

# THE GLENDALE HISTORY WALK: THE MEDALLIONS

LYNN BASA, ARTIST

## DESERT



In the beginning there was the desert...

Cactus Wren, Desert Tortoise, Night Blooming Cereus, Barrel Cactus, Two-tailed Swallowtail.

The cactus wren and the swallowtail are Arizona's state bird and butterfly. To survive, the desert tortoise spends at least 95% of its life in burrows that it digs; it then comes out at night when it is cool.

The Night Blooming Cereus blooms only one time a year and a night.



## THE ARIZONA CANAL

....then came water...

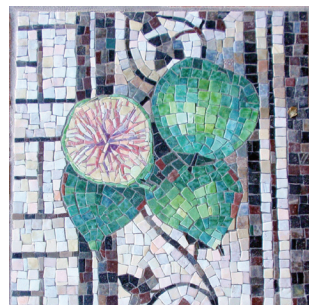
Gloves, mule shoe, shovel

Nearly 50 miles long, the Arizona Canal was dug entirely by hand in under three years and was completed in 1886. William J. Murphy was in charge of the construction. He went on to found Glendale.

## FARMS & RANCHES

Water made possible an abundance of crops such as citrus, figs, cotton, alfalfa, sugar beets, peaches and cantaloupes. Carnations, eucalyptus, roses and date palms were also grown in Glendale. Imagery also included are H.W Hamilton brand (first brand of Manistee Ranch), a peacock feather to represent Sahuaro Ranch, the dinner gong from Manistee Ranch, and an ostrich feather to represent the Ostrich farms.

The desert bloomed with crops and livestock raised by farmers of many nationalities. A couple of the more unusual crops were ostrich farms which supplied feathers for fashion at the turn of the 19th century, and pima cotton used in the times of early automobiles.

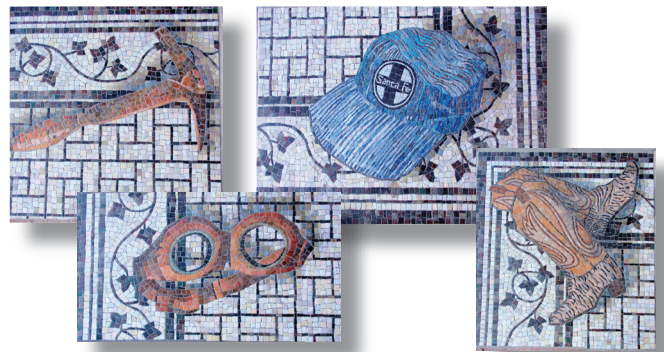


## TRANSPORTATION

To move the crops, roads, railroads and electricity arrived.....

Railroad spikes, spike hammer, Santa Fe railroad engineer cap, railroad car lock, workers boots, driving goggles, automobile tire, and an electrical insulator.

W.J Murphy, the same man who led the construction of the Arizona Canal, also built Grand Avenue and exchanged the right-of-way alongside it for Atcheson Topeka and Santa Fe Railroads to come through. An electric trolley line further strengthened Glendale's link to Phoenix and the world beyond the valley.



## SETTLERS



Globe, bungalow blueprint, English teapot, lumber and book, paper milk carton.

W.J. Murphy encouraged people from the Midwest to move to Glendale. One of the attractions was that no alcohol was allowed to be sold in town. The new settlers built bungalows from store-bought plans. Victor E. Messenger established the town's first public library in 1897 at the lumber yard he managed. In 1909, the earliest phones in Arizona made their first appearances in Glendale. Webster's Dairy Products Company was the first bottler in the U.S to put milk in paper cartons (1933). The first ice plant in 1912, allowed Glendale farmers to ship their produce all over the country. Glendale sits atop a vast salt deposit.

## MODERN DAY

And that brings us to the present day....

Local businesses, medical services, education, Luke Air force Base, Bead Museum, music, dance, visual arts, hockey, football, and baseball. Glendale forges its identity as a multi-faceted place to live, work and play.



## DESERT RETURN

....as Glendale begins to make friends with the desert.

Cholla cactus, palo verde, yucca, ocotillo, horny toad, saguaro flower.

Recycling, xeriscaping, an improved mass transit system, and sustainable building practices are bringing Glendale back into harmony with the desert.



For more information regarding this and other City of Glendale arts projects, visit our website at: [www.glendaleaz.com/arts](http://www.glendaleaz.com/arts)