi in 1629. In the 1890s the villagers were split by conflicting opinions on the value of maintaining a rigid adherence to Hopi traditions and those open to the American way of life. The "Oraibi Split" in 1906 did not work to the pueblo's favor. Old Oraibi's place at the center of Hopi culture moved on with much of its population; those who remained set the standard for upholding Hopi customs that continues to this day.

# White House Ruin

Canyon de Chelly

1100s



The Puebloans built masonry cliff dwellings in caves and recesses in the canyon walls overlooking their farms in this valley. Today the Canyon de Chelly has surrendered more than 2,500 archeological sites including a handful of expansive dwellings scraped out of the volcanic tuft cliffs. The White House Ruin is the most dramatic and best known. The canyons were abandoned by the mid-1300s as the Puebloans sought out a better life on top of the mesa. Later, Navajo raiders made use of the shelters. The Canyon de Chelly remains an active Navajo community inside a dedicated national monument, carrying on the traditions that stretch back 5,000 years.

# Montezuma Castle

Camp Verde

1125



Archaeologists have called the pre-Columbian Sinagua people who spent centuries in the Mogollon Rim country "skilled builders." Looking at the five-story dwelling tucked 50 feet up into a sheer limestone cliff, that truth would seem to be self-evident. The walls are formed mostly with pieces of limestone held together with mud mortar, partitioned off into more than 20 rooms. Native Arizona sycamores provided vigas for thatched roofs. Montezuma Castle is one of the continent's best-preserved cliff houses, both because of its protective positioning inside a natural alcove and the fact that not many casual passersby stopped in after the Sinagua left around 1425. Certainly Montezuma never visited. The Aztec emperor was mistakenly given credit for such an architectural wonder in early 19th century accounts. Federal protection has been afforded since 1906 when President Theodore Roosevelt made the site one of America's four original National Monuments.

# Awatovi Ruins

Kearns Canyon

1200s



In 1540 Francisco Vázquez de Coronado led an expedition of over 1,600 men including soldiers, servants and slaves from Mexico to investigate tales of golden cities in the north. Instead he found the harsh Sonoran desert with a scattering of Hopi villages. The first encounter was at the Awatovi pueblo which kicked off a long and complicated relationship. In the 1600s Spanish missionaries descended on the region, searching for converts to Catholicism this time. Their record was mixed as Christianity was not welcoming to traditional Hopi spiritual practices. In 1680 the pueblos that had embraced European values were overwhelmed in a co-ordinated attack on the same day. The church at the Awatovi mission was burned and the fathers killed. Undeterred, the Spanish re-asserted control in 1692. Refusing to see their religious life subjugated anti-Spanish Hopi destroyed the pueblo in 1701, killing not just Spaniards but any Hopi Christians. After a few half-hearted retaliations the Spaniards never returned; there has been no Roman Catholic church on Hopi land since. In the 1930s the Awatovi ruins became the site of the first multidisciplinary archeological dig, with cartographers, photographers, artists, ethno biologists and more taking part. They excavated 1,300 rooms, three Franciscan churches and tens of thousands of artifacts at the National Historic Landmark.

# Casa Malpaís

Springerville

1250



Although the Mogollon were one of the most important prehistoric desert peoples, leaving an extensive graphic record in rocks and pottery, their Arizona origins and disappearance are far murkier. The earliest bands of the Mogollon during the first millennium lived in the volcanic fields along the current Arizona-New Mexico border. Gradually they adopted farming and started villages in more accessible spaces. Crops were not always reliable and some bands retreated to higher elevations where cliff dwellings became trendy. The Casa Malpaís, constructed on a basalt lava flow in the White Mountains, is one of the newest iterations of Mogollon life, with surviving rock art, a large kiva, and an astronomical calendar. By the time of its construction the collapse of the Mogollon culture was already under way. By the mid-15th century it was complete. There may have been warfare or a devastating calamity or the Mogollon people may have simply moved on. Compared to other archaeological sites the Casa Malpaís pueblo yielded relatively little “trash,” indicating they may have never really taken to the life.

# Casa Grande

Coolidge

1300s



The “Great House” is the largest structure to survive the days of the Hohokam Indians and their ancestors which spanned more than 7,000 years in the Sonoran Desert. The land was not so harsh then and as it warmed the Hohokam dug canals and grew feed crops. It is believed that about 1,000 years ago the Hohokam began embracing communal living, constructing walled villages from caliche, a natural material composed of sand, clay, and calcium that hardened like concrete. The platforms and rooms in the compound were used for ceremonies and meetings and even ball games. The Great House, one of many, stands several stories high with walls four feet thick. It is estimated that 3,000 tons of caliche were required to construct a building like this. Back in 1892 the desire to preserve the Great House led to the creation of the first archeological preserve in the United States, a quarter century later the area’s multiple structures were designated a National Monument. The stylish roof that now shelters Casa Grande is a 1932 addition from the celebrated firm of the Olmsted family, whose patriarch Frederick Law Olmsted is credited with creating the profession of landscape architecture.



# San José de Tumacácori

Nogales

1750s



Father Eusebio Kino had sailed to Mexico from Italy in 1681 and went to work spreading Catholicism where he could. He did enough to wind up with a statue in the United States Capitol, including starting San Cayetano de Tumacácori in 1691, the first mission built in what would one day be Arizona. Missions were the primary weapons of Spanish colonization, designed primarily to convert local tribes to the European way of life but also to create agricultural societies to generate revenue for the Mother Country. As such most were sited near existing Indian villages. San Cayetano de Tumacácori moved from the opposite bank of the Santa Cruz River in 1751 to its present location although the church building was never really ever finished. It stands today in a state of arrested ruin, protected with two other missions as the Tumacácori National Historical Park. The complex has been a National Monument since before Arizona statehood.

# San Xavier del Bac

Tucson

1797



'The White Dove of the Desert' is the rare example of a Spanish mission that was constructed without a nod to New World culture. Drawing on Byzantine and Moorish influences the Mission San Xavier del Bac is thus the oldest functional European structure in Arizona and one of the finest exemplars of Spanish Colonial architecture anywhere. Construction on the present church, dressed in white stucco, did not get underway until 1783. The mission stood strong as jurisdiction of the land bounced round among Spain, Mexico, and the United States in the 1800s and even founded the first public school in the Arizona Territory in the 1860s. In 1874 it became part of the San Xavier Reservation and has been a National Historic Landmark since 1960.

# London Bridge

Lake Havasu

1831

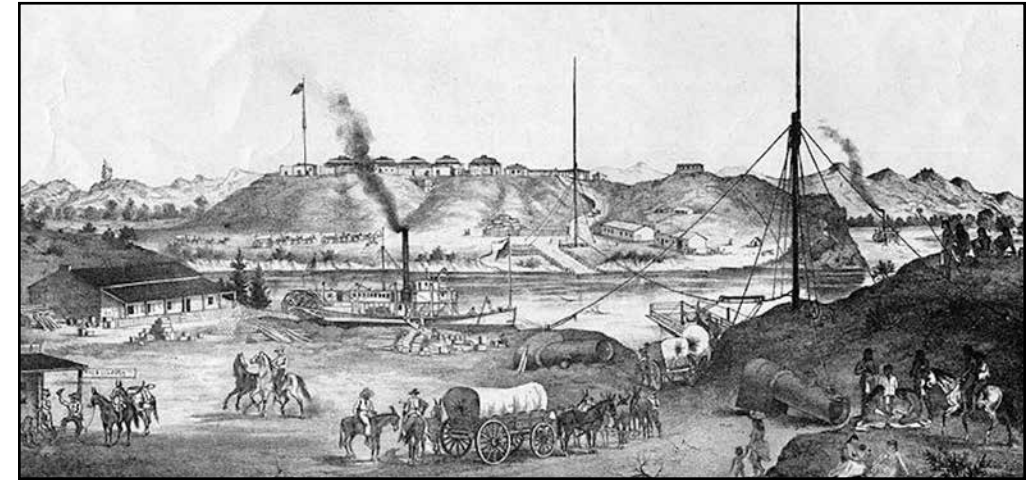


There is not much more of an American thing than buying the historic London Bridge, tearing it down and reassembling it in the Arizona desert as an attraction to sell building lots. John Rennie was the premiere English bridge builder of his day - that day being the early 1800s - when he was called upon to design a replacement for the 600-year old London Bridge across the River Thames. His stone arch structure only lasted a fraction of that time as it fell victim to modern vehicular traffic in the 1960s. When the City of London decided to sell Rennie's bridge no one was sure if it was a stunt but soon Robert McCulloch - who made his money in a variety of ventures, including chainsaws - was arranging for 10,000 tons of granite blocks to be shipped through the Panama Canal and trucked from the California coast to Lake Havasu, a new city he was raising from the desert. McCulloch had bought 26 square miles of barren wasteland that was the largest tract of real estate ever sold in Arizona. It took three years to reassemble each numbered block as facing for a modern, load-bearing bridge that opened in 1971. London Bridge became one of Arizona's biggest tourist attractions and enough gawkers bought property during their visit that a half-century later Lake Havasu City boasts over 50,000 residents.

# Fort Yuma

Yuma

1851



On February 2, 1848 the United States and Mexico signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the Mexican-American War and ceding much of today's Southwest to the Americans. The first effort to protect the prize in Arizona started with Lieutenant Cave Johnson Coats of the U.S. Boundary Commission who set up a camp in September of 1849 at the junction of the Colorado and Gila rivers, on the California side. Two years later he moved to a more strategic bluff across the river and called his new position Camp Independence, quickly renamed Fort Yuma. When the U.S. Army arrived it became infamous as the hottest posting, temperature-wise, in the military. After the Yuma Quartermaster Depot was established in 1863, nobody had an ill word to say about Yuma. Every military post in the Southwest relied on mule trains arriving from Yuma with food, clothing, and ammunition from the bases' six-month supply. Yuma's role remained pre-eminent until 1877 with the arrival of the first railroad to the state. The Army shuttered operations six years later and stayed away until World War II. Today Arizona's oldest military installation is one of the largest in the world with the Yuma Proving Ground responsible for testing every ground weapon in the country's arsenal. The days of stage coaches are remembered in the buildings preserved in Colorado River State Historic Park.

# Fort Bowie

Apache Pass

1862



Early in the Civil War a contingent of maybe 100 Texas Confederate Army troops headed west to seize the Arizona Territory. If one counts a handful of small arms skirmishes, the westernmost battles of the war took place near Tucson at Stanwix Station and Picacho Peak. The vastly superior Union forces called the California Column - some 2,300 strong - under General James Carleton squashed the rebel dreams with minimal bloodshed on either side. More problematic were the Chiricahua Apaches who turned hostile in the 1860s after a series of provocations by the U.S. Army, including the killing of leader Cochise's brother and nephews following an altercation at Apache Pass. In response the California Column constructed Fort Bowie at the site of a Butterfield Overland Mail station which became the cornerstone of military operations against the Apaches for the next quarter-century. In 1886 spiritual leader and medicine man Geronimo surrendered at Fort Bowie and was sent to prison camp in Florida. Activities at the post ebbed after that and was abandoned in 1894. The adobe ruins are preserved by the national park service and accessed by a foot trail.

# Territorial Capitol

Prescott

1864



The coming of the Civil War accelerated the creation of the Arizona Territory as a partition of the New Mexico Territory. President Abraham Lincoln sent a New Hampshire man, John Noble Goodman, to serve as governor and his first job was to find a capital site. Tuc-

son was the biggest town in the region but Goodman heard too many pro-Southern sentiments there and instead settled on the small frontier post of Prescott. He relocated nearby Fort Whittle and set three contractors to work on an expansive cabin crafted from ponderosa logs to do duty as his residence and statehouse. Then Goodwin got elected to Congress in 1866 and went back East, never to set foot in Arizona again. Meanwhile the territorial capital's fate was transferred to the legislature. Every two years the capital location was on the agenda - Tucson was the most developed city, Phoenix had a more accessible location and Prescott had hard winters and no railroad access. All the incumbent had was nimble politics. Tucson grabbed the capital in 1868 but Prescott got it back in 1877. Finally Phoenix secured the government seat for good in the 1889 legislative session. Many American losers in similar frontier power grabs faded into oblivion but Prescott carried on, buoyed by its mining heritage. Sharlot Hall, a poet, advocate for independent statehood, and the first woman to hold office in Arizona (Territorial Historian), acquired the former governor's mansion as her home with space for her private artifact collection which she opened to the public in 1928. The Gubernatorial Mansion Museum is part of an 11-building historical complex and the oldest building from Arizona's territorial days in its original location.



# O.K. Corral

Tombstone

1870s



It took about 30 seconds of chaos to create the most famous town in the Old West, although the story was decades in the making. On October 26, 1881 Tombstone was known only for the rich veins of silver ore that had spawned the town four years prior. Virgil Earp was working as town marshal, beleaguered by the goings-on out at the Clanton ranch where cattle seemed to be hard to identify. Bad blood escalated

and five cowboys from the ranch and Earp, his brothers Morgan and Wyatt, and their friend Doc Holliday, found themselves in a vacant lot behind the OK Corral that day. Someone fired a shot, gunplay erupted, and three cowboys were dead. The Earps and Holliday were arrested. Although Wyatt had been in a lawman in notorious Dodge City, Kansas he was no stranger to inside of a jail cell. He had been arrested for stealing horses in Kansas, pinched for prostitution in Illinois, charged with claim jumping in Idaho, and more. The defendants were found not guilty and later Virgil was injured in an ambush and Morgan killed in retaliation. Wyatt extracted the ultimate retribution for those attacks. It all would have just been a particularly violent case of frontier justice papered over by the coming of civilization but Wyatt Earp made his way to early Hollywood in his 60s as a consultant on the industry's most popular genre - the Western. The incident in Arizona would become the most famous gunfight in American history, retold in hundreds of books and re-created dozens of times on screen - most with Wyatt as the hero. An early iteration had the bullets fly at the "O.K. Barn" before the story crystallized. More than 140 years on the "Gunfight at the O.K. Corral" is still re-enacted four times a day on Tombstone streets.

# Fort Apache

Fort Apache

1871



President Ulysses S. Grant signed the creation of Camp Ord into law as a temporary outpost in "settling" the West. The general in charge, Civil War hero George Crook, quickly discovered that his army deep in the heart of White Mountain Apache tribal lands was not going to accomplish its mission without a serious amount of buy-in from the Apaches themselves. He organized the Apache Scouts to try and peaceably bring an end to marauding renegade Apache bands. Chief Alchise was instrumental in convincing his good friend Geronimo to surrender in 1886, bring about an end to the Apache Wars, earning Alchise the military's highest level of recognition, the Medal of Honor. Rare among Arizona frontier forts, the now-named Fort Apache was not abandoned. The U.S. military stayed until 1922 and then the 288-acre site became the site of the Theodore Roosevelt Indian Boarding School for Navajo children. Chief Alchise, now living as a rancher named William Alchisay, was instrumental in the controversial project that was intended to encourage the adoption of non-Navajo customs. These days more than two dozen buildings remain at Fort Apache that interprets the White Mountain Apache experience as an historical park.

# Sierra Bonita Ranch

Willcox

1872



Sierra Bonita Ranch was the first American cattle ranch to begin operation in Arizona. Its founder, Thomas Hooker, was hardly among any of the usual suspects in its creation. Hooker was a Connecticut man who migrated West in his early twenties in the 1840s. He found work in Kansas with the government and started trading livestock with a flock of 500 turkeys. The Spanish had introduced cattle into Arizona as far back as the 1690s but the animals weren't valued for their meat so much as their hides. It wasn't until the California Gold Rush in 1848 that beef became in demand to feed the growing hordes of people. In 1867 Hooker landed a contract that made him the largest supplier of government beef in the Arizona territory. In this capacity he saw the Sulphur Valley and switched to the other end of the supply chain. He built Sierra Bonita Ranch into 250,000 acres able to support 30,000 head of cattle. Hooker didn't run cattle like other operations - he fenced steers in, bred cows, and provided medical attention. The sixth generation of Hookers continues to work the Sierra Bonita, a National Historic Landmark with original 150-year old buildings.

# Lee's Ferry

Marble Canyon

1872



Mormon pioneer Jacob Hamlin's party made the first crossing of the Colorado River at the head of the Grand Canyon here in 1864 but the name would attach to a more notorious church figure. John Doyle Lee was a friend of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints founder

Joseph Smith in Illinois and an adopted son of Brigham Young. In Utah he became a successful rancher and served in the Utah Territorial Legislature while tensions escalated between the Mormons and the federal government. In 1857 Lee was a ringleader in the ambush and annihilation of an emigrant wagon train from Arkansas that was believed to harbor transgressors from an earlier attack on Mormon settlers. Mormon militiamen dressed as Native Americans were responsible for the deaths of some 120 adults, many after they had been coerced into surrender. Only 17 children under seven years of age escaped death in the "Mountain Meadows Massacre." Investigations followed but only Lee was arrested and tried. To shield him from authorities and the Mormon community he was sent to build the first wooden ferry at the remote site. At the time the next closest crossing of the Colorado River was 260 miles away. Lee also constructed stone and wooden homes for two of his families (Lee had 19 wives and 56 children during his lifetime). The first launch was in 1873 but four years later the 64-year old Lee was executed by firing squad as the only perpetrator ever held accountable for the massacre 16 years earlier. Emma Lee took over the ferry operation that continued until the christening of the Navajo Bridge in Marble Canyon on January 12, 1929.

# Territorial Prison

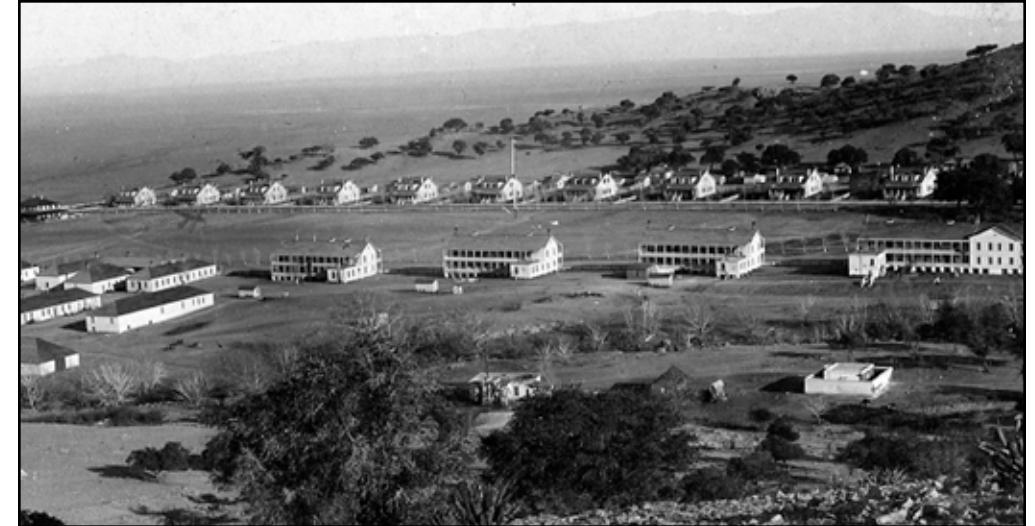
Yuma  
1876



There are a handful of prisons around America that have gained a reputation for infamy and Arizona's Territorial Prison - with a considerable boost from Hollywood - rests comfortably on that list. Yuma's "hellhole" began on July 1, 1876 and lasted barely 33 years. More than 3,000 prisoners were housed here, many helping with the construction that was more or less always ongoing. Each was photographed and given a bath before being handed a set of clothes, 29 were women. The guards kept meticulous notes and observations of each guest of the territory, recorded on cards in ink. At any given time at Yuma one could find gunfighters, swindlers and rowdy miners. Polygamists were also well-represented. Several achieved national notoriety, including Pearl Hart, the so-called "Bandit Queen." When she was 28 years old Hart, disguised as a man, ambushed a stagecoach in Globe with a male accomplice and relieved the passengers of \$469. Through the years there were 26 successful escapes from Yuma. Statehood and a new prison complex in Florence relieved Yuma of its duty. The local high school held classes here for awhile - picking up the nickname "Crims" that is proudly maintained - and in the 1930s the effort began that turned the prison into Arizona's third historic park.

# Fort Huachuca

Cochise County  
1877



With the Civil War at an end the United States military shifted into a mission to subjugate Native American peoples that would last through most of the remainder of the century. There would be 18 forts established to this end, including Fort Huachuca that was also responsible for bringing renegade Apache Geronimo to heel and looking after the Mexican border, 15 miles away. Some of the key players on the Arizona frontier were six all-Black cavalry and infantry units created by the United States Congress in 1866. For reasons that remain unclear but have sprouted several colorful theories, their Native American foes dubbed them "Buffalo Soldiers." By 1869 the troops had been consolidated into four regiments, all of which came to be based at Fort Huachuca at one time or another, giving the base the chance to bill itself as "the home of the Buffalo Soldiers." The soldiers at Fort Huachuca would be deployed overseas during the Spanish-American War and both world wars. They would also scour northern Mexico as part of General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing's futile 11-month, 500-mile chase to catch revolutionary peasant leader Francisco "Pancho" Villa in 1917 and 1918. Today Fort Huachuca is still an active military base, America's 25th oldest and Arizona's second oldest.

# Day Octagon

Prescott

1877



Orson Squire Fowler was responsible for two wildly different fads in the middle of the 19th century. One was phrenology, the practice that mental acuity could be determined by the bumps on one's head. The other was eight-sided houses that he championed in a book called *The Octagon House, A Home for All*. Neither are much in vogue these days but the octagon at least made sense - the configuration offered a greater space-to-surface ratio and thus were cheaper to construct than rectangular structures. Some of that savings was put into the fired bricks of this building, the first known to be used in Arizona. The client was Warren Erasmus Day who also used the structure as the territory's first surgical hospital. Day had just returned from a successful stint as the U.S. Army's contract surgeon at Camp Verde. His good works continued around Prescott for the better part of the next half-century. There was one stretch when his services were unavailable, however. Day was convicted of bigamy and sentenced to Yuma Territorial Prison. He was released in 1894 when President Grover Cleveland pardoned followers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who had "previously engaged in polygamous marriages or habitation arrangements considered unlawful by the U.S. government."

# Hubbell Trading Post

Ganado

1878



The trading post is an iconic symbol of the West. The earliest were places where trappers and mountain men could rendezvous, swap information, and a bit of civilization in the wilderness. By the late 1800s trading posts had morphed into commercial enterprises. John Lorenzo Hubbell was a child of the Santa Fe Trail, prepping him for early stints as a trading post clerk and Spanish interpreter for the United States Army. He opened his first trading post in St. Johns in 1876 when he was 23 years old. He would eventually build a string of 30 such posts in and around Navajo and Hopi reservations. Warehouses in Winslow and Gallup fueled his operation. Hubbell knew what would sell and he was instrumental in promoting Navajo wares, suggesting designs for pottery and blankets to the tribal craftsmen. Although the New Mexico native knew little of the Navajo people when he started he came to speak the language fluently. The Ganado trading post, where Hubbell lived with his wife and four children on 160 acres became a National Historic Site in the 1960s and in a unique partnership still operates today.

# American Flag Post Office

## Oracle

### 1880



Folks truly came from everywhere to seek their fortunes in the Old West. The American Flag gold and silver mine was worked by Isaac Laurin who hailed from Martinique, the third largest island in The French-owned Lesser Antilles in the Caribbean Sea. He built this adobe home in 1877. There were hundreds of miners in nearby mining camps within a few years, enough that a post office was established at Laurin's ranch on December 28, 1880. Shortly afterwards Laurin sold his mining interests and raised cattle along with stamping letters before moving to Phoenix. Laurin was actually the fourth postmaster; Peter H. Loss was the original letter handler, raking in \$3.77 a year for his efforts. The mines played out and the American Flag post office was shuttered on July 16, 1890. Decades later, after sundry ranch use, the building was the oldest Territorial post office building in Arizona. Proper recognition was afforded and the ranch and barn turned over to the Arizona Historical Society. It is now an Oracle Historical Society museum.

# Flying V Cabin

## Phoenix

### 1880



There is a reason Arizona was the last piece of the puzzle to fill in the contiguous sea-to-shining-sea that is the United States - range wars. Every time word leaked back to Washington of lawless violence doubt was raised about just how civilized people actually were out there in the territory. No news was worse than the Pleasant Valley War. It

started with a friendship between cattlemen John Tewksbury and Tom Graham that turned acrimonious in 1882. The feud lasted ten years and came to involve stolen cattle, sheep, Apaches, cowboys, shady court dealings, back shootings, biased sheriffs and more. In the end the entire Graham family was wiped out and only one Tewksbury was left standing. Fifty or sixty deaths could be connected to the feud in one way or another and observers figured it cost Arizona ten years in its drive for statehood. The Flying V Cabin was John Tewksbury's place and the slots in the planks were not to let sunshine in but allow gun barrels out. He would wind up being killed out in the yard. The Flying V was moved from Pleasant Valley to north Phoenix in 1969 along with a couple dozen other original buildings from Arizona's territorial days to stand in the Pioneer Living History Museum.



# Arizona Daily Star

Tucson  
1883



Edward Ephraim Cross was working on his first newspaper in New Hampshire when he was 15 years old. He became a Washington news correspondent in his 20s before catching silver fever and heading West in 1858. He hooked into some mines in Arizona while telegraphing the occasional news dispatch back East. Cross decided to put out the territory's first newspaper which required a hand press. One arrived in Tubac by way of the Ohio River, Mississippi River, wagon across the Gulf of Panama, the Sea of Cortez and, finally, ox cart. Cross's four-page *Weekly Arizonian*

hit the Tubac streets on March 3, 1859. Cross immediately stirred up controversy and wound up selling the paper to an adversary, Sylvester Mowry, who moved the *Arizonian* to Tucson. Cross returned to the Granite State and took up command of a Union regiment in the Civil War. He died at the age of 31 on the battlefield at Gettysburg. The *Weekly Arizonian* lasted a bit longer before falling victim to politics in 1871. The hand press survived, however, to produce the *Arizona Star* in 1877, whose editor, Louis Cameron Hughes, would one day become the 11th governor of the Arizona Territory. The paper went daily in 1879. The survivor of many ownership changes and mergers, the *Daily Star* is still publishing as the state's oldest newspaper. Its home from 1883 to 1917 stands downtown. The original hand press is still around as well - a star resident at the Tubac Presidio State Historic Park.

# San Bernardino Ranch

Douglas  
1884



Ignacio Perez became the first titleholder to some 73,000 acres of Mexican land here in 1822 when he parted with 90 pesos and covered the filing fees. Perez was never able to develop his claim but in 1884 his heirs sold the property to John Horton Slaughter, a Texas veteran of the Confederacy, cattle driver and passionate poker player. By this time a third of the land was in the United States. Slaughter was elected sheriff of Cochise County as he built out his ranch. At the time there were maybe 40,000 head of cattle in the Arizona Territory but by the end of the century there were an estimated 1.5 million head. The fragile desert lands were not able to sustain that kind of growth and stocks declined as Arizona approached statehood. Even so, the number of people in the state did not surpass the cattle until the 1950s. Arizona continues to support over 6,000 ranches producing over 1.4 billion beef meals each year. John Slaughter's ranch lives on as a museum highlighting the state's cattle industry. The adobe ranch house has been restored to the time of Slaughter's death in 1922. His story would eventually find its way to Hollywood and he was enshrined in the Hall of Great Westerners in the National Cowboy Hall of Fame.

# Pinal County Courthouse

Florence  
1891



Canadian-born James Miller Creighton was the go-to architect in the Arizona Territory when something important needed to be designed. Many of his works are still around and the Pinal County Courthouse may be his most impressive. This is the second seat of justice for the county that was cleaved out of Maricopa and Pima counties in 1875. Until 2003 it was the oldest public building still in use in Arizona; after a renovation it now does duty as a county office. The building is so old that Pearl Hart, the storied "Bandit Queen," was held in its jail when she was captured after holding up the Florence-Globe stage in 1899. Eva Dugan, a former "camp follower" in the Alaskan Klondike Gold Rush camps, was tried and convicted of killing her boss, a cantankerous old chicken farmer named Andrew Mathis, here in 1930. When she was hanged on the second floor Eva became the first and only woman ever executed in Arizona. Often civic projects run out of money and grand visions - like fancy clocktowers - that are in an architect's plan never get built. The \$34,765 budget was enough to get Creighton's tower built but not enough money to pay for a clock. So clock facings with the hands painted at 11:44 were inserted instead. Why 11:44? Locals like to say it makes workers feel like it is almost time for lunch.

# Old Main

Tucson  
1891



What is the old saying, "Be careful what you wish for?" In the 1880s when the Tucson citizenry went to the Arizona Territorial Legislature with hat in hand looking for federal government money handouts they were hoping to land the new mental hospital which carried a plump \$100,000 stipend. Instead they got stuck with the allocation for the territory's only university. Not only was it just a lousy school which no one was going to go to but it carried an allocation of only \$25,000 in monies raised from the Morrill Land-Grant Act of 1862. And it came with strings attached - someone would have to donate land for this boondoggle of higher education. No Tusconan was willing to part with the required 40 acres. In fact, when representative C.C. Stephens returned with the booby prize he was greeted so rudely he hired a bodyguard before hightailing it to California permanently. The money would go back to the federal treasury if ground wasn't broken in a year and Jacob Mansfield, owner of the Pioneer News Depot bookstore, and legislator Selim Franklin badgered the good people of Tucson to make sure that did not happen. Finally, with time running out, E. B. Gifford, Ben C. Parker and William S. Read - a pair of Eastern high rollers and a saloonkeeper - agreed to provide the land. James Creighton, the Canadian carpentry apprentice who became one of Arizona's pioneering architects, drew up the plans in one of his first commissions in 1887. The first class was held on October 1, 1891. Old Main carries on as one of the oldest academic structures in the West.

# Phelps Dodge Office

Bisbee  
1896



Anson Green Phelps was mostly in the saddle business in Connecticut in the early 1800s until his daughters started getting married. In 1833 he started an import-export business with two new sons-in-laws who were based in Liverpool, England. Phelps Dodge traded cottons and metals that were becoming critical in the Industrial

Revolution. The company expanded into acquiring mining interests and the keystone of its empire was the Copper Queen Mine in Bisbee, with an extraordinary high grade of ore. This brick building with Romanesque styling became Phelps Dodge Headquarters in 1896 and continued in that role until 1961. For years the Queen Mine was the largest copper mine in the country and considered the best run. That reputation took a serious blow in 1917 when the company, employing both private police and deputized sheriffs rounded up more than 1,000 striking miners and their families at gunpoint and escorted them out of the country in railroad cattle cars into Mexico to stop unionization. The U.S Justice Department eventually arrested 21 company executives for their role in the mass kidnapping. Today the former headquarters does duty as the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum and is the first rural museum in the United States to be designated a Smithsonian Institution affiliate. The Copper Queen Mine churned out over \$6 billion in metallic ore before closing in 1975. It has been open for public tours ever since.

# Castle Rock Hot Springs

Morristown  
1896

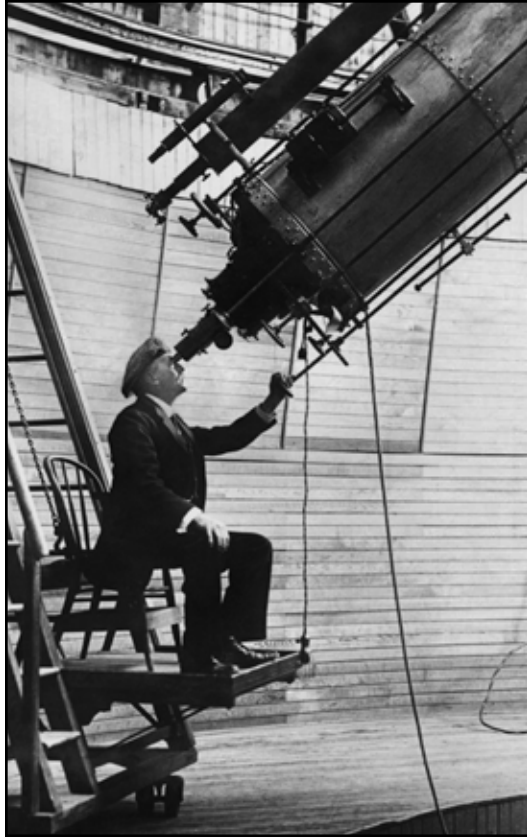


In the late 19th century, in the days before antibiotics, health resorts were all the rage. Often the "cure for what ails you" was mountain air, a dry climate, and a healthy plate of food. Certainly the rich had a long history of abandoning hot, smoky industrial cities when the calendar turned to summer. Frank Murphy, brother of two-time territorial governor Oakes Murphy, made his money by vertically integrating mining, processing, and railroad operations into the Southern Arizona Smelter Company which spawned the company town, Sasco. He next turned his attention to developing the hot springs in the Bradshaw Mountains. When Arizona's first health resort opened it required a rugged five-hour stagecoach ride to reach - if you were already feeling healthy before starting out you may well require the soothing 115-degree thermal waters upon arriving. Of course the difficulty of getting there was part of the allure. As word spread among the Rockefellers and Vanderbilts and Roosevelts - and access improved - Castle Hot Springs attracted more and more tony clients. The United States military was sold on the curative powers; it used the resort as a rehabilitation center during World War II. John F. Kennedy spent three months to help with back problems incurred during the sinking of his patrol torpedo boat. Castle Hot Springs shut down in 1976 after a fire in the main building and the resort was untouched for 40 years, cycling through various ownerships before reopening in 2019.

# Lowell Observatory

## Flagstaff

### 1896



It is the most gripping debate of our times - is Pluto a planet or is it not? And we have the Lowell Observatory to thank for the controversy. Percival Lawrence Lowell did not devote himself to the heavens until he was almost 40 years old. After graduating with honors from Harvard University with a degree in mathematics. He spent most of his twenties managing a cotton mill. His thirties found Lowell traveling in the Far East where he produced books on all aspects of Japanese life. He sailed back to America where he developed a passion for Mars, pouring his wealth and influence into a 24-inch refracting telescope to satiate his new interest in astronomy. Rather than

site his telescope in an academic setting, which was the norm for the day, Lowell built an observatory at elevation, in a remote area with cloudless skies - Flagstaff. Lowell went on to study and map the "canals" on Mars, becoming the leading proponent for the Red Planet's ability to sustain life. He also postulated that there was a Planet X, beyond Neptune. He never found it before dying at the age of 61 in 1916 but Clyde Tombaugh did at the observatory in 1930. Pluto became the 9th planet in the solar system, until it was demoted in 2019. Thanks to the Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff became the world's first International Dark Sky Community in 2001.

# Old Main

## Tempe

### 1898



The 13th Arizona Territorial Legislature of 1885 became legendary for the institutional prizes it handed out and the monies that may have been required to lubricate those decisions. Prescott kept the capital, Yuma maintained the prison, Phoenix got the insane asylum, Tucson scored the university, and Tempe was awarded the

normal school. In the 19th century normal schools were important as the places where future teachers were minted. The Territorial Normal School got underway with 33 students on February 8, 1886; each was required to possess a high school diploma and pay \$4 a month in tuition. Or you could attend for free as long as you promised to "teach for a reasonable amount of time." Classes were in a four-room, brick schoolhouse; the library consisted of a dictionary and a globe. The entire curriculum would last 22 weeks. The school would rattle through a collection of names - Tempe State Teachers College, Arizona State College, et al - before emerging as Arizona State University in 1958. The original school building is long gone, the Victorian confection known today as Old Main is the oldest building on campus. Promoters were determined to create a structure that distanced Arizona from its frontier days but the project was beset by financial problems, unscrupulous contractors and even bad weather. When the new academic hall debuted it was the tallest building in the territory and the first in Tempe to boast electrical lighting. In more than a century it has housed classrooms, recital halls, a library, an armory and storage space. A multi-million dollar facelift eventually returned the structure to center-place status on one of America's largest public university campuses.

# Ash Fork-Bainbridge Dam

Ash Fork

1898



In the 1800s it required a lot of water to power steam locomotives. A lot of water. The Santa Fe Railroad was using 90,000 gallons a day just to keep the trains running in Arizona. To make it through the desert the railroad built dams and reservoirs. In the late 19th century as steel replaced iron in bridge building it was natural to want to give steel a try in building dams. Construction would be quicker and cheaper. A steel dam like the first one at Ash-Fork Bainbridge with 24 plates 46 feet high and across 184 feet cost only \$46,000 (about \$2 million today). But steel dams never caught on because of fears of corrosion and failure. There were only two more ever built and one, in Montana, failed after a year. Even the railroad never completely trusted the Ash Fork-Bainbridge Steel Dam - a traditional stone dam was built upstream four years later. No steel dam was ever constructed in the United States after 1910. Yet the Ash Fork-Bainbridge Steel Dam still holds water today, only for wildlife and livestock and not iron horses.

# Old Main

Flagstaff

1899



When Elmer Fisher and Carroll Brown of Los Angeles won the commission to house the “vicious youth” roaming neighboring Arizona they tapped the brawny Richardsonian Romanesque style that was in vogue for a brief period between 1888 and 1895 for the new reform school. Nearly every civic structure built in America in that time received the same treatment of broad gables, a powerful arched entranceway, rough hewn stone exteriors and perhaps a tower or two based on the work of Boston architect Henry Hobson Richardson. Distinctive Moenkopi sandstone was quarried nearby to raise the three-story structure. The local toughs, however, were left to their mischief and Main Hall instead became the Northern Arizona Normal School offering a four-year high school curriculum and teacher training. Everything the initial class of 23 students needed was contained within its powerful walls. The state legislature bestowed the ability to grant bachelor of education degrees in the 1920s and the school quickly expanded after World War II, including a nationally recognized forestry program. When full university status was achieved in 1966, Old Main was a men’s dormitory. In the 1990s Northern Arizona University converted its foundational building into a museum and offices. It is still the best place in northern Arizona to see full-blown Richardsonian Romanesque architecture.



# State Capitol

Phoenix

1901



Phoenix began life in 1866 as a hay camp set up to supply Camp McDowell, a military post on the Verde River. For many decades Phoenix was America's fastest growing city and by 1980 had surpassed Boston as America's most populous capital city. That growth was obvious by the 1880s and the town was named the territorial capital in 1889 as the population was topping 3,000. A nationwide design contest was held for a permanent capitol building and James Riely Gordon, a San Antonio architect with 18 Texas courthouses on his resume, prevailed over 15 other entrants. The relatively small commission likely limited the Texan's effort - he recycled a Beaux Arts confection that had failed in Mississippi and only visited the Arizona project once, leaving the bulk of the work to underlings. The new capitol showed off the territory's riches in building materials, most notably a dome that used enough copper to mint 4.8 million pennies. Arizona, after all, produces more copper than all the other states combined. After statehood in 1912 there were some expansions that tripled the available working space and the state legislature stayed until 1960. The governor remained until 1974 after which the Capitol Mall was renovated and the centerpiece Capitol converted to a museum of territory and state history.

# Phoenix Indian School

Phoenix

1901



In the matter of "taming" the American West there was always a theory, never predominant, that it was easier to sublate the indigenous peoples with books rather than bullets. The idea of "cultural assimilation" goes all the way back to George Washington. The federal government eventually banned all traditional Indian religious practices and established Native American boarding schools where children were forced off their reservations and required to speak English. Their success was a mixed bag. Demand for some Indian schools outstripped capacity, attracting students from distant tribes. Others devolved into cheap labor camps, rife with student abuses. After the Phoenix Indian School (PIS) opened in 1891 it tended towards the latter. Things turned around with the arrival of superintendent Samuel McCowan in 1897. McCowan stressed academics and recruitment from tribes around the Southwest. PIS grew into the second largest school in the federal system with over 700 students. This Mission Revival style auditorium, later expanded to include a dining hall, was the centerpiece of a 24-building campus and the oldest still standing. Assimilation as a formal policy ended in 1931 and Phoenix Indian High School adopted a vocational curriculum. It operated into its 100th year before closing in 1990 and became a city park.

# Durlin Hotel

Oatman  
1902



Dubbed the "Mother Road," the 2,400-mile, dog bowl-shaped Route 66 from Chicago to Los Angeles inspired popular songs, movies and an iconic television show that lured millions of travelers to its two lanes of concrete. It was still a real adventure to take a road trip in the 1920s when a national high-

way system was developed. The completion of Interstate 40 in 1978 sounded the death knell for towns along the 385 miles of "America's Main Street" in Arizona. But Oatman was different. The town named for an Illinois girl kidnapped by apaches had flourished in the early 1900s with the discovery of gold nearby - enough wealth that after the Durlin burned in 1924 it was immediately rebuilt. The mines played out in the 1940s and when the interstate bypassed Oatman the result was a ghost town. But Route 66 nostalgia gave Oatman - where wild burros still command the streets - a second act as a tourist town. Every tourist town needs a good story and the Durlin Hotel has a whopper. After eloping to get married in Kingman in 1939 Hollywood screen idols Clark Gable and Carole Lombard stopped in Oatman to spend their wedding night upstairs in the Durlin, as the sign memorializing that blessed event on March 18 points out. Even the National Park Service faithfully recounts that trip. No matter that the wedding took place on March 29. Or that the Hollywood stars held a press conference on Miss Lombard's front yard the following morning. Never let the facts get in the way of a good story in the tourist game.

# Desert Laboratory

Tucson  
1903



In 1902 industrialist Andrew Carnegie endowed a new institution in the nation's capital to "encourage investigation, research, and discovery [and] show the application of knowledge to the improvement of mankind." One of the very first things researchers wanted to figure out was how desert plants could thrive in such a seemingly lethal environment. The Carnegie Institute bought 860 acres of land on a butte west of Tucson and got to work. A stone laboratory was constructed and experiments begun. Volney Spalding staked out 19 plots for observation that were the birthplace of the study of ecology. A steady stream of illuminating research findings flowed from the Desert Laboratory until the Institute sold the property to the U.S. Forest Service for \$1 in the 1930s. The USFS didn't do much in the way of scientific research but the University of Arizona has since taking over in 1956. Nine of Spalding's original habitat plots remain and they represent the world's oldest ecological classrooms. The Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill is open for the public to walk up and visit, as long as such explorations are confined to the paved road.

# Kolb Studio

## Grand Canyon

### 1904



The most famous tourist photo in America is standing on the edge of the Grand Canyon with the gaping, mile-deep chasm in the background. The first to realize that were two brothers who left the blast furnaces of Pittsburgh steel mills at the end of the 19th century for a life on the rim of

the canyon: Emery and Ellsworth Kolb. Ellsworth, five years older, came West first and earned a living plowing snow and building roads. Emery arrived in 1902 with his three most valued possessions in tow: a guitar, a mouth organ and a camera. The Kolbs started their first photographic studio inside a cave in the side of the canyon and later operated out of a small tent cabin. Meanwhile they constructed a wood-frame building at the Bright Angel trailhead that was finished in 1904 and would come to serve as living quarters, studio and theater. Operating a photography studio is the wildest of frontiers called for ingenuity and the Kolbs had that in spades. They used an abandoned mine shaft for a dark room to develop prints and found a spring 3,000 feet below the canyon rim to provide necessary running water in the developing process. Then they built a dark room down there. The brothers would take photographs of tourists descending into the canyon and run the film down for processing and race back up the trail so prints could be on sale when the mule trains returned to the top. In this way the Kolbs built one of the most successful tourist-based businesses in the history of the Old West. Today Arizona is the 8th most visited state in the Union, pumping some \$35 billion into the local economy each year.

# Manning Cabin

## Tucson

### 1905



There are some 50 tree-form cacti that populate the world's deserts but the only one you need to know is the saguaro (the Spanish mangled the ancient Papago word for the regal plant). The giant saguaro grows in only one place - the Sonoran desert and at elevations below 3,500

feet. Its signature arms do not begin sprouting until the cactus is 75 years old. Its white blossoms, which appear only one night a year, bloom when the plant is still a teen-ager, 50 or 60 years old. The pure white blossoms have been the state flower since 1931. A mature saguaro can hold 2,000 pounds of water in its vertical pleats. The stately cacti are not only a symbol of Arizona but the entire American West. With all that, one might think there would be a rush to protect the giant saguaro. In the 1920s there were rumblings from the Natural History Society at the University of Arizona about creating a cactus sanctuary but it wasn't until Frank Harris Hitchcock, publisher of the *Tucson Citizen*, got the ear of President Herbert Hoover that the Saguaro National Monument was created in 1933; national park status would not come until 1994. Long before that Tucson businessman and one-time mayor Levi Manning had gouged an 11-mile wagon road out of the land to enable workers and materials to get through the Rincon Mountains to construct a summer home. The Manning family was long gone when the park service arrived to use the building as housing for fire personnel. Repairs have kept the Manning Cabin looking like its early 20th century self, deep in the eastern district of the Saguaro National Park.