

CREF Funding Proposal by the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

Preservation, Restoration, and Exhibition

The Guadalupe- Nipomo Dunes Center

The purpose of the Dunes Center is to promote conservation of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem and the rich culture and history of Guadalupe by developing a community-based interpretive center that orients and educates residents and visitors about the dunes.







Proposal in 3 Parts

- Excavation – finish project initiated in 1990
- Restoration - restore what's excavated
- Exhibition - implement Coastal Conservancy plan

Excavation

"It's condition is fragile at best, having been looted through the years and subject to fierce coastal winds resulting in periodic exposure and reburial." – 2012 Report

SPHINX BODY IN OCT. 2012



SPHINX BODY ON 2/1/14



Restoration



Exhibition

Life at Camp DeMille

IN 1923, PIONEER FILMMAKER CECIL B. DEMILLE built the largest set in movie history at the dunes for his silent epic, *The Ten Commandments*. After filming was complete, DeMille ordered that the entire set be dismantled and secretly buried in the sand. And there it lay, forgotten. It became known as the "Lost City of Cecil B. DeMille."

Then, in 1983, a group of determined film buffs located the remains of the set. They were inspired by a cryptic clue in DeMille's posthumously published autobiography that read:



2,500 APPLES & ORANGES PER DAY
3,500 PEOPLE 125 COOKS
500 TENTS 7,500 SANDWICHES PER DAY
400 GALLONS OF COFFEE PER DAY

Co-starring the Dunes

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If 10,000 years from now, archaeologists happen to dig beneath the sands of Guadalupe, I hope that they will not rush into print with the amazing news that Egyptian civilization... extended all the way to the Pacific Coast of North America.



Simply constructed walls mimic the movie sets (2 x 4 inch lumber and burlap/canvas with ink-jet print)

Typical elevation showing graphics

Why fund this proposal?



| Municipality | Revenue Increase |
|------------------|------------------|
| Buellton | 8.6% |
| Carpinteria | 7.7% |
| Goleta | -0.6% |
| Guadalupe | 14.6% |
| Lompoc | -2.9% |
| Santa Barbara | -1.4% |
| Santa Maria | 2.7% |
| Solvang | 5.3% |
| Unincorporated | 4.0% |
| Total County | 1.1% |

- Economic Impact (media and tourism)
- Community Heritage Preservation and Commemoration
- Education
- Meets all CREF Criteria

