National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
1998

Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument
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Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Cultural Landscapes Inventory – General Information

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is a database containing information on the
historically significant landscapes within the National Park System. This evaluated inventory
identifies and documents each landscape’s location, size, physical development, condition,
landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information
useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved inventory records when all
required data fields are entered, the park superintendent concurs with the information, and the
landscape is determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places through a
consultation process or is otherwise managed as a cultural resource through a public planning
process.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures (LCS), assists the National Park Service (NPS)
in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section
110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies
(2001), and Director’s Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI
nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is
required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two goals
are associated with the CLI: 1) increasing the number of certified cultural landscapes (1b2B);
and 2) bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (1a7). The CLI maintained by
Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, WASO, is the official source of
cultural landscape information.

Implementation of the CLI is coordinated and approved at the regional level. Each region
annually updates a strategic plan that prioritizes work based on a variety of park and regional
needs that include planning and construction projects or associated compliance requirements
that lack cultural landscape documentation. When the inventory unit record is complete and
concurrence with the findings is obtained from the superintendent and the State Historic
Preservation Office, the regional CLI coordinator certifies the record and transmits it to the
national CLI Coordinator for approval. Only records approved by the national CLI coordinator
are included on the CLI for official reporting purposes.

Relationship between the CLI and a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)

The CLI and the CLR are related efforts in the sense that both document the history,
significance, and integrity of park cultural landscapes. However, the scope of the CLI is limited by the need to achieve concurrence with the park superintendent resolve eligibility questions when a National Register nomination does not exist or the nomination inadequately addresses the eligibility of the landscape characteristics. Ideally, a park’s CLI work (which many include multiple inventory units) precedes a CLR because the baseline information in the CLI not only assists with priority setting when more than one CLR is needed it also assists with determining more accurate scopes of work.

In contrast, the CLR is the primary treatment document for significant park landscapes. It, therefore, requires an additional level of research and documentation both to evaluate the historic and the existing condition of the landscape in order to recommend preservation treatment that meets the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for the treatment of historic properties.

The scope of work for a CLR, when the CLI has not been done, should include production of the CLI record. Depending on its age and scope, existing CLR’s are considered the primary source for the history, statement of significance, and descriptions of contributing resources that are necessary to complete a CLI record.

Inventory Unit Description:
This historic vernacular landscape dates from the late nineteenth century and continued to be occupied by descendants of the Erickson family until the mid 1970’s. The landscape includes the main ranch house complex with the family residence and associated structures including the barn, various sheds, a garage, a bunkhouse, wells, an earthen reservoir, a corral, and fruit tree orchards. Also within the residential complex area is a swimming pool built by the family in 1923 and fed by diverted well water.

To the east of the residential complex are the remnants of an orchard and the former site of the family’s vegetable garden. There are also traces of field roads, cobblestone edged paths, irrigation ditches, and a well.

The historic Stafford cabin is approximately a quarter mile east of the Erickson’s primary residential complex. The Stafford homestead of 160 acres was adjacent to the Erickson homestead, in section 26 of township 16 south, range 29 east. This homestead was purchased by Lillian and Hildegard Erickson in 1918 and combined with the family’s property. The Stafford land was subdivided first in 1945 and again in 1955. Lillian (Erickson) Riggs retained the parcel of land that included the historic Stafford cabin.

Approximately one mile to the southwest of the main complex is the Erickson family cemetery which consists of two fenced rectangular enclosures, plantings, and four headstones

See hardcopy Level II CLI completed by C. Singer et al for additional information, references, and maps.

(Park Report Cover Image - 1996 view of Bonita Canyon Looking West. Faraway Ranch house in upper left, Stafford Cabin in lower right)
Site Plan

Faraway Ranch National Register Boundary
Faraway Ranch Site Plan, 1997: Section B
Faraway Ranch Site Plan, 1997 Section A

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Faraway Ranch
Property Level: Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number: 850020
Parent Landscape: 850006
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code: Chiricahua National Monument - CHIR
Park Organization Code: 8620
Park Administrative Unit: Chiricahua National Monument

CLI Hierarchy Description

Faraway Ranch cultural landscape is a component landscape of Chiricahua National Monument cultural landscape.
Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Incomplete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:
The 1998 CLAIMS version of this CLI gained Superintendent concurrence in 2002. A hardcopy was given to AS SHPO staff, but no response was received. The 1998 CLI and the 2008 updated website version are based on the original Level II CLI (dated 1999) completed by the University of Arizona student team (Carla Singer, Michal Tincup and Steven White). Lisa Nicholas, Cultural Landscapes Program Intern, completed data entry for the 1998 version, and the 2008 website version completed by Helana Ruter (Arizona State University, History Department).

Concurrence Status:

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<td>National Register Concurrence:</td>
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Data Collection Date: 09/20/1999

Data Entry Date: 09/20/1999

Recorder: UA student team / L.Nicholas (data entry)

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:
The boundary of this component landscape are the same as the National Register District boundaries. The boundaries of the Faraway Ranch Historic District include the original 160 acre homestead, minus part of the 160 acres to the south of the highway (see site plan), plus 53.96 acres of the Stafford homestead. The additional Stafford land includes the orchard adjacent and to the east of the original Erickson homestead and west of the Stafford cabin. Lillian Erickson purchased the entire Stafford homestead in 1918, however it was subdivided in 1945.

State and County:

State: AZ
County: Cochise County

Size (Acres): 213.96
## Boundary UTMS:

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## Location Map:

*Faraway Ranch is located off state highways 186 and 181 in Chiricahua National Monument*
Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:
The Faraway Ranch was established and developed by a Swedish family-Emma and Neil Erickson. It is highly probable that features representative of the Swedish cultural tradition will be identified as characteristic of Faraway Ranch landscape. The family continued operation and management of the property through the 20th century as the Erickson’s daughter took over management and converted the farmstead/ranch to a guest house operation during the early 1920’s.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:
The ranch is located in Bonita Canyon on the west slopes of the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona. The upper reaches of this rhyolite box canyon are steep and narrow, but the lower portion is a quarter of a mile across and contains a significant floodplain.

Type of Context: Political

Description:
Administered by the National Park Service.

Management Unit: Faraway Ranch Historic District
Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:
The Faraway Ranch Historic District is listed on the National Register.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:
Additional lands within and beyond the NPS boundary are associated with the ranching operation e.g. grazing lands.
National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:
Entered Inadequately Documented

Existing NRIS Information:

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National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence: Undetermined
Contributing/Individual: Individual
National Register Classification: District
Significance Level: State
Significance Criteria:
B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
C - Embody distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history
### Period of Significance:

**Time Period:**
- AD 1879 - 1918

**Historic Context Theme:**
- Peopling Places

**Subtheme:**
- Westward Expansion of the Colonies and the United States, 1763-1898

**Facet:**
- The Farmers' Frontier

**Other Facet:**
- None

**Time Period:**
- AD 1917 - 1977

**Historic Context Theme:**
- Creating Social Institutions and Movements

**Subtheme:**
- Recreation

**Facet:**
- General Recreation

**Other Facet:**
- None

**Time Period:**
- AD 1934 - 1942

**Historic Context Theme:**
- Shaping the Political Landscape

**Subtheme:**
- Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939

**Facet:**
- The Great Depression And The New Deal, 1929-1941

**Other Facet:**
- None

### Area of Significance:

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<td>Entertainment - Recreation</td>
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<td>Social History</td>
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<td>Ethnic Heritage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>Military</td>
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</table>

### Statement of Significance:

"The Faraway Ranch Historic District has significance in the areas of: archeology; historic agriculture; architecture; conservation, settlement: industry (cattle and guest ranching), military history; and social history (specifically Black history, Women’s history, and immigrant history with this one family as a case study).

The district is significant under Criterion A and B as it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, (settlement, the Indian wars, the end of the
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

frontier, the conservation movement through National Forests and National Monuments), in all of the specific categories cited above, and is associated with the lives of individual who were of significance locally (J.H. Stafford, Emma Erickson, and Ed Riggs) and regionally (Neil Erickson, Lillian Erickson Riggs, Captain Charles Cooper, and his daughter Forestine).

The main house at Faraway Ranch is significant under Criterion C as it embodies distinctive characteristics of a type period, and method of construction, and the ranch as a whole possesses a high degree of integrity. Furthermore, the site of the military “Camp at Bonita Canon” may be likely to yield through historic archeology information important in history. “

National Register Nomination, 1980

Using National Register criteria for determining significance it has been recommended that criteria A, B, C, and D are applicable. Criterion A applies to properties associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of history, including exploration, African American history, Women’s history, settlement, farming, and ranching. Criterion B relates to association with persons significant in history at a local state or national level. Criterion C applies to properties whose physical design reflects distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and land use. Criterion D applies to properties that have yielded, or are likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history. Surface or subsurface remains may provide information about agricultural or land use activities, settlement patterns, or cultural traditions.

Using existing information it is noted that the landscape associated with the Faraway Ranch has regional significance as an historic vernacular ranch, guest ranch, and homestead operation within Bonita Canyon in the Sulphur Spring Valley of Cochise County, Arizona. The ranch landscape, which is significant under Criterion D comprises substantial remnants of early settlement and agricultural practices in Arizona in addition to reflecting the continuum of use by a single family as they modified their approach to land use and management in an effort to retain their lands. The transition from single family farmstead/ranch to guest ranch is clearly evident in the features found within the landscape of today.

Before the establishment of Faraway Ranch the site had importance to African American history and is thus significant under criterion A. Bonita Canyon was the site of an ancillary tent camp that was garrisoned by the 10th U.S. Cavalry, which was a unit of Buffalo Soldiers. Soldiers at Bonita Canyon built an inscribed stone monument in memory of President James A. Garfield, who had commanded African American troops.

The Stafford Homestead, established around 1879 is significant under criteria A, C and D. It was the earliest settlement in Bonita Canyon. It is listed in the National Register at a regional level of significance as one of the earliest structures in the area, and of the early ones, the best preserved. Its agricultural significance is also recognized, but also of significance are the remains of Staffords irrigation ditch, roads, the surviving original fruit trees in the Stafford orchard, and trees planted west of
the cabin either for decorative purposes or to serve as a windbreak or both.

The Erickson Homestead is significant under criterion A. Neil and Emma Erickson were not the first to homestead Bonita Canyon or this general region, following J.H. Stafford by seven or eight years, as well as others. Erickson's homestead was nevertheless one of the early and pioneer homesteads in the region, and proved to be much more permanent than the Stafford homestead, which eventually it absorbed, and many others.

Erickson Ranch - The main house of Faraway Ranch has significance representing a blending over a period of time in architectural styles and materials of the indigenous adobe and stone Pueblo/Spanish/Mexican and the more recent wood frame European/American. Furthermore, as an example of vernacular frontier construction of a house built by the family that was to live there, with no particular training for such a task, and representing a continual history of addition and subtraction from 1887 to the late 1920s, the main house of Faraway Ranch is of at least regional significance under criterion C.

The Faraway Ranch is significant under criteria B and A for its association with Neil Erickson and the early development of the U.S. Forest Service in Arizona. Early in the 20th Century, Neil Erickson began a third career (after the military and ranching) as a forest ranger in the Chiricahua section of Coronado National Forest, part of which would one day become Chiricahua National Monument. He carried on U.S. Forest Service management and paperwork from his ranch, using at different times a room in the main house, and a separate small office building, as his headquarters. Subsequently, he was transferred to the Dragoon and Whetstone Mountains sections of Coronado National Forest, on the far side of the Sulphur Springs Valley, and still later to Walnut Canyon National Monument in northern Arizona. Neil Erickson was one of the earliest forest rangers in the Coronado National Forest and in Arizona.

Faraway Ranch is significant under criterion A for its association with the founding of the Chiricahua National Monument. While Neil Erickson was familiar with the strange and wild rock formations southeast of his ranch, it remained for his son-in-law Ed Riggs, who had married Lillian Erickson, to promote the "Wonderland of Rocks" as a tourist attraction and to seek its preservation as a national monument. Undoubtedly conservationist motives were mixed with commercial motives for the prosperity of the ranch, however the result of Ed Riggs' promotion of these natural wonders was the establishment of Chiricahua National Monument in 1924. Subsequent to the creation of the Monument, Riggs was hired by the National Park Service to supervise construction of new horse and hiking trails in 1934 and 1935, including trails up Rhyolite Canyon, to the summit of Sugarloaf, and up Echo Canyon to Echo Park. Thus in the 1920s and 1930s, Faraway Ranch, through its relationship with the founding of Chiricahua National Monument, had a significant impact on tourism, conservation, and the preservation of natural features in southern Arizona.

The events surrounding Faraway Ranch are also significant to Women's history under Criterion A. Lillian and Hildegard Erickson assumed management of the ranch from their parents. Before they bought the Stafford property, the sisters maintained orchards and gardens, selling the produce from
these to support themselves and the ranch. After acquiring the Stafford property, they developed the
guest ranch. Although Hildegard moved away shortly after the founding of the guest ranch, Lillian
remained the primary decision-maker and ran the business even after marrying Ed Riggs. Lillian
became totally blind in the 1940s, and lost her husband several years later, but with the aid of hired
hands, continued to run Faraway Ranch as a combined cattle and “dude” ranch well into the 1960s. As
“The Lady Boss of Faraway Ranch,” she was the subject of a feature article in the Saturday Evening
Post of March 15, 1958.

The Faraway Guest Ranch is significant under criterion A as one of the first guest ranches to open in
Arizona. Kumble describes eight guest ranches in the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys of
southeastern Arizona, including Faraway Ranch, that were in operation at the same period of time, the
1920’s and 1930’s (Kumble, 1991). In advertising literature the ranches promised visitors beautiful
mountain vistas, a very agreeable climate, home cooking, and entertainment such as horseback riding,
hiking, hunting, and moon-light campfires. Vacationing on a working ranch in “Apache country” had a
romantic appeal to easterners. The guest ranch operation allowed Lillian and Ed Riggs a means of
support, beyond that of their relatively small cattle business, in the rugged and isolated Bonita Canyon.

Numerous features that represent as well as define the land use history of the site for the past one
hundred years are retained in the landscape. These features include the orchard and garden areas, the
family cemetery, the building complex that includes the family home and a variety of support buildings,
water tanks, a working windmill, and a corral. The landscape features that are present on the site reveal
its continuum of use by the Erickson family from the time of its establishment as a single family
homestead and ranch to its conversion as a guest ranch in 1918 by the Erickson daughters.

The organizational design of the landscape and some landscape features reflect characteristics of early
20th century guest ranches in Arizona. The swimming pool may have been built as an attraction for
guests and additional property and buildings were added to the Erickson Ranch.

National Historic Landmark Information

National Historic Landmark Status: No

World Heritage Site Information

World Heritage Site Status: No
Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Livestock
Primary Current Use: Recreation/Culture-Other

Other Use/Function Other Type of Use or Function
Lodge (Inn, Cabin) Historic
Outdoor Recreation-Other Historic
Single Family House Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name Type of Name
Faraway Ranch Both Current And Historic
Lower Bonita Ranch Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Significance Description:
Although no survey has been conducted, park staff have received some initial information regarding cultural traditions associated with the Swedish families that are evident on site. The only known example of this is the color of the paints used on the family residences. Other ethnographic and cultural traditions may be associated with the site and its associated landscape.
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Annotation</th>
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<td>Moved</td>
<td>Settlers enter Sulphur Spring Valley, including Louis Prue &amp; Brannick Riggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD 1880 - 1918</td>
<td>Homesteaded</td>
<td>Stafford Years, one of the first Anglo American settlers settles in Bonita Canyon</td>
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<td>AD 1885 - 1886</td>
<td>Military Operation</td>
<td>Buffalo soldiers occupied Bonita Canyon</td>
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<td>AD 1886</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Original cabin purchased by Emma Peterson</td>
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<td>AD 1887</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Stone room built</td>
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<td>AD 1888</td>
<td>Established</td>
<td>Stafford orchard established</td>
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<td>AD 1894</td>
<td>Homesteaded</td>
<td>Homestead granted to Neil Erickson</td>
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<td>AD 1899</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Box house built (Main Faraway Ranch House)</td>
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<td>Built</td>
<td>Adobe house built (Main Faraway Ranch House)</td>
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<td>AD 1917</td>
<td>Established</td>
<td>Hildegard and Lillian started guest ranch business at Faraway Ranch</td>
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<td>AD 1918</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Lillian and Hildegard Erickson purchased Stafford homestead</td>
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<td>AD 1920 - 1929</td>
<td>Expanded</td>
<td>Guest ranch business expanded</td>
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<td>AD 1924</td>
<td>Established</td>
<td>Chiricahua National Monument Established</td>
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<td>AD 1925</td>
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<td>Description</td>
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<td>------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD 1925 - 1929</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Swimming pool built by Ed Riggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD 1925 - 1929</td>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>The Bunkhouse, which had been an addition to the Stafford cabin, was detached from the cabin and moved to its present location</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD 1925 - 1935</td>
<td>Altered</td>
<td>Ed Riggs remodeled the exterior and interior of the Stafford cabin</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD 1927</td>
<td>Altered</td>
<td>Interior plumbing installed in Faraway Ranch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1928</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>New corrals and shed built</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1930</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Cowboy house built</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1930</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Second story added to ranch house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1934</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td>Ed and Lillian leased land to the Civilian Conservation Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1945</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Lillian Riggs sold 80 acres at the east end of the Stafford Homestead to a group of investors who created Silver Spurs Ranch</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD 1955</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Lillian Riggs subdivided and sold some of the remaining parcel of the Stafford homestead, retaining 53.96 acres</td>
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<td>AD 1955</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Gas generated lighting system at Faraway Ranch is removed and replaced by carbide and kerosene lamps</td>
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<td>AD 1973</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>Ranch business ended</td>
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<td>AD 1978</td>
<td>Expanded</td>
<td>Public Law 95-625 authorized expansion of Chiricahua National Monument to include Faraway Ranch</td>
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Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Overall Integrity Evaluation:

The Faraway Ranch retains overall integrity. The original site design of the ranch at Chiricahua maintains its historical integrity.

Location:

Integrity of location is retained. Original designed features remain in their original locations.

Setting:

Integrity of setting is retained. The buildings and their relationship to the surrounding landscape, the mountains, and nearby orchard have been maintained.

Design:

Integrity of design is retained. There are a number of vernacular buildings and structures within the boundaries of the ranch. These buildings and structures have not been substantively modified.

Materials:

Integrity of materials/species composition is retained. The materials of all built structures have a high degree of historical integrity. The biotic community has been changed somewhat since the period of significance. The introduction of invasive plants and the lack of fire has increased certain types of vegetation.

In addition, the integrity of the biotic community organization is also retained even though the distribution of cypress and pines has been somewhat affected by past management of biotic resources.

Workmanship:

Integrity of workmanship is retained. The workmanship at Faraway Ranch represents vernacular aesthetic principles. In addition, the management of the biotic community is good and following a course that will improve the overall quality of biotic resources.

Feeling:

Integrity of feeling is retained. The property gives one the sense of a historic ranching operation.

Association:

Integrity of association is retained. The property is associated with Erickson family and their dude...
ranching operation, with the preservation of the ranch as part of the monument, the association has been maintained.

The following sections provide graphic illustration and narrative descriptions of the applicable characteristics of the cultural landscape. Following is a list of the primary contributing Landscape Features. These features are those that have an outstanding significance and should be preserved.

Stafford Homestead:

- Orchard Area
  - Partial foundation of Martha Stark cottage
  - Pile of Wood posts
  - Rock piles related to field clearing
  - Gravesite with headstone

- Cabin Area:
  - Row of eight cypress trees
  - Single-course rock alignment / enclosure
  - Rock-ringed hearth and scatter
  - Fence post bases

Faraway Ranch:

- Main House
- Cowboy House
- Storage Shed
- Barn and Tool Shed
- Tool Shed
- Generator House
- Office / Garage
- Bunkhouse / Guest Quarters

Secondary Faraway Ranch Structures, including graves
- Corrals, Fences, Chutes, and Gates
- Windmill located at NE end of reservoir / cattle tank
- Orchard Trees
- Irrigation ditches
- Swimming Pool
- Stone fence running N/S from ranch out building
- Faraway Ranch roads (dirt surfaced roads criss-crossing area)
- Other historic vegetation (see Supplemental Information)
- Faraway Ranch Well in orchard east of house
- Faraway Ranch Tank / Reservoir
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

Bonita Creek Dam
Faraway Ranch Corral (attached to barn)
Faraway Ranch stone walls
Faraway Ranch Water Trough
Faraway Ranch Wooden Gate (south of corral)
Faraway Ranch Wire and Post Gate (main gate leading into yard around main house, SW corner of wall and fence)
Faraway Ranch Wire and Post Gate (NW "L" of yard, leading from pool to vegetable garden area)
Faraway Ranch Pig Pen Ruins
Faraway Ranch Foot Bridge
Faraway Ranch Water Tanks (two, SE of house on ridge)
Faraway Ranch Cemetery Fence
Faraway Ranch Main House Well (in yard E of house)
Infant Daughter's Grave (associated with Stafford Homestead)
Louis "Ben" Erickson Grave Marker

Aspects of Integrity:

Location
Design
Setting
Materials
Workmanship
Feeling
Association

Landscape Characteristic:

Archeological Sites

Thorough archeological reports have been prepared for the Faraway site by Baumler. Included in this report is a brief summary of his findings.

Prehistoric Archeological Sites: The area surveyed was approximately 300 acres and encompassed all the land included in the Faraway Ranch Historic District except for a small, steep parcel of land on the northern boundary. 15 prehistoric sites and 29 prehistoric artifacts were recorded. Most of the artifacts are "single igneous flakes or small clusters of flakes and cores that probably represent tool making or tool maintenance stations occupied only briefly...The prehistoric sites discovered in lower Bonita Canyon are mostly small, dispersed surface sherd and lithic scatters." (Baumler, 15, 1984). These are not attributed to the Chiricahua Apache.

Historic Archeological Sites: Historic and 20th century features and artifacts were also recorded. The artifacts consisted of "farm/ranch equipment, glass bottles, tin cans, cartridge cases, and other items of variable age and significance. Features include rock alignments,
stone foundations, borrow pits, trash dumps and scatters, ash pits, hearths, glass and metal scatters, work areas, and rock piles (Torres and Baumler, 213, 1984). These features are attributed to Erickson/Riggs, the Stafford family, and the military camp of 1885-1886 (Baumler, 1984). South of the Erickson homestead, located at the top of a rocky outcrop is a lookout post for the military camp.

Buildings and Structures

Some built structures found within the historic property relate to the ranching and guest-ranch businesses, while others provided recreation for the family. The swimming pool, the Bonita Creek Dam, and the animal enclosures were built by the Ericksons and the Rigges over the span of their years at Faraway Ranch.

The Main House is to the east of the ranch-related work area. This area contains the Cowboy House, a storage shed, a tool shed, a barn, a generator house, an office/garage, and a bunkhouse/guest quarters. All of these buildings are of a very utilitarian design and are arranged in a cluster.

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Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

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LCS Structure Number: QTR029E

Feature: Faraway Ranch Cowboy House
Feature Identification Number: 101797
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Feature: Faraway Ranch Garage and Shed
Feature Identification Number: 100919
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LCS Structure Name: Faraway Ranch Garage and Shop
LCS Structure Number: BLDGF-07

Feature: Faraway Ranch Power House
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LCS Structure Name: Faraway Ranch Power House
Faraway Ranch  
Chiricahua National Monument

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**Circulation**

Both the National Register Nomination form and the Historic Structure Report discuss the many dirt roads, paths, and trails found within the historic area. Exactly who built which roads remains a question. There is evidence that some existed before the Ericksons homesteaded, the CCC workers built some, and some were built by Neil Erickson (Torres and Baumler, 1984).

There are currently no vehicular roads within the historic area that may be used by visitors. A short dirt road exists for use by park personnel. All paths are dirt and lined with rock. It is unclear who placed the rocks along the paths, but there is speculation that National Park Service personnel placed some of them. Early photos of the Stafford cabin and the Erickson homestead show dirt roads and paths with no rocks, but rocks do show up in photographs from the 1950s and the 1960s.

The Christmas card sketch made by Lillian during the 1960's shows the valley floor with the
Stafford cabin in the foreground and Faraway Ranch in the background. Curving pathways link the Stafford cabin, the Martha Stark house, and Faraway Ranch. A recent aerial photograph shows a similar configuration of paths. This may be considered the primary pedestrian pathway. Directly across from the corral and cattle chute opening is a wide gate and the remnants of a vehicular road. The length of the road is approximately 242' and runs in a southwestern direction from the tack room. The road is overgrown and therefore only somewhat visible. In conversations with Park personnel it was speculated that this road provided truck access to the cattle. We do know that cattle were trucked out for slaughter (Leavengood, 1995).

There are various gates on the site. Most of the gates are wooden and are attached to animal enclosures. Others are located immediately around the main house and the garden area. The locations of gate are indicated on the Site Plan accompanying this report.

There is one footbridge, built by the Park Service, crossing Newton’s Wash. The bridge serves as a link between the main house and Neil’s office-garage and the cowboy house. Torres and Baumler indicate that the first reference to the bridge, by Neil, was in 1935 (Torres and Baumler, 1984). To the south of the existing bridge the remains of an older bridge, consisting of a rock foundation, are on either side of the wash. A 1983 photo of the old bridge indicates that the design of the new bridge is based on the old one.

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Faraway Ranch Circulation Patterns, 1997: The main historic area which includes the Faraway Ranch buildings, corral, windmill, orchards, and the Stafford Cabin are accessible both by footpath and paved road.

**Constructed Water Features**

FARAWAY RANCH WINDMILLS AND WATER TANK (RESERVOIR)

Faraway Ranch contains a windmill located southwest of the barn. It is one of the first features visitors see as they enter the ranch today. It is located adjacent to a water tank or reservoir, which measures approximately 104 feet east to west with a height between 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet. The width of the interior area of the tank measures approximately 72 feet running east and west and 88 feet running north and south. According to the National Register Nomination form: “It consists of a standard pyramidal metal frame surmounted by a small platform and a metal bladed windmill.” (Chappell, item #7, p. 12, 1976). Neil Erickson constructed this windmill around 1896, shortly after they moved to the canyon. He drew up plans for the tower, obtained a windmill from Mrs. Rhoda Riggs, and solicited help assembling it from neighbors that included Ja Hu Stafford (Torres and Baumlter, 1984). It was also noted that the windmill broke down frequently and fairly costly supplies were often purchased for its repair (Torres and Baumlter, 1984). In a letter written by Lillian Riggs to a “Mr. Anderson” she stated: “The windmill needs watching and one must be re-leathered soon.” (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Material). The wind through the canyon had such a force that the windmill had to be turned off many times (Torres and Baumlter, 1984).

Rocks currently surround the tank adjacent to the windmill on three sides (north, west and east)
with the northern side being the most defined. These rocks are large fieldstones or small
boulders from the creek bed and are currently covered with lichen (Chappell, 1976) This tank
or reservoir was first mentioned by Neil Erickson on a U.S. Forest Service document in 1913.
He discussed a watering dam on land in the Chiricahua National Monument. Historically, cattle
used the tank (Torres and Baumler, 1984). Today, the tank continues to have water pumped
into it from the windmill, but the pump does not produce a large amount of water. Deer and
other wildlife in the canyon can be seen visiting the tank for water.

WELLS AND WATER TANKS:

A well located adjacent to the main house was constructed by Neil Erickson and his brother
John, shortly after they entered the canyon. This is the oldest documented well on site and is
found just outside the kitchen door. It was built for household purposes (Chappell, 1976). The
octagon shape of the well existing today dates to the late 1920’s (Riggs, 1979).

A second well was dug that is “200 feet west of the house, near the barn and open tank of the
house, where Neil’s orchard once stood.” This well was for the purpose of watering the
gardens, orchards, and cattle. It has been identified as “the one with the existing windmill”
(Torres and Baumler, 101, 1984).

The third well was built in Stafford’s lower orchard and is located eastward from the middle
gate on the eastern side of the main house. The well is described in the National Register
Nomination Form as “... a well with a small walking beam pump, which the National Park
Service has modified by the addition of electrical connections and new piping. The pump is a
Jensen straight lift Jack, Serial No. 115, Size 25 DC, rated at 35 strokes per minute,
manufactured by the Jensen Brothers Manufacturing Company of Coffeyville, Kansas. The
well may have originally featured a windmill.” (Chappell, item #7, p. 14).

FARAWAY RANCH SWIMMING POOL AND SWIMMING HOLE

A constructed, cement swimming pool is located directly east of the terraced vegetable garden
area and northeast of the main house. The pool is a 34’ X 15’ oval. Rocks are placed along
the north and the top half of the eastern side of the pool. The pool is surrounded by a wire and
post fence, the total fenced in area being 53’6” X 83’’. The pool is included in the List of
Classified Structures (LSC 16041). The pool and surrounding area are in a general state of
disrepair.

Torres and Baumler discuss the confusion between a swimming tank and a swimming hole
(Torres and Baumler, 1984). The Bonita Creek Dam is located near the Stafford cabin and at
one time provided a swimming hole. The dam is no longer functional and the poured concrete
used to build it is broken. The dam was not field checked. It has the LCS #60185.

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Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

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Feature: Windmill
Feature Identification Number: 105919
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 56617
LCS Structure Name: Faraway Ranch Windmill
LCS Structure Number: FEAF-11

Cultural Traditions

With reference to particular landscape features or spatial organization, park personnel have been unable to make any associations, thus far, with Swedish cultural traditions. Mr. Doug Cap, a maintenance worker at Chiricahua National Monument had learned from a Scandinavian couple visiting the monument, that the particular color of the main house, “mansion yellow” is an indicator of affluence or social status (Site visit, April 1996).

Land Use

Prior to the establishment of Faraway Ranch by Neil and Emma Erickson, the Chiricahua Apache utilized the land in this area. These indigenous people left little evidence of their existence, traveling frequently from site to site throughout the mountains. They relied mainly on desert food sources. Meat was provided by deer, mules, sheep, and cows (Utley, 1977).

“[T]hey engaged in an active relationship with the plants, animals, and physical features of their landscape, blurring the boundaries between human and nonhuman worlds. They imbued everything with personality, purpose, and power. Coyotes, spiders, pollen (a sacred substance), and mountains were often accorded the same respect as neighbors and relatives” (Hirt, 171, 1989). A more detailed discussion about the Chiricahua Apache is presented in the historical context section of this report.

Bahre discusses a 1902 report titled “Report of an Examination of the Chiricahua Mountains in Arizona”, produced by Albert F. Potter and Royal S. Kellogg of the Forestry Bureau of the General Land Office (GLO) to the Arizona Territory (Bahre, 1995). This report outlined land use practices in the Chiricahuas around the turn of the century. According to that report the major land uses contributing to the evolution of the southeast Arizona landscape were: livestock grazing, mining, logging, and fuelwood cutting (Bahre, 1995).

Eleven sawmills were operating in the Chiricahuas in 1879 with approximately 30 percent of the forest being logged (Bahre, 1995). Kellogg specified that “the 50,000 acres of coniferous forest in the Chiricahuas constituted the single largest acreage of coniferous forest on any mountain in Arizona south of the Mogollon Rim.” (Bahre, 1995). Kellogg ultimately concluded
from his report that “ abusive logging practices led to erosion and possible desiccation of some streams.” (Bahre, 1995).

Fuelwood cutting was practiced throughout the Chiricahuas primarily using Mesquite (Prosopis spp.), Arizona Cypress (Cupressus arizonica), and evergreen woodlands. Wood was the major fuel for the country until 1910 (Bahre, 1995). According to Bahre, “...juniper (Juniperus spp.), mesquite, and desert willow (Chilopsis linearis) were cut for fenceposts, to make wood corrals, and along with oak (Quercus spp.) to burn lime for cement and to kiln bricks.” (Bahre, 43, 1995). The Daily Tombstone (November 22, 1886) also verified the land use, “Attention Ranchmen: Shakes, shingles, etc. for sale from mill at the head of Morse Canyon...Juniper timbers 30 feet in length...” Bahre goes on to state, “The latter were most likely cut from large Arizona cypress because there were no junipers large enough to cut 30-foot beams from in southeastern Arizona.” (Bahre, 43, 1995).

Fire frequency decreased at the turn of the century. In fact, fire suppression and overgrazing were encouraged by forest managers (Bahre, 1995). There has been an increase in biomass due to fire suppression. Bahre concludes, “Probably the greatest ecological change in the Chiricahuas since the advent of large-scale livestock ranching has been the change in the fire regime from frequent small surface fires to occasional large crown fires.” (Bahre, 43, 1995). It is speculated that some livestock grazing did occur in the Chiricahuas during the early 18th century, however major grazing did not take place until 1878 or 1879 with the arrival of Anglo-American ranchers (Bahre, 1995). By the turn of the century the Chiricahua Mountains were already heavily grazed (Bahre, 1995).

Mining in the Chiricahua began around the 1860s with most prospecting occurring prior to the establishment of the Chiricahua Apache reservation in 1872 (Bahre, 1995). Wildlife inhabiting the Chiricahuas included “wolves (Canis lupus), antelope (Antilocapra americana mexicana), Merrijin turkey (Melagris gallopavo), grizzly bear (Ursus arctos), and black tailed prairie dogs (Cynomys ludovicianus) and possibly bighorn sheep (Ovis canadensis) and beaver (Castor canadensis)...” (Bahre, 44, 1995).

The conclusions drawn as a result of Kellogg and Potter’s report as summarized by Bahre include the following statement: “The ways in which the vegetation of the Chiricahuas has changed as a result of historic disturbances are not known. Students of southeast Arizona’s wild landscapes must understand that in the late 19th and early 20th centuries most of the region suffered from the same types of land-use degradation that affect many Third World arid environments today...At the present, we have little idea what the Chiricahuas would have looked like had they not been logged or grazed, had the fire regime not been manipulated, or had Forest Service management not occurred. Nevertheless, it is clear from the Potter map that the Chiricahuas were not without significant human disturbance in 1902.” (Bahre, 44, 1995).

It is important to note that this area was also used by Buffalo Soldiers of the Tenth Cavalry that
traveled to Bonita Canyon in September of 1885 (Bowers, no date). Their main responsibility was to serve in the Indian Wars. A secondary responsibility was to serve as mail couriers.

Land use associated with Ja Hu Stafford was primarily that of farming, with an orchard and garden providing most of the income for the family. The vegetable garden was planted to the east of the cabin in the Silver Spur Meadow. This garden, however, is not visible at the present time. Ja Hu made use of horses in the canyon to accomplish his work. The existence of two horses and 18 chickens can be dated to April 16, 1882 in a letter written by Pauline Stafford (Livingston, 1994). In later letters to her father, she encouraged him to bring cattle to the canyon for additional income. She stated: “...Thier (sic) are scarcely any good cows here at all and none to sell.” (Livingston, 11, 1994). However, cattle were documented in records at Stafford Cabin (Livingston, 1994). It has been noted that Ja Hu Stafford supplied fruits and vegetables to the soldiers at Fort Bowie while Louis Prue provided beef (Bowers, no date).

Land use associated with the Ericksons at Faraway Ranch consisted primarily of ranching and farming. They cultivated fruit orchards as well as managed cattle. A small vegetable garden was also part of their land use. Neil also used the site for various carpentry projects conducted for income. However, around 1918, the use of the land shifted towards tourism/guest house and ranch operations. Hildegard and Lillian Erickson, daughters of Neil and Emma Erickson, purchased the Stafford property in 1918. The Stafford cabin was used as additional lodging for workers and in later years was rented to guests (Leavengood, 1988). In 1923, Lillian married Ed Riggs and together they promoted and expanded Faraway Ranch as a guest/dude ranch (Leavengood, 1995). The highpoint for Faraway as a guest ranch was between 1920 and 1940 when 10 or more guests per week received accommodations (Fox, 1995). In 1934, Ed and Lillian leased land to the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and extended trails through the “Wonderland of Rocks” (Leavengood, 1995). The CCC crew with Ed Riggs serving as trail foreman constructed numerous buildings, trails and roads after the establishment of the Chiricahua National Monument in 1924. Upon Ed’s death on June 29, 1950, Lillian continued to manage Faraway Ranch with additional hired ranch workers.

**Natural Systems and Features**

The homestead included a water source, Bonita Creek, flat land for limited agriculture, and provided an abundance of trees and rocks that were used for building materials. Oral histories mention a natural hot spring used by Ja Hu Stafford for irrigating vegetables year round. However, the spring is said to have disappeared following an earthquake in 1887 (Leavengood, 1995).

Ed Riggs constructed two water storage tanks on the southern side of Bonita Canyon that provided potable water as well as proper water pressure once indoor plumbing was installed (Nielsen, interview, 1996). The water table was high and various wells were constructed around the property.

**Small Scale Features**

Small scale historic features are documented from various time periods throughout the Faraway Ranch Historic District and include the ranch cemetery, windmill, wells, fences, walls, matates,
cooking grills, bridge remnants, chutes, water tank, and gates. These features are documented in the following descriptions.

FARAWAY RANCH CEMETERY:

This cemetery is located at the entrance into the Chiricahua National Monument, at the base of Bonita Canyon. It measures 20 by 30 feet and is enclosed by an iron fence (Chappell, 1976). It contains burial sites for Emma Sophia Erickson, Neil Erickson, and Louis Benton Erickson.

Neil Erickson was buried first in this plot on October 18, 1937. According to Torres (1984), Neil Erickson’s desire was to be buried at the mouth of Bonita Canyon. He planted cypress trees there in order to mark the site. Dating the presence of the iron fence could be attributed to a purchase made by Lillian in 1940. Emma Erickson was buried immediately adjacent to Neil. Lillian Erickson Riggs is buried in a Riggs family cemetery a few miles west of the Faraway Ranch cemetery (NPS plaque description, site visit 1996).

A site visit revealed the inscription of the two bronze plaques displayed on the west side of the fence. One reads:

“Sacred to the memory of these pioneers
They came when only the brave dared come:
They stayed where only the valiant could stay
Born in Sweden, Americans by choice—not by
accident of birth, they loved their adopted
country and served her well.”

The final inscription reads as follows:

“They carved a home from the wilderness, with the warp of labor and the woof of dreams.
They wove a pattern of life as beautiful as the sunsets and as enduring as the mountains they
loved so well” (Torres and Baumler, 105, 1984).

Correspondence between Lillian E. Riggs and J.K. Sheley of the Arizona Bronze Products
Company, concerning the plaques and dated June 27, 1941 stated the following:

“We will cast the attaching lugs on the back to fit a beveled edge, so the attachment to the
fence should not present any great difficulty. Both plaques will have beveled edges, and I can
assure you that you will find that a nice job will be done on both, in as much as the very best in
materials and workmanship is going into them. I am attaching a copy as it will appear so as to
make sure there has been no slip-ups.” (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Files).

The inscription on Neil’s plaque reads:
“Neil: Served five years in the Army during the Indian Wars and then twenty five years as an officer in the United States Forest Service.”

Emma Sophia’s plaque inscription reads as follows:

“Emma Sophia: As wife, mother, friend, God’s spirit was imbued within her. Perils of Indian warfare, incessant toil and loneliness, of a pioneer land: nothing daunted her, this valiant lady, our mother.” (Torres and Baumler, 104, 1984).

According to a June 30, 1951 bill from Tucson Marble and Granite Company, Emma Sophia’s plaque “fastened in place at grave” cost $55.00 (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Files).

Ben’s burial spot has a traditional veteran’s headstone and reads:

Ben’s grave area is the only one that contains stones placed in a circle outlining the grave itself.

Hildegarde was cremated and her ashes scattered in the Wilderness of Rocks. However a plaque commemorating her is affixed to the fence and reads as follows:

“Hildegard Erickson Hutchison, April 27, 1895-July 22, 1978, Youngest Child of Neil and Emma Erickson, Born at Faraway Ranch, Daughter of Pioneers and child of the Chiricahua Mountains, her smile and her spirit have returned forever to the land she loved.”

A site visit conducted in March of 1996 revealed the gravesite to be in good condition, with one Arizona cypress (Cupressus arizonica) and one alligator juniper (Juniperus deppeana) shading the site. Large rocks exist at the southern side of the gravesite (site visit, 1996).

There are two graves within the boundaries of the district that are not of the Erickson family. The presence of Louis Prue, who was buried in 1892, just outside the iron fence. Prue settled near the canyon and wished to be buried at the mouth of the canyon, which also became the resting site for the Ericksons. The grave marker is distinctively different from those on the Erickson’s plots and lies under an oak tree. It contains the following inscription: “Louis Prue/Died Dec 16,1892/Aged/49 Yrs and 6 Ms.” The following quotation illustrates Neil Erickson’s response to Mr. Prue’s death and burial. He was traveling in Bisbee when this letter was sent to Emma:

“I am sorry to hear of Mr. Prue’s death, that it should happen in such a way, but our journey’s end in this world is soon reached and therefore we should all make the best of the life while we do live... At any rate, give my respect to Mrs. Prue that I feel as much as any one the loss of a good friend and neighbor, but I am pleased to hear that you have fulfilled his last wish and laid him to rest under the oak on the hillside.” (Torres and Baumler, 103, 1984).
An additional reference regarding Mr. Prue’s grave can be found in a letter from Lillian E. Riggs to Mr. Kilburn stating:

“In regard to fixing up Mr. Prue’s grave; His grand-daughter, who lives in California, has agreed to pay for the work if it can be kept within twenty-five to thirty dollars. Can you do it for that? I should think you might, as it will not necessitate any additional travel. I am leaving it up to you as to how it should be done.” (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Material)

There is a small gravesite located in the orchard between the Faraway Ranch and Stafford Cabin with a gravestone inscribed for "R. Stafford". The gravesite is reportedly that of the first Stafford child, Reveley Stafford who died shortly after her birth, circa 1880. A Stafford granddaughter reported that the gravesite used to have a rectangular fence surrounding it. The two remaining posts and the ring of rhyolite cobbles are most likely the remains of that enclosure. Two yucca plants, noted in the 1984 Archaeology of Faraway Ranch report also grow from the gravesite.

CORRALS, FENCES, CHUTES, AND GATES:

The landscape of Faraway Ranch is comprised of numerous fences, stone walls, gates, corrals, and chutes. The barbed wire fences and wire fences surrounding areas of Faraway Ranch existed to keep cattle out of the fruit orchards, vegetable gardens, and lawn/main house area. The barbed wire’s directional location suggested that cattle were being restricted from traveling through and grazing (Cap, 1996). Fences and gates dot the landscape of Faraway Ranch. There is a fence surrounding the ranch house with wire and a stone wall base. In a letter written by Lillian Riggs to a “Mr. Anderson” she stated “...we are getting a new low brick wall topped by wire put up around the yard. This necessitates some concrete work.” (WACC Faraway Ranch Archival Material, 1940-1949). This fence with stone wall has a main gate located on the northwest corner of the main house lawn. There is also a gate along the northern portion of the lawn, adjacent to the pool and as a gate entering the northern most patch of orchards. The eastern side contains a gate located directly across from the screened porch of the house as well as a gate located on the southeastern corner of the lawn area. Current illustrations show examples of fences and gates scattered throughout Faraway. In the Historic Structures Report, it is noted that in 1891 Emma desired the placement of more fences (Torres and Baumber, 1984). The only remnants of a barbed wire fence near Stafford’s cabin run east west and begin approximately 42 feet westward from the northwest corner of the Stafford Cabin. The length of the fence is approximately 165 feet with the barbed wire fallen on the ground and posts remaining.

Two corrals have been associated with Faraway Ranch. One corral is no longer in existence but was located approximately 200 yards southwest of the main house across the dirt road that ran into the canyon past the house (Torres and Baumber, 1984). The existing corral was built between 1925 and 1929. It is located adjacent to the barn and contains a chute. Both the corral and chute are in disrepair (Cap, interview, 1996).
The Ericksons had both chickens and pigs. There is no evidence of the chicken house that was located to the east of the generator building, however the stone outline of the pigpen still exists. The pigpen measures approximately 22' X 20'. A historic photograph shows Emma’s small herd of pigs. The pigpen has the LCS # 60152.

There are various other small scale structures on the property that relate to the ranching business: a concrete water trough located 44° northeast of the windmill, near the corral and chute, and a weather station kept in the south side of the yard and used by Ed Riggs. The water trough has the LCS #60151. The trough is in a deteriorated state.

Other small scale features located within the landscape include a small grill with an embedded mano located directly west of the cowboy house, matates located near the main house, and remnants of the old bridge that extended across Newton’s Wash.

Other: CCC Camp

The CCC Camp, established in the 1930’s was located approximately 3/4 mile from the Stafford cabin in the Silver Spur Meadow. The few remaining features of the camp are discussed by Baumler (Baumler, 1984).

In the vicinity of the camp can be found a bear cage, located on a northern hillside, the remains of a subterranean stone cellar-like structure, and a cement slab.

The bear cage is located 239’ west of the most western fireplace of the Silver Spur Lodge, and 77’ up a hillside. The cage is constructed over a natural opening. It is constructed of cement and iron bars. The cage has the LCS# 60173.

The remainders of the stone cellar consist of 3 standing walls and a broken wall. The average height of the walls is 4’6”. A stone lined dirt path leading from the Silver Spur fireplace accesses the structure.

The cement slab may have been a foundation for a structure. Only one side of the slab was visible, the other end was overgrown with roots and grass.

**Character-defining Features:**

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**Feature:** Fences, Chutes and Gates

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Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

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LCS Structure Name: "Louis "Ben" Erickson Grave Marker
LCS Structure Number: GRD002B

Feature: Louis Prue Grave Marker
Feature Identification Number: 105927
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 56630
LCS Structure Name: Louis Prue Grave Marker
LCS Structure Number: GRD002E

Feature: Neil Erickson's Grave Marker
Feature Identification Number: 105928
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 56631
LCS Structure Name: Neil Erickson Grave Marker
LCS Structure Number: GRD002C

Feature: Pig Pen Ruins
Feature Identification Number: 105929
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 56623
LCS Structure Name: Faraway Ranch Pig Pen Ruins
LCS Structure Number: FIAF-17

Feature: Stone Walls
Feature Identification Number: 105930
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 56619
LCS Structure Name: Faraway Ranch Stone Walls
LCS Structure Number: FIAF-14B
Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Fence and gate surrounding the ranch house

Spatial Organization

The original 160 acre Erickson homestead is located along Bonita Creek, on the northwestern edge of the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona. By 1902 a cluster of homesteads had appeared in the area on adjacent lands.

The main house and associated buildings are situated to the south of Bonita Creek, on the floor of a narrow canyon. The Erickson family cemetery is located to the west of the complex, at the mouth of Bonita Canyon. The canyon opens to a wide valley. The town of Wilcox is approximately 35 miles northwest of Faraway Ranch.

Faraway Ranch was operated as a cattle ranch and guest ranch. The cattle business was supplemented by successful guest ranching which continued from 1918 through the 1970’s. Work areas associated with cattle ranching and horse care, i.e., corrals, stables, and bunkhouse, are to the west and northwest of the main house. This may be due to the proximity to the valley and the highway to Wilcox, one of the towns to which cattle were trucked for slaughter (Leavengood, 1995).

Cattle ranching activity near the main house at Faraway Ranch was limited, mainly involving
branding and the preparation of cattle for shipment elsewhere. Two areas, owned by Ed Riggs, were mentioned in oral histories where cattle was grazed; one the Double Z Ranch near Apache Pass, used for winter grazing and the Holdeman Ranch for summer grazing (Leavengood, 1995).

Horses that were provided for guests were kept near the main house. A tack room is connected to a corral to the northwest of the main house.

The main house is oriented on a north/south axis with the vegetable garden and swimming pool to the north and the main orchard to the east. This created a pastoral scene for guests to view from inside the house or while relaxing in the yard. The main house, which provided sleeping quarters and eating areas for guests, is located at the mouth of a canyon, leading into the Wonderland of Rocks and providing trails for horseback riding.

The Stafford homestead to the east of the Erickson homestead was purchased by the Erickson daughters, Lillian and Hildegarde. The Stafford cabin was used by Lillian and Ed Riggs for guest accommodations during years the guest ranch was operating.

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**

![Spatial Organization, Faraway Ranch, 1997](image)

**Topography**

Bonita Canyon provided an ideal topographical setting for the Ericksons in terms of having both level ground upon which to build and farm, and unique rock formations in the immediate surrounding mountains to capture the interest and imagination of guests from all parts of the United States.

There is little evidence of manipulation of the land to accommodate the Erickson homestead. Those areas that today show change include: a small terraced area immediately to the north of the swimming pool where a vegetable garden was located, a narrow, single terrace running along the east side of the home and within the fenced yard, and a leveled area to the west of the cowboy house.

The terraced area to the west of the swimming pool, where the vegetable garden was located,
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

has an 11% slope from the south end to the north end of the 47' X 13'6" fenced area. The entire area is outlined by stones, and has a low, 2'3" high stone wall along the south end, adjacent to the fenced yard. The first terraced area is 26' south to north and retained by a 1' stone edge. The second terraced area begins immediately below that. There is no sign of its previous use, however there are remains of an irrigation sprinkler on the top terrace.

Within the fenced yard, on the east side is a narrow, single terrace that appears to have been created for purely decorative purposes. The terrace was built with stones in the same fashion as is found elsewhere on the property and includes three stones from the Garfield Monument. The approximate slope of the land from the house to the fence is 10%.

There is an area to the west of the Cowboy House that appears to have been leveled. Nothing is known about the purpose for which it was intended and park personnel could only speculate on its reason for existing. Features that are associated with this area include broken farm tools, stones, rock piles, and a possible hearth.

Vegetation

Upon her arrival, Emma Erickson was quite taken by the natural beauty of Bonita Canyon. Large trees were found in abundance and the native grasses were knee high (Leavengood, 1995).

There are a multitude of plant materials and vegetation features present at Faraway Ranch. At present, the canyon is being invaded by Juniper (Juniperus sp.) as well as other native vegetation. Juniper (Juniperus sp.) in the canyon today is found in a large part of the “lower orchard” area as well as throughout the site. Historical photographs show no evidence that juniper was widespread throughout the canyon during the time of peak fruit production by the Erickson’s and Stafford. However, it should be noted that in Lillian Riggs’ novel, Westward Into The Sun, she frequently describes the presence of juniper in the canyon during their early years (Riggs, 1979). As mentioned earlier, the use of fire by the Chiricahua Apaches suppressed the presence of invasive woody plants in grasslands (Hirt, 1989). Perhaps, this explains the assumption that juniper was not as pervasive at the time Stafford and Erickson homesteaded in the canyon.

Descriptions documenting the vegetation of Faraway Ranch begin at the entrance to the ranch site and move eastward. Currently the entrance vegetation is comprised primarily of native grasses (Sporobolus spp. and Equisetum spp.), juniper (Juniperus sp.), cypress (Cupressus sp.), oak (Quercus spp.), and cholla (Opuntia bigelovii). In her novel, Lillian Riggs describes the presence of cypress trees, wild grasses, and oaks growing on the mountainsides (Riggs, 1979). The vegetation around the corral today consists of native grasses (Sporobolus spp. and Equisetum spp.), cholla (Opuntia bigelovii), juniper (Juniperus spp.), and sycamore (Platanus spp.) trees. The interior paths running eastward towards Faraway Ranch today contain mainly yucca (Agaveaceae), juniper (Juniperus spp.), cholla (Opuntia bigelovii), and oak trees (Quercus spp.). There are seven apricot trees behind the garage and in front of the cowboy cabin running along Newton’s Wash.
When Emma and Neil arrived in the canyon, they immediately started a garden. In 1889, Neil purchased six apple trees, six dwarf pear trees, four plum trees, two prune trees, six peach trees, two apricot trees, six currant shrubs, and six gooseberry shrubs (Torres and Baumler, 1984). The orchard was sited to the west of house near the windmill and open tank. A few remnants of these fruit trees can be seen today. In addition to the fruit trees, vegetables, shrubs, and vines were planted. The variety of fruits and vegetables are evident in Neil Erickson’s Diary for 1896-1899 where he mentioned planting sweet corn, beans, cabbage, tomatoes, squash, watermelon, onions, celery, and lettuce. The vegetable garden was located northeast of the house. In addition, Stafford allowed Erickson to plant vegetables including corn and beans in his garden (Torres and Baumler, 1984).

These vegetable and fruit gardens were produced for private consumption as well as guest consumption. As mentioned earlier, the gardens were also used to produce income from sales to Fort Bowie. The production of these vegetables and fruits was high between 1924 and 1933, therefore sales were made to a variety of consumers (Torres and Baumler, 1984). Today, the vegetable garden is still outlined by a wire fence with stones placed around the edges. It measures approximately 42 feet long and 24 feet wide. The height of the stone wall is approximately 2 feet 3 inches. There are signs of a stone division placed in the vegetable garden that runs east/west and is approximately 26 feet from the southern edge of the garden, but exact layout of the garden is not known. The only remaining plant materials associated with the garden are four (4) fruit trees lined at 3 feet, 15 feet, 25 feet, and 40 feet. Although no documentation exists to support reasons for the placement of these four fruit trees, they might possibly have been placed for a windbreak. The wind force through the canyon is intense at times. In fact, Pauline Stafford stated in a letter dated April 16, 1882: “the wind is blowing very much today” (Livingston, 11, 1994).

The main house of Faraway Ranch contains a lawn area and additional shrubs and trees. Fruit trees were placed adjacent to the main house and lined on the east side of the house and west side of the pool. There are five fruit trees immediately east of the ranch, four being newly planted. An additional four fruit trees are located parallel to the orchard. Currently, there are two shrubs, Spiraea prunifolia, simpliciflora (Bridal Wreath Spiraea) located on either side of the entrance path inside the Faraway Ranch lawn area. These can be seen in current and historical photographs dating back to the early 1900’s. In addition, there are two potted mints located by the eastern door of the screened porch and the north side of the same porch. The orchard along the northern side of Faraway Ranch measures approximately 138’6” by 74’6” and consists today of cholla (Opuntia bigelovii), native grasses (Sporobolus spp. and Equisetum spp.), junipers (Juniperus sp.) along the corners, one Fraxinus velutina (Velvet Ash) and one Pyrus communis (common pear). According to historic photographs, some orchard trees were planted in a grid pattern.

The following is a listing of species (with scientific names followed by common names) found within the fenced areas adjacent to the Faraway Ranch Main House during a site visit in March of 1996. Identification was determined from site visits, and sample identification with direction
from Dr. Margaret Livingston, instructor in the Landscape Architecture Program at the University of Arizona (site visit, 1996 and M. Livingston, 1996). Refer to Supplemental Information for information provided by Kumble regarding existing (1984) and historic vegetation.

GROUND COVERS:
1. Vinca major Periwinkle
2. Buchole dactyloides (Buffalo Grass)

VINE SPECIES:
3. Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Virginia Creeper)

SHRUB SPECIES:
4. Spiraea prunifolia (Bridal Wreath Spirea)
5. Cotoneaster hupehensis (Hupeh Cotoneaster)
6. Pyracantha species Cultivar (Pyracantha)

TREE SPECIES:
7. Fraxinus velutina (Velvet Ash)
8. Ulmus pumila (Siberian Elm)
9. Pyrus communis (Common Pear)
10. Prunus species (Apricot)
11. Cupressus arizonica (Arizona Cypress)

A noteworthy vegetation site (though not part of the original 160 acre Erickson homestead) is the “lower orchard” which was planted by the Staffords before the Ericksons moved into the canyon. The Staffords planted a variety of fruit trees and depended on the income from the sale of this produce to the army at Fort Bowie and to various neighbors (Chappell, 1976). This orchard was planted in a grid pattern and extended from the Stafford cabin westward to the Erickson ranch, encompassing about two acres (Livingston, 1994). It contained a variety of fruits including pears, peaches, apples, and persimmons. Although early plantings of the trees were plagued by frost, crops were continually produced each year (Livingston, 1994).

Evidence of the remnants of these fruit trees can be seen on site today. Parent persimmon trees continue to exist, and their seedlings have grown into mature trees. Historic photographs also illustrate the orchard when it was in use. In addition, a row of eight cypress (Cupressus spp.) trees is located running north and south directly westward from the Stafford Cabin.

These can also be seen in photographs dated prior to 1932 (Livingston, 1994). Although no documentation exists stating the reason for these trees, they were possibly used for a windbreak. These are the only vegetable gardens and fruit orchards documented in the area during that time. Garden produce including radishes, beans, lettuce, cabbage, onions, watermelon, pumpkin, potatoes, carrots, tomatoes, parsnips, corn, and squash was sold by Stafford to Fort Bowie, the Buffalo Soldier’s camp, local ranchers, and markets (Livingston, 14, 1994). The garden is thought to have been two to four acres in size, and located on the eastern
edge of the homestead. No visible signs of Stafford's vegetable garden exist today. Native grasses primarily surround the Stafford Cabin.

The following list of contributing vegetation at Faraway Ranch was compiled by cross-referencing the University of Arizona student group's work with the work of Peter Kumble who did the Restorative Vegetation Recommendations (hard Copy, IMSF). Both Kumble and the student group support their findings through historic photographs as well as written records. Both base some of their finding on the Torres and Baumer's Historic Structure Report, Historical and Archeological Data Sections, A History of the Buildings and Structures of Faraway Ranch, Chiracahua National Monument, Arizona, 1984. Finally, both the UA student team and Kumble focus on the vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the main Ranch House, although the former does discuss native and more remote vegetation.

Contributing vegetation is vegetation whose historic existence has been confirmed through historic photographs or written accounts. More research is needed to determine the status of the following species: elm, cottonaster, virginia creeper, and vinca.

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Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:
Erickson homestead, later Faraway Ranch. The orchard extends to the oak tree-lined banks of Bonita Creek. Ca. 1907

Views and Vistas

Neil was photographed sitting amongst a group of boulders, looking westward, several hundred feet above and to the southeast of the Stafford cabin. From this vantage point, the entire valley is visible, including a beautiful view of the area beyond Bonita Canyon, framed by mountains gently sweeping upwards to the north and south of the canyon mouth. All roads, pathways, orchards, and structures are visible. This view was sketched by Lillian and used for a Christmas card in the 1960's. The view is not only impressive, but suggests vegetative changes in the landscape that have occurred between the early 1900's and today. At the time the photograph was taken, the valley floor is clear of native vegetation and furrows appear to run across the valley, from north to south. A close-up of the photograph reveals planted trees around the Stafford cabin.

Today, from the same vantage point the circulation is still quite visible, however the valley has filled in with a number of juniper and cypress trees. The orchard and furrows are no longer discernible and the view westward beyond the canyon now contains a recently built comfort station and parking lot.

We may assume that the two orchards presented an enchanting springtime view as one entered Faraway Ranch from the west and looking out from the second story, east windows of the main house. These views have certainly changed as there are only a few fruit trees left in either orchard.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:
Early 1890s view of Bonita Canyon from an eastern vantage point, showing orchard and circulation.
Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair
Assessment Date: 09/30/1998
Condition Assessment: Fair
Assessment Date: 10/15/2007
Stabilization Measures:
No landscape stabilization project funding requests are currently in PMIS; there are several for work on structures.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance
External or Internal: Internal
Impact Description: Many of the fences have deteriorated over time. Other features such as the water tank adjacent to the windmill are in a state of disrepair.

Type of Impact: Removal/Replacement
External or Internal: Internal
Impact Description: A high percentage of trees in the orchard have died and planting organization in the orchards and gardens is no longer discernible.

Stabilization Costs

Landscape Stabilization Cost: 0.00
Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined
Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

Citation Author: Carla Singer et al.
Citation Title: Cultural Landscape Inventory Level II, Faraway Ranch
Year of Publication: 1999
Citation Publisher: National Park Service

Citation Author: Lysa Wegman French
Citation Title: Chiricahua National Monument Special Use Study
Year of Publication: 2006
Citation Publisher: National Park Service

Citation Author: Livingston, Dewey
Citation Title: A Pioneer Log Cabin in Bonita Canyon, The History of the Stafford Cabin, Faraway Ranch Historic District, Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona, Historic Resource Study
Year of Publication: 1994
Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Number: 016818

Citation Author: Jackson, Earl
Citation Title: Chiracahua National Monument History Handbook
Year of Publication: 1962
Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Location: WACC

Citation Author: Kumble, Peter A
Citation Title: Historic Landscape Restoration Report, The Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument
Year of Publication: 1989
Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Number: 015277
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<th>Torres, Louis/Baumler, Mark</th>
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<td>Citation Title</td>
<td>Historic Structure Report, Historical and Archeological Data Sections, A History of the Buildings and Structures of Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Title</td>
<td>The Archeology of Faraway Ranch, Arizona, Prehistoric, Historic, and 20th Century</td>
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<td>Year of Publication</td>
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<td>Citation Title</td>
<td>Human Disturbance and Vegetation in Arizona's Chiracahua Mountains in 1902.</td>
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<td>Citation Title:</td>
<td>The Transformation of Landscape: Culture and Ecology in Southeastern Arizona</td>
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<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<td>In: Environmental Review, v.13, Fall/Winter, 1989</td>
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<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<td>Citation Location:</td>
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Citation Author: Kumble, Peter Andrew
Citation Title: The Vernacular Landscape of the Southwest Guest Ranch
Year of Publication: 1991
Source Name: Other
Citation Location: Unpublished Masters Thesis

Citation Author: Fox, Gregory L.
Citation Title: Archeological Assessment of Flood Damaged Historical Period Cultural Resources Chiricahua National Monument
Year of Publication: 1995
Source Name: Other
Citation Location: WACC

Citation Author: Riggs, Lillian Erickson
Citation Title: Westward into the Sun
Year of Publication: 1979
Source Name: Other
Documentation Assessment

Documentation Assessment: Fair
Documentation Checklist

Documentation

Document: Historic Resource Study
Year of Document: 1994
Adequate Documentation: No

Explanatory Narrative:
History of Stafford Cabin, provides good information on Stafford family history in Bonita Canyon, garden locations, and produce grown. Some information regarding Erickson purchase of Stafford homestead.

Document: Other
Year of Document: 1984
Amplifying Details: Faraway Ranch-CHIR (puplication by SPMA)
Adequate Documentation: No

Explanatory Narrative:
Provides good background summary of Erickson Family.

Document: Other
Year of Document: 1984
Amplifying Details: Historic Structures Report-Faraway Ranch
Adequate Documentation: No

Explanatory Narrative:
Includes history of buildings and structures of Faraway, historical, and archeological data sections.

Document: Other
Year of Document: 1984
Amplifying Details: The Archeology of Faraway Ranch, Arizona
Adequate Documentation: Yes

Explanatory Narrative:
Provides excellent information covering prehistoric findings, Buffalo Soldier camp, Stafford family, Erickson-Riggs, and CCC camp. Contains excellent maps, detailing location of features.
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

Document: Other
Year of Document: 1989
Amplifying Details: Historic Landscape Restoration Report, The Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument
Adequate Documentation: Yes

Explanatory Narrative:
Contains site analysis, identifies ranch structures, inventories existing vegetation and determines missing plants

Document: Resource Management Plan
Year of Document: 1996
Adequate Documentation: No

Explanatory Narrative:
Identifies need for landscape research
OCT 1 2 1993
Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Chiricahua National Monument

From: Historical Landscape Architect, Santa Fe Support Office

Subject: Transmittal of Faraway Ranch Level 2 Cultural Landscape Inventory, 1999 CLAIMS database version

Alan -- I am enclosing a copy of the Faraway Ranch Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI), as it appears in the CLI computer database (CLAIMS) here in Santa Fe, for the park’s information and review. Lisa Nicholas, a landscape architecture graduate student intern, entered the data from the 1997 University of Arizona CLI directly into the computer, with some rearranging as needed to fit the CLAIMS format. So, this hardcopy does not contain any new information or analysis, except some clarification on historic vegetation. Because the CLAIMS version contains only some of the graphics from the University of Arizona document, it does not replace or supercede the University of Arizona work.

As you know, CLI completion relates to park GPRA goals 1a7 and 1b2B. This CLI will be “GPRA complete” when a Condition Assessment for the property is determined. The CLI uses the same criteria for Condition as the RMP Guidelines; I am attaching a copy of the CLI Condition criteria, for your reference. If you can let me know how you would rate the Faraway Ranch landscape in terms of condition, I will add this to the computer file, and the CLI will be “GPRA complete.” Based on my last site visit, and knowing that you have done some work on the corrals since then, I would estimate a “fair” condition for the landscape as a whole, based on discussions at the park on work still needed within some of the landscape areas. This is my estimation; the rating is your call. Also, if park staff have comments on the CLAIMS version (e.g., updated information, corrections), I can also address these. If you have any questions about how this CLI relates to your GPRA goals, feel free to contact me.

As I mentioned when the University of Arizona CLI was formally transmitted, I would be happy to assist the park in any follow up work with the Arizona SHPO related to the Faraway Ranch cultural landscape (e.g., proposed revision of National Register District boundary as mentioned in the CLI and illustrated in the Boundary graphic on page 8 of the University of Arizona document).
I look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on the on-going CCC landscape and Fort Bowie Level 2 CLIs, and assisting with any cultural landscape compliance issues.

S Jill Cowley

Enclosures (2)

cc:
Alan Whalon, Chiricahua National Monument, w/o encls.
Kathryn Neilson, Chiricahua National Monument, w/o encls.
Robert Spude, IMSF-CNR, w/o encls.
Dave Evans, SOAR, w/o encls.

√JCowley:vb:10/7/1999:IMSF-CNR
### Condition Assessments and Impacts

**Condition Assessment**

Indicate the current condition of the inventory unit based on criteria listed in the Resource Management Plan Guideline and Software Manual (1994). Select one of the following categories:

- **Good**: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

- **Fair**: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character-defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

- **Poor**: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

- **Unknown**: Not enough information is available to make an evaluation.

**Note:** The condition of the inventory unit must be determined at the completion of Level II: Landscape Analysis and Evaluation, but may be undetermined during prior inventory work (i.e., Levels 0 and I). Condition should be based on consultation and concurrence with park management.

(See Relationship of the CLI to NPS Strategic Planning and GPRA)
ROUGH SCHEMATIC OF THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE BOUNDARY OF FARAWAY RANCH

Lillian Erickson bought the 160 acre Stafford Homestead in 1918. She subdivided the land twice, selling one parcel in 1945 and another in 1950.

\[
\text{Total Acres} = 160 + 53.96
\]

NR Farm map
26 acres (?)

J11 C
10/99
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument
Contents

Cultural Landscapes Inventory Hierarchy Description
Component Landscape Description
Location Map
Boundary Description
Regional Context
Site Plan
Chronology
Statement Of Significance
History
Analysis And Evaluation
Cultural Landscapes Inventory Hierarchy Description

Faraway Ranch cultural landscape is a component landscape of Chiricahua National Monument cultural landscape. The other component landscape within the park is the CCC Areas cultural landscape.

---

Faraway Ranch and CCC Area Cultural Landscapes are Component Landscapes of Chiricahua National Monument Parent Landscape
Component Landscape Description

This historic vernacular landscape dates from the late nineteenth century and continued to be occupied by descendants of the Erickson family until the mid 1970's. The landscape includes the main ranch house complex with the family residence and associated structures including the barn, various sheds, a garage, a bunkhouse, wells, an earthen reservoir, a corral, and fruit tree orchards. Also within the residential complex area is a swimming pool built by the family in 1923 and fed by diverted well water.

To the east of the residential complex are the remnants of an orchard and the former site of the family's vegetable garden. There are also traces of field roads, cobblestone edged paths, irrigation ditches, and a well.

The historic Stafford cabin is approximately a quarter mile east of the Erickson's primary residential complex. The Stafford homestead of 160 acres was adjacent to the Erickson homestead, in section 26 of township 16 south, range 29 east. This homestead was purchased by Lillian and Hildegarde Erickson in 1918 and combined with the family's property. The Stafford land was subdivided first in 1945 and again in 1955. Lillian (Erickson) Riggs retained the parcel of land that included the historic Stafford cabin.

Approximately one mile to the southwest of the main complex is the Erickson family cemetery which consists of two fenced rectangular enclosures, plantings, and four headstones.
Faraway Ranch is located off state highways 186 and 181 in Chiricahua National Monument
Boundary Description

At present, recommend that the ranch landscape boundary follow the political land ownership boundaries as established by the original 160 acre homestead, plus 53.96 acres of the Stafford homestead. The additional Stafford land includes the orchard adjacent and to the east of the original Erickson homestead and west of the Stafford cabin. Lillian Erickson purchased the entire Stafford homestead in 1918, however it was subdivided in 1945. 80 acres of the property on the east end of the Stafford land was sold to a group of investors who created the Silver Spur Ranch.

Regional Context

Physiographic Context

The ranch is located in Bonita Canyon on the west slopes of the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona. The upper reaches of this rhyolite box canyon are steep and narrow, but the lower portion is a quarter of a mile across and contains a significant floodplain.

Cultural Context

The Faraway Ranch was established and developed by a Swedish family—Emma and Neil Erickson. It is highly probable that features representative of the Swedish cultural tradition will be identified as characteristic of Faraway Ranch landscape. The family continued operation and management of the property through the 20th century as the Erickson's daughter took over management and converted the farmstead/ranch to a guest house operation during the early 1920's.

Political Context

Administered by the National Park Service.
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

Site Plan

Faraway Ranch Site Plan, 1997 Section A
Map: Map by Jennifer Burns - National Register additions by Gordon Chappell
### Chronology

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1870-1879</td>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>Settlers enter Sulphur Spring Valley, including Louis Prue &amp; Brannick Riggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880-1918</td>
<td>Homesteaded</td>
<td>Stafford Years, one of the first Anglo American settlers settles in Bonita Canyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885-1886</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>Buffalo soldiers occupied Bonita Canyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Original cabin purchased by Emma Peterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Stone room built</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>Established</td>
<td>Stafford orchard established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Homesteaded</td>
<td>Homestead granted to Neil Erickson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Box house built (Main Faraway Ranch House)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1915-1916</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Adobe house built (Main Faraway Ranch House)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Established</td>
<td>Hildegard and Lillian started guest ranch business at Faraway Ranch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Lillian and Hildegard Erickson purchased Stafford homestead</td>
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<tr>
<td>1920-1929</td>
<td>Expanded</td>
<td>Guest ranch business expanded</td>
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<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>Established</td>
<td>Chiricahua National Monument Established</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Porch built</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925-1929</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Swimming pool built by Ed Riggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925-1929</td>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>The Bunkhouse, which had been an addition to the Stafford cabin, was detached from the cabin and moved to its present location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925 - 1935</td>
<td>Altered</td>
<td>Ed Riggs remodeled the exterior and interior of the Stafford cabin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>Altered</td>
<td>Interior plumbing installed in Faraway Ranch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>New corrals and shed built</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Cowboy house built</td>
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<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Second story added to ranch house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td>Ed and Lillian leased land to the Civilian Conservation Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Lillian Riggs sold 80 acres at the east end of the Stafford Homestead to a group of investors who created Silver Spurs Ranch</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Lillian Riggs subdivided and sold the remaining parcel of the Stafford homestead, retaining 53.96 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Gas generated lighting system at Faraway Ranch is removed and replaced by carbide and kerosene lamps</td>
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<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Abandoned</td>
<td>Ranch business ended</td>
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<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Expanded</td>
<td>Public Law 95-625 authorized expansion of Chiricahua National Monument to include Faraway Ranch</td>
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Statement Of Significance

"The Faraway Ranch Historic District has significance in the areas of: archeology; historic agriculture; architecture; conservation, settlement; industry (cattle and guest ranching). military history; and social history (specifically Black history, Women’s history, and immigrant history with this one family as a case study). The districts associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, (settlement, the Indian wars, the end of the frontier, the conservation movement through National Forests and National Monuments), in all of the specific categories cited above, and is associated with the lives of individual who were of significance locally (J.H. Stafford, Emma Erickson, and Ed Riggs) and regionally (Neil Erickson, Lillian Erickson Riggs, Captain Charles Cooper, and his daughter Forestone). The main house at Faraway Ranch embodies distinctive characteristics of a type period, and method of construction, and the ranch as a whole possesses a high degree of integrity. Furthermore, the site of the military “Camp at Bonita Canon” may be likely to yield through historic archeology information important in history."

National Register Nomination, 1980

Using National Register criteria for determining significance it has been recommended that criteria A, C, and D are applicable. Criterion A applies to properties associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of history, including exploration, African American history, Women’s history, settlement, farming, and ranching. Criterion C applies to properties whose physical design reflects distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and land use. Criterion D applies to properties that have yielded, or are likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history. Surface or subsurface remains may provide information about agricultural or land use activities, settlement patterns, or cultural traditions.

Using existing information it is noted that the landscape associated with the Faraway Ranch has regional significance as an historic vernacular ranch, guest ranch, and homestead operation within Bonita Canyon in the Sulphur Spring Valley of Cochise County, Arizona. The ranch landscape comprises substantial remnants of early settlement and agricultural practices in Arizona in addition to reflecting the continuum of use by a single family as they modified their approach to land use and management in an effort to retain their lands. The transition from single family farmstead/ranch to guest ranch is clearly evident in the features found within the landscape of today.

Before the establishment of Faraway Ranch the site had importance to African American history. Bonita canyon was the site of an ancillary tent camp that was garrisoned by the 10th U.S. Cavalry, which was a unit of Buffalo Soldiers. Soldiers at Bonita Canyon built an inscribed stone monument in memory of President James A. Garfield, who had commanded African American troops.

The events surrounding Faraway Ranch are also significant to Women’s history. Lillian and Hildegard Erickson assumed management of the ranch from their parents. Before they bought the Stafford property, the sisters maintained orchards and gardens, selling the produce from these to support themselves and the ranch. After acquiring the Stafford property, they developed the guest ranch. Although Hildegard moved away shortly after the founding of the guest ranch, Lillian remained the primary decision-maker and ran the business most of her life.

The Faraway Guest Ranch was one of the first guest ranches to open in Arizona. Kumble describes eight
guest ranches in the San Simon and Sulphur Springs Valleys of southeastern Arizona, including Faraway Ranch, that were in operation at the same period of time, the 1920’s and 1930’s (Kumble, 1991). In advertising literature the ranches promised visitors beautiful mountain vistas, a very agreeable climate, home cooking, and entertainment such as horseback riding, hiking, hunting, and moon-light campfires. Vacationing on a working ranch in “Apache country” had a romantic appeal to easterners. The guest ranch operation allowed Lillian and Ed Riggs a means of support, beyond that of their relatively small cattle business, in the rugged and isolated Bonita Canyon.

Numerous features that represent as well as define the land use history of the site for the past one hundred years are retained in the landscape. These features include the orchard and garden areas, the family cemetery, the building complex that includes the family home and a variety of support buildings, water tanks, a working windmill, and a corral. The landscape features that are present on the site reveal its continuum of use by the Erickson family from the time of its establishment as a single family homestead and ranch to its conversion as a guest ranch in 1918 by the Erickson daughters.

The organizational design of the landscape and some landscape features reflect characteristics of early 20th century guest ranches in Arizona. The swimming pool may have been built as an attraction for guests and additional property and buildings were added to the Erickson land to accommodate guests.
History

1675-1886 Apache Subsistence and Resistance

The Apache tribes of Native Americans were descendants of Athabascan speaking nomadic people who came to the southwest from the southern plains during the 16th and 17th centuries (Hirt, 1989). The Chiricahua Apaches occupied most of southeastern Arizona, southwestern Mexico, and northern areas of the Mexican states of Sonora and Chihuahua. These Apaches are further broken down into “local bands.” The Chokonen, or “true Chiricahua” was the band that occupied areas surrounding the Chiricahua Mountains, including Bonita Canyon. For centuries, these people occupied this land and had few adverse affects on the landscape (Hirt, 1989).

The Chiricahua Apaches viewed nature with “courtesy and respect” (Hirt, 1989). The landscape and mountains served as a cultural basis for their spiritual and lives. The Chiricahua band directly related their existence with the landscape. “...each band had their own sacred mountains, indeed each family group and each individual revered specific sacred places associated with some special feature of the landscape” (Hirt, 171, 1989). They viewed nature, both flora and fauna, as living beings and feared their retaliation if not handled with respect. In fact, Hirt’s essay: The Transformation of a Landscape: Culture and Ecology in Southeastern Arizona, refers to ethnohistorian, Edward Castetter who stated “his (Chiricahua Apaches) adaptation and response to the ecological region in which he lived was sensitive and complete...These people knew nature’s calendar by heart” (Hirt, 173, 1989).

Being a nomadic people, the Chiricahua band made little use of extensive agricultural practices. They were hunters and gatherers, harvesting desert foods such as yucca stems, agave heads, cactus fruit, pinon nuts, sunflower seeds, berries, and mesquite beans (Utley, 1977). They hunted deer, rabbits, rats, squirrels, quail, bighorn sheep, elk and turkey (Hirt, 1989). Due to their constant relocation, they were able to take advantage of the diverse flora and fauna found throughout several life zones. Their hunting and gathering practices were supplemented by raids for the acquisition of guns and cattle (Hirt, 1989).

Hirt (1988) notes that the landscape of the southwest changed dramatically after Anglo-Americans succeeded in suppressing the Native Americans. He comments that, “From almost any perspective these changes proved undesirable: An indigenous people lost their land and way of life; a healthy, stable environment deteriorated; and the natural resource productivity of the land significantly declined” (Hirt, 165, 1989). Among the major changes that occurred with Anglo-American land management were fire suppression, intense hunting, overgrazing, and mining. In contrast, fire was used by the Chiricahua Apaches to control game and produce food. The use of fire stimulated the growth of herbs and opened up land for natural grazing by rabbits, and birds. Fire also helped to suppress shrub growth in grasslands and maintain an open landscape (Hirt, 1989). An important correlation may be drawn between the lack of fire suppression and the current presence of juniper (Juniperus spp.) in Bonita Canyon. Because of Native American fire practices, it is possible that juniper did not exist on the canyon floor in the 1880’s when Stafford and Erickson arrived and after the burning ceased. According to Hirt: “Apaches could not help but notice the utility of fire as an ecological management tool...Fire also served to restrict shrub growth in the grasslands, maintaining openness in the landscape and thus improving ease of mobility and enhancing vision...In fact, an important source of ecological change in the last one hundred years in southeast Arizona has been fire suppression” (Hirt, 173, 1989).

The raiding practices of the Chiricahua Apache also indirectly affected the landscape of this area. Livestock and horses were gathered for food and transportation. Livestock were not native to this area
and thus caused “significant damage to grasses and streamside ecology, especially when kept in large
numbers or allowed to concentrate in one area.” (Hirt, 175, 1989). This raiding by the Apaches helped to
diminish the impact of livestock and thus preserve riparian areas and rangeland ecosystems (Hirt, 1989).
In addition, mining being conducted in southeast Arizona was considered a “sacrilege” by the Chiricahua
Apaches. Therefore, they tried to eliminate mining from their territory.

After the Civil War ended the government directed a more forceful approach to dealing with “the Indian
problems” (Hirt, 1989). A reservation was established in 1872 in southeast Arizona, but failed after four
years. When it was dissolved in 1876 and, “the Indian lands were being ‘returned to the public domain,’
entrepreneurs and settlers flooded onto the grassy valleys and into the mineral rich mountains with a
vengeance, beginning a process of environmental change that would forever alter the ecological
composition and permanently degrade the productive capacity of the southern Arizona landscape.” (Hirt,
177, 1989). According to Utley, “By 1876, officials in Washington merely awaited an excuse to...move
the Chiricahuas to San Carlos.” (Utley, 40, 1977). The Apaches were concentrated again in the San
Carlos and Warm Springs Reservations (which also failed). Furthermore, the attempt to remove the
Chiricahua Apaches from their homeland resulted in continued raidings and resistance. It was not until
1886, and the surrender of Geronimo that the era of land occupation by the Chiricahua Apache ended.

1862-1976 Anglo American Homesteading

Six homestead acts were passed in the United States between 1862 and 1916, with each successive act
increasing the available land, simplifying the process, or easing the restrictions placed on homesteaders.
Revisions to the Act were made periodically over the course of its history (Stein, 1990). The Homestead
Act was repealed in 1976.

All federal land was available for homesteading, with the exception of land that was saline or mineral in
its general character, land that the federal government had previously withdrawn or preserved, land that
was already occupied for trade or business, or land that was lying within an incorporated town. Other
than charging a nominal filing fee, the government offered the land for free once specified requirements
were met. The stipulated requirements under the original Homestead Act were that improvements to the
land were to be made and the homesteader was to live on the land for a period of five years. At any
point, a homesteader could relinquish his or her claim or purchase the land for $1.25 an acre. Land
within a specified distance from a railroad could be purchased for $2.50 an acre.

Arizona was one of thirty-one states or territories to offer land for homesteading. The first successful
claim in Arizona was entered by William Wiley in 1878. Although there were somewhere between
21,000 and 22,000 successful claims entered in Arizona, there was an even higher number of failed
homesteads (Stein, 1990). The peak periods of successful homesteading in Arizona occurred in the
1910’s and again from 1930 to 1936. (see Figure 1, Stein, 1990). These periods are strikingly different
from the latter 19th century when Neil Erickson entered his claim and relatively few people had applied
for homesteads.

In spite of the higher number of failures, 4,748,000 acres of Arizona land passed from public to private
hands. Over 1 million of these acres were repurchased by the government and returned to the public
domain through the Bankhead-Jones Act of 1937, however today that leaves more than 3 million private
acres in Arizona that were originally acquired through homesteading (Stein, 1990).

The Erickson homestead fell under the regulations of the first act, the National Homestead Act of 1862.
This permitted the acquisition of 160 acres by one “entryman”, or person filing the claim, provided they
lived on the land continuously for five years, and cultivated a portion of that land during the final four
years of residence. It appears that Emma Erickson was the driving force behind the decision to file for the homestead in Bonita Canyon (Torres and Baumler, 1984), however only one person was permitted to file for each homestead, and Neil Erickson’s name is the one found on the documents.

The Erickson homestead was entered, or granted, on November 22, 1894). The legal description is: The South half of the South East quarter and the South half of the South West quarter of section twenty-seven, in Township sixteen South, of Range twenty-nine, East of the Gila and Salt River Meridian in Arizona Territory, containing one hundred and sixty acres.

Southeastern Arizona was opened to American homesteaders following the 1853 Gadsden Purchase. Ja Hu Stafford homesteaded in the valley as early as 1880, building a log cabin along Bonita Creek. By 1886 he had added a chicken house, smoke house, corral, orchard, and four-acre garden. In 1885 an ancillary tent camp was set up by the American military in lower Bonita Canyon to assist in the final campaign against the Apaches. This camp was maintained until Geronimo’s surrender in 1886. The only tangible remains of the tent camp consisted of a monument of engraved stones, built by the soldiers to commemorate assassinated President Garfield. The monument is no longer standing, but the stones have been incorporated into a fireplace in the Faraway Ranch dining room.

Neil and Emma Erickson filed their homestead claim in 1896, and moved into the cabin in 1888. The cabin underwent many additions throughout the years, ultimately becoming a 2-story structure. Other ranch structures included the “Cowboy House”, a storage shed, barn, tool shed, generator house, garage/storage unit, garage/office space, bunkhouse/guest quarters, swimming pool, windmill, water tank, stone wall, corral, fences, chutes, gates, water trough, pig pen, cobblestone-edged paths, bridge, roads, well, orchards, gardens, and eventually a cemetery. The family raised cattle and other livestock essential for subsistence. They also planted and irrigated two large orchard areas as well as numerous fruit trees around the ranch compound. A large irrigated two vegetable garden also provided food for the family. Surplus from the garden was sold or traded at Fort Bowie. A stock tank fed by a windmill was constructed as were pastures and corrals for livestock. Several structures from the site’s early history are no longer standing but remain as archeological resources. These include the Martha Stark House, a chicken house and pens, and a frame and wire pen of unknown function.

As is common with vernacular sites, modifications and alterations were constantly underway. The Stafford Cabin received an addition in 1881-5, another in 1897-9 and a third in 1910. The Erickson’s home and its associated buildings and structures at Faraway Ranch also went through numerous changes (Torres and Baumler, 1984).

Following in their parent’s footsteps, the Erickson sisters took over management of the property and Lillian and Hildegard actively maintained the orchard and vegetable garden, selling much of the produce to make ends meet financially. In 1918 they acquired the adjacent lands of the Stafford homestead and began to develop the property as a guest ranch. Hildegard eventually married and moved away. Lillian married Ed Riggs in 1923 and together they continued making numerous changes to Faraway Ranch (Livingston, 1994).
Analysis And Evaluation

Summary

The following pages provide graphic illustration and narrative descriptions of the applicable characteristics of the cultural landscape. Following is a list of the primary contributing Landscape Features. These features are those that have an outstanding significance and should be preserved.

Stafford Homestead:

Orchard Area
- Partial foundation of Martha Stark cottage
- Pile of Wood posts
- Rock piles related to field clearing
- Gravesite with headstone

Cabin Area:
- Row of eight cypress trees
- Single-course rock alignment / enclosure
- Rock-ringed hearth and scatter
- Fence post bases

Faraway Ranch:

- Main House
- Cowboy House
- Storage Shed
- Barn and Tool Shed
- Tool Shed
- Generator House
- Office / Garage
- Bunkhouse / Guest Quarters

Secondary Faraway Ranch Structures, including graves
- Corrals, Fences, Chutes, and Gates
- Windmill located at NE end of reservoir / cattle tank
- Orchard Trees
- Irrigation ditches
- Swimming Pool
- Stone fence running N/S from ranch out building
- Faraway Ranch roads (dirt surfaced roads criss-crossing area)
- Other historic vegetation (see Supplemental Information)
- Faraway Ranch Well in orchard east of house
- Faraway Ranch Tank / Reservoir
- Bonita Creek Dam
- Faraway Ranch Corral (attached to barn)
- Faraway Ranch stone walls
Faraway Ranch Water Trough
Faraway Ranch Wooden Gate (south of corral)
Faraway Ranch Wire and Post Gate (main gate leading into yard around main house, SW corner of wall and fence)
Faraway Ranch Wire and Post Gate (NW "L" of yard, leading from pool to vegetable garden area)
Faraway Ranch Pig Pen Ruins
Faraway Ranch Foot Bridge
Faraway Ranch Water Tanks (two, SE of house on ridge)
Faraway Ranch Cemetery Fence
Faraway Ranch Main House Well (in yard E of house)
Infant Daughter’s Grave (associated with Stafford Homestead)
Louis “Ben” Erickson Grave Marker

Landscape Characteristics And Features

Natural Systems And Features

The homestead included a water source, Bonita Creek, flat land for limited agriculture, and provided an abundance of trees and rocks that were used for building materials. Oral histories mention a natural hot spring used by Ja Hu Stafford for irrigating vegetables year round. However, the spring is said to have disappeared following an earthquake in the 1887 (Leavengood, 1995).

Ed Riggs constructed two water storage tanks on the southern side of Bonita Canyon that provided potable water as well as proper water pressure once indoor plumbing was installed (Nielsen, interview, 1996). The water table was high and various wells were constructed around the property.
Spatial Organization

The original 160 acre Erickson homestead is located along Bonita Creek, on the northwestern edge of the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona. By 1902 a cluster of homesteads had appeared in the area on adjacent lands.

The main house and associated buildings are situated to the south of Bonita Creek, on the floor of a narrow canyon. The Erickson family cemetery is located to the west of the complex, at the mouth of Bonita Canyon. The canyon opens to a wide valley. The town of Willcox is approximately 35 miles northwest of Faraway Ranch.

Faraway Ranch was operated as a cattle ranch and guest ranch. The cattle business was supplemented by successful guest ranching which continued from 1918 through the 1970’s. Work areas associated with cattle ranching and horse care, i.e., corrals, stables, and bunkhouse, are to the west and northwest of the main house. This may be due to the proximity to the valley and the highway to Willcox, one of the towns to which cattle were trucked for slaughter (Leavengood, 1995).

Cattle ranching activity near the main house at Faraway Ranch was limited, mainly involving branding and the preparation of cattle for shipment elsewhere. Two areas, owned by Ed Riggs, were mentioned in oral histories where cattle was grazed; one the Double Z Ranch near Apache Pass, used for winter grazing and the Holderman Ranch for summer grazing (Leavengood, 1995).

Horses that were provided for guests were kept near the main house. A tack room is connected to a corral to the northwest of the main house.

The main house is oriented on a north/south axis with the vegetable garden and swimming pool to the north and the main orchard to the east. This created a pastoral scene for guests to view from inside the house or while relaxing in the yard. The main house, which provided sleeping quarters and eating areas for guests, is located at the mouth of a canyon, leading into the Wonderland of Rocks and providing trails for horseback riding.

The Stafford homestead to the east of the Erickson homestead was purchased by the Erickson daughters, Lillian and Hildegarde. The Stafford cabin was used by Lillian and Ed Riggs for guest accommodations during years the guest ranch was operating.
Spatial Organization, Faraway Ranch, 1997
Land Use

Prior to the establishment of Faraway Ranch by Neil and Emma Erickson, the Chiricahua Apaches utilized the land in this area. These indigenous people left little evidence of their existence, traveling frequently from site to site throughout the mountains. They relied mainly on desert food sources. Meat was provided by deer, mules, sheep, and cows (Utley, 1977). “They engaged in an active relationship with the plants, animals, and physical features of their landscape, blurring the boundaries between human and nonhuman worlds. They imbued everything with personality, purpose, and power. Coyotes, spiders, pollen (a sacred substance), and mountains were often accorded the same respect as neighbors and relatives” (Hirt, 171, 1989). A more detailed discussion about the Chiricahua Apaches is presented in the historical context section of this report.

Bahre discusses a 1902 report titled “Report of an Examination of the Chiricahua Mountains in Arizona”, produced by Albert F. Potter and Royal S. Kellogg of the Forestry Bureau of the General Land Office (GLO) to the Arizona Territory (Bahre, 1995). This report outlined land use practices in the Chiricahuas around the turn of the century. According to that report the major land uses contributing to the evolution of the southeast Arizona landscape were: livestock grazing, mining, logging, and fuelwood cutting (Bahre, 1995).

Eleven sawmills were operating in the Chiricahua’s in 1879 with approximately 30 percent of the forest being logged (Bahre, 1995). Kellogg specified that “the 50,000 acres of coniferous forest in the Chiricahua constituted the single largest acreage of coniferous forest on any mountain in Arizona south of the Mogollon Rim.” (Bahre, 1995). Kellogg ultimately concluded from his report that “abusive logging practices led to erosion and possible desiccation of some streams.” (Bahre, 1995).

Fuelwood cutting was practiced throughout the Chiricahua’s primarily using Mesquite (Prosopis spp.), Arizona Cypress (Cupressus arizonica), and evergreen woodlands. Wood was the major fuel for the country until 1910 (Bahre, 1995). According to Bahre, “…juniper (Juniperus spp.), mesquite, and desert willow (Chilopsis linearis) were cut for fenceposts, to make wood corrals, and along with oak (Quercus spp.) to burn lime for cement and to kiln bricks.” (Bahre, 43, 1995). The Daily Tombstone (November 22, 1886) also verified the land use, “Attention Ranchmen: Shakes, shingles, etc. for sale from mill at the head of Morse Canyon...Juniper timbers 30 feet in length...” Bahre goes on to state, “The latter were most likely cut from large Arizona cypress because there were no junipers large enough to cut 30-foot beams from in southeastern Arizona.” (Bahre, 43, 1995).

Fire frequency decreased at the turn of the century. In fact, fire suppression and overgrazing were encouraged by forest managers (Bahre, 1995). There has been an increase in biomass due to fire suppression. Bahre concludes, “Probably the greatest ecological change in the Chiricahuas since the advent of large-scale livestock ranching has been the change in the fire regime from frequent small surface fires to occasional large crown fires.” (Bahre, 43, 1995).

It is speculated that some livestock grazing did occur in the Chiricahuas during the early 18th century, however major grazing did not take place until 1878 or 1879 with the arrival of Anglo-American ranchers (Bahre, 1995). By the turn of the century the Chiricahua Mountains were already heavily grazed (Bahre, 1995).

Mining in the Chiricahuas began around the 1860’s with most prospecting occurring prior to the establishment of the Chiricahua Apache reservation in 1872 (Bahre, 1995). Wildlife inhabiting the Chiricahuas included “wolves (Canis lupus), antelope (Antilocapra americana mexicana), Merriam turkey (Meleagris gallopavo), grizzly bear (Ursus arctos), and black tailed prairie dogs (Cynomys ludovicianus)
and possibly bighorn sheep (Ovis canadensis) and beaver (Castor canadensis)..." (Bahre, 44, 1995).

The conclusions drawn as a result of Kellogg and Potter’s report as summarized by Bahre include the following statement: “The ways in which the vegetation of the Chiricahuas has changed as a result of historic disturbances are not known. Students of southeast Arizona’s wild landscapes must understand that in the late 19th and early 20th centuries most of the region suffered from the same types of land-use degradation that affect many Third World arid environments today....At the present, we have little idea what the Chiricahuas would have looked like had they not been logged or grazed, had the fire regime not been manipulated, or had Forest Service management not occurred. Nevertheless, it is clear from the Potter map that the Chiricahuas were not without significant human disturbance in 1902.” (Bahre, 44, 1995).

It is important to note that this area was also used by Buffalo Soldiers of the Tenth Cavalry that traveled to Bonita Canyon in September of 1885 (Bowers, no date). Their main responsibility was to serve in the Indian Wars. A secondary responsibility was to serve as mail couriers.

Land use associated with Ja Hu Stafford was primarily that of farming, with an orchard and garden providing most of the income for the family. The vegetable garden was planted to the east of the cabin in the Silver Spur Meadow. This garden, however, is not visible at the present time. Ja Hu made use of horses in the canyon to accomplish his work. The existence of two horses and 18 chickens can be dated to April 16, 1882 in a letter written by Pauline Stafford (Livingston, 1994). In later letters to her father, she encouraged him to bring cattle to the canyon for additional income. She stated: “...Thier (sic) are scarcely any good cows here at all and none to sell.” (Livingston, 11, 1994). However, cattle were documented in records at Stafford Cabin (Livingston, 1994). It has been noted that Ja Hu Stafford supplied fruits and vegetables to the soldiers at Fort Bowie while Louis Prue provided beef (Bowers, no date).

Land use associated with the Ericksons at Faraway Ranch consisted primarily of ranching and farming. They cultivated fruit orchards as well as managed cattle. A small vegetable garden was also part of their land use. Neil also used the site for various carpentry projects conducted for income. However, around 1918, the use of the land shifted towards tourism/guest house and ranch operations. Hildegard and Lillian Erickson, daughters of Neil and Emma Erickson, purchased the Stafford property in 1918. The Stafford cabin was used as additional lodging for workers and in later years was rented to guests (Leavengood, 1988). In 1923, Lillian married Ed Riggs and together they promoted and expanded Faraway Ranch as a guest/dude ranch (Leavengood, 1995). The highpoint for Faraway as a guest ranch was between 1920 and 1940 when 10 or more guests per week received accommodations (Fox, 1995). In 1934, Ed and Lillian leased land to the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and extended trails through the "Wonderland of Rocks" (Leavengood, 1995). The CCC crew with Ed Riggs serving as trail foreman constructed numerous buildings, trails and roads after the establishment of the Chiricahua National Monument in 1924. Upon Ed’s death on June 29, 1950, Lillian continued to manage Faraway Ranch with additional hired ranch workers.
Cultural Traditions

With reference to particular landscape features or spatial organization, park personnel have been unable to make any associations, thus far, with Swedish cultural traditions. Mr. Doug Cap, a maintenance worker at Chiricahua National Monument had learned from a Scandinavian couple visiting the monument, that the particular color of the main house, “mansion yellow” is an indicator of affluence or social status (Site visit, April 1996)
Topography

Bonita Canyon provided an ideal topographical setting for the Ericksons in terms of having both level ground upon which to build and farm, and unique rock formations in the immediate surrounding mountains to capture the interest and imagination of guests from all parts of the United States.

There is little evidence of manipulation of the land to accommodate the Erickson homestead. Those areas that today show change include: a small terraced area immediately to the north of the swimming pool where a vegetable garden was located, a narrow, single terrace running along the east side of the home and within the fenced yard; and a leveled area to the west of the cowboy house.

The terraced area to the west of the swimming pool, where the vegetable garden was located, has an 11% slope from the south end to the north end of the 47’ X 13’6” fenced area. The entire area is outlined by stones, and has a low, 2’3” high stone wall along the south end, adjacent to the fenced yard. The first terraced area is 26’ south to north and retained by a 1’ stone edge. The second terraced area begins immediately below that. There is no sign of its previous use, however there are remains of an irrigation sprinkler on the top terrace.

Within the fenced yard, on the east side is a narrow, single terrace that appears to have been created for purely decorative purposes. The terrace was built with stones in the same fashion as is found elsewhere on the property and includes three stones from the Garfield Monument. The approximate slope of the land from the house to the fence is 10%.

There is an area to the west of the Cowboy House that appears to have been leveled. Nothing is known about the purpose for which it was intended and park personnel could only speculate on its reason for existing. Features that are associated with this area include broken farm tools, stones, rock piles, and a possible hearth.
Vegetation

Upon her arrival, Emma Erickson was quite taken by the natural beauty of Bonita Canyon. Large trees were found in abundance and the native grasses were knee high (Leavengood, 1995).

There are a multitude of plant materials and vegetation features present at Faraway Ranch. A detailed listing of the materials is presented in this paper. At present, the canyon is being invaded by Juniper (Juniperus sp.) as well as other native vegetation. Juniper (Juniperus sp.) in the canyon today is found in a large part of the “lower orchard” area as well as throughout the site. Historical photographs show no evidence that juniper was widespread throughout the canyon during the time of peak fruit production by the Erickson’s and Stafford. However, it should be noted that in Lillian Riggs’ novel, Westward Into The Sun, she frequently describes the presence of juniper in the canyon during their early years (Riggs, 1979). As mentioned earlier, the use of fire by the Chiricahua Apaches suppressed the presence of invasive woody plants in grasslands (Hirt, 1989). Perhaps, this explains the assumption that juniper was not as pervasive at the time Stafford and Erickson homesteaded in the canyon.

Descriptions documenting the vegetation of Faraway Ranch begin at the entrance to the ranch site and move eastward. Currently the entrance vegetation is comprised primarily of native grasses (Sporobolus spp. and Equisetum spp.), juniper (Juniperus sp.), cypress (Cupressus sp.), oak (Quercus spp.), and cholla (Opuntia bigelovii). In her novel, Lillian Riggs describes the presence of cypress trees, wild grasses, and oaks growing on the mountainsides (Riggs, 1979). The vegetation around the corral today consists of native grasses (Sporobolus spp. and Equisetum spp.), cholla (Opuntia bigelovii), juniper (Juniperus spp.), and sycamore (Platanus spp.) trees. The interior paths running eastward towards Faraway Ranch today contain mainly yucca (Agavaceae), juniper (Juniperus spp.), cholla (Opuntia bigelovii), and oak trees (Quercus spp.). There are seven apricot trees behind the garage and in front of the cowboy cabin running along Newton’s Wash.

When Emma and Neil arrived in the canyon, they immediately started a garden. In 1889, Neil purchased six apple trees, six dwarf pear trees, four plum trees, two prune trees, six peach trees, two apricot trees, six currant shrubs, and six gooseberry shrubs (Torres and Baumler, 1984). The orchard was sited to the west of house near the windmill and open tank. A few remnants of these fruit trees can be seen today. In addition to the fruit trees, vegetables, shrubs, and vines were planted. The variety of fruits and vegetables are evident in Neil Erickson’s Diary for 1896–1899 where he mentioned planting sweet corn, beans, cabbage, tomatoes, squash, watermelon, onions, celery, and lettuce. The vegetable garden was located northeast of the house. In addition, Stafford allowed Erickson to plant vegetables including corn and beans in his garden (Torres and Baumler, 1984).

These vegetable and fruit gardens were produced for private consumption as well as guest consumption. As mentioned earlier, the gardens were also used to produce income from sales to Fort Bowie. The production of these vegetables and fruits was high between 1924 and 1933, therefore sales were made to a variety of consumers (Torres and Baumler, 1984). Today, the vegetable garden is still outlined by a wire fence with stones placed around the edges. It measures approximately 42 feet long and 24 feet wide. The height of the stone wall is approximately 2 feet 3 inches. There are signs of a stone division placed in the vegetable garden that runs east/west and is approximately 26 feet from the southern edge of the garden, but exact layout of the garden is not known. The only remaining plant materials associated with the garden are four (4) fruit trees lined at 3 feet, 15 feet, 25 feet, and 40 feet. Although no documentation exists to support reasons for the placement of these four fruit trees, they might possibly have been placed for a windbreak. The wind force through the canyon is intense at times. In fact, Pauline Stafford stated in a letter dated April 16, 1882: “the wind is blowing very much today” (Livingston, 11, 1994).
The main house of Faraway Ranch contains a lawn area and additional shrubs and trees. Fruit trees were placed adjacent to the main house and lined on the east side of the house and west side of the pool. There are five fruit trees immediately east of the ranch, four being newly planted. An additional four fruit trees are located parallel to the orchard. Currently, there are two shrubs, Spiraea prunifolia, simpliciflora (Bridal Wreath Spiraea) located on either side of the entrance path inside the Faraway Ranch lawn area. These can be seen in current and historical photographs dating back to the early 1900’s. In addition, there are two potted mints located by the eastern door of the screened porch and the north side of the same porch. The orchard along the northern side of Faraway Ranch measures approximately 138’6” by 74’6” and consists today of cholla (Opuntia bigelovii), native grasses (Sporobolus spp. and Equisetum spp.), junipers (Juniperus sp.) along the corners, one Fraxinus velutina (Velvet Ash) and one Pyrus communis (common pear). According to historic photographs, some orchard trees were planted in a grid pattern.

The following is a listing of species (with scientific names followed by common names) found within the fenced areas adjacent to the Faraway Ranch Main House during a site visit in March of 1996. Identification was determined from site visits, and sample identification with direction from Dr. Margaret Livingston, instructor in the Landscape Architecture Program at the University of Arizona (site visit, 1996 and M. Livingston, 1996). Refer to Supplemental Information for information provided by Kumble regarding existing (1984) and historic vegetation.

**GROUND COVERS:**
1. Vinca major (Periwinkle)
2. Buchole dactyloides (Buffalo Grass)

**VINE SPECIES:**
3. Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Virginia Creeper)

**SHRUB SPECIES:**
4. Spiraea prunifolia (Bridal Wreath Spirea)
5. Cotoneaster hupchensis (Hupeh Cotoneaster)
6. Pyracantha species Cultivar (Pyracantha)

**TREE SPECIES:**
7. Fraxinus velutina (Velvet Ash)
8. Ulmus pumila (Siberian Elm)
9. Pyrus communis (Common Pear)
10. Prunus species (Apricot)
11. Cupressus arizonica (Arizona Cypress)

A noteworthy vegetation site (though not part of the original 160 acre Erickson homestead) is the “lower orchard” which was planted by the Staffords before the Ericksons moved into the canyon. The Staffords planted a variety of fruit trees and depended on the income from the sale of this produce to the army at Fort Bowie and to various neighbors (Chappell, 1976). This orchard was planted in a grid pattern and extended from the Stafford cabin westward to the Erickson ranch, encompassing about two acres (Livingston, 1994). It contained a variety of fruits including pears, peaches, apples, and persimmons. Although early plantings of the trees were plagued by frost, crops were continually produced each year (Livingston, 1994). Evidence of the remnants of these fruit trees can be seen on site today. Historic photographs also illustrate the orchard when it was in use. In addition, a row of eight cypress (Cupressus spp.) trees is located running north and south directly westward from the Stafford Cabin. These can also
be seen in photographs dated prior to 1932 (Livingston, 1994). Although no documentation exists stating the reason for these trees, they were possibly used for a windbreak. These are the only vegetable gardens and fruit orchards documented in the area during that time. Garden produce including radishes, beans, lettuce, cabbage, onions, watermelon, pumpkin, potatoes, carrots, tomatoes, parsnips, corn, and squash was sold by Stafford to Fort Bowie, the Buffalo Soldier’s camp, local ranchers, and markets (Livingston, 14, 1994). The garden is thought to have been two to four acres in size, and located on the eastern edge of the homestead. No visible signs of Stafford’s vegetable garden exist today. Native grasses primarily surround the Stafford Cabin.

The following list of contributing vegetation at Faraway Ranch was compiled by cross-referencing the University of Arizona student group’s work with the work of Peter Kumble who did the Restorative Vegetation Recommendations (hard Copy, IMSF). Both Kumble and the student group support their findings through historic photographs as well as written records. Both base some of their finding on the Torres and Baumer’s Historic Structure Report, Historical and Archeological Data Sections, A History of the Buildings and Structures of Faraway Ranch, Chiracahua National Monument, Arizona, 1984. Finally, both the UA student team an Kumble focus on the vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the main Ranch House, although the former does discuss native and more remote vegetation.

Contributing vegetation is vegetation whose historic existence has been confirmed through historic photographs or written accounts. More research is needed to determine the status of the following species: elm, cotoneaster, virginia creeper, and vinca.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic Feature</th>
<th>Type Of Contribution</th>
<th>LCS Structure Name</th>
<th>IDLCS Structure Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridal Wreath Spirea</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing Native Vegetation, including Juniper, Dropseed Grass, Buffalo Grass, Oak, Cholla and Yucca</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchard Trees</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pyrocantha</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Velvet Ash</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
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Circulation

Both the National Register Nomination Form and The Historic Structure Report discuss the many dirt roads, paths, and trails found within the historic area. Exactly who built which roads remains a question. There is evidence that some existed before the Ericksons homesteaded, the CCC workers built some, and some were built by Neil Erickson (Torres and Baumler, 1984).

There are currently no vehicular roads within the historic area that may be used by visitors. A short dirt road exists for use by park personnel. All paths are dirt and lined with rock. It is unclear who placed the rocks along the paths, but there is speculation that National Park Service personnel placed some of them. Early photos of the Stafford cabin and the Erickson homestead show dirt roads and paths with no rocks, but rocks do show up in photographs from the 1950s and the 1960s.

The Christmas card sketch made by Lillian during the 1960’s shows the valley floor with the Stafford cabin in the foreground and Faraway Ranch in the background. Curving pathways link the Stafford cabin, the Martha Stark house, and Faraway Ranch. A recent aerial photograph shows a similar configuration of paths. This may be considered the primary pedestrian pathway.

Directly across from the corral and cattle chute opening is a wide gate and the remnants of a vehicular road. The length of the road is approximately 242’ and runs in a southwestern direction from the tack room. The road is overgrown and therefore only somewhat visible. In conversations with Park personnel it was speculated that this road provided truck access to the cattle. We do know that cattle were trucked out for slaughter (Leavengood, 1995).

There are various gates on the site. Most of the gates are wooden and are attached to animal enclosures. Others are located immediately around the main house and the garden area. The locations of gate are indicated on the Site Plan accompanying this report.

There is one footbridge, built by the Park Service, crossing Newton’s Wash. The bridge serves as a link between the main house and Neil’s office-garage and the cowboy house. Torres and Baumler indicate that the first reference to the bridge, by Neil, was in 1935 (Torres and Baumler, 1984). To the south of the existing bridge the remains of an older bridge, consisting of a rock foundation, are on either side of the wash. A 1983 photo of the old bridge indicates that the design of the new bridge is based on the old one.
Faraway Ranch Circulation Patterns, 1997: The main historic area which includes the Faraway Ranch buildings, corral, windmill, orchards, and the Stafford Cabin are accessible both by footpaths and paved road.

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<tr>
<th>Characteristic Feature</th>
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<th>LCS Structure Name</th>
<th>IDLCS Number</th>
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Buildings And Structures

Some built structures found within the historic property relate to the ranching and guest-ranch businesses, while others provided recreation for the family. The swimming pool, the Bonita Creek Dam, and the animal enclosures were built by the Ericksons and the Rigges over the span of their years at Faraway.

The Main House is to the east of the ranch-related work area. This area contains the Cowboy House, a storage shed, a tool shed, a barn, a generator house, an office/garage, and a bunkhouse/guest quarters. All of these buildings are of a very utilitarian design and are arranged in a cluster.

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Views And Vistas

Neil was photographed sitting amongst a group of boulders, looking westward, several hundred feet above and to the southeast of the Stafford cabin. From this vantage point, the entire valley is visible, including a beautiful view of the area beyond Bonita Canyon, framed by mountains gently sweeping upwards to the north and south of the canyon mouth. All roads, pathways, orchards, and structures are visible. This view was sketched by Lillian and used for a Christmas card in the 1960’s. The view is not only impressive, but suggests vegetative changes in the landscape that have occurred between the early 1900’s and today. At the time the photograph was taken, the valley floor is clear of native vegetation and furrows appear to run across the valley, from north to south. A close-up of the photograph reveals planted trees around the Stafford cabin.

Today, from the same vantage point the circulation is still quite visible, however the valley has filled in with a number of juniper and cypress trees. The orchard and furrows are no longer discernible and the view westward beyond the canyon now contains a recently built comfort station and parking lot.

We may assume that the two orchards presented an enchanting springtime view as one entered Faraway Ranch from the west and looking out from the second story, east windows of the main house. These views have certainly changed as there are only a few fruit trees left in either orchard.
Construced Water Features

FARAWAY RANCH WINDMILLS AND WATER TANK (RESERVOIR)

Faraway Ranch contains a windmill located southwest of the barn. It is one of the first features visitors see as they enter the ranch today. It is located adjacent to a water tank or reservoir, which measures approximately 104 feet east to west with a height between 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet. The width of the interior area of the tank measures approximately 72 feet running east and west and 88 feet running north and south. According to the National Register Nomination form: “It consists of a standard pyramidal metal frame surmounted by a small platform and a metal bladed windmill.” (Chappell, item #7, p. 12, 1976). Neil Erickson constructed this windmill around 1896, shortly after they moved to the canyon. He drew up plans for the tower, obtained a windmill from Mrs. Rhoda Riggs, and solicited help assembling it from neighbors that included Ja Hu Stafford (Torres and Baumer, 1984). It was also noted that the windmill broke down frequently and fairly costly supplies were often purchased for its repair (Torres and Baumer, 1984). In a letter written by Lillian Riggs to a “Mr. Anderson” she stated: “The windmill needs watching and one must be releathered soon.” (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Material). The wind through the canyon had such a force that the windmill had to be turned off many times (Torres and Baumer, 1984).

Rocks currently surround the tank adjacent to the windmill on three sides (north, west and east) with the northern side being the most defined. These rocks are large fieldstones or small boulders from the creek bed and are currently covered with lichen (Chappell, 1976) This tank or reservoir was first mentioned by Neil Erickson on a U.S. Forest Service document in 1913. He discussed a watering dam on land in the Chiricahua National Monument. Historically, cattle used the tank (Torres and Baumer, 1984). Today, the tank continues to have water pumped into it from the windmill, but the pump does not produce a large amount of water. Deer and other wildlife in the canyon can be seen visiting the tank for water.

WELLS AND WATER TANKS:

A well located adjacent to the main house was constructed by Neil Erickson and his brother John, shortly after they entered the canyon. This is the oldest documented well on site and is found just outside the kitchen door. It was built for household purposes (Chappell, 1976). The octagon shape of the well existing today dates to the late 1920’s (Riggs, 1979).

A second well was dug that is “200 feet west of the house, near the barn and open tank of the house, where Neil’s orchard once stood.” This well was for the purpose of watering the gardens, orchards, and cattle. It has been identified as “the one with the existing windmill” (Torres and Baumer, 101, 1984).

The third well was built in Stafford’s lower orchard and is located eastward from the middle gate on the eastern side of the main house. The well is described in the National Register Nomination Form as “... a well with a small walking beam pump, which the National Park Service has modified by the addition of electrical connections and new piping. The pump is a Jensen straight lift Jack, Serial No. 115, Size 25 DC, rated at 35 strokes per minute, manufactured by the Jensen Brothers Manufacturing Company of Coffeyville, Kansas. The well may have originally featured a windmill.” (Chappell, item #7, p. 14).

FARAWAY RANCH SWIMMING POOL AND SWIMMING HOLE

A constructed, cement swimming pool is located directly east of the terraced vegetable garden area and northeast of the main house. The pool is a 34' X 15' oval. Rocks are placed along the north and the top
half of the eastern side of the pool. The pool is surrounded by a wire and post fence, the total fenced in area being 53’6" X 83’. The pool is included in the List of Classified Structures (LSC 16041). The pool and surrounding area are in a general state of disrepair.

Torres and Baumler discuss the confusion between a swimming tank and a swimming hole (Torres and Baumler, 1984). The Bonita Creek Dam is located near the Stafford cabin and at one time provided a swimming hole. The dam is no longer functional and the poured concrete used to build it is broken. The dam was not field checked. It has the LCS #60185.

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Small Scale Features

Small scale historic features are documented from various time periods throughout the Faraway Ranch Historic District and include the ranch cemetery, windmill, wells, fences, walls, matates, cooking grills, bridge remnants, chutes, water tank, and gates. These features are documented in the following descriptions.

FARAWAY RANCH CEMETERY:

This cemetery is located at the entrance into the Chiricahua National Monument, at the base of Bonita Canyon. It measures 20 by 30 feet and is enclosed by an iron fence (Chappell, 1976). It contains burial sites for Emma Sophia Erickson, Neil Erickson, and Louis Benton Erickson.

Neil Erickson was buried first in this plot on October 18, 1937. According to Torres (1984), Neil Erickson’s desire was to be buried at the mouth of Bonita Canyon. He planted cypress trees there in order to mark the site. Dating the presence of the iron fence could be attributed to a purchase made by Lillian in 1940. Emma Erickson was buried immediately adjacent to Neil. Lillian Erickson Riggs is buried in a Riggs family cemetery a few miles west of the Faraway Ranch cemetery (NPS plaque description, site visit 1996).

A site visit revealed the inscription of the two bronze plaques displayed on the west side of the fence. One reads:

“Sacred to the memory of these pioneers
They came when only the brave dared come:
They stayed where only the valiant could stay
Born in Sweden, Americans by choice—not by
accident of birth, they loved their adopted
country and served her well.”

The final inscription reads as follows:

“They carved a home from the wilderness, with the warp of labor and the woof of dreams. They wove a pattern of life as beautiful as the sunsets and
as enduring as the mountains they loved so well” (Torres and Baumler, 105, 1984).

Correspondence between Lillian E. Riggs and J.K. Sheley of the Arizona Bronze Products Company, concerning the plaques and dated June 27, 1941 stated the following:

“We will cast the attaching lugs on the back to fit a beveled edge, so the attachment to the fence should not present any great difficulty. Both plaques will have beveled edges, and I can assure you that you will find that a nice job will be done on both, in as much as the very best in materials and workmanship is going into them. I am attaching a copy as it will appear so as to make sure there has been no slip-ups.” (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Files).

The inscription on Neil’s plaque reads:

“Neil: Served five years in the Army during the Indian Wars and then twenty five years as an officer in the United States Forest Service.”
Emma Sophia’s plaque inscription reads as follows:

“Emma Sophia: As wife, mother, friend, God’s spirit was imbued within her. Perils of Indian warfare, incessant toil and loneliness, of a pioneer land: nothing daunted her, this valiant lady, our mother.” (Torres and Baumler, 104, 1984).

According to a June 30, 1951 bill from Tucson Marble and Granite Company, Emma Sophia’s plaque “fastened in place at grave” cost $55.00 (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Files).

Ben’s burial spot has a traditional veteran’s headstone and reads:

Ben’s grave area is the only one that contains stones placed in a circle outlining the grave itself.

Hildegarde was cremated and her ashes scattered in the Wilderness of Rocks. However a plaque commemorating her is affixed to the fence and reads as follows:

“Hildegard Erickson Hutchison, April 27, 1895-July 22, 1978, Youngest Child of Neil and Emma Erickson, Born at Faraway Ranch, Daughter of Pioneers and child of the Chiricahua Mountains, her smile and her spirit have returned forever to the land she loved.”

A site visit conducted in March of 1996 revealed the gravesite to be in good condition, with one Arizona cypress (Cupressus arizonica) and one alligator juniper (Juniperus deppeana) shading the site. Large rocks exist at the southern side of the gravesite (site visit, 1996).

One final note is the presence of Louis Prue, who was buried in 1892, just outside the iron fence. Prue settled near the canyon and wished to be buried at the mouth of the canyon, which also became the resting site for the Ericksons. The grave marker is distinctively different from those on the Erickson’s plots and lies under an oak tree. It contains the following inscription: “Louis Prue/Died Dec 16, 1892/Aged/49 Yrs and 6 Ms.” The following quotation illustrates Neil Erickson’s response to Mr. Prue’s death and burial. He was traveling in Bisbee when this letter was sent to Emma:
“I am sorry to hear of Mr. Prue’s death, that it should happen in such a way, but our journey’s end in this world is soon reached and therefore we should all make the best of the life while we do live... At any rate, give my respect to Mrs. Prue that I feel as much as any one the loss of a good friend and neighbor, but I am pleased to hear that you have fulfilled his last wish and laid him to rest under the oak on the hillside.” (Torres and Baumler, 103, 1984).

An additional reference regarding Mr. Prue’s grave can be found in a letter from Lillian E. Riggs to Mr. Kilburn stating:

“In regard to fixing up Mr. Prue’s grave; His grand-daughter, who lives in California, has agreed to pay for the work if it can be kept within twenty-five to thirty dollars. Can you do it for that? I should think you might, as it will not necessitate any additional travel. I am leaving it up to you as to how it should be done.” (WACC, Faraway Ranch Archival Material)

CORRALS, FENCES, CHUTES, AND GATES:

The landscape of Faraway Ranch is comprised of numerous fences, stone walls, gates, corrals, and
Faraway Ranch
Chiricahua National Monument

chutes. The barbed wire fences and wire fences surrounding areas of Faraway Ranch existed to keep cattle out of the fruit orchards, vegetable gardens, and lawn/main house area. The barbed wire’s directional location suggested that cattle were being restricted from traveling through and grazing (Cap, 1996). Fences and gates dot the landscape of Faraway Ranch. There is a fence surrounding the ranch house with wire and a stone wall base. In a letter written by Lillian Riggs to a “Mr. Anderson” she stated “...we are getting a new low brick wall topped by wire put up around the yard. This necessitates some concrete work.” (WACC Faraway Ranch Archival Material, 1940-1949). This fence with stone wall has a main gate located on the northwest corner of the main house lawn. There is also a gate along the northern portion of the lawn, adjacent to the pool as well as a gate entering the northern most patch of orchards. The eastern side contains a gate located directly across from the screened porch of the house as well as a gate located on the southeastern corner of the lawn area. Current illustrations show examples of fences and gates scattered throughout Faraway. In the Historic Structures Report, it is noted that in 1891 Emma desired the placement of more fences (Torres and Baumler, 1984). The only remnants of a barbed wire fence near Stafford’s cabin run east west and begin approximately 42 feet westward from the northwest corner of the Stafford Cabin. The length of the fence is approximately 165 feet with the barbed wire fallen on the ground and posts remaining.

Two corrals have been associated with Faraway Ranch. One corral is no longer in existence but was located approximately 200 yards southwest of the main house across the dirt road that ran into the canyon past the house (Torres and Baumler, 1984). The existing corral was built between 1925 and 1929. It is located adjacent to the barn and contains a chute. Both the corral and chute are in disrepair (Cap, interview, 1996).

The Ericksons had both chickens and pigs. There is no evidence of the chicken house that was located to the east of the generator building, however the stone outline of the pigpen still exists. The pigpen measures approximately 22’X 20’. A historic photograph shows Emma’s small herd of pigs. The pigpen has the LCS # 60152.

There are various other small scale structures on the property that relate to the ranching business: a concrete water trough located 44’ northeast of the windmill, near the corral and chute, and a weather station kept in the south side of the yard and used by Ed Riggs. The water trough has the LCS #60151. The trough is in a deteriorated state.

Other small scale features located within the landscape include a small grill with an embedded mano located directly west of the cowboy house, matates located near the main house, and remnants of the old bridge that extended across Newton’s Wash.

Other: CCC Camp

The CCC Camp, established in the 1930’s was located approximately 3/4 mile from the Stafford cabin in the Silver Spur Meadow. The few remaining features of the camp are discussed by Baumler (Baumler, 1984).

In the vicinity of the camp can be found a bear cage, located on a northern hillside, the remains of a subterranean stone cellar-like structure, and a cement slab.

The bear cage is located 239’ west of the most western fireplace of the Silver Spur Lodge, and 77’ up a hillside. The cage is constructed over a natural opening. It is constructed of cement and iron bars. The cage has the LCS# 60173.
The remains of the stone cellar consist of 3 standing walls and a broken wall. The average height of the walls is 4’6”. A stone lined dirt path leading from the Silver Spur fireplace accesses the structure.

The cement slab may have been a foundation for a structure. Only one side of the slab was visible, the other end was overgrown with roots and grass.

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Archaeological Sites

Thorough archeological reports have been prepared for the Faraway site by Baumler. Included in this report is a brief summary of his findings.

Prehistoric Archeological Sites: The area surveyed was approximately 300 acres and encompassed all the land included in the Faraway Ranch Historic District except for a small, steep parcel of land on the northern boundary. 15 prehistoric sites and 29 prehistoric artifacts were recorded. Most of the artifacts are "single igneous flakes or small clusters of flakes and cores that probably represent tool making or tool maintenance stations occupied only briefly...The prehistoric sites discovered in lower Bonita Canyon are mostly small, dispersed surface sherd and lithic scatters." (Baumler, 15, 1984). These are not attributed to the Chiricahua Apaches.

Historic Archeological Sites: Historic and 20th century features and artifacts were also recorded. The artifacts consisted of "farm/ranch equipment, glass bottles, tin cans, cartridge cases, and other items of variable age and significance. Features include rock alignments, stone foundations, borrow pits, trash dumps and scatters, ash pits, hearths, glass and metal scatters, work areas, and rock piles (Torres and Baumler, 213, 1984). These features are attributed to Erickson/Riggs, the Stafford family, and the military camp of 1885-1886 (Baumler, 1984). South of the Erickson homestead, located at the top of a rocky outcrop is a lookout post for the military camp.

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Appendix

Park Information

Park Name: Chiricahua National Monument
Park Organization Code: 8620
Park Alpha Code: CHIR

Property Level And CLI Number

Property Level: Component Landscape
Name: Faraway Ranch
CLI Identification Number: 850020
Parent Landscape CLI ID Number: 850006

Inventory Summary

Inventory Level: Level II
Completion Status:

Level 0
Date Of Level 0 Inventory: 4/2/1998
Level 0 Recorder: J. Cowley
Level 0 Site Visit: Yes

Level I
Date Of Level I Inventory: 12/12/1995
Level I Recorder: P. Froeschauer/Nelson
Level I Site Visit: Yes

Level II
Date Of Level II Inventory: 9/20/1999
Level II Recorder: UA student team / L.Nicholas (data entry)
Level II Site Visit: Yes

Explanatory Narrative:
Parent landscape for Faraway Ranch is actually/more correctly the whole Faraway Ranch area, including extensive grazing lands, which extends outside CHIR park boundaries.

The focus of this Level II Cultural Inventory was to identify and document through photographs and measurements existing landscape features and character defining elements of the Faraway Ranch homestead as it functioned as a guest ranch and a cattle ranch. The following report was compiled by means of a literature review, site visits, and
a review of photographs, maps, and documents located at the Chiricahua National Monument Headquarters and at the Western Archeological Conservation Center (WACC). The methods used were not exhaustive as a considerable amount of research and information exists on the Ericksons and their homestead. The historical information provided is therefore a brief overview of the work done by historians and archeologists.

The original CLI was completed by a University of Arizona student team with Carla Singer, Michal Tincup and Steven White. This CLI was based on this previous work. Data entry into CLAIMS was completed 8/99 by L. Nicholas, student intern, Cultural Landscapes Program, Santa Fe Support Office. During the process of data entry, information in the report was re-organized or repeated to fit the format of CLAIMS.
Descriptive And Geographic Information

| Historic Name(s):        | Faraway Ranch  
|                         | Lower Bonita Ranch  
| Current Name(s):        | Faraway Ranch  
| Management Unit:        | Faraway Ranch Historic District  
| Tract Numbers:          |  
| State and County:       | Cochise County, AZ  
| Size (acres):           | 213.96 |
National Register Information

National Register Documentation: Entered – Inadequately Documented

Explanatory Narrative:
Faraway Ranch landscape is listed on the National Register as a historic district and is also determined significant as a cultural landscape based on the findings of this CLI.

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National Register Eligibility: Undetermined

Explanatory Narrative:
Existing National Register nominations form states that structures have significance at the state level in architectural, conservation, pioneering, business (farming and ranching), and social (immigration and women's) history.

Date of Eligibility Determination:

National Register Classification: Site
Significance Level: State
Contributing/Individual: Individual

Significance Criteria:
A -- Inventory Unit is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
C -- Inventory Unit embodies distinctive characteristics of type/period/method of construction; or represents work of master; or possesses high artistic values; or represents significant/distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction
D -- Inventory Unit has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history
Period Of Significance

Time Period: 1880 - 1918
Historic Context Theme: Peopling Places
Historic Context Subtheme: Westward Expansion of the British Colonies and the United States, 1763-1898
Historic Context Facet: The Farmers’ Frontier

Time Period: 1917 - 1973
Historic Context Theme: Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Historic Context Subtheme: Recreation
Historic Context Facet: General Recreation

Time Period: 1934 - 1942
Historic Context Theme: Shaping the Political Landscape
Historic Context Subtheme: Political and Military Affairs 1865-1945
Historic Context Facet: The Great Depression And The New Deal, 1929-1941

Area Of Significance:
Category: Agriculture, Priority: 1
Category: Entertainment/Recreation, Priority: 2
Category: Social History, Priority: 3
Category: Ethnic Heritage, Sub-category: Black, Priority: 4
Category: Architecture, Priority: 5
Category: Military, Priority: 6

National Historic Landmark Information
National Historic Landmark Status: No

World Heritage Site Information
World Heritage Site Status: No
## Cultural Landscape Type and Use

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Cultural Landscape Type:</th>
<th>Historic Vernacular Landscape</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current and Historic Use/Function:</strong></td>
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<td>Use/Function Category:</td>
<td>Agriculture/Subsistence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use/Function:</td>
<td>Lodge (Inn, Cabin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detailed Use/Function:</td>
<td>Lodge (Inn, Cabin)</td>
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<td>Type Of Use/Function:</td>
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<td>Detailed Use/Function:</td>
<td>Outdoor Recreation-Other</td>
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<td>Type Of Use/Function:</td>
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## Ethnographic Information

**Ethnographic Survey Conducted:** No Survey Conducted

**Significance Description:**
Although no survey has been conducted, park staff have received some initial information regarding cultural traditions associated with the Swedish families that are evident on site. An example of this is the color of the paints used on the family residences. Other ethnographic and cultural traditions may be associated with the site and its associated landscape.

## Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

**Adjacent Lands Description:**
There are additional lands associated with the ranching operation, see dicussion in boundary description.
General Management Information

Management Category: 
Management Category Date: 
Explanatory Narrative: 

Condition Assessment And Impacts

Condition Assessment: 
Level Of Impact Severity: Moderate

Impact:
Type of Impact: Neglect
Internal/External: Internal
Description:
Many of the fences have deteriorated over time. Other features such as the water tank adjacent to the windmill are in a state of disrepair.

Type of Impact: Removal/Replacement
Internal/External: Internal
Description:
A high percentage of trees in the orchard have died and planting organization in the orchards and gardens is no longer discernible.
Agreements, Legal Interest, And Access
Treatment

Approved Treatment:
Approved Treatment Document:
Document Date:
Explanatory Narrative:
Approved Treatment Completed:

Approved Treatment Cost

LCS Structure Approved
Treatment Cost:
Other Approved Treatment Cost:
Cost Date:
Level of Estimate:
Cost Estimator:
Explanatory Description:

Stabilization Costs

LCS Structure Stabilization Cost:
Other Stabilization Cost:
Cost Date:
Level Of Estimate:
Cost Estimator:
Explanatory Description:
**Documentation Assessment and Checklist**

**Documentation Assessment:** Fair

**Documentation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document:</th>
<th>Historic Resource Study</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Of Document:</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Documentation:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explanatory Narrative:</td>
<td>History of Stafford Cabin, provides good information on Stafford family history in Bonita Canyon, garden locations, and produce grown. Some information regarding Erickson purchase of Stafford homestead</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document:</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Of Document:</td>
<td>1989</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amplifying Details:</td>
<td>Historic Landscape Restoration Report, The Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Documentation:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explanatory Narrative:</td>
<td>Contains site analysis, identifies ranch structures, inventories existing vegetation and determines missing plants</td>
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</table>

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<tr>
<th>Document:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Of Document:</td>
<td>1984</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amplifying Details:</td>
<td>The Archeology of Faraway Ranch, Arizona</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequate Documentation:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explanatory Narrative:</td>
<td>Provides excellent information covering prehistoric findings, Buffalo Soldier camp, Stafford family, Erickson-Riggs, and CCC camp. Contains excellent maps, detailing location of features.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document:</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<td>Amplifying Details:</td>
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<td>Adequate Documentation:</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explanatory Narrative:</td>
<td>Provides good background summary of Erickson Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Document:</td>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>Year Of Document:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amplifying Details:</td>
<td>Historic Structures Report-Faraway Ranch</td>
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<td>Adequate Documentation:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explanatory Narrative:</td>
<td>Includes history of buildings and structures of Faraway, historical, and archeological data sections</td>
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<tr>
<th>Document:</th>
<th>Resource Management Plan</th>
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<td>1996</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequate Documentation:</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explanatory Narrative:</td>
<td>Identifies need for landscape research</td>
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Bibliography

Citations:

Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Title: A Pioneer Log Cabin in Bonita Canyon, The History of the Stafford Cabin, Faraway Ranch Historic District, Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona, Historic Resource Study
Citation Author: Livingston, Dewey
Year of Publication: 1994
Citation Number: 016818
Citation Type: Citation Location:

Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Title: Chiracahua National Monument History Handbook
Citation Author: Jackson, Earl
Year of Publication: 1962
Citation Number: Citation Type:
Citation Location:

Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Title: Historic Landscape Restoration Report, The Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument
Citation Author: Kumble, Peter A
Year of Publication: 1989
Citation Number: 015277
Citation Type: Citation Location:

Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Title: Historic Structure Report, Historical and Archeological Data Sections, A History of the Buildings and Structures of Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona
Citation Author: Torres, Louis/Baumler, Mark
Year of Publication: 1984
Citation Number: 012912
Citation Type: Citation Location:
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<th>Source Name:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Title:</td>
<td>The Archeology of Faraway Ranch, Arizona, Prehistoric, Historic, and 20th Century</td>
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<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Baumler, Mark F</td>
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<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Title:</td>
<td>The Camp at Bonita Canon, A Buffalo Soldier Camp in Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Tagg, Martyn D</td>
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<td>Year of Publication:</td>
<td>1987</td>
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<td>Citation Number:</td>
<td>550330</td>
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<td>Human Disturbance and Vegetation in Arizona's Chirachua Mountains in 1902.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Bahre, Conrad J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<td>Citation Number:</td>
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<td>Sunset Western Garden Book</td>
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<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Brenzel, Kathleen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<td>Citation Title:</td>
<td>The Transformation of Landscape: Culture and Ecology in Southeastern Arizona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Hirt, Paul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year of Publication:</td>
<td>1989</td>
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<td>Citation Number:</td>
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<td>Citation Type:</td>
<td>In: Environmental Review, v.13, Fall/Winter, 1989</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Title:</td>
<td>Archeological Assessment of Flood Damaged Historical Period Cultural Resources Chiricahua National Monument</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Fox, Gregory L.</td>
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<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<td>Citation Title:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Bowers, Janice, Emily</td>
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<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Parent, Lawrence</td>
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<td>Year of Publication:</td>
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<td>National Park Service Division of Publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Title:</td>
<td>Clash of Cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Utley, Robert M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year of Publication:</td>
<td>1977</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation Author:</td>
<td>Leavengood, Betty</td>
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<td>Citation Number:</td>
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Supplemental Information

**Title:** List of Additional Graphics

**Description:**

All graphics listed are located in the Faraway Ranch CLI hardcopy at the Santa Fe Support Office

1. Location of Faraway Ranch Within Chiricahua National Monument
2. Topography of Faraway Ranch
3. Rough Schematic of Cultural Landscape Boundary of Faraway Ranch
5. Schematic Layout of Erickson Family Cemetery
6. Grazing Areas Used by Ed and Lillian Riggs, 1993
7. 1902 Map of Chiricahua Mountain Area, with Homestead Acreage Shown
8. Enlargement of 1902 Map of Chiricahua Mountain Area showing the location of the Erickson homestead
9. Christmas Card Sketch by Lillian Riggs showing circulation between Faraway Ranch and Stafford Ranch
10. Restorative Vegetation Plan, Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument
11. Existing Vegetation Plan, Faraway Ranch, Chiricahua National Monument
I'm hopeful but not certain that I can physically join you all for the October 24th day at Faraway.

If not, here is a map of the area I would recommend we keep mowed. Three inches for the lawn and the strip right outside the rock and north fence and 4-5 inches for the rest of the area.

If we keep this mowed we won't have to rake (fuel reduction) and we will have a lot less camphor and alien species going to seed.

Thank you very much and Lillian thanks you, too.

[signature]
Before 1915
(Box House)
Note: no lean-to
Dave,

There's the tree you climbed up in!
TO: Jill Cowley at NPSTO: Jose RamirezTO: CHIR Resource Management (Alan Whalon)TO: Andy Brinkleysto: Dave EvansSubject: Faraway Ranch CLI-------------------------------- Message Contents

Jill - Thanks for all your assistance in getting The Faraway Ranch CLI entered into CLAIMS. We all agree that the overall condition assessment falls into the "fair" category. Thanks again for your help. Alan Cox
TO: CHIR Superintendent (Alan Cox) at NP-CHIRCC: CHIR Resource Management (Alan Whalon) at NP-CHIRCC: Jose Ramirez at NP-CHIR
Subject: Faraway CLI entry into CLAIMS

-------------------- Message Contents

Alan,

Jill Cowley is ready to finish the Faraway Ranch CLI entry into CLAIMS, the CLI database. This will fulfill the CLI GPRA goal for Faraway. Once entered into CLAIMS, Jill can make any changes the park may want, such as a potential enlargement of the CLI boundary later, easily and quickly, without having to wait several years in line, as we do for original entry into CLAIMS.

From you she needs an E-mail (see below) that states your approval of a condition assessment to assign the Faraway cultural landscape. Jill, Alan Whalon and I agree that "fair" is the appropriate condition. More information is in CLI CLAIMS version cover letter and condition definition page that is attached to the hard copy of this note that I’ll put in your mail box.

Please let me know if you have any questions and please copy me on what ever you send to Jill. She’d like to hear from you by August 15. Thanks.

Dave

P. S. Something like the words below are what Jill needs.

Jill,

I recommend that a "Fair" condition assessment be given to the Faraway Ranch CLI that is now up for final into CLAIMS. Thank you for seeing this entry through to completion.

Alan Cox
CONDITION ASSESSMENTS AND IMPACTS

Condition Assessment

Indicate the current condition of the inventory unit based on criteria listed in the Resource Management Plan Guideline and Software Manual (1994). Select one of the following categories:

**Good:** indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

**Fair:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Poor:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

**Unknown:** Not enough information is available to make an evaluation.

**Note:** The condition of the inventory unit must be determined at the completion of Level II: Landscape Analysis and Evaluation, but may be undetermined during prior inventory work (i.e., Levels 0 and I). Condition should be based on consultation and concurrence with park management.

(See Relationship of the CLI to NPS Strategic Planning and CPRA)
Facing CLI is ready for entry into CLAIMS, thus fulfilling a CLI GPA goal.

Jill needs C+ approval of CLI condition assessment (page 7 of 16) before she can enter into CLAIMS.

Jill suggests "FAIR" condition, and will Fax me condition definitions.

Jill needs e-mail from Car by August 20, saying "I received a "FAIR" condition assessment for facing CLI.

GPA goal for landscapes (improving their conditions) doesn't apply until if CLI is entered into CLAIMS.

Jill can modify a CLAIMS entry (eg potential bond changes) easily and quickly later, no waiting in the CLAIMS line as then is for initial entry.

Alan W. is OK with this 7/26/01

Facing CLI - call 7/25/01
Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Chiricahua National Monument

From: Historical Landscape Architect, Santa Fe Support Office

Subject: Transmittal of Faraway Ranch Level 2 Cultural Landscape Inventory, 1999 CLAIMS database version

Alan -- I am enclosing a copy of the Faraway Ranch Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI), as it appears in the CLI computer database (CLAIMS) here in Santa Fe, for the park’s information and review. Lisa Nicholas, a landscape architecture graduate student intern, entered the data from the 1997 University of Arizona CLI directly into the computer, with some rearranging as needed to fit the CLAIMS format. So, this hardcopy does not contain any new information or analysis, except some clarification on historic vegetation. Because the CLAIMS version contains only some of the graphics from the University of Arizona document, it does not replace or supersede the University of Arizona work.

As you know, CLI completion relates to park GPRA goals Ia7 and Ib2B. This CLI will be “GPRA complete” when a Condition Assessment for the property is determined. The CLI uses the same criteria for Condition as the RMP Guidelines; I am attaching a copy of the CLI Condition criteria, for your reference. If you can let me know how you would rate the Faraway Ranch landscape in terms of condition, I will add this to the computer file, and the CLI will be “GPRA complete.” Based on my last site visit, and knowing that you have done some work on the corrals since then, I would estimate a “fair” condition for the landscape as a whole, based on discussions at the park on work still needed within some of the landscape areas. This is my estimation; the rating is your call. Also, if park staff have comments on the CLAIMS version (e.g., updated information, corrections), I can also address these. If you have any questions about how this CLI relates to your GPRA goals, feel free to contact me.

As I mentioned when the University of Arizona CLI was formally transmitted, I would be happy to assist the park in any follow up work with the Arizona SHPO related to the Faraway Ranch cultural landscape (e.g., proposed revision of National Register District boundary as mentioned in the CLI and illustrated in the Boundary graphic on page 8 of the University of Arizona document).
I look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on the on-going CCC landscape and Fort Bowie Level 2 CLIs, and assisting with any cultural landscape compliance issues.

S/ Jill Cowley

Enclosures (2)

cc:
Alan Whalon, Chiricahua National Monument, w/o encls.
Kathryn Neilson, Chiricahua National Monument, w/o encls.
Robert Spude, IMSF-CNR, w/o encls.
✓ Dave Evans, SOAR, w/o encls.