
PRESS RELEASE

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TAPCO History Featured at River Access Point

Clarkdale, AZ (August 7, 2014) – The Town of Clarkdale opened the Lower TAPCO River Access Point to the public on June 18th and has seen a steady flow of visitors every day since. Clarkdale held several public forums in May and June to solicit input on the types of improvements people would like to see at the site. While much work is yet to be done, there have been continuous projects at the site since its opening.

One recent addition was the installation of the site's first historic interpretive sign featuring the history of the nearby TAPCO plant, an iconic steam powered electricity generating station operated by The Arizona Power Company from 1917-1958, and the namesake of the River Access Point. Although the TAPCO plant has been fully decommissioned and is now privately owned, it remains a prominent feature for those travelling up Sycamore Canyon Road and is visible from the north end of the Lower TAPCO River Access Point.

Local resident Tim Coons documented the history of TAPCO for a comprehensive exhibit featured by the Clarkdale Historical Society and Museum in 2011. The facts shared at the site are a result of Tim's research. Those with an interest in more details about TAPCO or other interesting Clarkdale history can visit the museum at 900 First North Street in Clarkdale.

The interpretive sign is located at the park entrance, next to the Self-Pay Station. In addition to the history of TAPCO, visitors will also find a site map, river safety information, and the rules for use of the River Access Point at this entry kiosk, which was designed and installed by local sign company 928 Signs. All visitors entering the park are required to stop at this location to secure a Vehicle Access Pass. There is no adopted fee for the pass, although a \$5 per vehicle per day donation is suggested.

Located at 3400 Sycamore Canyon Road on the Verde River @ Clarkdale, the park is open seven days a week during daytime hours. For more information about the Lower TAPCO River Access Point, contact the Clarkdale Community Services Department at (928) 639-2460, or visit the site's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LowerTAPCORAP



From left to right: Guss Espolt (Clarkdale Community & Economic Development Department and sign designer), Cindy Emmett (Clarkdale Historical Society & Museum), Tim Coons (local historian) and Linda Smith (Clarkdale Historical Society & Musuem).