

**PROJECT INFORMATION:**

**Category:**  
Education

**Location:**  
Anza-Borrego Desert

**Completion Date:**  
2012

**Square Footage:**  
6,000 sf

**Construction Cost:**  
Undisclosed



**CONSULTANT TEAM:**

**Mechanical / Plumbing:**  
MA Engineers

**Electrical:**  
Rizza Engineering



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The University of California, Irvine purchased the historic Borrego Springs Desert Club in order to convert it to an interdisciplinary research center for biologists, astronomers, anthropologists, and others. The conversion required seismic upgrades and a new roof diaphragm in order to meet the required structural needs. A new HVAC system and all new electrical was run to meet current building and electrical codes. A new kitchen, locker room, bedroom, bathrooms and showers were also added to fill the needs of the live-in professors and students.

The exterior character of the home had to remain in tact to preserve its historic character. Subtle upgrades were allowed such as replacing all the single pane glazing with modern double pane insulated panels and a new paved ADA parking space and approach to the front door. The home was also painted using period colors.