

Virtual Visit to Rancho Los Alamitos

March 24, 2020
Grade Level: 3-5



HISTORY MYSTERY: DECODE THIS BUILDING

Imagine you are an **archivist** (a person whose job it is to keep old papers, maps, and photographs safe for the future). You found this photograph in a drawer at Rancho Los Alamitos with only the date on the back: 1887. Wow, that's over 130 years ago! "What's the story of this old building?" you wonder. "How was it used?" We're so glad you asked. Let's look closely at three clues to figure out this building's story.

CLUE 1: THE SIZE

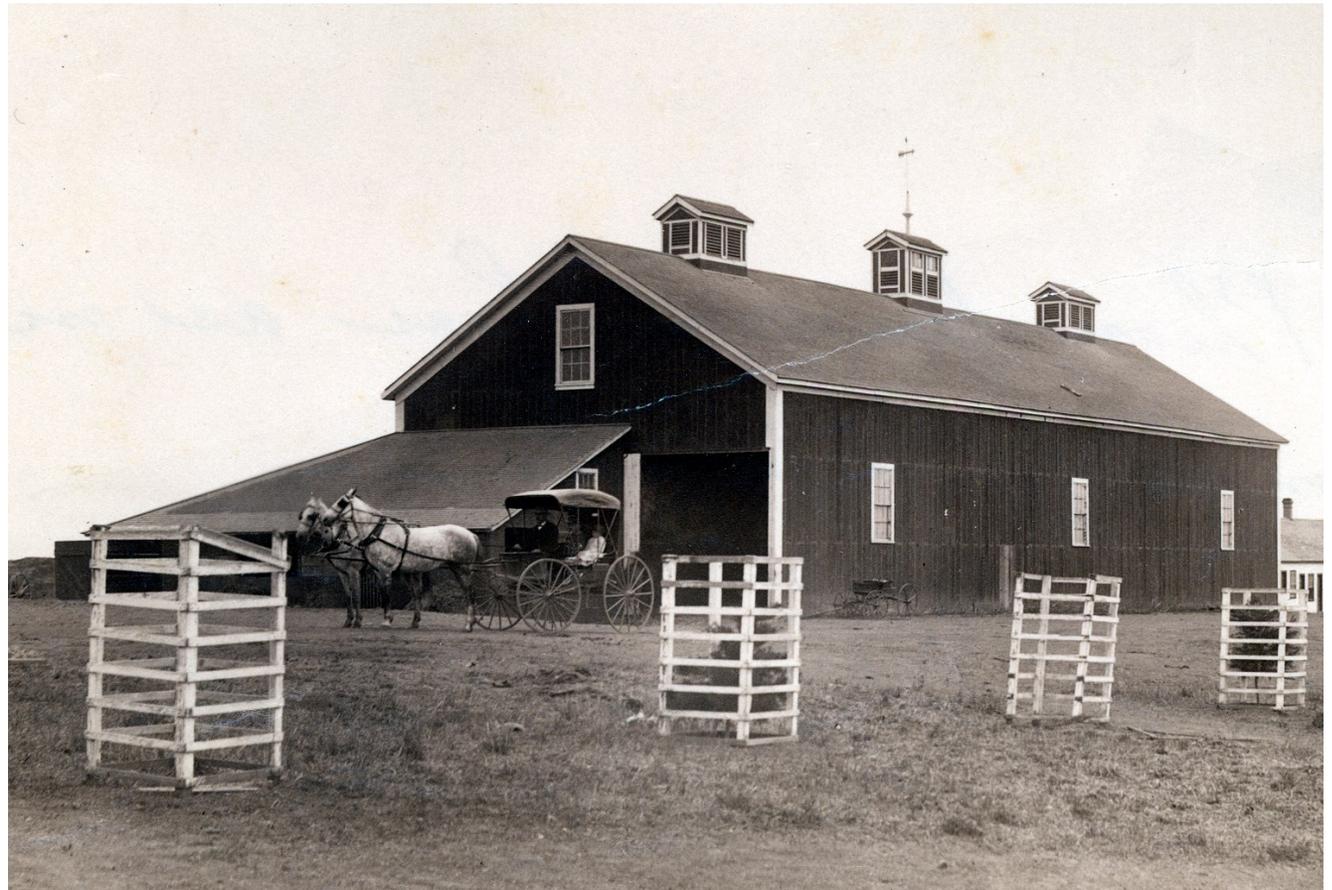
Compare the size of the building to the size of the horses in the picture.
How many horses do you think might be able to fit inside?

CLUE 2: THE ROOF

On top of the roof, there are three "cupolas," parts of the building that let cool air in and hot air out.
What might be stored upstairs in this building? Why would it be important to keep it cool?

CLUE 3: EQUIPMENT NEARBY

Count how many windows are on the side of the building. Zoom in to see what's under the first window.
What do you think the tool below the first window is?



Go to the next page to continue your virtual field trip!

Virtual Visit to Rancho Los Alamitos

March 24, 2020

Grade Level: 3-5



GOOD WORK, HISTORY DETECTIVE!

You made great observations about how large this building is, what might be stored inside, and tools that might be used here.

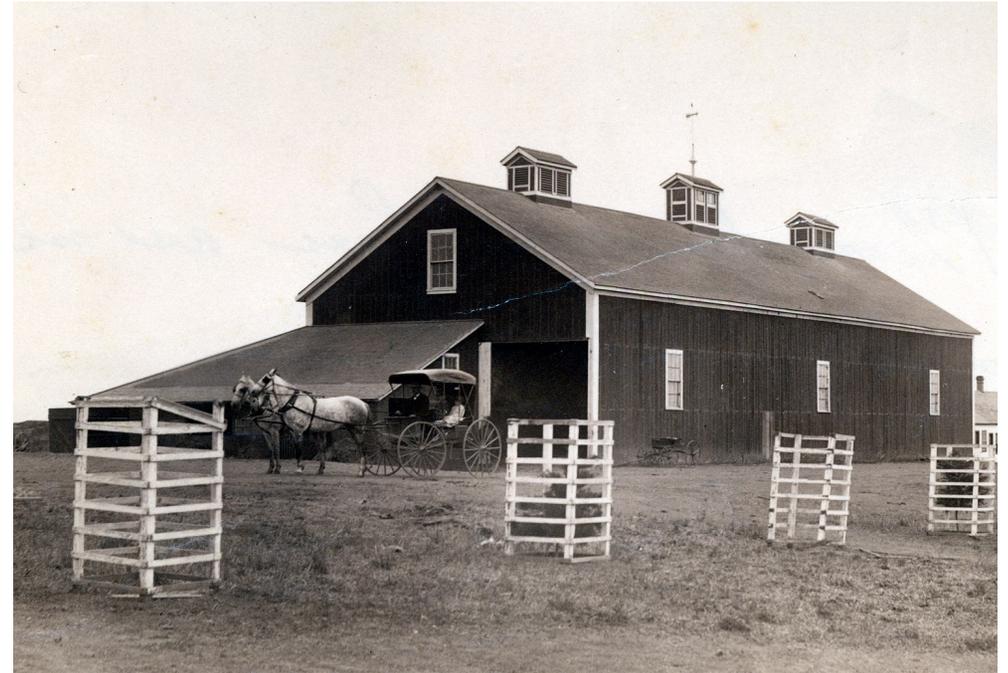
Based on your careful observations, how do you think this building was used over 130 years ago?

Imagine this: just as you were getting ready to share your observations, a **historian** (a person whose job it is to study the past) walks into your office and exclaims, "Oh, look at that photograph! That's the Big Red Barn! I recognize it from my research on Rancho Los Alamitos. This huge barn was used to store ranch equipment, farm animals, and food for the animals, like hay. It had many uses! Upstairs, the hay was kept cool by air through the cupolas, so it wouldn't catch on fire."

History mystery solved! For a few bonus detective points...

What do you see in the white cages?

Why do you think the cages were needed on the ranch?



This is the Stallion Barn at Rancho Los Alamitos today

ACTIVITY CHALLENGE

Make a giant list of everything you think could be found in the Big Red Barn, from farm animals to ranching equipment to feed for the animals. How many items are on your list?

Parents & guardians, share your child's work on social media with #RanchoFromHome. We'd love to see the giant lists you create!