

A Tour of Some Prehistoric Hanging Canal Images

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Some recent rediscoveries in the **bajadas** of the **Pinaleno Mountains** of Arizona's **Safford Basin** have identified a stunning group of uniquely world class prehistoric mountain stream derived domestic irrigation canals believed to date from the 1350's. At present, **some sixty three canal candidates have been located that have a total length approaching seventy miles.**

These canals are uniquely characterized by portions of them being literally "hung" on the very edges of steep side mesas, sometimes hundreds of feet above their adjacent drainages. Credible reasons for this unusual posturing seem to be that **the canal slopes could be defined largely independent of their surrounding terrain.** And that highly energy efficient construction could largely be carried out **across**, rather than along, the canal route. Thus minimizing costly cuts and fills.

These structures and their trading patterns show influence from the **Hohokam** master canal builders of the Phoenix area. Implied is the collaboration and the collective action of smaller groups, rather than a more complex social structure. Estimations of the construction time vary from fifty man years upward. While no survey instruments are known to survive, it is possible that pilot extensions of the canals themselves acted as static **water levels.**

In addition to **stratigraphy** and **association**, other evidence of age includes: Being run over by roads, **SCS** dams, and even cemeteries roughshod without accomodation; uniform patina, lichens, and caliche; mature trees, cacti, and shrubs mid-channel; extreme purposefullness and well directed energy efficiency; and a lack of any apparent use of pioneer or **CCC** tools.

A summary hanging canal paper can be found **here**, a detailed tutorial **here**, a lecture sequence **here**, and a collection of additional resources **here**. The latest canal developments can be found **here**, and info on tours and personal research opportunities **here**.

These cataloged images are shown here at modest resolution to keep the file size and download times manageable. Clicking on any image or its URL should access its full resolution parent picture.

ALLEN CANAL #1

Allen Canal Just Beyond Spring Canyon Takein Point.

<http://www.tinaja.com/canal/images//allen0.jpg>

N 32.78240 W 109.83475



The spring in Spring Canyon appears to immediately source several canals, while any remaining unfettered water travels a distance down Spring Canyon to this Allen Canal takein point. At this location, the canal begins a sudden northerly turn heading to historically developed Hawk Hollow Tank.

The view is to the north.