



**International Boundary & Water Commission
United States Section
Nogales Field Office**

Land Boundary Monument Rehabilitation Project

History

The Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty of February 2, 1848 established the international boundary between the United States and Mexico. The Treaty of December 30, 1853 reestablished the southern boundary of New Mexico and Arizona to enable the United States to construct a railroad to the west coast along a southern route and to resolve a question arising from the 1848 Treaty as to the location of the southern boundary of New Mexico. The Convention of 1882 established another temporary joint commission to resurvey the western land boundary between the Rio Grande and the Pacific Ocean, rebuild the old monuments, and install additional monuments where necessary. U.S. Commissioner John Whitney Barlow and Mexican Commissioner Jacobo Blanco resurveyed the borderline and increased the number of boundary monuments from 52 to 258. This survey started at the El Paso, Texas – Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua border in 1891, and concluded at the San Diego, California – Tijuana, Baja California border in 1894. Later as border populations increased during the 1900's, the Commission installed 18 additional boundary monuments for a total of 276. (http://www.ibwc.gov/About_Us/history.html)



Project Objectives

- To preserve, protect and maintain the Land Boundary Monuments within the jurisdiction of the USIBWC Nogales Field Office.



Authority for Project

- Treaties of 1848, 1853 and 1882 between the United States of America and Mexico.
- Minutes 244 and 302 with reference to the Treaties.



Project Location

- Begin at Monument 80 (East of Douglas, AZ)
- End at Monument 167 (Lukeville, AZ)
- All Monuments within Nogales Field Office jurisdiction are the responsibility of the USA to maintain.
- 96 total Monuments, 82 are Iron and 14 are Masonry.



Project Funding

- Funding will be from annual S&E funds approved by Congress for the Nogales Field Office border operations budget.
- Cost estimate will be developed after each Monument is evaluated.
- Work performed and timeframe will be adjusted to available funding.



Work to be Performed

- Ensure Monument location, visibility, line of sight, general condition, finish, and structural integrity
- Paint, make repairs and restore as required Monument structure to include foundation.
- All work will be performed by U.S. Government personnel.



Schedule

- Reconnaissance of each Monument will take place in FY 2012 and early FY 2013.
- Work on restoration will begin in mid FY 2013.
- Current estimate is 1.5 years from mid FY 2013 to complete project.



Examples of Monuments in need of restoration



Coordination Required

- Coordination with Local, State, Federal and Tribal agencies will be required for project.
- Examples of agencies to coordinate with are: CBP, USFWS, BLM, Tohono O'odham Nation, National Park Service, etc.
- In addition to coordination with U.S. Agencies, coordination is required with various Agencies from Mexico. These include MxIBWC, Mexican Federal Police, Mexican Military, etc.



Challenges

“More problematically, some of the old monuments had been swamped by the encroachment of borderland settlements. A prime example of this was in Nogales, Arizona, where an enterprising saloon proprietor had built his establishment around boundary marker number 26, which was now little more than a jumble of stones propped against the saloon wall. Fearful for the integrity of the line, Commissioner Barlow recommended that a 60-foot reservation line be established along the entire land boundary to prevent further encroachment. While awaiting the federal response to his proposal, Barlow tore down part of the saloon wall and re-erected the monument, now numbered 122. Later, after President William McKinley authorized a 2-mile long, 60-foot wide reserve along the Nogales boundary, all offending structures on the U.S. side were removed.”

*(Monuments, Manifest Destiny, and Mexico,
Michael Dear,*

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2005/summer/mexico-2.html>)



Outreach



THANK YOU!!

For more information please go to:

www.ibwc.gov

or contact

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