The following is the draft copy for the plaques. Each plaque would have a photograph related to the topic. The exhibits are 1) Time and Events, 2) People and Places, 3) Preservation. There is a total of 41 plaques.

**Time and Events Exhibit (12 Plaques)**

**Archaic**
Little is known about the earliest inhabitants, who lived here perhaps several thousand years ago. Unfortunately for archeologists, they did not make pottery, which can survive centuries of exposure and burial. Instead, they used lighter, more perishable baskets and skin bags. They lived in small, nomadic groups and survived by hunting and gathering wild plants. They used temporary and seasonal camps, creating small, simple shelters from brush and poles.

**Hohokam**
Shortly before 1000 A.D., small groups from the Salt River began to settle the area, bringing an agriculturally-based lifestyle, more substantial architecture, and pottery. By about 1000 A.D., their homesteads were fairly common, and around 1200 A.D., the foothills supported a sizable population. By about 1300 A.D., the scattered, small villages had coalesced into a few large villages overlooking the primary drainages. But the population growth and progress came to a halt, and by 1400 A.D., the entire area had been abandoned.

**Apache**
In the 1400s, bands of Apaches, fierce, warlike, nomadic people, began drifting into the area. They lived by hunting, gathering wild foods, and raiding their neighbors. The Apaches and their allies, the Yavapai, spent the summer and fall months moving through the desert and foothills gathering roots, stems, tubers, leaves, and cactus fruits. They traded with the Apache bands and Pima settlements to the east and south for pottery. They roamed the area for several hundred years, until the U.S. Army campaign forced them to abandon it.

**Despoblado**
From 1500 to 1700, Spanish expeditions explored Arizona. They bypassed the central region and the Desert Foothills because of the hot dangerous desert and the hostile Apaches. On their maps, they labeled central Arizona “Despoblado,” meaning desolate wilderness.

**Military Campaign**
In 1865, the U.S. Army established Fort McDowell, the first Anglo settlement in the Salt River Valley. In 1870, soldiers built the first road across the Desert Foothills. Cave Creek was a watering stop on the military trail from Fort McDowell to Fort Whipple (Prescott). A series of military campaigns in 1872-73 vanquished the Apaches in central Arizona and they were removed to the San Carlos Reservation.

**Mining**
With the Apaches vanquished, prospectors moved in, and in 1874, the first significant mining discovery was made at Gold Hill. In 1878, the area’s first stamp mill was opened at the Golden Star Mine on Continental Mountain. Mining camps sprang up and disappeared in the mountains to the north. Most miners stayed for a time, leaving for other camps when word of new strikes arrived. Mines operated in the foothills into the 1960s.

**Ranching**
In the 1880s, a small community of ranchers settled near Cave Creek Station. In 1887, Cartwright Ranch was established on upper Cave Creek. Others began cattle ranches wherever water was available. Sheep grazed the hills, and in 1900, a sheep shearing business was established at Cave Creek Station. In the early 1900s, DC Ranch was homesteaded by E.O. Brown, covering much of the land east of Pima from Bell Road to Stagecoach Pass Road.

**Homesteading**
In 1928, the land south of Black Mountain was opened to homesteading, and new residents moved in. In 1934, homesteader K.T. Palmer built a rustic cabin on 640 acres of government land on the western slope of Pinnacle Peak, then an extremely remote area with very few dirt trails and no electricity or other services. Around WW II, smaller
Government Land Office (GLO) plats, which included parcels adjacent to the Scenic Drive, were created, and parcels were sold off, many to GIs after the War.

**Tourism**
The Desert Foothills always attracted visitors and campers. Beginning in the 1920s, dude ranches began enticing Easterners to the remote Cave Creek area. During the late 1930s and early ‘40s, the construction of Bartlett and Horseshoe Dams brought workers and boom times. In the 1950s, western destinations such as Pinnacle Peak Patio, Reata Pass restaurant, and Curries Corner curio shop sprang up. Today, area resorts attract tourists from around the globe.

**Government**
Cave Creek Station was established in 1877. Arizona became a state in 1910, and the Desert Foothills fell under the jurisdiction of Maricopa County. The village of Carefree was established in 1958. From 1982 to 1984, Scottsdale annexed 95 square miles in four annexations. In the late 1980s, Phoenix annexed up to Carefree Highway. Fearing annexation by their larger neighbors, Carefree and Cave Creek incorporated in 1984 and 1986, respectively. Today, Cave Creek, Carefree, Scottsdale, and Phoenix all share part of the Desert Foothills.

**Rapid Growth**
The paving of Cave Creek and Scottsdale Roads around 1960 opened the area up to the many people coming to the Valley at the time. Successful drilling for water led to development of the first neighborhoods in the Pinnacle Peak area in the 1970s. During the 1980s and ‘90s, master planned communities and smaller subdivisions were developed, including The Boulders, Terravita, Belasera, Winfield, Whisper Rock, Lone Mountain Vistas, Troon, Desert Highlands, Estancia, Sincuidados, Desert Mountain, and Legend Trail.

**Preservation**
From the 1960s, residents have reacted to oncoming development by forming a variety of groups to preserve the desert and quality of life. These groups have had a positive impact, influencing civic action, ordinances, and government policies. As a result, large investments have been made in parks, preserves, open space, scenic corridors, and ordinances to protect native vegetation and landscapes. The Desert Foothills Scenic Drive, created to protect the desert adjacent to Scottsdale and Cave Creek Roads, was one of the first preservation efforts in the Desert Foothills.

**People and Places Exhibit (13 Plaques)**

**Big Brownie**
E.O. Brown, a Scottsdale merchant, established a ranch in 1916 that grew to 44,000 acres. His son, E.E. Brown (Big Brownie), ran a herd of 4,000 cattle in the Pinnacle Peak area of the McDowell Mountains. He was famous for charging into the Pink Pony bar and restaurant in Scottsdale and causing a rousing celebration when a drought-breaking rain fell.

**Carefree**
The establishment of this planned community, one of the first in Arizona, brought new access roads and residents to the Desert Foothills. It was designed to be a place where creative people could live and work in harmony with the natural environment. Plots were shaped based on the natural formation of the land with meandering streets.

**Cave Creek Station**
Located near springs that had served as a resting place for travelers, it was opened in 1877 by Jeriah Wood, a cattle rancher from Missouri. He kept a few cows, sold dairy products and beef to the mining camps, and supplied meals and firewood to travelers. The military road to Fort McDowell was close by, carrying soldiers, freight wagons, and travelers. The area’s first school was opened there in 1886.

**Corki Cockburn, Vince Thelander, Les Rhuart, Fred Griffin**
These Desert Foothills residents led the effort to establish the Desert Foothills Scenic Drive. The Scenic Drive was Cockburn’s idea. Thelander worked with the county to get approval. Rhuart was a key figure in the early growth of Carefree and an avid supporter. Fred Griffin headed projects to create the drive entry and plant identification signs.

**Curry’s Corners**
Established in the 1950, adventurous tourists and residents could visit this curio stand located in the remote desert (northeast corner of Scottsdale and Pinnacle Peak Roads). It featured Indian jewelry and pottery, cowboy
paraphernalia, a collection of teapots and other wonders. K.T. Palmer’s failed attempt to find water at this location resulted in Carefree being developed farther to the north.

**Desert Forest Golf Course**

Opened in 1962 to attract affluent homebuyers to Carefree, it was hailed for its innovative golf course design that combined linkscape and the hardscrabble natural desert. Named one of the top 100 courses in the country, it transformed golf in the Southwest. An original member, who lived in distant Scottsdale, recalled driving home at night along newly paved Scottsdale Road and having to avoid cattle resting in the cooler dips in the narrow, isolated road.

**George “Doc” Cavalliere**

He was member of one of the first families to settle in Scottsdale, before the town’s incorporation. They established, own, and run Scottsdale’s oldest continuous business, Cavalliere Blacksmith Shop, established in 1909. Doc Cavalliere established Reata Pass Steakhouse and the family’s sister cowboy bar next door, Greasewood Flat.

**Lon Megargee**

One of Arizona’s first resident artists, and by 1910 probably the best-known artist in Arizona, he was retained by Arizona’s first governor to paint 15 murals for the state capitol. His best known works are *The Cowboy’s Dream* (1948), done for Arizona’s Brewing Company A-1 Beer ad, and the *Last Drop from His Stetson*, still used by the Stetson Hat Company and reproduced inside their felt hats.

**Military Trail**

In 1870, soldiers widened an ancient Indian trail into a crude rocky road to create the first road across the Desert Foothills. Also called Fort McDowell Road, it connected Fort McDowell to Fort Whipple (Prescott). It led norwesterly from Fort McDowell, passed north of Pinnacle Peak and east of the Boulders, climbed the northern flank of Black Mountain, and ran west to Cave Creek.

**Mormon Girl Mine**

In 1888, Samuel Taylor began working the mine, located on the western flank of Black Mountain. He was later joined by his father and brothers. After working the mine for 11 years, and following their father’s death, the brothers decided to take their hoard of small gold buttons out of its hiding place in the mine, but it had been stolen. They sold the mine and moved away. The mine was operated off and on by various owners and produced gold, silver, and copper into the 1950s.

**Jerry and Florence Nelson**

The couple struck it wet on a 160-acre parcel that they bought in the remote Pinnacle Peak area, near the current location of Pinnacle Peak and Pima Roads. The couple hit water at 560 feet, 110 feet deeper than originally estimated. The discovery of water led to the development of the Pinnacle Peak area.

**Rawhide**

Originally opened in 1972, by the 1990s it was billed as the second most popular tourist spot in Arizona after the Grand Canyon. Located on the southeast corner of Scottsdale and Pinnacle Peak Roads, it featured an authentic Old West street, saloon, rodeo ring, and fake gunfights.

**Dick Van Dyke**

The Dick Van Dyke Show, which aired from 1961 to 1966, won a total of seven Emmy Awards. CBS subsequently built The Carefree Studio to entice Dick Van Dyke to return for The New Dick Van Dyke Show, which lasted three seasons, from 1971 to 1974, until network executives refused to air one episode because of its sexual orientation. Carl Reiner, the producer, walked out on the series and Van Dyke decided not to renew his contract.

**Preservation Exhibit (16 plaques)**

**Black Mountain Conservancy**

A nonprofit land trust that works to moderate development on the mountain, raising money to purchase land, sponsors awareness programs, and support the efforts of the towns of Carefree and Cave Creek to pass ordinances that protect hillsides and contain development. The conservancy works to protect the 250-acre preserve at the top of the mountain by keeping as much of the surrounding mountain as possible in its natural state.

**Cave Creek Association**
Formed in 1949 to secure a paved road to Cave Creek, it later became the Cave Creek Improvement Association. In 1963, after the paving of Scottsdale Road to the new town of Carefree, the Cave Creek Improvement Association led the effort to create the Desert Foothills Scenic Drive to establish setbacks and protect the natural desert along Cave Creek and Scottsdale Roads from the development of gas stations and motels in the then vacant desert.

**The Coalition of Pinnacle Peak’s (COPP)**

Founded in 1996, the group supports responsible land use, environmentally-sensitive development, creation of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, strengthening of Scottsdale ordinances to protect the environment, and the election of leaders who stand for the protection of quality of life in the Sonoran desert.

**Desert Foothills Land Trust Parks & Preserves**

Sensitive and protected Desert Foothills areas that include the Herbert and Dorothy Watt Nature Preserve (7.6 acres), the Carefree Galloway Wash Preserve (11-acre), the Preserve at the Cave, the Caroline Bartol Preserve on Saguaro Hill (4.2 acres), The H.B. Wallace Preserve (78 acres) Desert Enclave Preserve (20 acres), Cottonwood Canyon Bosque Preserve, P.A. Seitts Preserve at Go John Canyon (500 acres) and Jewel of the Creek (27-acre).

**Foothills Overlay**

Established in 2003 by the City of Scottsdale as a result of neighborhood involvement to preserve the rural desert character of approximately eight square miles, generally between Dixileta Road to the north, Jomax Road to the south, 56th Street to the west, and 96th Street to the east. It limits overbuilding and supports the purposes of Scottsdale’s ESLO, which helps protect and preserve the natural features north of the Central Arizona Project Canal.

**Desert Foothills Property Owners,**

An informal group of Desert Foothills property owners formed in the 1980s, which has successfully advocated for the preservation of portions of the Desert Foothills annexed by Scottsdale. The group played an active role in the development and amendment of preservation-oriented ordinances including ESLO, Native Plant Ordinance, and the Foothills Overlay.

**The Desert Foothills Land Trust**

A stable force for land preservation in the Sonoran Desert foothills area of central Arizona, which was incorporated in 1991. Once land is acquired by the Desert Foothills Land Trust, the Trust assumes responsibility for the long-term management of the property, ensuring that the land remains forever in its wild state, undisturbed and undeveloped, for the pleasure and enjoyment of area residents and visitors today and tomorrow.

**Environmentally Sensitive Land Ordinance (ESLO)**

A set of zoning regulations initially adopted by the City of Scottsdale in 1991 to guide development throughout 134 square miles of desert and mountain areas of Scottsdale, including the Desert Foothills areas. Developers are required to provide open space (Natural Area Open Space, NAOS) on each parcel. NAOS areas are either undisturbed natural desert or where development has restored the desert terrain and vegetation to its natural condition.

**Friends of the Scenic Drive**

Incorporated in 1994 to restore and publicize the Scottsdale Road section of the Desert Foothills Scenic Drive, the nonprofit, with the assistance of the City of Scottsdale, installed new Scenic Drive entry signs and exhibits, painted utility boxes, and advocated for the protection and enhancement of Scottsdale Road section of the Scenic Drive. The group founded the annual, Cookout at the Ranch, to educate the public about the drive and desert preservation.

**Greater Pinnacle Peak Association (GPPA)**

Formed as the Greater Pinnacle Peak Homeowners Association in 1977 by residents of neighborhoods near Pinnacle Peak and Pima Roads to advocate for desert preservation and quality development. The group proposed the establishment of Pinnacle Peak Park, advocated for the paving of Pima Road north of Pinnacle Peak Road and the creation of Scottsdale’s preserve. Today, GPPA publishes the nonprofit community magazine, *A Peek at the Peak.*
(McDowell Sonoran Conservancy (MSC))
Incorporated in 1991 as the McDowell Sonoran Land Trust, it has been a driving force in the creation of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. It champions the preservation of the Sonoran Desert and its mountains, and develops a local culture of stewardship. MSC provides the City of Scottsdale with the human resources required to protect and maintain the preserve.

McDowell Sonoran Preserve
Established by the City of Scottsdale in 1995, when complete, it will total more than 36,000 acres of permanently protected desert. When completed, the McDowell Sonoran Preserve will be one of the largest urban preserves. The Preserve will be larger than Tempe and Paradise Valley combined.

Native Plant Ordinance
In 1981, the City of Scottsdale adopted this landmark ordinance to protect large cacti and trees indigenous to the area. During the 1980s, a series of annexations added 96 square miles of essentially undeveloped desert to the City of Scottsdale and the ordinance was enhanced to ensure that mature plants were not unnecessarily destroyed and to protect thousands of additional native plants. The ordinance has been used as a model by other cities.

Pinnacle Peak Park
In the 1950s, 60s, 70s and 80s, Pinnacle Peak, located in the remote desert, was a popular destination for horseback riders and hikers. Today, Scottsdale’s 150-acre Pinnacle Peak Park's star attraction is a moderate 1.75-mile hike and spectacular views. There are trail signs describing the plants, wildlife, geology, and cultural history of the area. The park also offers interpretive programs and periodic free guided tours.

Scenic Corridors
Scottsdale's Scenic Corridors within the Desert Foothills are Carefree Highway (west from Scottsdale Road to the city's western boundary, 2 miles), Cave Creek Road (ne of Pima Road to the City's ne boundary, 3.5 miles), Dynamite Boulevard (east from 56th Street to the City's eastern boundary, 10.5 miles), Pima Road (north of the 101-Loop to Cave Creek Road, 11 miles), Scottsdale Road (north from Frank Lloyd Wright to Carefree Highway,11 miles).

Scenic Corridor Guidelines
The City of Scottsdale has designated several major roads in the Desert Foothills as Scenic Corridors with scenic desert landscape setbacks that provide a sense of openness for the community. Scenic Corridors Guidelines preserve the natural setting, provide views of nearby land forms, visually link to vista corridors along major washes, and buffer adjacent land uses from traffic.