**Clarkdale Arizona**

**Bank of Arizona Robbery**

On the morning of June 21st, 1928 two Oklahoma bank robbers named Willard Forester and Earl Nelson held up the Bank of Arizona in downtown Clarkdale. They ran outside the bank with $40,000 and jumped into their getaway car. It was the largest robbery in Arizona history at the time. As they turned the corner, Law man Jim Roberts was making his daily rounds. Nelson spotted the old lawman and fired a shot that ricocheted off the sidewalk in front of him. As the car sped away Roberts drew his pistol from his hip pocket, took a deliberate aim and shot the driver through the head. The car careened off the road and into the school yard.

# Coordinates: 34°46'16.1"N 112°03'28.4"W

# \*\*Bonus\*\* getaway car crash: 34°46'15.7"N 112°03'25.6"W

# Image:

**Tuzigoot**

From about 1100 to 1425 AD, The Verde Valley was occupied by a people called the Sinaqua, which means “without water.” in Spanish. The Sinaqua constructed a string of pueblos up and down the Verde River. One of these Dwellings has been named Tuzigoot (Crooked Water). Tuzigoot was excavated from 1933 to 1935 by the University of Arizona, with funding from the Federal Civil Works Administration(CWA) and Works Project Administration(WPA). In 1935–1936, with additional federal funding, the ruins were prepared for public display, and a Pueblo Revival-style museum and visitor center was constructed.  President Franklin D. Roosevelt designated Tuzigoot Ruins as a National Monument on July 25, 1939. Within it, the Tuzigoot National Monument Archaeological District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966.

# Coordinates: 34°46'12.3"N 112°01'40.8"W

# Image:

**Clarkdale Jail/Hospital**

The old clinic building/ Hospital was constructed during the influenza pandemic of 1918-19. The clinic dispensed medicine and treated minor injuries of the smelter workers and their families on a 24-hour basis. The clinic closed in the early 1950s, and when the town incorporated in 1957, the building became town offices. A jail was constructed in the boiler room while the police department occupied the basement. In the early 1980s, the Clark Memorial Library moved into the building, which later housed the Department of Motor Vehicles.

# Coordinates: 34°46'20.6"N 112°03'27.6"W

# Image:

# WPA Wall in Clarkdale

# The Works Progress Administration (WPA; renamed in 1939 as the Work Projects Administration) was an American [New Deal agency](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Deal_agency), employing millions of job-seekers (mostly unskilled men) to carry out [public works](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_works) projects, including the construction of public buildings and roads. One of the most important and most notable projects to come out of this incentive are the numerous WPA Walls scattered throughout the country, including one in our historic town of Clarkdale.

# Coordinates: 34°46'01.3"N 112°04'03.7"W

# Image:

**Jerome Arizona**

**Jerome Sliding Jail**

The old jail building in [Jerome](https://www.atlasobscura.com/things-to-do/jerome-arizona), [Arizona](https://www.atlasobscura.com/things-to-do/arizona) can be found more than 200 feet from where it started. It has been many years since the facility was in use, it certainly spent some time in high demand. An old copper mining camp, Jerome was incorporated in 1898 and like many Wild West towns, soon garnered a reputation for boozing, brawling, and brothels. Its bad reputation was enough to briefly garner it the title of “Wickedest Town in America.” The gambling and gun fights continued through Jerome’s World War I boom, when there were as many as 15,000 people living and working there. The concrete cell block was once part of a wood and tin building, but pulled away from the rest of the structure after some underground blasting in 1938 shifted the ground beneath a substantial portion of the town Although the jail was deemed unsafe for prisoners and evacuated, its gradual slide down the hill continued unchecked until other buildings had been secured.

# Coordinates: 34°45'02.8"N 112°06'52.8"W

# Image:

**Mingus Union High School**

This building was the original location of the Jerome High School home of the Muckers From 1906 to 1951. It later reopened as Mingus Union High School in 1961, the last graduating class was 1971. In 1972 Mingus Union High School moved to its present location in Cottonwood Arizona off of Fir Street.

# Coordinates: 34°45'04.9"N 112°06'20.7"W

# Image:

# United Verde Hospital

The United Verde Hospital was constructed in 1926, to replace the old hospital constructed in 1917, when a fault shift, due to blasting, damaged the south wing. This 30,000 sq. ft. poured in place concrete building was opened in January 1927. It featured patient call lights, balconies, sun porches, emergency backup lighting, Otis self-service elevator, ice making room in Arizona, laboratories, X-ray, major and minor surgical facilities, men’s, women’s and children’s wards, private and semi-private rooms, blanket warming closets and housing for some staff. In 1930, it was considered the most modern hospital in Arizona and possibly the Western States. William Clark used this as just another marketing tool to attract the best employees. Good housing, great schools and the top medical care available.

# Coordinates: 34°44'52.3"N 112°06'54.8"W

# Image:

**Cottonwood Arizona**

# Clemenceau Public School

The Clemenceau Public School was constructed in 1923 by the United Verde Extension Copper Company (UVX) the location was in a portion of the community named after the French Minister of War George Clemenceau for his help during WWI. This school housed grades K-9 during the years 1947-1958. 1986 was the last time that there were classes in the original school Building.

# Coordinates: 34°44'24.1"N 112°01'36.3"W

# Image:

**Rialto Movie Theater and the Drive In (two Locations)**

The Rialto Movie theater was the original theater in Cottonwood. It was built in 1923 and was the longest running single theater in the United States before it was lost to fire in December of 1998.

# Coordinates: 34°44'24.1"N 112°01'36.3"W Theater

# Image:

# Coordinates:34°43'56.7"N 112°00'44.2"W Drive-in

# Image:

**WPA Building in old town**

# The Cottonwood Civic Center was partially funded by the Works Progress Administration and completed in 1939. Local citizens raised the matching funds through bake sales and other grassroots fundraising efforts. The building is sheathed in river cobble and red sandstone. Wrought-iron hinges on the armory-style doors contribute to its sturdy, fortress-like appearance. During WWII the building was rented to the Defense Department to house members of the Navy. Coordinates: 34°44'47.3"N 112°01'38.1"W

# Image:

**Original McDonalds**

McDonald’s came to Cottonwood in the mid 1980’s, its original location was in the middle of town. The Original McDonalds was a few miles away from the current location. In March of 1990 McDonalds was broken into and an attempted robbery was committed. Explosives were placed around the safe and detonated. The safe flew across the building but didn’t open. No money was stolen but major property damage occurred.

# Coordinates: 34°43'43.7"N 112°00'42.0"W

# Image: