



Remnants of Camp Rucker's adobe Commissary and Bakery buildings constructed by soldiers in 1880 (Coronado National Forest photo)

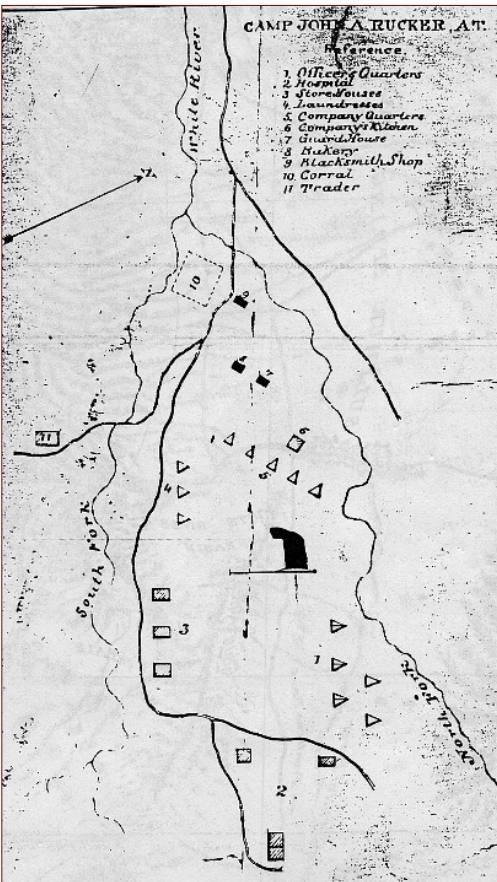
Historic Camp Rucker: Apache Wars Outpost Tour

With Archaeologist
Bill Gillespie

Saturday October 3, 2020
8 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Tour meets just south of
Interstate-10 Exit 275 on the
west side of Houghton Road , Tucson**

Well off the beaten path in the southern part of the Chiricahua Mountains is the site of Camp Rucker, a small military post established by the U.S. Army in 1878. The location the Army selected in Whitewater (later Rucker) Canyon was one the ancient Mogollon people had inhabited centuries before. The historic post was small, never garrisoned by more than a single company, and officially lasting only a couple of years. For most of that time soldiers and officers lived in tents, but in 1880 soldiers started building a small number of stone and adobe structures, some of which are still standing.



1879 map of Camp John A. Rucker showing facilities then present at the Army post (Coronado National Forest photo)

The tour will depart from Tucson and the first stop will be at the Camp Rucker Campground where restroom facilities are available. We will spend a couple of hours visiting the historic site of Camp Rucker, after which we will return to the campground for lunch before participants go their separate ways.

Participants provide their own transportation, sack lunch, and water.

Tour Guide Bill Gillespie spent 25 years working as an archaeologist for the Coronado National Forest in the southeastern Arizona mountains. He and his Forest Service colleague Mary Farrell conducted a number of volunteer projects at Camp Rucker and prepared a successful nomination of the Rucker Canyon Archaeological District to the National Register of Historic Places.



This is a fundraising tour – Each registrant is asked to make a donation to help cover Old Pueblo's tour expenses and support its education programs about archaeology and traditional cultures.

Donations are due 10 days after reservation request or by 5 p.m. Wednesday September 30, whichever is earlier.

ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE ASKED TO WEAR MASKS AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING DURING THIS TOUR TO REDUCE SPREADING OF DISEASE.

For details and reservations contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at **520-798-1201** or info@oldpueblo.org.

Check out this and other activities at www.oldpueblo.org.

IMPORTANT TOUR INFORMATION

ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE ASKED TO WEAR MASKS AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING DURING THIS TOUR TO REDUCE SPREADING OF DISEASE.

COST AND PAYMENT POLICY: Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis. Full payment is due within 10 days of reservation request or by tour registration deadline, whichever is earlier. A portion of the tour fee will be a tax-deductible contribution to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center in an amount to be determined based on tour expenses compared to revenues after all expenses have been paid. Any entrance fee savings from passes, permits, memberships, etc., become part of the donation to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center. We welcome singles, couples, and groups.

CANCELLATIONS less than seven days prior to departure date are not refundable. Cancellation notice must be received in writing, or via email or fax, and will be effective as of the date received. Cancellations after final payment date/time will result in forfeiture of all money paid. No refund will be made for leaving a program in progress. Trip insurance is highly recommended. Old Pueblo reserves the right to cancel programs while in progress and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis, when in Old Pueblo's sole opinion the health, safety, or well-being of participants requires such action. The tour itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, but participants will be notified of significant changes in advance if the change is under the control of Old Pueblo.

TRANSPORTATION: Registrants are responsible for their own transportation. High-clearance vehicles are recommended. People who wish to ride with drivers of high-clearance vehicles may be able to form carpools at the meeting place. Vehicles not going on the entire trip may be parked at the meeting place at driver's own risk.

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS: No lodging or meals are included in tour fee. Each participant needs to bring a lunch, at least one quart of water, and other beverages as desired. Snack foods are also recommended. Please do not bring alcoholic beverages.

DEPARTURE: Tour departs at 8 a.m. from the southwest corner of the Interstate-10 Exit 275 (Houghton Road) intersection. The return time to Tucson is estimated to be around 4 p.m. but may be later considering how fast people walk and regroup at the various stops and the possibility that vehicle problems can occur.

ACCESSIBILITY: It takes about 2½ hours to drive from Tucson to Camp Rucker with the last 20+ miles on dirt roads that sometimes can be rough. High clearance vehicles are recommended. Tour leader will allow plenty of time for those who are able to make the trail or road walk but who cannot walk quickly. If you have difficulty walking over desert terrain you may only be able to view the historic features from a distance. Participants can walk/hike as much or as little as they wish.

HEALTH ADVISORIES: Bring and wear a hat that protects the back of your neck and your ears. Bring and wear sunscreen lotion. You must be in good physical and mental health to do this tour. We are concerned about your health and safety, and our tour leaders have had first-aid and CPR training, but medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during all or part of the tour. You are responsible for selecting events appropriate to your abilities and limitations. If you have any doubts about your ability to participate, please contact us prior to registering. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported when the reservation is made, and a follow-up explanatory letter may be required.

PARTICIPANTS MUST ABIDE by all federal, state, and tribal regulations pertaining to visitation to historic sites, antiquities, and artifact sites. Collecting of artifacts, plants, animals, and mineral specimens is prohibited. Please see the State Historic Preservation Office's azstateparks.com/archaeological-site-etiquette and Old Pueblo's www.oldpueblo.org/artifact-collecting/ websites regarding appropriate behavior when for visiting archaeological sites.

MEMBERSHIP: Becoming a member of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center opens a world of new discoveries. A \$25, 1-year "Friend" membership provides the *Old Pueblo Archaeology* bulletin and discounts on some of our tour and course fees, and publications. Higher levels of membership may provide member with opportunities to participate in archaeological excavation and other research projects if desired.

For membership details contact Old Pueblo at 520-798-1201 or info@oldpueblo.org, or visit our web site: www.oldpueblo.org.