
Site Background

The Yuma Wash site in Marana has prehistoric homes and outdoor structures that were built and used by the Hohokam people from A.D. 750 to the 1300's or later. By studying this ancient village, archaeologists hope to learn about a time of great cultural change that lasted from six hundred to seven hundred years ago (A.D. 1300-1400). The people of the greater Tucson area moved from many villages to a few very large ones. Puebloan immigrants from more than a hundred miles north apparently moved into our area and then moved out again. The Yuma Wash site is one of the few places in the Tucson Basin that has evidence of both Puebloan and Hohokam people living together during this tumultuous period of history.

The historical Bojórquez-Aguirre Ranch site contains ruins of ranch buildings, a native stone-masonry cistern, a privy, and a hand-dug well. The southernmost buildings were constructed around 1878 by the Bojórquez family and were occupied as late as 1895, after which the Aguirre family acquired the ranch and occupied it until 1910. Archaeologists excavated this site to better understand the late nineteenth century relationship between the urban center of Tucson and its satellite rural communities, residence pattern and the role of the ranch in that pattern, small-scale agriculture along the Santa Cruz River, the livestock industry in the Tucson Basin, and changes brought about by the shift from long-distance wagon freighting to freighting by the railroad.

FEES

Tours are scheduled from October through April only. Advance reservations are required. Fees for school groups are \$50 per group. Tour size is limited to 40 participants (each adult chaperon accompanying the group is considered a participant). **Fees must be paid in full prior to the program.**

*For more information please call
Old Pueblo at (520) 798-1201*

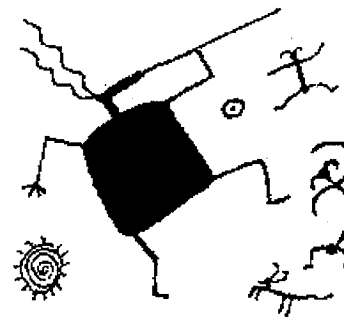
CLASSROOM SCHOLARSHIPS



Old Pueblo Archaeology Center raises funds to help economically disadvantaged schools attend our classroom programs at reduced program rates. The amount of scholarship support is based upon the amount of money that Old Pueblo has available and the percentage of students in the school who qualify for free or reduced meal support as reported by the current Arizona Department of Education report.



Site Tours For Classrooms



The Yuma Wash and Bojórquez-Aguirre Ranch Sites


Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

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PO Box 40577
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Site Tours for Classrooms

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's Site Tour for Classrooms offers a one and one half hour tour by a professional archaeologist at the historical Bojórquez-Aguirre Ranch and homestead and at the Yuma Wash site, sites that Old Pueblo Archaeology Center has excavated with the public in the Marana area.

The tour is designed to give children and adults an idea of what archaeologists do, how they do it, how they learn about people through their work, and to provide insight into the life of the ancient Hohokam villagers, the history of Arizona, and the ongoing archaeological investigation. The hands-on materials and fun lesson plans bring archaeology and the past alive for your students.

Participants provide their own transportation to the Yuma Wash Site in Marana. Old Pueblo will provide directions to the site. Participants are advised to dress appropriately for desert walking (no open-toed shoes) and bring drinking water and a hat.



Program Outline

- I. Orientation talk (30 minutes)
 - A. Handouts, real artifact displays, and models of ancient houses and tools are shown
 - B. What do archaeologists study?
 - C. Prehistory and history of humans in Arizona
 - 1. Paleoindian
 - 2. Archaic
 - 3. Early Agricultural and Ceramic
 - D. The periods of the Hohokam
 - 1. Pioneer
 - 2. Colonial
 - 3. Sedentary
 - 4. Classic
 - E. The life of the Hohokam, ancient desert farmers.
 - A. The importance of context to understanding a site.
 - B. Archaeological sites as non-renewable cultural resources.
 - C. Reasons, goals and objectives of archaeology
 - D. Cultural features and artifacts
 - F. Stratigraphy
 - G. Context and its importance
 - H. Laws that protect archaeological sites
 - I. The research design for this site
- II. The Tour (1 hour)
 - E. The Yuma Wash Site
 - 1. History
 - 2. Excavation

- F. The Bojórquez-Aguirre Ranch and homestead
 - 1. History
 - 2. Excavation
- G. Preservation and conservation

