

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: SAPU

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument, comprised of Gran Quivira, Quarai and Abo, represents a larger region of east central New Mexico known in Spanish colonial times as the Salinas Jurisdiction. The name "salinas" refers to the large salt lakes found in the area that formed the basis for early settlement and trade.

For over 300 years prior Spanish arrival in the American Southwest, Native Americans lived in self-sustaining pueblos, or towns, along the eastern flanks of the Manzano mountains. They farmed, hunted, traded and worshipped their own gods. When the Spanish Colonials arrived, they established "missions" at the sites of the larger Indian pueblos in an effort to convert them to a new religion - Catholicism. A major component of the missions was usually a massive church and convento in which the priest lived and conducted church business.

Because the missions of the Salinas province were abandoned in the seventeenth century and not resettled until much later, they remain a "capsule in time" through which New Mexico in the first century of Spanish-Indian contact can be studied. With time seeming to have stopped in 1678, there are unique opportunities for research and interpretation. Through archeological evidence, architectural characteristics, and largely unexplored historic documentation, broad patterns of seventeenth century Indian and Spanish settlement, economy, and political administration can be reconstructed. Analysis of these broad patterns and institutions at Salinas provides insight and understanding into a century of expansion, occupation and cultural continuity and change that has not received sufficient attention.

The Centennial vision for Salinas Pueblo Missions is to:

1. Design an interpretive program for each of the resource sites and the monument's orientation center in
Mountainair, New Mexico that is not repetitive in content, but rather progressively increases one's understanding with each site that is visited.
2. Preserve and protect the physical remains of the missions, pueblos and resettlement structures through
and ongoing and sustainable preservation program.
3. Commemorate the 100th anniversary of Gran Quivira's inclusion into the National Park System.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Glenn M. Fulfer

Site: SAPU

EDUCATION

Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Continue to provide teachers with resources to conduct classroom activities which will compliment and enhance the student learning experiences at the Monument. Currently through the monuments educational program- The Salt Mission Scholars Program- the program offers three teachers' kits for each unit containing a teacher's guide, brochures, and theme-related resources such as books, video-tapes, maps, artifacts, and more. The teacher's guide includes information on how to use the materials, lesson plans, and procedures for arranging on-site visits. The lesson plans will assist teachers in helping students achieve New Mexico State Social Studies Competency Standards.

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