



SITE LINES

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SPRING/SUMMER
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Message from the Chair

Fellow Site Stewards:

Take note of the article in this issue about the SFNF site steward annual meeting on September 16-18. The SFNF site steward council has selected the beautiful Riana Campground at Abiquiu Lake as the location. Our business meeting, chili cookoff/potluck, and activities with speakers will take place the 17th, and everyone's invited to camp Friday and/or Saturday night, too. Save the dates and stay tuned for more info.

At the most recent council meeting, we also gave our hearty endorsement for two stewards' perks that Mike Bremer has scheduled for you. The first, scheduled for June 11, is a visit to Pot Creek Cultural site. It is an abandoned 13th-century pueblo located on private land owned by Southern Methodist University, near Taos in the Carson National Forest. The second perk will be to Arroyo Hondo (near Santa Fe) on October 15. So

mark your calendars and be ready to RSVP when Mike sends out his email invitations.

Although there wasn't enough need for new stewards for us to offer a formal training session this spring, the Caja del Rio, Pecos, and Rio Chama areas have each provided interim training to a husband-and-wife team to meet their needs. I hope you'll have an opportunity to meet them at our annual meeting in September. Meanwhile, if you know someone who would be interested in serving as a new steward in the Gallina area, please pass contact information along to Jo Douglas (Gallina ATL) at jodouglas1@gmail.com.

Finally, if you'd like to sit in on a site steward council meeting, the next one will be on July 23, at the SFNF office, starting at 9 a.m. Visitors are welcome!

—K. Paul Jones

Beth Parisi Wins an Award



At the recent Archaeological Society of New Mexico (ASNM) annual meeting, Beth Parisi was among those who were honored with a Richard A. Bice Archaeological Achievement Award. "These awards recognize individuals who have enriched their local Affiliate Societies through significant, sustained contribution to promote the understanding and preservation of archaeological resources." Beth was honored "for her commitment to archaeological education and outreach to the public and to the classroom as well as her dedication as an officer of the Site Steward Foundation and as a site steward with the Santa Fe National Forest and a SiteWatch volunteer."

Well deserved congratulations, Beth, and thank you for all your contributions to the Site Steward Program.

Contributors to This Issue:

Candie Borduin
Isabel Caravahal
Bill Cella
Will Dearholt
Jo Douglas
Chris Gardner
K. Paul Jones
Paula Lozar
Gary Newgent
John Pitts
David Strip

The Editors Thank You!

Site Steward Annual Meeting, September 16-18, 2016

We're going to be at the Riana Campground at Abiquiu Lake this year. There is a camping/group site I have rented called Group #2 sort of at the north end of the Riana Campground. There is a gazebo with tables where we can hold talks, bathrooms, camp sites to pull into, a lantern stand at each place, etc.

We can have the usual chili cookoff around noon on Saturday, September 17, and maybe organize a hike at some point on Saturday or Sunday. We will look for speakers also in conjunction with Mike since he's probably the guy who knows who might give a good talk in this area.

The campground hostess said that group site #2 is pretty secluded and quiet so we can really whoop it up!

We're like that.

— Will Dearholt

Site Steward Foundation Update

The Site Steward Foundation is pleased to announce that we are again offering grants totaling \$1,000 in 2016. During 2015, a grant for \$400 was awarded to the Santa Fe National Forest site stewards for additional temperature sensors for expansion of the research of ridge top and valley site temperatures in the Gallina area. The Foundation also awarded a grant for \$1,000 to the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project for new trail and rock art signage on Mesa Prieta. Contact Gary Newgent for a 2016 grant application at garynewgent@yahoo.com.

The 2016 tour of San Juan County Utah was held March 31–April 2, 2016, and attended by five site stewards: Irene Wanner, Chris Gardner, Stella Davidsen, Anne Ravenstone, Kim Dufty (South Park, CO site steward member), and guides Shelley Thompson and Gary Newgent. The trip consisted of easy to moderate day hikes visiting about three sites per day west of Blanding, Utah.

The Foundation sponsored and hosted the 2016 annual meeting of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico at The Lodge Hotel in Santa Fe on April 29–May 1, 2016.

The meeting program was “Rio Grande Migration, Ethno Genesis and Historical Archaeology in the Santa Fe Area.” The Saturday sessions consisted of three, two-hour moderated panel discussions with three speakers on each meeting topic panel, including questions and answers. Seven field trips were offered on Sunday in the Santa Fe area to all attendees.

On August 5–7, 2016, the Foundation will have information tables at the Pecos Conference in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest near Alpine, Arizona. The Foundation will also sponsor the Santa Fe National Forest site stewards' annual meeting September 16–18, 2016, at Abiquiu Lake, Riana Campground.

If you are not a member of the Site Steward Foundation, please consider joining today. The Foundation now accepts debit and credit cards for membership dues and donations on our website

www.sitestewardfoundation.org. If you would like to be notified of Foundation tours and activities, please subscribe to the email list on the Foundation website.

— Gary Newgent, President

The Site Stewards' Web-based Reporting System

*Editor's Note: The following article was originally published in the Winter 2012 issue of Site Lines; it is repeated here to remind all site stewards that **everyone needs to report their time and mileage via the web-based reporting system, please.***

Even though we want to make your experience as a steward as enjoyable as possible, there's a small amount of paperwork that we expect you to complete so that the organization as a whole can accomplish its mission of protecting the forest's archaeological heritage. There are two types of reports that you need to complete, and they serve different purposes.

The first report is the site visit report. We use this report to keep track of when and how often sites are visited and also to keep track of the conditions that were found there. When damage is found, the history of reports allows us to narrow down the window in which the damage has occurred.

The second report is a record of the time you have spent on site steward activities, what you spent that time doing, and how many miles you drove. This information is extremely useful to Mike Bremer in justifying the Site Steward Program. Although most of the effort is our volunteer contributions, the Forest Service still has expenses related to the program, such as Mike and Jason McInteer's time, vehicle use, etc. By showing how much more the Forest Service gets than it spends, Mike is able to convince his management to keep the program going.

In the past, site visits and activity logs were reported in a variety of ways that varied from steward to steward, team to team. Not everyone kept good logs and in some cases, the area team leaders (ATLs) ended up doing all the reporting for their team members, creating a lot of work for the ATL.

We have developed a web-based reporting system to make it as easy as possible for everyone to report site visits and activities, and to ensure that all the reports are in the same format. In addition, by moving to a web-based system, we no longer need to ask stewards to use software they may not have.

How to report:

You can find the forms on the Santa Fe National Forest site steward website by going to the home page (<http://www.sfnfsitestewards.org>), holding your mouse or moving your cursor over Links & Resources, and clicking Web Reporting on the drop-down menu. From there, you can pick either the Site Status (visit) form or the Activity Log.

The Site Status (visit) Form:

You can get to the form directly by going to <http://www.sfnfsitestewards.org/reporting/>

[site_visit_entry.html](#) . (You can also bookmark this page; it doesn't change.) The first step in filling out the form is selecting the name of your area/team. Until you've done this, the list of sites will be blank. Once you've picked your area/team, you can select the site you visited. You can report only one site per form since we need separate information on each site. Next, enter the date in mm/dd/yyyy form, or click on the little calendar icon and pick the date with your mouse/cursor. Now enter the names of *everyone* who visited the site, including non-stewards who may have accompanied you. Since we have everyone's name on the form, only one person from the group has to fill out this form. Fill in the condition of the site. We'll hope it's unchanged since the last visit, but if there are problems, please describe them in sufficient detail that we can decide what follow-up action is required. The total time at site is a drop-down list; select the time closest to the total length of your visit, which is defined as the time from when you left your car to when you returned to your car. Do *not* include the time you spent driving to the point where you parked your car. Finally, enter the name of the person who actually submitted the form so we know whom to talk to if we have questions. Once you have everything filled in, click the "Submit" button. You will get a pop-up window that gives all the information you submitted. You can save this page for your own records if you wish. (Note that if you are submitting forms for multiple visits, the pop-up window will be reused. However, it may not pop to the front after the first time. If you submit a second form and don't see the window, check for another browser window buried somewhere on your desktop. Also, if you have your security settings to block all pop-up windows, you won't get this window. You will need to change the settings to allow a pop-up from the stewards' website or live without a record of your entry.) If you make an error, just let your ATL know and he/she will arrange to get it fixed. The window with the form will be replaced with an acknowledgement page. If you want to create another entry, use the "Back" button on your browser; don't use the link on the page.

The Activity Log Entry Form (reproduced on the next page):

You can get to the form directly at http://www.sfnfsitestewards.org/reporting/activity_log_entry.html. Just like the Site Visit form, you can bookmark this location for future use. The activity log is to record the time *each person* devoted to a steward activity. Although everyone on a site visit was covered with a single site visit form, *each* steward has to submit his/her own activity log. Name, date, and area/team

The Site Stewards' Web-based Reporting System (cont.)

SFNF Site Stewards Activity Log

* Required

Name *

Date *

Area *

Activity *

Travel Time

In decimal hours (e.g., 1.5 for 1 1/2 hours)

Site Visit Hours

In decimal hours

Non-site activity hours

In decimal hours. Please make sure you have something descriptive in the Activity entry

Mileage

Comments

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The Site Stewards' Web-based Reporting System (cont.)

are pretty self-explanatory. For the Activity, select from one of the choices on the list. If none seems to be a good match, just pick "Other" and make sure to explain the activity in the Comment box. If the activity required you to travel (whether or not you were the driver), enter the time in the Travel Time box, rounded to the nearest quarter hour (e.g., 1.0, 1.25, 1.5, 1.75, etc.). If the activity was a site visit, put the time in the Site Visit Hours box, again to the nearest quarter hour. For activities other than site visits, use the Non-Site Activity Hours box. Like the others, round to the nearest quarter hour. No matter how many people were in the car, only one should enter something into the mileage box. We don't really care

who puts something here, as long as only one person does so. It's probably easiest to have the driver vehicle owner be the one who enters the mileage. Use the comments to let us know anything you think is important about the activity. Some stewards copy their site visit comments here, which is fine, but not necessary, as we already have that data on the Site Visit entry. However, if you want to put it here as well for your own records, go ahead. Once you click Submit, you will get a pop-up window with a record of your entry with the same possibility of buried windows. Also like the Site Visit form, use the "Back" button on your browser if you want to create another entry.

—David Strip

My Favorite Site in the Gallina Area – Fiero

The site was excavated between July and November 1975 as the result of a study conducted by the Museum of New Mexico for the Public Service Company of New Mexico. The site is adjacent to the right-of-way of the transmission line corridor. To this day, power lines run adjacent to the site. The site is named for Kathleen Fiero, who, with her team, excavated the site.

"The site consists of two square towers at either end of an arc-shaped alignment of surface storage rooms and two pit houses in the area between the surface rooms and an abrupt cliff edge. Both towers evidently served for habitation; one was connected by a tunnel to a pit house and the second may have been similarly linked to the second pit house. There is no evidence of anything but a peaceful, orderly abandonment of the site sometime after AD 1245. Evidence of extra-regional contact was scanty. These consisted of a bison bone, a sherd from the Rio Chama Valley Pueblo III villages, and several Mesa Verde sherds." *

The site was one of the first I was assigned to monitor when I became a steward in 2010. As soon as we arrived on that first trip, I was taken by the beautiful setting, the gorgeous view, the trees, and the

peaceful feeling I got. I still feel that way today. I can imagine what it must have been like to have that view every day. I imagine it must have been hard for the residents to leave such a beautiful setting, but according to the report on the excavation, the climate was drier than today so water must have been a factor in their leaving.

Because the site is close to the road and power lines, there are always signs of human visitation. Erosion has paid its toll on the towers, which are crumbling. A USGS marker that used to adorn the area has been stolen, and footprints and ATV tire tracks are almost always found. But then I can't really blame those who visit because it is a wonderful place to camp or to just stop for a picnic under the trees. Even with the power lines right there, it is still a great place to be. I have moved on to monitor other sites (reluctantly), but I visit occasionally just for fun. Today, the site is monitored by Diane and John Lenssen.

-Jo Douglas

* Taken from Review Draft Archaeological Investigations at LA11850; A Gallina Phase Village on the Continental Divide, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico by Kathleen Fiero, Museum of New Mexico Research Section.

My Favorite Site in the Gallina—Fiero (cont.)



Above: The Fiero Site



Above: View from the Fiero Site

Southeast Utah Site Steward Foundation Trip

Although the March 31-April 2 Foundation trip was a wonderful opportunity to hike with and get to know other stewards better, since I was the slowest hiker and uncomfortable on exposed slickrock, I missed out on some sites. But experienced guides Shelley Thompson and Gary Newgent were gracious, enthusiastic hosts, only occasionally uncertain of the routes they'd chosen in this unmarked territory.

On our first day, we spent the morning in Blanding's Edge of the Cedars Museum, including a fascinating snoop through some backroom drawers containing fragile items (sandals, fabric, etc.) in the collection with the curator. We then enjoyed the rest of the museum and its greathouse before visiting a greathouse and kiva in Cottonwood Wash (miraculously getting one of the Jeeps out of a deep hole). The steep and exposed slickrock to the second site left three of seven of us waiting and the third site in upper Mule Canyon, a cliff dwelling, was fine for everyone else; I was content to look through my binoculars. Then we visited the seven Mule Canyon towers just west of Comb Wash, coming home to a delightful wine and cheese party.

The next day in Butler Wash, we spent the morning climbing what turned out to be the wrong drainage. Hikers we encountered said

we were below Eagle's Nest, a site requiring rappelling from above, instead of Cold Springs, the intended site. However, we saw a gorgeous petroglyph of a ladder in blackened sandstone. The ladder is rumored to indicate that the site was directly above. After lunch, we all walked to Monarch Ruin, a cliff dwelling now roped off by the BLM. In 2015, the stewards' tour members were still allowed to scramble inside the walls. We were happy enough that the new trail blockages now protected the site. And we had easy access to many pictographs and petroglyphs in the giant alcove. After that, most of us walked less than a mile to the wonderful Wolfman panel with figures carved in sandstone blackened by desert varnish. An exceptionally skilled ancient artist had made images including wolf paw prints, a life-size human figure, an owl (?) mask, as well as tall vertical and mysterious symbols. It was the favorite site for many of us.

After a quick stop at the Sand Island petroglyph panel, we had dinner at Bluff's Cottonwood Steakhouse – good food, welcoming host – and a talk by local archaeologist Winston Hurst, who emphasized how stewards could add to the records of places we monitor. His advice is for us to pay attention to all we see on our site visits and to report anything new, gradually layering on more detail to the basic reports.

Southeast Utah Site Steward Foundation Trip (cont.)

The last day, we ascended Cedar Mesa, visited Kane Gulch Ranger Station, and hiked along the bluff top above a branch of Road Canyon to the Citadel. Access proved too difficult for all but one trip member who joined three strangers to reach the site. The rest of us waited about two hours and had lunch. Last, we drove down Comb Wash looking for ridge crossovers in this remarkable landscape.

Everyone had an interesting trip despite the setbacks. This Foundation excursion was my second, the first having been a wonderful two days first in Hueco Tanks State Park and then Alamo Mountain, TX, a few years ago. These trips help support Site Steward Foundation programs and funding for grants while educating participants in regional archaeology. When you join the Foundation, you both help preserve ancient sites and give yourself excellent travel opportunities.

-Irene Wanner

More SE Utah Site Steward Foundation Trip

At the end of March, I made a trip up to Utah to join fellow site stewards for three days of fun and exploration in Butler Wash and on Comb Ridge. We saw some nice rock art and some lovely cliff dwellings (see Irene Wanner's article for more details).

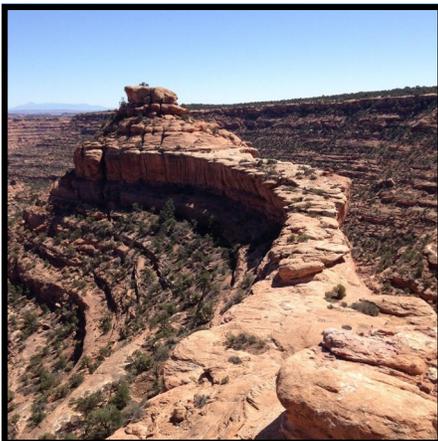
On our way up to Utah, we stopped at Hovenweep National Monument. Once home to more than 2,500 people, Hovenweep includes six prehistoric villages built between AD 1200 and 1300. Many of the structures are fantastic square and circular towers perched on canyon rims and on balanced boulders. We enjoyed a leisurely walk around the main trail with fabulous views of Ute Mountain and the snow-covered San Juans.

On our way back from Utah, we stopped at the Anasazi Heritage Center near Dolores, Colorado, to see a special exhibit called Weaving Stories - Basketry in the Southwest. The exhibit was wonderful, exploring the history of basket-making technology and featuring a 7,000-year-old basket that was found in Delta County, CO.

The exhibit is there until February 2017, so if you find yourselves in the neighborhood, pop in. In addition to the special exhibit, the center is home to a marvelous collection of pottery, a replica of a pit house, and two 12th-century settlements, Dominguez and Escalante Pueblos. Local volunteers maintain a beautiful garden of native plants bordering the entrance.

Archaeology is everywhere. Get out and explore somewhere new today.

— Chris Gardner



The Citadel

Below: Mon-arch House



Scrabble Buddies Hit the Trail: Chris and Irene

Photos by Chris Gardner



Portugal: Archaeology and World Heritage Sites

I must admit that I'd never thought of "Portugal" and "archaeology" in the same sentence. I visited the country briefly in 1990 and saw only a few fragmentary Roman ruins. So when I received an email last fall from Isabel Carvalho and Beth Parisi announcing that they would lead an "Archeology and World Heritage" tour of Portugal in April-May 2016, my first reaction was surprise. But I read the description and immediately signed up for the tour.

Our group (many from the Site Steward Program) visited a variety of archaeological and historical sites ranging from the Paleolithic era through Neolithic, Celtic, Roman, Visigoth, medieval, and Renaissance. The weather was not cooperative – Portugal was having an unusually rainy spring – but the wildflowers were amazing and temperatures were mild. It's impossible to summarize two action-packed weeks in a few paragraphs, so the following are descriptions of some of the sites I was most astonished by.



The Group with a Dolmen in the Background

The **Gruta do Escoural**, near Évora, is a cavern with Paleolithic rock art (50,000 years old) that can only be visited in small groups with a guide. The cave is small and damp, and the rock art consists of a few painted and scratched panels featuring abstract designs or partial figures of animals – but now that the famed Paleolithic painted caves of Spain and France can no longer be visited in person, it was a treat to see this one.

Not far away is the **Anta Grande do Zambujeiro**. A dolmen (*anta* in Portuguese) is a rock structure that formed the entrance and inner chamber of a Neolithic tomb; the main chamber consists of a flat capstone supported by rock slabs. The structure was originally covered by a dirt mound, but in the 19th and early 20th century, many dolmens were unearthed to get at the burial goods inside, and left open to the elements. This one – the largest in Portugal – is in imminent danger of collapse, in spite of efforts to shore it up. (Portugal is full of dolmens, and we saw half a dozen more when we stayed in Castelo de Vide.)

The **Côa River Valley** in northern Portugal is a rare archaeological success story. In the mid-1990s, archaeologists surveying the area in preparation for building a dam identified hundreds of Paleolithic rock art sites at the edges of the river. In spite of efforts to cover up the discovery, word got out; eventually, helped by a change in government, the dam was canceled and the valley was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The museum (built mostly with UNESCO funding) is one of the best-designed I've ever seen, with displays of associated artifacts, reproductions of interesting but hard-to-visit boulders, and good educational facilities. The petroglyphs themselves can be visited only with a guide. We were scheduled to visit two sites, but, because of the heavy rains, one was inaccessible, and the trail to the other site was steep and slippery. The earlier petroglyphs (20,000 years old) are incised and show a variety of animal and human figures, while the later ones (a mere 10,000 years old) are pecked and show outlines of animals – deer, horses, and aurochs (an extinct relative of oxen).

Citânia de Briteiros is an extensive hilltop settlement established by the Celts about 500 B.C. It was excavated in the 1870s by Francisco Martins Sarmento, a wealthy amateur – but he was a careful archeologist for his era, so the site (which has round and square stone huts, roads, and a water system) is well preserved. From there we drove to Coimbra and toured **Conímbriga**: This was once the most important and prosperous Roman city in the region, with a population of about 10,000, but it fell to the barbarian invasions in the 5th century. Only about 15 percent of the site has been excavated, but it's impressive, with two public baths, a large forum, extensive mosaic floors in

Portugal: Archaeology and World Heritage Sites (cont.)

lic baths, a large forum, extensive mosaic floors in the finer houses, and even bits of painted wall plaster.

Thanks to Isabel for a well-organized tour, expert guides, comfortable lodging, and excellent food. Portugal is a beautiful, fascinating, and (I feel) underappreciated destination, and I recommend it highly.

—Paula Lozar

2017 Portugal Archaeology Tour

Due to the success of our 2016 trip, I will be offering another Archaeology Tour of Portugal at the end of April 2017. If you are interested in participating in this unique experience, please contact me for more information.

—Isabel Carvalho

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A Visit to Canyon de Chelly

Early in May, Lee and I made a long awaited visit to Canyon de Chelly. Having visited both rims several times over the years and hiked to White House Ruin, we were eager to see the canyon itself with a knowledgeable Navajo guide. Antelope House Tours was recommended by several friends and, following some research, we reserved a full day tour for two people. We wanted more than a three- or four-hour “drive-by photo shoot” of the incredibly well-preserved and protected archaeological sites and were interested in seeing the pictograph and petroglyph panels close up.

Our guide this day, Harris Hardy, provided that and much more. Harris grew up in the canyon with his grandparents and, as an adult father and family man, is raising his children to learn and live the Navajo traditions. Over the years, Harris interned with geologists and archaeologists who worked in the canyon and his tour dialogue reflected that contact.

We stopped at several sites while moving through the abundant river flow in the main canyon stopping at First Ruin, moving into Canyon del Muerto at Junction Ruin, and on up to Antelope House Ruin. At each site, Harris was able to point out the many layers of cultural habitation starting with Basketmaker on through Pueblo III. The pictograph and petroglyph panels reflected the Anasazi as well as Hopi, Ute, Apache, and then Navajo images. Most of the more recent visitors to the canyon were adversarial with the Navajo and those interactions were often depicted in pictograph and petroglyph panels.

One panel we visited that Harris explained to us was a Navajo panel drawn in charcoal in an

alcove in Canyon del Muerto. The story it depicted was a war with the Utes during which 300 Navajos were killed as well as many sheep and goats with others stolen. The panel has many elements of human war encounters: Native Americans on horseback, dead quadrupeds, and a line of quadrupeds being driven by men on horseback up out of the canyon.

Other pictograph panels depicted welcoming features, such as the male anthropomorph drawn in white on the wall at White House Ruin and other locations. The white color and uplifted arms signify the visitor is welcomed for food, drink, and shelter.



Navajo Pictograph

Protector Pictograph



Another more foreboding image of an anthropomorph drawn in ochre shows a horned figure with outstretched arms and hands dropping down with fingers spread. The legs and feet are outstretched and the figure is depicted as male. According to Harris, this image warns “stay away.”

A Visit to Canyon de Chelly (cont.)

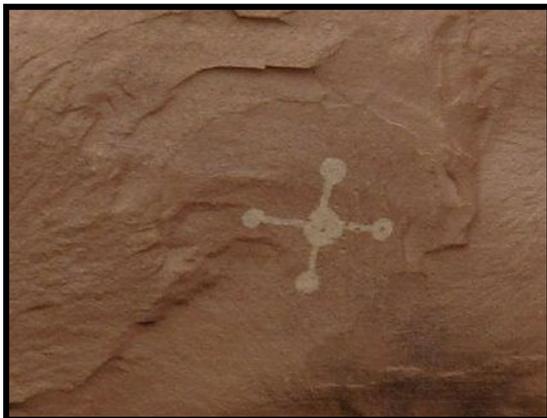
After a delightful lunch of Navajo tacos at the summerhouse of Harris’s cousin, Tania, we visited nearby Antelope House and viewed the pictograph panels of long lines of antelope. Again, Harris pointed out the Basketmaker layers at the base of the site, followed by the construction of Anasazi dwellings. All of the sites have sturdy, chain-link fences installed by the NPS to allow visitors to view the sites without causing damage.



Antelope at Antelope House

Due to quicksand in the wash above Antelope House, we went back down canyon, stopping to hike along the canyon floor to view extraordinary petroglyph panels. We moved on to the popular White House Ruin with Harris pointing out land owned by his “aunties” as we moved along. He explained that all of the Navajos who hold land within the canyon are related through the four clans of the Navajo.

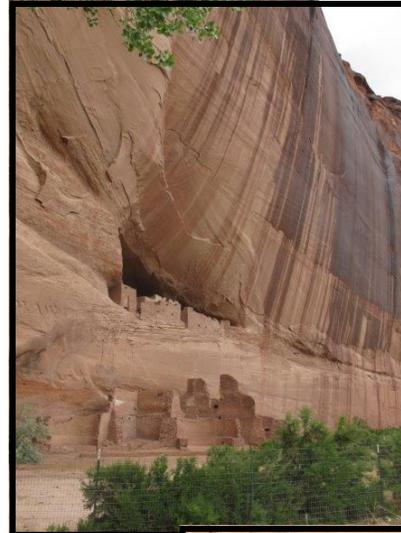
We stopped at another pictograph panel depicting the seven directions observed by the Navajo: north, south, east, west, up, down and, most important, center, which depicts one’s self.



Directional Image

All photos by Candie Borduin

At White House Ruin, we admired the fine masonry and construction of both the upper and lower sites that are well protected behind their fence. The desert varnished high canyon walls extended high above the site and perennial water flowed at its base. White House Ruin is the only site in Canyon de Chelly that visitors can hike to from the south rim without a guide.



Lee and our guide, Harris Hardy, at White House Ruin.



The link to Antelope House Tours is http://www.canyondechelly.net/tours_4wd.html.

Our cost for one to three people was \$420 plus tip. The cost for a three-hour tour for one to three people is \$157 and a four-hour tour for one to four people is \$262. Cost for 12 people in an open top vehicle is 65 per person. A bit expensive? As always, you get what you pay for.

That evening as we relaxed in the campground at Chinle, we agreed the extended, personal tour was well worth the additional expense. This had been a most satisfying day.

—Candie Borduin

New Mexico Site Stewards Record Petroglyphs in the Petrified Forest National Park: ... Just One Glitch!

The question is, what do site stewards/ SiteWatch members do in their spare time? In the case of Bill Cella, Lay Powell, and John Pitts, they form a team and go on a busman's holiday. Since there is always a starting point, this adventure began when the Petrified Forest National Park was mandated some 10 years ago virtually to double its surface territory to include land that is rich with palaeontological, natural, and cultural resources. As a result, the BLM turned over some land sections adjacent to the park (PEFO), with some significant concentrations of rock art and other interesting archaeological remains. This action stimulated John, the intrepid rock art researcher, to ask for permission to visit those newly acquired lands. In light of John's desire to continue his research into the Glen Canyon Linear Style petroglyphs, the PEFO administration allowed John and his research associates to make two trips into the eastern area of the expanded park to do a concerted recording of the petroglyphs.

We thought we knew what we were doing, but did we? We devised our own recording form to use on each panel we discovered, with emphasis on the drawings of the glyphs, as well as a photo board specific to the project. Only then did we set out officially as the JP Rock Art Research Associates. Thus, on a cold day in March 2016, we settled into a dusty camp site where a rancher welcomed our presence. It was convenient to the rock art, but staying adjacent to a cattle corral a mere 100 yards from one of the busiest segments of the double track line of the BNSF Railroad proved punishing. We made it through four days/three nights gritting our teeth. Did I mention that the nights were windy and frigid, too? And one day we had to change the location of our survey because of a blinding sand storm. We survived, however, to record 74 petroglyph panels and set plans to finish the job, allowing an extra day for insurance.

Well, the second and last survey week in that area took place in May. It proved both successful and harrowing. With Bill and John staying comfortably in a Holbrook motel, Lay parked his trailer as far as possible from the railroad

tracks, once again the guest of the rancher. The number of surveyed panels rose from 74 to 175 after four days. Our bodies felt the strain of 8- to 10-hour days clambering over and under boulders while alternating with death-defying cliff climbs. Happily, we survived these dangers with only minor scrapes, bruises, and damage to clothing.

Just to liven things up, on the last day of our recording project, the friendly rancher got upset at us for some unknown and unprovoked reason, and unleashed four gunshots while passing at a distance of 200 yards while driving to water his cattle. When we met him later in the afternoon, he swore at us and ordered us off his land, threatening to use his gun if we did not comply. We complied without argument! This unfortunate incident is now in the hands of the PEFO authorities, and it appears uncertain whether we will be crossing that specific ranch to record rock art in the future.

Still, we feel fortunate to have been able to use our skills learned in our past volunteer work on the National Forests of New Mexico and in other areas like the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project and the Sears Point Recording Project. And, the PEFO will soon have a detailed record of rock art where it previously did not possess accurate information. Our agreement with the PEFO was to provide the park with full information on the panels we found including location (GPS), size, facing, description and condition of the elements, as well as photos and detailed drawings of the panels. Some of the panels recorded proved to be very significant and worth preserving. Fortunately, we found very little human damage to the petroglyphs.

So, if you have time to spare and a penchant to learn more about different styles of rock art, consider contacting Federal Land Managers where cultural resources abound. Our parks and forests are highly understaffed, and as we discovered with the Petrified Forest National Park, committed volunteers are often welcomed to fill in the gaps.

— John L. Pitts

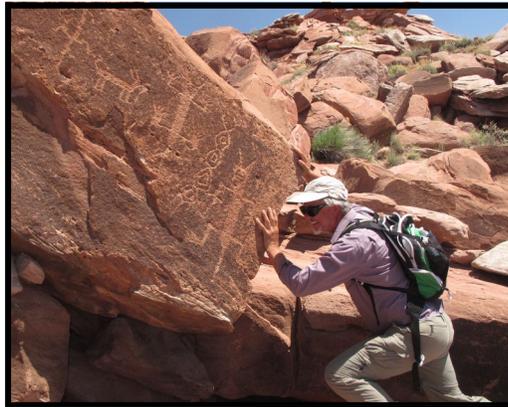
Petroglyphs in the Petrified Forest National Park: ... Just One Glitch! (cont.)



The PEFO Team:
Lay Powell and John
Pitts left; Bill Cella,
right



Typical of the complexity of some rock art panels



Move it
a little to
the left,
please.

Photo calisthenics

Photos by John and Bill



Bears Ears National Monument

Some of you may have heard that a large area in southeast Utah has been proposed for national monument status by an intertribal coalition (Hopi, Navajo, Uintah and Ouray Ute, Ute Mountain Ute, and Zuni governments). Under the Antiquities Act of 1906, presidential proclamation could protect these 1.9 million acres of ancestral land on the Colorado Plateau. Several years in the planning, the proposal is the first ever made by native tribes. It faces many difficulties, including Utah Governor Gary Herbert's call for a special session of the state legislature in May to oppose the proposition. In recent years, too, Utah legislators have moved to privatize some public lands, taking them from the American people in order to manage resources and raise funds for Utah alone.

The Bears Ears are two prominent buttes north of Cedar Mesa, an area rich in cultural resources. The monument would include other spiritually-important places such as Indian Creek, Comb Ridge, Reef Basin, and White Canyon, protecting this fragile environment and its history from looting, grave robbing, and federal leasing. For more information, subscribe to e-updates, and to sign a petition to President Obama, visit protectbears.org.

—Irene Wanner

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Rio Chama Team Potluck

On March 19, the Rio Chama site stewards held their annual potluck to kick off the 2016 site visit season. The event was hosted this year by Mary Jebson. Here are photos of some of those who enjoyed the opportunity to share home-made cuisine and catch up on what we did during the winter.

— K. Paul Jones
Rio Chama ATL



From left: Robin Martin, Beth Parisi, Isabel Caravahal, Keytha Jones, and Arabelle Luckhardt



Arabelle Luckart and Nancy Krantz



Robin Martin and Ron Krantz

Western New Mexico University Museum Temporary Closure

If you find yourself traveling to southern New Mexico, make a point to visit the fabulous exhibit about Mimbres pottery and culture in the university's beautiful century-old Fleming Hall at the top of 10th Street in Silver City. Open every day (except university holidays) and free of charge, it's the home of the NAN Ranch Collection, which is the largest and most complete collection of Mimbres pottery and materials in the world. The cases explain habitation, architecture, and many other aspects of this Mogollon pueblo culture. There are also stone tools, basketry, cordage, jewelry, trade items such as shells, and much more. Visit online at wnmumuseum.org. NOTE: Fleming Hall is scheduled to be renovated so the collection will be on view in Watts Hall Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Construction begins this August and should be completed by the fall of 2017.

Spruce Tree House Closed in Mesa Verde

In August 2015, rock fall at Mesa Verde's Spruce Tree House led to closure of the southern end of the site. Hazard assessment caused the entire site to be closed in October. In November, a National Park Service climbing team identified more cause for concern and the cliff dwelling is now closed for the foreseeable future. It is still visible from the overlook by the Chapin Mesa Museum. Hiking trails to Petroglyph Point and south remain open.

-Irene Wanner