

Quitobaquito Irrigation Canals



Identification:

Preferred Structure Name:	Quitobaquito Irrigation Canals				
Structure Number:	HS13C				
Other Structure Name(s):	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Other Structure Name(s)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>SON B:4:27</td> </tr> </table>	Other Structure Name(s)		1.	SON B:4:27
Other Structure Name(s)					
1.	SON B:4:27				
Park:	Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument				
Historic District:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Historic District</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">No records.</td> </tr> </table>	Historic District		No records.	
Historic District					
No records.					
Structure State:	Arizona				
Structure County:	Pima				
Region:	Intermountain				
Cluster:	Southwest				
Administrative Unit:	Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument				
LCS ID:	056751				

Historical Significance:

National Register Status:	Determined Eligible - SHPO
National Register Date:	08/18/1994
National Historic Landmark?:	No
Significance Level:	State
Short Significance Description:	The Quitobaquito Irrigation Canals, Organ Pipe NM, were determined eligible as contributing elements, regional level, Criteria D, likely to yield archeological information in the future about agricultural systems in the harsh environment of the Sonoran Desert. Period of significance, 1860-1957.

Long Significance Description:

The Quitobaquito Irrigation Canals, Organ Pipe NM, were determined eligible as contributing elements for the NR, at the state level of significance, under NR Criteria D, likelihood to yield information important in history about a successful agricultural system in the harsh environment of the Sonoran Desert, with the period of significance, 1860-1957.

Quitobaquito Springs is significant because it is a cultural landscape that reflects the occupation and interaction of several different ethnic groups with the springs, basin, flats, and hills at Quitobaquito from prehistoric times to the present period. With two or more flowing springs, Quitobaquito has served as a crucial water source for travel and trade, settlement and habitation, exploration and migration, and irrigation and agriculture. The continuity of occupation ranges from San Dieguito use in 9000 BC to Hia-Ced-O'odham habitation until AD 1957 and ongoing ceremonial use by the Hia-Ced O'odham and Tohono O'odham. Included are prehistoric and historic sites of habitation and occupation, historic irrigation, as well as two main springs, a human-made pond, and sites of a fig and pomegranate orchard and adjacent corn field.

The Determination of Eligibility for the Quitobaquito Irrigation Canals was signed by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer on August 18, 1994.

Construction Period:

Construction Period:

Historic

Chronology:

	Physical Event	Begin Year	Begin		End		Designer	Designer Occupation
			Year AD/BC	Year	Year AD/BC	Year		
1.	Built	1860	AD	1865	AD	Dorsey, Andrew	Other	
2.	Restored	1900	AD	1920	AD	Childs, Thomas	Other	

Function and Use:

Primary Historic Function:

Irrigation Facility

Primary Current Use:

Ruin

Structure Contains Museum Collections?:

No

Other Functions or Uses:

Other Function(s) or Use(s) Historic or Current No records.
--

Physical Description:

Structure Type: Ruin

Square Feet: 2000

Material(s):

Structural Component(s)		Material(s)
1.	Superstructure	Earth
2.	Substructure	Earth

Short Physical Description: Series of canals which carry water to the pond & canals that irrigate fields w/ water from the pond. Canal 1.5m wide w/ 1 segment 55m long, another 25m. In 1940s there were over 4000' of ditches.

Long Physical Description: The Quitobaquito Irrigation Canals were developed in the early 1860s by the first Anglo settler, Andrew Dorsey, and served two functions: to deliver water from several natural springs to a hand dug pond (created from a shallow cienega); and to distribute pond water to the agricultural fields and orchard planted by Dorsey. One of the canals originates at a spring that is located 65 meters southwest of the southwest main Quitobaquito spring. This spring is situated at the juncture of the lower bajada slope with the upper basin, and was modified by the excavation of a pool around it to enhance its flow. The canal flowing from this spring, 4 1/2' wide by 76' long, heads in a westerly direction where it is collected in a second canal, 4 1/2' wide by 167' long and collected in the pond. The second set of canals west of the pond were not measured due to vegetative overgrowth. These canals served for irrigating the orchard and fields from the early 1860's to the 1890's and were re-excavated and utilized again beginning in the early 1900s by Thomas Childs, who married an Hia C'ed O'odham woman from Quitobaquito and settled there.