villages for other regions is not known, but there is evidence which indicates that the land became so waterlogged, because of centuries of irrigation, that it would no longer produce crops. Some of the Pueblos involved probably moved northeast to the modern Zuni country, south of Gallup, N. Mex.; others, southeast into Chihuahua, Mexico. The travels of the Hohokam have not traced so well, but it seems likely they moved south into the Papago country.

MODERN HISTORY

The earliest written account of the Casa Grande was by the Jesuit missionary, Father Kino, who visited the site in 1694 and gave it the name by which it is still known—Casa Grande (Big House). The building was already in ruins at the time of Father Kino's visit.

In 1891, Cosmos Mindeleff excavated the Casa Grande for the Smithsonian Institution. Other excavations have been carried on at the Casa Grande group of ruins by the Smithsonian Institution (1905-6), the Southwest Museum (1929), and the Los Angeles County Museum (1930). Six prehistoric villages within the boundaries of the monument have been partially excavated; at least two other villages remain untouched.

In 1889, Congress authorized the President to reserve lands embracing the Casa Grande ruin. These lands were actually reserved through Executive order in 1892, and in 1918 the area was designated a national monument. It contains 472 acres of federally owned land. Although Casa Grande National Monument is the only area in the National Park System which preserves the open compound sites of this type, Tonto National Monument, 80 miles to the northwest, includes two large cliff dwellings of the same Pueblo group.

ADMINISTRATION AND FACILITIES

Casa Grande National Monument is a part of the National Park System owned by the people of the United States and administered for them by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The monument is located on Arizona State Highway 87, 2 miles north of Coolidge. It is almost halfway between Phoenix and Tucson: 57 miles from Phoenix, 67 from Tucson. Coolidge is on a main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

A museum exhibit is maintained in the headquarters area, in which prehistoric artifacts from the Casa Grande group and other ruins of the vicinity are displayed. There is a picnic ground with tables, shade, and water. Guide service to the ruins is maintained daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the guide fee is 25 cents, plus tax, for each adult. For persons who desire to visit Casa Grande often there is a yearly ticket, nontransferable, for 50 cents. Indians are exempt from payment of the guide fee, but must pay the Federal tax. Children under 12 years of age accompanied by adults who will assume responsibility for their conduct are charged Federal tax only. There is no charge in the museum or for the use of the picnic area.

Address all communications to the Superintendent, Casa Grande National Monument, Coolidge, Ariz.
The Casa Grande, from which this national monument takes its name, is an example of the ruins of walled villages whose Indian inhabitants 600 years ago irrigated and farmed Arizona’s desert valleys.

The Casa Grande was a Pueblo building. Its thick walls of unrefrained adobe were constructed by a people accustomed to building structures of more than one story, which the Hohokam were not. It stands four stories high, dominating the village in which it was built, and, from its upper levels, commanding a wide view over the southern Arizona desert.

The use for which the Casa Grande was built is obvious from certain details of its construction. The builders started with a group of three narrow rooms built side by side, with a long room across each end. Thirty-inch trenches were dug in the ground for the foundations.

The material was an adobe of high lime content which is found several feet beneath the surface of the desert; the name for this is “caliche.” The prehistoric method of building was to pile up the adobe on the walls in courses averaging 25 inches high. Bricks were not made; vertical cracks in the ruins are due to shrinkage. As soon as one course was built around the building another was added.

When the walls of the Casa Grande had reached a height of 7 feet above ground level (the height of one story), the builders filled the rooms with earth; they had no intention of living in or using those rooms. The building was then carried up two additional stories. Only the central room was built on up through the fourth story.

The Pueblo Indians, accustomed to building with masonry, were apparently afraid of adobe as a building material and yet wanted to construct a high tower. By filling in the first story of the building and carrying only the central room to four-story height they put an effective brace on the important tone walls. In other words, they built an artificial 7-foot hill, then constructed a three-story house on it.

In addition to its use as a tower, the Casa Grande served as an apartment house. Its 11 large rooms probably accommodated as many families. Early excavations of the Casa Grande ruin recovered ordinary cook- ing and storage vessels, sleeping mats, corn cobs, and fragments of textiles—the ordinary remains to be found in prehistoric rooms.

The Casa Grande was in use for only a short time. It was probably built about 1350. By 1450 both Hohokam and Pueblo Indians had abandoned the Gila Valley. Just why these groups of Indians left their homes is a matter of mystery.