

conduits were run from the streams, forming an extensive irrigation system. Gardens, orchards, and vineyards were laid out and the neophytes were shown how to care for them. Each day the advantages of this site chosen by Fray Serra became more evident.

Gradually the adobe walls went up; and, rising, they enclosed workshops. Neophyte carpenters hewed out ceiling-rafters of sycamore beams, brought from the hills twenty miles away, and carved the quaintly mortised door and window frames. The smithy produced nails, locks, hinges and tools.

Less skilled workers brought tules, reeds from the creek-beds, and cut up rawhide. Tules were laid upon the rafters, bound down and made fast with rawhide, and plastered over. In this fashion were made ceilings.

Day by day the dried adobes took higher form, firmer shape; the walls were from two to seven feet thick. The arches rose around a patio of an acre in area, each side being about two hundred feet in length, but no two sides being exactly parallel.

Separated from the arches by a