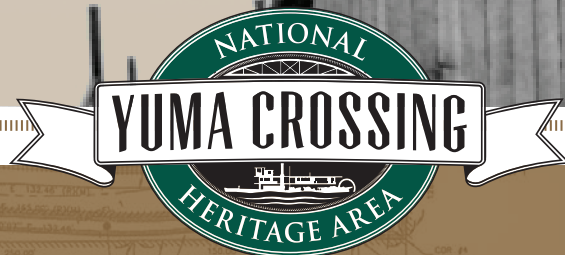
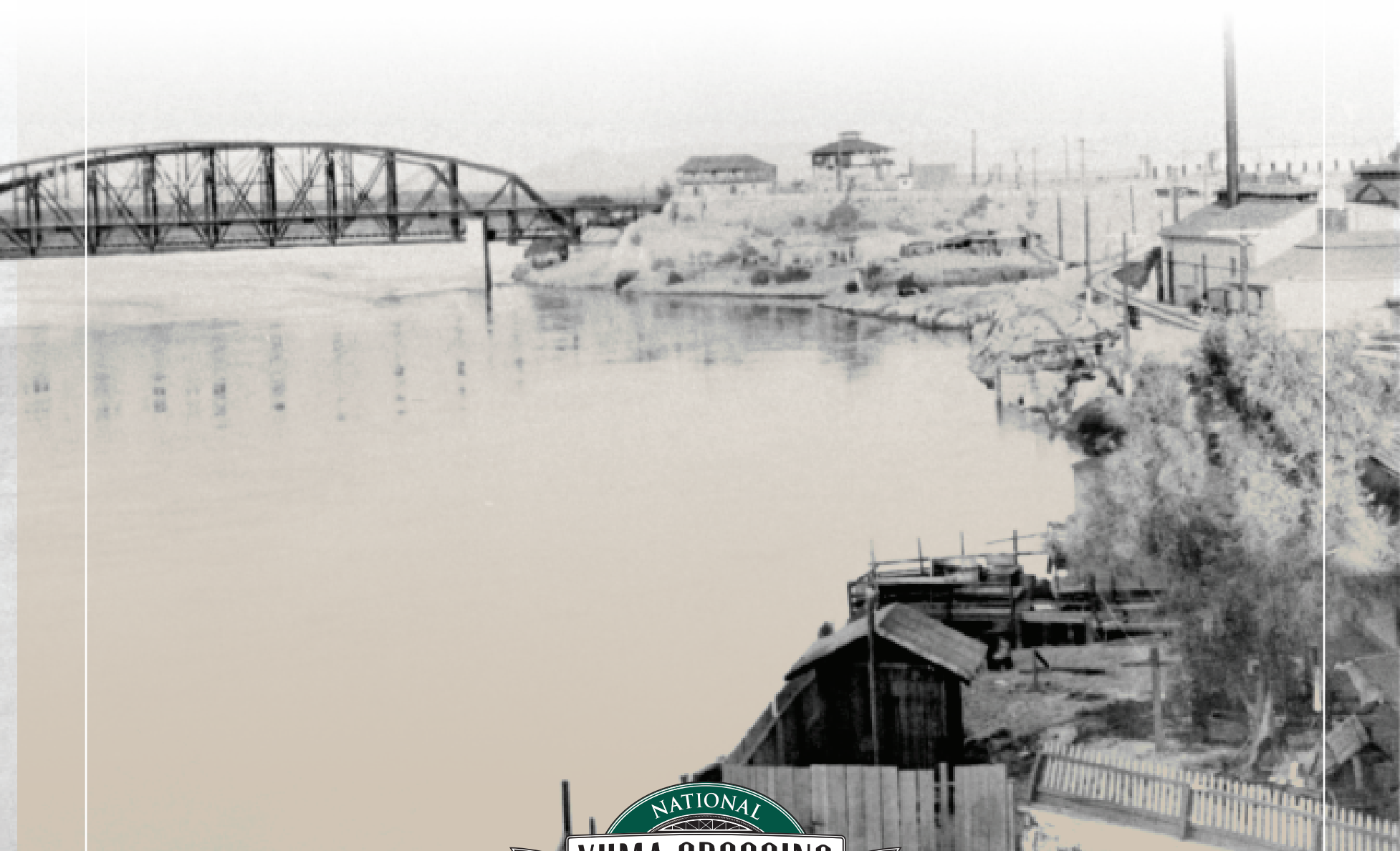


MASTER PLAN  
*for the*  
Colorado River State Historic Park  
& Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park



DECEMBER 2019

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## INTRODUCTION

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# History & Background of the Sites

The stories of these two parks in Yuma, Arizona, reflect the historic interplay of the federal, state and local governments during westward expansion and development over the past 160 years.

- In the 1850s, the United States military established a Quartermaster Depot at a pivotal location in Yuma, offloading supplies shipped in from San Francisco and sending those supplies off by mule train to forts throughout the Southwest. Although the coming of the railroad in 1877 made the Depot obsolete, the Reclamation Service (later Bureau of Reclamation) began using the site as its headquarters for the Yuma Project in the early 1900s, building the first series of dams and irrigation canals on the Colorado River. In the 1950s, the Yuma County Water Users Association (YCWUA) then utilized the site as an operations center to manage its canal system.
- In 1875, the Arizona Territorial legislature authorized the development of a Territorial Prison in Yuma. The prison operated until 1909, when it was closed and relocated to Florence at a site which would allow for greater expansion.



An equally significant part of the history is the effort at all levels — particularly, the local level — to preserve these key historic resources, often well before the National Historic Preservation Act was enacted in the 1960s:

- Local citizens' groups, such as the Yuma Crossing Park Council and the Arizona State Parks Board, led efforts in the 1980s to convert the remaining Quartermaster Depot property from an operations center for the canal system to an historic park. They were successful in securing federal funds for the relocation of the YCWUA. In the 1990s, the City of Yuma committed \$1 million for the capital improvements of the state park, which opened in 1997. In 2009, when state budget cuts threatened the park with closure, the City of Yuma, Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, and the Yuma Visitors Bureau partnered to assume local management of the facility, which is today known as the Colorado River State Historic Park. In 2011, with financial support from Arizona State Parks and the National Park Service, major roof and adobe restoration took place on some of the oldest adobe structures in the State of Arizona. While some restoration has already been accomplished, much restoration work remains.
- The Yuma Territorial Prison closed its doors in 1909. It was used as the local high school from 1910-1914. However, the facility began to suffer serious deterioration in the 1920s. The realignment of the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad across the Colorado River resulted in the destruction of one third of the Prison. The Depression brought further deterioration as building materials were stolen and hobos began living on the site. In 1931, 22 local community groups partnered with the city government to post a guard and to work to turn the facility into a tourist attraction. In 1939-40, the City of Yuma secured funds from the National Youth Administration to put unemployed youth to work building the existing Prison museum. The City ran the museum from 1940 to 1961, when Arizona State Parks assumed management of it as one of its first state parks. Arizona State Parks undertook major construction projects, such as the Guard Tower, Entrance Building and realignment of the park entrance. State budget cuts over the last decade reduced the level of staff, maintenance and capital improvements at the park.

***The remnants of the Territorial Prison as it looked in the early 1930s.***

The Prison was being slowly destroyed by rail construction, vandalism, and theft of building materials to such an extent that the Yuma community rallied to post a guard to protect the Prison and committed to a rebuilding process.





- In January 2010, Arizona State Parks announced that it was no longer able to operate the park and scheduled it for closure on April 1, 2010. At this point in the recession, the City of Yuma was unable to assist financially. However, the community raised \$70,000 in 60 days to help save the park. Combined with a commitment of National Park Service funds through the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, the funding was in place to operate the facility as a state park under local management. With continued local fundraising, National Park Service funding, and Arizona State Park capital funds, major improvements to the facility have taken place, particularly the restoration of the original adobe Sally Port.

It is also worth noting that the Yuma Crossing National Historic Landmark (NHL) and Associated Sites was one of the earlier nominations for landmark status in the 1960s, with these two sites being pillars of the nomination. However, the decline of Yuma's downtown, a greater intrusion of the City's water treatment plant into the core of the site, and the blighted nature of Yuma's riverfront resulted in a "threatened" status being placed on the NHL in the 1990s. The course of the last 20 years has reversed that decline, and the NHL is no longer considered threatened.



*Founders Plaza was dedicated in 2012 to those citizens and organizations who pioneered efforts in the 1980s to save and restore the historic site of the Colorado River State Historic Park. A strong community commitment to its history is one of the strengths of Yuma.*



*The "3:10 to Yuma" fundraiser for the Territorial Prison ensured that there would be major improvements to this important Yuma attraction.*

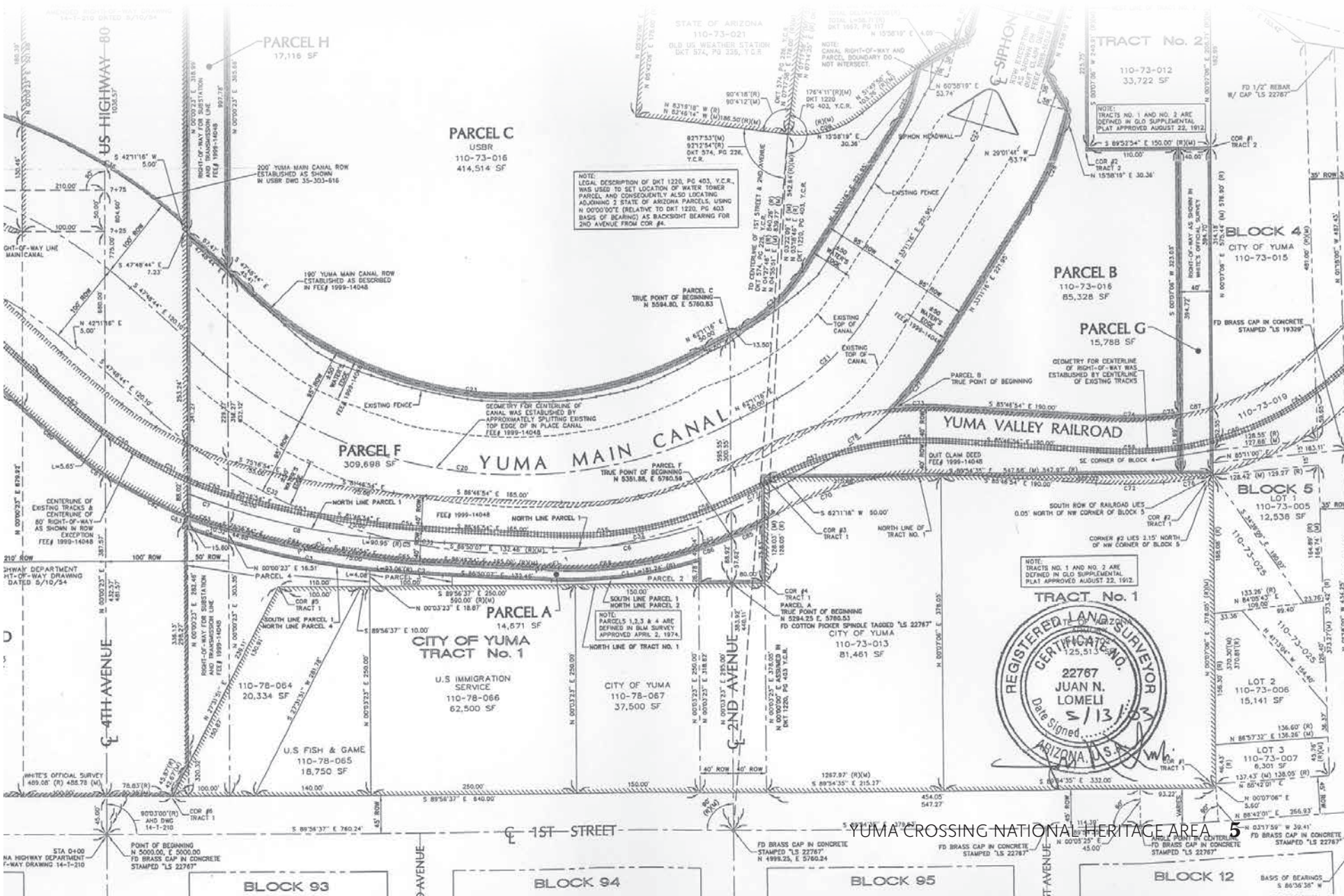


# A Summary of the Ownership History & Historic Covenants

**THE YUMA TERRITORIAL PRISON** was city-owned property until it was deeded to the State in 1961. It has since remained state-owned property, although it was leased back to the City of Yuma for consecutive three-year terms since 2010. In April 2017, a long-term, 15-year lease between Arizona State Parks and Trails and the City of Yuma went into effect.

**THE COLORADO RIVER STATE HISTORIC PARK** is a much more complicated site in terms of property ownership. The land was originally the property of the United States government as a military and then a Bureau of Reclamation facility. As the Yuma Project proceeded, land parcels became separated by the creation of canals. Arizona State Parks acquired the QMD office in 1969 and the water reservoir in 1980 from the Federal Government. The City of Yuma, which had secured ownership of the QMD officers' quarters, in turn

deeded that property to the State of Arizona in 1987. Thereafter, Arizona State Parks operated these historic buildings even while the Yuma County Waters Users Association maintained its operations center on the remainder of the property. In the 1980s, the Yuma community worked with the Arizona Congressional delegation to relocate the Yuma County Water Users, freeing up the remainder of the site for redevelopment as a historic site. This work culminated in the late 1990s with an agreement between the federal government and Arizona State Parks, to quitclaim the remaining park property to Arizona State Parks with an historic covenant and approved Program of Preservation and Utilization. The construction of the park and other major improvements thereafter were completed in accordance with this mandate. This historic preservation requirement is monitored and maintained by both the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service.





## Master-Planning Efforts

A major reason for this new master-planning effort is to align the thinking of the local, state and federal governments (as well as the local community) concerning any new proposed major improvements. With the changes of management and the shift of focus from simply “keeping the doors open,” a review of prior planning efforts is in order.

**THERE HAVE BEEN VARYING EFFORTS TO MASTER-PLAN BOTH OF THESE PARKS.** Arizona State Parks undertook major improvements at the Yuma Territorial Prison in the 1970s and 1980s, based on a vision that balanced the need for preservation with the need to make the

facility a strong attraction. In 1994, Arizona State Parks completed a major study entitled “Historic Building Assessment, Structural Evaluation, and Drainage Analysis,” which raised issues such as building stabilization, vibration, standing water, and public safety.

The study also noted the mixture of restorations, replicas, reconstructions and repairs that had occurred over time, which tended to cloud the issue of the site’s authenticity. A major challenge was to regain the sense of the whole site (much of which had been destroyed over time) while avoiding the trap of re-creating “faux” history. However, the continuing reductions in state funding meant that maintenance was substantially deferred and ultimately, the facility was slated for closure in 2010. Since then, local management has worked with Arizona State Parks to address with

considerable success a number of serious and imminent building issues.

A majority of the Sally Port was restored in 2013 with the technical assistance of the National Park Service’s Vanishing Treasures program, capital funding from Arizona State Parks, and project management expertise from the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area. That restoration work was unfortunately not completed in a satisfactory manner. Efforts are underway to revisit the project.

The Vanishing Treasures report, entitled “Trip Report and Preliminary Treatment Recommendations,” dated January 2011, and recently updated in October 2019, addresses other preservation issues (such as the Cell Block and Caliche Hill) and will be referenced later in this document.



*Left: restored Sally Port, 2013.*

*Above: deteriorating Sally Port adobe walls, 2019.*





**THE PLANNING FOR THE COLORADO RIVER STATE HISTORIC PARK** was guided initially by the report, “A Master Plan for the Yuma Crossing National Historic Landmark,” completed by Gerald A. Doyle and Associates in 1984. The plan proposed to create a setting for a “living history” military post, which was attempted in the early 1990s by the Yuma Crossing Foundation. Local funding sources were inadequate to fund this ambitious program, and the effort was abandoned.

In its place, the City of Yuma and Arizona State Parks collaborated to make considerable improvements to the site, with the City of Yuma investing \$1 million of its own funds. In 1997, the park opened as the “Yuma Crossing State Historic Park.” From an interpretive standpoint, the park attempted to bring the many transportation stories of the Yuma Crossing to this site, whether or not those stories took place on the site. The City provided operating assistance to Arizona State Parks from 1997-2009, which was crucial as the park attracted only 11,000 visitors in 2008.

“An Historic Building Analysis of the Corral House” was completed in 1994, followed up by “A Building Conservation Assessment of the Yuma Quartermaster Depot Storehouse” in 2000, which provides good documentation of key historic resources.

The Congressional authorization of the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area in 2000 brought forth a new round of planning. The Management Plan of the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area envisioned telling the many Yuma Crossing stories in their appropriate locations. Thus, the main focus for this park would be the Quartermaster story of the 19th century and Reclamation story of the 20th century. In 2007, Arizona State Parks and the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area partnered to complete an interpretive master plan with only these two interpretive themes for this park.

In 2008, the 1907 Baldwin locomotive located at the park was relocated onto the original historic rail alignment along Madison Avenue as part of the Pivot Point Interpretive Plaza project.

In 2009, at the depths of the recession, the local community assumed management of the park to avoid its closure. Funds from many sources were secured to keep the park open. The City of Yuma continued to provide operating assistance and the Heritage Area accessed its National Park Service funding. The Yuma Visitors Bureau moved its Arizona Welcome Center into the main entrance building, which helped attract a much larger attendance of 80,000 annually.

From 2009 through 2014, considerable progress was made to address deferred maintenance issues as well as the lack of interpretation of the Bureau of Reclamation story.

Based on the Vanishing Treasures report, many of the historic buildings (except the Storehouse and Corral House) benefited from major roof reconstruction and adobe restoration in 20

11-2012. New exhibits on the Yuma Siphon, the Yuma Project, and the Yuma East Wetlands were installed in 2012. The Storehouse was used for a traveling exhibit on Alcatraz from the National Park Service. The Heritage Area also experimented with providing additional traveler services by opening a coffee and pie shop in portions of the Corral House building.

While this flurry of activity has certainly brought the facility back to life, all parties —the Heritage Area, Arizona State Parks, and the City of Yuma — are concerned that these “ad hoc” changes, often forced by budget constraints, pressing maintenance needs, and economic circumstances, were not the best way to shape the long-term future of these parks. Thus, the commitment to complete this new master plan.



NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

## Proposed Master-Planning Framework

This master-planning effort faces budget and economic realities that will test the collective abilities of the partners to ensure sustainable parks. There are some incontrovertible facts:

- With these facilities being the key elements of the National Historic Landmark, the highest priority of the master plan should be the preservation and interpretation of the historic assets contained within the parks.
- Given today's budget realities, governmental resources from all levels will be constrained and will be insufficient to meet all of the parks' operating and capital needs.
- To supplement public funds, these parks must generate operating revenues, with a dedicated mindset of being "attractions." An attraction is defined by five key characteristics: quality, authenticity, uniqueness, drawing power, and activity options. In addition, there are some more subtle factors:
  - An attraction must make sense to the visitor by presenting a "perceived order".
  - An attraction must offer "potential for exploration with variety and mystery".
  - An attraction must permit role choices.

This Master Plan for both parks is driven by this singular emphasis on "attractions" and therefore is set forth in the following sections:

1. Business Planning: Assess the market appeal and define the marketing approach
  - a. The Yuma Territorial Prison has demonstrated its market appeal with increased admission and retail revenues, making the park operationally self-sufficient. The focus should be to continually improve the visitor experience with quality, authenticity, and activity options.
  - b. The Colorado River State Historic Park, however, will need to develop a different model for operational sustainability, as it currently does not have sufficient market appeal.
2. Address basic conservation/preservation needs of historic buildings and assets
3. Define the interpretive goals of each park and upgrade exhibits with state-of-the-art technology.
4. Upgrade buildings/infrastructure for operational efficiency and public safety.



*A general note on the preservation and interpretive challenges facing both parks and a proposed approach*

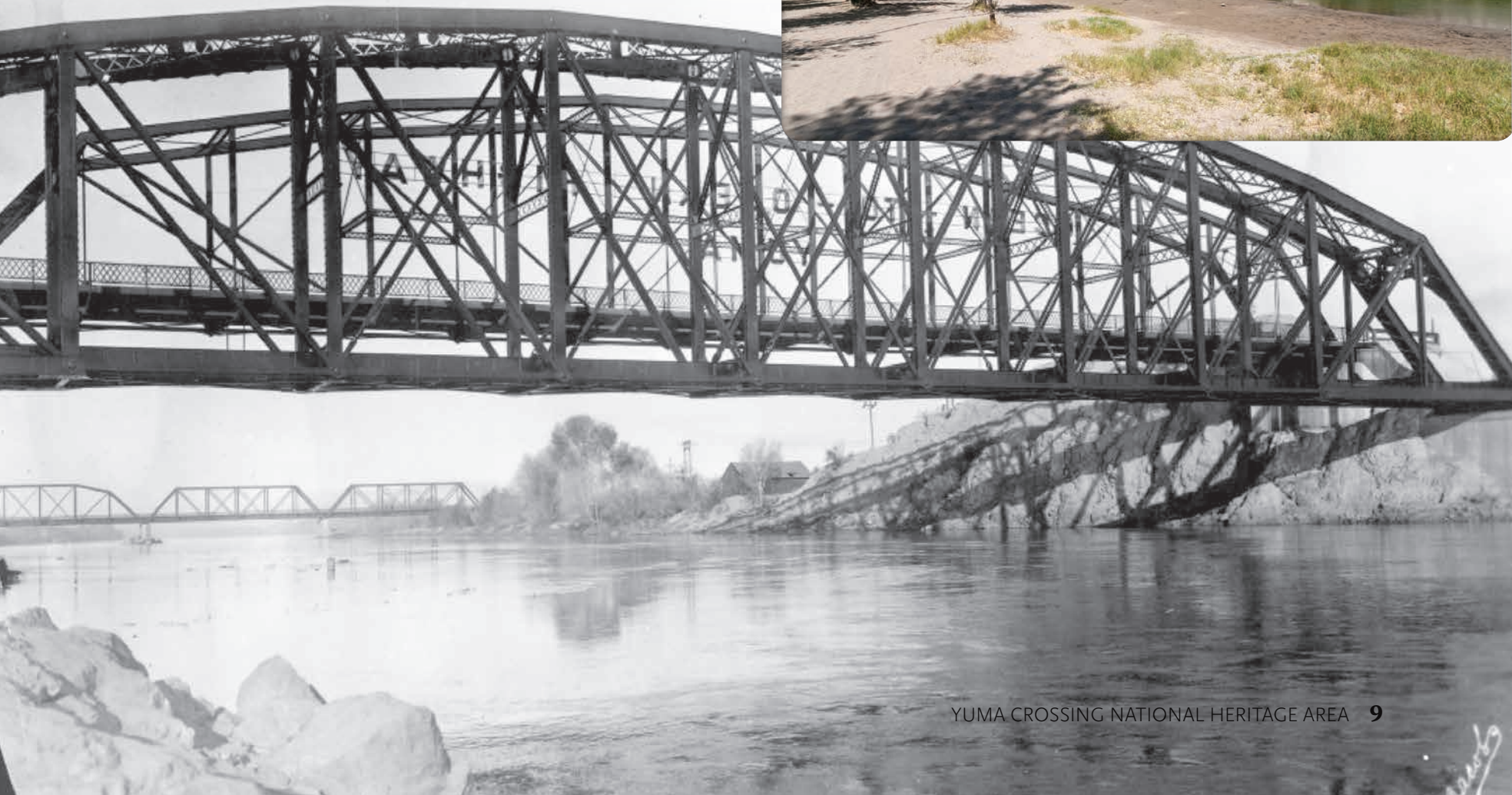
The master plan is divided into two sections. The Colorado River State Historic Park plan is focused on a major interpretive overhaul of the entire facility, including the construction of a new building to tell the story of the future of the Colorado River. The plan for the Yuma Territorial Prison instead builds upon the progress made to date and seeks to mitigate the loss of historic context and authenticity.

**COLORADO RIVER STATE HISTORIC PARK** — The first challenge is that there are two competing themes and eras: the 19th century military era and the 20th century Reclamation era. Neither, however, is compelling enough to carry the story of this park. The second challenge is the complete loss of historic context as it relates to the park's connection to the Colorado River. If one stands at the north end of the Storehouse, it is literally impossible to imagine steamboats unloading their cargo right there. The Colorado River is now a shadow of its former self, just a minor stream as it winds its way past Yuma. It makes the park's history even more difficult to tell than it already is.

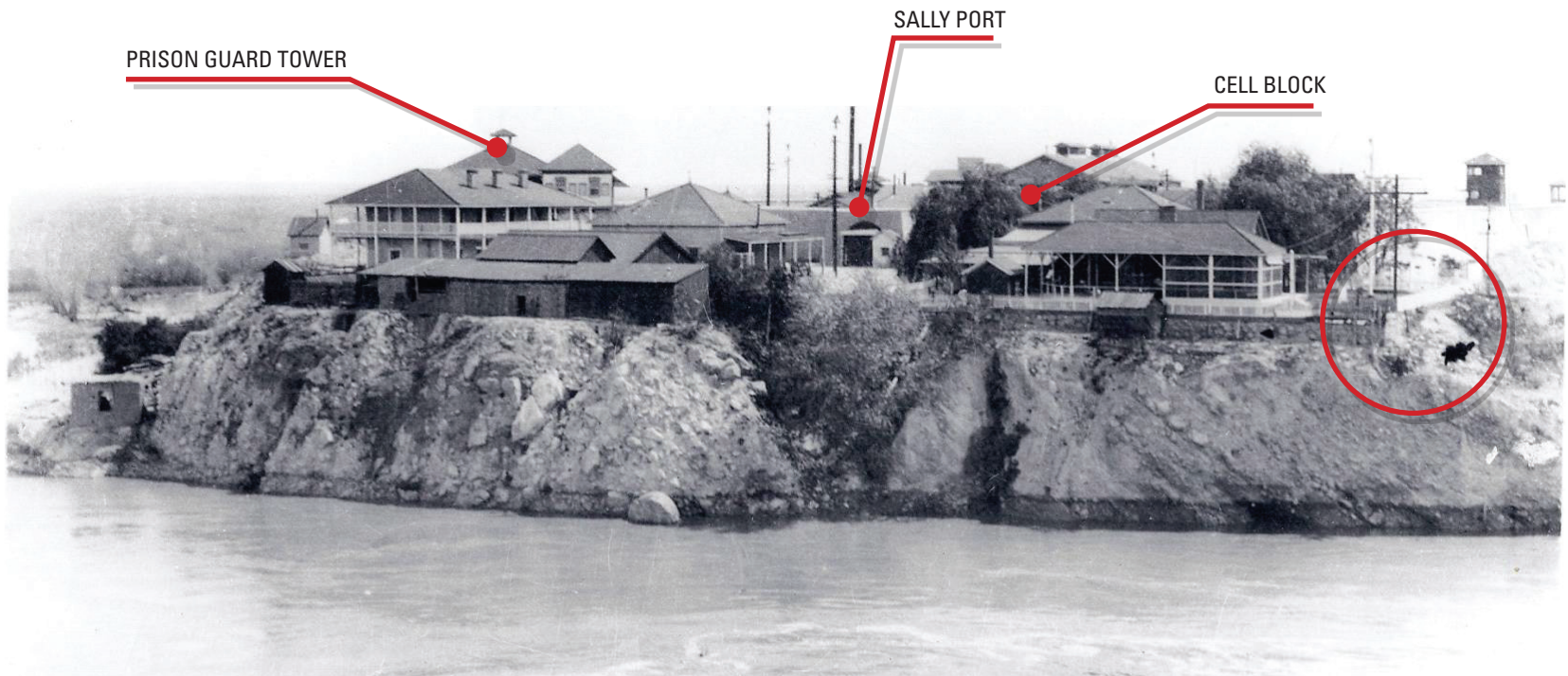
The recommendation was originally to change the overarching theme to “the Colorado River: its past, present and future.” That new

theme subsumed both the Quartermaster Depot and Reclamation stories, and would use these two eras to trace the evolution of the river. The park would also become a forum for an ongoing dialogue about the future of the Colorado River, a very critical and timely subject.

This evolution of the river can also be reflected in the preservation philosophy and interpretation of the historic resources. There will be no attempt to bring the historic resources to one era or one point in time. Instead, the approach throughout will be interpret the evolution of the Colorado River — and how the site responded to and affected those changes over time — not only through exhibits but with the buildings themselves. Additionally, it is felt that the natural evolution of the CRSHP dictates that the focus of this park should not be limited to just the river itself, but also to the people it attracted, as well as some of the industries which have thrived as a result.







**YUMA TERRITORIAL PRISON** — The overarching thematic challenges facing the Prison are to explain and interpret the considerable loss of the original Prison structures as well as to come to grips with the multiple “preservation philosophies” that over time have resulted in reconstructions, replicas, restorations and subsequent — but now “historic” — construction. As the facility only operated as a prison for 33 years of its 138-year history, the issue is how to interpret the facility over time.

The proposed approach is born from a certain preservation philosophy and practical reality. Given budget realities, there is no possibility of reconstructing the entire prison facility, especially with 60 trains a day passing on Union Pacific Railroad’s main line directly adjacent to the park. It is important as well to accept the Prison as it is, but find ways to interpret the evolution of the facility over time from prison to museum. In this plan, interpretive exhibits will be part of the approach, but there is also a proposal to outline long-lost buildings with metal frameworks and other architectural “cues” so that the visitor can get an idea of what the prison was like in its heyday. A major focus is to give a “sense of confinement” and of the scale and size of the prison without attempting to rebuild the original complex of buildings.



*The Yuma Territorial Prison currently faces the challenge of comparing ‘what is’ with ‘what was’ in a clear and compelling way. Top photo; The original prison circa 1880. The red arrows point out the only remaining buildings. The circle represents the location where the Southern Pacific Railroad constructed its new rail bridge and line, destroying about 1/3 of the original prison. Bottom photo; The prison from the same viewpoint today.*



YUMA  
TERRITORIAL  
PRISON  
STATE  
HISTORIC  
PARK

*The legend lives on.*









## Business Planning: Assess the market appeal and define the marketing approach

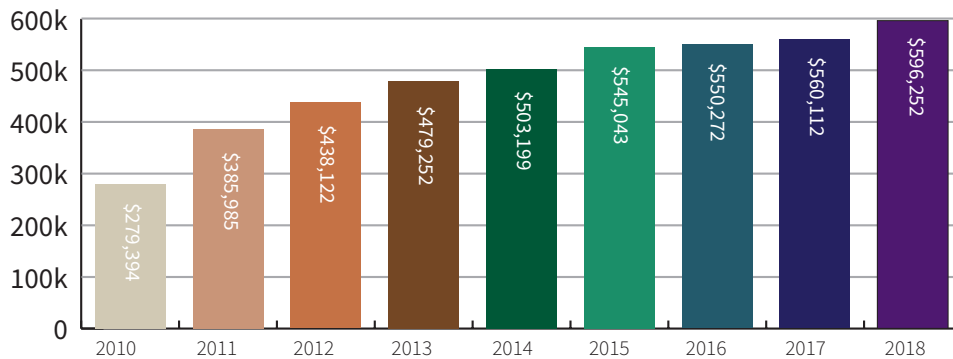
The Yuma Territorial Prison has strong natural market appeal. In the early 1990s, attendance was as high as 100,000 visitors annually. There was a gradual decline to about 50,000 by 2009, as Arizona State Parks did not have the resources to reinvest in and market the park. However, site improvements and a strong joint marketing campaign with the Yuma Visitors Bureau have increased attendance and revenues to the point where the park is operationally self-sufficient.

The community continues to support the park through fundraisers and a large staff of volunteers.

Over the past nine years, there has been a steady increase in attendance and revenues, as set forth in the chart below. The question, of course, is how long can this rate of growth be sustained by “doing the basics well”? A strategic plan for continually refreshing the visitor experience and for building the market is needed.

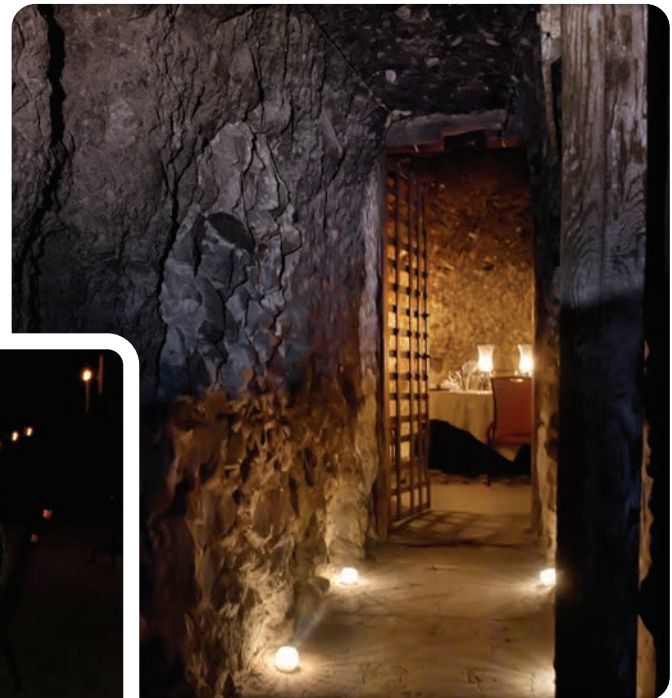
### Yuma Territorial Prison Annual Revenue Comparison 2010-2018

*(Admissions & Merchandise per calendar year)*



There are three proposed avenues for growth in revenues for the Prison:

- 1. Revolutionizing the Visitor Experience** — It will be critical to take advantage of 21st century technology. The setting — cell blocks, dark cell, and visitor center — can make use of advanced audio and visual technology to heighten the experience. This is particularly important as much of the original historic buildings and context are gone, and must be supplemented with advanced exhibits. These improvements can then be marketed to the general public for new and repeat business through advertising and public relations.
- 2. Tour Business** — Rebuilding tour bus business is a long and gradual process, and will need to be a joint effort between the Heritage Area and the Yuma Visitors Bureau. It may require joint funding for a sales position to ensure a sustained effort.
- 3. Special Events** — There is a very strong interest and demand for facility rentals for catered receptions and special events. However, the facility’s infrastructure is grossly undersized for this purpose. Any master plan should address these needs, as people want to have events at the Prison and are willing to pay.



# Address basic conservation/preservation needs of historic buildings and assets

## CELL BLOCK: ROOF

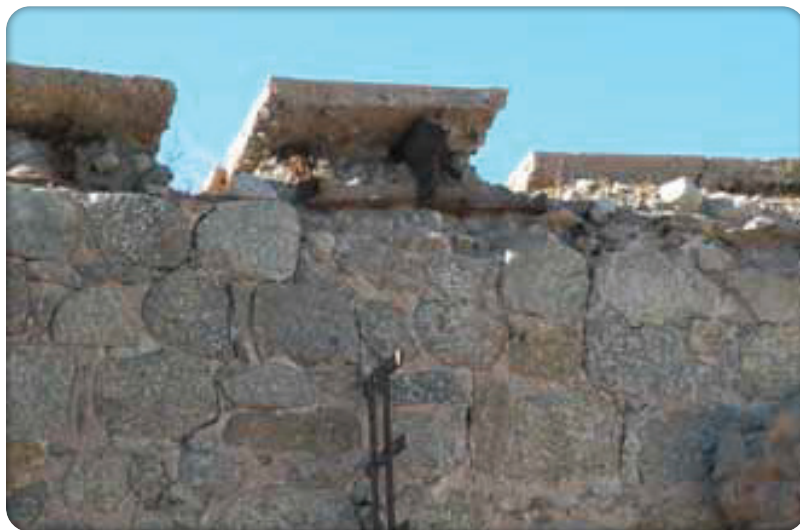
The second-floor hospital above the cell block was removed and no roof was ever built to replace it. The structure has held up very well given the century of deterioration. Any roof needs to have a very slight slope, consistent with the original construction.

## MUSEUM: REPAIR OF THE 1940 ADOBE BUILDING WALL AND WINDOWS

Per the Vanishing Treasures report, the north and south walls should ideally be protected by a sacrificial shelter coat in order to maintain the adobe in good condition and the contrapared should be removed to determine and rectify the cause of basal erosion. Museum windows will eventually need to be replaced.

## CALICHE HILL: PRESERVATION

There are exterior and interior issues associated with the Caliche Hill. The simplest and more durable way to protect the exterior is to use gunite, as has been done in the past. However, this was opposed by DWL Associates in 1994 for aesthetic reasons. Other alternatives considered in the report were unsatisfactory. What appeared to be acceptable was to fence the hill off on the south side to prevent further degradation of the hill and for safety purposes. A chain link fence



**Photo above:** In several places the hospital floor slab projects up to, or over, the face of the cell block walls. **Diagram Right:** Cross section (in black) of the hospital floor slab from the 1994 DWL report. The red rectangle illustrates how a low retaining structure could be added around the perimeter of the slab to keep the aggregate from eroding out from underneath.

**Work Cited:** "Yuma National Heritage Area Quartermaster Depot and Territorial Prison, Trip Report and Preliminary Treatment Recommendations;" January 2011, National Park Service and U.S. Department of the Interior, Vanishing Treasures Program

accomplished these ends, but something more aesthetically pleasing is proposed.

Apparently, prior excavation of the south side of the hill has reduced the thickness of the wall at the back of the Dark Cell, and may be why other cells in the area are not open to the public.

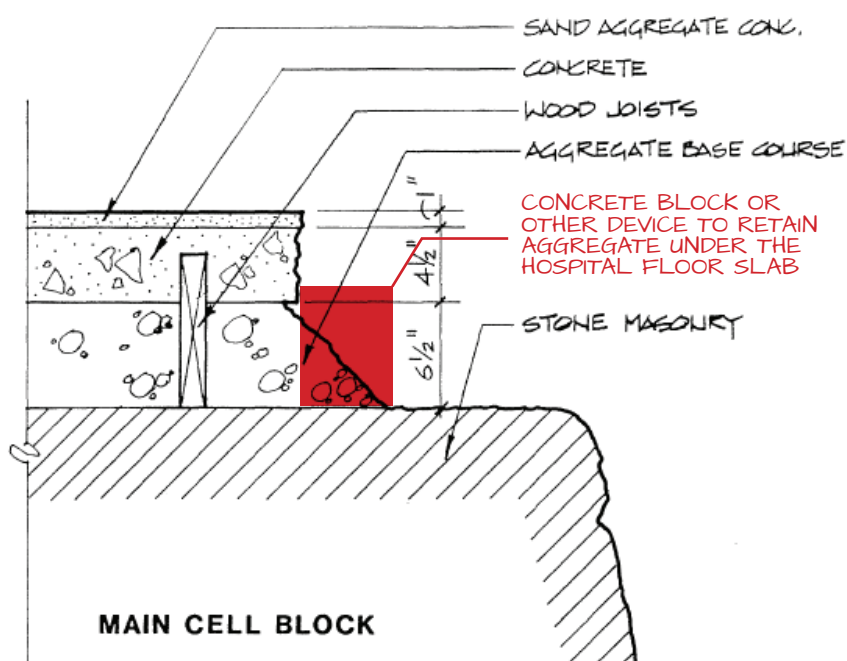
## DRAINAGE ISSUES

The 1994 report noted that ponding of water after rains is a considerable inconvenience, but does not appear to be seriously compromising the structural integrity of the surrounding buildings. After an extensive review of options, it appeared that the most feasible were (1) No action — Simply add a more efficient pumping system to move the water; (2) Area or floor drains— While this would require staff to sweep standing water into the drains attached to and sump pump and pipes, these shallow drains could be installed in such a way to avoid archaeological impact. The trenching required would be shallow and narrow and the archaeological monitoring would be manageable.

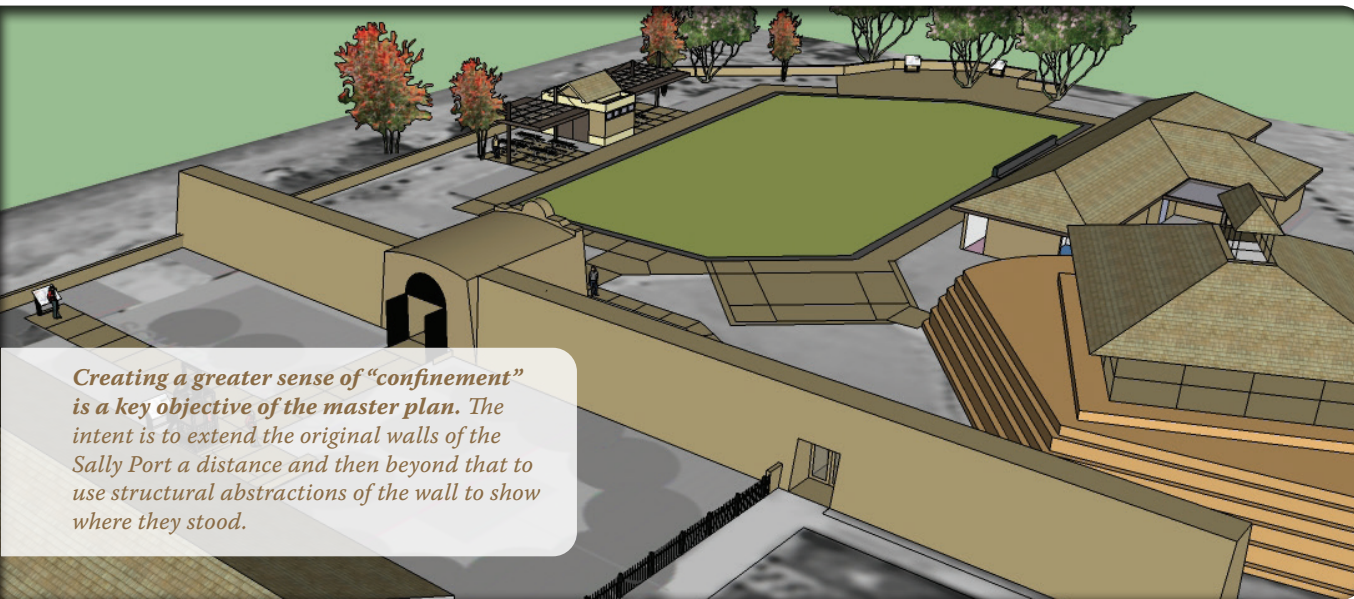
## SALLY PORT

Although major restoration work to this iconic structure was completed in 2013, the 2019 update to the Vanishing Treasures report indicates faulty restoration work, along with unaddressed underlying structural problems, has likely led to massive degradation requiring additional major restoration.

## FLOOR OF DESTROYED 2nd LEVEL







*Creating a greater sense of “confinement” is a key objective of the master plan. The intent is to extend the original walls of the Sally Port a distance and then beyond that to use structural abstractions of the wall to show where they stood.*

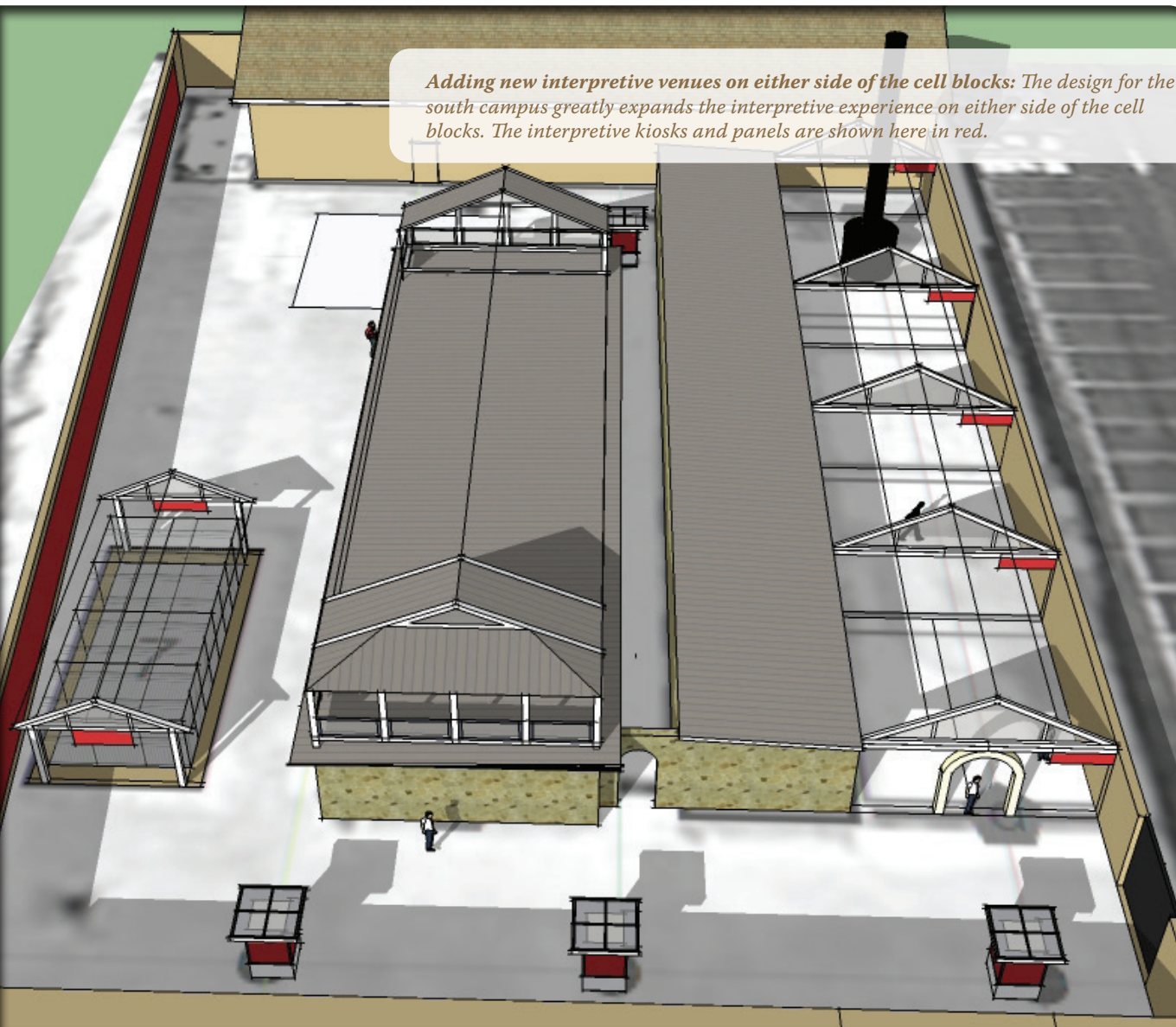
## Outline interpretive goals and upgrade exhibits with state-of-the-art technology

The raw natural appeal of the Prison is a good foundation upon which to build. There are a number of initiatives which will greatly enhance the visitor experience.

### **CREATING A “SENSE OF CONFINEMENT”**

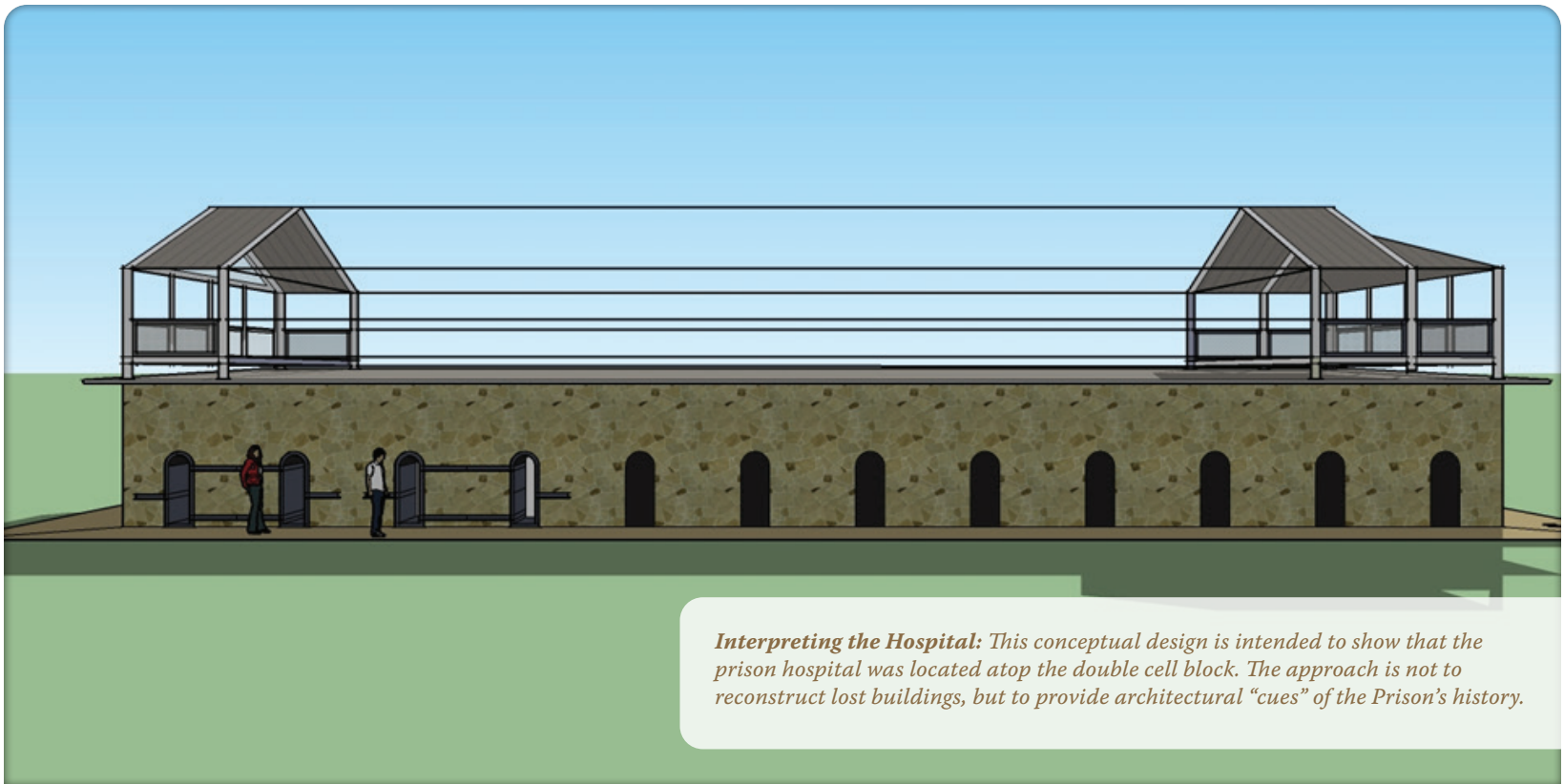
The loss of so much of the original historic context makes it difficult to appreciate what prisoners faced. Then, there was literally “no escape,” but today there is an openness to the prison contradicting that experience. The plan proposes improvements to help recreate that key “sense of confinement”:

- Extension of the prison walls on either side of the Sally Port, which the visitor will experience upon entering the park
- Construction of higher walls along the east and west sides of the park from the museum to the south end of the park, with murals to give the visitor a sense of the buildings that populated the western and eastern portions of the prison.



*Adding new interpretive venues on either side of the cell blocks: The design for the south campus greatly expands the interpretive experience on either side of the cell blocks. The interpretive kiosks and panels are shown here in red.*

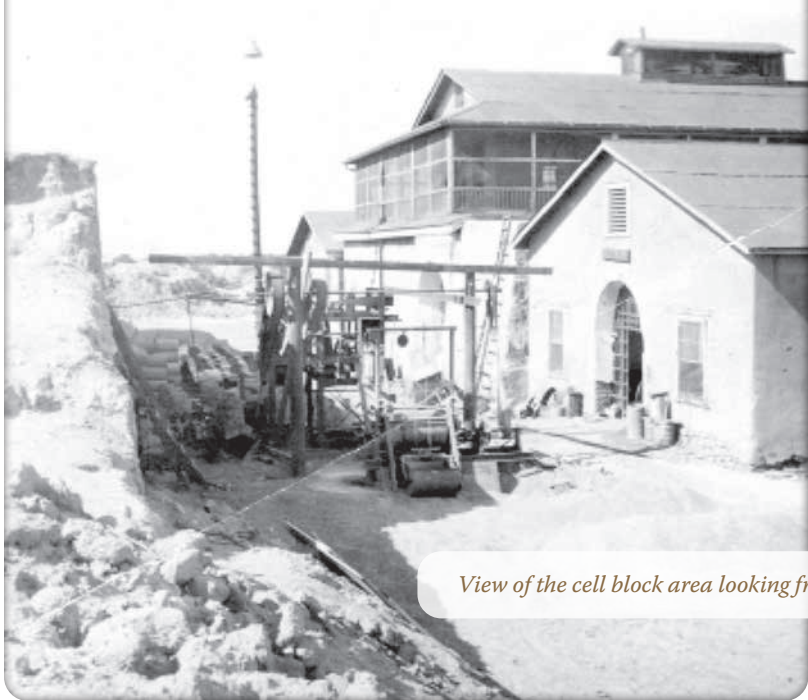




*Interpreting the Hospital:* This conceptual design is intended to show that the prison hospital was located atop the double cell block. The approach is not to reconstruct lost buildings, but to provide architectural “cues” of the Prison’s history.

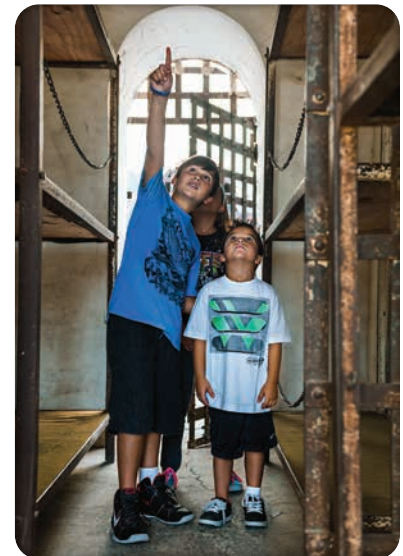
**“ABSTRACTING” THE LOST HISTORIC BUILDINGS**

While it is neither desirable nor possible to recreate the entire prison complex of 1900, there are a variety of locations where architectural cues could be used to give visitors a better idea of what came before. The best example of this approach is the proposed treatment of the hospital that sat atop the double-sided cell block area. The proposed design will add the form of the peaked roof of the old hospital at either end of the cell block. The area just to the east of the single cell block — which used to be the boiler room/laundry/later library — will be incorporated into the park and will interpret those functions, complete with the kind of architectural cues featured throughout the park.



*View of the cell block area looking from the southeast circa, 1900 and 2013*





## MUSEUM EXHIBITS

While the 2010 update of the museum was a major improvement, there is a continuing commitment to museum upgrades.

Some of the recommendations and upgrades include:

- A digital model of the evolution of the Prison's complex of buildings, especially with the impact of the Southern Pacific Railroad intrusion.
- A computerized file of all prisoners, accessible by visitors and researchers
- A video exhibit was completed featuring movie trailers and segments of the movies that made the Prison famous — and infamous
- Additional interactive digital exhibits about the Prison and the wild west are in development

## CELL BLOCK AREA

The cells continue to be brought to life with pictures and voices of the prisoners who were incarcerated there. The audio has been developed from available prison diaries and journals. Over time, even more high-tech media can be brought into play to enhance the visitor experience.

### DARK CELL

There is an interest in adding a cage back into this area, which will give a sense to visitors of what the experience was like for those sentenced to time there. The cage could be an accessible modern re-creation of the metal cage, or a hologram which would maintain complete accessibility within the dark cell.



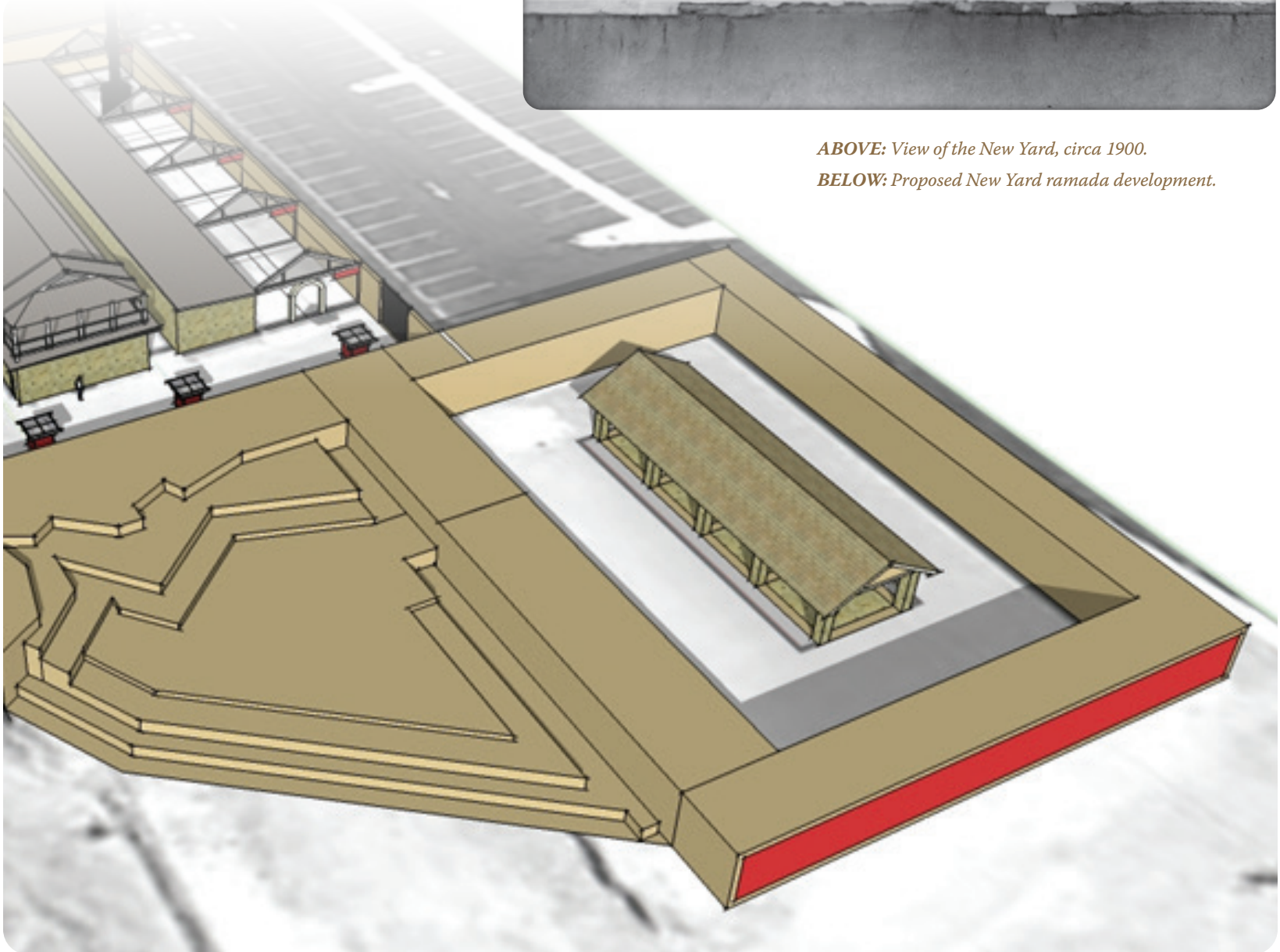
## NEW YARD

The New Yard has little in the way of interpretation to explain its use and purpose to visitors. A ramada whose architecture hints at the prior building could also serve as an interpretive area, provide much-needed shade, and be used for special events.



*ABOVE: View of the New Yard, circa 1900.*

*BELOW: Proposed New Yard ramada development.*



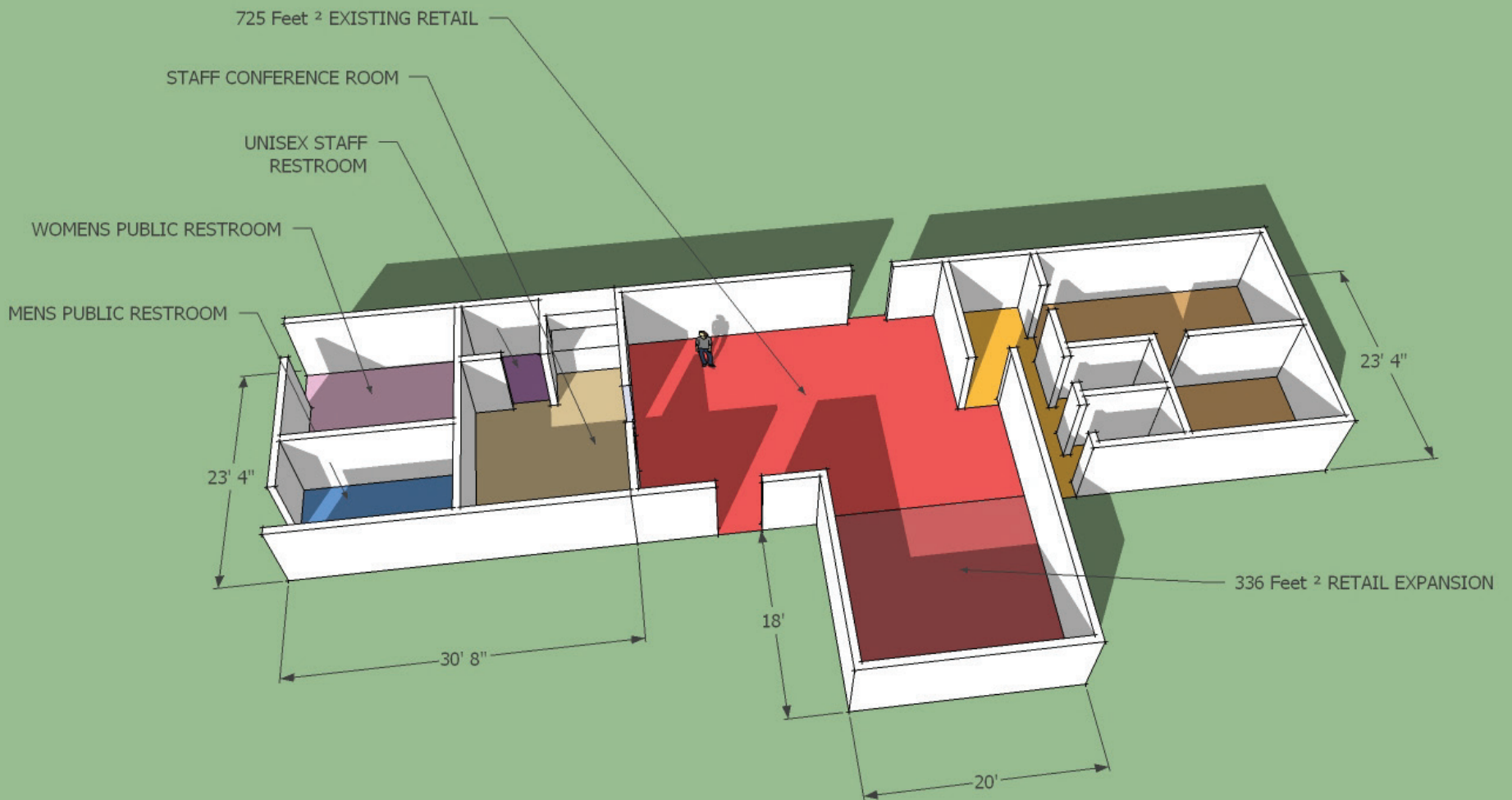


# Upgrade buildings/infrastructure for operational efficiency and public safety

## EXPAND ENTRANCE BUILDING, WITH NEW RESTROOMS, RETAIL SPACE AND STORAGE

The vigorous growth of retail revenues has led to a need for both more retail floor space and inventory storage in the main entrance building. The addition of more public restrooms has been a longstanding

need. The proposed design incorporates those needs, while keeping the building's distance from the Guard Tower, which rightly should predominate.





## IMPROVE VISITOR FLOW AND ORIENTATION

Generally, there is not a well-defined pedestrian flow and orientation, particularly south of the museum. The new entrance and the new timeline have improved this situation, but much needs to be done. The kiosks shown throughout the plan will tell people where they are, what they are looking at, and where they might choose to go next.

Currently, there is little if any sense of arrival or organization as the visitor leaves the museum south toward the cell block. The proposed design brings the visitor directly into a view of the architectural outline of second-floor hospital; southeast toward the cell block corridor; northwest to interpret the Southern Pacific Railroad intrusion; and southwest toward the Incurrigible Area. The development of another corridor east of the Single Cell Block creates another avenue to explore the Prison grounds.



*ABOVE: The South Campus features original cell blocks. The plan envisions a structural abstraction of the second floor hospital atop the double cell block; an outline of the incurrigible ward; and an outline of the workshop area. RIGHT: The current view upon exiting the museum.*



### UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL UTILITIES

Modern electrical lines knife through the park and distract from the setting. While electricity was brought to the Prison early on and that history should be reflected, the modern transmission lines detract from the park's look and visitor experience.

### UPGRADE LIGHTING THROUGHOUT PARK

This is essential if the park is to undertake more nighttime use for special events and activities.

### MODERNIZE ELECTRICAL SERVICE AND INTERNET SERVICE

Minor upgrades have been completed to better ensure the safety of the visiting public, staff, and the buildings. Continued analysis and upgrades to meet present and future needs are ongoing.

### REPLACE/RECONFIGURE SIDEWALKS

The initial replacement of deteriorating sidewalks took place in 2012, from the Gift Shop to the Sally Port. In 2018, the sidewalk between the Sally Port and the Museum was finished. Finally, the reorganization of the area south of the museum will require new sidewalks to the west of the Double Cell block and to the east of the Single Cell Block.

### DARK CELL

The 1994 report indicated some need for additional shoring. The past 20 years have shown no indication of deterioration, but providing structural reinforcement as part of the cage design is recommended.



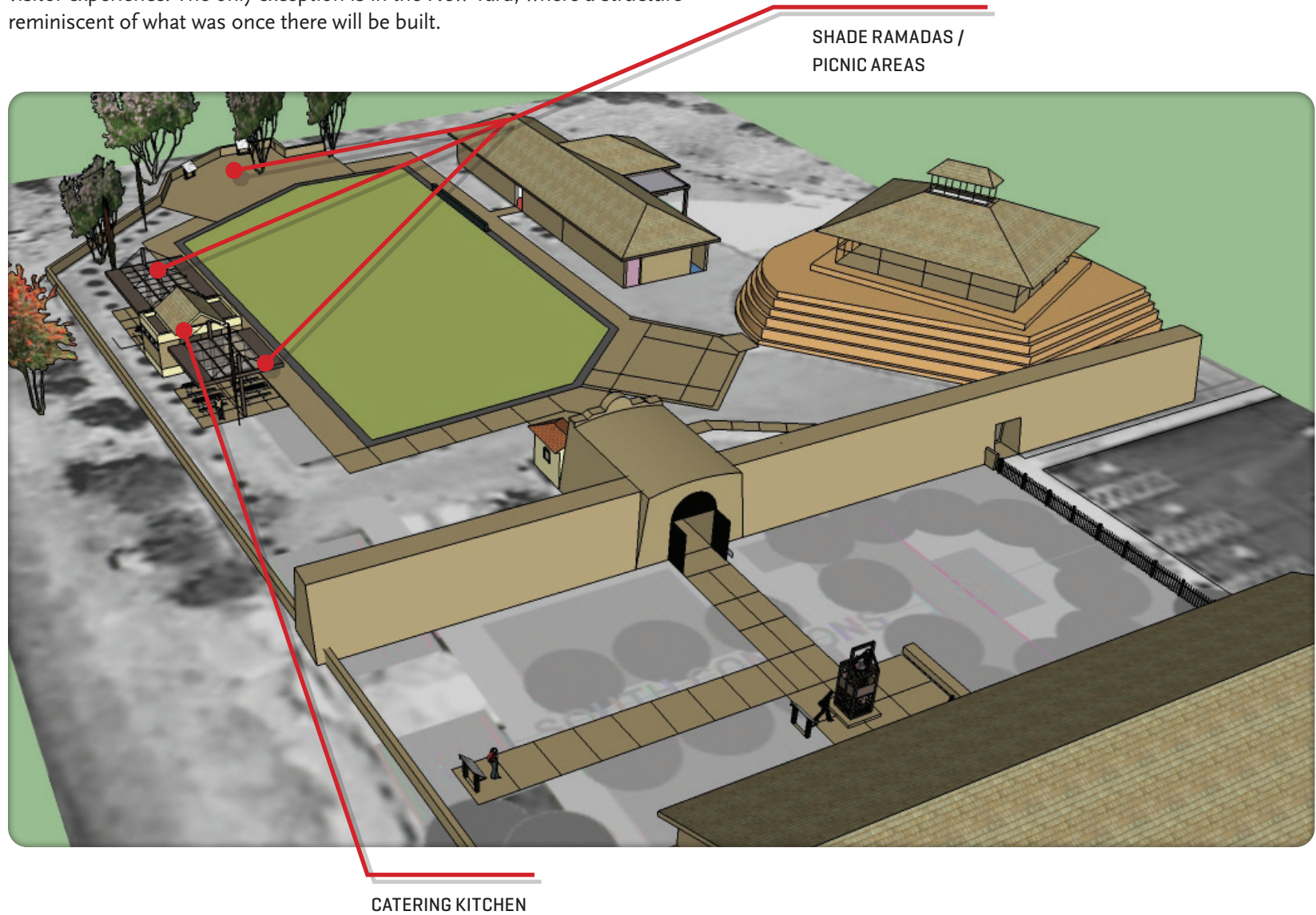
*Special events are extremely popular at the Yuma Territorial Prison, but current lighting is poor. Temporary lighting has to be brought in at considerable expense and inconvenience.*





### ADD PICNIC AND SHADE RAMADAS (PLUS SMALL CATERING KITCHEN) WITH APPROPRIATE DESIGN

One recurring request from the public is for additional shaded areas for people to sit and relax. The master plan attempts to integrate the addition of shade ramadas for special events, **but only on the front lawn outside of the prison walls**. Comments from both the National Park Service and Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) made it clear that any such amenities should not intrude on and detract from the authentic visitor experience. The only exception is in the New Yard, where a structure reminiscent of what was once there will be built.





# Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park

## MASTER PLAN LEGEND

- Letters denote existing buildings and structures
- Numbers denote building additions or new structures
- Structural Abstractions are drawn as open areas

<b>A</b>	Entrance Building/Gift Shop
<b>1</b>	Gift Shop Addition
<b>2</b>	New restrooms
<b>B</b>	Sally Port (with added structural abstractions)
<b>3-5</b>	New shade ramadas on North Commons
<b>C</b>	Guard Tower
<b>D</b>	Museum
<b>E</b>	Double Cell Block
<b>F</b>	Single Cell Block
<b>G</b>	New Yard Cell Block
<b>H</b>	Caliche Hill
<b>6</b>	Incorrigible Ward
<b>7</b>	Consumption Ward





# COLORADO RIVER STATE HISTORIC PARK

*Telling the story of a river under stress.*









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# Executive Summary

In 2007, the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area collaborated with Arizona State Parks & Trails on an interpretive master plan for the Colorado River State Historic Park, which was then known as the Yuma Quartermaster Depot. The plan focused primarily on telling the story of the military and Bureau of Reclamation uses of site.

The deep recession of 2008-9 precipitated a rethinking of the park on a variety of levels. With Arizona State Parks' plans to close the park due to state budget cuts, the City of Yuma leased the park and engaged the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area to operate it. The Heritage Area invited the Yuma Visitors Bureau to relocate its Visitor Information

Center into the park, which provided both rental income and staff to support the park.

In 2013, the Heritage Area led a review of operations and concluded that the park's theme should be broadened to "the story of the past, present, and future of the Colorado River" in order to attract greater public and foundation interest in the park. The Walton Family Foundation funded this update of the interpretive plan. In support of this plan, the park's name was changed to Colorado River State Historic Park in the fall of 2017.

Much of the 2007 plan has been incorporated into this plan. What is new, however, is the focus on the future of the Colorado River.

In particular, a new building, called "The Center for the Future of the Colorado River" is envisioned, which explains how the river has been used and diminished over time and what can be done to assure its long-term sustainability. The center will take advantage of the latest in technology to tell this story. In addition, an expansion of the park's entrance building allows the visitor to be introduced to this story, being met by an animatronic John Wesley Powell, a legendary figure on the Colorado River.

The goal is to engage its visitor with the power and significance of the Colorado River story, and how all of us have a stake in preserving it for future generations.





An exhibit design master plan is a long-term planning document, or set of documents, that is used for planning, designing and construction of an interpretive space. Site plans and floor plans are developed to accompany the reports. Options for solutions are often presented. These documents will establish the framework and elements of a site, reflecting a clear vision created by the stakeholders.

This proposal is for pre-exhibit design planning work aimed at providing a foundation that will ensure that the park is able to serve its visitors in a way that is supportive of its mission and vision. Establishing a strong and clear direction for exhibit themes and potential components is the focus of the work.

This plan is in turn used by the design team as a guide to develop all aspects of the exhibits.

For this plan we reviewed the previous planning documents already developed:

Southwest Scenic Group, 2001;  
ASP Interpretive Education  
Team, 2005; Hadley Exhibits Inc,  
2007

---

## Introduction

During the 20th Century, the entire Southwestern United States has relied on the Colorado River for its ability to grow and prosper. Dams have practically eliminated the threat of flooding, generated “green” hydropower, and provided a stable source of water for cities and farms. The Colorado River made the “Sunbelt” possible.

Those who helped forge this bright future could not have foreseen the challenges now ahead. The river’s ecosystems are under great stress. The Sunbelt’s explosive growth has led to an unquenchable thirst for more and more water. By the end of the 21st Century, the Colorado River will not be able to meet the many demands placed on it.

To meet these challenges, we must understand the river’s past, present, and future. What better place to tell these stories than in Yuma, Arizona: a place where the

entire watershed flowed through on its way to Mexico; once a place to safely cross the river for Americans heading west; a confluence for Native American, Anglo, and Hispanic cultures; and now a community at the cutting edge of solutions for our environmental and water supply challenges.

The former locations of the U.S. military’s Quartermaster Depot and Bureau of Reclamation’s headquarters for dam and canal building is now a state historic park. It is at this site that we will also explore the river’s future.

This interpretive plan intends to explain how and why we have managed the Colorado River as we have — and how we may, together, find a way forward to a sustainable future in the Southwest.





# Colorado River State Historic Park Detailed Master Plan

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YOU ARE HERE

## *A Fluid Plan*

The Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area adopted a management plan in 2002 (approved by the Secretary of the Interior) which focused on the revitalization of the Lower Colorado River through environmental restoration, riverfront park and trail development, and enhancement of the National Historic Landmark (including the state historic parks). The Heritage Area restored 350 acres of wetlands in the Yuma East Wetlands under very challenging circumstances, which is now considered a model for restoration in the Southwest.

The Heritage Area also assumed management of the two state historic parks in 2010 when Arizona State Parks planned to close them due to severe state budget cuts. After three years of local

operations, Arizona State Parks, the City of Yuma, and the Yuma Crossing agreed in principle to the concept of a longer-term partnership for the parks, and agreed that a new strategic plan for the parks was necessary.

The Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park (top, right) has achieved operational self-sufficiency, and the planning for that park will focus on conserving the historic resources and improving the interpretive experience of a story that has ready market appeal.

The Colorado River State Historic Park, (top, left) while sustained financially primarily by the City of Yuma and the Heritage Area, does not have a similar visitor appeal and simply does not generate the admission revenues needed to operate. This fact necessitates the need to enhance the visitor experience through the creation of more interactive exhibits utilizing some of the latest in audio and visual technology.





# COLORADO RIVER INTERPRETIVE MASTER PLAN

FOR COLORADO RIVER STATE HISTORIC PARK

Walton Family Foundation Planning Grant

## THE OVERALL MESSAGE:

*“The Past, Present and Future of the Colorado River”*

The focus of the exhibits is the Lower Colorado River –  
from the Hoover Dam to Yuma

### SPECIFIC GOALS:

- Enhance interpretation of the historic uses and elements of the Quartermaster Depot
- Interpret the history of water use of the lower Colorado River and potential users
- Create a first-class state historic park which is on the cutting edge of the conversation about the future of the Colorado River
- Create a dynamic meeting place to have conferences about the river, on the river
- Create an educational environment to learn about the Colorado River and water
- Tell the whole water story of the Colorado River – using simple explanations that respect the complexity of the story
- Foster cooperation to find long-term solutions to river issues
- Find solutions that balance all the stakeholders’ need
- Develop new exhibits about water and integrate them into the current historic site located on the river
- Reorganize and add to the information currently presented:
  - Include water-specific information wherever it fits
  - Use current building spaces more efficiently
  - Use conversations from the past to help create solutions for the future
- Present the problem in a compelling way:
  - There will not be enough water for all needs in 50 years
  - How do we balance all of the needs?
  - Long-term maintenance of the river?
  - What is the future of the river? - New building proposed
- Present an unbiased array of solutions without a political agenda

### SPECIFIC CHANGES:

- All existing exhibits will be enhanced with a water focus
- **New buildings proposed are noted in yellow**
- Wayfinding signage will be added on the site
- Exterior interpretive signage will be added
- Information will be reorganized on the site
- New exhibits and interactives will be suggested in all areas
- A demonstration garden will be developed

### METHODS TO ACHIEVE GOALS:

- Visitor Center addition
  - Enclose the current porch and create an exhibit space that introduces the water exhibits and major issues of the Colorado River
  - Create a “signature water exhibit” to provoke thought and entice the visitor to find out more information







SIPHON CANAL

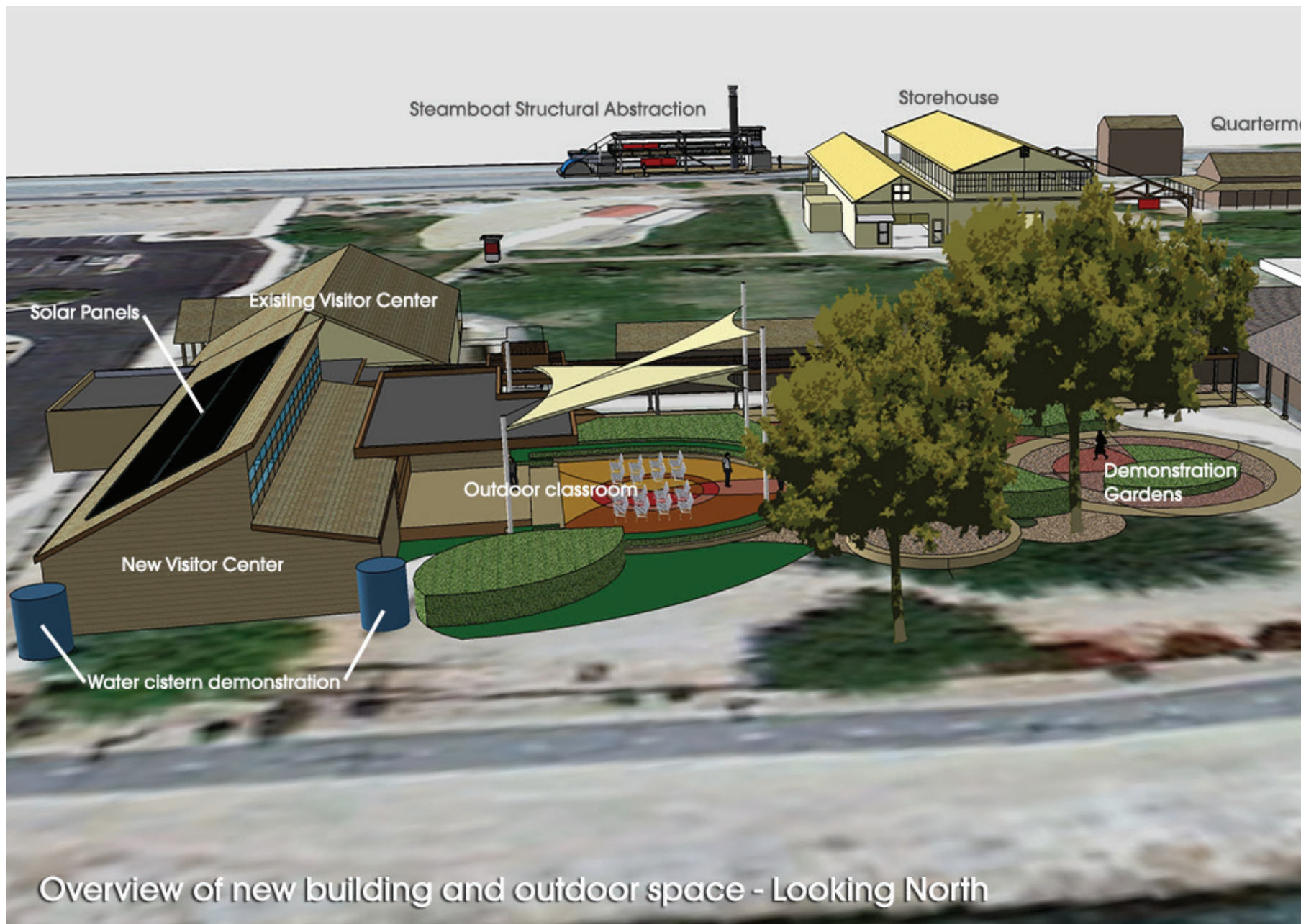
- 1** Entry/Exit
  - Visitor Center Addition
  - Film Overview of Site
  - New Building : *The Center for the Future of the Colorado River*
  - Demonstration Garden

- 2** Steamboat

- 3** Storehouse
  - Porch
- 4** Historic Water Storage Building
- 5** Quartermaster's Home, Kitchen & Graden

- 6** Quartermaster's Offices
- 7** Siphon Viewing Platform
- 8** Corral House





Overview of new building and outdoor space - Looking North

“When, in some obscure country town, the farmers come together to a special town-meeting, to express their opinion on some subject which is vexing the land, that, I think, is the true Congress, and the most respectable one that is ever assembled in the United States.”

*Henry David Thoreau*

---

The park is envisioned as a “Town Meeting of the Southwest”. While hydrologists, scientists and other water experts will play an important role, visitors and Yuma citizens also will gain a greater appreciation of the water challenges ahead and help shape solutions based on common sense and a sense of the greater good.

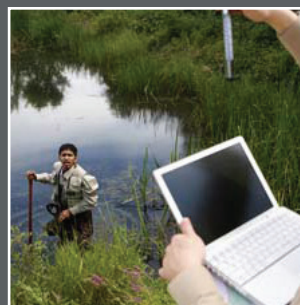
It is a grass roots effort to rally the public to the challenges ahead, but done with humor, insight, and a faith in our collective ability to solve these problems. And we will also have some fun in the learning process!

---





ENVIRONMENTALISTS



SCIENTISTS



POLICYMAKERS



WATER CONFERENCE GROUPS



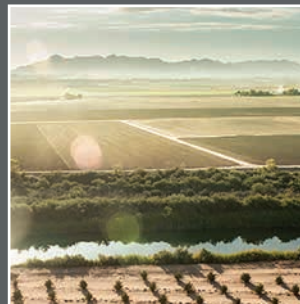
BIRDERS & NATURE ENTHUSIASTS



HISTORY LOVERS



MILITARY ENTHUSIASTS



FARMERS



TOURISTS



FAMILIES



SCHOOL GROUPS



GARDENERS

ENVIRONMENTALISTS • SCIENTISTS (WATER FOCUSED) • POLICY MAKERS • WATER CONFERENCE GROUPS • BIRDERS AND NATURE ENTHUSIASTS • HISTORY BUFFS • MILITARY ENTHUSIASTS • FARMERS • TOURISTS • FAMILIES STOPPING TO

*Our Target Audiences*



Colorado River



EXHIBIT  
LOCATIONS  
MAP



# Exhibit Locations

## YOU ARE HERE

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1. Visitor Center Building – Colorado River Watershed Exhibit
2. Overview Film of the Site
3. Exterior Wayfinding Signage - Site Map

## BEFORE

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4. Geology, Terrain, Watershed
5. Quechan Tribe use of the river – The Yuma Crossing
6. Exploration 1800-1900
7. Quechan Garden: Native Plant and Tree Species Used
8. Quechan Hut Structure

## THE YUMA QUARTERMASTER DEPOT

---

9. Yuma Crossing — The significance of this area
10. Steamboats at Yuma
11. Ferryboat Structural Abstraction, Full-size Silhouette Structure of a Steamboat: Sound, Interactive Elements and Climbing Structure
12. Storehouse — Interior End of Storehouse, Crossing the River and Moving Supplies
13. Water Reservoir 1800s - Exterior Signage, Water Storage Historically on the Site
14. Quartermaster House - Interior/Exterior Garden
15. Quartermaster Office - Interior

## BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

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16. Storehouse – BOR – Past & Present 1900-2000  
Interior Exhibits and Interactives: Water Use, Dams, Yuma Context, The Siphon
17. Wayfinding

## WILDLIFE

---

18. Exterior Signage – Wildlife/Plants: Native Species; Lost or Endangered
19. Exterior Signage – Wildlife Habitat Restoration Program Today – MSCP Native Species Replanting

## FUTURE OF WATER

---

20. Siphon Story and Viewing Platform - Exterior Signage
21. Corral House – Interior Exhibits and Interactives: Water Issues Today
22. New Building: The Center for the Future of the Colorado River – Interior Exhibits and Interactives about the Future of the River
23. Water Conservation Demonstration Garden – South side of the building



# Brief Exhibit Descriptions

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**VISITOR BUREAU BUILDING :** *Introduction to the Site: History of Yuma Crossing and The Colorado River*

Visitors can come into the Visitor Information Center to gather pamphlets, ask for directions, use the bathrooms and visit the gift shop.

**1. NEW EXHIBIT: Colorado River Exhibit — The General Perception of Water:**

*“Colorado River Water is both a natural resource...and a utility service that meets the needs of millions of people and helps feed the nation”*

The concern is that in 50 years there may not be enough water for all the people. This exhibit will be the introduction of the Colorado River Watershed.

**2. OVERVIEW FILMS: THEATER**

5-7 minute film that tells visitors about the site. Another film could show other attractions around Yuma.

**3. EXTERIOR SIGNAGE *Wayfinding: The Site Overview:***

→ Historic Trail: the history of the river integrated into the exhibits

→ River Trail: the future of the river is the focus

**EXTERIOR INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE:**

**4. GEOLOGY AND TERRAIN**

**5. QUECHAN TRIBE – USE OF THE RIVER**

**6. EXPLORATION OF THE RIVER: 1800-1900**

**7. POTENTIAL INTERACTIVE COMPONENTS:**

Garden: Native plant and tree species that were important to the tribe's lifestyle

A Quechan dwelling: visitors can enter and see how it is constructed from native species. An interactive on how the huts were made.

**STEAMBOAT:** *These interpretive exhibits are grouped by the Steamboat structure:*

**8. YUMA CROSSING**

The geographic significance of this area

**9. STEAMBOATS**

**10. POTENTIAL INTERACTIVE COMPONENTS:**

Silhouette Structure of Steamboat, climbing structure, mechanical interactives, sound of the steam whistle, a photo opportunity

**11. STOREHOUSE**

New covered porch. Crossing the river and moving supplies

**12. WATER RESERVOIR 1800s**

Exterior Signage: Water storage historically on the site

**13. QUARTERMASTER HOUSE**

Interior/Exterior

**14. QUARTERMASTER OFFICE**

Interior - relocating the model of the site here. Various exhibits to develop.

**STOREHOUSE:**

**15. BOR – PAST & PRESENT 1900 – 2000** – Interior exhibits and interactives

The Law of the River: The Water Master, Water Rights – past and present, watershed – diversion and trans-basin diversion. The Colorado River Compact - 1922

Dividing up the water

Dams and original engineering, flood control

Water use: power generating, agriculture and irrigation, Recreation

Yuma Context – where is Yuma headed

The Siphon

**16. WAYFINDING SIGNAGE**

**17. WILDLIFE/PLANTS**

Native species that were lost or endangered and why

**18. WILDLIFE HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAM TODAY**

MSCP Native species replanting

**19. SIPHON STORY AND VIEWING PLATFORM** Exterior Signage

**CORRAL HOUSE:** *Interior Exhibits and Interactives*

**20. WATER ISSUES TODAY**

Stakeholders: Tribal, Farmers, Municipalities, BOR

Wildlife of the River/on the Land

Environmental Quality of Water

Agriculture: Irrigation Techniques

Conservation: Cities and Residential - Intentionally Created Surplus - Xeriscaping

Desalination

Minute 319 - 2012

**DEMONSTRATION GARDEN:**

Displaying irrigation techniques

Gardening Techniques

**NEW BUILDING: FACING THE FUTURE** *Interior Exhibits and Interactives*

**21. THE FUTURE OF THE RIVER**

Environmental Issues and Water Shortage

Water Rights of the Future/ Water Master

Stakeholders

Solutions: Conservation, Desalination, Drilling, Fallow Land

Interactive exhibits



## Colorado River



### EXTERIOR WAYFINDING SIGNAGE (#3) The Site Overview:

*A map of the site shows options of viewing exhibits*

**The Historic Trail** is organized chronologically and explains the Quartermaster's use of the site. The River Trail is expanded

**The River Trail** focuses on the river present and future

## Guest Considerations



### Guest Comfort

"Restrooms? Where can I rest? How much time is needed to visit? Where can I get something to eat?" These are questions that many guests need to know for peace of mind.



### Getting Around

Walking in the heat may not be the preferred choice. How about having a few bikes for visitors to use on the site? Live animals are often interesting to visitors. Having a few mules that could pull a wagon around so that visitors do not have to walk, could be fun and educational. A blacksmith shop could be a supportive exhibit and used when necessary.



### Food

Currently there is a pie shop. There could be another shop that sells fresh local food. Local farm-to-table choices or historic recipes, such as soups and stews could be offered.



### Restrooms

Composting toilets could be installed and they can demonstrate an alternative to flushing!





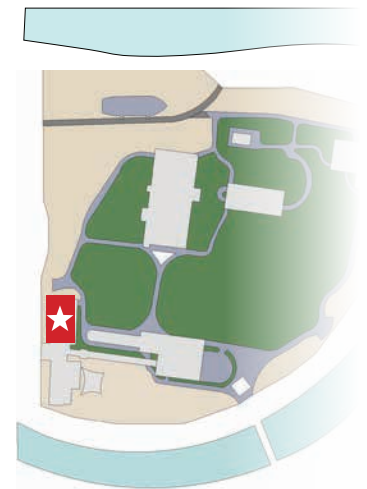
## The Yuma Visitors Bureau

Information | Brochures | Gift Shop | Restrooms

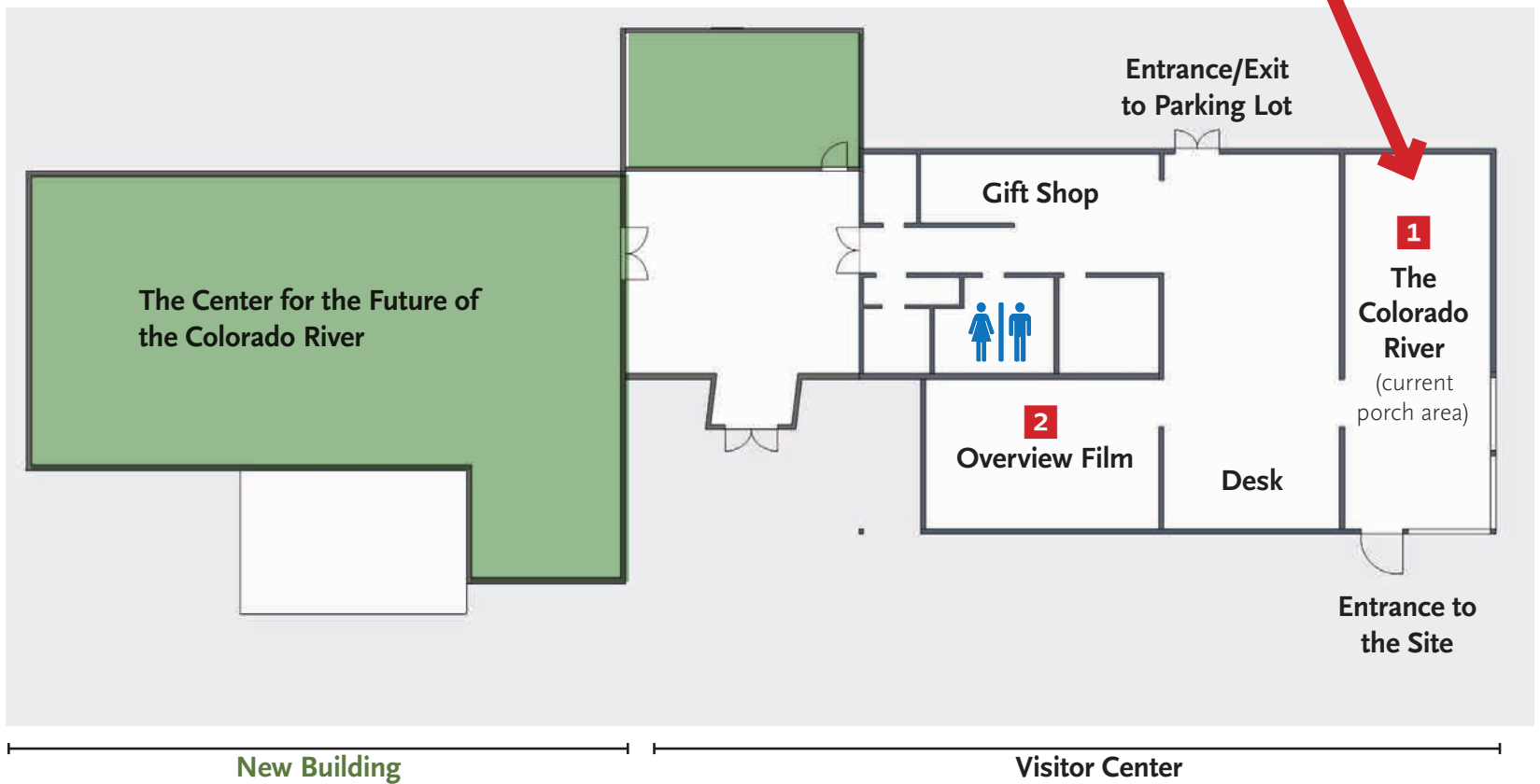
Signature Exhibit on the Colorado River | Film Overview of the Site | Film of Yuma Attractions

To succeed, this park must tell a compelling story, and we believe that story is about the Colorado River. The visitor must be drawn immediately into the drama and impact of the changing of the river. The visitor must quickly understand that the very life and health of the Southwest is dependent on this one river.

- 1. We propose enclosing the current porch** to use it as an enticing exhibit to encourage visitation of the grounds.
- 2. Two Short Films:** One that introduces the visitor to all the tourist amenities that Yuma has to offer and another that introduces the park. These can run alternately.



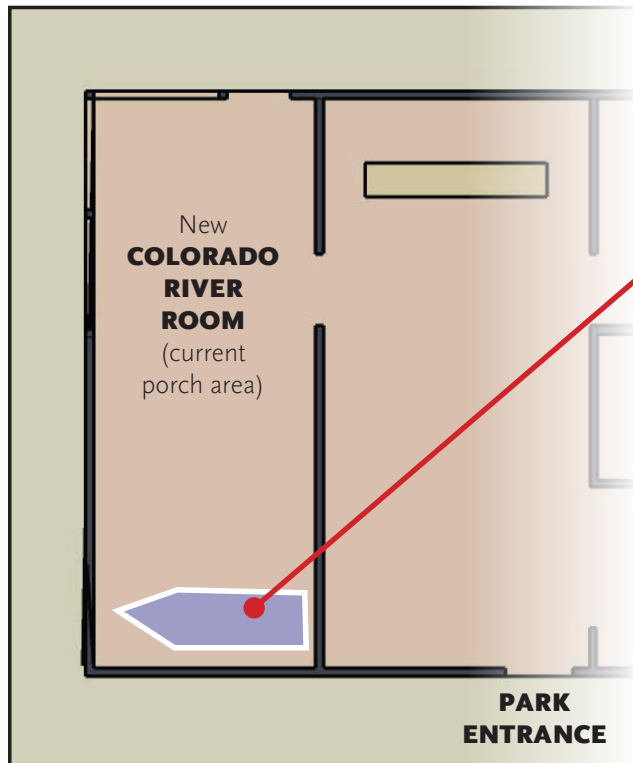
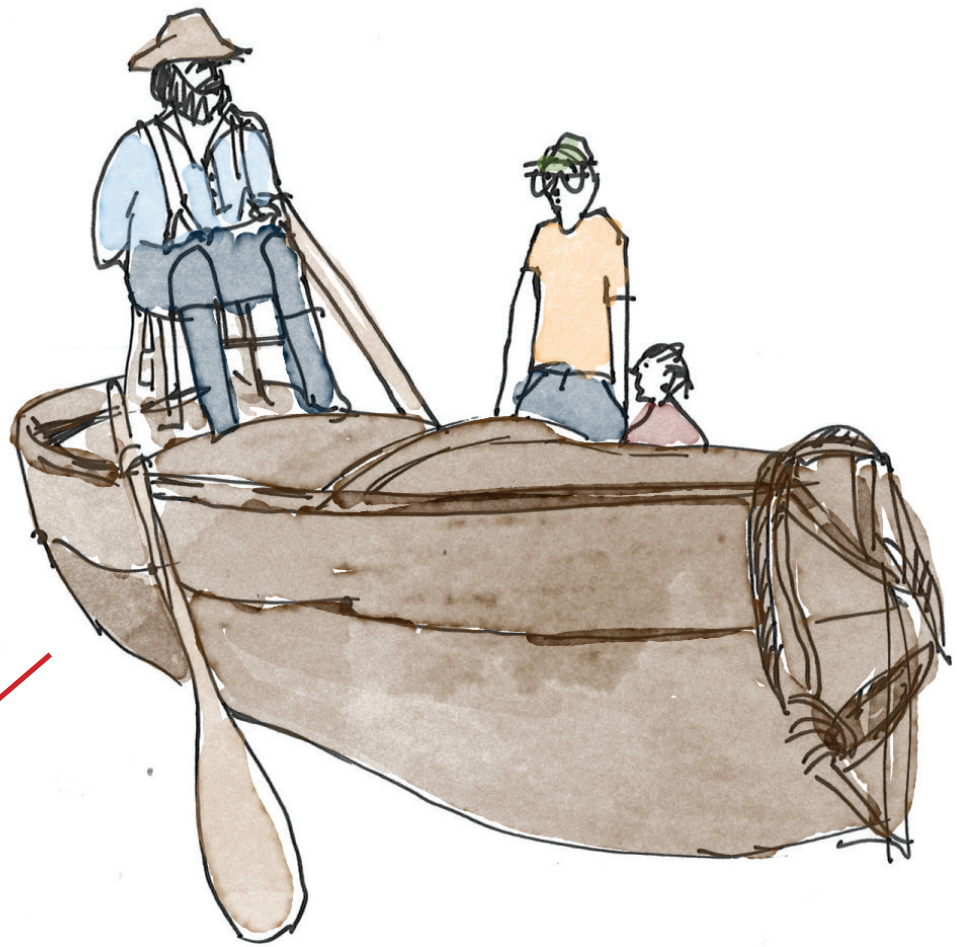






Right: Animatronic General Grant tells a story at the Seaway Trail Center in Sackets Harbor. A reproduction of Powell's boat will be located in the newly enclosed porch area where an animatronic John Wesley Powell can tell visitors about his adventures.

Below: Colorado Room location and reference images.



## NEW Colorado River Room

The vast majority of those coming to the Visitor Information Center are primarily interested in “creature comforts”. These are travelers just off Interstate 8 looking for hotel and restaurant information, as well as restrooms and directions. More than 75,000 people come to the building, but only a fraction of those spend any time in the park. The proposed addition of the New Colorado River Room is an opportunity to change that dynamic.

### ENCLOSED PORCH

This new enclosed porch area is meant to generate excitement. A map of the Colorado River watershed with illustrations of significant areas, especially mountainous terrain will be displayed. This will emphasize the immense size of the watershed. At this point it would be interesting to know how much water flowed throughout the river when Yuma was first settled.

A graphic timeline will be displayed and it will briefly explain all of the ways the site has been used.

At the end of the room will be a reproduction of John Wesley Powell's boat. A chair is lashed to the boat, and an animatronic Powell will tell stories of his exploration of the river. Comparing when he first explored it, to today and the changes he has observed. He will encourage visitors to venture out into the site.





Digital touchscreens are located around the space to access more information about the river.

The map of the Colorado River Watershed covers the entire floor. The visitor is immersed in the vastness.

### FLOOR OPTION

The map in this proposed scheme is on the floor and visitors can walk along the path of the river.

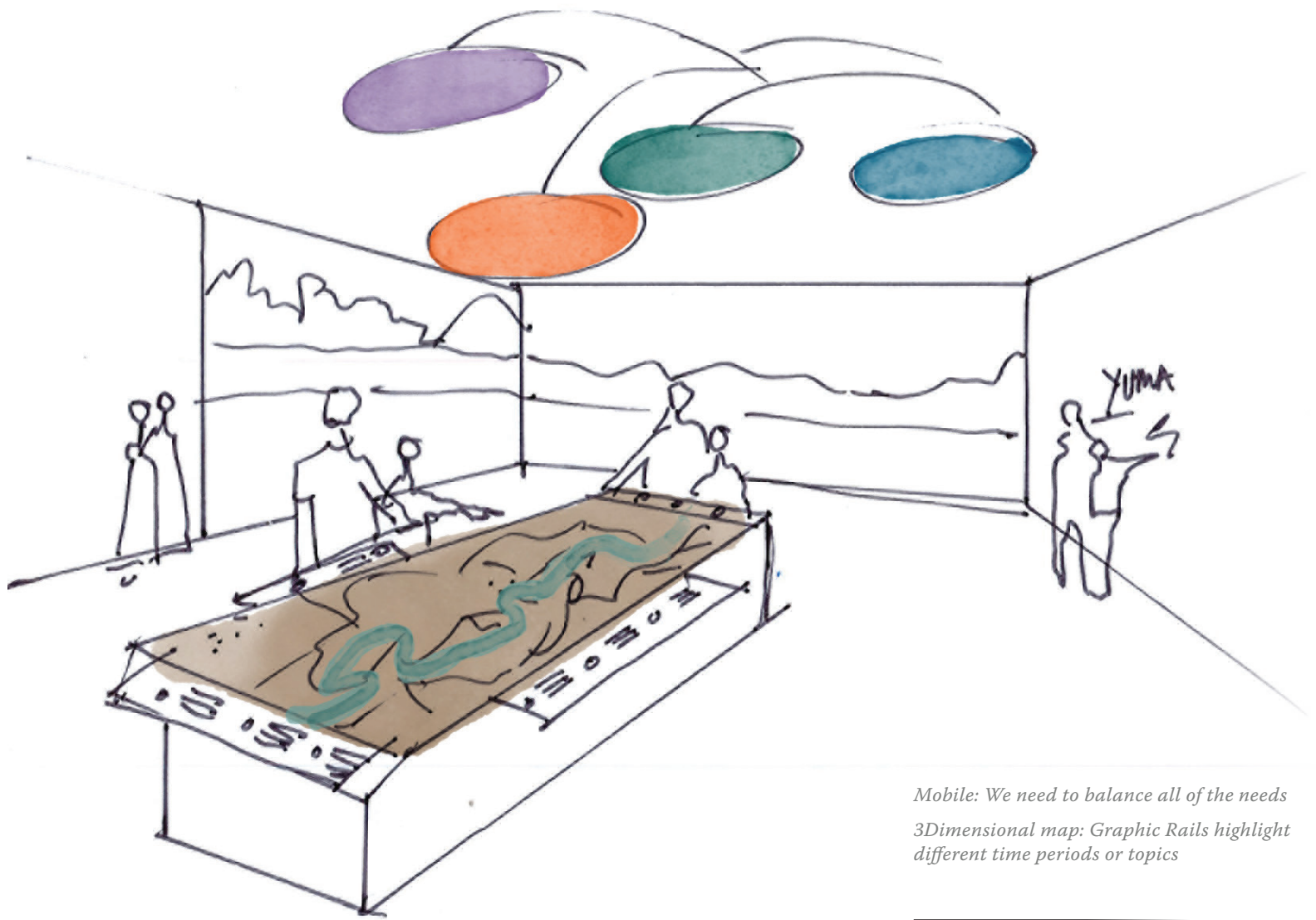
Kiosk monitors are positioned around the edges that address different uses that the site hosted: Quartermaster Depot, steamboats, the railroad, agriculture, etc

A model of John Wesley Powell and a boat are located at the place where he embarked on his expedition. The figure is animatronic and tells the visitor why we should care about the river and what to look for on the site and to consider the future.

Large images of the river on the walls are used where possible.







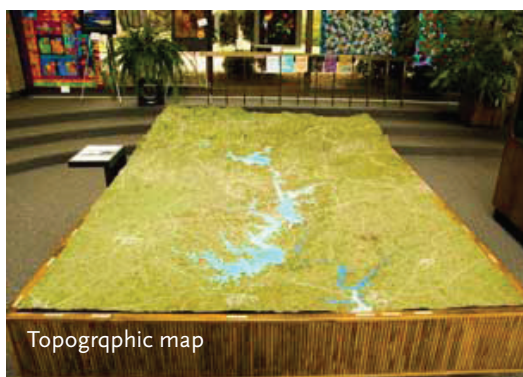
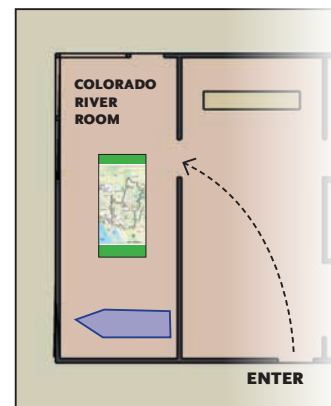
*Mobile: We need to balance all of the needs  
3Dimensional map: Graphic Rails highlight  
different time periods or topics*

**TABLE OPTION:**

A dimensional interactive topographic map is the focus of this introductory room. Information to support various topics can be placed on the rails around the map.

The center image, to the left, is a map optically mounted to acrylic. LED lights are used to show railroad routes as they developed and how immigration has shaped the country.

A wooden boat and oar is at one end of the room. An animatronic model of John Wesley Powell is sitting in the boat on his chair. The figure tells the visitor why we should care about the river and what to look for on the site.



Topogrpahic map



LED lights, Union Pacific RR Museum, Council Bluffs, Iowa



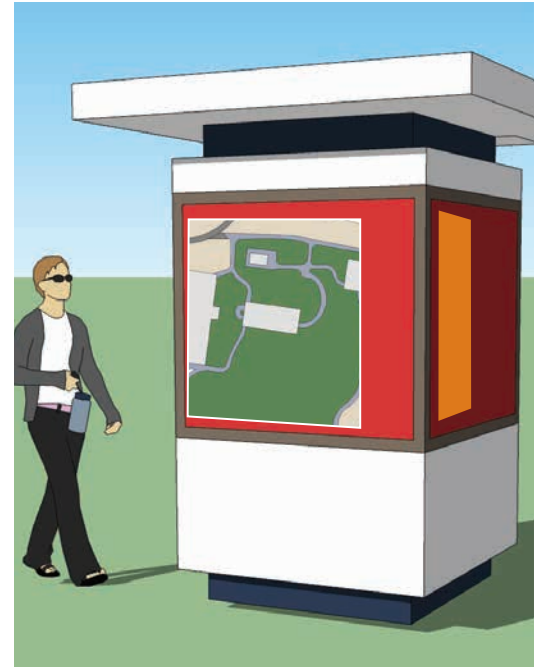
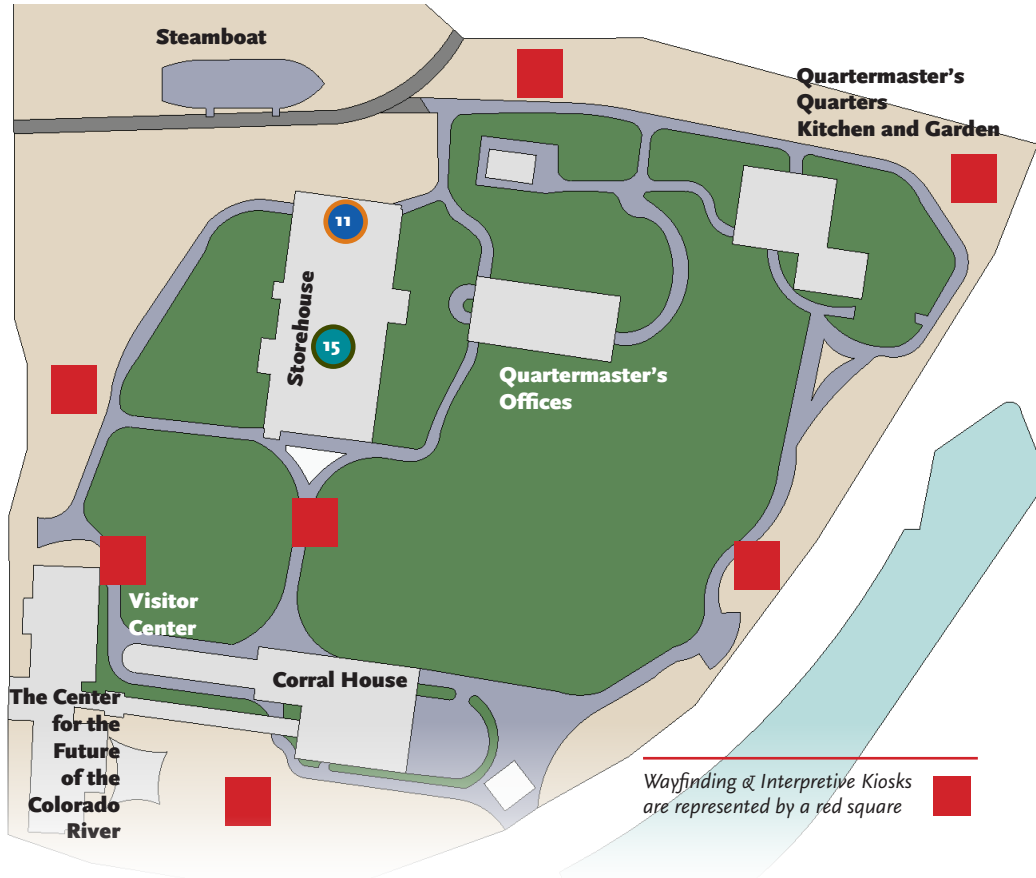
Topogrpahic map



# Wayfinding & Interpretive Signage

To further aid visitors exploring the park's outdoor spaces, shade canopies will be incorporated to make visitors more comfortable. Wayfinding kiosks will be located throughout the property to orient and guide visitors from one space to another.

Interpretive signage will be located along the paths between buildings to tell important stories that tie all of the elements together.



## EXTERIOR INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE:

- Geography
- The Quechan Tribe
- Exploration: 1800 - 1900
- Kit Carson: Trapper
- John W. Powell: Explorer
- Steamboats and the Colorado River
- Significance of Yuma
- Joseph Grinnell: Ornithologist
- Wildlife & Extinction
- Wetlands Restoration Project

Connecting Canopy with Kiosk featuring Interpretive and Directional Information

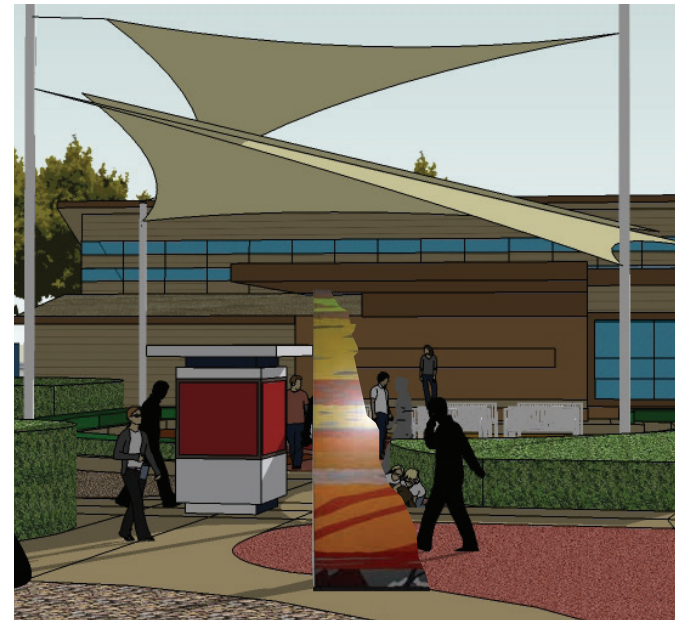
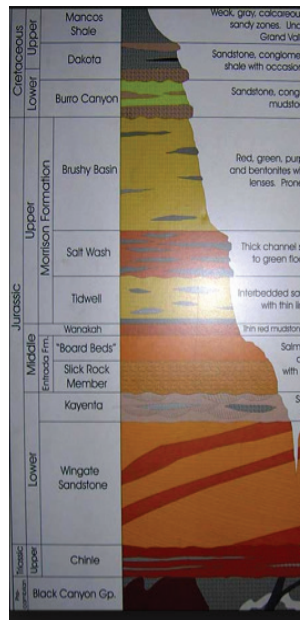


View Looking South along walkway between Yuma Visitors Center and Corral House

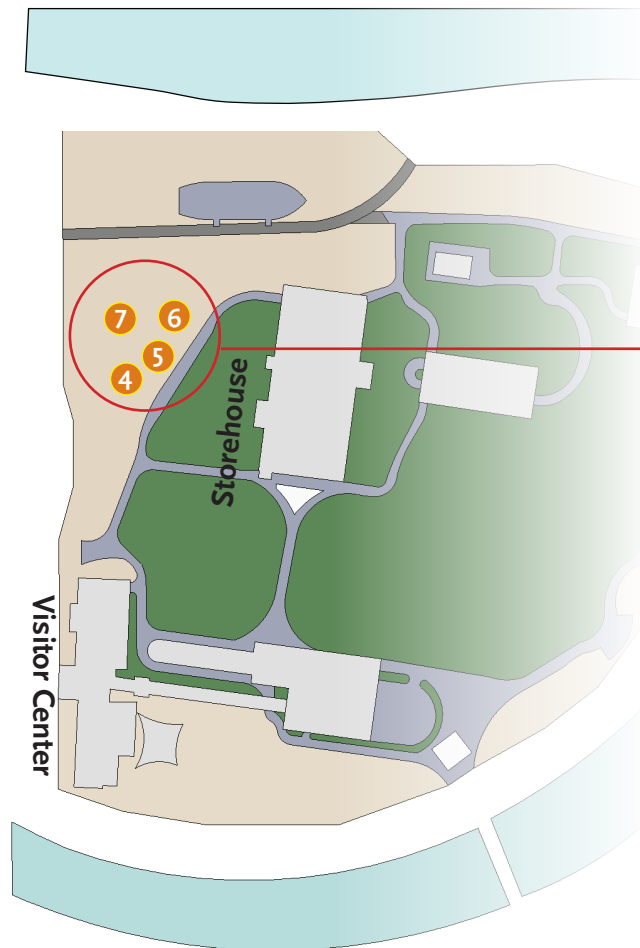


View from New Visitor Center





Above and Left; Concepts to represent geology and terrain A fountain sculpture will be created to represent the rock strata. Bottom Left; Tourmate Solar Audio Systems.



#### INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE: **GEOLOGY**

Geology of the watershed is featured on this graphic. Rock samples can be mounted to the signage for some tactile elements. A sculptural large-scale model of the rock strata shows the earth in this region through time. A gentle cascade of water travels down the strata and reminds the visitor of the significance of water as an element and as a force that carves and shapes.

These interpretive exhibits are grouped under a shade structure

4. **Geology and Terrain:** watershed
5. **Quechan Tribe:** Use of the river / the Yuma Crossing
6. **Exploration** 1800-1900
7. **Potential Interactive Components:**
  - Garden: Native plant and tree species that were important to the tribe's lifestyle
  - A Quechan hut – visitors can enter and see how it is constructed from native species

We will add signs that discuss the establishment of Fort Yuma, as well as the Quartermaster Depot.



# 1700s

## INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE: **THE QUECHAN TRIBE**

This signage will explain the Quechan Tribe and their use of the river and local plants.

We propose to have a Quechan dwelling that visitors can enter. An interactive that shows construction techniques as well as materials will be developed. We also propose a native garden planted with native plants and trees from the time:

- Mesquite = the Quechan “tree of life”  
Roots were the cradleboards, trunks were used for homes, branches were used for cremation
- Willow = aspirin, basketry, clothing
- Arrowweed = arrows, sap for glue
- Sage = is used as purifier, the Indians placed bodies on it for cremation
- Beans = flour, a curative for diabetes



*The Quechan history is a fundamental one in the telling of the river story. However, no design or interpretation can be proposed or undertaken without the full involvement of the Cultural Council and tribal elders. This type of collaboration took place at Pivot Point in the development of the interpretive panel there, and a similar process will be undertaken here.*



*We are proposing using full-sized images of people throughout the space allowing us to use first person voices to tell some of the story.*

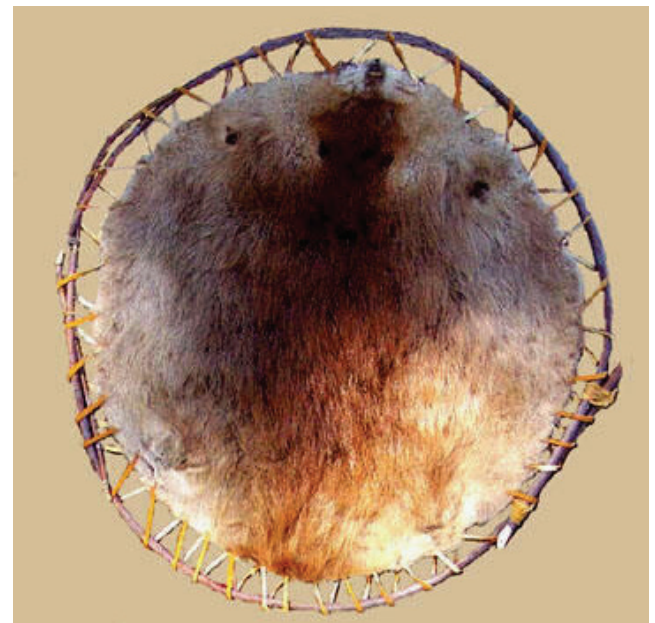
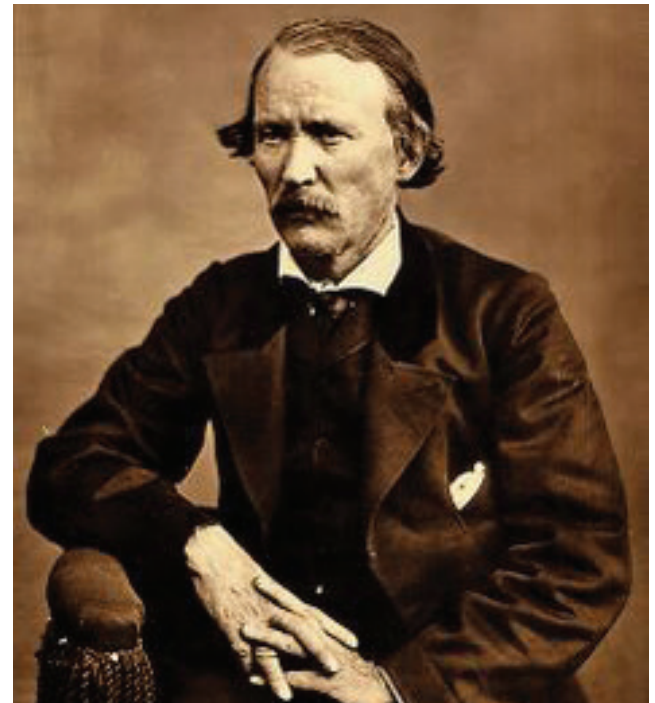


# 1839

## INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE : **KIT CARSON - TRAPPING**

Kit Carson was in the Yuma area trapping beaver from 1839 – 1841. More about him and trapping will be shared on this signage.

A beaver pelt will be hanging on the sign for visitors to touch. A solar powered audio interactive is here for visitors to listen to a story told by him.



*Compare beaver populations then, and now.*

*Endangered species status and protection will be touched on plus the truth about their engineering capabilities.*



Mementos of Kit Carson at the Kit Carson Museum, Taos, New Mexico: the carbine and telescope used by him; a carbine sheath and gloves like those he was fond of.



# 1869

## INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE:

### EXPLORING THE RIVER - JOHN WESLEY POWELL

- Excerpts from his journal to read
- Other Explorers:
  - Joseph Grinnell - Ornithology
  - Godfrey Sykes - Colorado River Delta
  - Robert Stanton - Expedition down the river for the railroad
- Rock to sit on, an oar, a tin pot
- Interactive replicating what it is like to have one arm

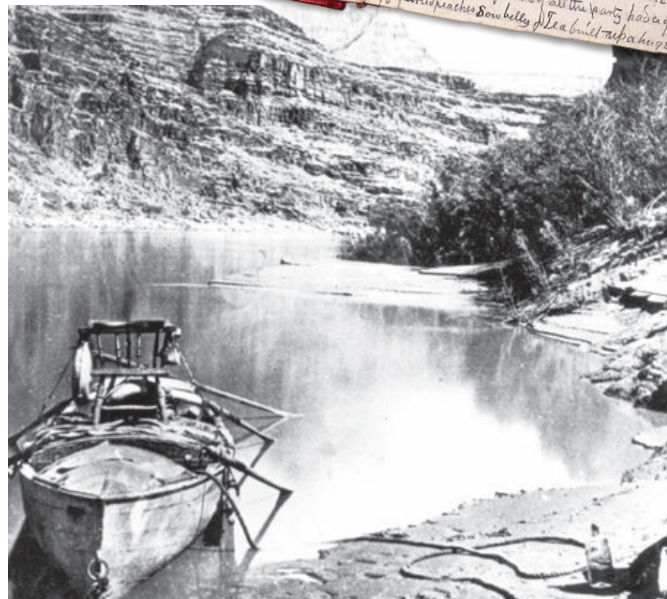
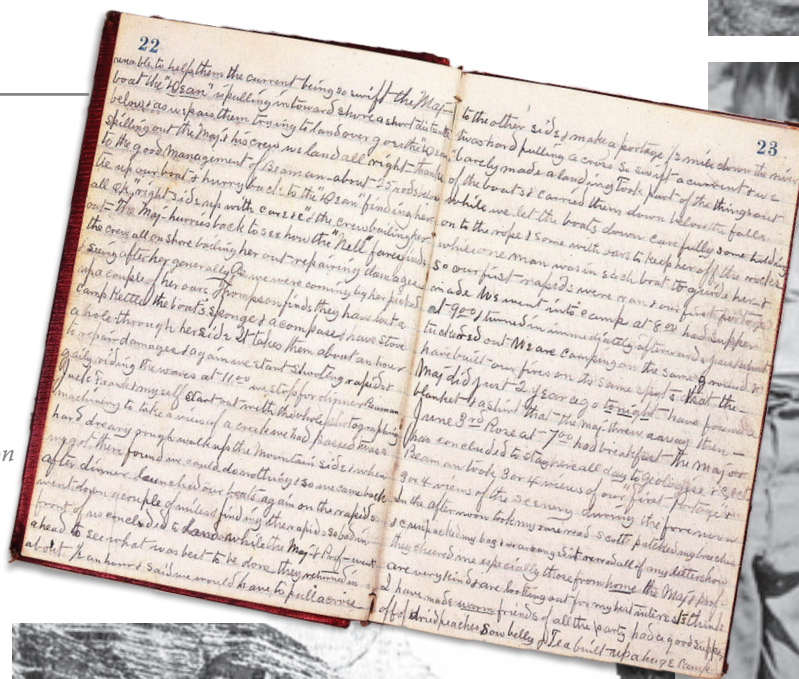


An appropriate entry from JWP's journal.

Full size cutout image of Powell.

A page from his journal is read and replayed from the solar powered audio system.

We are proposing using full-sized images of people throughout the space, allowing us to use first person voices to punctuate key stories.



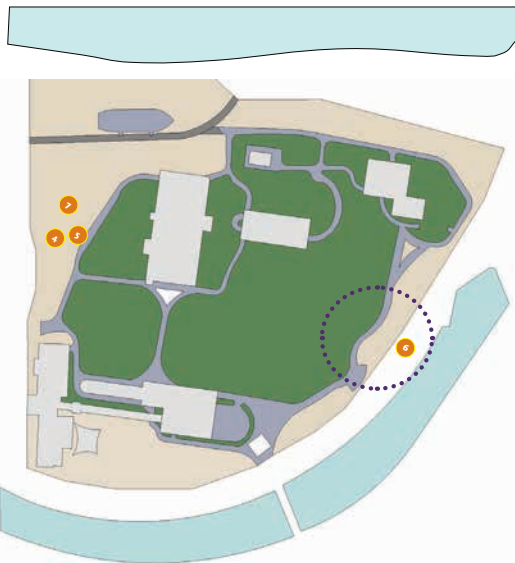


# 1910

## INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

### THE NATURAL SETTING: JOSEPH GRINNELL – ORNITHOLOGY PRE-DAM DEVELOPMENT

Before the dams, the Colorado River featured 400,000 acres of native forest and plentiful wildlife. This exhibit hearkens back to that era.



Golden Beaver

667

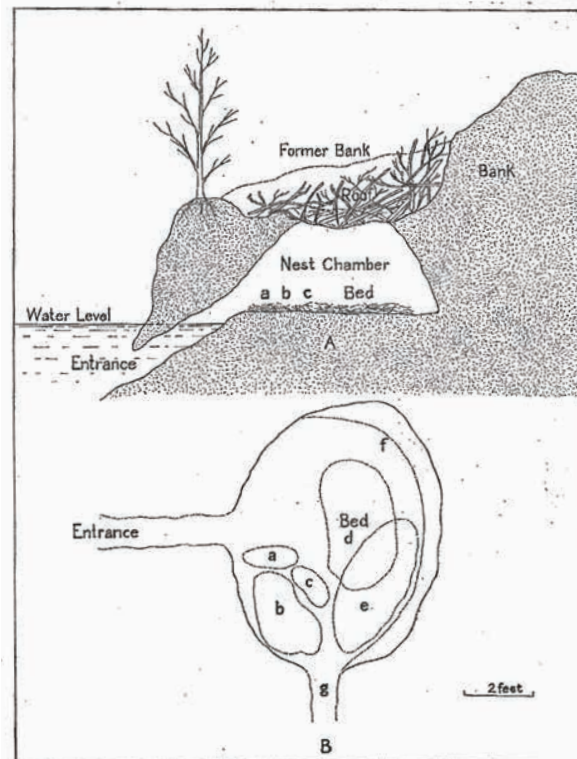


Fig. 284. Diagrams of interior of the beaver house shown in figure 283. A, sectional view; B, plan. In August, 1920, the beds (at *d*, *d*, and *a*, *c*) were used by two large and two small beavers. Broken line, *f*, shows reduced size of this house on April 15, 1921, when it was occupied by one adult female beaver and her week-old kitten. The baby beaver was found in a large freshly made bed of cattails at *e*, after the mother beaver had become frightened and escaped by the back-door exit, *g*.





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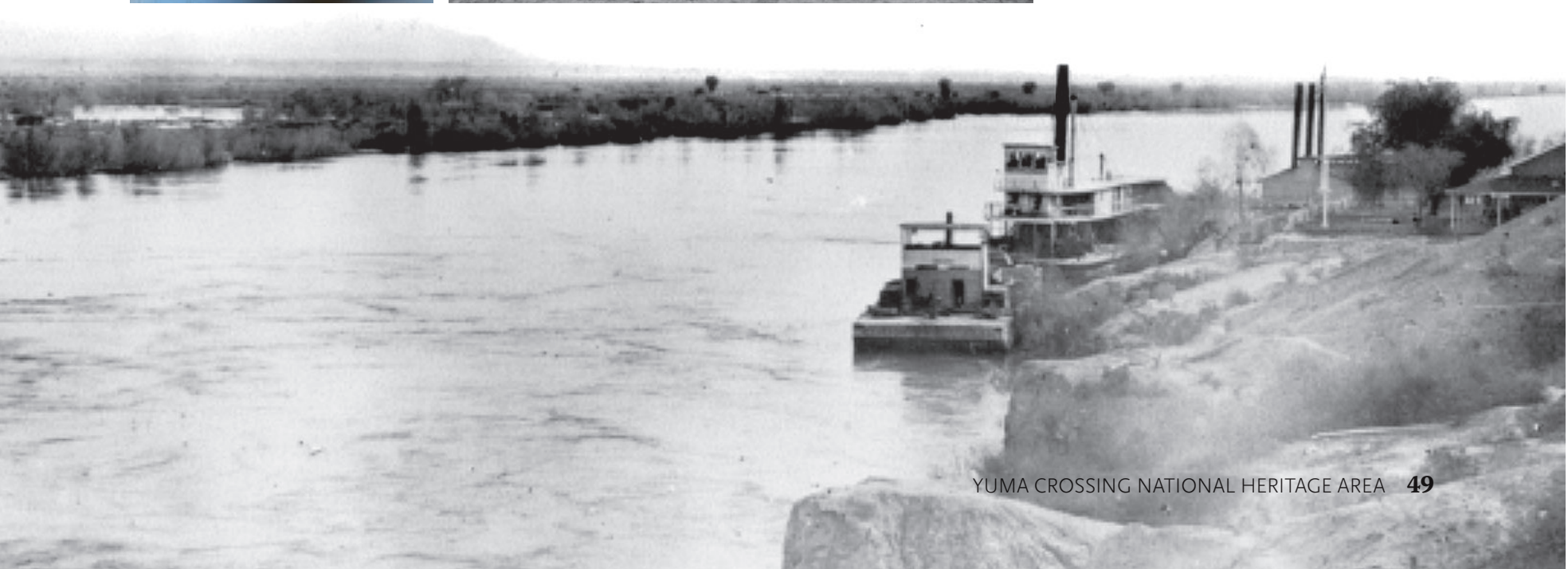
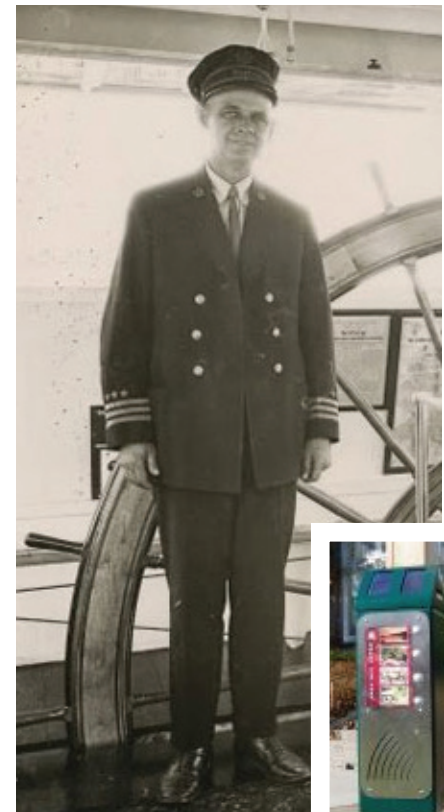
## Steamboats & Moving Supplies

We want visitors from beyond Yuma to see how the Colorado River might hold importance for them, as well as the citizens of Yuma.

### INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE: **STEAMBOATS & THE SIGNIFICANCE OF YUMA**

- Wagontrain routes and moving supplies
- Crossing the River
- Interactive, sound and interpretation: A steamboat captain tells you about his day with the help of a solar-powered audio device.
- A panel explains why Yuma is important.

# 1852-1916





## STEAMBOAT ABSTRACTION

The interpretive steamboat structure can be approached in several ways structurally. One way could be a series of platforms and facades that allow visitors to “climb aboard”. In this approach visitors can walk across a wooden plank deck to overlook the river and learn about early river navigation.

### Special Effects:

**SOUND:** A soundtrack can play a steamboat whistle and ship’s bell on a loudspeaker. The sound of engine noise, seabirds and sailer’s voices could enrich the experience. The whistle and bell could also be a visitor-operated exhibit as could the ship’s wheel. Steam could simulate the whistle action.

**WATER:** The paddlewheel could be built as a fountain and spin to give the sound of flowing water.

**LIGHTING:** String lighting tracery can illuminate the Steamboat at night and attract the attention of travelers on Interstate 8. Interpretation should include visuals that simulate the historic river level.

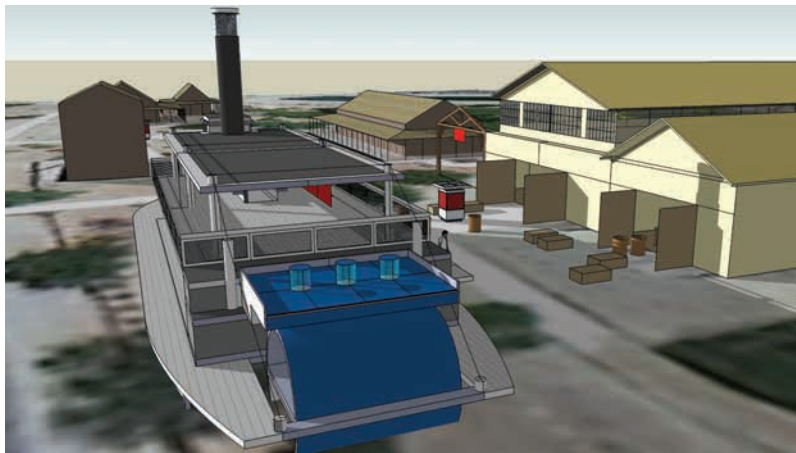
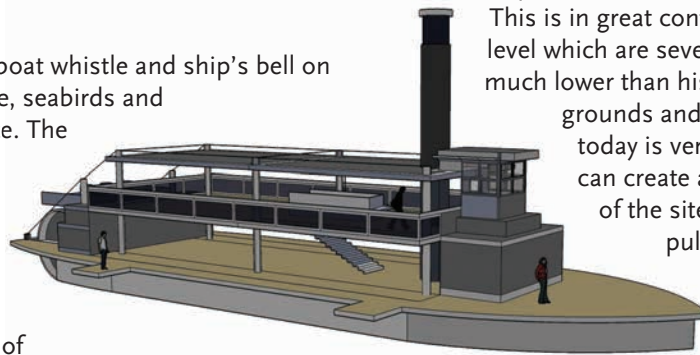
**SIMPLE OPTION:** The Steamboat could also be represented by a simple silhouetted façade with interpretive exhibits surrounding it. This approach would reduce cost yet still allow for enrichment of sound effects and lighting.

## An Iconic Element:

The steamboat abstraction attempts to accomplish several goals for the park. First, it bridges the visual gap between the site and its close historical relationship with the Colorado River. The steamboat will be situated at an elevation equal to the river water level at the time of the Quartermaster Depot operation (1865-1883). It will also be positioned within the boundaries of the historic riverbank. This is in great contrast to the river’s current bank and water level which are several hundred feet further from the site and much lower than historic levels. In fact, due to the level park grounds and higher elevation, the Colorado River of today is very difficult to see from within the park. This can create an interpretive gap in visitors’ perception of the site as a historic port. Adding the steamboat pulls the river back into the context of the park, and its historic use as well as providing a location for QMD and river interpretation.

Secondly, the steamboat enriches interpretation of historic navigation on the river as well as offering a unique location for additional QMD interpretation.

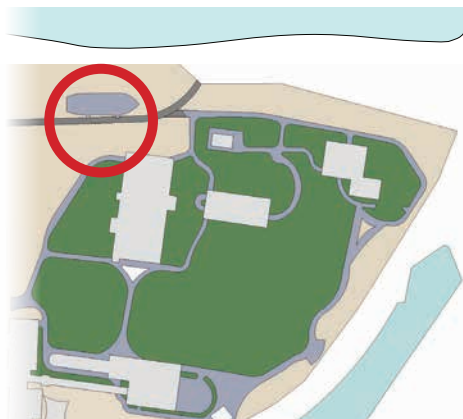
Thirdly, the steamboat abstraction can act as a visual promotion of the park which could eventually become an iconic symbol of the park and the region’s relationship with the Colorado River.



*Paddlewheel Water Feature: The sound of flowing water and a turning paddlewheel will bring to life a sense of the 19th century Colorado River.*



*Building a structural abstraction of a steamboat is intended to recreate a connection with the river.*

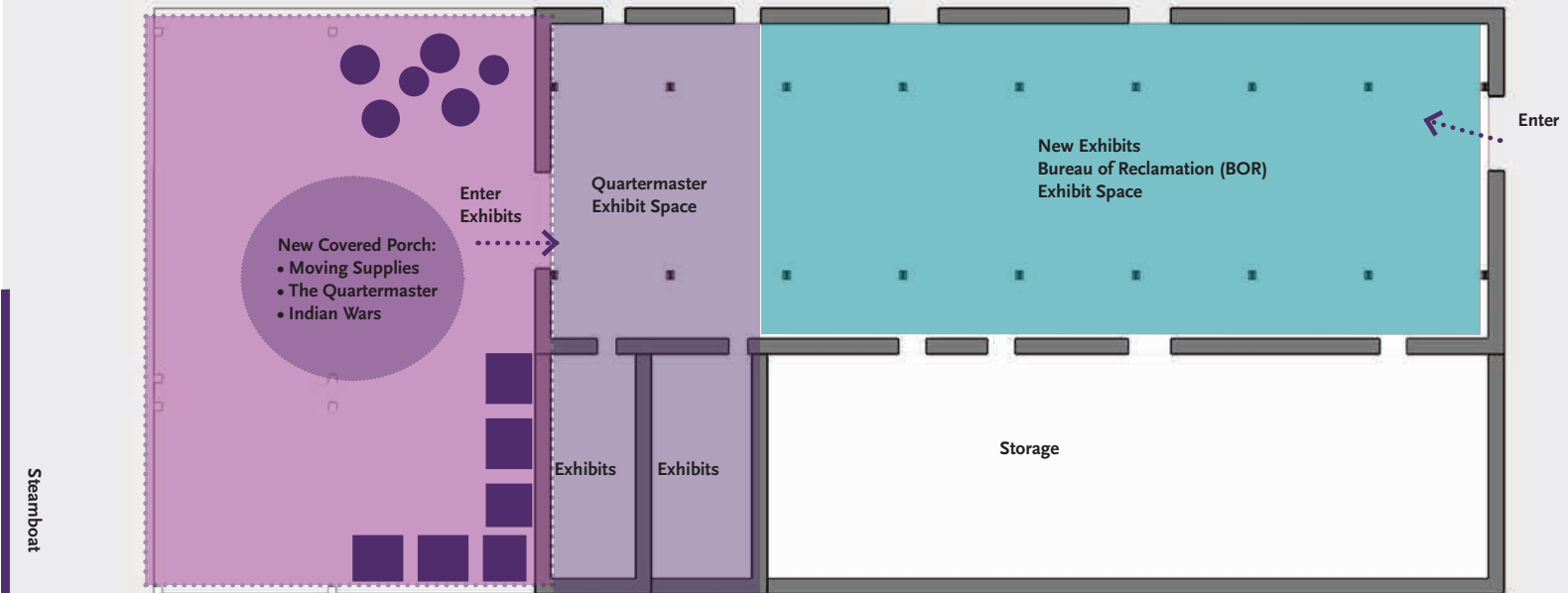




**The Storehouse - Riverside**

This area is part of the interpretation of the steamboats that used the Colorado River.

A new covered porch is proposed to give a platform for telling the story about moving supplies. Ambient sound helps set the scene of a busy dock loading and unloading supplies.





# Quartermaster Depot

This area is part of the interpretation of the Quartermaster Depot including the living quarters, the water pump, the offices, the kitchen and gardens.

**DAY-TO-DAY LIFE OF THE QUARtermaster:**  
 What was grown in the garden? Recipes and foods.  
 Water use and needs in the home and in the Quartermaster Depot; animals, gardens, personal use cooking and cleaning.



STOREHOUSE

15



20

THE CORRAL HOUSE as an interpretive exhibit space depends on the ability to modify the building's interior to improve traffic flow and properly organize the interpretive story. We are currently investigating how much can be done to the interior. At this time it is too early to dismiss its use as an interpretive space.



12

WATER RESERVOIR 1800S - Exterior Signage will discuss water storage historically on the site.



**Proposed new exhibit about what the storehouse used to look like.**

How to construct an Adobe House - Possible interactive element here



QUARtermaster HOUSE & KITCHEN

13



QUARtermaster OFFICE

14



QUARtermaster OFFICE

QUARtermaster HOUSE, OFFICE AND KITCHEN, will be a mix of period rooms and exhibit spaces.





**Quartermaster's  
Quarters**

12

13

15

**Storehouse**

14

**Quartermaster's  
Offices**

**Corral House**

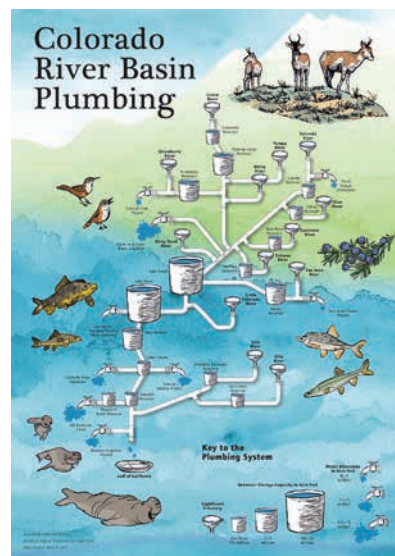
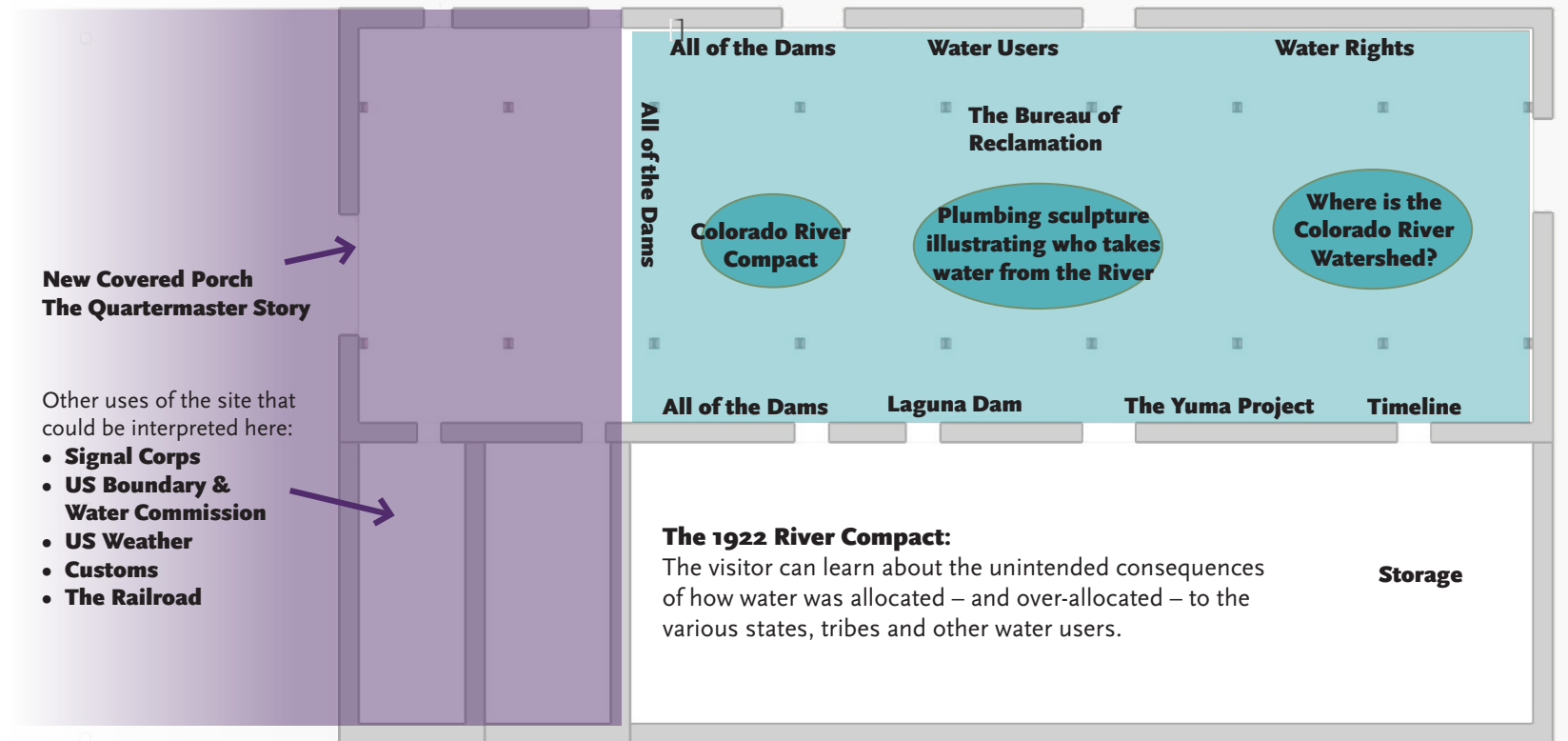
20



# Storehouse Interior *The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)*

This building has seen many uses through the years:

- Supplies
- BOR
- Additions to the building
- Model T shop
- Today



## Past & Present | 1900 – 2000 Interior exhibits & interactive elements

### THE LAW OF THE RIVER:

- The water master, water rights – past and present
- The watershed – diversion and trans-basin diversion

### THE COLORADO RIVER COMPACT: 1922

- Dividing up the water
- Dams and original engineering
- Flood control

### WATER USE:

- Power generating
- Agriculture and irrigation
- Recreation

### THE SIPHON:

- Engineering Marvel
- Water for 50,000 acres of the Yuma Valley

*“...the most dammed river in the U.S.”*





STOREHOUSE INTERIOR **EXHIBITS & INTERACTIVES**



Construction design and materials of exhibits need to take into consideration environmental concerns due to the high temperatures and dust in most of the exhibit areas. Exhibits will be designed with this element under consideration.





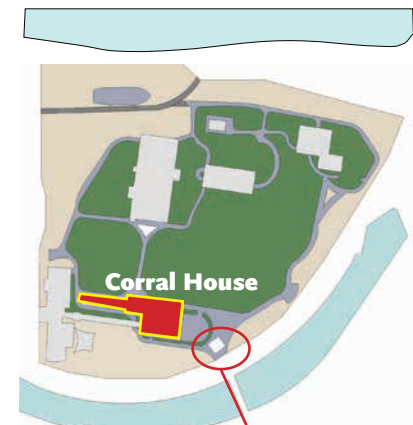


# The Corral House

Agriculture | The Siphon | The Wetlands | Desalination

Yuma occupies a pivotal position in the story of the Colorado River. It was the only safe place to cross the river when the river was wild and uncontrollable.

It was where the very first dam was built on the Colorado River, and where irrigations canals brought water to rich soils, made the desert bloom, and made Yuma the “winter vegetable capital” of North America.



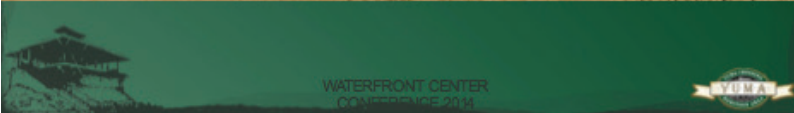
## Interior Exhibits and Interactives

At this time, we are considering the Corral House as the location to tell the wetland management process.

When we know what alterations we can make to the building, then we will assign exhibit locations.



## Building Partnerships by Accessing Agricultural Expertise for Restoration



## CORRAL HOUSE: Yuma Success Stories

Yuma is where the local agricultural community learned how to make more and more efficient use of irrigation water, such that Yuma farmers are now producing 50% more product today with the same amount of water then they did 40 years ago.

It was also where the constricted river flow began to degrade the river's ecosystems and cut the community off from the river. However, it was also where innovative wetlands restoration techniques transformed the Yuma riverfront and made the Yuma East Wetlands a model for restoration in the Southwest.

It is also where cutting-edge methods of ground water desalinization are being explored, and where the United States and Mexico are finding common ground for restoring the river.

## Laser Leveling



## Same Site: 12 Months Later



## Laser Leveling, Canal Infrastructure, and Mass Irrigation



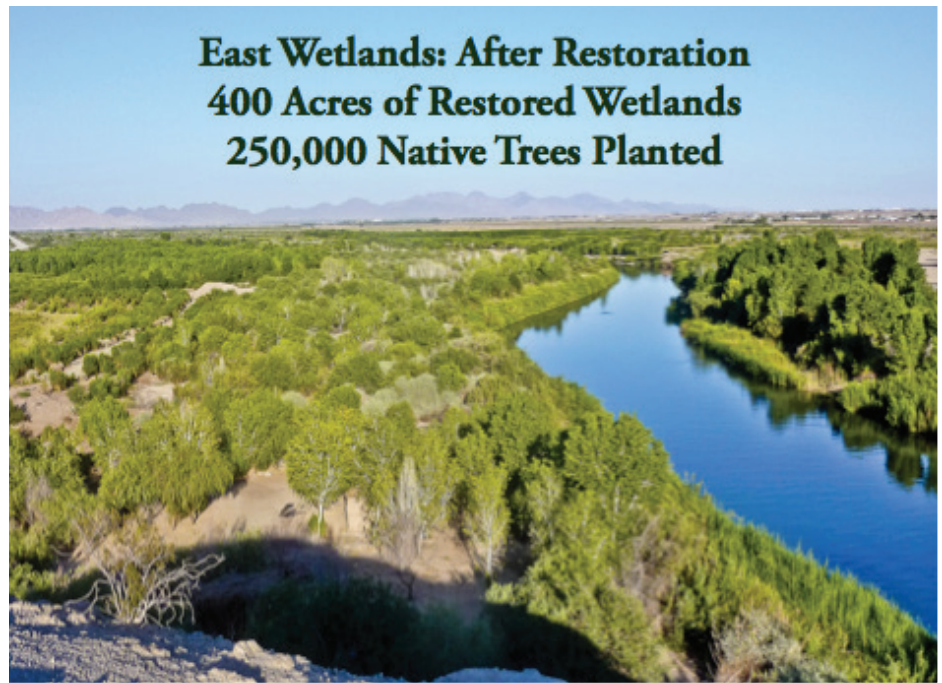
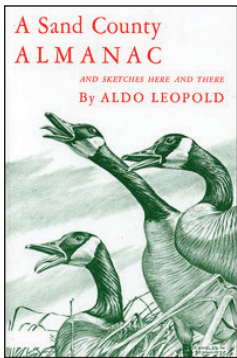
## Same Site: 12 Months Later





**CORRAL HOUSE: Yuma Success Stories**

The Corral House will tell all of these stories about Yuma, including the Yuma Project and the Yuma Siphon, the Yuma East Wetlands, and the water efficiency Yuma farmers have brought to the desert. As host to the telling of the story of the Colorado River, Yuma should have a place to tell its own story. The Corral House is that place.



**East Wetlands: After Restoration  
400 Acres of Restored Wetlands  
250,000 Native Trees Planted**



“There are some who can live without wild things, and some who cannot. These essays are the delights and dilemmas of one who cannot.”

*Aldo Leopold*

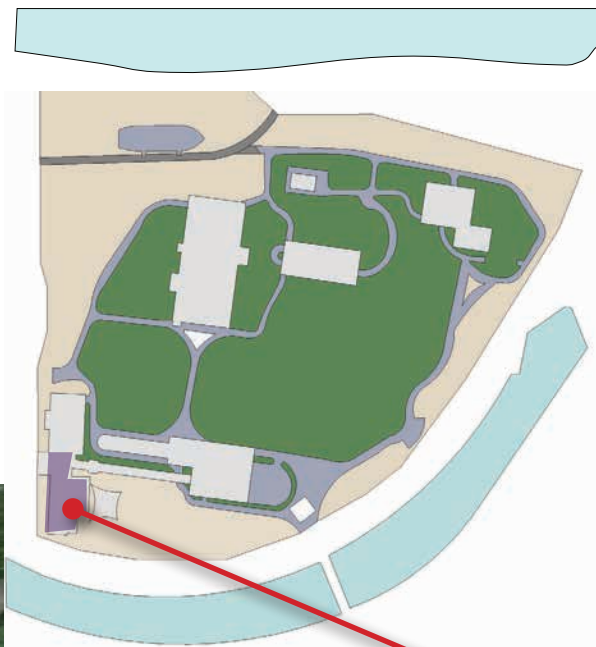


# The Center for the Future of the Colorado River

New Building | Water Feature Film | Healing the River | Interactives and Exhibits on How to Solve Water Issues Today and for the Future

The Center will tell three stories. First, it will vividly bring to life the dramatic changes experienced by the Colorado River over the past century. Second, it will detail and explore the challenges of increased demand for water as well as shrinking supplies over the next 50 years. Third, it will showcase innovations in conservation and water enhancement.

Most importantly, it will invite the visitor to become part of the solution through collaboration and building partnerships among diverse stakeholders. The visitor should leave the Center with a clear sense of the challenges and a renewed commitment to become part of the answer to the question: *What is the future of the Colorado River?*



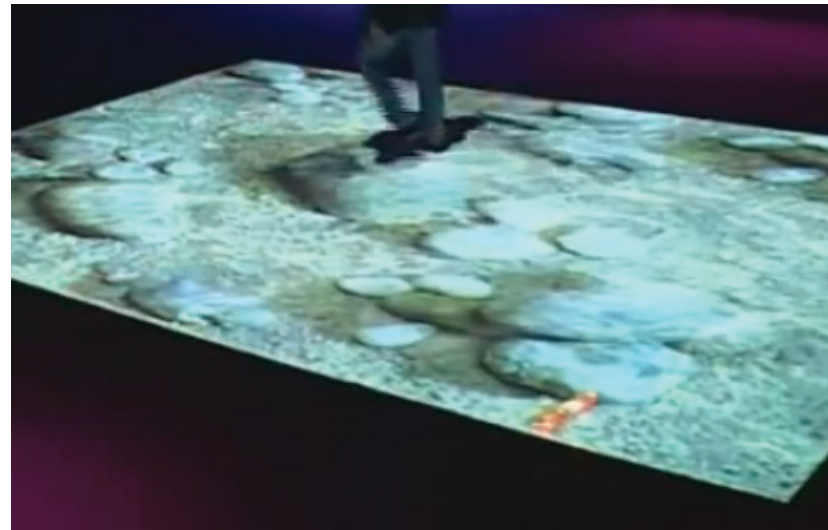
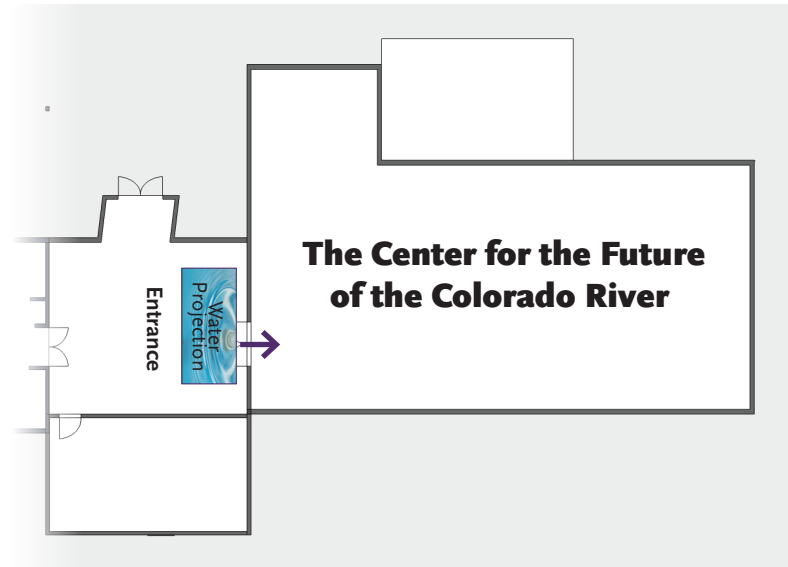
Overview of new building and outdoor space - Looking East



### Entrance to the New Exhibits: WATER FLOOR GRAPHICS

This product projects a water image onto the surface. As visitors walk on the floor the water responds as if it has been disturbed. One version shown above has fish in the water which adds another dimension. Please view the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp1kZtezl8Q>.

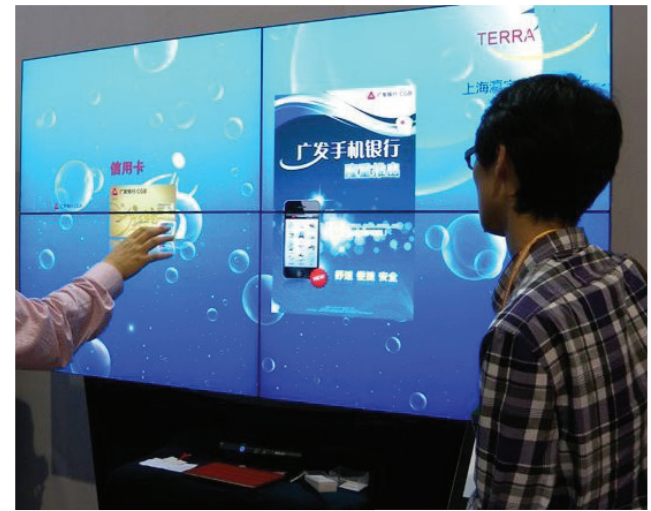
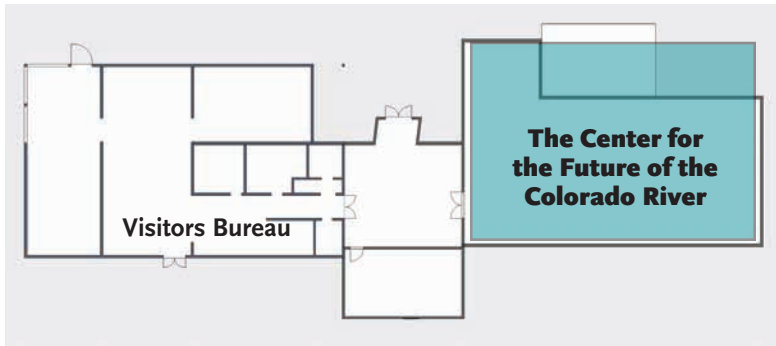
GroundFX is a multimedia visual display system that projects incredible interactive floor special effects, floor games or floor advertisements directly onto an interactive floor displays. Users control dynamic multimedia interactive displays with simple gestures and body movement. It's an engaging full-body interactive experience that immerses users in your message



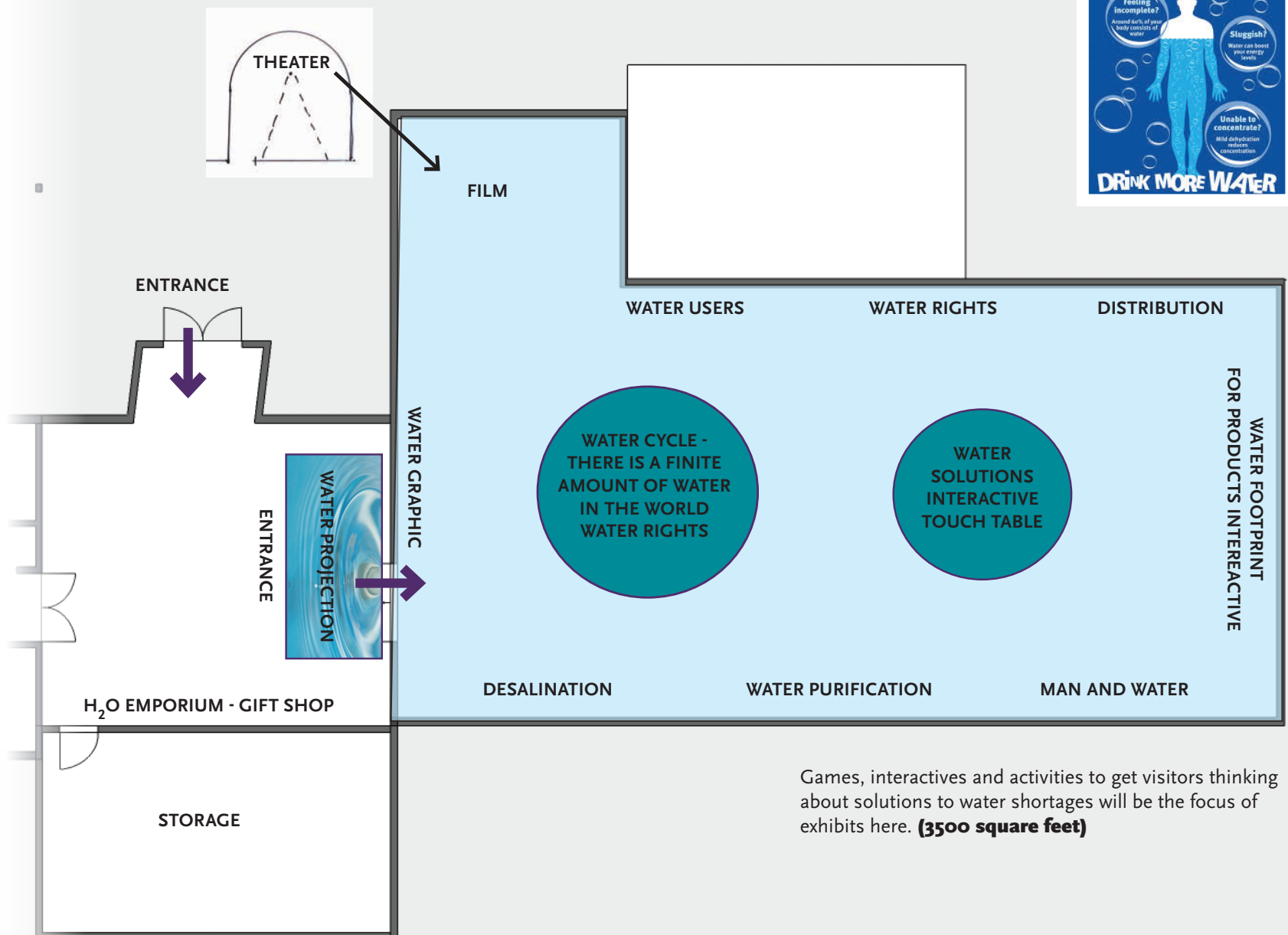
The Center will also serve as a research center and forum for experts in the field, hosting conferences and research seminars which address legal, scientific, and policy issues involving the Colorado River. The park plan is designed to access the nearby 20,000 square-foot Hilton Garden Inn Conference for larger conferences as well as utilizing outdoor spaces adjacent to the Center.







## The Center for the Future of the Colorado River



Games, interactives and activities to get visitors thinking about solutions to water shortages will be the focus of exhibits here. **(3500 square feet)**

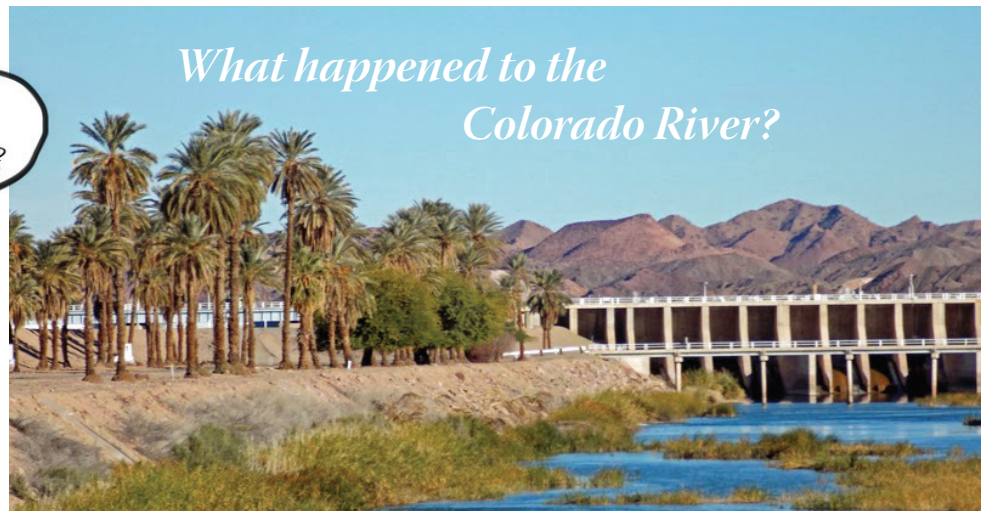
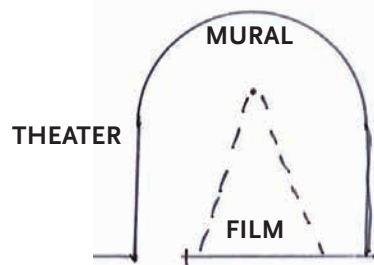


## Theater & Film

The most difficult thing to explain to visitors is how the Colorado River went from a wild, uncontrollable river to a tightly-controlled “water delivery system” where every ounce of water is accounted for. An introductory film featuring two children on a journey down the river is the best way to do this. The visitor will come to a mural of the Imperial Dam.

**MURAL:** The visitors walk into a curved theater space. Here, a large mural of the Grand Canyon is on the wall. The photograph is from the floor of the canyon and this immerses the visitors in the magnificence of the canyon.

**FILM:** After the visitors are in the space, a film starts and the same two kids from the mural are now getting into a biplane to “find” the headwaters of the Colorado River, and where all the water is!



*Scene: Two kids are standing in the river bed with boots on and fishing poles and there is hardly any water.*



# Film Story Board



IN THE THEATER, THE VISITOR CONTINUES THE JOURNEY WITH THE KIDS ON FILM.

They climb into the front cockpit of a red biplane and take off searching from the air.



They look down on two mountain men putting a message in a bottle and the bottle in the stream (tributary).



The plane banks and circles. It follows the progress of the bottle down stream and at a fork in the stream where water is siphoned off, the plane looks for the bottle on the water.



Using as an example Las Vegas – when they realize the water passes through, but not the bottle, the pilot loops and circles over the fork, and...



...the bottle pops up! and they continue following it downstream.



Eventually it ends in a dry riverbed where the bottle is opened and the message, “we are out of water” is read.

This leads us to an exhibit about the future of the Colorado River.





## Exhibit Topics

### Water Rights

When faced with the growing problems of water use of the Colorado River, long-standing agreements for water rights and allocation require careful reexamination to ensure sustainability of this great resource.

### Understanding – And Impacting – The Dynamics Of A Changing Watershed: *The “Sim River” Experience*

The complexity of so many different dams and canals diverting water from the Colorado River makes understanding the issues overwhelming.

One way of overcoming these obstacles is to involve the visitors directly into “operating” the system through a “touch table”.

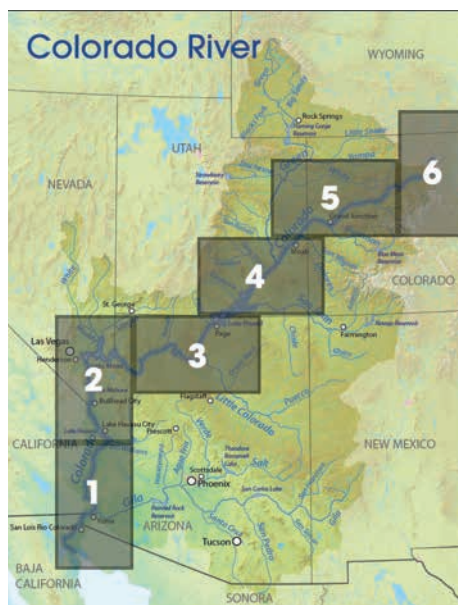
Through a series of touch screens and three dimensional props (such as dams), the visitor can alter the flow of the river. The challenge is attempt to meet all the needs of cities, farms, and homes – and Mexico – while providing enough river flow for the Colorado River to make it to the Gulf of California. It is a “rigged” game as there is never enough water to go around. The visitor then is forced to choose among competing priorities.

This exercise will engage visitors of all ages and particularly spark interests from Millennials, who will fondly recall playing “Sim City” from their childhood.

An interactive table allows for more than one user and it can make available vast amounts of information.



*This exhibit places the visitor into the context of the Colorado River watershed and can hopefully lead to more thorough examination of Colorado River issues located on the touch table.*





## CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES TO SUSTAIN THE COLORADO RIVER

Now that the visitor understands the nature and depth of the challenge confronting the Colorado River, the Center focuses on the primary solutions: water augmentation and conservation.

A wide variety of augmentation efforts will be explored, but the focus will be on desalination.

### Salinization

Salinization poses many problems for the quality of Colorado River water as well as its soils. Increases in the salt level of river water occurs several ways. One of the primary reasons is from lack of periodic “flushing flows” in the Colorado River, which leave salts building up in the soil. Some of this build-up is a natural process that has always occurred; some is caused by the constriction of flow over the last century. At its end, the Colorado River water is 30 times more salty than at its headwaters.

A low-tech mechanical interactive could be used to illustrate the process of water washing salts (and other chemicals) out of arid soil.

### Desalination

The process in which salts are removed from water sources has historically been complex and expensive requiring special materials and high amounts of energy. The higher the salt level, the more difficult it is to desalinate.

Reverse osmosis is a common method of desalinating. Three new technologies are being developed that may reduce energy requirements of desalination.

1. Forward Osmosis
2. Carbon Nanotubes
3. Biomimetics

The principles behind each of these three developing technologies can be reduced to simple terms and explained to visitors. Where possible, animation or simple interactive exhibits can be used to illustrate complex processes.



## Desalination plant set for Beijing, reports say

By EDWARD WONG  
NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING — A coastal desalination plant east of Beijing could provide a large portion of the drinking water for the parched Chinese capital by 2019, the state media quoted officials as saying Tuesday.

The reports indicated that the government and state enterprises were investing heavily in desalination projects to alleviate a dire water shortage in northern China.

The reports, citing officials who spoke over the weekend and Monday said the proposed plant, to be located in the city

count for one-third of the water consumption of Beijing, a city of more than 22 million people, officials said. A headline on an article published by Global Times, a populist state-run newspaper, said, “Seawater to Supply Beijing in 2019.”

The proposed plant would be the core of one of the biggest desalination projects in China. It is the proposed second phase of a desalination project that is run by a joint venture company, AQBEWCO, formed by Aqualyng, a Norwegian company, and Beijing Enterprises Water Group, a company listed in Hong Kong that is a subsidiary of a large company owned

district’s use, officials said. The water comes from the Bohai Gulf, just off the Yellow Sea in northeast China.

The second, larger plant would cost an estimated \$1.1 billion, and the pipelines to Beijing, which would run 270 kilometers, would cost \$1.6 billion, the state media reports said. The price for the water in Beijing would be \$1.29 per ton, twice as much as the current price of tap water, the reports said.

Northern China has been suffering for many years from a chronic drought, and officials in the central and local governments have been desperately searching for ways to bring

and is owned by a government-run conglomerate called SDIC.

In 2011, that plant, called the Beijing Power and Desalination Plant, was one of two in Tianjin and supplied a suburb with 10,000 tons of desalted water daily. It had plans to expand the amount pumped daily to 180,000 tons. There have been some problems with the Beijing project. The water, free of minerals, scrubbed rust from Tianjin’s pipes while being transported to taps in the city. As a result, it would come out brown. Project managers had a plan to fix that by adding minerals to the water.

The desalination projects are in addition to an enormous



**TAKING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

While many forms of conservation and more efficient use of water by cities, water irrigation districts, and utilities will be described, it is important for the experience to become a personal one. This can be achieved through the use of the media called “water footprint”.

**Water Footprints**

Water footprint is a comprehensive approach to determining the total amount of water consumption in relation to a person, geographical area or product. This is different from traditional analysis where water consumption is restricted to measuring an amount of water withdrawal from a resource. A water footprint seeks to illuminate more issues surrounding water use.

Water footprint encompasses any loss of water from an available source and relates it to specific activities. For instance, the water footprint of a product such as a cotton T-shirt tracks how much water it takes to grow the cotton, process the cotton into cloth, produce the T-shirt and ship it to the consumer.

This description is a simplification of the total process but illustrates the comprehensive nature of water footprints.

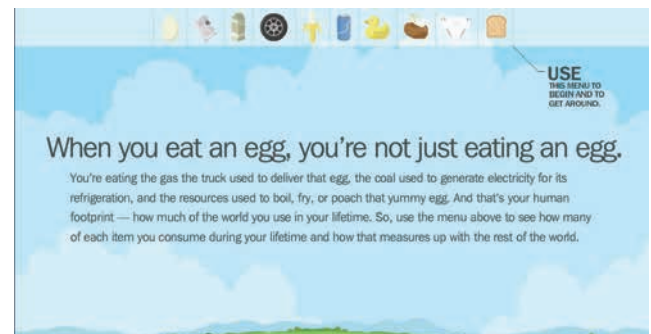
As water issues with the Colorado River

become more closely watched and debated, awareness of water footprints becomes more thought provoking and can help to deepen consumers’ awareness of their own water use as well as water use in the world around them.

To illustrate the concept of water footprints, we are proposing a large video wall/touch screen that will educate visitors on the water footprint of common consumer goods. The screen will contain large scale (6-24 inch) animated water “droplets” floating and moving as if they were within a large tank of water. On the surface of each water “droplet” is the name of a consumable product. Products can range from food sources such as cattle, chickens, corn or wheat, to goods such as T-shirts, blue jeans or automobiles. When touched, the “droplet” reveals detailed information about the water footprint of the product. By using items visitors can relate to, the experience is more personal and may make a deeper impression on the visitor.

The video wall can be used by any number of people at the same

time and will encourage interaction between visitors, perhaps even leading to discussions. This exhibit places the visitor into the context of the Colorado River Watershed and can hopefully lead to more thorough examination of Colorado River issues located on the touch table.





## HEALING THE RIVER

Addressing the water needs of cities and farms is certainly a key priority of the Center. Equally important, however, is the long-term health of the Colorado River itself. Providing adequate river flow is but one element of that process. The Center will feature the many innovative projects – both large and small – taking place along the Colorado River which are rooting out non-native riparian vegetation and replacing it with native cottonwoods, willows, and mesquites.

The exhibit will feature dramatic “before” and “after” photos of restoration areas and the technologies helping make restoration happen. Particular attention will be placed on the technology transfer between the agricultural community to environmental projects, making large-scale restoration projects possible.



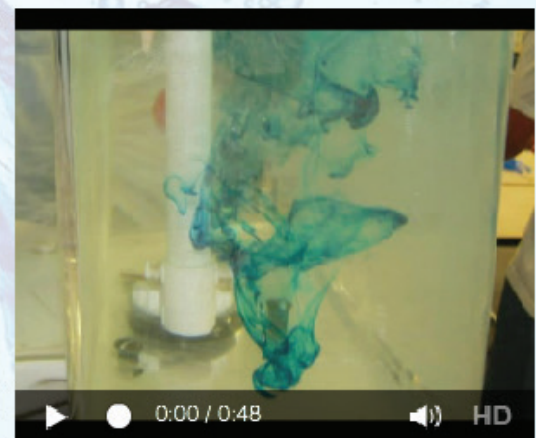
*There are many ways to encourage visitors to change behaviors and to conserve water. Interactives will be developed to challenge the visitors to go home and put into practice what they have learned.*



**Audit a Drinking Fountain**



**Replace a Toilet Flapper**



**Check a Toilet for Leaks**



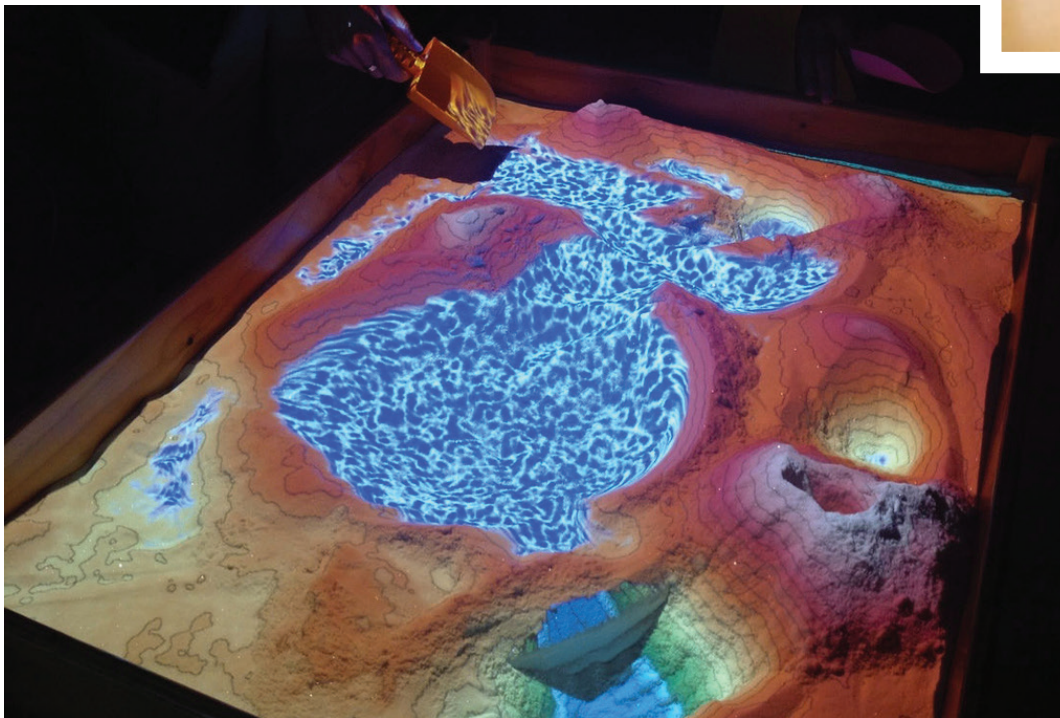
### WATERSHED INTERACTIVE

This interactive is a teaching tool that explains how water moves in a watershed. Visitors can interact with the table to control water flow by changing the sand terrain.

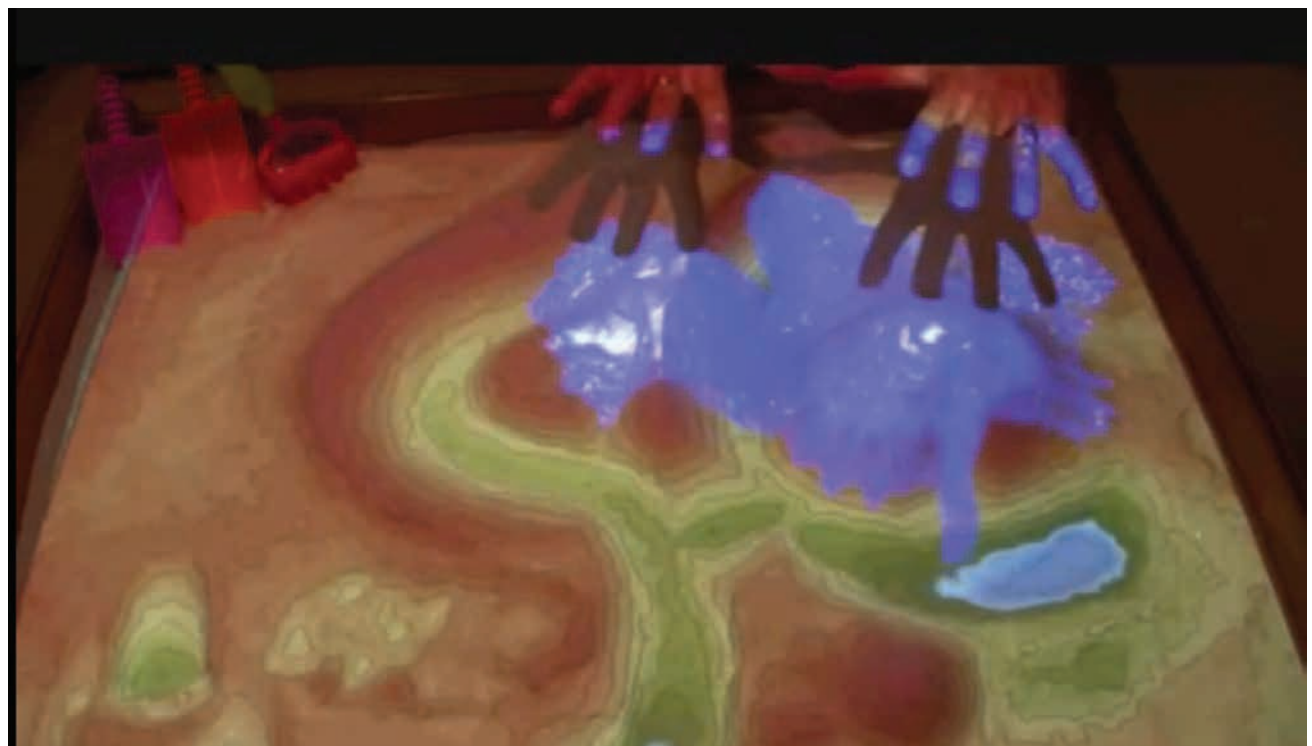
Example of this technology can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lurZEwKgdFo>



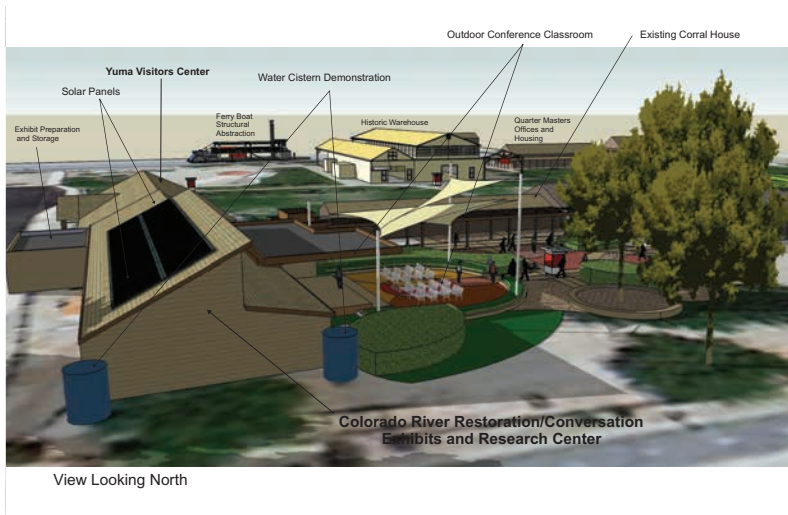
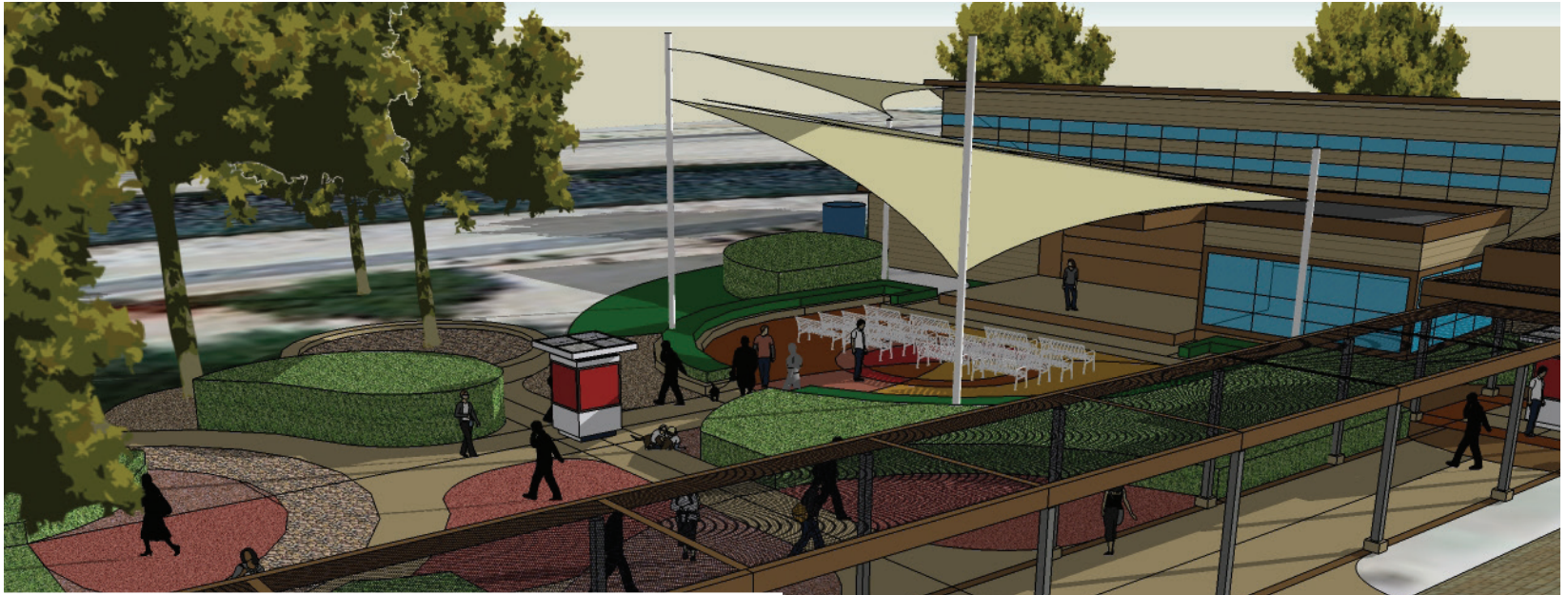
Prototype Image



*“The augmented reality (AR) sandbox allows users to create topography models by shaping real sand, which is then augmented in real time by an elevation color map, topographic contour lines, and simulated water. The system teaches geographic, geologic, and hydrologic concepts such as how to read a topography map, the meaning of contour lines, watersheds, catchment areas, levees, etc.”*









# Planting Areas & Gardens

## 1. QUARTERMASTER GARDEN

This garden would be planted with historic plants that were available at the time. Farm to table.

## DEMONSTRATION GARDENS:

### 2. XERISCAPING

Examples of landscaping with water conservation as a major concern.

### 3. DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

### 4. AGRICULTURE IN THE AREA

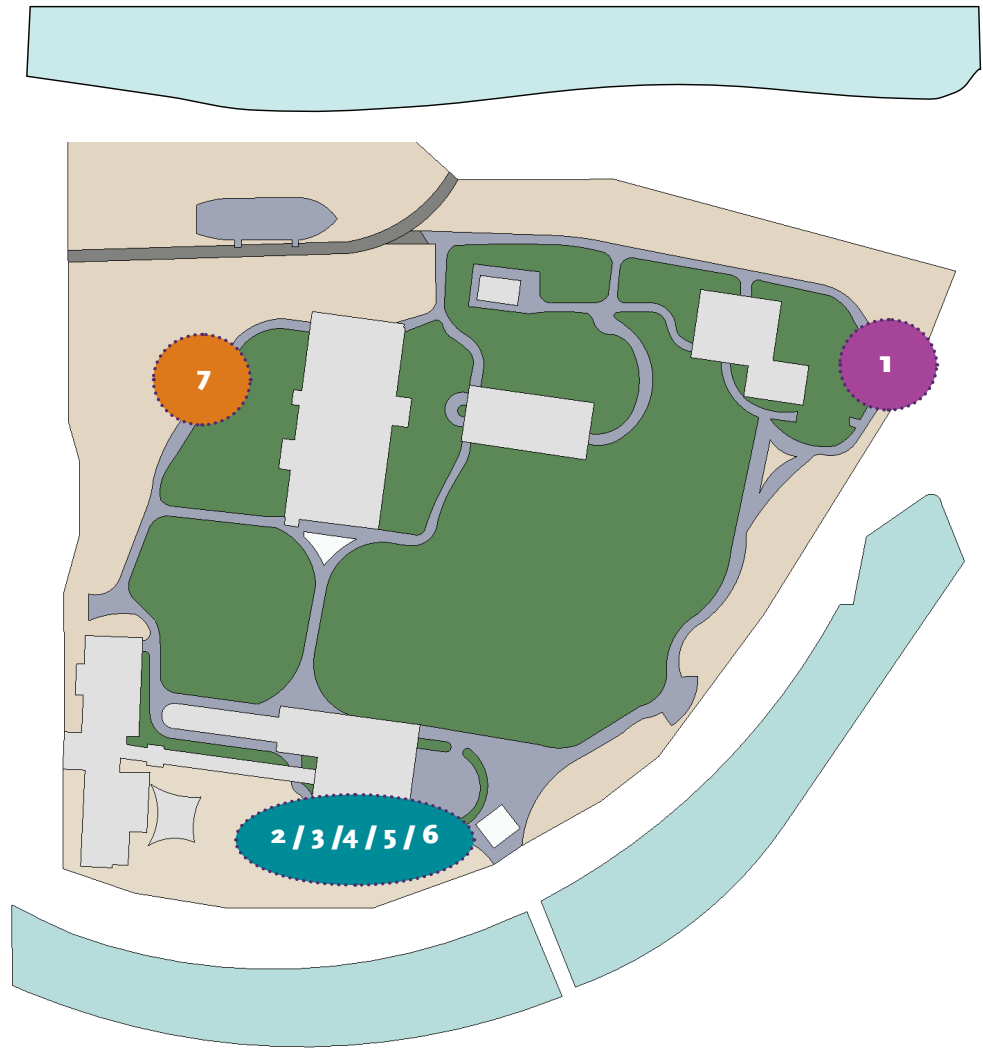
This garden can act as a showcase for some of the latest agricultural developments to offer advantages in water use. Plantings and interpretation, for instance, on drought-resistant species of plants can act as a promotional garden of cutting-edge science. Several regional universities and agricultural labs could partner with the museum to promote their latest developments.

### 5. IRRIGATION METHODS

The various forms of irrigation can be demonstrated in these sample gardens. Furrow, flood and drip irrigation each have specific requirements. The pros and cons of each method can be interpreted on graphic rails around the garden.

### 7. QUECHAN

Examples of native plants and how they were used in their day-to-day life.



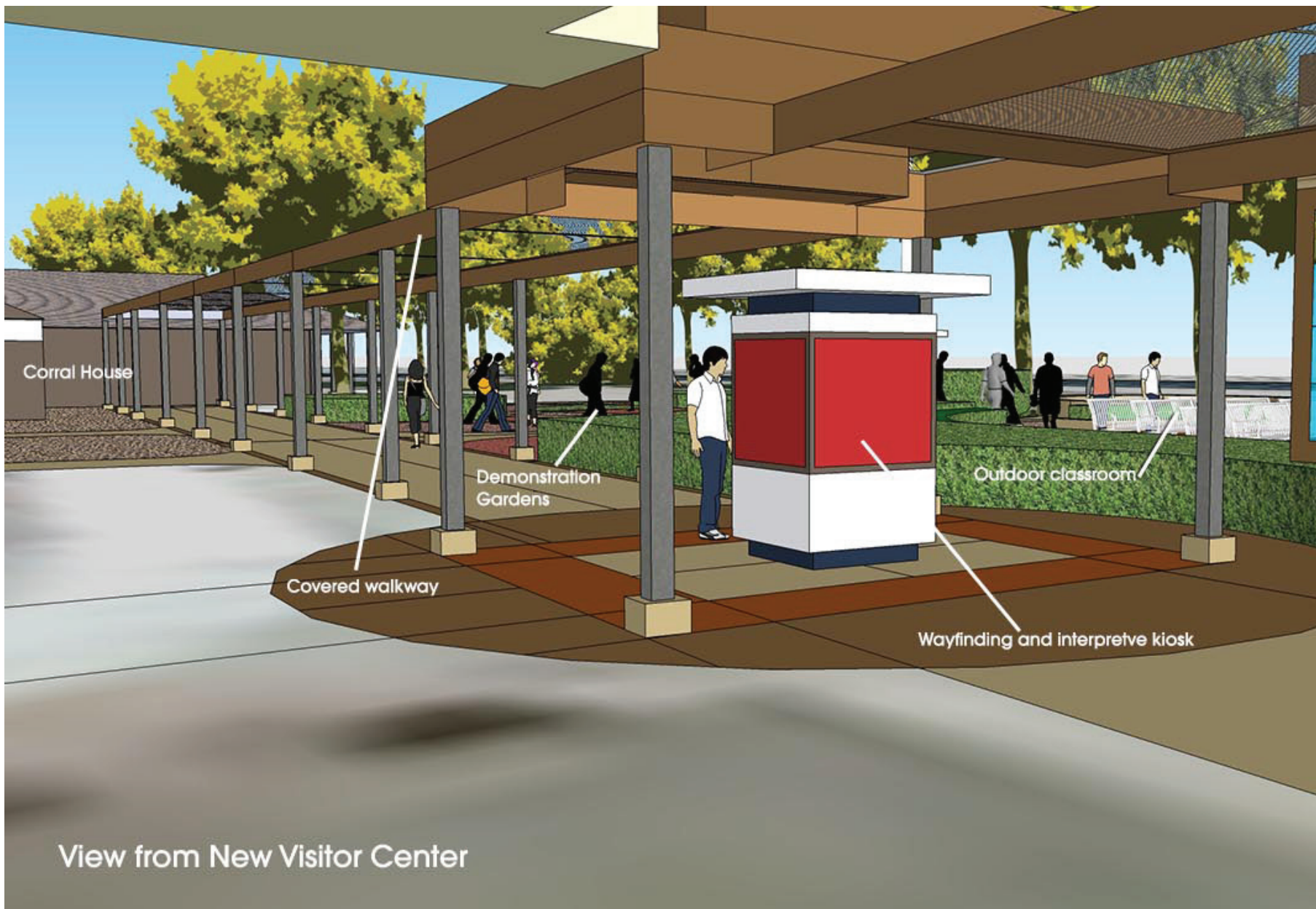


## CONCLUSION

The Center for the Future of the Colorado River intends to raise the awareness of the general public ( and policymakers) of the challenges facing the Colorado River, explaining the history of “how we got here” and the many legitimate needs which compete for this scarce resource.

More importantly, it will open a dialogue among all users of the Colorado River on how – together – we can overcome these considerable challenges through conservation, more efficient use of water and water augmentation.

When called upon, the American people have always risen to the challenge, whether in war, depression, or overcoming enormous physical barriers. Just as at the beginning of the 20th century when America tamed the Colorado River and opened up development of the West, the United States can meet this new challenge of sustaining the Colorado River in the 21st century.





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# Appendix

## Response to the Potential Effect of a new building being built within the National Historic Landmark | Arizona State Parks Review Comments | Cost Estimates

### Response to the Potential Effect of a new building being built within the National Historic Landmark

*June 17, 2014*

The Yuma Quartermaster Depot State Historic Park is located within and serves a key component of the Yuma Crossing National Historic Landmark. Furthermore, it is on land deeded to Arizona State Parks from the federal government by a Quitclaim Deed dated March 19, 1999. The deed contains an Historic Covenant which specifies that the property will “be forever used and maintained as and for historical monument purposes”. Any proposed alterations must involve formal consultation with Arizona SHPO. Finally, the property must be managed in keeping with the approved Program of Preservation and Utilization (PPU), dated March 20, 1997. The major improvements undertaken by Arizona State Parks in the period 1997-1999 were completed in keeping with the PPU and in consultation with Arizona SHPO. Therefore, the new proposed interpretive master plan to tell the story of the past, present and future of the Colorado River must respond to the approach contained within the PPU.

Generally, the new interpretive plan utilizes the historic buildings as venues to tell various elements of the history of the Colorado River within the appropriate setting. For example, the historic adobes of the Quartermaster era (1850-1880) are used to tell that specific story. The Storehouse building is used to tell the story of dam and canal development by the Bureau of Reclamation, which the building was retrofitted and used as for much of the 20th Century. The major proposed addition on the north side of the Storehouse is a structural

abstraction of a steamboat. This is a key interpretive element, as much of the facility’s connection to the river has been lost with the dramatic shrinkage of the Colorado River over the past century. With so much of the rivers’ historic context lost, it is critical that interpretation must be used to supplement the telling of the steamboat era.

Therefore, the major issue which needs to be addressed in the plan is the proposed addition of a new building adjacent to the existing entrance building—a new building that would tell the story of the future of the Colorado River. In assessing any potential impact on the NHL, this analysis relies substantially on the approach contained within the existing Plan of Program and Utilization—the plan which served as the foundation for the new development which was completed in the period 1997-1999.

The PPU segments the facilities within the park into three components: “historic buildings”, “passive recreational facilities, including indoor and outdoor interpretive exhibits and “service facilities” which include the Visitor Center/non-historic structure, amphitheater, parking, restrooms, and utilities. (Pages 8-9). Integrating these three components—all of which are essential—is central to the PPU.

In discussing the historic significance of the entire site, the analysis notes that, “Over the past century, considerable original historic fabric has been destroyed by subsequent construction on the site for other purposes, such as the irrigation canals”. (Page 10) The original corral yard area was bisected by construction of the Yuma Main Canal and effectively destroyed.

Certain of the PPU’s development standards (page 13) are instructive as well:

Development must be limited to that which are essential for visitor accommodation and

appreciation of the event, feature or theme for which the area was established.

Pertinent historical themes will be emphasized through interpretation and development

The proposed new building to tell the story of the future of the Colorado River is purposely located adjacent to the existing new Visitors Center building to lessen any impact on the historic resources. It will be on part of the land of the corral yard whose historic integrity was lost more than 100 years ago. The building will be clearly modern in appearance (and reflective of its theme) so that there is no confusion as to its role within the park. Ultimately, telling the story of the future of the Colorado River within one of the existing historic resources would not have done justice to the historic buildings themselves nor to the interpretive theme itself.

Finally, the PPU envisioned a plan which would attract between 52,000 and 76,800 people per year, which would help sustain the park’s historic resources. (Page 18) Admissions have never approached these numbers. Combined with the deep recession and drastic reductions in state funding, the entire business model for the park has had to be rethought—which led to this new plan.



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## Arizona State Parks Review Comments on the Interpretive Plan

Thank you for submitting the Interpretive Site Plan for Arizona State Park review. Below, please find comments that reflect the input of the ASP Curator, Interpretive Education Manager, Executive Consultant, Development Project Manager, Chief of Operations, and Executive Director for Parks & Development:

- This Interpretive Site Plan is an expanded subsection of the Draft Master Plan for the Yuma Quartermaster Depot and Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Parks. The Draft Master plan has not been approved by the Arizona State Parks Board, so we are concerned about moving forward with this expanded version until the draft has been agreed upon.
- The plan proposes a “Future of the River” building be added to the park. This is an amendment to the Draft Master Plan and would need to be approved.
- The enclosed porch and Steamboat Structure are both listed in the Draft Master Plan and are acceptable to ASP. Obviously, we would like to see more detail for the proposed Steamboat Structure.
- On Page 2 we would like to see the addition of at least 2 goals that specifically address the interpretation of the history of the site. For example: To enhance interpretation of the historic uses and elements of the Quarter Master Depot.
- We encourage Hadley Exhibits Inc., to review the previous planning documents already developed (Southwest Scenic Group, 2002; ASP Interpretive Education Team, 2005; Hadley Exhibits, 2007) to help provide more detail as related to historic themes.
- Both Visitor Traffic Flow plans are confusing, but Plan 1 more closely fits the conceptual map of past to present to future.

The Following Comments relate to Plan 1:

### 3. WATER FILM - THEATER

We are concerned with the addition of a Theatre in the Military Storehouse.

- a. Since the building is not air-conditioned, sitting through a presentation will be uncomfortable. There are also major building repairs needed to the storehouse.
- b. It complicates the visitor flow patterns in both suggested versions. We recommend keeping an orientation video available in the expanded Visitor Center.

### 4 – 7. INTERPRETIVE EXHIBITS GROUPED UNDER SHADE STRUCTURE

- a. The 1875 Southern Pacific coach car is currently in this area. Are you proposing moving this, and if so where? If you are not moving the coach car, how will it be interpreted?
- b. What are the themes you will be featuring in the “Exploration 1800-1900” area? Will a discussion related to the establishment of Ft. Yuma and establishment of the QMD be in this area?

### 11. STOREHOUSE – CROSSING RIVER AND MOVING SUPPLIES

Is this the main interpretation of the “Quartermaster” story. What sub-themes will be in the space?

### 13 & 14. COMMANDING OFFICER QUARTERS & KITCHEN AND OFFICE OF THE DEPOT QUARTERMASTER.

Will these buildings be period rooms or exhibit spaces, or a combination of both? What sub-themes will be addressed?

### 20. CORRAL HOUSE

It is not clear if you propose using the small rooms as well as the main block area. Will vendors still be using some of this space or will it be exhibit areas?

### 19 & 13. ADDITIONAL PARK ACCESS POINTS

Will these gates be open during regular business hours, and if so, we see difficulties with visitor traffic flow.



## Cost Estimate

Building Design & Construction Cost Estimates as per the Colorado River Interpretive Plan for the Colorado River State Historic Park

The following is a preliminary estimate for the above facilities based on the detail we have at the Master Planning Level. Since finishes, space articulation in the building and exhibit needs for lighting and power have yet to be determined, this estimate is the best conservative approximation possible at this point in time

### Center for the Future of the Colorado River (including connection with the Visitor's Center and Stage area total 5,600 sq. ft.)

At a projected construction cost of \$400 per sq. ft. the cost for this would be .....	\$2,240,000
Design cost for the building approximated at 15% of building cost would be.....	\$ 336,000
Design, fabrication and installation of exhibits.....	\$1,300,000
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$3,876,000</b>

### Outdoor campus surrounding the Center for the Future of the Colorado River (including trellis, tensile structure and amphitheater garden area)

Construction of Tensile Structure .....	\$60,000
Design and Construction of Trellis Structure of 2,000 sq. ft. to Corral House.....	\$485,000
Design and Construction of garden/amphitheater area .....	\$525,000
Design, fabrication and installation of exhibits .....	\$125,000
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$1,195,000</b>

### Changes to the Existing Visitor Center Building

Enclosure of porch area (to become introduction of river story at Visitor Center)Design and Construction of enclosure.....	\$287,500.
Design, fabrication and installation of exhibits .....	\$300,000
Design, production and installation of new introductory film and theater in existing space .....	\$200,000
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>\$787,500</b>

### Steamboat Structural Abstraction

Design, construction and installation of multi-level observation decks and exhibits within space.

**Subtotal .....** **\$1,039,000\*\***

\*\* A second lower cost option of a steamboat façade treatment for \$200,000 was presented and rejected.

### Storehouse

*Exhibits for interpretation of the Quartermaster Depot and the Bureau of Reclamation*

Design, construction and installation of interior and exterior exhibits

**Subtotal.....** **\$1,650,000**

### Quartermaster's Office & House

Design, construction and installation of interior and exterior exhibits

**Subtotal.....** **\$120,000**

### Corral House – Exhibits to interpret Yuma

Design, construction and installation of interior exhibits

**Subtotal.....** **\$200,000**

### Exterior Historic Trail wayfinding interpretive elements and shade structures

Design, construction and installation of wayfinding / interp. elements .....

\$300,000

Design, construction and installation of shade structures .....

\$150,000

Design, construction and installation of interpretive elements .....

\$98,000

**Subtotal.....** **\$548,000**

**TOTAL.....** **\$9,415,500**



# COLORADO RIVER STATE HISTORIC PARK MASTER PLAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The re-imagining of this park was a considerable undertaking, which would not have been possible without the generous financial support of the Walton Family Foundation. Two consultants, Deardorff Design Resources and Hadley Exhibits, who have been involved with the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area for 15 years, were instrumental in bringing this new vision to life. Arizona State Parks staff, Arizona

SHPO, and the National Park Service were all helpful with making sure that the National Historic Landmark – in which this park is located – was respected and considered in the drafting of the plan.

It is our hope that this park will foster a dialogue to preserve and sustain the Colorado River through the 21st century and beyond.





# CONCLUSION

## NEXT STEPS

This is an ambitious master plan, as any visionary document should be. The challenge with any master plan is to identify next steps and early-action projects to generate momentum and credibility for the plan.

### 1) Early Action

- Rename QMD to the Colorado River State Historic Park (*completed*). Enclose the Colorado River Room to the north of the Visitor Information Center (*completed*), and install the John Wesley Powell animatronic exhibit and evolutionary model of the Colorado River.
- Seek funding from multiple private foundations for build-out of \$9.5 million expansion of the Colorado River State Historic Park.
- Rebuild Yuma Territorial Prison walls on either side of the Sally Port.
- Develop virtual reality exhibits to interpret the “Lost Prison”

### 2) Creating a long-term partnership

Adoption of this plan by Arizona State Parks, the City of Yuma, and the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area will signal their mutual commitment to undertake major improvements to the two state parks in Yuma. The Heritage Area will need to serve as the project manager, and take the lead in seeking federal, state, and private foundation grants for the project. Within the significant budget constraints which exist, it is hoped that over time the City of Yuma and Arizona State Parks can make additional capital contributions, with Arizona State Parks focused on conservation and preservation of the historic resources and the City of Yuma assisting in improvements to make the parks more financially self-sustaining.



The Colorado River is diverted to both Phoenix and Los Angeles at Parker Dam



*PHOTO RIGHT: A new granite timeline of the Prison's history was installed in 2013*



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# THIS MASTER PLAN IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF GERALD A. DOYLE

A Navy veteran of World War II, a graduate of Western Reserve University [ B.A., Architecture, 1948] and Harvard University [M.A., Architecture, 1951], Gerald Doyle settled in Phoenix in 1962 and practiced until 2006. Gerald A. Doyle and Associates, became recognized as the preeminent historic architectural firm in Arizona. His 1984 ground-breaking study for Yuma, "A Master Plan for the Yuma Crossing" has served as the inspiration of three decades of work to reconnect Yuma with its river and its history. While not all of the plan's recommendations were adopted, it is clear that many of his visionary concepts have become a reality in the wetlands restoration of the East Wetlands, the development of West Wetlands Park, and public/private partnerships which have revitalized the downtown riverfront.

It is hoped that the creative thinking contained in this master plan is in keeping with the spirit with which Gerald Doyle lived and practiced his craft.

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YUMA  
TERRITORIAL  
PRISON  
EST. 1875  
*Museum*



COLORADO RIVER  
STATE HISTORIC PARK

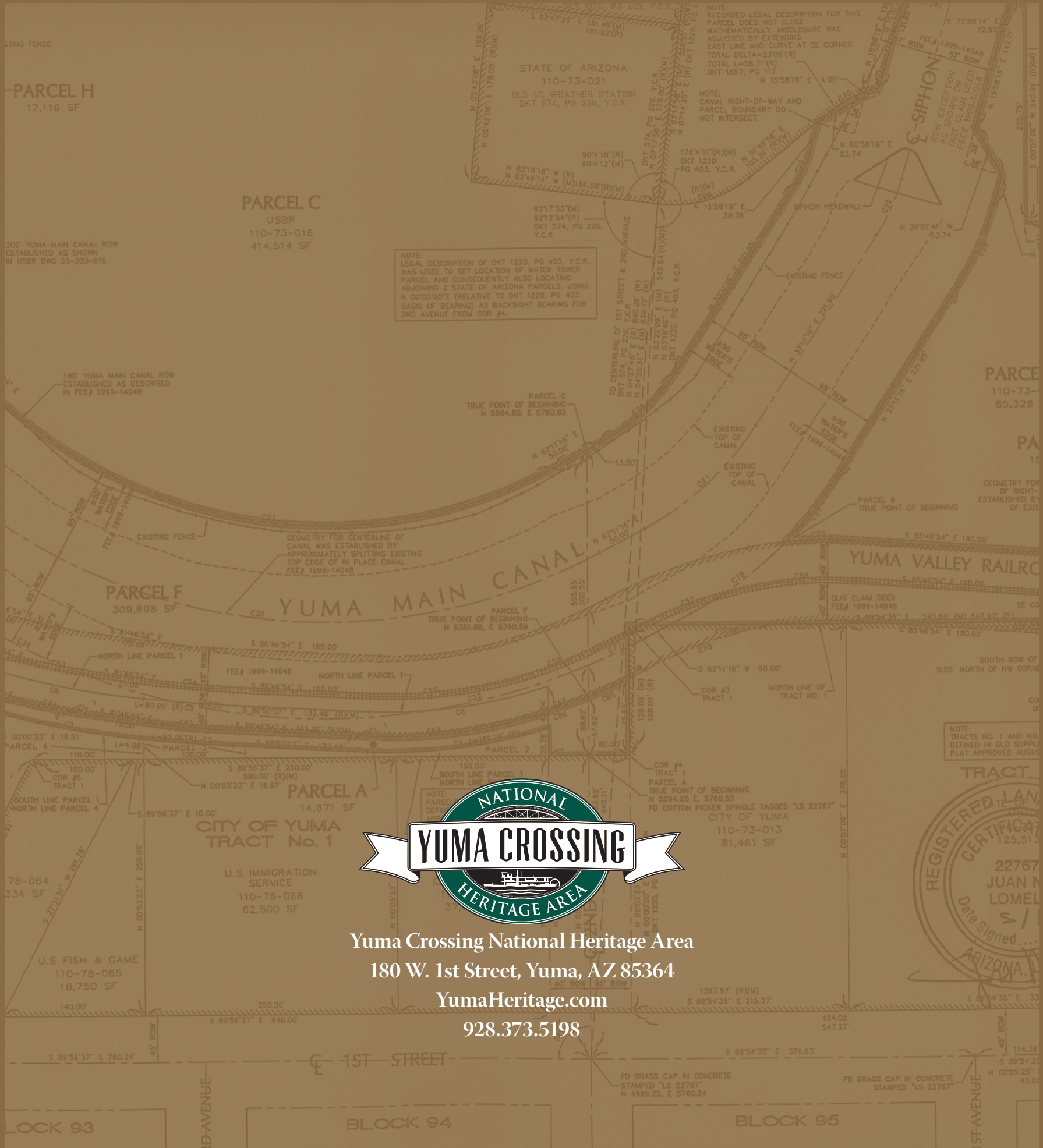




# Moving Forward







PARCEL H  
17,116 SF

PARCEL C  
USBR  
110-73-016  
414,514 SF

200' YUMA MAIN CANAL ROW  
ESTABLISHED AS SHOWN  
IN USBR DWG 35-303-616

190' YUMA MAIN CANAL ROW  
ESTABLISHED AS DESCRIBED  
IN FEE# 1999-14048

PARCEL F  
309,698 SF

PARCEL A  
14,671 SF

CITY OF YUMA  
TRACT No. 1

U.S. IMMIGRATION  
SERVICE  
110-78-066  
62,500 SF

U.S. FISH & GAME  
110-78-065  
18,750 SF



Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area

180 W. 1st Street, Yuma, AZ 85364

YumaHeritage.com

928.373.5198

1ST STREET

BLOCK 94

BLOCK 95

LOCK 93

2ND AVENUE

1ST AVENUE

NOTE:  
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF DKT 1220, PG 403, Y.C.R.,  
WAS USED TO SET LOCATION OF WATER TOWER  
PARCEL AND CONSEQUENTLY ALSO LOCATING  
ADJOINING 2 STATE OF ARIZONA PARCELS, USING  
N 00°00'00"E (RELATIVE TO DKT 1220, PG 403)  
BASIS OF BEARING) AS BACKSIGHT BEARING FOR  
2ND AVENUE FROM COR #4.

NOTE:  
RECORDED LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR THIS  
PARCEL DOES NOT CLOSE  
MATHEMATICALLY. MISCLASURE WAS  
ADJUSTED BY EXTENDING  
EAST LINE AND CURVE AT SE CORNER.  
TOTAL DELTA=23°06'(R)  
TOTAL L=58.71'(R)  
DKT 1667, PG 117

NOTE:  
CANAL RIGHT-OF-WAY AND  
PARCEL BOUNDARY DO  
NOT INTERSECT.

NOTE:  
TRACTS NO. 1 AND NO.  
DEFINED IN GLO SUPPLY  
PLAT APPROVED AUGUS

