THE ARIZONA CAPITOL MUSEUM

The Arizona Capitol Museum has something for everyone: tours, exhibits, educational programs, and online programming for children and adults. Add to your museum experience by visiting the State Library’s nearby modern archives and research library.

The Capitol is constructed of native stone, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Dedicated in 1901, it was first home to the territorial government; when Arizona entered the union as the 48th state in 1912, the building became the state Capitol. The Museum’s collection of over 15,000 items includes artwork and historical artifacts.

MUSEUM HOURS
Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Closed Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays
Admission is free

TOURS
Walk-in tours are offered at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Reservations are not required. Groups of twelve or more are asked to make reservations by calling (602) 542-4581 or online at http://www.lib.az.us/museum.

THE MUSEUM STORE
Hours: Monday through Friday 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
(602) 542-4342

Be sure to stop by the Museum Store, located on the first floor north hall, for interesting items relating to the exhibits. Books, gifts, jewelry, and other merchandise will make your visit a memorable one. In addition, various souvenir packets can be specially prepared for students at costs to suit all budgets.

VISITORS LOUNGE
The lounge is located across the hall from the Museum Store. Photos of Arizona county courthouses are displayed around the room. Vending machines are provided for your convenience. Please help protect our museum by finishing food and drinks before visiting museum exhibits.

FIRST FLOOR

GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA MOSAIC

The colorful mosaic seal depicts the elements of Arizona's economy, the Five Cs. The seal includes three Cs: a copper miner, the sun against clear skies for climate, and rows of cotton. The two missing are cattle and citrus. The omission occurred because the contractor was not given an official sketch. The state motto “Ditat Deus” means “God enriches” in Latin and is featured at the top of the seal.

USS ARIZONA EXHIBIT (south hall on right)

Follow the history of the battleship USS Arizona from its 1915 christening to its final days in Pearl Harbor. The battleship was one of five sunk during the attack by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1941. The bomb that destroyed the Arizona went through five decks and hit the powder magazine. The resulting explosion caused the ship to sink in nine minutes in less than forty feet of water. The loss of life was 1,177 men, the single greatest loss of life in U.S. naval history. The sunken ship is still visible in the harbor.
Arizona Capitol 1901–2001, A Century of Change
(north hall)

A series of photographs and sketches illustrate the changes to the Capitol building throughout the last century. The exhibit starts at the photo of the Phoenix City Hall on the right side of this hall and continues in a counterclockwise direction.

James Riely Gordon, the architect, used building materials found in Arizona when possible. Three types of native rock were used on the exterior of the Capitol, including malapai, granite and tuff.

Actual and proposed changes to the Capitol are included in this exhibit. A construction barricade ends the exhibit, symbolizing the ongoing construction and need for continued care of the capitol.

Second Floor

Secretary of State's Office

The Secretary of State is designated by the Arizona constitution to assume office in the event of temporary or permanent disability of the governor. The office has three major functions: (a) keeping non-financial records, (b) publishing actions of the legislature, and (c) supervising the election process.

Arizona State Flag

The thirteen rays of gold and red on the top half of the flag represent the thirteen original U.S. colonies and the rays of the Western setting sun. Gold and red were the colors carried by the state’s first European settlers, the Spanish; the blue at the bottom half of the flag is the same liberty blue found in the United States flag. The copper-colored star in the center of the flag represents the status of the state as the nation’s largest copper producer. The Charles W. Harris design was adopted on February 17, 1917.

Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Compare this seal with the mosaic downstairs. It represents the actual seal including the cattle and citrus trees. The Arizona Constitutional Convention adopted this E. E. Motter design in 1910 before the mosaic was created.

Flying Colors

Arizona has a rich history extending back thousands of years. Many people have called it home. Spanish explorers planted the first flag in the early 1500s. Explore Arizona through the colors that have flown over it.

Condors & Jaguars & Bears, Oh My!: Arizona’s Game & Fish (south hall on left)

Wildlife management in Arizona began in 1881; the first regulatory laws followed in 1887. Learn about the modern and historical problems and solutions related to wildlife management. Witness how drought and urban growth affects the natural world, and view a life-size model of a condor and a stuffed jaguar.

Megargee Paintings (north hall)

Artist Lon Megargee was commissioned in 1913 to paint fifteen pieces of art for the Capitol, each representing an Arizona scene. He completed all fifteen in just over 18 months. Six hang in the hall, one in the Governor’s office, and one in the Secretary of State’s office.

Rough Riders Flag (end of north hall)

This silk flag was hand sewn in one night by the Women’s Relief Corps of Phoenix, and presented to the Arizona Volunteers in Prescott the next day. The Arizona Column of Rough Riders carried this flag with them to Cuba during the Spanish American War of 1898, under the command of Theodore Roosevelt. Display of the flag is limited to six months (January - June) each year to protect the fabric.
**Floor Maps**

The diagram shows the location of the exhibits currently on display throughout the museum. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask.

**Legend**

- Open to the public
- Closed
- Elevator
- Additional Elevator
- Information

- Men's Restrooms
- Women's Restrooms

Ladies' handicapped restroom is on the 1st floor.
Men's handicapped restroom is on the 1st floor.

Vending machines are in the lounge; a water fountain is located on the 1st floor next to the elevator.
**Arizona Government Offices** (north hall on left)

The three rooms on the left and one on the right of this hall are offices that have been restored to reflect the interiors of the building's working spaces, circa. 1912. These are the Arizona Mine Inspector's Office, Tax Commissioner's Office, and the Livestock Sanitary Board (State Veterinarian).

The mine inspector is the only elected state official whose required experience is set by the legislature. The importance of mining in the Arizona economy and the mine inspector's charge to provide for the safety and health of workers throughout the state makes this office a vital one.

Property taxes were the only source of revenue at statehood and the tax commissioner's office was responsible for its collection. One of the important tasks of the First State Legislature was to enact a law that would attempt to spread the property tax load equitably among all classes of citizens and businesses.

In 1887 the Territorial Legislature created the Territorial Livestock Sanitary Commission to inspect and certify livestock before it entered the territory. After statehood, the Livestock Sanitary Board worked to eliminate livestock diseases in Arizona. Duties of the Livestock Board have been expanded to include administration of most of the state's livestock laws including brand recording, and livestock inspections. Sample brands are illustrated.

**Governor's Office** (north hall on right)

The wax figure sitting at the desk is George W. P. Hunt, the first governor of the state of Arizona. He served as President of the Constitutional Convention and was elected governor for seven terms, making him the most elected governor in U.S. history. Since 1974, when the nine-story West Wing Tower was completed, the subsequent governors resided in the top floor offices.

**Water vs. Rattlesnakes: Judge Kibbey Presiding** (north hall on right)

The story of water in Arizona, the theme of this exhibit, started thousands of years ago. The Hohokam people first built canals, which were later used by Anglo settlers and farmers. Over time, it became evident that water storage and delivery systems were needed to ensure settlement of the valley and state. Many individuals, among them Joseph Kibbey, a political leader and judge, were responsible for establishing a set of laws about water use in Arizona. According to Kibbey, and quoting a landmark case concerning water rights (Wormser Vs. The Salt River Valley Canal Co.), "water is essential to human habitation of Arizona; without it, the land is fit only for rattlesnakes, coyotes, and jackrabbits."

**Third Floor**

**Top Secret – Navajo Code Talkers**

During World War II, over four hundred Navajo men trained as U.S. Marine code talkers, creating a code from the Navajo language that was committed to memory and never broken. The code talkers transmitted battle orders with speed, accuracy, and security, which enabled Allied forces to win pivotal battles in the South Pacific war. The code talkers were considered so valuable that many had soldiers assigned to protect them. In 1968 the code was declassified, and in 2001 the twenty-nine original code talkers were recognized with Congressional Gold Metals. Beginning in the 1970s, Kenji Kawano photographed and interviewed men who served as code talkers. His photos are on display in this exhibit.

**Ostrich Exhibit** (north hall on right)

In the early 1900s, more than four thousand ostriches lived on ranches in the west and east valley, with the largest ranch in Chandler. By 1915 the demand for ostrich feathers had diminished because of a change in ladies' hat styles. Ostrich ranching has since returned to Arizona, with meat and leather as the primary products for today's market.

**Arizona Brands**

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A TALE OF TWO CHAMBERS (north hall on right)

This interactive exhibit encourages young visitors to learn about the many steps through which a bill must proceed on its way to becoming an Arizona state law. A bill may be introduced in either the House or the Senate, but in each case a number of other committees and legislative bodies make decisions that affect the bill’s outcome. The ultimate decision belongs to the Governor, who either signs the bill into law, opts not to sign it (in which instance it will become a law without a signature after a short waiting period), or vetoes the bill.

RESTORED HOUSE CHAMBER (end of north hall)

This is how the chamber appeared in September 1910, when fifty-two men, elected as delegates to the Arizona Constitutional Convention, met to write a constitution for statehood. Nameplates on each desk bear delegates’ names; colors represent the political parties, red for democrats and blue for republicans.

The architect added a number of interesting features to the chamber, in order to enhance ventilation of the building. The cupola windows could be opened so that the warm air, which naturally rises, could escape the building and be replaced with the cool breezes coming in the open “bulls eye” windows.

CAMPAIGN FOR STATEHOOD (north hallway on left)

The Arizona Territory pursued a long, sometimes difficult, path to statehood. The Enabling Act on June 20, 1910 authorized the territories of Arizona and New Mexico to prepare for statehood by holding constitutional conventions. Arizona’s convention met on October 10, 1910, to draft its constitution, which President Taft vetoed in 1911 over the issue of judicial recall. On August 21, 1911, Taft signed a second version of the constitution that omitted the recall of judges. Finally, on February 12, 1912, President Taft signed the bill admitting Arizona to the union.

FOURTH FLOOR

RESTORED HOUSE GALLERY (end of north hall)

Watch your step as you enter and step down. This is the restored gallery of the Arizona House of Representatives as it appeared in 1910. Portraits of House speakers line the gallery wall. In 1960, the House and Senate moved into buildings east of the Museum.

SOUTH STAIRWELL

Notice a cage-like structure in the stairwell—an old elevator housing, which was never operational. An identical elevator was added in the north stairwell and was operated only during legislative sessions.

DOME

Move to the rail and look up through the skylight at the statue called Winged Victory on top of the dome (see model on the first floor, north hall). The statue, weighing over 600 pounds and standing nearly 17 feet tall, was cast in Ohio and shipped to Arizona.

Winged Victory stands on a copper-covered dome that was added during the 1970s restoration of the building. The mining industry in Arizona donated the fifteen tons of copper used on the roof and dome. Originally the dome was painted to appear like copper. The dome is treated to keep it from tarnishing.
**Did You Know?**

- Arizona became a state on February 14, 1912, becoming the 48th state and completing the contiguous United States.

- Construction began on the capitol building in 1899 and was completed in 1901. Final costs for construction totaled $135,000.

- Ditat Deus, the state motto, means God enriches in Latin.

- The five Cs of Arizona, represented in the Great Seal of the State of Arizona, are copper, climate, cattle, cotton, and citrus.

- Originally the dome was painted to appear like copper, but during the 1970s restoration of the capitol, the mining industry in Arizona donated fifteen tons of copper for the dome, which is treated to prevent tarnishing. That's enough for nearly five million pennies!

- In 1974 the nine-story west wing tower was completed at which time the governor, Jack Williams, and other officials moved out of the old capitol structure.

- The anchor from the **USS Arizona** is located in Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza, east of the capitol building.

- The nearly 17 foot tall statue at the pinnacle of the dome is actually a weather vane called Winged Victory. She weighs over six hundred pounds and rotates in the wind a full 360 degrees. She was cast from zinc in Ohio and shipped to Arizona when the capitol was built for a total cost of $165.00.