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The vernacular landscape of the southwestern guest ranch

Kumble, Peter Andrew, M.L.Arch.

The University of Arizona, 1991

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**THE VERNACULAR LANDSCAPE
OF THE SOUTHWESTERN GUEST RANCH**

by

Peter Andrew Kumble

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A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of the
SCHOOL OF RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES
In Partial Fulfillment for the Requirements
for the Degree of
MASTERS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
In the Graduate College
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

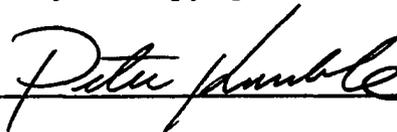
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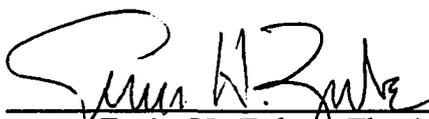
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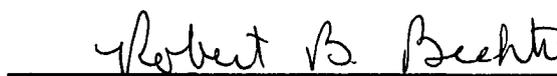
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ABSTRACT

The western guest ranch evolved out of an era when American literature, film, and radio romanticized the cowboy and his landscape as symbols of the frontier west. As with architectural style, landscape imagery was a powerful tool in conveying social trends. Research briefly details the evolution of the dude ranch and its development in southeastern Arizona. Specific area of study is the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valley of present day Cochise County, Arizona. A brief history of the region's settlement is provided. The location, landscape, facilities, and entertainment of eight guest "dude" ranches in the study area is described. A detailed examination of Faraway Ranch is provided, including site plans, photographs, and inventory of existing vegetation. The vernacular landscape of the southeastern Arizona guest ranch is identified. Reasons for the appeal of a guest ranch and its landscape to patrons is described.

CHAPTER I

EVOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN GUEST RANCH

Introduction

The term 'Dude Ranch' is often used to refer to a variety of differing places, and thus is difficult to define. The Dictionary of Americanisms, (Mathews 1951), defines a dude ranch as a "...ranch which provides entertainment in riding, cow punching, etc. for paying customers or guests." But the establishment and later commercialization of the dude-guest ranch, in Arizona, represented an evolution starting nearly seventy-five years before to the initial establishment of a guest ranch (Logue 1934). The guest ranch is an inexact functional form. Historically, terms used to describe the industry have been interpreted in numerous ways and often, definitively incorrect (Norris 1976). The terms "guest ranch," "dude ranch," and "ranch resort," are the most commonly used. Both "dude ranch" and "guest ranch" are the most popularly used of the three, yet are relatively non-specific and interchangeable (Burnham 1943).

At present, documented information of the Guest 'dude' Ranch landscape found in the American southwest is sparse. By comparison, a considerable amount of research and analysis have been conducted to determine the influences and historical patterns of "designed landscapes." The pastoral settings that evolved from the English romantic period of landscape design were representative of a historical movement where gardening and landscape

design embraced nature. Man strived to create a natural scene through his designed imitation and manipulation of nature itself. This stylistic preference was perceptible both in the literature and landscaped gardens of 18th and 19th century Europe (Newton 1971). The landscape of the Arizona guest ranch certainly does not represent a historical trend as significant as those found in 18th and 19th century western Europe. Yet in a similar fashion, the guest ranch evolved out of an era that romanticized the cowboy and open western range as commensurate of the American frontier. This western landscape imagery helped to define a trend in American popular culture where the cowboy, his horse, and the western range were symbolic of the American spirit. For many years, ranchers in the west accommodated guests or transients on a gratis basis (Rodnitzky 1968). The dude ranch simply formalized this arrangement, with the guest providing monetary compensation to the ranch owner for their hospitality (Smith 1936).

The dude ranch industry had its formal beginnings in 1879 (Norris 1976), at a ranch near present day Medora, in the badlands of North Dakota (Adams 1930). Three brothers, Howard, Willis, and Alton Eaton frequently opened their homestead to friends and relatives from back east. The number of "guests" eventually grew to become unmanageable, placing a great time and financial burden on the Eaton's. Under the recommendation of several guests, the brothers formalized the operation, receiving financial compensation for their efforts as hosts. It was at this ranch that the term "dude ranch" was first used

(Burt 1938). The ranch was called the Custer Trail Ranch (Borland 1940), and was located in what was then known as the Dakota Territory.

There evolved two types of dude or guest ranches that emulated ranch life. The first was the working cattle ranch. It was a serious enterprise with the intention of making a profit from the products raised or produced. These profit generating activities were separate from the guest ranch revenue. The second type of ranch was the mountain ranch. As the name implies, mountain ranches were often located in remote locations and the paying guest was the primary source of revenue (Rodnitzky 1968).

Although the origin of the dude ranch can be tied to high plains mid-west states, most new ranches began to locate in the west and south (Norris 1976). By the 1920's, most ranches were located in a small number of valleys near Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone National Parks (Adams 1930).

Tourist and Vacation Industry and the Guest "Dude" Ranch

Similar to the guest ranches of northern mountain states, the advent of the guest ranch in Arizona was slow. Ranchers began accepting guests in a modest, almost secretive fashion (Norris 1976). More importantly, the economics of the cattle industry forced many ranches to begin accepting guests. By the early 1920's, successive drought conditions coupled with slumping beef prices forced ranchers to accept guests in order to remain solvent (McKelvey 1951).

By the 1920's and 1930's, tourist trade began to grow into a major industry in Arizona (Trimble 1977). The state's climate gained in popularity, along with the many natural wonders and ancient historical sites available to a tourist. The guest ranch attracted many wealthy businessmen and their families from the east in search of what was thought to be the authentic frontier west (Norris 1976). Principally by train and as roads improved, by automobile, vacationers flocked to the region, in search of warm arid weather and a first hand taste of the American western frontier. Many visitors first became acquainted with the state through the publication of Arizona Highways. Started in the 1920's as a mimeographed information bulletin of the Arizona State Highway Department, the tabloid greatly improved its format in the 1930's with the addition of black and white and color photographs. It continues today as the premier vehicle for promoting visitation to the colorful landscape of Arizona. Hollywood and the film industry have also played a serious role in promoting Arizona as the wild frontier west, complete with savage Indians, yet to be discovered gold, and the wide open tall-grass cattle range.

Dude ranches were located with both climate and scenery being the major attraction to potential guests. The early guest ranches located in the southwestern United States differed greatly from those found in Texas, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and northward into Canada. This difference was chiefly due to the spring and summer based trade of the northern ranch

as opposed to the winter oriented activity of the southern Arizona ranch (Dunbier 1968). Because of the mild winter climate and low desert elevation, Phoenix and Tucson specifically catered to the winter tourist and quickly became major centers for dude ranches in the west (Rodnitzky 1968).

Although it is difficult to pinpoint the exact date and location of the first Arizona dude ranch, many ranches opened for commercial endeavors somewhere around 1920. Faraway Ranch first began accepting guests in 1917 (Torres and Baumler, 1984). The difficulty in discerning an exact date is chiefly due to the informal, small scale nature of the guest ranch industry (Norris 1976). A published list of guest ranches first appeared in 1924 as part of a listing of Arizona resorts. The list identified three winter oriented ranches, including Seven Dash Ranch in the Dragoon Mountains, east of Willcox and in close proximity to the Cochise Stronghold. Earlier examples exist however, with Triangle-T Ranch located near Dragoon proclaiming itself as "Arizona's pioneer dude ranch" with an advertized opening date of 1922 (Southern Pacific Railroad 1929).

In the following chapters, the location, landscape, and facilities of eight guest ranches in the study area of San Simom and Sulphur Springs Valley of Cochise County are briefly described. This examination provides a view into the guest ranch industry that existed in southeastern Arizona during the early to mid part of this century. In addition, a historic overview of the settlement of present-day Cochise County is provided to help portray why this region

possessed a natural attraction for cattle ranching and the subsequent guest ranch-tourist trade. Following that is a detailed examination of Faraway Ranch. This study identifies how the site came to be settled by a pioneer family, their strife with menacing Apache Indians, and the eventual opening of a guest ranch. Photographs and detailed site plans are provided. Included is a discussion of how the site was later acquired by the National Park Service. Subsequent is a discussion defining the vernacular image of the guest ranch landscape in southeastern Arizona. Specific elements found in the landscape are summarized followed by a comparison of Faraway Ranch to the eight other ranches identified in the study area.

Research methods include interviews conducted with local historians, area residents, former employees, and past guests of dude ranches located in the Sulphur Springs Valley and San Simon region of Arizona, and content analysis of records and documents held at the Western Archaeological Conservation Center, (WAC), in Tucson. WAC is in possession of all legal documents, financial records, photographs, correspondence, and printed material pertaining to the Faraway Ranch, from its establishment in 1886 to 1976 when the National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior) purchased the site, incorporating it as expansion to the Chiricahua National Monument.

Field observations, interviews, and archival data collection for both Faraway Ranch in particular and seven other southeastern Arizona guest ranches in general were undertaken during the fall of 1987 and winter, spring,

and summer of 1988.

CHAPTER II

HISTORIC OVERVIEW OF SETTLEMENT IN THE SULPHUR SPRINGS AND SAN SIMON REGION; A BROAD PICTURE

Introduction

There are a number of reasons why a visitor would be attracted to a guest ranch in southeastern Arizona. First, is the romantic image of the native Americans. It was in this part of Arizona that two famous Apaches, Cochise and Geronimo, made their home and where they finally stopped their attacks against settlers. Not only was the region rich in gold and silver deposits, it had excellent open range land for cattle ranching, enabling many homesteaders the opportunity to live the frontier life. Initially, the presence of the United States Cavalry was necessary for maintaining peace between Apache tribes and white settlers (Tharpp 1979). A general state of lawlessness persisted in frontier mining towns such as Tombstone and Bisbee. Gun fights and impromptu lynchings were common place events during the mid to late 1800's *(Faulk 1970).

With the advent of tourism during the early part of the 20th century, the rich frontier history of the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys provided a natural attraction for businessmen and vacationers seeking a slice of a very recent page in American history. It was both the culture and the landscape of southeastern Arizona that provided beauty and frontier mystery.

Apache Indian Presence

The Apache are often considered the most famous and, as a result, the most written about of all Arizona Indian tribes. Their colorful history has found its way into many legends of the old southwest. The word Apache is believed to be a corruption of a Zuni Indian word for "enemy" which Spanish explorers in Northern Mexico and the Southwest used to describe these war-like people (Hill and Goff 1970). Some Apache refer to themselves as Nde, meaning "the people" although the western and Chiricahua Mountain Apache have no generic name for themselves (Hill and Goff 1970).

During the 1850's the Apache were aware of the recent Mexican American war, (1846 - 1848) and out of their great dislike for Hispanic people, they welcomed the white pioneers as allies. There was a substantial inflow of these white pioneer homesteaders during the middle part of the 19th Century. Born in 1823, Cochise was the hereditary leader of the Chiricahua Apache during this influx (Faulk 1969). Although generally a peaceful man, Cochise's ferocity on the battlefield earned him the respect of both soldiers and civilians living in the Arizona territory.

However, this peaceful co-existence between the Apache and white miners and settlers was short lived. An incident referred to by historians as the Bascom Affair (Faulk 1969, Trimble 1977), took place in the Sonoita Valley twelve miles from Fort Buchanan. John Ward, a rancher in the valley, made his living with the with the help of his wife and step son. While living with

Apache Indians Ward's wife bore a son whose father was Apache. Historians have reported conflicting stories as to what actually happened to Felix, his stepson. One version recounts a band of Pinal Apache Indians abducting both Felix and the herd of cattle he was tending (Trimble 1977, Murray 1951). Another version reports that in a drunken fit, the elder Ward beat the stepson with such severity that it caused the boy to run from home seeking refuge with his Apache father in Sonora. Once sober, Ward notified officials at Ft. Buchanan that the Chiricahua Apaches had stolen his son (Faulk 1969).

Lieutenant George N. Bascom and sixty soldiers were detached to Apache Pass in the Chiricahua Mountains with the knowledge that Cochise made his home in this region. Bascom set up camp in close proximity to a Butterfield Overland Mail Company station and corral in the pass. It was along this route through the Chiricahua mountains that John Butterfield and Company operated a semi-weekly mail service via stage coach from Ft. Smith, Arkansas to San Francisco, California. The station consisted of a small stone building and corral, where fresh teams of mules along with food and water were kept for passengers making the overland journey. The Butterfield stations might be considered as 19th century versions of the modern day truck stop. This route through Apache Pass was known to be the most dangerous leg of the 24 day trip. The threat of Indian attack and steep slopes created constant hazards to both travelers and mail service employees (Faulk 1969). The remains of this station at Apache Pass is pictured in **Figure 1**.



Figure 1

Remains of the Butterfield Overland Mail Company Station at Apache Pass.

1988 Photograph by author.

Cochise voluntarily entered Bascom's camp on February 4, 1861, escorted by his family members. Once inside Bascom's tent, the lieutenant accused Cochise of stealing cattle and kidnapping the stepson of John Ward. Lt. Bascom demanded an immediate return of both. Cochise was adamant in possessing no knowledge of Felix's whereabouts yet offered his assistance in finding the boy. Bascom informed Cochise that he and his family would be held hostage until Ward's boy was returned. Realizing the hopelessness of the situation, Cochise drew his knife and slit a hole in the tent side making a hasty escape. The rest of his family were not as fortunate. One was killed while trying to escape with Cochise while the other six or so relatives were taken hostage by Bascom (Faulk 1969). Cochise sent a message demanding the return of his family members. Again he was denied this exchange. Shortly thereafter a wagon train crossing the pass was attacked by Cochise's Apache warriors. The Mexican's taken prisoner were chained to the wagon wheels and burned alive. Two Americans were taken as prisoner in hopes of an exchange for Bascom's hostages (Trimble 1977).

Again Cochise sent a message demanding a hostage exchange and once more was frustrated with accusations of holding the Ward boy captive. Lieutenant Bascom realizing his precarious and untenable position at the pass, sent a runner to Fort Buchanan for reinforcements. On February 14th, 1861, Lieutenant Isaiah Moore and seventy dragoon soldiers arrived at the pass. All remained quiet for several days until a patrol discovered the mutilated bodies

of the American hostages about one and a half miles from the Butterfield station (Trimble 1977). In a retaliatory move, Bascom marched his Apache captives to the site of the slain Americans, explained to them what had happened, bound them hand and foot and hung them by the neck to the nearest tree (Faulk 1969).

The missing boy, Felix Tellez, was never recovered. It was later proved that Cochise did not kidnap the boy, and is generally believed that Felix was abducted by a band of Pinal Indians. He resurfaced in history twenty years later as a one eyed scout and interpreter for General Crook, under the name of Mickey Free. In recounting his abduction, Free couldn't recall much of what had happened (Trimble 1977).

Some historians have blamed Lt. Bascom as the man who singlehandedly sparked the war among the Apaches, white settlers, and military, thus making the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys, and Chiricahua Mountains extremely dangerous for white men and women. Knowing the ramifications that the Bascom Affair had upon the lives of many innocent settlers, the Lieutenant is the logical person to be held accountable. It is significant to note, however, that given the nature of the somewhat lawless southwestern frontier, the actions of Bascom were customary for the calvary when dealing with Indians (Trimble 1977).

The Cavalry Comes To The Region

Events such as the Bascom Affair represented the beginning of an increased effort on the part of the government to provide protection for American cattle ranchers and safe passage for the overland mail route in southeastern Arizona and southern New Mexico. This protection took physical form in the establishment of Ft. Bowie, strategically placed and adjacent to Apache Spring, in Apache Pass.

Apache Pass is a twisting narrow course separating the Dos Cabezas and Chiricahua Mountains. Rising up from the desert floor of cactus and mesquite trees, the pass abounds with desert upland grasses that converge with the pinyon and juniper belt. The rough and rocky mountains have numerous sandy washes lined with oak, hackberry, willow, and black walnut trees. This region is classically identified as a biotic transition zone (Elmore 1976).

To the east is the Chiricahua Desert; to the west is the Sonoran Desert. The six mile trail through Apache Pass connects the Sulphur Springs Valley with the San Simon Valley.

Along this trail lies Apache Spring; a reliable source of fresh water. The spring is a dominant feature in what is now considered an historic landscape, as it drew animals, Indians, soldiers, and settlers to the mountain pass. It also marked the location for a Butterfield Overland Mail station (USDI,NPS 1975).

Although the Bascom/Cochise Affair sparked Apache aggression, the Civil War between the states was a greater catalyst for increased Apache

raiding in southeastern Arizona. The outbreak of the Civil War in April of 1861 caused all Army troops to be withdrawn from the Arizona Territory and relocated to the Rio Grande. Mining came to a standstill, ranchers abandoned their stock, and many either moved to Tucson or left the territory altogether (Faulk, 1969). Cochise, unaware of the Civil War, believed it was the white man's fear of the Apache which caused the closing of the Butterfield Stage Line and subsequent exodus of settlers.

In February, 1862, fifty-four men under the command of Confederate Captain Sherod Hunter, rode through Apache Pass on their way to occupy Tucson. It was also about this time that Colonel James Carleton of the Union Army was making his way from California towards the Arizona territory. His men numbered about eighteen hundred and were made up of ill-disciplined miners, ranchers, and opportunists who called themselves "The California Column." After arriving at Fort Yuma early in 1862, the main force eventually made their way towards Tucson. The flag was raised and Carleton declared Arizona a territory of the Union, although it took months before the bureaucracy in Washington would do the same (Trimble 1977). Confederate Captain Sherod Hunter had suffered huge losses in New Mexico and upon seeing the advancing California Column, wisely retreated to the east (Trimble 1986).

After establishing the presence of the Union Army in Tucson, Carleton moved an advance detachment to Apache Pass. On July 8th, 1862 Captain

Tom Roberts, 126 men, and nearly 250 animals proceeded to the abandoned Butterfield Station at San Simon located due east of Apache Pass. Robert's mission was to fortify the station and give protection to Union supply trains as they made their way through the pass with goods bound for Tucson and the California Column.

On the fourteenth of July, 1862, Roberts with sixty infantry soldiers, seven cavalrymen, and two 12 pound prairie howitzers made their trek to Apache Pass, some forty miles away. When they were one half mile from the abandoned station, the Apache who were hidden in the surrounding hills, opened fire on the rear of the Column. Robert's men returned fire, trading casualties and proceeded to force their way to Apache Spring located six hundred yards from the station. Had they not secured a position at the spring, they would have perished as the closest source of water was forty miles to the west.

The Battle of Apache Pass

The Battle of Apache Pass, as it came to be known, was the largest gathering of Apache ever assembled in Arizona for battle against the Army. Nearly 700 Indians under the joint leadership of Cochise and Mangas Coloradas fought against 126 soldiers. The Army reported losing two men. Conflicting historical records list Apache losses at anywhere from seven to sixty three warriors. Nevertheless, it was the prairie howitzers that were responsible

for the Army victory. The howitzers could send a volley that would explode right above the enemy, showering the Apache with hot shrapnel. Never again would the Apache challenge the Americans on the battlefield, reserving their aggressions to that of a terrorist nature (Trimble 1986). Shortly thereafter, the former Colonel and then General Carleton arrived at the pass. He decided that a post was needed there for protection of the military and civilians alike. Fort Bowie was established on July 28th, 1862. It was named for Colonel George Washington Bowie of the California Volunteers stationed at Fort Yuma and commanding the District of Southern California (Murray 1951). Present day remains of Fort Bowie and the surrounding landscape is pictured in **Figure 2**.

Carleton predicted that Fort Bowie would be occupied by troops for many years. Soldiers were continuously stationed there until 1894. Although the presence of Fort Bowie in Apache Pass did allow the safe passage of supply trains from the San Simon through to the Sulphur Springs Valley, Apaches continued to haunt the vicinity of Ft. Bowie and attack the few settlers in the region. The Arizona Citizen reported that on November 11th, 1871, hostile Apaches attacked the farmhouse of R.M. Gilbert, located in the San Simon Valley. Although Gilbert managed to escape badly wounded, Indians burned the house to the ground while killing another white man.

In 1872, conditions began to change that culminated in the chief's submission. President Grant's peace policy hinged greatly on a settlement with Cochise. General Oliver O. Howard was directed to return to the southwest



Figure 2

Remains of Fort Bowie and surrounding landscape.

1988 Photograph by author.

and draft a peace treaty. Howard employed the services of Thomas J. Jeffords, a white man and known blood brother to Cochise, to act as intermediary. A meeting was held at the chief's stronghold located in the Dragoon Mountains east of Ft. Bowie. Negotiations resulted in the establishment of a reservation located east of the Dragoon Mountains in what today is a portion of Cochise County. Jeffords was named special agent for the reservation and set temporary agency headquarters at Apache Spring (Murray 1951). The reservation was closed in 1876 when the Chiricahua Apache were moved to a new reservation at San Carlos, New Mexico Territory. The Sulphur Springs Valley, then grass covered, was shortly thereafter swarming with Texas cattle.

Cattle Ranching By White Settlers

The truce with Cochise and later the surrender of Geronimo was welcome news for future settlers of the region. Mines and ranches in the immediate proximity of Fort Bowie which had brought several prospectors and cattlemen to Apache Pass in the late 1860's had been abandoned by mid 1871 due to fear of Indian attack.

Although a serious problem in the past, the supply of fresh food at Fort Bowie during the early 1880's was no longer a difficulty. A great deal of stock and some dairy products were supplied by Brannick Riggs, a new settler to the region who had established a ranch on the western side of the Chiricahua Mountains (Murray 1951).

Cattle were first introduced into Arizona during the days of the Spanish missionary, Father Kino. It was not until some years after the close of the Civil War, however, that ranching became a significant factor in the Arizona economy. The great herds of cattle owned by the Spanish and Mexican ranchers had been killed or run off by the Apache. Although efforts were made to restock southeastern Arizona with cattle after the Gadsden Purchase of 1853, in most every case, Apache made off with the herds.

By the 1870's, many hostile Indians were relocated onto reservations, and ranching operations began to flourish. The first permanent cattle ranch of any consequence was begun in 1872 by Colonel Henry C. Hooker at his famous Sierra Bonita Ranch in the Sulphur Springs Valley. Hooker's ranch was a show place with a large garden and a dairy herd for visiting guests. Sierra Bonita was also known for raising beautiful race horses (Faulk 1970). Hooker worked to improve the breed of his cattle with the introduction of the short horned Hereford and Durham strains (Hill and Goff 1970).

During the next few years other important pioneers established ranches. Among these were John Slaughter who first settled in Hereford, and later moved to the historic San Bernardino Springs site 17 miles east of the city of Douglas. Slaughter was a successful rancher from Texas who in 1884 drove a large herd of long horn cattle into southeastern Arizona. The 40 year old Slaughter and his young wife, Viola, branded their cattle with a "Z", one of the first registered brands in Cochise County. Slaughter went on to make San

Bernardino one of the largest ranches in the history of Arizona. In 1884, the popular Slaughter was elected sheriff of Cochise County. He single handedly brought an end to the widespread cattle rustling and general state of lawlessness that existed in the County (Faulk 1970).

By the early 1880's cattle ranching had grown to a scale where it had a major influence on the economy of Arizona. Favorable range conditions along with a desirable climate and solid financial support quickly stimulated the development of ranching in the state. The San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys in particular experienced a tremendous amount of growth in the cattle business.

During the early 1890's, the nearly 50,000 head of Mexican cattle that were moved into the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys had grazed it literally "down to the rock." (Trimble 1986). Overstocking of cattle on the range had a devastating effect on a landscape that in 1860 was reported to have been the richest land for cattle grazing in the west.

The wide spread cattle ranching industry of the two Valleys also gave rise to frontier towns whose economy depended upon the shipment of cattle to eastern markets. Most notable of these was Willcox, located in the heart of the Sulphur Springs Valley at an elevation of 4100 feet. To the south lay Willcox Playa, a dusty wind-swept alkali sink, or salt lake as it is more commonly known. To the north lay Fort Grant.

Willcox was settled in 1880 by the Southern Pacific Rail Road primarily

as a pick up point for the thousands of cattle being raised in the region (McKelvey 1951). During an average year, 20,000 to 50,000 head, mostly Herfords, moved to eastern and western markets from Willcox, giving the small community the prestige of shipping more range cattle than any other town in the United States. In the early days, the rail road accepted cattle in nothing less than train load lots. Between 1900 and 1920, the average yearly shipment from Willcox numbered as many as 100,000 head of cattle. This figure persisted until a gradual decline began in the 1930's (McKelvey 1951).

Soon, mining interests were using Willcox to send smeltered ores from Bisbee, Globe, and Morenci, Arizona, to eastern consumers. Huge mule powered trains would lumber into town where they would dump their loads of copper at the rail road terminal for shipment to large processing plants.

Mining By White Settlers

Mining in the Arizona territory represented one of the most colorful yet lawless periods in the history of the region's settlement. Men came from points east and west with the dream of finding a mother load that would make them instantly rich. Hard reality replaced many young prospectors dreams. Although south-eastern Arizona was rich in copper, some silver, and a little gold, the ability to finance any profitable extraction of these minerals was often beyond the financial means of most men. As was so often the case, the rights to a potentially lucrative claim were sold to a wealthy individual or

corporation from back east who would set up mining operations in Arizona, hiring many opportunists to perform the hard manual labor.

Cochise County and the San Simon, and Sulphur Springs Valleys were very much a part of the prospecting and mining mania of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Many boom towns, such as Gleeson and Pearce sprang up only to be abandoned and become ghost towns as the minerals and monetary returns proved to be more dream than reality. Other towns have remained either as tourist attractions, farming and ranching communities, or medium size communities with varying degrees of economic diversity. However, most retain only a shell of their past glory.

For example, Dos Cabezas, Spanish for "two heads", is the name of a town and of the two bald peaks of the mountain range which form a landmark for travelers at the northern end of the Chiricahua Mountains. Located on the eastern edge of the Sulphur Springs Valley, the town today has all but vanished, leaving little indication of its past hope for glory. Originally known as Ewell's Springs, the town had over three hundred residents, a hotel, and numerous saloons during the gold and silver claims of the 1870's (Trimble 1986). Today, little more than a few crumbling adobe structures and a handful of residences remain, as pictured in Figure 3.

The city of Douglas is located on the Mexican boarder at the most southern reaches of the Sulphur Springs Valley. Founded in 1901, the town takes its name from Dr. James Douglas, a man who's scientific abilities led to

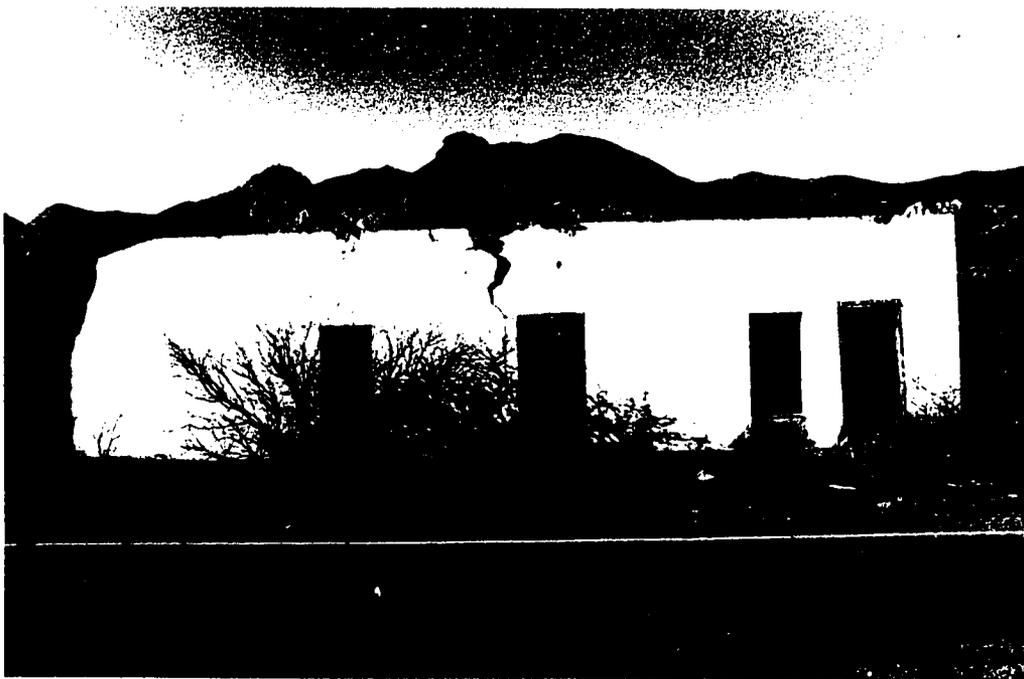


Figure 3

Crumbling adobe structure with Dos Cabezas peak in background.

1987 Photograph by author.

improved mining techniques. Douglas became a company town for the Phelps-Dodge mining corporation with many of the residents working in the huge copper smelter. Originally known as Black Water, Douglas is an international boarder crossing to Agua Prieta, Mexico. The region that surrounds Douglas remains one of the most remote and isolated regions of Arizona.

Located in Cochise County, but west of the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys, lies the most famous of pioneer mining towns, Tombstone. This town had a reputation for lawlessness while employing thousands of men who worked the mines. Tombstone was also the site of the most famous of all Arizona mines. In the presence of soldiers scouting the region for renegade Apaches, Ed Schieffelin combed the hills looking for pieces of "float" ore that had broken off from a main deposit, or mother load. Each evening upon returning to the soldiers camp, Schieffelin would be asked if he had found anything. The soldiers would often tell the prospector that all he could hope to find would be his "tombstone", in reference to the hostile Apache Indians also known to be in the area (Faulk 1970). Ed Schieffelin's persistence paid off. In 1877 he found a large deposit of silver a few miles east of the San Pedro River. The news of Schieffelin's mother-load spread like wildfire. Other deposits were found in the area, a town sprung up and Schieffelin affectionately named the town "Tombstone." By 1882 the town had a population of over fifteen thousand, making it the largest settlement between San Antonio and San Francisco. Tombstone is also known for a shoot out that

occurred involving Wyatt Earp, his brothers, and Doc Holliday. The lawlessness in Cochise County rose to such a level that then President of the United States, Chester A. Arthur threatened to proclaim martial law (Trimble 1986).

As the mining activity in this corner of the Arizona Territory began to decline and a drop in beef prices severely affected cattle ranching, other sources of income were pursued. Among these was the birth of the guest ranch in Cochise County and surrounding areas.

CHAPTER III

GUEST RANCHES IN THE SAN SIMON AND SULPHUR SPRINGS VALLEY

Introduction

While the unique wintertime climate may have differentiated the Southern Arizona ranch from its counterparts in the northern states, much of the charisma associated with these Arizona ranches can be attributed to the unusual Southwestern culture (Smith 1936). The San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys, divided by the Chiricahua Mountains, contained just the right blend of natural beauty, adobe dwellings, cactus and desert vegetation, Apache Indian history, and cowboy imagery to attract tourists and adventure seekers from around the United States. Although some chose the comforts of a hotel such as the Gadsden in Douglas or the Copper Queen in Bisbee, many came in search of the peace and tranquility found only on the open range. More importantly, visitors came in search of the western cowboy lifestyle. The Arizona guest ranch personified the notion of a vacation getaway, while simultaneously allowing the guest a chance to take part in the roping and riding associated with ranch life.

General Ranch Description

In Arizona, the guest ranch did not become well known until the late 1920's and on into the early 1930's (Rodnitzky 1968). Just as in other western states, early guest ranches in Arizona fell into two basic categories; working

ranches and non-working ranches. During the early years of the trade, most were actual working ranches, catering almost exclusively to raising cattle. Ranches varied in size from 25,000 to 60,000 acres (Norris 1976). To a lesser degree, there existed the non-working guest ranch in southeastern Arizona. Non-working ranches were smaller in size, possessed few or no cattle, and were often located in closer proximity to local towns such as Tucson, Willcox or Douglas.

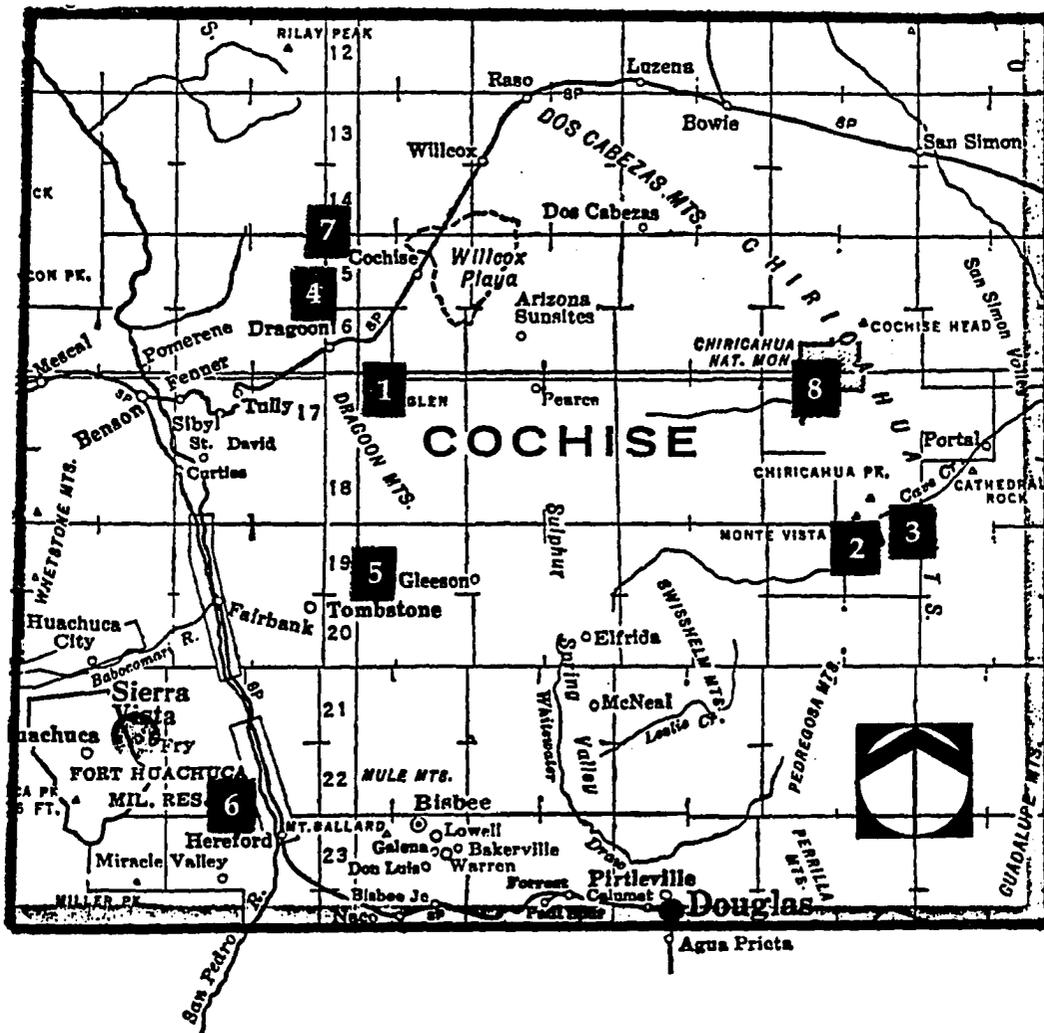
Months of Operation

Although most of the ranches included in this study were winter oriented, the seasonal operation of early ranches varied in time of operation. The maximum length of the winter season extended from October 1st to June 1st, whereas the minimum ran from December 1st to April 15th (Southern Pacific Railroad 1929).

The following describes the landscape, facilities, and entertainment provided by eight guest ranches which characterize those that operated during the early to mid 1900's in the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valley of Southeastern Arizona. The location of the eight ranches described in this study are indicated in **Figure 4**.

Figure 4

Map of Cochise County indicating the locations of eight ranches identified.



- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1. | Seven Dash Ranch | 5. | Bar O Ranch |
| 2. | Rancho Manzanita | 6. | Y Lightning Ranch |
| 3. | Sierra Linda Ranch | 7. | C Bar Ranch |
| 4. | Triangle T Ranch | 8. | Faraway Ranch |

SEVEN DASH RANCH

The Seven Dash Ranch was one of the largest cattle ranches in Arizona. The name, Seven Dash, refers to the cattle brand of the ranch. The ranch was located in proximity to the Chiricahua Mountains, across Willcox Playa on the lower slopes of the Little Dragoon Mountains at an elevation of 5,000 feet. The Seven Dash Ranch was a convenient 25 miles from the cattle shipping city of Willcox and 15 miles from the town of Dragoon.

Landscape

Promotional literature for the ranch touted the hills which encircled the ranch house as "...tempting one to climb their smooth sides-afoot, or more gently, on horseback; and afford from their summits, views of wonderful stretches of country, melting into the blue of high mountain ranges on the horizon" (Seven Dash Ranch n.d.).

Facilities

The Seven Dash Ranch could accommodate up to 25 guests in bungalows equipped with hot and cold running water, fire places, and sleeping porches. The main ranch house was a rambling one-story adobe structure, with a living room, dining room, and kitchen that provided guests with "...good home cooking, with plenty of fresh vegetables and the best of meat, fresh eggs, and milk in abundance. The water is from mountain springs and is absolutely

pure" (Seven Dash Ranch n.d.).

The Seven Dash Ranch would not accept persons suffering from lung trouble or other communicable disease. Weekly rates were furnished upon request.

Entertainment

Ranch literature proclaimed life was never dull with roping, riding, and branding. Guests were encouraged to participate in periodical round-ups to gain insight into the inner workings of a ranch, and perhaps a chance to experience the real life of the west. The chief amusement was horse back riding. Each guest was furnished a horse and saddle fitted to his or her requirements and abilities. Literature claimed that the ranch had horses which the "...most inexpert rider would feel perfectly safe on, and others with plenty of action for the skilled horseman." The ranch advertized many interesting trips that could be made on horseback or by automobile; weeks could be spent sight-seeing with out ever leaving the Seven Dash range. Evening entertainment could include a moon-light camp fire or dancing in the main ranch house.

In addition to riding, hiking, or camping, ranch guests came to hunt wild game in the mountains and canyons. The sportsman could expect to find deer, lion, bear, wolves, wild hogs, wild goats, fox, quail, and rabbits (Seven Dash Ranch n.d.). This ranch, like many of its day, would not accept

"..persons suffering from any form of lung trouble or other communicable disease" (Seven Dash Ranch n.d.).

RANCHO MANZANITA - EL CORONADO RANCH

1924 saw the opening of "Hotel Rancho Manzanita, Arizona's newest and most beautiful guest ranch hotel" (Rancho Manzanita n.d.). By the early 1930's, the ranch had been sold to wealthy Tucson accountant, C.T.R. Bates, and rechristened "El Coronado Ranch." In 1962, Bates donated 23 acres to the University of Arizona to be used as a field research school. In promotional literature produced by Mrs. E.E. Ainsworth, original owner of Rancho Manzanita, no mention was made of cattle herding, bronco busting or other activities typically associated with a working guest ranch. Guests were enticed to play tennis, golf, or swim in the pool. Later, literature produced by Curtis Cooper, Jr., manager of EL Coronado Ranch placed great emphasis on activities available to guests that were more typical of a working cattle guest ranch.

Landscape

At an elevation of about 5,500 feet, El Coronado Ranch is located 59 miles north from Douglas and 50 miles east from Tombstone. El Coronado Ranch sits in Turkey Creek Canyon, situated at the base of 9,800-foot Chiricahua Peak in the heart of the Chiricahua Mountains, and is comprised of several thousand acres of forested slopes and neatly landscaped grounds.

Promotional literature referred to a profusion of varied and interesting scenic features, such as Dos Cabezas (two heads), and the Wonderland of Rocks, (Chiricahua National Monument), which rivaled the Grand Canyon with its splendor. Specific focus was given to the high mountain altitude and clear air. ".while our latitude assures us an abundance of warm, glowing sunshine during the winter months, early mornings and late evenings are crisp enough to make a coat or jacket feel mighty comfortable" (El Coronado Ranch 1939). Bordering the ranch property is the Coronado National Forest, complete with miles of mountain trails.

Facilities

The heart of the ranch is a two story spanish-colonial ranch house made of reinforced concrete. The dining rooms ".are cheerful and attractive, with a spacious sunny lobby, a lounge, and billiard rooms" (Rancho Manzanita n.d.). Adjacent to the hotel and nestling among the trees on Turkey Creek are 10 individual bungalows of two and three rooms, each equipped with a bath and fireplace. Promotional ranch literature made reference to a capable chef and his well equipped kitchen and large staff of trained employees eager to serve. The ranch also advertized the finest orchards in Arizona along with several acres of cultivated gardens, providing a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables in season. El Coronado maintained its own dairy and poultry yards.

Rates of \$65 per week for single guests and \$120 per week for two

indicated the up-scale nature of this ranch when one considers that these rates were based upon 1930's dollars. El Coronado Ranch maintained a restricted clientele policy, stating that it is the desire of the management to obtain guests by reference of friends of the ranch. In addition, reservations were accepted from gentiles only (El Coronado Ranch 1939).

Entertainment

Early Rancho Manzanita literature advertized horse back riding and camping as the chief outdoor sports available to prospective guests. Typical of much of the early ranch promotional literature, a capable leader, in this case "Bill" Lorenz, famous guide, horseman, and frontiersman, assured the safety of "..successful adventures with the wilds." "..coon hunting by moonlight, camping trips, bear hunting with dogs, or any sport reminiscent of old frontier days" (Rancho Manzanita n.d.). In later years, promotional literature produced by the El Coronado referred to the handling of cattle of the "Muleshoe" brand as being the paramount activity at the ranch. Guests were encouraged to help in round-ups, roping and branding, handling and cutting out stock, running down wild mountain cattle, and breaking and training of raw broncos (El Coronado Ranch 1939). In addition, ranch literature posted hunting seasons for deer, quail, cottontail, jackrabbit, band-tailed pigeon, white-winged dove, mourning dove, and ducks. "..if you're quick on the trigger, you should bring down a good many coyotes. Trapping for wild cats, coons, and fox affords

diversion in the winter" (El Coronado Ranch 1939). Activities available to the non-sportsman included trips to the Wonderland of Rocks (Chiricahua National Monument), Bisbee, Douglas, and Agua Prieta, Mexico.

SIERRA LINDA RANCH

Sierra Linda Ranch was located in Cave Creek Canyon, the "Yosemite of Arizona" (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934), on the eastern slope of the Chiricahua Mountains. Sierra Linda Ranch was in a location "..where true western atmosphere still prevails, yet convenient to rail and highway facilities" (Sierra Linda Ranch 1935).

Landscape

At an elevation of 5,000 feet, ranch guests enjoyed a comfortable climate, allowing ranch operation to continue year round. Situated in Cave Creek Canyon, Sierra Linda Ranch was surrounded by colorful cliffs with waterfalls which towered above the canyon floor. Mountain slopes were covered in pine and spruce forests, and contained miles of forest service roads and trails. Green fields with orchards stretched out from the base of the valley.

Facilities

Accommodations were modern and attractive. Rooms were available both in the main ranch house or in separate guest cottages equipped with hot

and cold running water and baths (Arizona Daily Star 1935). The main ranch house "..with its charming patio is richly shaded" (Sierra Linda Ranch 1935). The ranch maintained its own dairy and poultry yards in addition to growing fruit and vegetables.

Rates of \$40 per week and up included a saddle and horse. As was often the case at most guest ranches, persons with communicable diseases were not accepted.

Entertainment

Ranch activities highlighted outdoor recreation such as riding, rodeo sports, mountain climbing, hunting, fishing, fossil hunts, in addition to swimming and tennis (Arizona Daily Star 1935). Cave Creek Canyon was often justly called that "Yosemite of Arizona" (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Ranch literature promoted visits to the Chiricahua National Monument, one of the scenic wonders of Arizona where "..nature in a gargantuan task of sculpting, transformed a mountain of rhyolite into a fantastic valley of startling rock formations" (Sierra Linda Ranch 1935). Guests were also encouraged to visit the nearby ghost towns of Paradise and Galeyville.

TRIANGLE T RANCH

Triangle T Ranch was located in Texas Canyon, 63 miles east of Tucson and 3 miles from the Southern Pacific rail station at Dragoon. Guests were

met at the station by appointment. The name Triangle T refers to the shape of the cattle brand used by the ranch. Literature referred to the ranch as being an exclusive guest ranch where one could enjoy all ranch activities amid attractions and congenial surroundings (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934).

Landscape

Located in the heart of Arizona's great cattle range country at an elevation of 4,500 feet, the landscape of this ranch was similar to that found at the Seven Dash Ranch. Gently sloping hills of high desert and pinyon oak and juniper are classified as transition vegetation (Elmore 1976), and contrasted with the pine and oak vegetation found in the higher elevation of the Chiricahua Mountains.

Facilities

The main building was made of adobe and stucco and designed with a Spanish-Mexican architectural influence. Modern stucco cottages with private baths opened into a central patio. Special attention was given to the table which was noted for its excellent "home-cooked" cuisine (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Rates of \$45 per week and up included the use of a saddle horse and everything the ranch had to offer.

Entertainment

Guests were encouraged to join in on all activities associated with this working cattle ranch. Literature made reference to nearby old missions, Mexican boarder towns, and the Cochise Stronghold (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934).

BAR O RANCH

Located east of Tombstone, a pioneer mining town, the Bar O Ranch was one of the older working cattle ranches in this region of Arizona. Promotional literature assembled in the late 1920's referred to the Bar O Ranch as having been a cattle ranch for over 50 years. Hence the name, Bar O, refers to the brand used on its cattle. Guest arrived by car on U.S. 80, or taking either the Southern Pacific or Rock Island Line railroad to Benson or Fairbanks where they were met by a ranch car (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934).

Landscape

This ranch was comprised of over 20 miles of mountain and valley landscape located against the Dragoon Mountains and over looking the San Pedro River Valley at an elevation of 5,500 feet. The ranch site commanded unsurpassed distant mountain views.

Facilities

The Bar O Ranch was a relatively small ranch having a capacity of up to 15 guests. Patrons occupied modern bunk houses in a grove of live oak trees. The ranch was suited to those who wanted cowboy adventure in a genuine, simple setting (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Rates of \$50 per week or \$150 per month included the use of a horse and gear.

Entertainment

Being one of the oldest working cattle ranches in this part of the country, Bar O Ranch afforded guests an opportunity to actively participate in real cowboy fashion. Literature referred to the ranch as "..being perfectly suited to those who want cowboy adventure in an authentic, genuine atmosphere" (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Guests were encouraged to visit the Cochise Stronghold, home of the famous Apache leader, less than a days ride away.

Y LIGHTNING RANCH

The Y Lightning Ranch was located six miles from the Herford rail station and 95 miles southeast of Tucson. The boarder towns of Naco and Agua Prieta lay only a short distance away. The name, Y Lightning refers to the cattle brand used by the ranch.

Landscape

This ranch was a real working cattle ranch of over 25,000 acres, situated on a gently sloping mesa of the San Pedro River Valley at an elevation of 4,880 feet. Three miles from the ranch were the heavily wooded Huachuca Mountains.

Facilities

Guests occupied single and double cabins, comfortably furnished with gas light, heating stoves, and running water. The ranch had modern bathing facilities and ".hot water at all hours" (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Promotional literature advertized that the ranch was, "..essentially a cattle ranch, and in no sense a hotel, but where guest could find every comfort commensurate with life on a modern, high-class ranch" (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Rates of \$50 per week and included a saddle horse. The ranch was open to guests from October 15 to May 15.

Entertainment

In addition to activities and chores typically associated with a working cattle ranch, guest could arrange hunting trips or visit Naco and Agua Prieta, Mexico. The close proximity of Mexican boarder towns provided entertainment of an exotic nature for many of the ranches in this study.

C BAR RANCH

The C Bar Ranch was an old established ranch with more than 50 years of development that attributed to its success, as proclaimed in promotional literature from 1934 (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). The ranch was located near Dragoon and was accessed by the Southern Pacific Rail station located five miles away. The name C Bar referred to the cattle brand used at the ranch.

Landscape

This cattle ranch was located in the Dragoon Mountains at an elevation of 5,000 feet, where guests could enjoy desert and foothills riding. Neatly landscaped grounds with large shade trees contributed to the charm of this ranch (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934).

Facilities

Guests stayed in small modern cabins adjacent to a large, comfortable main ranch house. Cabins had hot and cold running water and a fire place. Guests took their meals at a large dining room table with the ranch hands (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Rates were \$35 per week, and \$10 additional per week for the use of a horse.

Entertainment

Although most had become inactive by the 1930's, the large mines of the Johnson mining district were located only two miles north of the ranch and were available for exploration under that watchful eye of a guide. Guest were also encouraged to head north to visit Isaacson Hot Springs in addition to Wildcat Canyon and Box Canyon, complete with giant sycamores and pines (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934).

FARAWAY RANCH

Faraway Ranch was situated at the entrance to Bonita Canyon in the heart of the Chiricahua Mountains at an elevation of 5,000 feet. Faraway Ranch was located 65 miles from Douglas and 36 miles south of Willcox. Guests were met by automobile at the Southern Pacific rail station in Willcox.

The history, settlement, landscape, and present day condition of Faraway Ranch is described in detail in Chapter IV of this thesis.

Landscape

Faraway Ranch was referred to as the "Gateway to Chiricahua National Monument" (Faraway Ranch n.d.). Located in the mouth of Bonita Canyon and surrounded by steep mountain slopes with pinyon pine, juniper, and assorted desert vegetation, the landscape was varied and quite interesting. The mile-high altitude of the ranch tempered the Arizona summer heat.

Facilities

The main ranch house is a two-story adobe and stucco structure with ground and second story covered porches. Guests took their meals in main dining room that was heated by a fire place built of stones inscribed with the names of Union Soldiers stationed in the region in the 1880's. Guests stayed in modern cabins or a bunk house. The ranch itself is surrounded by an orchard and garden. A swimming pool was supplied with fresh water from the mountains by pipes (Faraway Ranch n.d.). Most guests were accepted on a referral basis only, and in later years, only long-time friends of the owner were accepted (Murray 1988). Rates were based on the American Plan, and varied as to the length of stay, number in the party, and duration that horses were used (Faraway Ranch n.d.).

Entertainment

Faraway Ranch is perhaps best known for its proximity to the Chiricahua National Monument and the Wonderland Of Rocks. Horse trips to the monument were available to ranch guests. "The ranch offers something more; the opportunity of combining an unusual vacation with a visit to wonders which have brought fame to [the] Chiricahua Mountains" (Faraway Ranch n.d.). In addition, the ranch offered hunting, horse back riding, and hiking on mountain trails.

Other ranches located in the study area but not described herein include:

Rancho Risco at Cave Creek near Portal, New Mexico, Spur Cross Ranch at Cave Creek, Sliver Spur Ranch in Bonita Canyon, Sierra Vista Ranch at Turkey Creek, J-H Ranch near Douglas, Frontier Ranch in McNeil, El Portal Ranch near Portal, New Mexico, and Em Bar Bee Ranch near Douglas.

CHAPTER IV

FARAWAY RANCH: A DETAILED LOOK AT A SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GUEST RANCH

Introduction

Faraway Ranch and its surrounding structures provide an excellent example of a late 19th century Arizona ranch. Established as a homestead in 1888, the ranch grew from a one-room cabin into a multi-story home with enclosed porches, numerous out-buildings, and expansive orchards filled with fruit-bearing trees. Set in Bonita Canyon, Faraway Ranch represented the first permanent white settlement in a region known for its population of dangerous, and often unpredictable Apache Indians.

Significance Of The Site

During the early years of the ranch, increased settlement in the new western territory of Arizona had a profound effect upon what was once considered a dangerous and hostile environment for white pioneers. Faraway Ranch continued to evolve in an attempt to keep pace with a rapidly growing territory. Principal amongst these changes was Faraway's transformation from a pioneer homestead into a popular guest ranch, catering to an ever-growing population of vacationers from eastern cities. The Faraway experience included modern comfort while simultaneously evoking images of the rustic and untamed wild west, images that were synonymous with the Sulphur Spring

and San Simon Valleys of southeast Arizona.

The following describes the settlement and progressive changes made to Faraway Ranch by Neil Erickson and his family.

Pioneer Family Settles In Bonita Canyon: The Erickson Family Homestead

Images of self-sufficiency in an isolated region come to mind when describing the settlement of Faraway Ranch. Located in a remote section of Arizona where the climate is both hot and arid, and where renegade Apache Indians terrorized early settlers, Bonita Canyon was a less than likely choice for the site of a homestead. Prior to 1888, the canyon had been home to a land squatter, a farmer, and a small detachment of black troops from the United States 10th Calvary Regiment. It was not until 1888 that any of these early white or black opportunists would homestead the site and raise a family.

Neil Erickson was a First Sergeant in the U.S. Army. Although he had spent some time stationed at nearby Ft. Bowie, he often moved to numerous Army installations located through out the region of New Mexico and Arizona. Emma Peterson was both companion and maid to the wife of an Army Colonel. Emma also ran a hotel at Ft. Bowie during 1885 and 1886. Although Neil and Emma had known each other since 1883, it was not until 1886 at Ft. Bowie that the two avowed their relationship. Neil Erickson and Emma Peterson were married on January 25th, 1887 (Torres and Baumler 1984).

A small cabin stood in Bonita Canyon during the 1880's, presumably

built by a man named Newton (Figure 5). Although there is no recorded data about this man, it is assumed he was a squatter in the canyon. Newton is referred to by Neil Erickson as the man who built the cabin and for whom a small creek is named that flows in a north/south direction across the property. (Torres and Baumler 1984).

While at Ft. Bowie, Emma Peterson met J. Hughes Stafford who spoke of a beautiful place he owned in Bonita Canyon where he cultivated a fair sized orchard and vegetable garden, selling his produce to Ft. Bowie. Emma visited the site and found it to be as beautiful as Stafford had described. Large oak trees lined the canyon, accompanied by grasses up to three feet high. Nearby Bonita Creek resembled a small river as water ran with tremendous velocity (Torres and Baumler 1984). Emma bought the cabin and the land on which it stood from Stafford who had assumedly purchased the cabin from Newton. Stafford had previously rented the cabin to Captain Charles Cooper as a shelter for his wife and daughter while he (Cooper) commanded a small detachment of black soldiers of the 10th Cavalry Regiment during parts of 1885-86. Cooper had the distinction of being the first black man to graduate from the West Point military academy (Torres and Baumler 1984). After purchasing the cabin and land, Emma traveled to Tucson to file for the land. While at the land office, she learned that federal law permitted only one family member to file for a homestead, which at that time required a minimum purchase of 160 acres. Emma decided to postpone filing for the

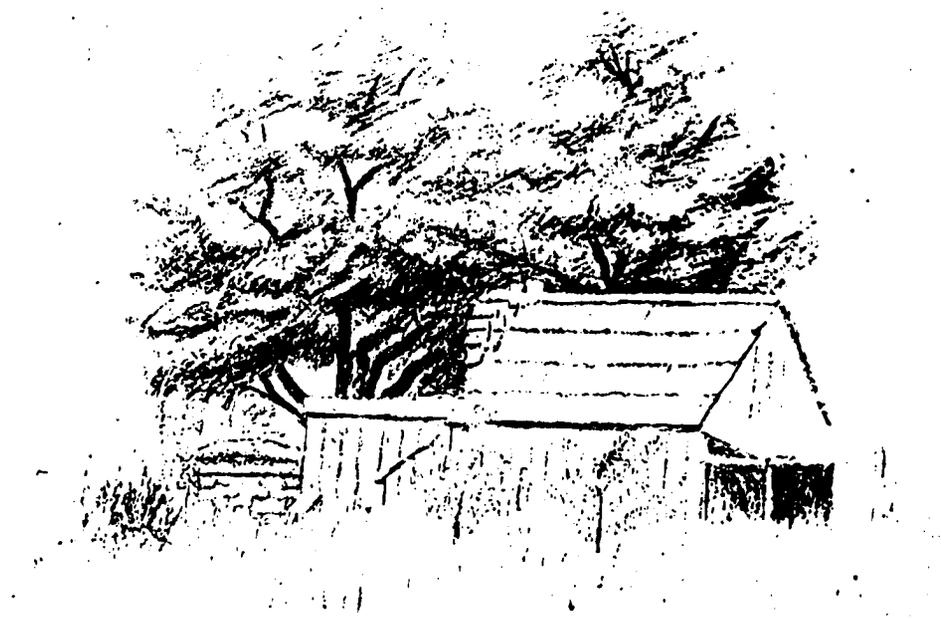


Figure 5

Sketch of the small cabin which stood in Bonita Canyon circa 1892.

Erickson-Riggs Collection

land and allow Neil to file for the homestead and potentially on other lands in the future. Hoofs and Horns (1934), a journal devoted to western frontier life, interviewed Neil who recalled filing for the homestead shortly after his marriage to Emma Peterson. A government document dated November 22, 1894 granted Neil Erickson his homestead. The legal description reads:

"South half of the South East quarter and the South half of the South West quarter of section twenty seven in Township sixteen South, of Range twenty nine, East of the Gila and Salt River Meridian in Arizona Territory, containing one hundred and sixty acres" (The United States grant to Neil Erickson, Erickson-Riggs Collection).

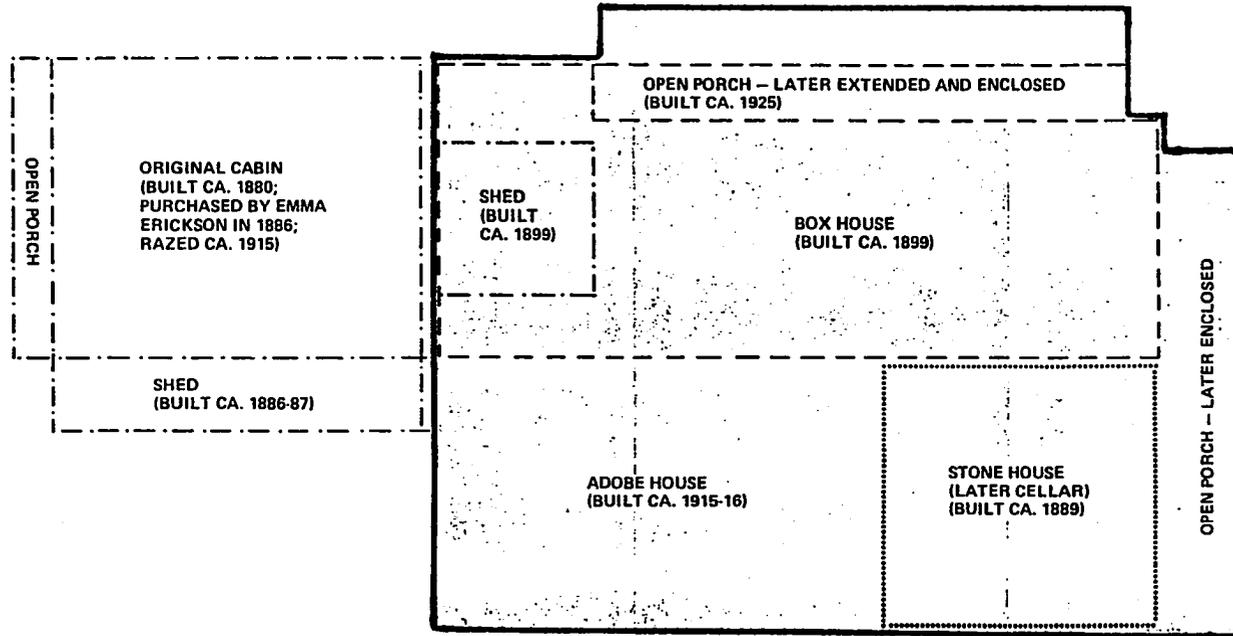
The actual date of filing was January 31, 1894. Additional records indicate Neil refiled again in 1918 and acquired his homestead on August 12, 1924. To prove he worked the land, Neil claimed he grazed ten head of cattle for each year that he and his family had resided in Bonita Canyon. The final certificate received in 1924 indicated that he acquired 240 acres. The additional 80 acres is probably the result of his refiled in 1918 (Entry 71, Tract Book, Arizona, Volume 166, U.S. Land Office, Erickson-Riggs Collection).

Emma gave birth to their first daughter, Lillian, on February 9th, 1888 while still living at Ft. Bowie. Neil did not move his family to the canyon until some time in the latter part of that year. Meanwhile he was making improvements to the homestead to make it suitable for his new family. Limited income prevented the couple from relocating immediately after their purchase of the cabin. To make sufficient income to support his new family,

Neil found work as a carpenter and miner in nearby Bisbee. Because he felt Bonita Canyon was primitive with less than adequate facilities for his wife and child, he decided to construct an adequate home. This venture was very costly and subsequently, Neil was forced to take his carpentry skills to Bisbee in hopes of earning enough money to purchase needed building materials for his homesite. After Bisbee and several failed attempts to run businesses in New Mexico, Emma convinced Neil to move the family to their home in Bonita Canyon (Reminiscences of Emma Erickson, Erickson-Riggs Collection).

Original Structure And Land Use

Neil constructed the Main House around the existing cabin (see **Figure 6**, Schematic Drawing Main Ranch House). In essence, the cabin formed the hub for the Main House. Several descriptions of this cabin and its homesite have been recorded. The first site description appeared in the 1924 publication When Geronimo Rode, by Forrestine C. Hooker. The author describes her experiences as a young girl who spent two years of her life growing up in Bonita Canyon while her father, Captain Charles Cooper, commanded a cavalry unit. Lillian Riggs, daughter of Neil and Emma, also described life growing up in Bonita Canyon and the cabin in her unpublished manuscript, "Westward Into The Sun". Both writers described the cabin as a very informal two room structure. Lillian Riggs recalled the cabin as being so cramped there was not even room to unload the beautiful bedroom set her parents owned.



**SCHEMATIC DRAWING
MAIN HOUSE**

SHOWING SEQUENCE OF ADDITIONS
AND OTHER MAJOR CHANGES

CHIRICAHUA NATIONAL MONUMENT / ARIZONA
U.S. Department of the Interior / National Park Service



- ORIGINAL CABIN - - - - -
- STONE HOUSE - - - - -
- BOX HOUSE - - - - -
- ADOBE HOUSE (existing structure) [Solid Line]

Schematic Drawing
Main Ranch House

Figure 6

The three room cabin was constructed with upright vertical log walls and shingles on a gabled roof. The front of the cabin faced west with the major length of the structure running east and west. Attached to the south wall was a lean-to shed, also with a shingled roof. As the cabin expanded, the lean-to structure was removed. Photographs taken in 1907, Figure 7, show no evidence of the lean-to (Torres and Baumler 1984).

The Stone House

The stone house, as its name implies, was built of stone but was never intended to be used as a house. Neil and his brother John built the structure some time between 1889 and 1890 and intended it to be used for protection and food storage.

With the deportation of Geronimo and Nachez to Fort Pickens, Florida in 1886, Ft. Bowie and the Bonita Canyon region of the Chiricahua Mountains could be considered safe from Apache raids. (Faulk, 1969). But a few small bands of outlaw Apaches still existed. The Ericksons', in a precautionary move, built the small one room stone structure to the southeast of the existing cabin for refuge from potential Indian raids. In addition, the building was used as a "cool house" for storing milk and food. The walls were constructed with mud and rocks dredged up from a well they dug southeast of the cabin. The walls were three feet thick and had portholes on all sides. This structure was used for protection only once during an Indian scare that occurred in

1890 (Torres and Baumler 1984).

Major Renovations To The Homestead 1890's - 1910: The Box House

With the exception of a few sheds and the stone structure, little had been done to improve the home site by the mid 1890's. With the additions of his only son Ben, and second daughter, Hildegard, Neil felt that the small cabin and make-shift accommodations were far from desirable for his growing family. He was determined to furnish his wife with the foremost in comfort and safety. His dreams were to build a durable and long lasting house (Torres and Baumler 1984). Neil's proficiency as a farmer and cattle rancher, however, did not generate resources sufficient to realize these dreams. His skill was that of a carpenter. This skill would often take him away from his family, thus leaving Emma with the burden of raising the family. He was fortunate his brother, John, was willing to remain in Bonita Canyon and make improvements to the site and assist Emma with the family chores.

By the mid to late 1890's, Neil acquired a sizeable amount of lumber as partial payment for work he performed at a sawmill located in nearby Pinery Canyon. It is presumed he used this wood to build the new two story structure. Known as the Box House and constructed in 1899, this new dwelling did more than just connect the original two room cabin with the stone house. It incorporated the early structure into the new house. The log and sand roof of the stone house was replaced with a new gabled roof, thus



Figure 7

Box house with original cabin connected to the left and
stone house extending on the right front.

1907 Photograph, Erickson-Riggs Collection.

joining it to the main house. A kitchen, with built-in shelves, was located for convenience just to the north of the store room (stone house). A living room, with windows looking out onto a north-facing porch, connected the new two-story Box House with the original cabin. The second story could be reached by a spiral staircase leading to two bedrooms with windows facing mountains to the north and south (Torres and Baumler 1984).

Although the first major renovation to the house was complete by the turn of the century, Neil Erickson was still forced to leave the canyon in search of gainful income. He was having a difficult time finding work in Bisbee, but Emma insisted on keeping the house in Bonita Canyon. Neil felt it was the house that kept his family separated. Had it not been for Emma's love of the site, Neil probably would have sold the homestead (Erickson-Riggs Collection).

Chiricahua National Forest

In 1902 after the United States government set aside lands for the establishment of the Chiricahua National Forest, Neil Erickson applied for a position as a Forest Ranger. This would allow him to live and work in Bonita Canyon and be with his family at the same time. He received his appointment as on July 8, 1903. This required that he spend half of his time at his headquarters in Bonita Canyon and the rest of the time at other stations in the Chiricahuas (Neil Erickson Forest Ranger, Erickson-Riggs Collection). In

addition to other duties, Neil's position as a ranger allowed him to explore the many beautiful summits and canyons of the Chiricahua's.

Second Major Renovation: Addition Of The Adobe Structure In 1915

Unfortunately for historians, the old log cabin, presumably built by Newton and occupied by Captain Charles Cooper, J. Hughes Stafford, and the Erickson family, was demolished to accommodate expansion of the main house. The west wall of the Box House (first major renovation) was moved further west to where the west wall of the cabin once stood. The south wall of the house was brought forward to meet the south wall of the Stone House. A second story was added above the Stone House. (See **Figure 6**, Schematic Drawing, Main Ranch House) The Main House now took on a two story box-like shape. Adobe brick and mortar were used in most of this construction, materials that were popular, inexpensive, and easy to use (Torres and Baumler 1984).

The ranch house had panoramic views of mountains to the north, south, and east. Additional renovations included the construction of open air porches on those three sides. The most distinctive was a second story porch on the southwest corner of the house.

A second porch spanned the east side of the house at ground level, abutting the east walls of the stone cellar and kitchen (See **Figure 8**). At some point during the 1930's, this porch was enclosed with screening. The rear or



Figure 8

Covered porch on east side of ranch house.

1987 Photograph by author.

north porch was an open, ground level unit, referred to as the dining porch. Records indicate this porch was present prior to the construction of the adobe addition.

Three vertical dormers set into the gabled roof gave the suggestion of a third story (see Figure 9). The roof was covered with asphalt shingles.

Erickson Family Children As Adults

Eldest daughter Lillian taught at the El Dorado school house located to the west of Bonita Canyon. She also taught in the small town of Bowie. The only son, Ben, performed odd jobs at the ranch prior to entering the Army during World War I where he attained the rank of Corporal. Upon his discharge in the fall of 1918, he returned to Bonita Canyon.

Hildegard, the youngest of the three children attended school in Illinois. She returned to Bonita Canyon at age 18. Torres and Baumler (1984) make note that "her youthful exuberance led her at first to invite many young people, mostly friends, to the ranch on weekends." About this time it occurred to Hildegard that perhaps the ranch could be opened to "paying guests." (Torres and Baumler, 1984). Hildegard's idea symbolized the beginning of a major change at the ranch, now known as Faraway Ranch. Although it is not known when this name was first used, Lillian is credited with naming the homestead Faraway Ranch (Hoy 1980).

Hildegard experimented with her guest ranch idea with people from



Figure 9

Three vertical dormers suggest a third story.

1987 Photograph by author.

surrounding communities, taking them in as guests for a day or longer. In 1917, Lillian joined her sister in the guest ranch business. Hildegard said that the decision to initiate a boarding business was to assist her father and create additional income for the ranch. By the fall of 1917, the guest business had proven so successful that Lillian gave up teaching and together with her sister, assumed management of the guest ranch (Erickson-Riggs Collection). By 1918, Lillian became manager of the guest ranch while at the same time running the ranch's cattle and produce business. The Faraway stocked cattle from the late 1880's till the early 1970's.

Hildegard married in 1920 and moved to Bowie, Arizona, and later California. In 1923, Lillian married Ed Riggs, her child-hood sweetheart. Together the two assumed the full responsibility for the Faraway Guest Ranch. This task was a heavy burden. In letters to her father, Lillian grieved about feeling some what trapped with the pressures of bills while at the same time not wanting to give up her childhood home (Erickson-Riggs Collection).

Third Phase Of Renovation: 1923 - 1930's

The Riggs expanded their guest ranch in the 1920's in an attempt to attract the interests of eastern investors. Extensive improvements were made to the main house and many of the outlying buildings. New plumbing and electric lighting were all part of an up-grade that was taking place. During the years of 1924-5, the north porch was enclosed. It was also about this time

that the adobe brick walls were covered with a smooth coat of stucco (see **Figure 10**).

A point of interest involves the fireplace located in the north porch and dining room; an area where guests received their meals. Many of the large stones used in the fireplace and chimney bear the names of soldiers who belonged to the 10th Cavalry unit stationed in Bonita Canyon during the Geronimo campaign of 1885-6. The soldiers chiseled their names in stones, later erecting these stones into a monument paying tribute to President Garfield who had recently been assassinated. One of the stones bears the name of Garfield. The stones became known as the Garfield Monument.

Ed Riggs was concerned about the deteriorating condition of the Garfield Monument and felt something needed to be done to preserve the stones and their historical significance. He had them relocated to his ranch house, forming them into a fireplace. The fireplace became a point of interest for the many guests who stayed there.

Further improvements continued to be made in an effort to modernize the Main House. Interior plumbing was installed in the house in 1927. A second story addition located over the dining room and containing a bed room, bath, and office was added in 1930 (Torres and Baumler 1984). During the autumn of 1946, a gas generator powered lighting system replaced the carbide and kerosene lamps. **Figure 11** shows the old stone generator house which supplied power to the ranch. The Rural Electrification Association



Figure 10

A smooth coat of stucco covered adobe block walls.

1988 Photograph by author.

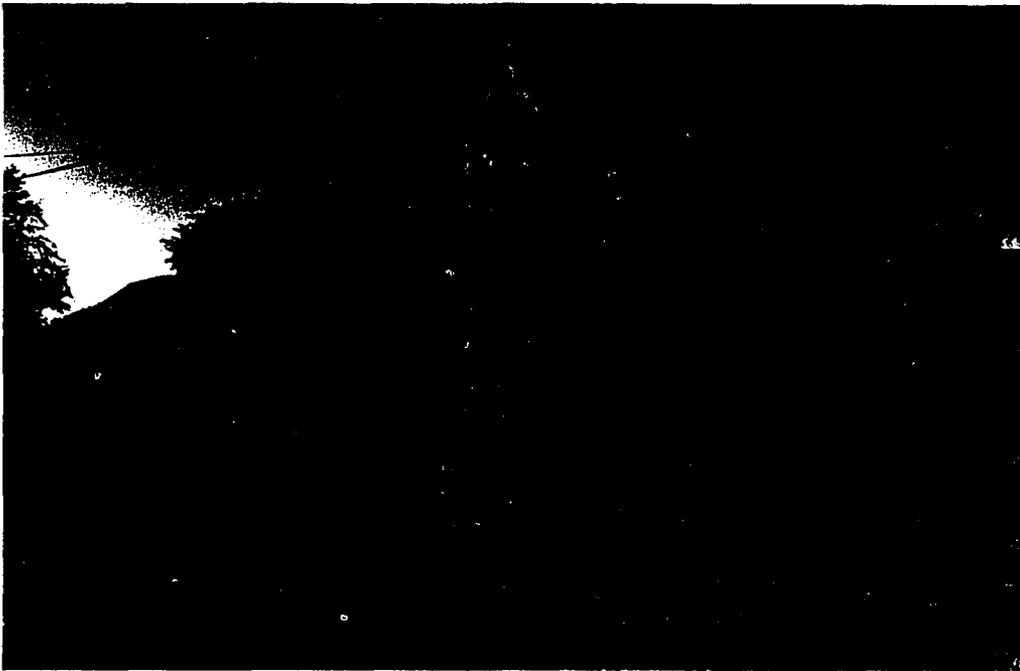


Figure 11

The stone generator building.

1986 Photograph by author.

brought electricity to the Faraway Ranch in May of 1953 (Murray 1988).

After his retirement from the government, Neil and Emma Erickson spent time in California and Illinois before returning to the Faraway where they lived for the remainder of their lives. Neil and Emma are pictured by the front door of the main house in **Figure 12**. Note the adobe block used in its construction. Neil died on October 18, 1937 and is buried in the family plot located at the mouth of Bonita Canyon, as are Emma, Hildegard, and Ben.

Although Lillian and Ed Riggs had plans to expand the ranch and its facilities, this scheme was unfortunately curtailed by the Great Depression. These plans included the construction of a new main house. Although verification is not possible, a set of plans exist detailing a new two-story adobe house. Unfortunately the plans do not contain a title block designating the name of the house or its designer. These are however, a part of the Erickson-Riggs collection, located at the Western Archaeological and Conservation Center in Tucson, which contains materials found in the ranch house at the time that the National Park Service began its inventory of the site in 1979.

Historical Context: 1930's - Present

Although the Ranch House received some structural and mechanical improvements after the depression, few changes were made to the overall structure. Ed Riggs made site improvements, including the construction of a

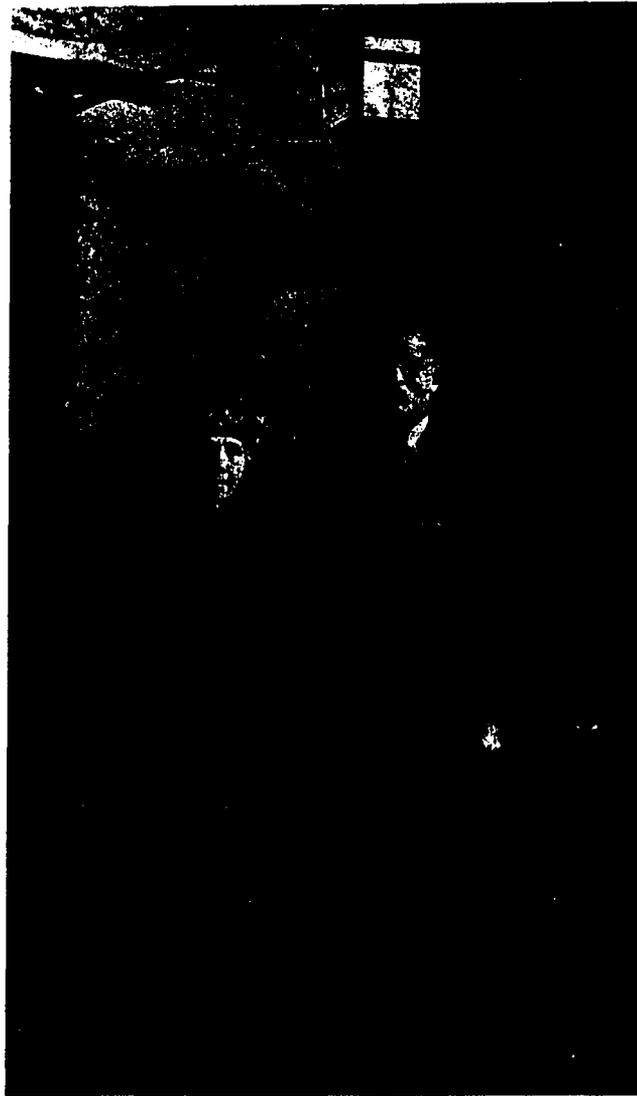


Figure 12

Neal and Emma Erickson pictured by the the Main House.

1927 Photograph, Erickson-Riggs Collection.

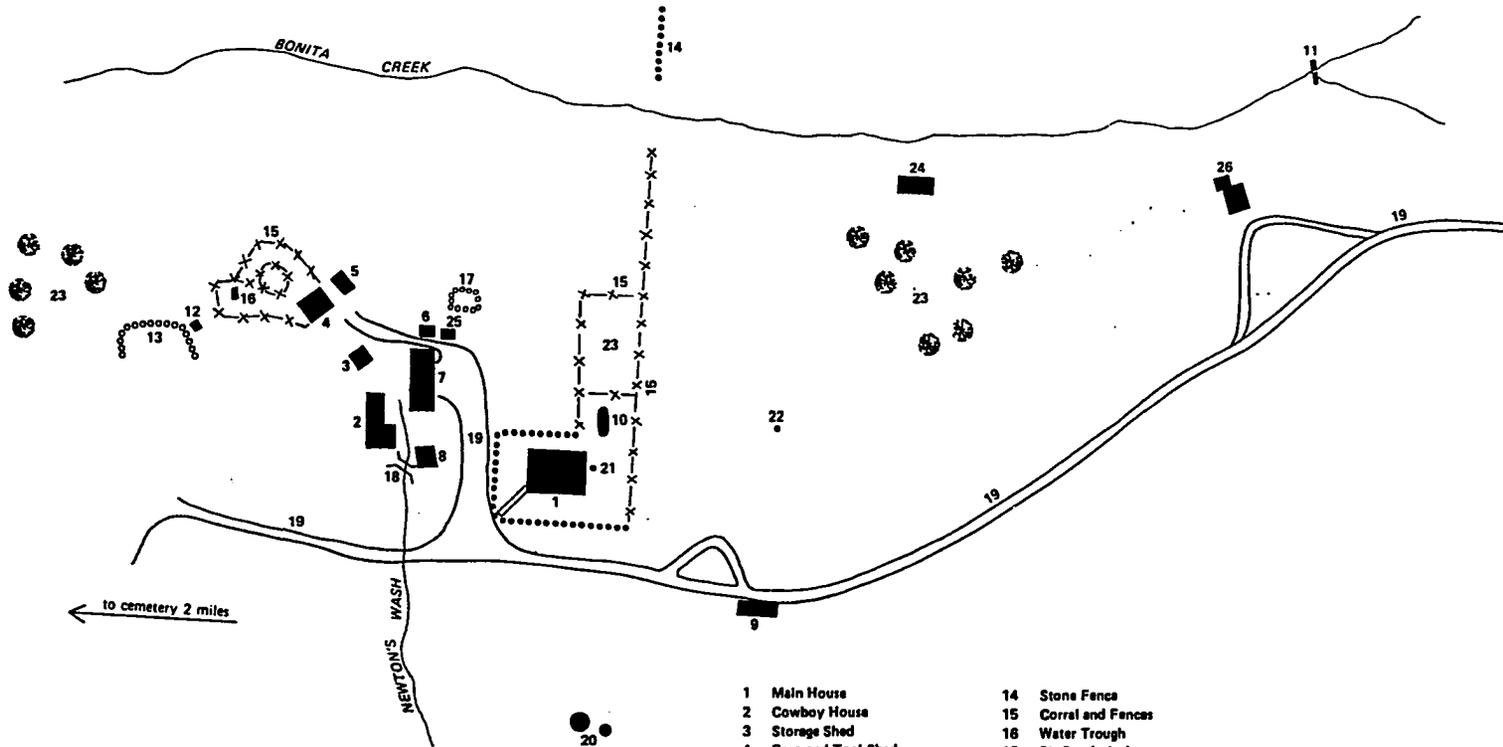
corral, barns, guest quarters and workers quarters (see Figure 13, Site Plan of Faraway Ranch). Lillian became blind but continued to run the ranch. By the early 1960's, much of the tourist trade had fallen off. The Faraway, like many other guest ranches, experienced major losses of revenue as vacationers sought new ways to spend their money.

The guest ranch remained open until 1973, accepting only trusted friends. Lillian's handicaps made it difficult for her to monitor daily ranch operations during this period. She felt uncomfortable accepting guests other than those who were close friends of the family. She retired to Northern Cochise Community Nursing Home where she lived until April 26th, 1977 (Murray 1988).

In 1978, Public Law 95-625 authorized the expansion of Chiricahua National Monument to include the Faraway Ranch. The buildings were measured in 1983 by The Historic American Building Survey, HABS, with the site later being placed on the National Register of Historic Places (see Figure 14). Appendix A includes a brief description of other structures on the site.

Landscape Of Faraway Ranch

During the early years of the ranch, Neil and Emma planted vegetable gardens to the northeast of the house and orchards to the north and west of the house (see Figure 13, Site Plan of Faraway Ranch). As the scope of the ranch expanded to accept paying guests, so apparently did the need for an



**SITE PLAN
FARAWAY RANCH**

CHIRICAHUA NATIONAL MONUMENT / ARIZONA
U.S. Department of the Interior / National Park Service



- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1 Main House | 14 Stone Fence |
| 2 Cowboy House | 15 Corral and Fences |
| 3 Storage Shed | 16 Water Trough |
| 4 Barn and Tool Shed | 17 Pig Pan (ruins) |
| 5 Tool Shed | 18 Bridge over Newton's Wash |
| 6 Generator House | 19 Main Ranch Roads |
| 7 Garage/Storage | 20 Water Tanks |
| 8 Office/Garage | 21 House Wall |
| 9 Bunkhouse/Guest Quarters | 22 Well |
| 10 Swimming Pool | 23 Orchards and Garden |
| 11 Dam Swimming Hole | 24 Martha Stark House (ruins and site) |
| 12 Windmill | 25 Foundation of Unknown Structure |
| 13 Tank (reservoir) | 26 Stafford Cabin |

Faraway Ranch
Site Plan

Figure 13

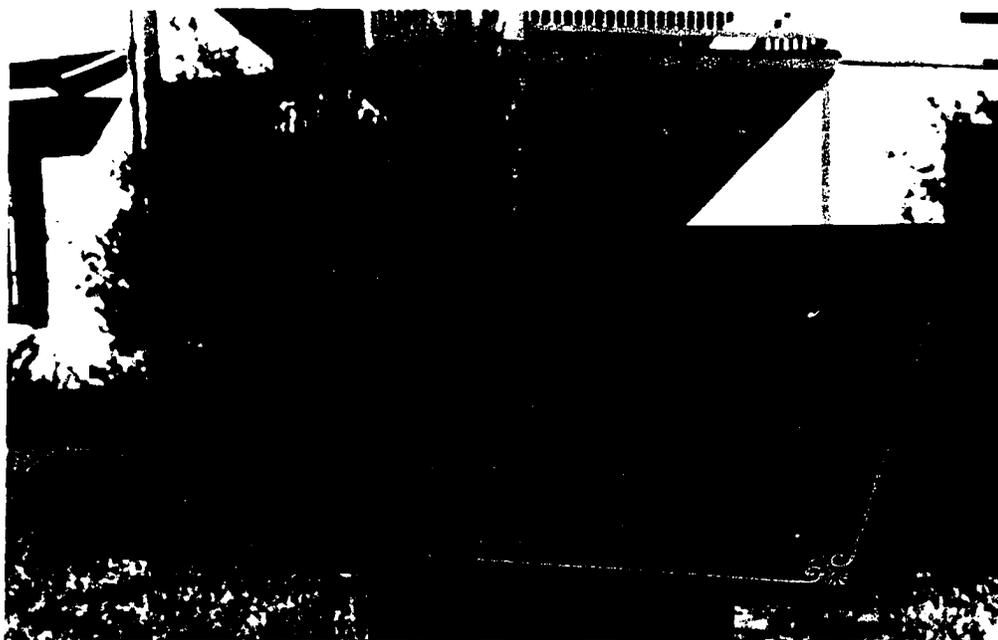


Figure 14

National Register of Historic Places marker at Faraway Ranch.

1987 Photograph by author.

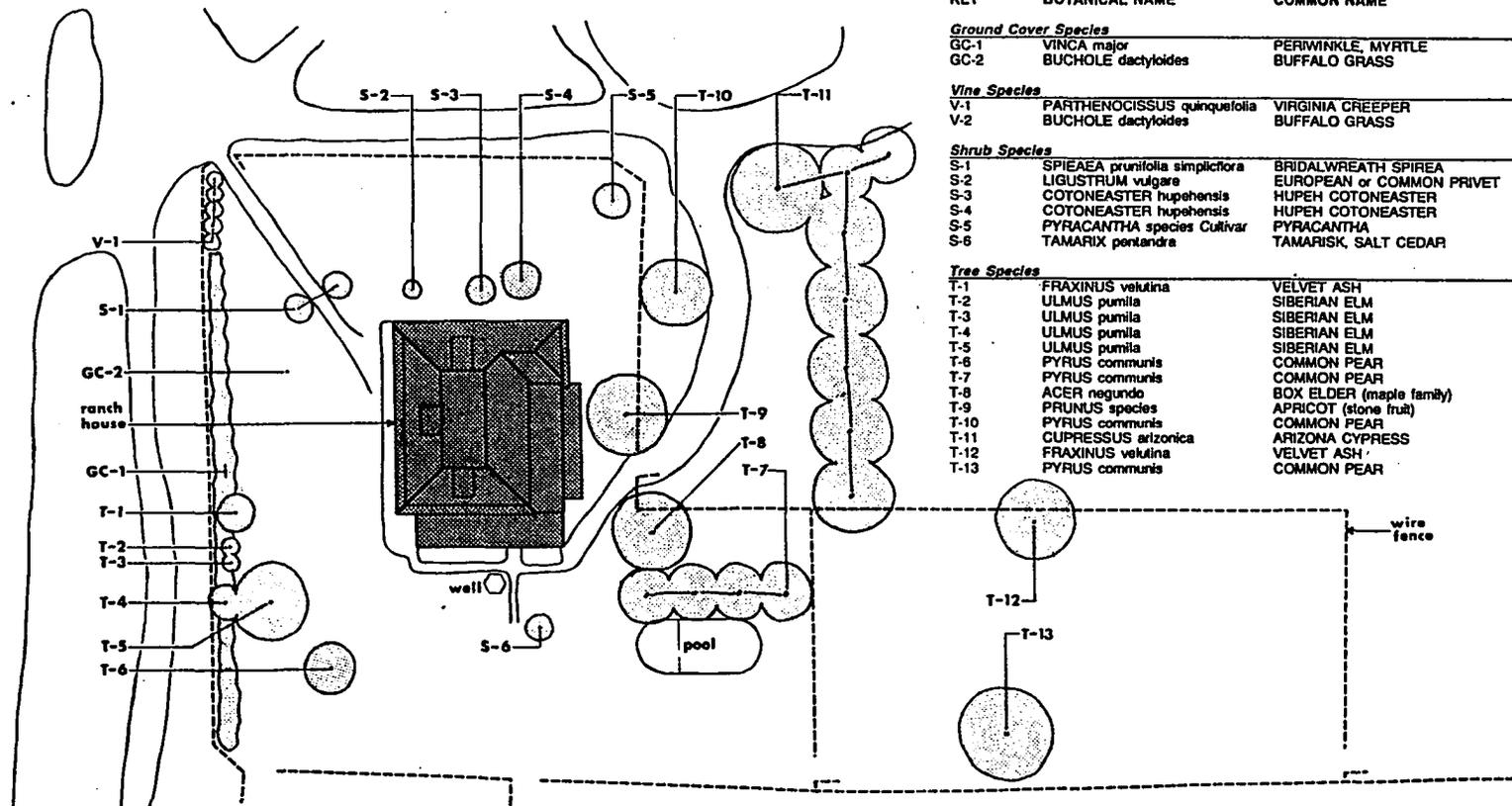
aesthetically pleasing landscape. It is assumed that the area in the immediate vicinity of the Ranch House was the most important as visitors got their first impressions of the ranch from this point.

Figure 15 is an Existing Vegetation Plan, locating all vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the Ranch House as it appeared in 1988 (Kumble 1988). All plant species have been identified by their common and botanical names and have been separated into ground-cover, vine, shrub, and tree species. **Figure 16** is a Restorative Vegetation Plan indicating the placement of all missing plantings that were present in the late 1940's. A comparative analysis was employed matching old period photographs with recent photographs taken from the same approximate viewer position. The location and quantity of trees found to be missing were mapped in plan view and evaluated for probable species type based upon form, shape and size. Both the Existing and Restorative Vegetation Plans are included in a 1988 Historic Landscape Restoration Report prepared for the National Park Service by the author under the request of the Superintendent at Chiricahua National Monument.

Appendix B contains a descriptive appraisal of each plant identified in the Existing Vegetation Plan study.

Orchards And Gardens

Shortly after the Ericksons had settled in Bonita Canyon, Neil placed an order for six apple trees, six dwarf pear trees, four plum trees, two prune



KEY	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Ground Cover Species		
GC-1	VINCA major	PERIWINKLE, MYRTLE
GC-2	BUCHOLE dactyloides	BUFFALO GRASS
Vine Species		
V-1	PARTHENOCISSUS quinquefolia	VIRGINIA CREEPER
V-2	BUCHOLE dactyloides	BUFFALO GRASS
Shrub Species		
S-1	SPIEAEA prunifolia simpliciflora	BRIDALWREATH SPIREA
S-2	LIGUSTRUM vulgare	EUROPEAN or COMMON PRIVET
S-3	COTONEASTER hupehensis	HUPEH COTONEASTER
S-4	COTONEASTER hupehensis	HUPEH COTONEASTER
S-5	PYRACANTHA species Cultivar	PYRACANTHA
S-6	TAMARIX pentandra	TAMARISK, SALT CEDAR
Tree Species		
T-1	FRAXINUS velutina	VELVET ASH
T-2	ULMUS pumila	SIBERIAN ELM
T-3	ULMUS pumila	SIBERIAN ELM
T-4	ULMUS pumila	SIBERIAN ELM
T-5	ULMUS pumila	SIBERIAN ELM
T-6	PYRUS communis	COMMON PEAR
T-7	PYRUS communis	COMMON PEAR
T-8	ACER negundo	BOX ELDER (maple family)
T-9	PRUNUS species	APRICOT (stone fruit)
T-10	PYRUS communis	COMMON PEAR
T-11	CUPRESSUS arizonica	ARIZONA CYPRESS
T-12	FRAXINUS velutina	VELVET ASH
T-13	PYRUS communis	COMMON PEAR

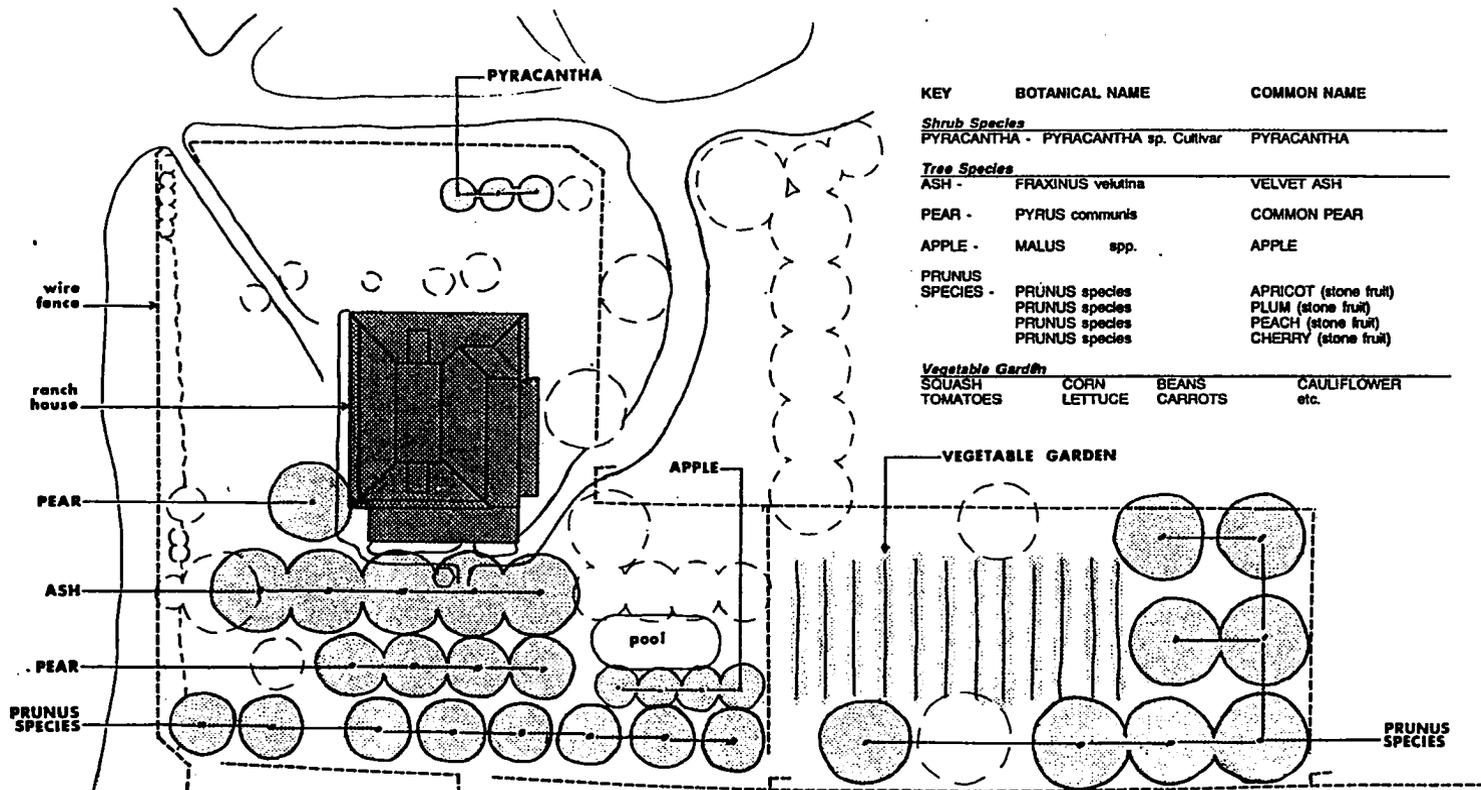
EXISTING VEGETATION PLAN

faraway ranch Chiricahua National Monument



Existing Vegetation Plan

Figure 15



KEY	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	
<i>Shrub Species</i>			
PYRACANTHA -	PYRACANTHA sp. Cultivar	PYRACANTHA	
<i>Tree Species</i>			
ASH -	FRAXINUS velutina	VELVET ASH	
PEAR -	PYRUS communis	COMMON PEAR	
APPLE -	MALUS spp.	APPLE	
PRUNUS SPECIES -	PRUNUS species	APRICOT (stone fruit)	
	PRUNUS species	PLUM (stone fruit)	
	PRUNUS species	PEACH (stone fruit)	
	PRUNUS species	CHERRY (stone fruit)	
<i>Vegetable Garden</i>			
SQUASH	CORN	BEANS	CAULIFLOWER
TOMATOES	LETTUCE	CARROTS	etc.

RESTORATIVE VEGETATION PLAN

faraway ranch Chiricahua National Monument



Restorative
Vegetation Plan

Figure 16

trees, two apricot trees, six currant shrubs, and six gooseberry shrubs. These items were shipped to Willcox and cost \$38.50 (Erickson-Riggs Collection). It is unknown where these plants were purchased. **Figure 17** shows rows of fruit trees located to the east of the main house. For many years the Erickson vegetable garden was located northeast of the main house. It appears (verified from historical photographs, Erickson-Riggs Collection), to have remained in this same location when the Faraway was also a guest ranch. It can be assumed that the vegetable garden, located to the north and down hill of the swimming pool, (See **Figure 13**, Site Plan Faraway Ranch utilized overflow from the pool for irrigation (Murray 1988). **Figure 18** shows a water tank located in the hills to the south of the Main House and presumably used to irrigate the garden.

Prior to Neil Erickson settling his homestead, Stafford had been in Bonita Canyon for nearly ten years. The Faraway Ranch Historic District (USDI-NPS 1975), encompasses one of Stafford's orchards, later belonging to the Erickson-Riggs family. The "lower orchard" which refers to a grove once belonging to Stafford, contained numerous fruit bearing trees. **Figure 19** shows the Stafford orchard in its Bonita Canyon location. Stafford would sell a portion of his yield to Fort Bowie and neighboring communities, earning much of his livelihood in this way. The lower orchard extended from the Stafford cabin a short distance east of the Erickson main house. The grove consisted of various fruit trees including pears, peaches, persimmons, and



Figure 17

Rows of fruit trees to the east of the Main House.

1920's Photograph, Erickson-Riggs Collection



Figure 18

Water tank presumably used for irrigation.

1987 Photograph by author.



Figure 19

Stafford orchard in Bonita Canyon, looking west

Date unknown, Erickson-Riggs Collection.

apples. After the Ericksons purchased the orchard and additional lands from the Staffords, they continued to cultivate the lower orchard for its yield of marketable fruit. By the late 1950's, many of these fruit bearing trees were no longer visible in photographs, presumably due to disease and their short lived nature (Torres and Baumler 1984). Presently only a handful of trees remain.

After the purchase of the Stafford property, the Faraway produced a greater yield of crops than it could use, even with the consumption of guests at the ranch. Between 1924 and 1933 a considerable amount of produce from the Faraway was sold to neighbors and local communities. The orchard and garden produced cherries, peaches, plums, apples, pears, squash, corn, beans, tomatoes, cauliflower, and lettuce (Erickson-Riggs Collection).

Fences, Walls And Ranch Roads

Other elements of the ranch landscape included stone fences, retaining walls and roads for access to and from the site. Neil built a stone wall separating his property from Stafford's to keep his cattle and horses from entering Stafford's orchard. The stone fence ran north and south, across Bonita Creek and up the ridge directly across from the creek (Torres and Baumler 1984). A stone wall is located to the south and west of the main house in what could be referred to as the front yard. This wall first appeared in photographs taken in the 1930's. At some later point, a wire fence was erected on top of the wall. The wall and fence ran around the house and

created a sense of an enclosed formal yard (See Figure 20). The fence most probably was used to keep farm and wild animals from the house and flower gardens. As of 1988, both were in good condition (See Figure 21).

A stone walk running diagonally from the southwest corner of the fenced yard to the entry of the main house also remained in place in 1988. This walk presumably lead to the main entrance of the house.

National Park Service Opens the Site to the Public

On November 10th, 1978, U.S. Public Law 95-625 authorized the expansion of Chiricahua National Monument to include the Faraway Ranch. By 1979, the National Park Service had completed the acquisition and had begun outlining various management plans aimed at preserving and rehabilitating the historic structures, while at the same time interpreting their significance to the public. These restorative actions were outlined in a series of reports drafted by the National Park Service (USDI-NPS 1980, USDI-NPS 1983). It is the intent of the National Park Service to guide and manage the Faraway Ranch as a historical site in a natural setting, and to restore the historic site to the condition it had as a guest ranch during the 1950's; the period chosen for restoration and interpretation.

Although work on the restoration of the ranch house itself was completed by the late 1980's, the grounds and vegetation at that time still required a full scale restorative action for the vernacular Guest Ranch scene is



Figure 20

Stone wall located to the south and west of the Main House.

1988 Photograph by author.



Figure 21

Stone wall with wire fence in good condition.

1988 Photograph by author.

to be accurately presented to the public.

Summary

Guest ranches, through their historical development and original function, have always tried to promote a Western theme (Norris 1976). Patrons came in search of the romantic and scenic benefits of a western vacation. At the Faraway Ranch, the landscape itself was a commodity; a tool used for profit. In viewing the Faraway Ranch as a complex entity, the Erickson - Riggs ranch house is the dominant element, and often is the first thing that a visitor takes note of when arriving at the ranch.

Yet it was in fact the recreational amenities of the landscape that drew people to the remote canyon guest ranch. Regional context was a very important part of the ranch scene as it had great influence on the ranch landscape and built structural elements.

Although restoration of the ranch house and its interior furnishings is a necessary step to convey a realistic portrayal of the Faraway, reconstruction of the Ranch landscape must be considered of equal importance to accurately present this historic site.

CHAPTER V

DEFINING THE VERNACULAR LANDSCAPE OF THE GUEST RANCH

Introduction

The notion of the vernacular landscape, if used in a general sense, implies a place that is regional, traditional, and most importantly, homemade. If this definition is used in connection with architecture, it indicates a traditional dwelling.

Contemporary architectural definitions of vernacular collectively imply a dwelling designed by local craftsmen rather than an architect, and one that is built using local materials and techniques. Such a structure is assembled in a fashion relevant to the regional climate and social traditions (Jackson 1984).

Both landscapes and structures can possess a vernacular or local image that lacks stylistic sophistication or affectation. This image is a product of those who live in and use the domain. That is to say that the vernacular image is a product of its users and their way of life. It blends an assortment of varied physical materials and social factors together with the physical landscape of the region, generating an image that has distinctive characteristics (Jackson 1984).

One must first analyze the relationships that exist between the natural and man made components to fully comprehend the vernacular elements found in the guest ranch landscape. A vernacular landscape is not an untouched pristine area but rather one that has been manipulated by its users

to accommodate the necessities of their lifestyle. Although it may have not been the intention of a proprietor of a guest ranch for the landscape to be an expression of themselves, this is often the case with user conceived sites. Those who use a landscape, in this case both the owner of the ranch and the guest, assign some degree of cognitive meaning to the spaces they occupy. It is through this process of attributing meanings and values to landscapes and their components that the user can distinguish meaningful spacial boundaries of ordinary common place items such as a fence, porch, or garden (Jakle 1976).

Vernacular Landscape Components

As mentioned in Chapters I and III, many of the early guest ranches in Arizona came to be as a result of the financial collapse of the open range cattle business coupled with successive years of drought and recessions. During these early years of the industry, most guest ranches were actual working cattle ranches that decided to accept guests as a source of additional income. This was not necessarily a move that was whole heartedly welcomed by the ranch owner, yet it avoided foreclosure on his property. One old-time wrangler humorously said that he had wrangled horses and dudes and found the typical dude to be the "orneriest" of the two (Evarts 1936). The early Arizona guest ranch was the paragon of down-home unadorned simplicity (Norris 1976). Because many of these early guest ranches were either working cattle ranches or had in the past supported an open range cattle operation, the

architecture and spatial arrangement of the guest operation did not differ that much from a typical Arizona cattle ranch. In essence, a guest ranch owner had only to provide additional living quarters and dining facilities to begin accepting guests. Because many Arizona ranches may have already provided room and board for its hired help (cowboys), the retrofit of a ranch to a guest operation was more organizational than structural. Guest ranches informally took on many equalitarian aspects (Rodnitzky 1968). According to Hal Evarts, the dude ranch "..was the only resort he had ever seen where the guest deliberately sought the servants' quarters for recreation" (Evarts 1936).

Many of the working guest ranches in Southeastern Arizona were located at the 3,000 to 5,000 elevation. They were scattered in a somewhat random manner among the grassland and mixed chaparral-grassland vegetation zones (Elmore 1976). While this differed somewhat between working and non-working ranches, the majority were located at the interface between an alluvial slope and the adjacent, more vertical mountain backdrop (Rodnitzky 1968). This combination of gentle and steep slopes provided the guest a varied landscape for riding. Of course, the mountain backdrop was a dramatic scenic asset as well.

The establishment of the Dude Ranchers' Association in 1924 helped to bring a professionalism to guest ranching. The Association primarily sought to distinguish what it considered to be a true guest ranch (working and non-working), from the resort oriented hotel that bore little resemblance to a real

ranch. Ranch owners sought to define their function as actual ranches that exuded a western ranch atmosphere while at the same time touting the merits of a ranch vacation. Ranches were advertized primarily to the wealthy in such "upper-class magazines as *Vogue*, *Sunset*, and *Country Life* (Rodnitzky 1968).

The Scenic Landscape

Many of the early Arizona ranches were located in the Sulphur Springs Valley and Chiricahua Mountains of the state's southeastern corner. Early promotional ranch literature typically described this area as a "..land of snow-capped mountain ranges, rocky canyons, wide valleys, and stretches of seemingly illimitable desert, with a climate unequalled anywhere in the world" (Seven Dash Ranch n.d.). As mentioned earlier, because so many of these early guest ranches were working ranches, it was common for their locations to be more of a functional rather than scenic nature. Yet as was evident with the establishment of Rancho Manzanita, new ranches were intentionally located with the purpose of maximizing scenery. Arizona dude ranches were described as "..year-round rendezvous for nature lovers; Arizona is an untouched paradise" (Townshend 1932). By no coincidence, cattle ranchers in scenic areas demonstrated a greater tendency to start a guest business (early descriptive ranch listings). This pattern would indicate that to attract potential guests, ranch owners placed great emphasis upon the surrounding landscape, in addition to the facilities at the ranch itself. Early guest ranch promotional

literature often made reference to the large acreage of the ranch and the natural diversity to be found. Descriptions also mentioned the simple spartan pleasures that were to be gained from the unique lifestyle of a ranch, "...the incredible vistas offered from the peaks and ridges, the fresh pure air, and the comraderie to be felt between the horse and rider" (Southern Pacific Railroad 1929, Evarts 1936).

Simplicity in Structural Appearance

Early cattle ranches did not make extensive changes to their physical appearance when they began to accept guests. There was a great deal of regional (vernacular) appeal in the simplicity of their architectural style. In most cases, the main ranch house was fairly large and required few physical alterations to accommodate guests. The ranch house was often decorated with Indian blankets, simple furniture, and ranch memorabilia.

Both adobe and stucco, used alone or in combination were commonly used in the construction of the main ranch house (Stewart 1974). In some cases, the ranch house had a somewhat spanish-colonial appearance (Rancho Manzanita n.d., Southern Pacific Railroad 1934), and varied in height from one to two-stories. It was common to find large enclosed porches oriented towards mountain views. On ranches where the main house was not large, guests stayed in cabins situated in small rows in close proximity to the main house to amplify the otherwise limited interior space (Norris 1976), and

creating a campus effect.

Guest cabins were spartan and of simple construction (Seven Dash Ranch n.d., Southern Pacific Railroad 1934). Inside, cabins were simple and utilitarian. Most early promotional literature referred to guest accommodations as being strictly modern in every detail, yet this common phrase often referred to the presence of hot and cold running water. Some ranches chose unique names for their guest quarters. The Faraway Ranch chose names such as Mizar, Space, and Alcore for three of its guest cabins. The names Mizar and Alcore refer to two stars in the northern constellation called the Big Dipper. Space refers to the space in between the two stars (Murray 1988).

A New Level Of Comfort

It is apparent that the Arizona guest ranch established improved levels of comfort for its guests. This break with the past represented a new level of sophistication directly associated with the Arizona guest ranch (Norris 1976). In the past, guest ranches were replicas of a western lifestyle that was rough and uncomfortable (Rodnitzky 1968), and in many ways, much more functional than romantic. In the early days of the industry, guests ate primarily corn bread and beans, served on rough tables along with the rest of the ranch crew, and like the other cowboys, slept either on lumpy straw mattresses or under the stars (Stewart 1927). Yet as the Arizona guest ranch began to catch on, it became quite common to find promotional literature highlighting

superior home-cooked food (El Coronado Ranch 1939, Southern Pacific Railroad 1934), and modern comfortable accommodations.

Although the Arizona ranch patrons may have romanticized the rough-cut western lifestyle, they did not really want to stay in uncomfortable settings. For this reason, it was not uncommon to find guests lounging in the sun by the swimming pool, playing a few sets of tennis, or if they choose, riding with ranch hands on a cattle round-up. If you owned a guest ranch, a patron came to your place because it was a ranch, but not being a rancher himself, he demanded conveniences that most ranches did without (Rodnitzky 1968). The presence of hot and cold running water was unique to the guest ranch. These amenities were not yet common throughout most of the rural west. By accepting guests at his ranch, the owner made a commitment to provide civilized accommodations. "If you wish to sum up the dude ranch business in one sentence, it consists of giving people home-made bedsteads but forty pound mattresses" (Burt 1927). It was noted that some older ranches did offer rough cabins without improvements, on a remote part of the ranch, for those who desired them (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934).

Summary Of Elements Found

In addition to the main ranch house and guest cabins, other elements common to a guest ranch landscape were stables, tack rooms, tool sheds, and corrals for branding cattle and breaking-in new horses. Many ranches raised

their own poultry and swine out of necessity. The physical appearance and spatial arrangement of many of these structures did not differ greatly from ranch to ranch. The scale of a ranch operation would dictate the size of its out-lying structures. As mentioned earlier, form followed function. Any fanciful adornment found on a stable or fence was often for the benefit of guests and contingent upon the financial success of the ranch. Fences were often simple in design and constructed of wooden posts with either wooden slats or barbed wire (Murray 1988). **Figure 22** represents a wooden fence around the corral at Faraway Ranch. When materials were in short supply, a rancher would weave the branches from an ocotillo cactus into a fence (Elmore 1976). A 1960 photograph of Faraway Ranch indicates the use of prehistoric Indian bowls in a stone wall (See **Figure 23**). Promotional ranch literature made mention of swimming pools and tennis courts available to guests (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934, et al.). The swimming pool at Faraway Ranch (See **Figure 27**) was built above ground, using flat rocks and concrete in its construction. The water it received from mountain springs was also used to irrigate the vegetable garden (Torres and Baumler 1984, Murray 1988). Separate from many of the structural elements listed above were vegetable gardens and fruit orchards. Promotional literature often made reference to the fresh fruit and produce grown on site (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934, et al.). Because the chief form of entertainment was horse back riding, all of the ranches studied had an extensive network of trails. Often these trails were



Figure 22

Wooden fence and corral at Faraway Ranch.

1988 Photograph by author.

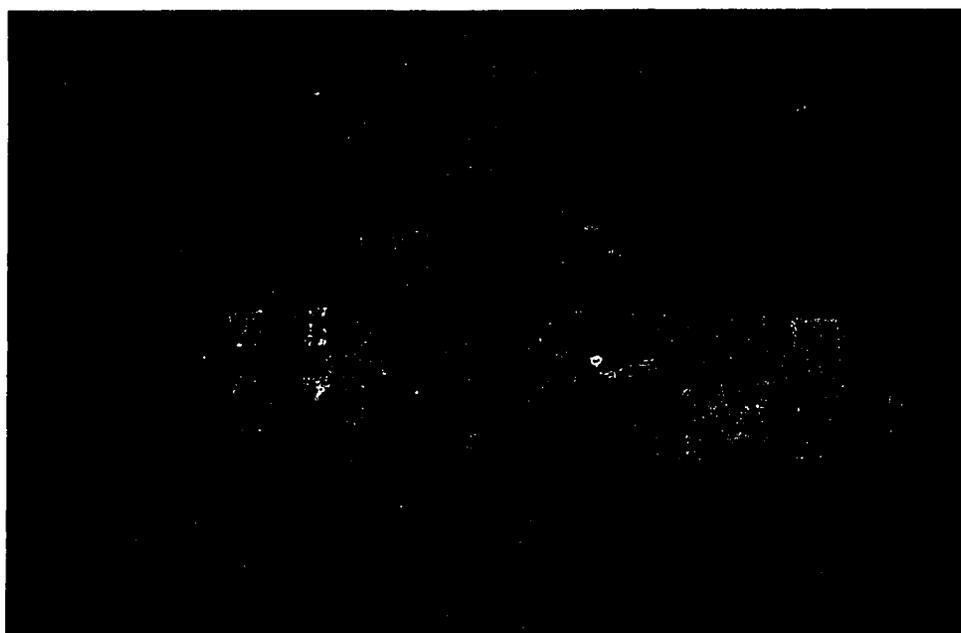


Figure 23

Prehistoric Indian bowls in stone wall at Faraway Ranch.

1960 Photograph, Erickson-Riggs Collection.

connected to a nearby mountain range or canyon with colorful cliffs and waterfalls towering above the canyon floor (Sierra Linda Ranch 1935, Faraway Ranch n.d.).

Vernacular Landscape Character

In general, the rural isolated location of the early guest ranch dictated the materials used in its construction. A ranch owner was left little choice but to use many materials found locally. Although the structures were simple, lacking in stylistic sophistication, the materials and style personified a real western ranch setting. The materials used in the construction of ranch dwellings and support structures did not differ greatly between the eight ranches examined in the study area (See Chapter III).

As mentioned previously, guests came in search of a real western experience. The notion of ranching as a way of life fascinated Americans. President Theodore Roosevelt who often touted the virtues of ranch life commented that, "The open air life of the ranch man was the pleasantest and healthiest life in America." He also noted that, "..the great free ranches with their barbarous, picturesque, and curiously fascinating surroundings" were bowing to the needs of the nation and that those who came later would never feel "the charm of the life in the west" (Roosevelt 1911). Roosevelt believed that as early as 1888 the way of western ranch lifestyle was rapidly disappearing (Rodnitzky 1968). It can be argued that the guest ranch and its

uniquely home-grown ambience was an attempt to recapture the western life style the Roosevelt loved so dearly. None-the-less, all of the eight guest ranches examined possessed a combination of panoramic landscape views mixed with a western ranch atmosphere that personified the wild western frontier. This setting provided the patron with a blend of western and southwestern ingredients symbolic of life on a cattle ranch.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

"The Guest Ranch served as a show place for what Arizona had uniquely offered to the American vacationing public; and for over 50 years has presented the patron with an attractive fusion of western and southwestern elements" (Norris 1976).

Vernacular Landscape Image

There was a significant western image evident in the landscape of the eight guest ranches identified in Chapter III. Yet how significant was this image in attracting patronage to these ranches? It would be overly simplistic to assume that it was only the appeal of a real western ranch (Norris 1976).

The opportunity to live the life of a western rancher was a tremendous change in lifestyle for many who came. Quite often, patronage consisted of successful businessmen and their families or individuals from the social upper class (Rodnitzky 1968). The guest ranch landscape represented for the guest a distinctively western form--complete with outdoor life, cowboy food, horseback riding in the desert, and a general lack of convention. The guest ranch essentially provided a setting where a person could experience a sense of roughing-it with out feeling self conscious of his or her actions. But the novelty of living on a ranch and the appeal of activities associated with ranch life were temporary in nature, and could not have sustained patronage for a prolonged number of years (Norris 1976). This leads to the premiss that patrons associated other meanings and perceptions with the ranch setting in

addition to the inherent novelty and unique activities.

Psychological Needs Met

Several authors suggest that the guest ranch provided for the patron's psychological needs and desires (Burt 1927, Norris 1976, Rodnitzky 1968). They suggest that it accomplished this in two major ways. First, the ranch setting provided an opportunity to adopt a new lifestyle to become involved in; the lifestyle of the western rancher. As described elsewhere in this thesis, the guest ranch evolved out of an era when American literature, film, and radio romanticized the cowboy and his western landscape as a symbol of the American frontier. Second, the ranch and its landscape provided the patron with the kind of home environment where their physical and social needs were taken care of. Simply put, patrons experienced both a physical and mental vacation during their stay at a guest ranch (See Figure 24).

A Sense of Home

Each of the eight guest ranches identified provided patrons with a sense of a secure surrogate home environment (See Figure 25). Just as with the first dude ranch, patrons at the Eaton Brother's ranch of Medora, North Dakota were in effect, "guests" of the host rather than roomers or clients of a hotel. This unique situation implied social equality among guests and the host (Norris 1976), and gave the patron a place where he or she could simply feel

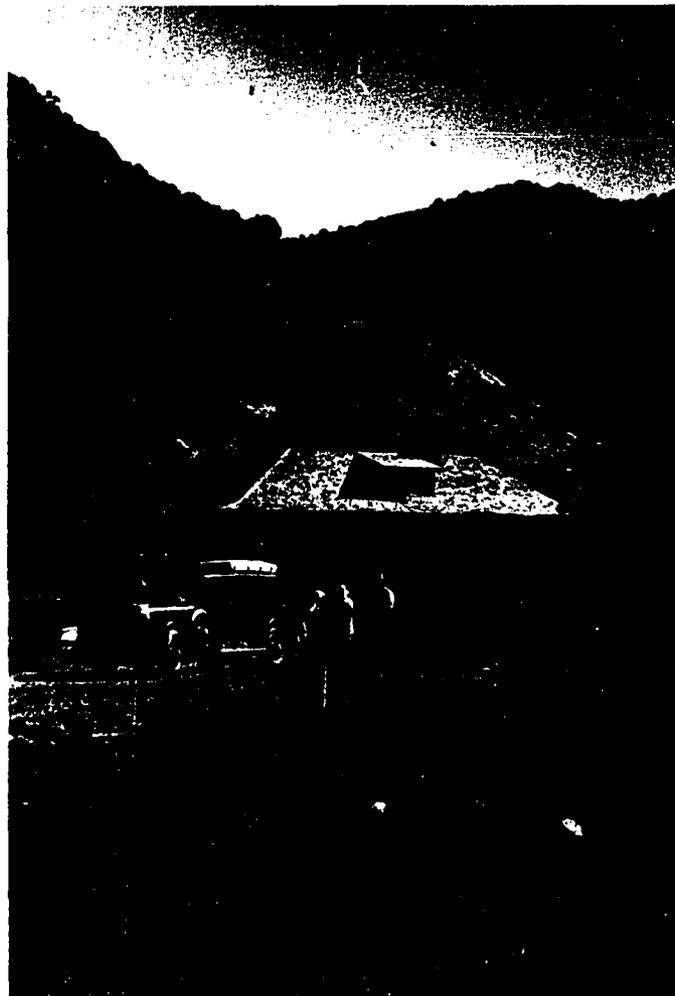


Figure 24

Patrons departing their second home; Faraway Ranch.

1930's Photograph, Erickson-Riggs Collection.

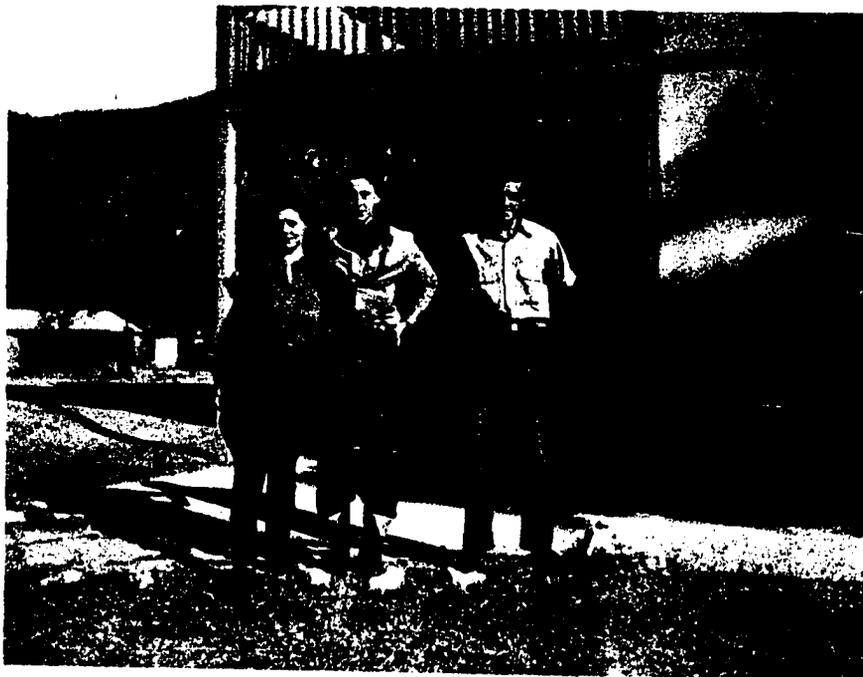


Figure 25

A secure surrogate home.

1938 Photograph at Faraway Ranch, Erickson-Riggs Collection.

at home and able to relax from the pressures of daily life left behind. The host often took on a fatherly role, settling disputes between his guests when necessary, and dispensing advice when asked (Evarts 1936).

The Western Experience

The climate, vegetation, history, and location of the eight guest ranches identified provided an ideal setting for a true western experience. These ranches were the physical manifestations of patrons' perceptions of western ideals (Roosevelt 1911, Rodnitzky 1968, Norris 1976). In the late 19th century, the desert southwest landscape was perceived by newcomers as: 1) a land of opportunity for agricultural development, 2) a wild and dangerous place with savage Apache Indians and life-threatening animals, and 3) a land of pleasant climate, clear atmosphere, and diverse natural beauty (Zube 1982). Based upon these perceptions of an earlier era, patrons were able to imagine themselves as part of their own virtuous western dreams. The guests, in their search for a part of the old western lifestyle discovered a part of themselves as well, due to so many of the stronger, more virtuous American traits associated with this image (Roosevelt 1911).

Values Associated with the Guest Ranch Landscape

While there were many values associated with the guest ranch--social, psychological, locational, climatic, and historic--there appeared to be one central

quality that gave credibility to all of these values. Simply put, it was the genuine quality of the Arizona ranch environment, the simplistic and unadorned landscape, and the location of a ranch in a isolated rural setting. As described in Chapter V, many guest ranches were actual cattle ranches, and, with the exception of guest cabins and modern conveniences such as running water and electricity, the ranch replicated the appearance and specific lifestyle of a cattle ranch. The guest ranch was typically humble in character and lacking in commercialism and fanfare. This was evident in ranch names which referenced the cattle brand used by the ranch (Southern Pacific Railroad 1934).

Patrons of the eight guest ranches could expect to find an informal and friendly ranch atmosphere, simplicity in the fulfillment of the basics of life, an expansive and exotic Arizona countryside, plenty of horseback riding, and all of the virtues that he or she could associate with the ranch itself. Those virtues often were described as rustic, rural, and informal (Norris 1976), but were not by themselves unusually western to the patron. Yet it was the ability of the guest ranch to simultaneously incorporate these values into a cohesive environment that portrayed western meaning and that became identified with the vernacular landscape of the Southwest Guest Ranch.

APPENDIX A

ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES AT FARAWAY RANCH

The Cowboy House, (See Figure 26) is a L-shaped, single frame, wooden building on a stone foundation with a covered porch that runs the length of the house on the inside of the ell. The building has a living room with a stone fireplace, a kitchen, two bedrooms, and one bath. The roof is gabled.

The Cowboy House is situated a short distance to the west of the main house under a grove of mature deciduous and coniferous trees. Newton's wash flows to the north and is crossed by a small foot bridge making the Cowboy House accessible from the main house. This building was actually made up of two cabins constructed in 1921 and 1930. It was used to house ranch hands and guests during the guest ranch era (Murray 1988).

The Bunkhouse/Guest Quarters is located southeast of the main house and overlooks fruit orchards that lie to the north. Although originally constructed around 1910 as part of the Stafford Cabin, the structure was moved on log rollers to its present location sometime between 1925 and 1929. As the needs of the guest ranch increased, the wooden structure was enlarged in 1935 with field stone. It is a one story, three family dwelling with five rooms, two baths, kitchen and a covered porch facing north. The three family units are called Mizar, Space, and Alcore. The names Mizar and Alcore refer to the names of two stars in the northern constellation called the Big Dipper. Space refers to the space in between the two stars (Murray 1988).

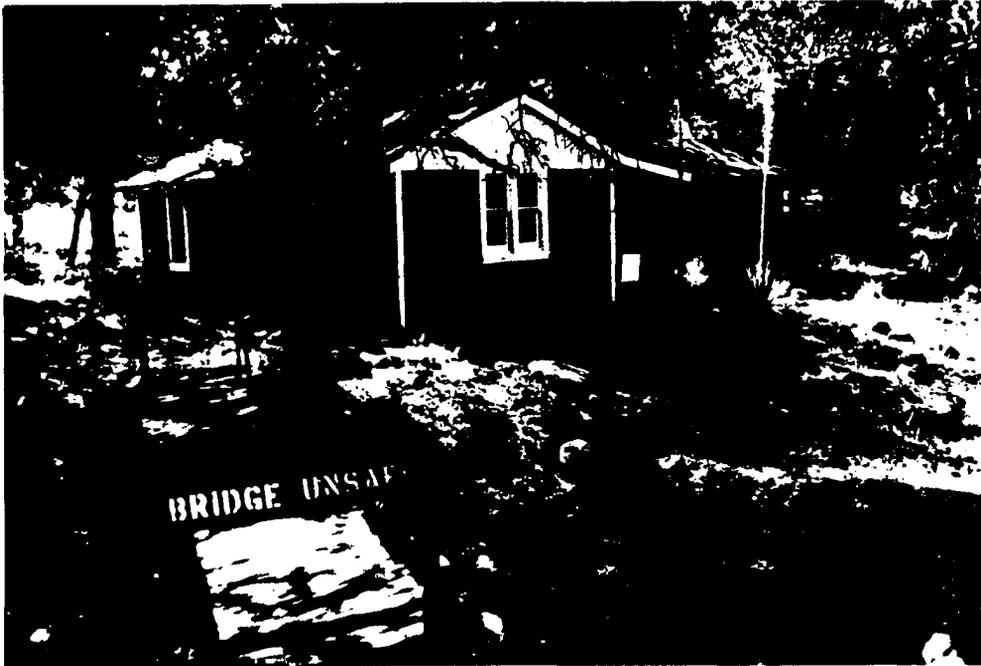


Figure 26

The L-shaped Cowboy House at Faraway Ranch.

1988 Photograph by author.

There are numerous small storage and tool sheds scattered in the general vicinity of the barn and garage. Although these structures appear in different photographs of the ranch, no data exist as to when they were built. These outbuildings were used for the storage of miscellaneous ranch equipment.

A swimming pool is located about 25 feet to the northeast of the main house (See **Figure 27**). Built by Ed Riggs sometime between 1925 and 1929, the pool represented an effort by Lillian and Ed Riggs to improve their ranch facilities, making the location more attractive to paying guests. The 6 foot deep pool had concrete walls with parallel sides and oval ends. The overflow outlet from the pool directed water to irrigate the vegetable gardens and fruit trees that lay to the north of the pool and main house. Fresh water was piped to the pool from springs in the mountains located to the south of the main house (See **Figure 18**). The pool was originally surrounded by a three foot wooden deck, and had a diving board on the north end, although neither appear in photographs from 1935 and later. As of June, 1988, the pool was in an unusable and deteriorated condition (See **Figure 28**).

The barn has a gabled roof and consists of three rooms: a tack room, a large main room with stalls, and a narrow room for additional storage. The barn was enlarged by almost two fold to its present size (See **Figure 22** and **Figure 29**).

There were three "tanks" or reservoirs at the Faraway Ranch. The tank

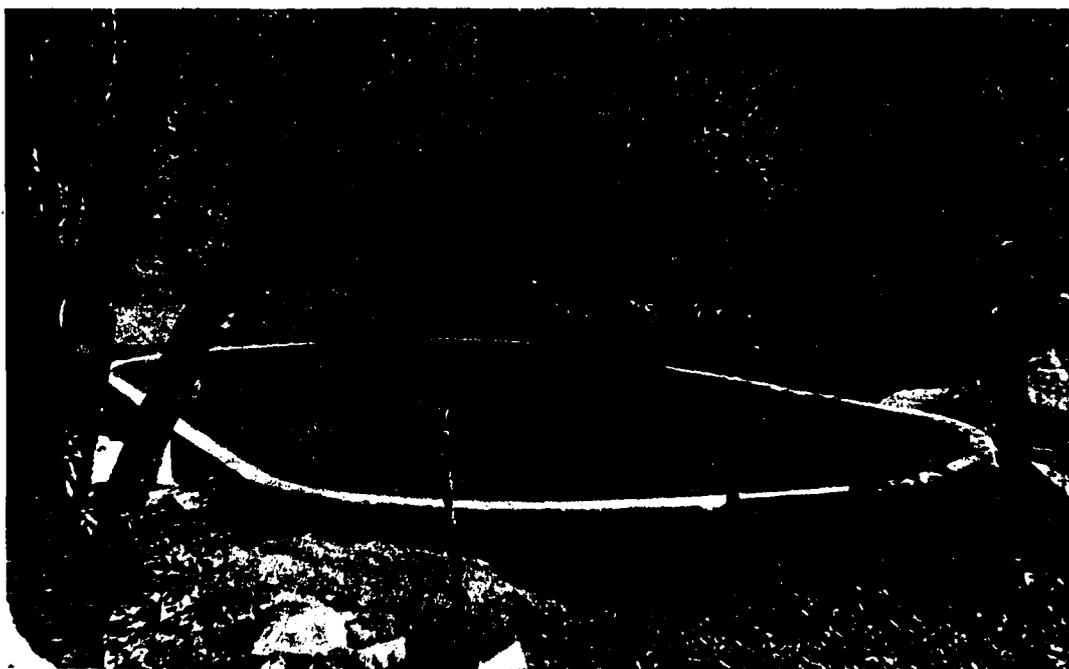


Figure 27

Swimming pool at Faraway Ranch.

1930's Photograph, Erickson-Riggs Collection



Figure 28

Swimming pool at Faraway Ranch in poor condition.

1988 Photograph by author.



Figure 29

Corrugated metal barn at Faraway Ranch.

1987 Photograph by author.



Figure 30

"Tank" or reservoir located southwest of barn at Faraway Ranch.

1987 Photograph by author.

that most often appeared in photographs is located next to the windmill and southwest of the barn (See **Figure 30**). Although it was abandoned as a watering hole for cattle some time during the late 1930's, it lies within the Faraway Historic District boundaries (USDI-NPS 1984, USDI-NPS 1980). The reservoir was rectangular in shape, measuring 200 feet in length and four feet in depth. Earthen berms were built to a height of six feet to retain water pumped by the windmill.

The windmill is located southwest of the barn and at the northeast corner of the man-made tank which served as a reservoir for cattle. In 1896, Neil Erickson moved the windmill from another ranch belonging to Mrs. Rhoda Riggs and erected it one quarter of a mile from the main house. It is difficult to determine when the ranch ceased to use the windmill for pumping water. In 1957, Lillian wrote that the windmill had broken again from high winds in the canyon. The windmill was still standing in 1988, although it was in a dilapidated condition (See **Figure 31**).

Built before 1920, this structure could house up to three cars. The garage was part of the ranch expansion and development by the Riggs for the guest ranch business.

There are no records that date when the generator house was constructed, (See **Figure 11**), but it was probably built in the 1930's when electricity was introduced to the ranch, but prior to the Rural Electrification movement (Murray 1988).



Figure 31

Old windmill circa 1896 in poor condition at Faraway Ranch.

1987 Photograph by author.

Corrals, Fence, Chutes, and Gates: The remains of many fence type barriers exists throughout the Faraway Ranch Historic District (USDI,NPS 1975). These barriers were fashioned with boards, stone, wire, and barbed wire. The fences and walks served to mark boundaries; to keep stock out of the orchards, gardens and lawns, and to enhance the natural beauty of the ranch.

As the site evolved from a pioneer homestead into a working cattle and guest ranch, changes to the structures, landscape, and fencing locations occurred with greater frequency.

APPENDIX B**APPRAISAL OF EXISTING VEGETATION
AT FARAWAY RANCH - MADE JUNE, 1987****GC-1 VINCA minor (Periwinkle, Myrtle)**

This large bed of Vinca growing along the south retaining wall of the main yard is alive and healthy, but in great need of regular summer irrigation. Although resistant, heat has limited its vigor. This species would have died ages ago with out its ability to recover from heat stress.

GC-2 BUCHOLE dactyloides (Buffalo Grass)

This low maintenance pasture grass generally grows rampant as a field grass and can be found in the yard surrounding the main house. Sometimes Buffalo Grass appears as a creeping vine.

V-1 PARTHENOCISSUS quinefolia (Virginia Creeper)

This vine, native to Texas and Mexico, has prospered quite well with out regular irrigation. About five healthy plants are located at the southwest corner of the fenced yard, attaching them selves quite well to the metal fence at the entrance gate to the main yard.

S-1 SPIRAEA prunifolia, simpliciflora (Bridlewreath Spirea)

This native to China and Korea is surviving but is in need of general care. Two of these shrubs frame the diagonal walk leading up to the house. They appear in photos from the early 1900's.

S-3 COTTONEASTER hupehensis (Hupeh Cottoneaster)

This species is originally from Europe and parts of Asia. They will tolerate

minimal maintenance and fairly dry conditions. This specimen in poor condition and needs pruning, irrigation, and fertilization.

S-4 COTTONEASTER hupehensis (Hupeh Cottoneaster)

This multi-stemmed shrub is fairly healthy, although in need of general pruning and fertilization. It should receive irrigation with periodic deep soaking.

S-5 PYRACANTHA sp Cultivar (Pyracantha)

Healthy due to the tough nature of this species. This plant should be pruned to improve its appearance. In addition, it should receive deep periodic soaking to avoid iron chlorosis. In photos from the early 1900's, this shrub belonged to a row of four or more.

S-6 TAMARIX pentanda (Tamarisk, Salt Cedar)

A native to middle-eastern deserts, this species usually appears as a tree. This young specimen is in very poor condition, struggling to survive and appears as dead during the fall. Numerous suckers have sprouted from the base. It is in need of pruning and irrigation.

T-1 FRAXINUS velutina (Velvet or Arizona Ash)

This healthy sapling is probably less than ten years old and in fairly good condition. Traditionally it is an excellent shade tree.

T-2 ULMUS pumila (Siberian Elm)

A native from China, this healthy sapling is only four to five years old. It is one of four Siberian Elms that are clumped together.

T-3 ULMUS pumila (Siberian Elm)

A sapling of about 5 to 10 years in age and in healthy condition. One of four of the same species located in a clump.

T-4 ULMUS pumila (Siberian Elm)

The youngest of these four Siberian Elm trees, this sapling is only about 3 to 5 years old and is healthy but crowded by T-5.

T-5 ULMUS pumila (Siberian Elm)

This mature tree, 12'-15' in height, has a spreading round crown with a rough grey trunk. This tree is healthy, but could use some selective pruning to maintain its form. T-2 through T-4 may have naturalized from seed dropped by this tree.

T-6 PYRUS communis (Common Pear Tree)

Presently in poor condition, this tree possibly died back at one point, or may have been cut off at the trunk, yet managed to come back. It was at one time accompanied by many others in a planting row. Possibly it was damaged by high winds in the canyon, a lack of irrigation, or disease infestation.

T-7 (row) PYRUS communis (Common Pear Tree)

This row of four ancient vase shaped trees are nearly dead. They are about 15' tall and spaced 12' on center. They have been pruned off at the top at some point. Cause of demise is speculative at best; disease, a lack of irrigation, a general lack of care, or end of life cycle. Presently the row is infested with vines that give a false image that the trees are alive and leafing

out. These trees were planted too close to the swimming pool, or the pool was constructed too close to the trees, as the root system of the T-7 row may have encroached in their search for water. It is questionable if these trees could ever be salvaged.

T-8 ACER negundo (Box Elder, maple family)

A native tree to most of the U.S., this possible volunteer is about 12' high and growing near the stone wall, adjacent to the pool. Given the nature of this fast growing species and the apparently unintended placement next to the failing row of T-7 trees, it is quite possible that this tree did naturalize by its self.

T-9 PRUNUS species (Apricot Species)

This healthy tree, about 20' high and nearly as wide has a classic globe shaped crown, bears fruit in the spring, and would thrive with improved care. An annual feeding of nitrogen, 6 to 8 weeks prior to bloom, is required. The tree is well placed with the fragrance of the blooms reaching the dining room of the main house. It needs basic pruning to encourage fruit yield, nitrogen fertilizers, and occasional irrigation.

T-10 PYRUS communis (Common Pear Tree)

This deciduous tree of 15' in height with an equal spread is in good health, but requires pruning, fertilization, and regular irrigation.

T-11 row CUPRESSUS arizonica (Arizona Cypress)

Native to the southwestern U.S. and Mexico, these trees are planted in a row

that runs east to west. They were most likely placed as wind break, yet they obstruct the view towards the mountains across Bonita Creek. These trees (8), often mistaken for Alligator Juniper are in good health with the exception of requiring some selective pruning.

T-12 FRAXINUS velutina (Velvet Ash)

This Arizona native is basically in good health, but in need of good pruning and fertilization. This is a mature tree of 15' to 20' in height.

T-13 PYRUS communis (Common Pear Tree)

This pear tree has the classic vase shaped form of the species, although in much better condition than T-6 & T-7. To bring this tree back to its highest degree of health, it too requires some basic work: irrigation, fertilization, and pruning. Formerly part of a row of apple, apricot, or a similar species, this tree may have survived as a result of run-off rainfall from the sloping back yard.

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Mr. Murray is an historian who is writing the complete history of the Faraway Ranch and is currently under the employ of the National Park Service and the Western Archaeological Conservation Center in Tucson, Arizona. In addition, Mr. Murray and his family were personal friends of Lillian Riggs and visited the Faraway Ranch as invited guests on numerous occasions.