Historic "Milk House" On Display at Museum

A historic milk house discovered in 2007 at the Las Vegas Wash has completed its journey to the Clark County Museum. The 9-by-12-foot stone structure was fully excavated by archaeologists, carefully dismantled and relocated to the Clark County Museum.

Built around 1907 by Allan Bishop, the structure was primarily used as a way to keep perishable food cool during summer. Archaeologists also found the stone foundation of what would have been the family residence. Several artifacts were collected, including glass and porcelain jars, children’s jacks, broaches and a dime.

Homestead records show that the property also included a blacksmith shop, barn, and chicken coop and Bishop lived on-site with his wife, four daughters and two sons.

When disassembling the milk house, each stone was documented and labeled before removal. Unfortunately, the markings on most of the stones were worn off over the next several years as the stones sat exposed to the elements while the reassembly design was developed.

As a result, most of the stones were repositioned using photographs. The structure was capped with a wood-shingled roof, complete with windows allowing visitors to see inside, while protecting the milk house from rain and debris.

The milk house excavation and research, dismantling and reassembly efforts were funded through a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation. For more information, visit lvwash.org.

Add the Las Vegas Wash to Your Morning Commute

While you may be intimidated by the high temperatures of summer in Las Vegas, the next few months can be the perfect time to get outdoors and enjoy the abundant wildlife found at the Clark County Wetlands Park.

Early summer sunrises give you the chance to enjoy miles of new trails along the Las Vegas Wash before heading to the office.

Many of the animals at the Las Vegas Wash are at their most active during the first few hours of sunlight, providing some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities.

Grab your morning cup of coffee, head to the Wash and listen to the beautiful song of the Summer Tanager or see a red racer sunning itself across a trail. To learn more about the wildlife of the Las Vegas Wash, visit the new Clark County Wetlands Park Nature Center or lvwash.org.