

***Site Description***

The portion of the Palo Verde Ruin listed on the City of Peoria Register of Historic Places is an approximately 16 acre site located in northeastern Peoria, along the eastern bank of the New River. The site is part of the larger approximately 80 acre Palo Verde Ruin.

***Background***

The Palo Verde Ruin is the largest Pre-classic Hohokam village on the New River. The 19.8 acre City-owned portion of the Ruin has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places based on its demonstrated and potential ability to yield data important to archaeological understanding of the prehistoric Northern Periphery of the Phoenix Basin (the surrounding region). The site was inhabited by the Hohokam from approximately A.D. 900- A.D.1070, which is considered a relatively brief period of occupation. This corresponds to the peak of the Hohokam regional ball court system, and evidence of a ball court was found during archaeological investigations of the larger 80 acre Ruin. Hohokam ball courts were a form of public architecture. Activities at the ball court would likely have attracted households from distance communities, and these interactions would have facilitated trade and exchange of resources.