



Farming societies in many parts of the ancient world worked out ways to track the seasons. The Casa Grande also has features that can be used to accurately mark the time of year.

# Why Build the Casa Grande?

Archeologists don't know for sure. Its original purpose remains a puzzle. Here, there are still more questions than answers.

Was it an ancient astronomical observatory? Perhaps. Why do the walls line up north-south-east-west? Unknown. We can still observe the sun and moon line up with certain holes in the wall before you, year in and year out.

Were sacred ceremonies held here? Did a leader who oversaw the all-important irrigation canals work inside these rooms? Did an influential family or clan call the Casa Grande their home?

The answers remain unknown. The Casa Grande likely served many purposes, many functions.

Why do you think the Ancestral Sonoran Desert People built this impressive multi-story building?

*Built about 700 years ago*