

Welcome to Keyhole Sink!



Photos courtesy of Kaibab National Forest flickr page

Please sign in and enjoy!

Keyhole Sink Interpretive Rock Art Site Restoration and Repair

By Neil S. Weintraub, South Kaibab Zone Archaeologist 11/20/2010

Keyhole Sink is a rare oasis on the Kaibab National Forest. It is a keyhole shaped lava flow with a pool of water at its base. One rock art panel appears to depict a hunting scene. It is a striking outline of the keyhole shaped lava flow with several deer waiting to enter and several deer within the "keyhole". Hopis recognize clan motifs on the walls of Keyhole Sink. These depict lizards, people, bear paws, suns, snakes, and frogs. It is likely that the *Cohonina* who occupied the area between AD 700 and AD 1100 made many of these. Some are likely much older. An aspen stand changes from a lush green to golden yellow in the fall. In the winter, visitors can cross-country ski to the site. During spring snowmelt, a spectacular, thunderous waterfall flows aside the petroglyphs and sends water gushing south toward the Verde River.

In 1992, the Kaibab National Forest developed Keyhole Sink as an outdoor educational classroom. The site is located 7200 feet in the cool pines of Northern Arizona. It is just off Historic Route 66 and only a few miles west of Parks, Arizona. Previously, the petroglyphs had become a well-known destination as visitors could drive forest roads to within a hundred yards of the site. As visitation and trash increased, Kaibab managers took proactive protection measures by eliminating motorized travel yet allowing visitor access by constructing a ¾-mile foot trail. In addition to obliterating two roads, they designed a sign that interprets the archaeology of Keyhole Sink and discusses the need for its protection.

Listed in many Arizona hiking guides, the site is one of the most accessible places in Northern Arizona where visitors can enjoy and learn about petroglyphs without paying a fee. Based on log entries, Kaibab managers estimate that at least 3,000 visitors a year make the trip to Keyhole Sink. Arizona Site Stewards regularly provide monitoring and Kaibab archaeologists give interpretive hikes throughout the year. Because of its significance, archaeologists Byl Bryce is in the process of nominating the site to the National Register of historic Places. For thousands of years, thousands of visitors, both recent and prehistoric, Keyhole Sink was a serene place for visitors to connect with the past. That all changed on August 26, 2010.

The Vandalism

On August 26, 2010, a hiker reported to Kaibab officials that vandals tagged the petroglyphs at Keyhole Sink. That day, Kaibab National Forest Archaeologists immediately hiked in to the site to find "ACE and TJ" painted on top of the petroglyphs. As it turned out, the paint was aluminum roofing cement. Archaeologists Michael Lyndon and Neil Weintraub checked the visitor log and it revealed that the vandalism occurred between August 22 and August 26 (there were no entries between those dates and no mention of vandalism in the last visitor's entry on August 22). Archaeologists

reported the vandalism to law enforcement and the Forest Service assigned a special agent to investigate the case. Archaeologists and District Ranger Martie Schramm decided to put out a press release in the local paper, the Williams News, in hopes that informants might come forward. Kaibab archaeologist Erin Woodard began a damage assessment in accordance with the Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979.

Statewide Arizona Republic Coverage

When Arizona Republic reporter Glen Creno heard about the vandalism in the Williams News, he scheduled a trip north from Phoenix to cover the story and interview Forest Archaeologists Margaret Hangan and Weintraub at the site. Creno's story appeared on the front of the state news on Sunday, October 3, 2010. This also led to a much wider distribution of story and it made headlines in Archaeology Magazine online.

The Emergency Restoration and Repair

Since every day that passed the roofing cement would likely adhere deeper into the petroglyphs, archaeologists felt they needed to remove the cement as soon as possible to leave the least evidence of the graffiti. They were also worried about the possibility that visitors would see the vandalism and add to the problem. In addition, as it became later in the fall, colder temperatures, and potential snowstorms might have limited the work. They began contacting rock art conservators and found out that Johannes Loubser, PhD, from Atlanta, Georgia would already be helping remove graffiti at a site in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in early November. Once contacted, Johannes agreed to make a trip to the Kaibab and attempt to remove the graffiti between November 4 and 5.

With limited funds available for the emergency restoration and repair, Johannes agreed to conduct the work for \$2,475. This included his time in the field, production of a final report, and car rental. It was fortuitous that the Cultural Resources Division at Glen

Canyon National Recreation Area had already covered Johannes' air travel.

Loubser and Weintraub began work at 10am on Thursday, November 4. Luckily, the weather could not have been any better. With temperatures in the low 70's, work conditions were ideal. As a baseline to work around the pecked rock art elements, they used a photograph Weintraub shot last September of the undisturbed petroglyph panel. As there were multiple drips from the hastily painted graffiti, archaeologists tested areas outside of the petroglyphs. At that time, Johannes felt it would be important to have a mechanism to clean solvent residues with water. Weintraub contacted Williams Ranger District Fire Management Officer Joe Reinartz and by noon, Paul Thomas Carter arrived with a pump and fire hoses. The crew easily set up a sprayer from the pool of water left behind by the last rainfall and they were able to direct spray away from the pool of water.

Materials

To conduct the work, archaeologists visited a nearby Home Depot and purchased razor blades, steel, copper, and plastic brushes, Motsenbocker's "Lift Off" Spray Paint Graffiti Remover, "Lift Off" Latex Based Paint Remover, Klean Strip "Green" Denatured Alcohol, and Klean Strip Strip-X Stripper. The "Lift Off" products worked well but stained the underlying basalt lava flow. They then tried scraping the drips with a razor blade. This worked better, however it was extremely time consuming and was still leaving behind a light brown glaze on top of the rock. The denatured alcohol did not work well and required too much rubbing effort. The Strip-X also left a brown stain.

The Break Through: What Finally Worked

As the graffiti removal crew grew frustrated by the lack of desirable results, firefighter PT Carter suggested that applying heat might help. PT then took a BIC lighter out and lightly applied heat to an inconspicuous drip. Using the back of the lighter, PT cleanly removed the drip. They barely saw evidence of the drip. PT then returned to his house in Williams and brought out a larger propane torch. Applying heat directly to the rock (where there were no petroglyphs), they used steel brushes to remove the roofing cement. Within the petroglyphs, archaeologists applied light heat and removed the roofing cement with moistened sponges. By the end of the day, they had stripped off all evidence. However, there was still a light brown outline of the "ACE" and "TJ". PT then suggested that maybe "Goof Off" adhesive remover might work.

Early on November 5th, Weintraub purchased the "Goof Off". Loubser, Weintraub, and Carter spent the day using cotton swabs and sponges to remove most of the brown stain, taking great care within the petroglyphs covered by roofing cement. Within petroglyphs already compromised by the roofing cement, they used sponges and cotton swabs with minimal amounts of gasoline to remove the brown stains.

By the end of November 5th, the crew felt satisfied with their work. They noticed that there was a barely visible white coating on top of the panel where it appears that the roofing cement had interacted with the rock. To hide the discoloration, they took mud and water from the pool and spread it over the panel. They then used the pump to spray down the panel. Johannes recommends that Kaibab archaeologists soon and repeatedly rub local mud on the panel to help remove the remaining residue. Archaeologists should immediately flush away the mud rub with local water. He believes weathering should also help break down the light coat of left over residue.

Current Condition and Costs Incurred

Kaibab archaeologists have bumped up volunteer patrols in the area and the Kaibab's staff is increasing their visitation to the site. Law enforcement is pursuing leads and they are collecting new information. At this time, materials (\$100), conservation work and report (\$2475), and Forest Service employee costs (\$2400 – damage assessment and restoration support) are approaching \$6000. Kaibab archaeologists are grateful to the

Cultural Resources Division at Glen Canyon National Recreation area who already paid for Johannes' airfare, thus greatly reducing costs. While archaeologists have cleaned up the site so that the average visitor will be unaware of the vandalism, they will continue to monitor the panel for any changes that might occur because of the heat application to the lava flow. Sadly, this incident shows the vulnerability of cultural resources in our state. Despite the extremely proactive methods that the Kaibab took over the last twenty years of closing roads and educating the public in appreciating history and resource protection, one vandal was willing to hike ¾-mile carrying a bucket of roofing cement and nearly ruin such efforts.

2013 Restoration Update:

For nearly three years, archaeologists monitored Keyhole Sink on a regular basis. The silvery sheen left behind by the aluminum roofing cement had not broken down.

In July 2013, archaeologists learned about a biodegradable cleanser called "Elephant Snot". At the end of the month they worked with the Williams Youth Conservation Corps, consisting of high school students from the community to put a test application on the silvery sheen. Waiting 20 minutes, they used water pressure sprayers to clean the Elephant Snot off the wall. To their surprise, the silvery sheen completely disappeared and the petroglyphs restored to their pre-graffiti condition.

Today, archaeologists, Arizona Site Steward Volunteers, and Youth Conservation students continue to monitor Keyhole Sink to ensure its long term preservation as an outdoor classroom for all to enjoy.

Archaeology sites in Arizona, Southwest UNDER ATTACK

Officials, supporters
working diligently
to shield ancient art

By Glen Creno

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

WILLIAMS — Somewhere out there, there's a modern Western explorer who decided he had something so important to say that it had to be slathered in silver paint on a remote rock wall full of ancient petroglyphs in the national forest.

The mysterious etchings depicting people, animals and a blazing sun are in a box canyon known as Keyhole Sink in the Kaibab National Forest east of Williams, a mountain town off Interstate 40 that has welcomed sojourners since its namesake, fur trapper "Old Bill" Williams, explored the locale in the early to mid-1800s.

The pristine rock art in Keyhole Sink was a silent reminder of the ancient culture that long flourished in northern Arizona, and it stood unaltered for at least 1,000 years. That all changed in August, when someone painted "ACE" on top of the petroglyphs in sloppy, dripping letters. Under the defacement is an indistinguishable glop of paint that could be more lettering.

Kaibab officials aren't sure exactly what it says, nor what it means, other than a potentially expensive restoration job that might not work. Investigators are trying to find the culprits but have no suspects.

"It's beyond words," Kaibab archaeologist Neil Weintraub said of the damage. "It feels like an attack



TOM TINGLE/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Neil Weintraub, an archaeologist, examines damage done to petroglyphs that are more than 1,000 years old at Keyhole Sink in the Kaibab National Forest near Williams.

See **DAMAGE** Page B6

Archaeological sites damaged

DAMAGE

Continued from B1

on this site. What has it done except give people pleasure for years?"

The damage at Keyhole Sink is a fresh reminder of the ongoing assault on ancient archaeological sites in Arizona and across the Southwest — graffiti, looting of artifacts, littering and garbage-dumping. Sites are defaced with paint, bullet marks, paintball stains and messages scratched into rocks. Professional thieves remove pottery, hack out chunks of ancient art-covered rock and dislodge anything they can carry away.

The sites are vulnerable because they're not behind locked doors. They are operated on the assumption that visitors will behave, since monitoring is intermittent at many of these locations. There aren't enough people, either paid or volunteer, to check them frequently. There are simply too many sites. Often, they're hard to reach.

"We can't monitor them all, and neither can the land managers," said Nicole Armstrong-Best, interim coordinator for Arizona's Site Stewards program. The program oversees a group of volunteers who monitor local, state and federal sites all over the state.

There are about 800 volunteer stewards who monitor the 3,000 most significant or most affected sites the program tracks. Armstrong-Best said there are thousands of other sites — both known and undiscovered — not being watched.

More than 130 vandalism reports have been filed by the stewards since October 2009, when a computerized reporting system was put in place. Reported incidents include petroglyph thefts, paint damage, graffiti and dumping of debris. In a few cases, even shrines and cairns have been built on the sites, along with other alterations.

Looters and vandals can be prosecuted under the Archaeological Resources Protection



ROBERT SCHROEDER

A large white oval has been painted on top of a petroglyph.

Petroglyphs being vandalized

To view a slide show of damaged petroglyphs such as this one near Beaver Creek, visit news.azcentral.com.

Act of 1979. But experts say the cases can be difficult to prosecute unless there are witnesses. Still, there have been enforcement actions in Arizona and neighboring states recently.

Perhaps the best known is a federal sting that targeted looters in the Four Corners area of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah. More than 25 people were arrested in the case.

In other examples of prosecution, a Bullhead City man was hit with several citations after a paintball fight damaged petroglyphs in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and the federal Bureau of Land Management is investigating a case near Tucson in which people were spotted spray-painting a series of rock-art panels.

Archaeology huffs like Robert Schroeder of Phoenix wonder if it's a good idea to have the sites listed so publicly.

"I don't see any easy solution," said Schroeder, who photographs petroglyphs, including some that have been damaged.

"You want Americans to have access to the country's cultural resources, but you want to keep sensitive sites off the radar so to speak."

Mike Johnson, deputy preservation officer for the BLM's Arizona office in Phoenix, said urban growth in the West means more people looking to crowd into diminishing open space, putting more pressure on archaeological sites. At the same time, he said technology like GPS helps people find sites, and Internet marketplaces permit thieves to easily market what they've stolen.

Johnson said the BLM is working to increase steward visits and patrols by uniformed officers at sensitive sites, and to increase cooperation with Native American tribes, for whom these sites are sacred reminders of their ancestors.

Experts say that the impulse to restrict access is giving way to the idea that educating visitors about the value of the sites will make them more apt to notice

and report criminal shenanigans.

"You give people who are professional looters more reason for concern, more eyes and ears out there," said Andy Laurenzi of Tucson's Center for Desert Archaeology.

Kaibab officials were proactive in trying to protect Keyhole Sink. Two forest roads leading to the small canyon were closed, and now the rights of way are carpeted with forest growth. Without easy access, garbage and litter almost disappeared.

To keep the site accessible, forest managers created a ¼-mile walking trail to Keyhole Sink. They figured that anyone willing to make the effort to get there on foot would value what they were seeing.

Kaibab officials erected signs warning against vandalism and explaining the significance of the site. Now, Weintraub said, the agency may have to consider installing cameras and motion detectors to protect the site, though that runs counter to the notion that the place is a touchstone to the past.

Until the paint is removed, he said, people who come there from around the world will be disappointed.

"We've lost the value of people being able to come there, see the stuff, sometimes sit there alone and imagine how it was for the ancient people who lived there," he said.

Margaret Hangan, Kaibab National Forest's heritage-program manager, said she was unsure if anyone would be caught for the vandalism. Kaibab officials are still trying to figure out the best way to remove the paint without leaving more damage. Officials hope publicity helps educate people and generates some tips on who did it.

"It hurts us emotionally, because this is just such a special place," Hangan said recently, standing near a pool at the base of a cliff where a waterfall cascades during the snowmelt season. "It's really hard to see that not everybody feels the same way we do about it."





History of Keyhole Sink Vandalism Clean Up

Photo credit: USGS/NOAA/USFWS



3/27/2010



11/4/2010



11/5/2010



6/20/2013



7/3/2013



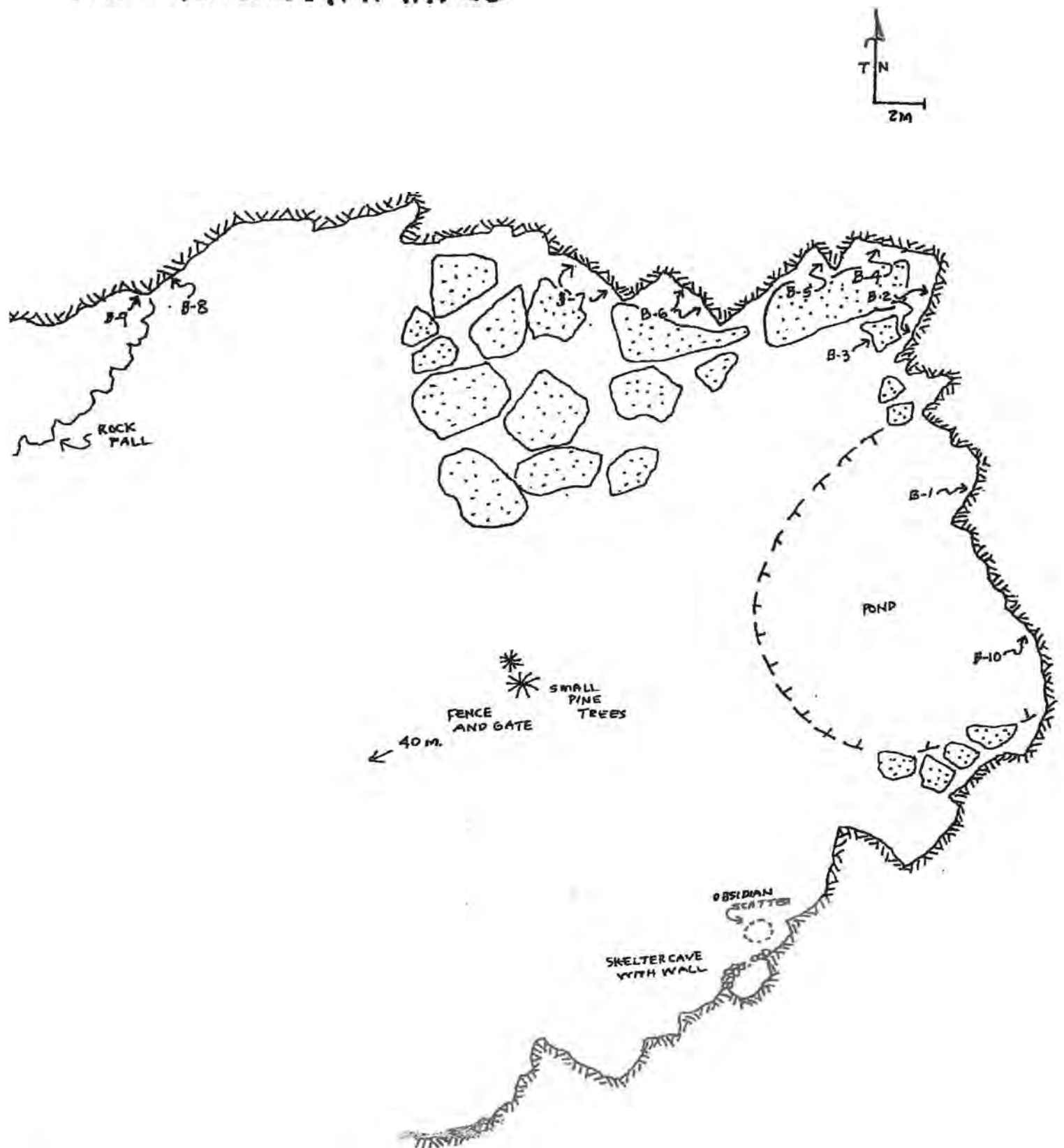
7/22/2013

**ROCK ART DOCUMENTATION
OF THE
KEYHOLE SITE
AR-03-07-02-01
KAIBAB NATIONAL FOREST**

**July 8 and 9, 1999
by
Don Christensen**

AR-03-07-02-01

B-2 - PETROGLYPH PANEL



A note about Site Etiquette...

Archaeological sites like rock art panels are very delicate. They are a window into the past for generations to observe, learn from, and enjoy. They are fragile and non-renewable and can tell many stories. Please help preserve the natural beauty of these sites by maintaining proper site etiquette.

- Look! But don't touch- the grease and oils from your fingers can cause darkening and lead to irreversible erosion
- Stay on designated trails
- Leave any artifacts you may find
- Report any vandalism or damage to 928-635-8600
- Take photos and enjoy!

2/18

ROCK ART SUMMARY

Site Name: Keyhole Site Number: AR-03-07-02-01 Elevation: 6,990'
 Map (7 1/2'): Sitgreaves Mtn. Loc: T 22N R 4E Section 19 (4077220E/3903120N)
 1 Total Panels/Boulders: 10 Number of Elements: 245
 Recorder: Don Christensen
 Dates: July 8-9, 1999
 Rock Art is situated on: outcrop face and one boulder
 Associated Geographical Features: Cap rock around a tank (Rock Tank) Host Rock: Basalt
 Category and Technique:

Petroglyphs: All are pecked.

Natural Deterioration: Some lichen growth and spalling

Cultural Impactment: Extensive graffiti around rockshelter on south side of tank

Proximity to Road/Trail: Site is 800 m. by trail from Old Hiway 66

Visibility to Public: The site is promoted for public visitation. It has a trail and interpretative sign.

Associated Archaeological Artifacts/Features: Rockshelter with wall built in front (unknown age), Government Mtn. obsidian debitage.

Individual Panel/Boulder Attributes: G - graffiti, Z - zenith, N - nadir, Dimensions of decorated surface in cm., Aspect and inclination are in degrees, Repatination: L-light, M-medium, H-heavy, Dent: S-small, M-medium, L-large, Sc-scratched, Ab-abraded, D-diagonal.

Panel#	# of Elements	Dimensions(W-H)	Aspect	Inclination	Repatination	Dent
1	10	58 x 51	288	100	M	S
2A	78	140 x 100	290	90	M	S
2B	11	51 x 71	290	90	M	S
2C	8	40 x 72	290	90	M	S
2D	16	62 x 82	290	90	M	M
2E	13	34 x 40	290	90	L	M
3	1	19 x 15	222	130	M	S
4A	13	45 x 122	188	100	H	M
4B	2	40 x 20 approx.	188	100	H	M
5	10	35 x 36	220	100	M	S
6A	21	100 x 40 approx.	220	95	M	S
6B	33	80 x 50 approx.	220	95-100	L,M	S
6C	9	80 x 80 approx.	220	95	M	S
7A	4	20 x 18	206	100	H	S
7B	1	10 x 11	208	90	M	M
8A	2	19 x 49	138	80-90	M	M
8B	1	7 x 19	138	90	M	M
9A	7	52 x 28	236	90	M,H	S
9B	2	5 x 10	176	90	M	S
10	3	30 x 50 approx.	210	95	M	M

Methodology: The drawings were done from a combination of tracings from slides and field sketches with the latter being the final determinant of any uncertainties. The bar scale in all drawings is 5 cm.

Cultural Affiliation: The anthropomorphs, bearpaw prints, quadrupeds, and snakes are characteristic of Cohonina rock art. The "game drive" is quite unique but still Cohonina style.



AR-03-07-02-01

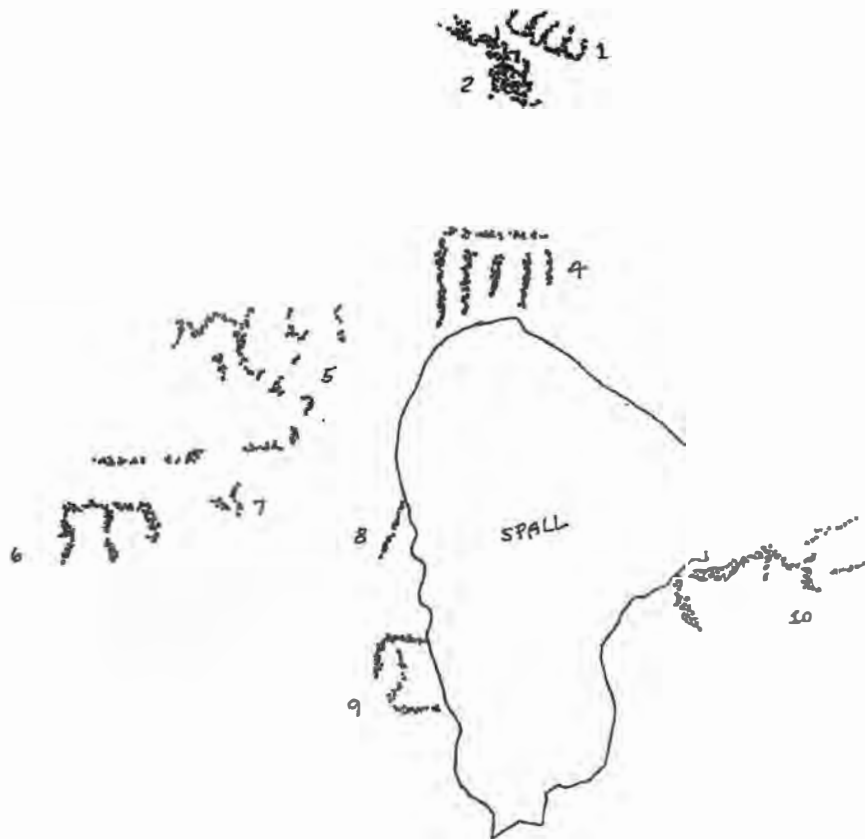
Locus Boulder 1

Date 7-8-99

Recorder: D.C.

Sheet 3 of 18

5
cm





AR-03-07-02-01
Locus - Boulder 2A
Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 4 of 18

5
cm

2E →

→ 2D

2B ↙

SPALL

2C
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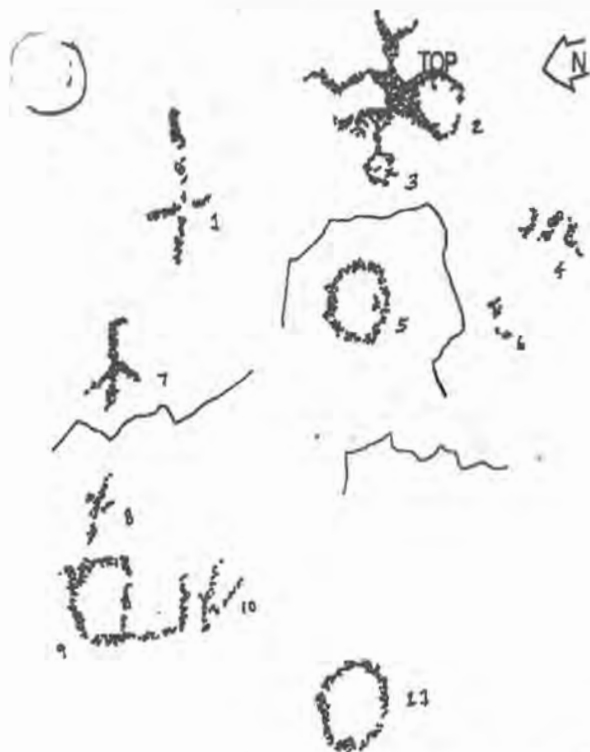


AR-03-07-02-01
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Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 5 of 18

NUMBERED ELEMENTS--

5
cm





AR-03-07-02-01
 Locus = Boulder 2B-C
 Date 7-8-99
 Recorder: D.C.
 Sheet 6 of 18

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(2C)



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AR-03-07-02-01
Locus = Boulder 2D
Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 7 of 18

5
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AR-03-07-02-01
Locus - Boulder 2E
Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 8 of 18

5



B-3



AR-03-07-02-01
Locus - Boulder 3-4
Date 7-8-9-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 9 of 18

5
cm



5
cm

B-4A



B-4B

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cm





AR-03-07-02-01
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Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 10 of 18

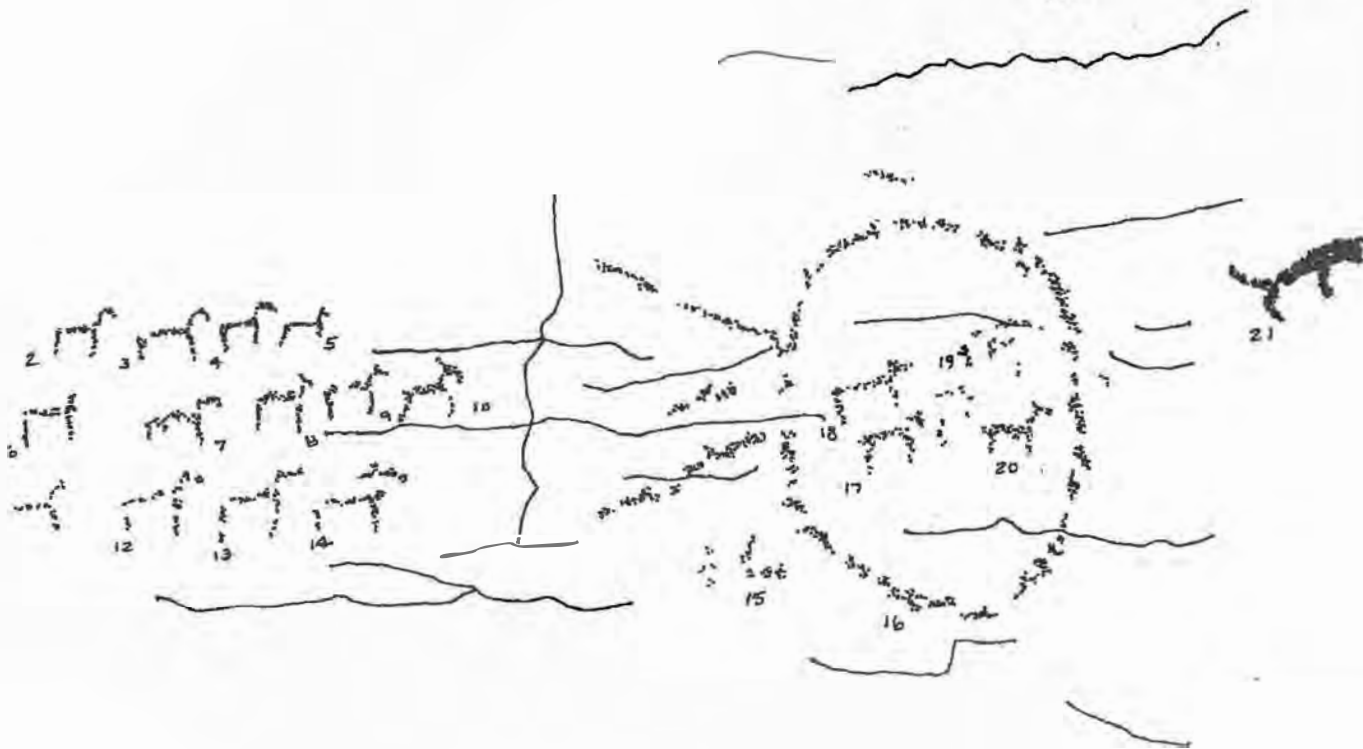
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Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 11 of 18

5
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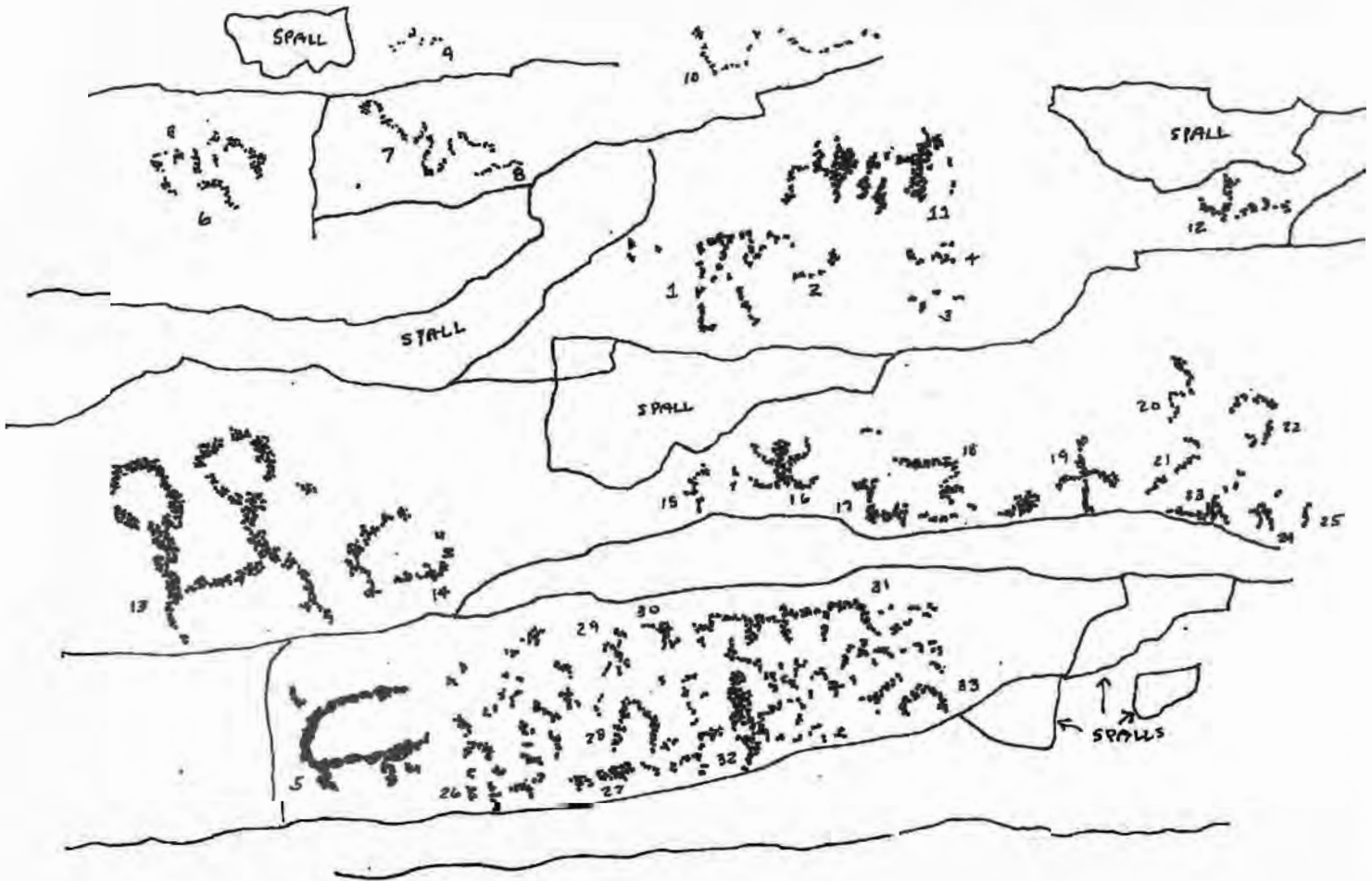


E 1-20 - MEDIUM REPATINATION, SMALL DENT
E-21 - LIGHT REPATINATION, MEDIUM DENT



AR-03-07-02-01
Locus = Boulder 68
Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 12 of 18

5
cm



E-1-S - LIGHT REPAINTATION
ALL OTHERS MEDIUM



AR-03-07-02-01
Locus Boulder 6C
Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 13 of 18

5
cm

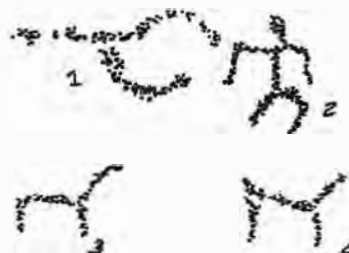




AK-03-07-02-01
Locus - Boulder 7A-B
Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 14 of 18

5
cm

7A



7B

5
cm

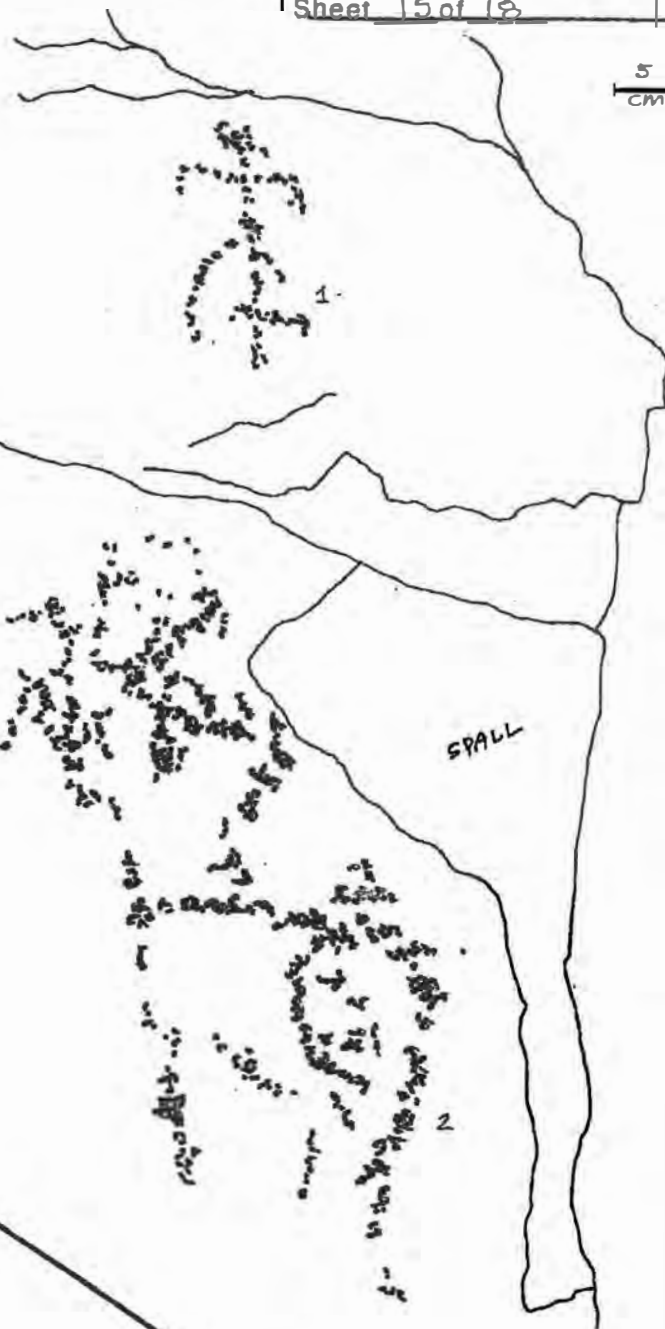




AR-03-07-02-01
Locus: = Boulder 8A-B
Date: 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 15 of 18

(A)

5
cm



(B)

15 cm
BELOW
8A

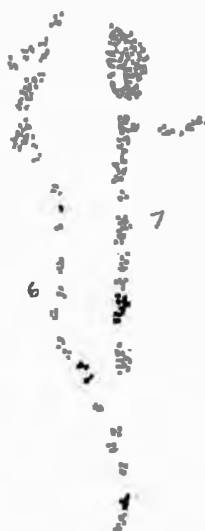


5
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AP-03-07-02-01
Locus- Boulder 9A
Date 7-8-99
Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 16 of 18

5
CM



E-1-4-HEAVY REPATINATION
5-7-MEDIUM REPATINATION



AR-03-07-02-01

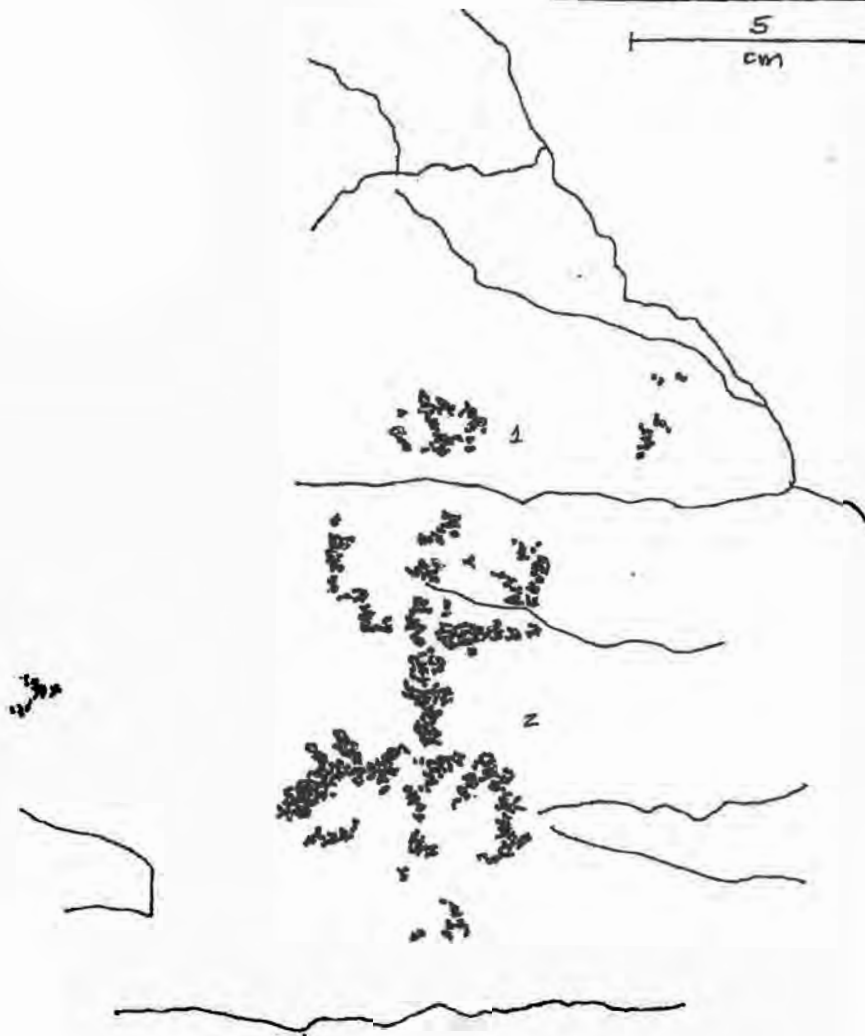
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Date 7-8-99

Recorder: J.C.

Sheet 17 of 18

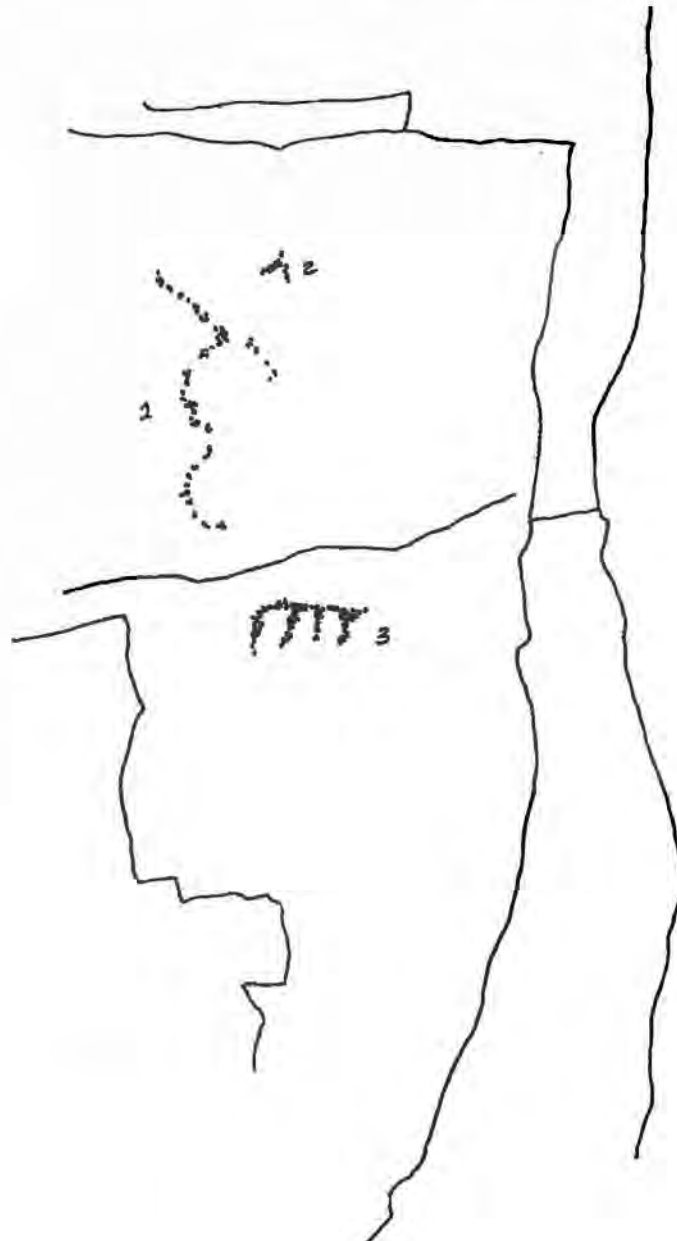
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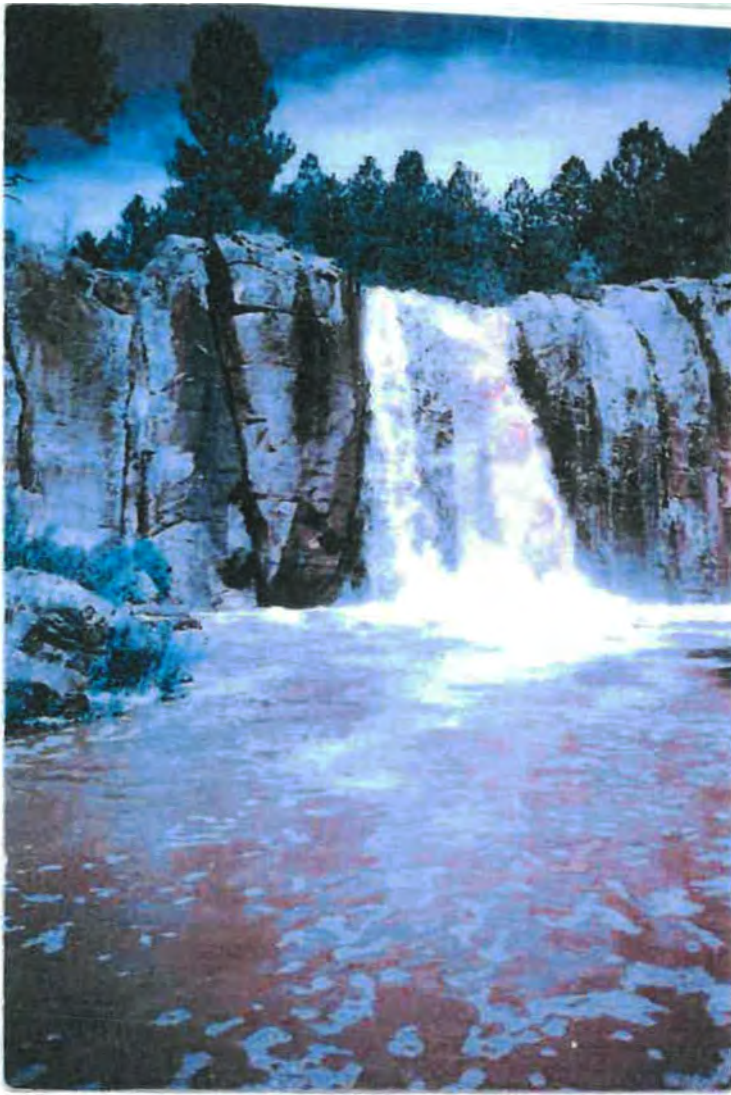




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Recorder: D.C.
Sheet 18 of 18

5
cm





August 1994



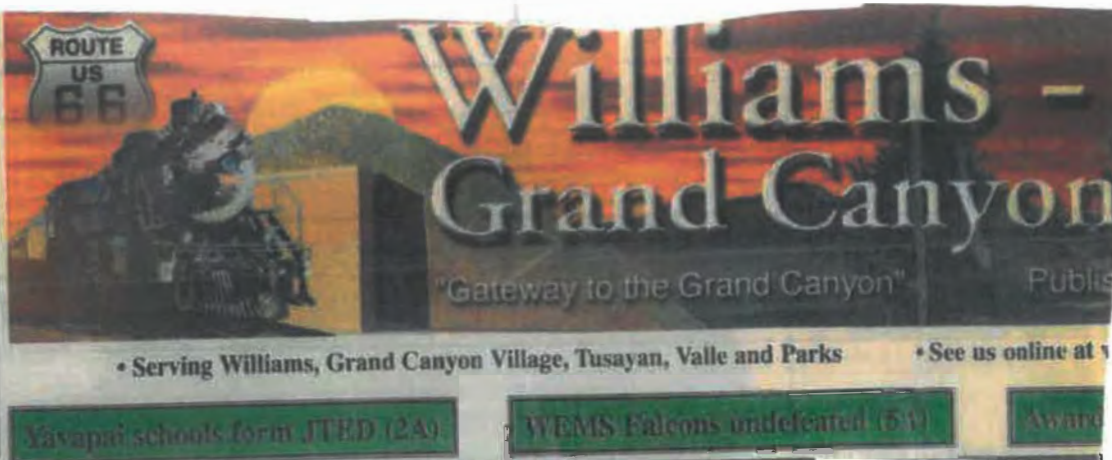
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March 4, 2008

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Canyon News



ROUTE US 66

Williams - Grand Canyon

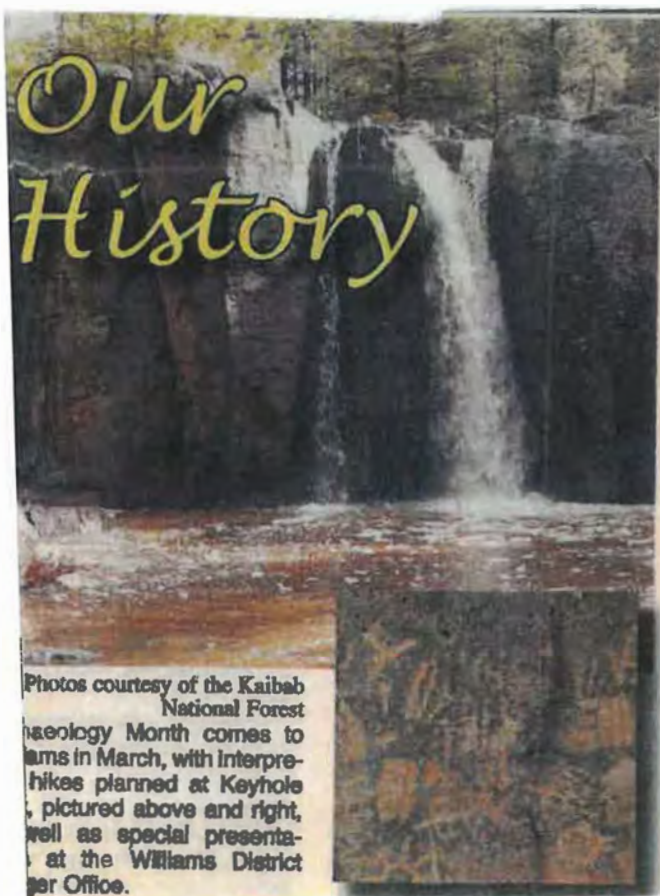
"Gateway to the Grand Canyon" Publisher

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Yavapai schools form JTED (2A)

WEMS Falcons undefeated (5-1)

Award



Big plans for Archaeology Month in Williams

By Patrick Whitehurst
Williams-Grand Canyon News
Reporter

Discovering one's past, either from recent history or from long, long ago, can be quite an exciting adventure. For many, that past includes an understanding of those who came before you, perhaps those who dwelt in the area of Williams thousands of years ago. In northern Arizona, it seems, one doesn't need to look far when it comes to exploring the area's rich past.

Beginning March 5, archaeologists with the Kaibab National Forest plan to celebrate Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month in Williams with a full slate of programs for both history-lovers and budding archaeologists alike. Plans include archaeology presentations March 5, 12, 19 and 26, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Williams District Ranger Office. Interpretive hikes will also be offered March 8, 15, 22 and 29 beginning at 2 p.m. at the Oak Hill snow play area.

The first presentation will explore Williams' history and compare how it was then to how it is now, according to Archaeologist Neil Weintraub

with the Kaibab National Forest.

"The first program that we're going to do is on March 5. It's going to be a program that shows some old photos and some of the re-shoots that we've done to kind of document the changes," Weintraub said. "The programs should all last 30 to 45 minutes. They'll be held at the district office here. We'll open the office for folks to come in at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. We're going to do a variety of programs. The first program will be on the historic photographic re-shoots of the forest and the changing conditions. The second one I'm going to talk about rock art in the area. Keyhole Sink will be included in that overview."

The interpretive hikes, Weintraub said, will be open to all ages and is an easy hike to Keyhole Sink to view the petroglyphs. As there will be snow, Forest Service employees recommend that people dress appropriately. Officials also ask that visitors to the site follow a number of simple rules when visiting an archaeological site, such as not moving or picking up rocks, sitting on rocks and staying on the trail around a historic site. No fires, from candles, smoking or any other means, are allowed in archaeological areas.

"We're going to meet at the Oak Hill snow play area.

See History, Page BA

• History

From Page 1A

between Pittman Valley and Paria, on Route 66. If you're coming from Williams, you just take that Pittman Valley exit and go to the top of the hill there. We're going to meet at 2 p.m. It's about a 20 to 25 minute slow walk just down through the forest into Keyhole Sink," Weintraub said, adding that, though the weather conditions may be cold and damp, it is also an ideal time to visit the archaeological site.

"The treat is that there's sort of a waterfall behind the petroglyphs," he said. "We have really good evidence of folks living in this area for about the last five to six thousand years. There were people here before that, but we don't see much evidence of it. Water was a very important place for people that used the Kaibab National Forest. That's where folks were probably hanging out collecting water. It's also a place that you would hunt game. As archaeologists, we find rock art fascinating. Some of the symbols, motifs, can be, perhaps, clan symbols, ancestors of the modern tribes that we work with today, lived in this area. At one point, there was somebody that pecked a plan view of this sink into the rock. It actually portrays what we think is a hunting scene. This was really almost a perfect place for trapping animals, because they really only have one route into where the water hole is, so it could have easily been a trap when hunters from a thousand years ago, three thousand years, would just camp out up on top of the cliff. It's remarkable because this is one of the few places where we can actually tell a story and perhaps be closer to the truth than any of the other interpretations that sometimes people make of the rock art."

The month-long heritage and archaeology event will officially kick off March 1 in Tucson with the Arizona Archaeology Expo.

"That's the kickoff to it and then, all around the state, archaeologists put on programs," Weintraub said. "We've done stuff before, but we've never hit the local

Williams area."

Margaret Hangan, heritage program director for the Kaibab National Forest, said the expo would offer a number of exciting exhibits for visitors.

"We're doing a joint display with the Coconino where it literally will spell out what archaeology does during fire, during emergency fire and fuels reduction and how much archaeology works with fire, doing things to protect structures and out on the fire lines and stuff like that. It will be very interactive with children," Hangan said. "That will be the jumping off point for us. This is our 100-year anniversary, so we do have some other events coming up, which we are planning to celebrate the fact that this is our 100-year anniversary," Hangan said. "Some of the plans will include mobile displays with historic photos."

Hangan will also host a presentation in March at the Williams District Office.

"I'm going to do a program talking about the historic railroads through this area. We're doing a project with Johnson Canyon. There's a section of original railroad, built in the late 1800s, which we're hoping to develop into recreational opportunities. We're going to talk about the overall history of these railroads and travel corridors and things like that," Hangan said.

According to Jackie Denk, public information officer with the Kaibab National Forest, this is the first time the Williams District will celebrate Archaeology Month.

"It's the Kaibab's one-hundredth anniversary as the Kaibab National Forest. The archaeologists felt like it would be a good time to really start celebrating Archaeology Month within the local area," Denk said, adding that visitors to Williams and locals are all welcome to attend the free presentations and hikes.

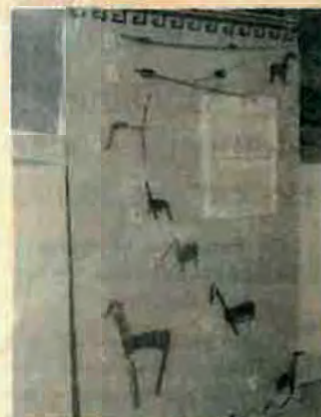
"We've found that people are very interested in archaeology and the history of the forest, so we're hoping that a lot of the local folks turn out, too, because there is a lot of interest in this topic. I'm very hopeful that we'll see a lot of local faces. I think that first presentation is going to



Photo courtesy of the Kaibab National Forest
Archaeologist Neil Weintraub talks petroglyphs with visitors to Keyhole Sink, located between Parks and Williams.

tos really show the changing conditions of the forest over time. I think a lot of people who have lived in this area a long time are aware of some of those changes and have actually seen some of those changes over time, too," Denk said. "The other goal with this is to also teach people about the importance of archaeological sites, how to interact with archaeological sites and the preservation of archaeological sites."

For more information on the interpretive hikes and the archaeology presentations, contact Weintraub at (928) 635-5647.



Patrick Whitehurst/WGCN
Rotating displays can also be found at the Williams Public Library as part of the month-long archaeology and heritage celebration.