



Cliff Notes

The official Newspaper of
Tonto National Monument
Issue No. 6 2008/2009



THE APACHE CONNECTION



Photo circa 1908, after Roosevelt Lake began to fill.

Photo by permission of the Denver Public Library Western History Collection, Z-5857

Yavapai-Apache presence on the land at the monument has always been overshadowed by the cliff dwellings ...

Tonto National Monument was set aside via Presidential proclamation in December 1907 by Theodore Roosevelt in order to protect and preserve two prehistoric cliff dwellings. Since then, the National Park Service (NPS) has identified over 70 archeological sites in the monument; most of these date to the 14th century, one has been dated to as early as 10,500 BP (before present), and 8 are Yavapai-Apache sites located in the backcountry. All of our backcountry sites have received little attention in the past, primarily because funding has not been available until recently to focus on these resources. Recent archeological research indicates that Yavapai-Apache groups have maintained a strong presence in and around monument lands for hundreds of years.

The NPS recognizes the need to incorporate Native American voices into our interpretive materials at Tonto National Monument. With the recent discovery of an Apache Roosevelt Dam construction camp in the monument, the NPS is asking tribal members to share their stories about this important historic time period.

The Apache camp was discovered in 2007 by Western Mapping Company, a contractor hired to survey all sites in the monument. Finding a tulpai strainer (tulpai is a fermented beverage) and ash bread grill lying on the ground were instrumental in identifying the site. Both items were found near a cluster of wickiup rings (the "footprints" left from homes made of bent poles covered with brush and grass). On further inspection, three separate artifact scatters were found, each associated with wickiup rings and clearings. Artifacts found include metal cans, buckets, glass, a shotgun shell and a purple glass bottle stopper. Many of these artifacts, particularly the cans, appear to have been used for other purposes.

THE APACHE CONNECTION

In 1986, the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) contracted Dames and Moore Cultural Resources Services to conduct historical studies of dam construction camps in central Arizona. Remnants of six Apache camps in the Roosevelt area were investigated. These camps were a previously undocumented aspect of the Roosevelt Dam construction community. The only reference made to them was a 1903 map bearing a label “Ind. Camp” near the diversion dam about 10 miles south of the main construction site.

Indian populations were most undoubtedly under-reported, as the 1910 census only recorded 66 Indians living in the “barrio” area of Newtown (Roosevelt). Based on archeological evidence found during the later investigations, population estimates could have been as high as 400 people just at the largest camp, which was located near Cottonwood Creek.



This wire grill, probably used to roast ash breads (a tortilla-like bread made with flour, water, and baking powder) was found in an Apache camp in Tonto National Monument.
NPS Photo

As the Dames and Moore project progressed, the subtle nature of these Apache sites became more apparent. Barely visible, leveled platforms in the slopes indicated where wickiups had once stood (some camps were reestablished in somewhat inaccessible locations in 1908 after the reservoir began to fill, forcing workers from the more level areas). The researchers noted that “artifacts were remarkably sparse at wickiup features,” and that “many appear to be scavenged items.”

Indeed, the Apaches were very resourceful in using cast off items, making cups with handles by bending back the lids of discarded tin cans and puncturing buckets with old nails to make strainers. They also wove old baling wire into grills to roast traditional ash breads over campfires. Blasting powder cans were used as storage bins, and empty canvas cement bags were used as tarps to cover their wickiups (see photo on front page). Almost anything discarded as refuse was turned into something useful.



This bucket, also found in an Apache camp in Tonto National Monument, is a tulpai strainer. Tulpai is a mildly alcoholic beverage made from sprouted, ground, and fermented corn.
NPS Photo

As part of a cultural affiliation study in May of 2008, tribal representatives from the Yavapai-Apache Nation visited the Apache dam construction site and examined some of the artifacts that NPS archeologists had collected from the camp. The intent of this study is to ask for tribal perspectives on the monument’s cultural resources. Information shared by the tribes will be incorporated into our museum exhibits, which are currently undergoing renovation.

Tribal representatives were particularly interested in the historic camps, since many of them had family members that had worked on Roosevelt Dam and the Apache Trail. Although no one had specific stories about the camps here in the monument, they were familiar with their layout and the types of items found in them. For example, they found pieces of cut cans used to make metal tinklers in various stages of manufacture on the ground. This is something that our NPS archeologists did not recognize. Another important insight gained from them concerned the difficulty in identifying wickiup rings and Apache sites in general. The Apache intentionally disassembled wickiup rings and scattered or covered discarded items in an effort to “leave no trace” on the land and return it to its natural appearance.

Apache participation in the construction of Roosevelt Dam and the Apache Trail is an important part of the history of the Tonto Basin. Very little of that story has been told. This is a great opportunity for tribal representatives to share stories and information about the historic Apache occupation of the monument.



More than 1,500 Apache men and their families moved to the Roosevelt area to work on the Apache Trail or Roosevelt Dam.
Photo by permission of the Gila County Historical Society

THE APACHE TRAIL

Apache crews worked on many jobs at Roosevelt including quarrying stone, digging canals, erecting power lines, and mixing cement. However, they were most known for their dry masonry skills in building roads, and specifically for the “Apache Trail.”

Before work could begin on Roosevelt Dam in 1903, a 62-mile road had to be built from the town of Mesa to the dam site. It was a difficult task carving the road through rugged canyons and across mountains so that heavy equipment and supplies could be transported to the dam site.

The original foot and horse trail along the Salt River had been used by the Apaches as they migrated between their summer homes in the high country and their winter homes in the basin.

Completed in 1905, the Apache Trail cost more than \$250,000 to construct. In its first year of operation, 1.5 million tons of freight was transported to the dam site over the road. It also carried thousands of tourists who came to watch the construction of the dam.

Despite the fact that State Route 88 (today’s designation) has been named the “Apache Trail,” few people realize that Apache laborers actually built the road. Almost 400 Apaches worked under brutal summertime conditions to complete the trail. Some of the most difficult and dangerous work had to be done by hand. It is said that some workers had to trek up to 4 miles just to obtain drinking water.



This Apache worker is shown with a team and scraper, tools that were used to build the Apache Trail. He is actually excavating the power canal near Livingston which was built to supply water to the dam site to drive the turbines and generate electricity. The electricity powered the winches used to lower stones and materials into place on the dam.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT RECOGNIZES THE APACHE CONTRIBUTION ...

On March 18, 1911, President Theodore Roosevelt was in Arizona to dedicate the dam ...

“A contingent of thirty Apache laborers was almost lost in the crowd, but Roosevelt paused before a banner that read “Apaches Helped Build Roosevelt Dam,” and he shook hands with several of them, expressed his thanks for their efforts and presented them with awards.
From *Raising Arizona’s Dams*, page 132

Photos by permission of the Salt River Project



Be Sure to Mark Your Calendar for this Spectacular Program!

Come to a fun-filled family evening while enjoying the Arizona night sky! This professionally presented program will include:

- A multi-media presentation about the moon, stars, planets and constellations.
- Instruction on how to use binoculars or set up your home telescope to view the night sky.
- Instruction on how to identify bright stars and constellations.
- Information about the Challenger Space Center of Arizona.
- Folklore from different cultures about the night sky and other interesting sky facts and fiction.
- Viewing of planets, star clusters, and galaxies through professional telescopes.
- Star Chart handouts and upcoming sky events to watch for.
- An opportunity to take photos of the moon using your digital camera and the telescopes.

Special equipment for wheelchair access telescope viewing is available. Please call (623) 979-1393 to identify any special needs prior to attending the program.

Bring your binoculars, family telescope and digital camera!



United States Forest Service
Tonto Basin Ranger District



National Park Service
Tonto National Monument

Fun Facts About the Gila Monster

Lives mostly in the Sonoran desert of Arizona and Mexico and is the only poisonous lizard in North America.

If bitten by one, its powerful jaws usually have to be pried open, unless the animal chooses to let go! (They will hiss and spit at you before biting).

Can reach lengths of nearly 2 feet and weigh nearly 2 pounds!

Spend most of their time underground ... prolonged inactive periods allow them to conserve energy, keep cool and avoid dehydration.

Are *diurnal*, or active during favorable conditions, day or night.

The bead patterns are unique to each individual .. just like fingerprints!

Is the only North American lizard that lays eggs.

Its beadlike appearance is the result of small bones called *osteoderms* under its skin.

Its favorite food is eggs ... unfortunately they often eat their own eggs, which does little to help the survival of the species.

Can live up to 30 years. Threatened with extinction, the species is protected by law in both the U.S. and Mexico.



Tony and Carole La Conte, professional stargazers with over 50 years experience viewing the night sky.

“Our programs are enjoyed by more than 75,000 students, teachers, parents and community members every year.”
Tony La Conte, NASA Solar System Ambassador

This **FREE** program is open to the general public. No reservations are needed.

Location: Windy Hill Amphitheater
at Roosevelt Lake

Date: Saturday January 31st

Time: 7- 9 pm

The Windy Hill amphitheater is located at Roosevelt Lake. From Payson, take SR 87 towards Phoenix for 17 miles. Turn left on SR 188 for 36.5 miles. (The Windy Hill turnoff is 4.5 miles past Roosevelt Dam). Follow the Windy Hill road for 2 miles to the amphitheater on your left.

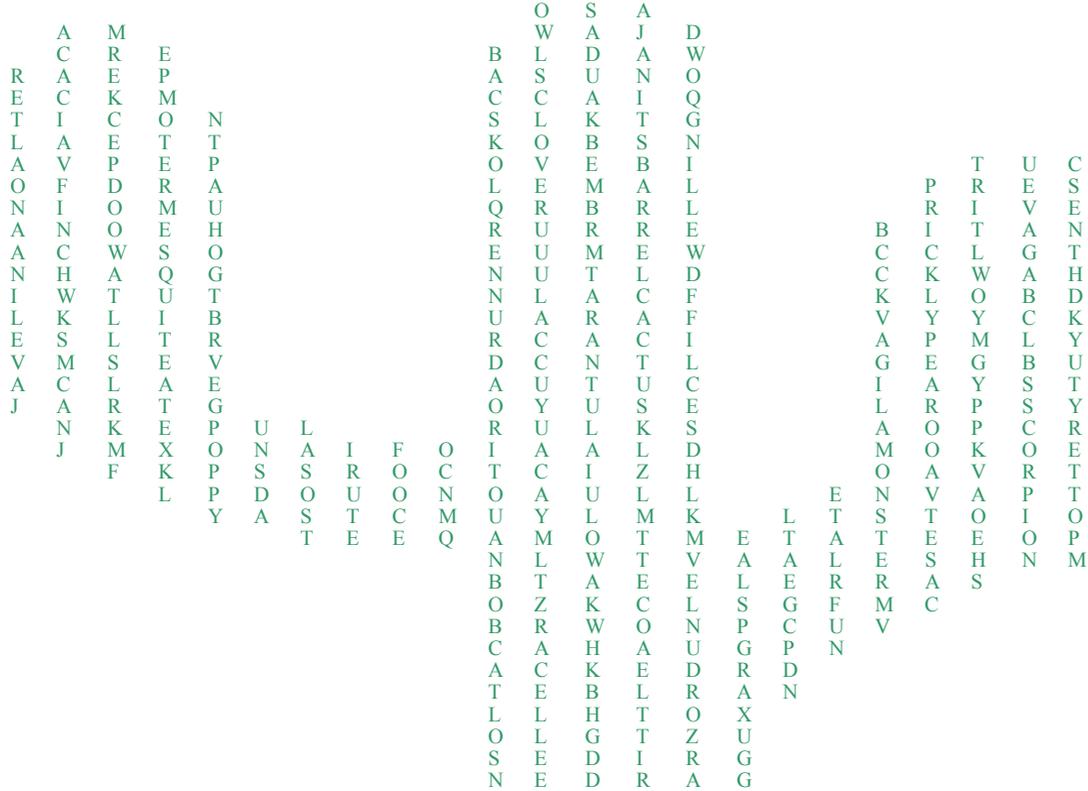
From Globe, take SR 188 for 25 miles to the Windy Hill turnoff (MP 240). Follow the Windy Hill road for 2 miles to the amphitheater on your left.



Besides measuring the length, obtaining the weight, and determining the gender of this Gila Monster, the researcher will measure the diameter of this young Gila Monster’s tail. As the tail is used for storing fat, a “fat” tail is a strong indicator for good health. Besides eggs, Gila Monsters eat small mammals, birds, other lizards, and insects.

Prickly Puzzle

Listed below are 32 names of plants, artifacts and animals of Tonto National Monument. Try to find the names listed below hidden in the Saguaro! Answers read vertically, horizontally, or diagonally.



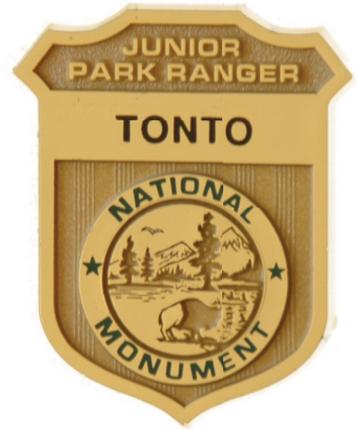
- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Acacia | Gila Monster | Pottery | Tarantula |
| Agave | Grid Garden | Prickly Pear | Toad |
| Barrel Cactus | Hawk | Pueblo | Wash |
| Bobcat | Javelina | Pygmy Owl | Woodpecker |
| Cholla | Lion | Quail | Yucca |
| Cliff Dwelling | Mesquite | Rattlesnake | |
| Coyote | Metate | Road Runner | |
| Creosote | Owls Clover | Saguaro | |
| Finch | Poppy | Scorpion | |

Become A Junior Ranger!

Becoming a Junior Ranger is a great way to explore your national parks while learning how you can help take care of them for the future. Pick up your activity sheet at the Visitor Center or go online to:

www.nps.gov/tont

Click on "For Kids" and then "Junior Web Ranger." Complete the activities for your age group and return your activity sheet to the Visitor Center (or by mail) to earn a Tonto National Monument Junior Ranger badge.



What Do Gila Monsters And Prickly Pear Cacti Have In Common?



- Both can have painful or, even dangerous consequences if handled!
- Both are giving new hope in the fight against type 2 diabetes, a disease that affects more than 18 million Americans.

Scientists at the University of Arizona are studying substances found in the pads and fruit of the prickly pear cactus that have been found to lower blood sugar and LDL or the "bad" cholesterol. The use of prickly pear, or *nopal* as it is known in Mexico, has been found to reduce the amount of insulin required by diabetics.

Scientists have also isolated a hormone in the saliva produced by Gila Monsters which stimulates insulin secretion and reduces blood sugar levels. The synthetic version of the drug is now available by prescription.

Eastern Arizona College's Gila Monster logo created by Reg Manning

Plan Your Visit

Tonto National Monument is located 30 miles northwest of Globe on Highway 188. Driving time from Phoenix, Scottsdale or Mesa is approximately 2 to 2 1/2 hours; from Tucson or Flagstaff, 3 to 3 1/2 hours.

The Visitor Center has a small museum, bookstore, viewing deck, and 18 minute orientation video and is open daily (except Christmas Day) from 8 am to 5 pm. The park also has a picnic area for your enjoyment with restrooms.

Self-Guided Lower Cliff Dwelling Trail

A paved trail winds its way through the Sonoran desert to the Lower Cliff Dwelling. You will climb 350 vertical feet, so be prepared for a steep climb. Signs along the trail provide information about the desert plants, geology of the area, and the lives of the ancient Salado. Sit on one of several benches along the path and enjoy the beautiful view of Roosevelt Lake. Once you arrive at the dwelling, walk through homes that were last occupied 700 years ago. On your return walk, the Cactus Patch Trail branches off the main trail and ends in the parking lot. Learn how desert plants have adapted to arid conditions and how the Salado used these plants to provide food, shelter, and clothing. Bring water, sunscreen and a hat with you. The one mile roundtrip walk takes about an hour to complete so plan to arrive at the park no later than 4 pm. Allow extra time to visit the museum, bookstore, and watch the video.

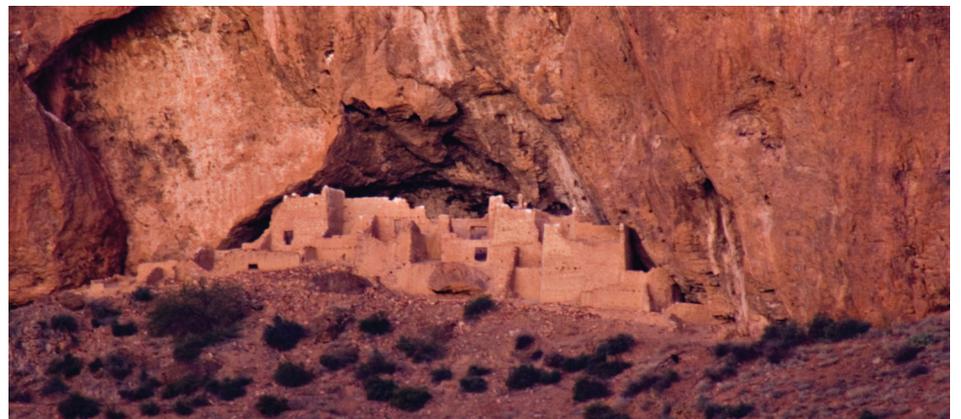


Lower Cliff Dwelling

Upper Cliff Dwelling Tours

Early Bird tours of the Upper Cliff Dwelling are offered on Saturdays at 8:15 am in October and May. During the winter season (November through April), rangers give guided tours to the Upper Cliff Dwelling. Tours are offered every weekend. Additional weekday tours are added as visitation increases. This 3 mile roundtrip backcountry trail travels through a riparian area by way of a creekbed, then gains 600 feet in elevation via switchbacks. The tour lasts 3-3 1/2 hours. Full moon hikes to the Upper Cliff Dwelling for experienced hikers are offered in the winter months. Reservations are required for all Upper Cliff Dwelling tours. See page 7 for a *Schedule of Special Events and Tours*.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CALL THE MONUMENT AT (928) 467-2241.

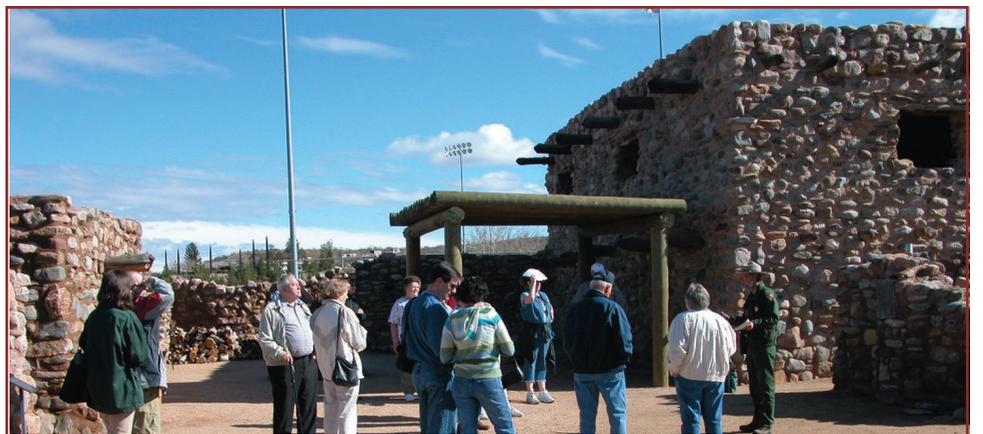


Upper Cliff Dwelling

Off-Site Tours

Off-site tours are offered through agreements with Tonto National Forest and Besh Ba Gowah Archaeological Park in Globe.

- The Schoolhouse Platform Mound site is unique in that it was occupied for over 100 years while most other settlements in the basin were smaller and were occupied only briefly. People from neighboring villages apparently moved to the Schoolhouse Platform Mound. Why?
- The Cline Terrace Platform Mound site is similar to other sites along the Salt River but it also has several distinct characteristics. There is a massive compound wall around the complex, and many walls are faced with white gypsum. Why? The site must have been quite impressive in the moonlight.
- Besh Ba Gowah is a reconstructed ruin located in the city of Globe. You can walk in the rooms, climb recreated ladders, and enter a typical living area. There is also a museum and ethnobotanical garden at Besh Ba Gowah. The site is on flat ground and there is a \$2.00 per person entry fee.



Visitors enjoy a tour of Besh Ba Gowah with Park Ranger Eddie Colyott.

Open House

- Twice a year, the Upper Cliff Dwelling is open to visitors without a guide for an entire weekend. Uphill travel on the trail is allowed between the hours of 9 am and 2 pm. Regular fees will be charged both days during Open House weekends. There is no fee if you have an Interagency Annual Pass, Interagency Senior Pass, or Interagency Access Pass.

Calendar of Special Events and Tours 2008-2009



October

Saturday 4th	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Saturday 18th	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Saturday 25th	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Saturday 25th	6:00 pm	Lower Cliff Dwelling Evening Program



November

Saturday 1st	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Sat.-Sun. 8-9th		OPEN HOUSE
Thursday 13th	5:00 pm	Upper Cliff Dwelling Full Moon Hike
Saturday 22nd	2:00 pm	Cline Terrace Platform Mound Tour

Upper Cliff Dwelling Tours will be scheduled for Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays beginning Monday November 10th through the month of April. Friday tours are added in January.

December

Saturday 13th	2:00 pm	Schoolhouse Platform Mound Tour
Saturday 13th	5:15 pm	Upper Cliff Dwelling Full Moon Hike
Thursday 25th	CLOSED	Christmas Day

The Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tours, Cline Terrace and Schoolhouse Platform Mound tours do not need reservations.

January

Saturday 17th	2:00 pm	Cline Terrace Platform Mound Tour
Saturday 24th	2:00 pm	Schoolhouse Platform Mound Tour

February

Saturday 7th	2:00 pm	Cline Terrace Platform Mound Tour
Monday 9th	5:30 pm	Upper Cliff Dwelling Full Moon Hike
Saturday 14th	2:00 pm	Schoolhouse Platform Mound Tour

March

Saturday 7th	2:00 pm	Schoolhouse Platform Mound Tour
Saturday 14th		Junior Ranger Day Activities
Sat.-Sun. 21st-22nd		OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 28th	2:00 pm	Cline Terrace Platform Mound Tour

April

Saturday 4th	2:00 pm	Schoolhouse Platform Mound Tour
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May

Saturday 2nd	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Saturday 9th	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Saturday 16th	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Saturday 23rd	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour
Saturday 30th	8:15 am	Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tour

Call (928) 467-2241 ext. 25 for further information and directions to off-site tours.

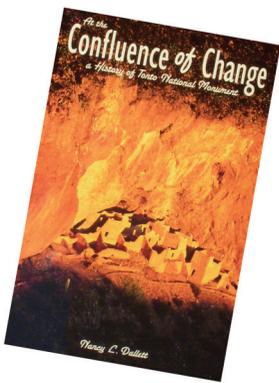
WESTERN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

Western National Parks Association (WNPA) operates bookstores and develops publications and products in support of the educational and research programs of the National Park Service. Since 1938 more than \$32 million has been donated to 65 national parks in 12 western states.

- A \$25 yearly membership entitles you to a 15% discount on purchases in the WNPA bookstore (20% discount for seniors 62 and older).
- Discounts are honored at many other cooperating association bookstores in national park visitor centers nationwide.
- Your membership contribution directly supports research and educational programs at Tonto National Monument.
- We encourage you to order by phone to get publications best suited to your needs. To place an order, call (928) 467-2241 extension 26.
- You can also order via the internet:

www.wnpa.org

FEATURED BOOK



In December of 2007, Tonto National Monument celebrated its first century as a national monument. *At the Confluence of Change* relates the events leading up to protecting these unique cliff dwellings and the work done by the National Park Service to care for and interpret the site.

Paperback \$21.95

LOCAL HISTORY

- The Apache Trail*
A Storybook Guide to Arizona's Historical Highway \$12.50
- Arizona Legends and Lore*
Tales of Southwestern Pioneers \$9.95
- Raising Arizona's Dams*
Daily Life, Danger, and Discrimination in the Dam
Construction Camps of Central Arizona, 1890s-1940s \$24.95
- Arizona Ghost Towns and Mining Camps* \$14.95

KIDS BOOKS

- The Tortoise and the Jackrabbit*
La Tortuga y la Liebre \$7.95
- The Flute Player*
An Apache Folktale \$6.95
- Lizards for Lunch*
A Roadrunner's Tale \$6.95



MAPS AND HIKING GUIDES

Tonto National Forest Map
At 2.9 million acres, one of the largest national forests in America. \$9.00

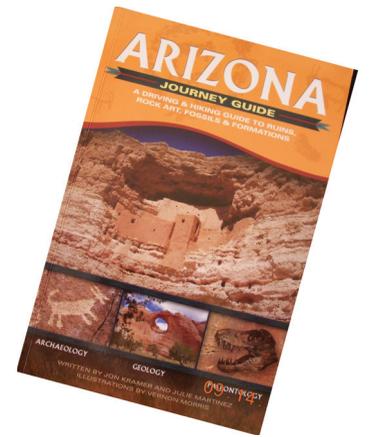
Indian Country Guide Map
Information on points of interest for the Four Corners area. \$4.95

Roosevelt Lake (waterproof plastic) Map
Made by fishermen for fishermen and other water enthusiasts! \$6.95

Arizona Trail The Official Guide
The Arizona Trail extends more than 750 miles across the state. \$24.95

Hiking Arizona's Geology
A book for the hiker who wants to understand the rocks and landscapes underfoot. \$17.95

Arizona Journey Guide
A driving and hiking guide to ruins, rock art, fossils and formations. \$16.95



PRICES REDUCED!



- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------|
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| <i>Tonto Poster</i> | \$3.95 | \$1.25 |
| <i>Pueblo Time-Line Poster</i> | \$2.00 | \$0.75 |
| <i>Geronimo, A Biography</i> | \$7.95 | \$4.95 |
| <i>A Guide to Contemporary Southwest Indians</i> | \$10.95 | \$7.95 |
| <i>Weather in the Southwest</i> | \$8.95 | \$3.95 |
| <i>Handbook of the Sonoran Desert</i> | \$2.95 | \$1.50 |
| <i>Flowers of the Southwest Deserts</i> | \$12.95 | \$5.95 |
| <i>Shrubs and Trees of the Southwest Uplands</i> | \$12.95 | \$5.95 |
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| <i>Flowers, Shrubs & Trees of the Southwest</i>
4 Book Set (boxed) | \$39.95 | \$19.95 |
| <i>Tonto National Monument</i> | \$3.95 | \$1.00 |

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The bookstore is open daily
(except Christmas Day)
from 8 am to 5 pm.