Lincoln & Fort Stanton Historic Sites

Annual Visitation & Outreach



Total Standard Daily Visitation to New Mexico Historic Sites in Lincoln County during FY 17

62,550

2,000 -

The number of K-12 students that visited our sites for an educational program or had a DCA staff member come to their school to deliver a program -- Students visted Lincoln and Fort Stanton from 5 adjacent NM counties and the neigboring state of Texas.

Arts and cultural industries account for about 1 of every 18 jobs in New Mexico (5.5%). These industries pay \$1.37 billion in wages and salaries and employ 43,031 New Mexicans.



OVER IOK

Additional non-ticketed visitors who attended special events at Lincoln and Fort Stanton, impacting the local economy

Lincoln and Fort Stanton's total estimated economic impact on Lincoln County for FY 17

Statistics derived from physical visitor counts and the UNN Bureau of Dustness & Economic Research report on economic impact of the Arts and Cutture industry in New Mexico.

Economic impact cateuated using the Arts and Economic Prosperity Economic Impact Catucutator.

Lincoln and Fort Stanton Historic Sites

At a Glance:

309 acres,

96 historic structures,

277,000 square feet

Over 1,500 artifacts on display and in onsite collections storage

Lincoln and Fort Stanton Historic Sites are two of the most active sites within the State Historic Sites system. As such, they are a resource to the county, region, contributing significantly to the annual economic impact of tourism on the state. The heritage and culture preserved and interpreted at the two sites include many of the most significant events, people, and cultures central to the story of New Mexico and travelers from across the globe descend on Lincoln and Fort Stanton to walk in the footsteps of Billy the Kid, Pat Garret, Lew Wallace, and many others. Last year alone the sites drew visitors from 23 foreign countries and every state in the union.

During the course of the year, Lincoln and Fort Stanton host an average of 20 special events, including two of the region's most attended, Fort Stanton LIVE and Old Lincoln Days. These two events alone draw over 10,000 visitors to the region annually. Below are some highlights from recent accomplishments as well as just a few of the unique challenges we (DCA) face in managing, preserving, and interpreting for the public these Treasures from New Mexico's past.

Torreon Restoration

Lincoln's Torreon is the oldest non-native structure within Lincoln County. During the spring of 2017, DCA worked to preserve and restore the structure, specifically the roof. The public can now access the structure safely, something that has not been the case for more than 20 years.



Fort Stanton Quartermaster's Exhibit & Commanding Officer's Quarters Restoration

The staff at Fort Stanton is moving forward with a major restoration and exhibition project within the quartermaster's building and Commanding Officer's Quarters at the site. By dedicating staff time to work on this project (scheduled completion in the summer of 2018), we have been able to significantly lower the overall cost and stretch the limited budget.





Courthouse Window Restoration



The Lincoln County Courthouse is the largest civilian territorial era building still standing in the state and is one of the most visited historic structures in the region. Ongoing work continues on carefully restoring the building's windows and doors. Sufficient funding from previous years supported completion of ½ of the reconstruction and additional funding is currently being sought to complete the project.

Lincoln After Dark Tours

During the summer of 2017, staff at Lincoln Historic Site developed and implemented a new series of evening programs at the site. These tours captured new segments of visitors and increased revenues at the site.



SS Columbus Exhibit & Internment Camp Preservation

The staff at Fort Stanton is currently in development of a new exhibit dedicated to the German and Japanese internees that spent time at Fort Stanton during the Second World War. The exhibit is scheduled to open in September of 2018.

Lincoln Western Art Gallery

The collections at Lincoln Historic Site contain many works of fine art by western artists including Peter Hurd, Mark Storm, Maurice Turetsky, and others. A permanent exhibition space for these pieces is being created and is scheduled to open in September.



Lincoln State Historic





Lincoln Site HIGHEST PRIORITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS

Tunstall Store Structural Stabilization: The historic Tunstall Store Museum is one of the primary attractions of Lincoln Historic Site. Constructed in 1877 to compete against the L.G. Murphy Company, its completion ignited the Lincoln County War. The original stone foundation needs repointing and exterior stucco needs repair or replacement in several areas. However, the most serious issue is a slowly sinking foundation on the east side of the building. This issue desperately needs stabilizing or we risk losing a significant portion of the structure.

Montano Store Stabilization: The Montano store is one of the oldest structures at Lincoln Historic Site and houses exhibits on Hispanic culture and adobe construction. Poor drainage has caused damage to the building. Funds are needed to fix both the drainage issues themselves and the damage already done.

Foundation Stabilization of the San Juan Church: Completed in 1887 by local community members, the San Juan Church is an excellent example of territorial New Mexican architecture. Operated primarily as a museum, the church still serves the community as a location for weddings, funerals and occasional masses. The Church's massive stone foundation needs repointing to stop further deterioration.

Fort Stanton State Historic Site HIGHEST PRIORITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS

Replacement of the Nurses' Quarter Roof: Constructed 1940, this structure served as a dormitory for single nurses working at the hospital located on the site. Repeated attempts to have the roof of this HISTORIC structure repaired have met with NO success. The roof continues to deteriorate every year and now allows rain and snow melt water into the interior of the building causing further damage to the structure. The roof must be repaired immediately or the building will be condemned and we will lose a priceless historic structure at this site. Estimated cost for this project:

Perimeter Fence and Entrance Gate: Recent security issues experienced at Fort Stanton have led to vandalizing of historic structures and pose a legitimate threat to public safety. Currently, there is no way to secure the location after hours from entry or vandalism which creates risk of liability and damage to the site. A proposed fence of 3 rail, split cedar rail and post fencing will follow the Hwy 220 perimeter in Fort Stanton. This style fence is observed in period photographs dating from 1887. A series of 4 pipe gates with electronic, horizontal openers and keypad controls will limit entry after hours to authorized personnel without detracting from the overall appearance to visitors. Estimated cost for this project:

Walkway and ADA Updates: There are several publically accessible historic structures at Fort Stanton which need to be made ADA compliant, to the extent that possible considering their historic construction. In addition, many of the walkways throughout the sites are buckling and cracking which make it very difficult, if not impossible, for visitors with special needs to navigate the site. Estimated cost for this project:



