

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 8 1981

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Tuzigoot National Monument Archeological District

AND/OR COMMON

Tuzigoot (AZ N:4:1); AZ N:4:19

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Tuzigoot National Monument, PO Box 168

NA NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Clarkdale

NA VICINITY OF

STATE

CODE

COUNTY 3

CODE

Arizona

04

Yavapai

025

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☒ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☒ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☒ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERICAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☒ MUSEUM
☒ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service, Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue, P.O. Box 36063

CITY, TOWN

STATE

San Francisco

NA VICINITY OF

California

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.National Park Service
Western Archeological and Conservation Center

STREET & NUMBER

1415 N. Sixth Avenue, P.O. Box 41058

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tucson

Arizona

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

(1) TUZI 33A-Survey of Verde Valley (Jackson 1933)
(2) TUZI 86A-Survey of Tuzigoot National Monument (Tagg 1986)
(3) Tonto National Monument on National Register, 10/15/66

DATE

(1) 1933, (2) 1986

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDSNational Park Service, Western Archeological and Conservation Center
and Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tucson

Arizona

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☒ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

DESCRIPTION: TUZIGOOT NATIONAL MONUMENT

The Tuzigoot National Monument Archeological District includes 2 sites occupied by the Southern Sinagua between A.D. 1100-1400. The Monument is best known for Tuzigoot Ruin which was excavated and stabilized in 1933-1934. The ruin, one of the largest pueblos built by the Southern Sinagua, is now an interpretive archeological site open to the public and managed by the National Park Service. The second, smaller site, AZ N:4:19, is a contemporaneous two- to five-room masonry structure located [REDACTED]. The sites are on a hill that rises above the Verde River floodplain.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the 58.68-acre Tuzigoot National Monument Archeological District coincide with the National Park Service boundaries [Maps 1 & 2]. The entire monument was placed on the National Register in 1966 with the signing of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Tuzigoot Ruin is the principal focus of the monument. In 1966, 15.1 acres were added to the original 43.67 acres for construction of a new approach road.

The monument boundaries enclose the hill on which Tuzigoot Ruin and AZ N:4:19 are located. By including the entire monument in the Archeological District, the placement of the sites on the hill slopes rather than on the flat hill crest can be appreciated as a cultural phenomenon illustrating settlement and land use patterns.

ENVIRONMENT

Tuzigoot National Monument is one mile east of Clarkdale, Arizona, in the Middle Verde Valley. The Verde Valley is one of the few permanent streams in Arizona. Peck's Lake, an ancient oxbow of the Verde River, is one-half mile northwest of Tuzigoot Ruin. Tavasci Marsh which borders the monument to the northeast is another ancient oxbow of the Verde.

The valley is a down faulted, sediment filled basin and range trough bounded to the north and east by the Mogollon Rim and to the south and west by the Black Mountains. The Verde Formation is made up of sediments, predominantly limestone and sandstone, deposited by a Tertiary lake. Basalt and metamorphic stone are also locally available. The valley floor is now an active floodplain; terraces and rolling hills provide suitable locations for archeological sites. Tuzigoot Ruin [REDACTED]

The monument lies within the plains and desert grassland community of the Upper Sonoran Life Zone (Lowe 1964). Hartman (1979) proposes a sustaining area for Tuzigoot which includes four other ecological zones within a ten mile radius of the monument-- Riparian-Deciduous Forest, Juniper-Pinyon Woodland, Chaparral-Oak Woodland, and Montane Conifer Forest -- as well as transition zones and microenvironments such as springs and caves. This sustaining area would have provided a wide range of wild resources for the prehistoric inhabitants. In addition, Hartman estimates there are many acres of farmland at the base of Tuzigoot Ridge and along the Verde River.

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A variety of mineral resources were used prehistorically in the Verde Valley. Salt, calcite, and gypsum were mined near Camp Verde (Morris 1928) and argillite was mined near Dewey (Bartlett 1939) and the Perkinsville Valley (Fish 1974). Copper ore derivatives used for pigments were available near Jerome (Fish and Fish 1977). It is likely that these minerals drew visitors and/or traders from adjacent areas.

The climate in the Verde Valley is characterized by hot, dry summers and mild winters. Rainfall averages 11-12 inches annually with both winter and summer rainy seasons. Data for the nearby town of Cottonwood indicate a long growing season with 210 frost free days a year (Sellers and Hill 1974).

HISTORY OF THE MONUMENT AND PREVIOUS RESEARCH

The first archeological description of the site was by Earl Jackson (1933) during his reconnaissance survey of the Middle Verde Valley. The first major work undertaken at Tuzigoot National Monument was the excavation and stabilization of Tuzigoot Ruin by Caywood and Spicer in 1933 and 1934. The Museum at the monument was built in 1936 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) on the United Verde Copper Company property. The hill, museum, and collections were donated to the Verde School district by the United Verde Copper Company; the property was then deeded to the federal government by the school district. Tuzigoot National Monument was established July 25, 1939, to protect the Tuzigoot Ruin.

Over the years there have been various stabilization projects (Richert 1953, Shiner 1962, Voll 1964, Mayer and Waggoner 1968, Neilson 1980), as well as archeological mapping and monitoring prior to installation of a drainage system (Hartman 1976, Jones 1986). Test excavations by Peck (1959) and Henderson (1973) have taken place in areas away from the ruin. Two archeological clearance surveys were conducted by Cummings (Hartman 1976) and there have been inventory surveys of the proposed land acquisition area by Gumerman (1973) and by Tagg (1986). Tagg also surveyed the entire monument. The monument was visited by the List of Classified Structures team in 1975 (Sudderth and other 1976). Most of these projects were performed by National Park Service personnel. Table 1 presents a summary of previous archeological investigations at the monument.

Excavation

The excavation of Tuzigoot Ruin was undertaken by Louis R. Caywood and Edward H. Spicer from October 31, 1933, to June 1, 1934. They named the site after the Tonto Apache name for Peck's Lake. The excavation on United Verde Copper Company property was sponsored by the Archeological Committee of the Yavapai County Chamber of Commerce in Jerome. The first month's work was paid for by Federal Emergency Relief Funds and the remainder of the work was funded by the U.S. Civil Works Administration. Bryon Cummings of the University of Arizona administered the project. The goal of the excavation was to recover display-quality artifacts for the Smoki Museum in Prescott.

Eighty-six ground floor rooms and 411 burials (429 individuals) were excavated. Five architectural units and a patio area were identified. It should be noted that these units do not coincide with the 6 arbitrary room groups assigned by the excavators. [See Table 2; Map 3.] Caywood and Spicer (1935) speculated that there may have been as many as 15 second story rooms. Most of the burials recovered from the refuse-covered slopes below the pueblo were adults and most of those from beneath the room floors were children.

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Table 1

PREVIOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND STABILIZATION

Year	Type of Investigation/Institution	Reference
1932- 1933	Tuzigoot Pueblo first recorded during survey of Verde Valley.	Jackson (1933)
1931- 1934	Excavation and stabilization of Tuzigoot Ruin. Excavated 86 rooms and 429 burials. Reconstructed 5 rooms in Unit IV/Archeological Committee of Yavapai County	Caywood and Spicer (1935)
1936	Museum at Tuzigoot built to house and display collections/United Verde Copper Company	
1939	Tuzigoot National Monument established as unit of the National Park Service/Presidential Proclamation 2344	
	Stabilization; Smiley pointed and capped walls Group VI. Discovered infant burial Group III/NPS	Smiley (1940); Richert (1953)
1940	Stabilization by Cotter. He used adobe to cover cement used in original reconstruction/NPS	Neilson (1980)
1942	Demolished Group IV reconstruction which had become unsafe/NPS	Richert (1953)
1953	Stabilization and repair of all rooms but Room 10 of Group VI. Removed rubble from Group IV reconstruction, erosion control Groups II & V/NPS	Richert (1953)
1958	Test trench; determined ratio of decorated to plain ceramics same as reported by Caywood and Spicer and confirmed their dates/NPS	Peck (1959)
1961	Stabilization including first stabilization of Group VI/NPS	Shiner (1962)
1964	Maintenance Stabilization/NPS	Voll (1964)
	Survey of proposed residential area by Cummings. No sites recorded/NPS	Hartman (1976)

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Table 1 (Continued)

Year	Type of Investigation/Institution	Reference
1966	Survey for proposed borrow pit by Cummings. Yavapai camp recorded outside pit limits. This site could not be relocated by Tagg (1986)/NPS	Hartman (1976)
1968	Stabilization and installation of drainage system in 2 rooms/NPS	Mayer and Waggoner (1968)
1972	Survey of proposed Phelps-Dodge land exchange. Two masonry sites recorded/Prescott College for NPS	Gumerman (1973)
1973	Five test trenches placed along proposed telephone cable route; no significant remains. Also tested an irrigation ditch and found 2 superimposed ditches; one ditch possibly prehistoric/NPS	Henderson (1973)
1976	List of Classified Structures Survey/NPS Overview and mapping prior to installation of subterranean drainage system/Museum of Northern Arizona for NPS	Sudderth and others (1976) Hartman (1976)
1977	Verde Valley Overview; Tuzigoot discussed /Museum of Northern Arizona for NPS	Fish and Fish (1977)
1983	Installation of new drainage system in 20 rooms. Infant burial and cultural deposits uncovered/NPS	Jones (1986)
1986	Archeological survey of Monument and proposed acquisition area adjacent to monument. Two sites within monument and six sites in adjacent lands. Tuzigoot Extension and Hatalacva also recorded/NPS	Tagg (1986)

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Table 2

LIST OF ROOM GROUPS AT TUZIGOOT RUIN (AZ N:4:1)

- Group I The burial ground in the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Thirteen rooms.
- Group II The burial area in the [REDACTED] and five rooms
built [REDACTED] Five rooms.
- Group III All of the rooms situated on the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Eighteen rooms.
- Group IV The isolated group of rooms to [REDACTED]
pueblo. Seven rooms.
- Group V All the 33 rooms covering the [REDACTED] Thirty-
three rooms.
- Group VI The isolated group of 10 rooms [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Ten rooms.
- Group VII Group of 2 rooms located [REDACTED] Although
never mentioned by Caywood and Spicer, these rooms appear to have
been excavated and stabilized in the same manner as the rest of
Tuzigoot. Two rooms.

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Two rooms [REDACTED] are not discussed by Caywood and Spicer, however, these rooms appear to have been excavated and stabilized in the same manner as the rest of Tuzigoot. This roomblock is labelled Group VII on the NPS Archeological Base Map dated 1958 and appears on Hartman's (1976) map showing Caywood and Spicer's previous research. It is not clear when this roomblock was excavated and stabilized but it is considered part of Tuzigoot Ruin.

Caywood and Spicer intended to completely excavate all 86 ground floor rooms. However, a number of subfloor features and burials have been recovered from the ruin since it was initially excavated. They also trenched the trash deposits along the slopes below the ruin at three foot intervals to find burials. This trenching interval implies that there are extensive undisturbed sections in the trash deposits. A discussion of the possibility of intact deposits can be found below the heading 'Data Limitations'.

The initial stabilization of the ruin included cleaning, repair and capping of walls. The roof and parapet of Room 14, Group III were restored and still stand today. Three rooms in Group IV were restored to a height of one story and another room was made two stories high. Roofs were constructed and electric lights were installed. By 1942 dangerous conditions made it necessary to remove the roofs from the Group IV rooms.

Test Excavations

Peck (1959) conducted test excavations along the [REDACTED] and verified Caywood and Spicer's temporal designations. Trenches dug by Henderson (1973) revealed 2 superimposed irrigation canals, one of which may be prehistoric.

Archeological Survey

Tuzigoot was first recorded by Earl Jackson during his reconnaissance of the Middle Verde Valley in 1932-1933. Clearance surveys for the residential area and a borrow pit were done by Cummings in 1964 and 1966 (Hartman 1976). Cummings did not record any additional prehistoric sites in the proposed impact zones. He did, however, mention a Yavapai camp located in the vicinity of the borrow pit. This Yavapai site is no longer present according to Tagg (1986); he suggests that expansion of the borrow pit or construction of the road could have destroyed the site. It is also possible that the site now lies [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Gumerman (1973) conducted a survey of the proposed Phelps-Dodge land exchange area which lies outside the monument boundaries. His survey boundaries are not known. He found two sites in the proposed exchange area.

In 1986, Tagg conducted an inventory survey of monument lands (58.68 acres) and 710 acres of adjoining land proposed for acquisition by the monument. [See Map 4.] He recorded only two sites in the monument; the smaller 2 to 5 room masonry site was previously unrecorded, and reflects the variability of sites in the Verde Valley.

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CULTURE HISTORY

The Southern Sinagua appear to be the only cultural group identified at Tuzigoot National Monument. Although Archaic and early ceramic period occupation of the Verde Valley has been found elsewhere, there is no clear evidence for these periods of occupation within the monument boundaries. The early ceramic period occupation in the Verde Valley has been interpreted as either Hohokam or early Southern Sinagua (Colton 1946, Breternitz 1960, Fish 1974, Schroeder 1975, Pilles 1976, Fish and Fish 1977, Fish, Pilles, Fish 1980). Phase names were defined by Breternitz (1960). The occupation of Tuzigoot National Monument appears to date to the late Camp Verde through Tuzigoot phases (A.D. 1100-1400).

There is some evidence of late Camp Verde phase construction at the main pueblo. The first 12 rooms were built [REDACTED] prior to A.D. 1100. During the Honanki phase (A.D. 1125-1300) building increased with new rooms built over old rooms on the [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]. At this time there is no occupation of [REDACTED]. The third period of building took place in the Tuzigoot phase (A.D. 1300-1400). Rooms were added on the [REDACTED].

The rooms built during this phase were larger than those built previously. The ruin was occupied most heavily in these two later phases with 8 rooms occupied in the Honanki and 77 rooms (plus up to 15 second story rooms) in the Tuzigoot phase (Caywood and Spicer 1935:38-40).

The Southern Sinagua were sedentary agriculturalists. Major settlements appear to cluster along the Verde River where floodwater agriculture could be practiced. Tuzigoot and Hatalacva are two of the forty major pueblos occupied during the Tuzigoot phase in the Verde Valley. A number of these large pueblos are [REDACTED] (Fish and Fish 1977); this spacing suggests that they were community centers, surrounded by small pueblos and field houses. The small sites recorded by Tagg [REDACTED] appear to be part of the Tuzigoot community.

The Verde Valley was rich in trade materials such as salt, argillite and copper derivatives. Intrusive ceramics recovered from excavation and survey indicate trade with the Hohokam, Winslow, Kayenta Anasazi, Northern Sinagua, Cohonina, Salado and early Hopi populations according to Caywood and Spicer (1935). Even if many of these pottery types were made locally, as suggested by Fish (1974), Hudgens (1975) and Pilles (1976), their presence indicates contact with outside groups.

The presence of marine shell in the excavated Tuzigoot collections suggests trade with the Hohokam groups to the south and west of the Verde Valley.

Evidence of protohistoric Apache or Yavapai presence in Tuzigoot National Monument is only known from the report of a possible Yavapai site by Cummings who surveyed the proposed location of a borrow pit. No description of the site exists and Tagg's attempts to relocate the site were unsuccessful. Tagg believes that the site may have been destroyed [REDACTED].

No historic sites have been found in Tuzigoot National Monument, however, the monument museum is now 50 years old. Its significance should be evaluated by Western Region historians.

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ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES IN THE TUZIGOOT NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT

Tuzigoot Ruin (AZ N:4:1). Tuzigoot Ruin was built on a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of floor space. [See
Maps 2 & 3; Photos 1-5.] The central room block is [REDACTED]

The walls were built of sandstone and limestone blocks as well as river cobbles set in mud mortar. Large limestone blocks were often used as wall foundations. The walls were usually 2 stones wide with a rubble core. In most cases walls were abutted rather than joined. They range from 0.5 meters to 1.2 meters in width with an average width of 0.56 meters. After excavation, the wall heights ranged from 0.6 to 3.6 meters high, with most walls 0.6 to 0.9 meters high. Room sizes range from 6 to 45 square meters. The smallest rooms appear to be the earliest, with room size increasing over time.

The first rooms were built during the late Camp Verde Phase (c. A.D. 1000). There was expansion during the Honanki phase (A.D. 1200-1300) and was then abandoned. Some later rooms were superimposed over earlier ones. Floor features included hearths, ollas set into the floor and caches. Burials beneath floors were fairly common. Roofs were viga-latilla construction and entry was usually from openings in the roof.

Twenty-eight tree-ring dates place the site in the Honanki and Tuzigoot phases. Although there are no dates from the earliest building period, there are a number of Honanki phase dates for rooms in Groups II and III, and Tuzigoot phase dates for Group I, IV and V rooms (Bannister, Gell and Hannah 1966:14).

AZ N:4:19. This site, [REDACTED] of basalt and limestone boulders that represent two to five masonry rooms. [See Map 5; Photo 4.] Another cluster of boulders may represent one or two more rooms. The site is [REDACTED]

As mentioned above, this site was not previously recorded. There is evidence that the site was vandalized in the past, making interpretation difficult from surface indications. However, there is a moderate density scatter of artifacts associated with the site, including a metate fragment and handstone. The plainware ceramics collected at the site date it to the Honanki or Tuzigoot phases, making it contemporaneous with Tuzigoot Ruin. Its proximity to Tuzigoot indicates that it was part of the Tuzigoot community. Carefully planned and executed excavation there should trace the origin and growth of settlement at this location with more precision than the block excavations by Caywood and Spicer.

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COLLECTIONS

The Tuzigoot collection is the largest assemblage from the Tuzigoot phase. Materials recovered from excavation and survey include pottery, chipped stone, ground stone, bone, shell, wooden items, macrobotanical remains, textiles and basketry. Collections from the excavation are housed at a number of institutions including the Museum at Tuzigoot National Monument, The Western Archeological and Conservation Center in Tucson, the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, the Smoki Museum in Prescott, the Arizona State Archives in Phoenix, and the University of Missouri.

Photographs, manuscripts, field notes and other documents are stored in the Tuzigoot National Monument Museum library and at the Western Archeological and Conservation Center.

DISTRICT INTEGRITY

Disturbed by vandalism, archeological excavation and stabilization, Tuzigoot Ruin is still a significant property that has yielded and may continue to yield information about the past. Except for the trails through the ruin and the roof with parapet in Room 14, Group III (used as an observation post by visitors), the ruin has been restored to its post excavation appearance. The objective of stabilization has been to maintain the character of the ruins while providing safe visitor access to the ruins. All stabilization efforts have been well documented (see Table 1). Trails route the visitor through Tuzigoot Ruin.

The constant stream of visitors and the presence of NPS personnel serve to protect Tuzigoot from vandalism. Recent installation of a new drainage system and routine maintenance should prevent further deterioration of the ruin.

Although there is evidence of vandalism at AZ N:4:19, several room outlines are detectable and there appear to be intact deposits. With the archeological inventory of the monument complete, further damage to the newly recorded site can be avoided. Visitors are not allowed free access to the monument property and the low visibility nature of the remains makes them fairly safe.

Most of the monument property is considered a historic zone. The only developed areas in the monument, the headquarters, museum/visitor center, residence areas, and access roads are located in areas without prehistoric sites.

Preservation of the sites in their present condition is the present management objective. As non-intrusive methods of archeological investigation are improved, it may be possible to further investigate these sites.

DATA LIMITATIONS

The collections and records from Tuzigoot's excavations have considerable value for restudy. However original provenience records are inconsistent in detail. Some classes of data may not be amenable to precise dating. A first priority is to sort artifacts by period and location. At AZ N:4:19 there appear to be significant intact deposits, untouched by vandalism. Judging by similar-appearing small pueblos, it should be possible to trace room floors and wall sequences, and reconstruct allocation and use of habitation space through the site's history.

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There are probably some intact deposits at Tuzigoot Ruin. Hartman (1976) suggested the possibility of intact deposits at a number of rooms. However, when Jones (1986) tested room deposits prior to the installation of the new drainage system she concluded that there are probably only intact deposits in two of the twenty rooms she examined. Jones' trenches concede the possibility of subfloor features such as burials in depressions in the limestone.

HISTORIC STRUCTURES

No modern use of the monument by Native American groups has been documented by NPS staff nor are there any historic activity sites within the monument. The monument museum, constructed 50 years ago appears to be eligible for nomination to the National Register but is a non-contributing structure for the prehistoric district nomination (Maps 1, 2, 3). This structure should be evaluated and nominated by National Park Service Historians.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☒ PREHISTORIC	☒ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☐ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☐ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES A.D. 1000-1400 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Sinagua Culture

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE-TUZIGOOT NATIONAL MONUMENT

Tuzigoot National Monument, placed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966, with the signing of the National Historic Preservation Act, is significant at the national level under Criterion C (36 CFR 60) because it embodies the characteristics of a type and period, and Criterion D because it has yielded, and is likely to yield further, information important in prehistory. The artifacts and burials excavated in 1933 and 1934 remain the type assemblage of the Tuzigoot Phase. The area was designated a National Monument in 1939 to protect and preserve Tuzigoot Ruin, a prehistoric structure of historic and scientific interest. Tuzigoot is a large prehistoric pueblo located in the Verde Valley of Arizona and is the type site for the Tuzigoot Phase of the Southern Sinagua. Presidential Proclamation No. 2344 was signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt on July 25, 1939, giving the National Park Service the responsibility for the monument's supervision, management and control. It is the only publicly accessible Southern Sinagua pueblo in the Verde Valley.

Excavation of the pueblo from October 1933 to June 1934 yielded extensive information regarding the material culture of the Southern Sinagua who occupied Tuzigoot for at least 300 years, A.D. 1100-1400.

An archeological inventory survey conducted in 1986 located an additional site, AZ N:4:19, within the monument. It is a two- to five-room masonry structure site

INTERPRETIVE VALUE

The monument is administered by the National Park Service. The principal ruin is an interpretive site. Tuzigoot has been stabilized to maintain the character of the pueblo, to prevent further damage from the environment and visitors, and to make the ruin safe for and accessible to the public. Park interpreters, museum exhibits, and trail guidebooks are available at the Visitor Center to help the visitor appreciate and understand something about past inhabitants of the Verde Valley.

DISTRICT DESIGNATION

Both of the archeological sites are significant, with integrity and the potential to yield information. Research issues that can be addressed using data from Tuzigoot National Monument sites are identified below.

RESEARCH ISSUES

The Southern Sinagua built and used both sites in Tuzigoot National Monument. The excavation of Tuzigoot has provided information on the ceramics and other artifacts characteristic of the Tuzigoot Phase, as well as objects traded from other areas. Unexcavated deposits exist at AZ N:4:19 and in the refuse-covered slopes that

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surround Tuzigoot. In addition, there may be intact sub-floor deposits within Tuzigoot Ruin. The most probable value of these deposits is in refining the chronology of the site, and in recovering burials and objects that will contribute data on trade, economy and room use.

1. **Architecture.** The architecture of Tuzigoot was initially examined by Caywood and Spicer (1935). They described building techniques and the general sequence of room construction but did not document artifact associations or the wall-by-wall construction. Bondings have since been obliterated by stabilization. Some refinement of the building sequence may be possible by using the 28 tree-ring dates published 30 years after the Tuzigoot excavation report (Bannister, Gell, and Hannah 1966:14) and the maps prepared by Hartman (1976). This would document possible changes in architectural styles and construction techniques through time and the history of a large site, at a period in time when aggregation was prevalent throughout the Southwest.

The earliest rooms at Tuzigoot were dated to A.D. 1000 but have not been well-documented. Further features of this occupation may be present in unexcavated deposits below currently exposed floors, and may add to the knowledge of this early settlement. Determining the nature of pre-Honanki phase occupation here will contribute to plotting early settlement of the Middle Verde.

Site layout and features at AZ N:4:19 can be studied to determine the site's function, precise age, and place in the Tuzigoot community and catchment area.

2. **Material culture.** The collections from the Tuzigoot excavation are housed in the museum at the monument, at the Western Archeological and Conservation Center, and at a number of other institutions in the Southwest. Original analysis was superficial, with inadequate reporting of technological, functional and morphological variability. Artifacts that should be restudied include ceramics, chipped stone, groundstone, shell, and perishables (wooden items, textiles, and basketry). A straightforward detailed descriptive report would add significantly to the value of the Tuzigoot collection for further comparative research in the middle Verde.

3. **Burials.** A summary discussion of the 411 burials (429 individuals) recovered is included in the excavation report, giving tabulations by age, sex, general location and kinds of burial goods. The field records, though hampered by inadequate sketches and photos, do document variables and artifact associations that lend themselves to a reanalysis to determine status differentiation, or the lack of it. This is the largest and best documented body of mortuary data for the southern Sinagua and one of the largest burial populations from a single site in the entire Southwest.

4. **Subsistence and plant use.** Corn, beans, and unidentified grass seeds were recovered from excavations. Species identification of the cultigens and identification of the grass seeds should be done to provide a comparative base for future research on subsistence change in the Verde. Animal bone was identified but refinement of the species identification is desirable; there has been no analysis of methods of butchering and use of faunal resources at Tuzigoot.

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5. **Environment.** Few environmental data were recovered from the original excavation. However, the proximity of arable land along the Verde River implies agricultural activities; the area is rich in natural resources. Judging from the presence of corn, beans and seeds in earlier collections, pollen and other macrobotanical remains may still be preserved in the undisturbed deposits in the refuse-covered slopes and at site AZ N:4:19; these would allow studies of paleoclimate.

6. **Settlement pattern studies.** Survey data for the monument and adjoining land acquisition area permits a look at the local settlement pattern. The apparent clustering of field house sites around the large pueblo sites located at two mile intervals along the Verde indicates discrete extended communities. Study of sites in these clusters would address questions of function, seasonality, and number of occupants, and help to establish these sites' relationships.

7. **Trade and external relationships.** Presence of intrusive ceramic types and Pacific Coast shell indicate trade with outside groups. Changes in trade relationships through time are indicated by changes in the sources of dominant trade-wares. Salt, argillite and copper derivatives are resources in the Verde Valley that were available for exchange. Restudy of ceramics, shell and local minerals have potential to add precision to our knowledge of source locations and trade contacts.

8. **Dating.** Refining the dates for the sites in the archeological district will in turn help refine chronologies and cultural historical reconstructions for the Southern Sinagua, especially because Tuzigoot Ruin is the type site for the later phase. Twenty-eight tree-ring samples were collected during excavation, but only two dates were available for Caywood and Spicer's excavation report. Discovery of unexcavated sub-floor features may reveal hearths that can be dated archeomagnetically.

The small masonry site, AZ N:4:19, is dated based on plainware ceramics. Minor testing to recover decorated ceramics, wood dateable by tree-ring or radiocarbon techniques or the presence of archeomagnetically dateable hearths would help refine the dating of this site. In the future, non-intrusive dating techniques may be developed that can be used on the unexcavated site.

Traditionally Tuzigoot Ruin and the museum exhibits of artifacts recovered from excavation have been the main foci of the monument. The discovery of an additional site within the monument and knowledge of other sites in the land adjoining the monument can help interpret the monument sites as part of a larger settlement system.

As a National Monument administered by the National Park Service, we can expect preservation of these sites, which will allow future study when non-intrusive means of site investigation are developed.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached List of References

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 58.68

UTM REFERENCES

A
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

D. Zone 12 406240 E 3848400 N

The boundary of the district coincides with the boundary of Tuzigoot National Monument.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan J. Wells/Archeologist

ORGANIZATION

NPS, Western Archeological and Conservation Center

DATE

September 24, 1987

STREET & NUMBER

1415 N. Sixth Avenue

TELEPHONE

(602) 629-6501

CITY OR TOWN

Tucson

STATE

Arizona 85705

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is ☒ National ☐ State ☐ Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Charles B. ...

TITLE

Phrygian ...

DATE

Sep 1, 30, 1987

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

Oct 23, 1987

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

already listed - for confirmation

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