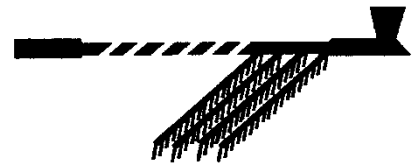


# CALUMET

CONSERVATION    PRESERVATION  
EDUCATION      EXPLORATION

Newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society  
March, 1998

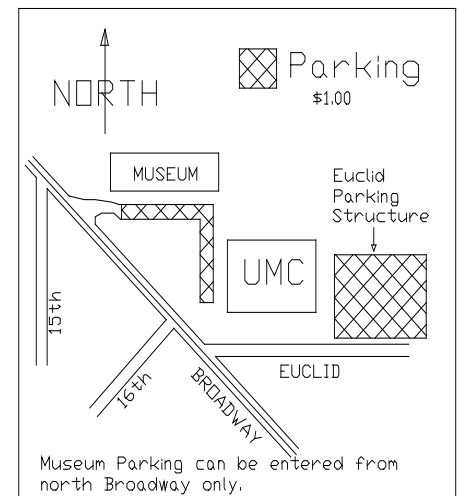


**March 12 IPCAS General Meeting, 7 PM, University of Colorado Museum.  
Cathy Cameron and Steve Lekson. Topic: Bluff Great House.**

## CU's Bluff Great House Project

Cathy Cameron

During June and early July, 1997 the University of Colorado (CU) held an archaeological field school at the Bluff Great House in Bluff, Utah. The project is led by Catherine Cameron of the Anthropology Department and Stephen Lekson, CU's Director of Museum and Field Studies and an Anthropology Department professor. The project is operated cooperatively with two Bluff-based partners: the Southwest Heritage Foundation, an historic preservation group that owns the Bluff Great House; and Abajo Archaeology, a local contract firm. Mark Bond, Jonathan Till, and Winston Hurst of Abajo Archaeology serve as site foreman (Bond) and unit supervisors (Till and Hurst). University of Colorado graduate students Caryn Berg (an IPCAS Member) and Dan Falt also served as unit supervisors in 1997. Skip and Alex Lange and Maggie Lasakow served as project hosts: Skip Lange is President of the Southwest Heritage Foundation.



Map of Parking at CU Museum

The project explores the Chacoan Regional system at one of its northwesternmost outposts. During the two seasons that the Bluff Great House Project has been in operation, we have focused on three major areas of the site: the Great House, the Great Kiva, and the earthen berm that surrounds and defines the Great House.

Based on test trenches exposing the rear (north) wall of the Great House, Hurst believes that the structure was built in at least two episodes. The earliest construction consisted of a number of rooms at the west end of the structure that featured poor-quality, single course walls reminiscent of Pueblo II masonry Hurst has observed locally at non-Chacoan sites. At least part of this building was two stories tall, a characteristic during the Pueblo II period that is associated almost exclusively with Chacoan Great Houses. Later building consisted of a large block of rooms built of wide, double-coursed or core-and-veneer masonry. The masonry style is not the same high quality found in Chaco Canyon, but the locally available sandstone is generally fireable and may have limited construction efforts.

Along the front of the Great House, Till found a kiva built into an abandoned room. It is apparently one of three kivas that form the front, east end of the Great House; we call it the West Kiva. Till found that the roof of the West Kiva at one time formed an elevated plaza surface. A prepared stone stair led from the surface into an upper story room.

Supervised by Berg, two test trenches were placed in the Great Kiva. Our goal is to learn the construction technique and date of this structure while disturbing it as little as possible. Two concentric walls were revealed. The exterior wall is shallow, its foot only a little more than a meter below ground surface. The interior wall is much deeper, its base almost 3 meters below ground surface. Between these two walls is a surface that suggests the exterior wall formed the outside of a set of rooms that surrounded the deep, interior Great Kiva. At the base of the interior wall is a surface of cobbles and sandstone set in mud. Only a tiny part of this surface was exposed, but we believe it represents the Great Kiva bench.

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We have placed two 1 x 1 meter units in the berm and a 1 m x 4 m trench across the portion of the berm that seemed to contain the highest concentration of trash. Falt supervised the trench excavations during the 1997 season. At the bottom of the trench he found a layer of burned stones that may be the remains of a pre-Chacoan structure or some sort of

ceremonial event. Above these stones, trash had been mounded up to form the berm. The next layer was a thick deposit containing abundant chunks of burned daub suggesting that wattle and daub houses had been dismantled and discarded here. Andrew Sell, who analyzed lithics from the 1996 season found a layer above the daub that contained numerous sandstone spalls and battered hammerstones. This layer probably represents the construction of the walls of the Great House and Great Kiva. The upper levels of the berm seem to be daily dumps of household trash.

Eric Blinman of the Museum of New Mexico is conducting ceramic analysis for the project. His analysis of the ceramics from the 1996 field season found evidence of Pueblo I through Pueblo III use of the site, but the most abundant deposits dated to the Pueblo II period - the Chacoan era. A few sherds, found at the bottom of our deepest pit in the Great House were very early Brownwares, suggesting very early (A.D. 500?) use of the site.

An important component of the Bluff Great House Project, begun in 1997, involved survey at two levels. CU graduate student Joseph Peter Jalbert is conducting a survey of the small Pueblo II sites that surround the Bluff Great House as part of his Master's thesis. In 1997, he mapped and recorded 11 sites located within about 2 km of the Bluff Great House. A reconnaissance survey aimed at locating large sites in the Bluff Region was conducted by Lekson, Cameron, Jalbert, and Falt during mid-July. Led by local archaeologist Joe Pachek, supported by both the Bureau of Land Management and Wild Rivers, Inc. (which supplied boats and boatpersons), and with the agreement of the Navajo Nation, we located and recorded more than 20 large sites along the San Juan River from the Four-Corners Monument to Bluff. CU's excavations at the Bluff Great House will continue in 1998.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**General (lecture) meetings are held in the University of Colorado Museum, Dinosaur Room  
Second Thursday of each Month, at 7:00 PM. The public is always welcome.**

March 5 Executive Board, Boulder Police Community Room, 7:30 PM.

**March 12 IPCAS General Meeting, 7 PM.** Cathy Cameron and Steve Lekson. Topic: Bluff Great House. During the summer of 1996, IPCAS members Steve and Cathy, began excavating an Anasazi site just over the Utah border near Bluff. The site includes the remains of a two-story community building, a great kiva, and a series of prehistoric roads, built during three separate periods. Although not as carefully crafted, the Bluff Great House is similar to structures in Chaco Canyon. The CU team has collected thousands of pottery shards that appear to date the site from about 600 A.D. to 1300 A.D. The 1997 season started the first week of June and was partially sponsored with a grant from the National Geographic Society.

April 2 Executive Board, Boulder Police Community Room, 7:30 PM.

**April 9 IPCAS General Meeting, 7 PM,** Doug Bamforth. Topic: Warfare on the Plains. Doug will present information about archaeology at specific sites that provide information about the battles and warfare on the prehistoric great plains. He warns that parts of the presentation get very gruesome (even horrifying) and attendees should be prepared for some intense evidence.

May 7 Executive Board, Boulder Police Community Room, 7:30 PM.

May 9 - 17 Archaeology and Historic Preservation Week.

**May 14 IPCAS General Meeting, 7 PM.** Dr. Payson Sheets. Topic: Joya de Cerén. At the ruins of Cerén, a World Heritage Site, in a lush valley near San Salvador, corn cobs, thatch fragments, and carbonized beans are being studied. That wouldn't be surprising in the arid Four Corners, but in a tropical jungle/war zone for a bean to survive 1400 years required being buried under 16 feet of scalding, fine, wet, volcanic ash. Called a "New World Pompeii", Cerén is revealing Mayan pottery from AD 500-800, complete with finger-swipes indicating eating habits. Storerooms contained pots, tools, obsidian blades, 3 kinds of beans, seeds of cotton and cacao, corn, squash, avocados, palm fruits, chilies, nits, and the meat of deer and dog. Researchers conclude that the people of the region were living far better in AD 600 than they are today.

### **Corporate Sponsor**

The Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society would like to express our thanks to a new corporate sponsor, Duplication Technology, Inc., of Boulder. Richard Gardner, company President, has assisted the pursuit of Archaeology with funding. The donation will be put to very good use.

### **February Meeting**

Fifty-five IPCAS members and visitors enjoyed the presentation by Kim Malville on the many astronomical alignments of Chimney Rock. The probable connections with Chaco Canyon religious ritual were explained. The drawings and photographs were very convincing. But how did he and Claudia Putnam determined that one of the walls of the building next to Chimney Rock, when aligned with a hole ground in a rock plateau some distance away, pointed to a super-nova that happened in 1054? Absolutely Amazing!

### **Volunteer Opportunities for 1998**

This month's presentation includes Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Russian opportunities. Next Month, the Calumet will present chapter projects and PIT Projects in other neighboring states. If you are interested in any of the projects listed or PIT Projects in other states, please call the volunteer coordinator, Tom Cree at (303) 776-7004.

### **Projects Sponsored by our Chapter**

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY:** Our chapter will have a display table at the Twin Peaks Mall in Longmont on the weekend of March 14 and 15. Volunteers will needed to staff the table.

Saturday 10 AM - 11 AM: Filled, Martha Patterson and Isadore Million.

Saturday 11 AM - Noon: Filled, Isadore Million and Russell Smith.

Saturday Noon - 1 PM: Two volunteers needed.

Saturday 1 PM - 2 PM: Ann Hayes volunteered, another volunteer needed.

Saturday 2 PM - 3 PM: Two volunteers needed.

Saturday 3 PM - 4 PM: Two volunteers needed.

Saturday 4 PM - 5 PM: Two volunteers needed.

Sunday Noon - 1 PM: Two volunteers needed.

Sunday 1 PM - 2 PM: Morey Stinson volunteered, another volunteer needed.

Sunday 2 PM - 3 PM: Jim Morrell volunteered, another volunteer needed.

Sunday 3 PM - 4 PM: Two volunteers needed.

Sunday 4 PM - 5 PM: Two volunteers needed.

**Project:** Magnolia Survey

**Location:** Magnolia area between Boulder and Nederland

**Date(s):** May to October. Survey on occasional weekend days during the summer, weather permitting.

**Description:** We have the Magnolia Survey, a project involving a pedestrian survey and test excavations on mostly-private land. The Magnolia area is located above Boulder, on the way to Nederland. Preparations are being made for activity on this project in 1998, with follow-up investigations in 1999. If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Steve Montgomery or Jim Morrell.

**Project:** Big Rock Site and Wind River Drainage

**Location:** Estes Park Private Property, YMCA of the Rockies, Rocky Mountain National Park

**Date(s):** July 11 and 12, July 18 and 19, July 25 and 26.

**Description:** This is a project with significant information for the archaeological record involving the movement of ancient peoples from the plains through the foothills and into the mountains. Dr. Robert Brunswig will be the Principle Investigator for the Big Rock Site excavations. This project will have work into 1999 and, probably, into the year 2000. Approximately 40% of the work at the Big Rock Site has been done. Most of the site has only 50 cm of soil above bedrock. An additional part of the project will be a survey from the Big Rock Site up the Wind River Drainage to the Continental Divide. This portion has not been detailed in either work scope or schedule. A dig supervisor for the Big Rock Site and another supervisor for the Wind River Drainage survey are needed. If you are interested in performing one or both of these tasks, please contact Dr. Brunswig. The YMCA will not be able to provide lodging during the excavation but is available for meals.

**Project:** Cabin Recording and Evaluation for the National Forest Service

**Location:** Boulder County Mountains

**Date(s):** May to October. Survey on occasional weekend days during the summer, weather and snow-cover dependent. Records search and report generation performed on weekdays.

**Description:** Our chapter has a volunteer agreement with the Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forest Service to perform Class III cultural resource inventories on cabins that have been relinquished back to the NFS. A report is generated on each cabin. Included in each report are: general area and site descriptions; photographs of the cabin and associated buildings; location map(s); results of a pedestrian survey for historic and prehistoric archaeological evidence; results of information searches in county, state, and federal records; and information searches in numerous libraries. Each report also includes completed forms for state site identification. It is the responsibility of the evaluation team to recommend disposition of the cabin, including whether the cabin should be nominated for inclusion in state or federal historic site registry. It takes one day or less to perform the field work (on the weekend) and another two or three days of effort (during the week) to perform the information searches. Each report requires about 30 hours to complete. The NFS, SHPO, team members, and the chapter library are provided with copies of each final report. The cabin survey project began in 1996 and will continue each year, well past the year 2000.

### Special Project

**Project:** West Stoneham Ecological Survey, Master's Thesis Project by Heidi Werner

**Location:** West Stoneham Archaeological District, Northeast Colorado

**Dates:** During Spring Break, June and August. If you would like to assist this very interesting project, please contact Tom Cree at 776-7004 or [tlc@lanminds.net](mailto:tlc@lanminds.net) for more details. **This project will be listed only this one time.**

**Project Description:** The research proposed here, my Master's thesis project, is an investigation of the vegetation history of an area with well documented archaeological sites (West Stoneham Archaeological District, Weld County, Colorado). The purpose of this research is to analyze the composition of the prehistoric plant community in order to gain a greater understanding of the potential resource base, and therefore a better understanding of resource utilization by the prehistoric occupants of the sites in the District. - Heidi Werner -

**Objectives:** The objective of the proposed research is to reconstruct the vegetation community in the West Stoneham Archaeological District in order to provide information about the availability of resources to the prehistoric occupants of the area. The site locations of prehistoric hunter-gatherer groups are often associated with the procurement of resources important for their survival. Archaeological evidence suggests West Stoneham was the location of human habitation from Late Archaic times (3500 B.P.) through Historic times. What attracted prehistoric people to the area? It is assumed that a combination of factors, including the availability of water, shelter, animal, and plant resources, made West Stoneham attractive to nomadic hunter-gatherer groups. This research will investigate the possible plant resources that were available to those groups. This information is important to the archaeological interpretation of the site because it provides a base-line against which to compare plant micro-remains collected from the excavated sites.

**Background:** The West Stoneham Archaeological District, Pawnee Grassland, Weld County, Colorado, is the focus of this study. In 1992, the South Platte Archaeological Project surveyed and test excavated the area (Brunswig 1992). Results from the initial field season led to further excavations and more extensive surveys, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (Brunswig and Pitblado 1994).

**Methodology:** Pollen analysis will be used to investigate the composition of the prehistoric plant community. For this research, pollen will be stratigraphically sampled from a playa basin 50m from the nearest archaeological site. Sampling from a non-cultural, natural feature provides a better estimation of the plant community because it is not influenced by plant material brought in by people. Two methods will be used to sample sediments: 1) core drilling, which provides an uninterrupted sequence of sediment from which to sample; and 2) test trenching, which provides a means for analyzing the depositional environment from which the pollen is extracted. Sediments from the core will be removed at small, frequent intervals to better detect fluctuations in the plant community over time. Samples from the trench wall will follow natural stratigraphic boundaries and provide the depositional context for the sampled sediments.

**Time Table:** This research will begin in March 1998 (Spring Break) when preliminary samples will be removed and pollen extracted to get an idea of what pollen types are being preserved, and which method of extraction is most efficient. The coring and test trenching of the area for sampling will be completed in June and August of 1998. The extraction and analysis of the pollen from the sampled sediments will be completed in the Fall semester of 1998, and the final product, my Master's thesis, will be completed by Spring semester 1999.

## Other Projects

**Project:** Rock Art Recording

**Location:** Nature Conservancy Ten Sleep Preserve, Wyoming

**Date(s):** Probable date is June 27 and June 28, the weekend after Father's Day.

**Description:** Detail information is not available, at this time.

## Passport In Time (PIT) Projects

The following projects are sponsored by the National Forest Service. All projects are free to volunteers. In fact, some of the projects have a stipend paid to volunteers. This year has an amazing variety of opportunities. If you are interested

in one or more of these projects, please contact Tom Cree at 776-7004 or [tlc@lanmains.net](mailto:tlc@lanmains.net) for additional information.

**\* \* \* These projects will be listed only this one time. \* \* \***

**Project: Colorado - Arapaho-Roosevelt NF, High-Altitude Excavation in the Laramie Mountains**

**Dates:** August 16-21, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** Over the last 30 years, our understanding of the human use of high-altitude alpine environments in the southern Rocky Mountains has increased steadily. By contrast, archaeological information about the use of subalpine forest environments has lagged behind. Volunteers will participate in one of the first excavations conducted in the Laramie Mountains. The information gathered during the course of this project will contribute to our understanding of high-altitude mobility patterns along Colorado's Front Range. Volunteers will conduct test excavations and intensive site mapping at a prehistoric camp located at 10,000 feet. Preliminary investigations suggest that this site was occupied intermittently for several thousand years, and that it was used for a variety of resource-procurement and -processing tasks. This project will provide additional information about the occupants of the site and the activities carried out there. Come help us fill an important gap in the archaeological record of northern Colorado!

**Number of openings:** 8 **Minimum age:** 16 years old; under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Excavation and transit-mapping skills desirable. **Facilities:** Primitive camping; no facilities; volunteers must provide own camping and cooking gear. Site not accessible by recreational vehicles or trailers.

**Nearest town:** Ft. Collins, 60 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - Arapaho-Roosevelt NF, Indian Peaks Wilderness Survey**

**Dates:** August 23-28, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** The high-altitude Indian Peaks Wilderness (IPW) area, located west of Boulder, is not only rugged and beautiful, but also known for its rich and diverse record of human habitation. From prehistoric game drives along the crest of the Continental Divide to historic mining camps in the valley bottoms, the IPW contains a rich diversity of archaeological resources. Volunteers will help to explore the IPW through archaeological survey, in order to gather information about the people who lived in this unique and challenging environment. Volunteers will learn how to locate and record archaeological sites, map sites and features, and collect laboratory samples for later analysis.

**Number of openings:** 8 **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Must be in good physical condition and able to withstand strenuous hiking at high elevations

**Facilities:** Primitive FS base camp with toilets, picnic tables, and fire pits; volunteers must provide own camping gear; limited services in Ward. **Nearest towns:** Ward, 4 miles; Nederland, 12 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - Comanche National Grassland, Picketwire Sites Inventory and Documentation**

**Dates:** June 7-12, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** The Picketwire Canyonlands is a spectacularly rugged area containing a high density of prehistoric resources. We are recruiting volunteers to help us search portions of the canyon for cultural sites and to help us prepare detailed records of what is discovered. Among the resources expected are complex architectural and rock art sites dating to the Ceramic period, or A.D. 800-1200. Volunteers will help thoroughly examine the area and aid in the specialized recording tasks that will be needed, including photography, site mapping, and rock art recording. This is an opportunity for interested persons to hone their survey skills in a scenic and remote area.

**Number of openings:** 6-8 **Minimum age:** 14 years old; under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Should be in good health and be able to hike over rough terrain in hot weather; experience in photography, site mapping, and rock art recording desirable

**Facilities:** No commercial lodging available. FS bunkhouse facilities in Picketwire Canyonlands; space for tents and campers also available. Participants responsible for own food and drinking water; dinners are "family" affairs. Cooking facilities available. **Nearest town:** La Junta, 35 miles **Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Colorado - Comanche National Grassland, Vogel Canyon Trail Repair and Research**

**Dates:** September 13-18, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** Vogel Canyon on the Comanche National Grassland contains a rare testimonial to vanished and still-existing human cultures of the High Plains. The canyon is listed on the State Register of Historic Places; individual resources include late Archaic and Apishipa (Ceramic period) petroglyphs, late prehistoric pictographs, a Santa Fe Trail stage stop, and a Depression-era homestead. Volunteers will help to rebuild the visitors interpretive trail and further explore the vicinity for prehistoric and historical archaeological sites. Needed tasks include trail construction with pick and shovel, archaeological survey and test excavation, photography, and site and rock art recording. This is an opportunity for interested persons to practice their archaeological skills while preserving a unique area.

**Number of openings:** 6-8 **Minimum age:** 14 years old; under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Should be in good health and be able to use hand tools and hike over rough terrain in hot weather; experience in trail construction, photography, and site recording desirable **Facilities:** FS campground with toilet; camping and RV spaces available; commercial lodging in La Junta. Volunteers responsible for own gear and potable water. **Nearest town:** La Junta, 20 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF, Alpine Tunnel Historic District Restoration**

**Dates:** August 9-15, Must commit to 4 days

**Project Description:** Participate in the fifth year of restoration of the historic Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad Alpine Tunnel Complex. Projects include reconstructing a 16-x-32-foot wooden coaling platform; restoring a turn-of-the-century wooden two-holer outhouse; constructing 100 feet of main track by preparing the railgrade, cutting and placing railroad ties, and gandy dancing (spiking) the rails; stabilizing an excavated stone storage cellar; and documenting turntable ruins at the tunnel in preparation for a 1999 PIT project. Projects include tasks that children can accomplish.

**Number of openings:** 25 **Minimum age:** Under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Must be in good physical condition and able to work at high altitudes; carpentry skills and historical archaeological experience desirable. Small construction equipment (bobcat, excavator, backhoe, etc.) welcome.

**Facilities:** FS campgrounds available nearby with toilets and running water; lodging in Pitkin, Ohio City, and Gunnison **Nearest town:** Pitkin, 13 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF, Colorado Ranching Video**

**Dates:** June 28-July 11, July 11-25, July 25-August 1, August 1-15, August 15-29; other dates negotiable (weekends included), Must commit to 1 full session; may commit to more

**Project Description:** Previous volunteers have helped us collect over 25 videotaped interviews with folks whose families have ranched near the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison NF for decades. The informants tell of Indian contacts and trails, homesteading in the wilderness, one-room schoolhouses, near-starvation winters, cattle pools and line cabins, encounters with forest rangers, cowboy poetry, etc. Volunteers will edit the tapes using equipment generously loaned by local schools to prepare a video for regional distribution.

**Number of openings:** 5 at one time **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Experience with video production and interviewing skills desirable. Patience required (involves hours in front of a TV screen)! Script-writing skills to tie the interviews together and basic video skills to record scenery for "fillers" desirable. Must be willing to share a bunkhouse, rent a motel room, or camp out. **Facilities:** Bunkhouse on beautiful Grand Mesa (may have to share) or primitive camping nearby; motel in Collbran; possibly a room at a ranch house near Collbran. **Nearest town:** Collbran, 45 miles from Grand Junction **Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Colorado - Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF, Utes and Bandits: Oral History and Field Mapping of Forest Overhangs**

**Dates:** June 28-July 11, July 11-25, July 25-August 1, August 1-15, August 15-29; other dates negotiable (weekends included), Must commit to 1 full session; may commit to more

**Project Description:** High on the rim of Raven Mesa near the West Elk Wilderness is a deep gash in the cliff face that has sheltered people for centuries. The most recent occupants were the Ute Indians, who built windbreaks of branches along the rim. These structures still stand. PIT volunteers will document the overhang on a state site form and interview local residents who may have information about the site from its earlier years. Another overhang to the northwest sheltered a hermit named Reuben Dove. Local legends abound about the colorful recluse; one involves an incident that made his home more of a hideout than a shelter. PIT volunteers will record the overhang and gather more history from locals about this notorious character of the forest.

**Number of openings:** 6 **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Must be in good physical condition, be able to hike under moderately rugged conditions, and be willing to share a bunkhouse, rent a motel room, or camp out alone near the sites. Site-documentation, mapping, photography, and interviewing skills desirable. **Facilities:** Bunkhouse and motel in Paonia; primitive camping near project areas. **Nearest town:** Paonia, 15-20 miles. **Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Colorado - Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF, Vance Junction Coal Chutes Stabilization**

**Dates:** June 1-13, Must commit to 4 days

**Project Description:** Volunteers will help stabilize the coal chutes at Vance Junction on the abandoned Rio Grande Southern Railroad grade 5 miles west of Telluride. Project tasks include replacing portions of the foundation cribbing and support beams and posts (as needed), reconstructing the roof, salvaging coal chute doors, replacing cribbing retaining walls (as needed), and replacing stairs on the south end.

**Number of openings:** 20 **Minimum age:** Under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Should be in good physical condition; basic carpentry skills desirable.

**Facilities:** FS campgrounds available nearby with running water and restrooms; commercial lodging in Telluride, Norwood, Ridgway, Ouray, and Montrose. RV hookup at FS guard station may be available at no charge.

**Nearest town:** Telluride, 5 miles

**Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Colorado - Medicine Bow-Routt NF, Grizzly Guard Station Rehabilitation**

**Dates:** August 3-7, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** The Grizzly Guard Station is one of the oldest and most historically significant administrative sites on the Routt NF. Built as a ranger residence in 1913, the Grizzly Guard Station sits at the base of the Park Range in the southwestern corner of North Park. Today the building is a bit run-down and is need of a helping hand to restore its former rustic beauty. A new fence, interior paint, landscaping, chimney repair, foundation work, and general site clean-up are needed. Once restored, the guard station will be made available to the public on a rental basis. Please join us in this fun and rewarding project.

**Number of openings:** 15 **Minimum age:** Under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Basic carpentry and masonry skills desirable. **Facilities:** FS campground; water, toilets, picnic tables, and fire rings; volunteers must provide own camping gear. **Nearest town:** Walden, 25 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - Pawnee National Grassland, Buttes Bison Bone Bed Excavation**

**Dates:** September 14-18, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** The rolling plains of the Pawnee National Grassland contain a wealth of paleontological and archaeological information. Bison once roamed freely throughout this area of northeastern Colorado, and evidence of their passing is sometimes preserved for study. This project will focus on one small bison bone bed that was recently discovered eroding out of an arroyo. How did these animals die? Were humans responsible for their demise? What information can we glean from these bones? Volunteers will learn how to excavate and record the bone bed, create an accurate map of site features, and collect laboratory samples for later analysis.

**Number of openings:** 6 **Minimum age:** Under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Must be willing to work in a variety of weather conditions (usually wind and heat); excavation experience desirable. **Facilities:** None nearby; volunteers must provide own camping equipment. Limited services in Grover.

**Nearest town:** Grover, 12 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - Pike San Isabel NF, Ghost House Repair and Chalk Creek Inventory,**

**Dates:** July 19-24, Must commit to 5 days

**Project Description:** Built in 1886, the Ghost House sits above the scenic mining town of St. Elmo, now listed in the NRHP. The Ghost House was one of three two-story homes located within the St. Elmo community. Originally occupied by Allan Ghost, the house was later home to a mining family named the Thorndales for nearly 10 years. Volunteers will help fix the leaks in the roof and make other minor repairs to this historic structure. The builder, Thad Dick, was quite resourceful and used flattened food tins for shingles; our volunteers will have the challenge of attempting the same construction method. Much of the work will take place on scaffolding and on the roof of the house. To learn more about the house and St. Elmo, volunteers will also survey the vicinity and the Chalk Creek area for related historical-period sites. Local historians will provide insight into life in historic St. Elmo through special presentations during the project.

**Number of openings:** 7 **Minimum age:** 16 years old; under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Carpentry and/or experience in historic-structure repair desirable. **Facilities:** Limited sleeping space at two cabins near St. Elmo; locations for tents or campers nearby; toilets and drinking water provided. Campers responsible for own equipment and food. **Nearest town:** Buena Vista, 27 miles **Applications due:** April 15





**Project: Colorado - Pike-San Isabel NF, Pony Park Sites Inventory and Documentation**

**Dates:** June 21-26, Must commit to full session; shorter stays negotiable

**Project Description:** Pony Park is a secluded open parkland east of the Arkansas River canyon in central Colorado. From small previous investigations, we suspect this park contains a high density of significant prehistoric sites. Volunteers will help us systematically survey the park and record archaeological and historical-period resources. We expect to find numerous prehistoric campsites with flaked-stone tools, ground stone, and culturally used trees. Pony Park is at 10,000 feet and is bordered by ponderosa pine mixed conifer forest; it should be an ideal place to enjoy nature and the Colorado high country in the early summer. Grades within the park are moderate, and we will be able to drive directly to the project area.

**Number of openings:** 6-8 **Minimum age:** 14 years old; under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Should be in good health and be able to hike over rough terrain; archaeological survey, photography, and sketching experience desirable. **Facilities:** FS tent and RV campground with potable water and toilets; limited commercial lodging in Fairplay. Campers responsible for own equipment and food; "family" dinner the first night; some pooling of meals. **Nearest town:** Fairplay, 15 miles **Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Colorado - Pike-San Isabel NF, Rockdale Cabins Repair**

**Dates:** August 24-29, August 30-September 4, Must commit to 1 full session; may commit to both

**Project Description:** The original 19th-century village of Rockdale was reborn in the 1930s as the Crescent Molybdenum Mining Camp. The camp was built next to the mine and included a cookhouse and three resident cabins for the miners and their families. The FS is seeking volunteers to restore the cabins for public use and interpretation. We propose to offer the restoration as an on-the-job training opportunity for individuals interested in learning the fundamentals of cabin repair. Rockdale is located high in the Colorado Rockies in Clear Creek Canyon, which was the site of a silver mining boom in the late 19th century. It is now quiet, picturesque, and a perfect place to visit during the late summer. We will tour the other historic mining camps in the canyon.

**Number of openings:** 6 per session **Minimum age:** 14 years old; under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Carpentry and/or experience in historic-structure repair desirable. **Facilities:** FS campground with toilets; volunteers must provide own camping gear, including rain gear and warm clothing; tentative plans are to have a cook for pooled breakfasts and dinners. **Nearest town:** Buena Vista, 25 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - San Juan-Rio Grande NF, Glade Research Survey**

**Dates:** August 17-21, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** Volunteers and FS archaeologists will survey an archaeologically rich area of the forest. The Glade is an extensive meadow on a geographic divide between the high pine country on the north rim of the Dolores River and the lowlands of Disappointment Valley. Numerous prehistoric and historical-period archaeological sites representing a broad range of occupation spans and uses lie in surrounding areas. The Glade is predicted to also contain numerous sites. The FS is interested in information about the Glade for two reasons: (1) to better define the nature and extent of the occupation within the Glade proper and (2) to broaden our understanding of human use and occupation of the higher-elevation areas along the Dolores River. The survey will focus on the west end of the Glade. On the first day, participants will visit a large site located near Glade Lake in order to familiarize themselves with the types of artifacts they will encounter during the survey. The remaining four days will be spent doing actual survey and site recording. **Number of openings:** 5 **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Archaeological survey experience desirable. **Facilities:** Primitive camping; volunteers must provide own camping gear, food, and water. **Nearest town:** Dolores, 40 miles **Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Colorado - San Juan-Rio Grande NF, Investigation and Restoration in the Historic Bonanza Mining District**

**Dates:** July 12-18, Must commit to 3 days

**Project Description:** The Rio Grande NF recently acquired 1,300 acres of former patented mining claims in the vicinity of Bonanza, a historic silver mining town dating to 1880. Volunteers and FS specialists will survey portions of this area for remains of over 80 named mines in the Bonanza Mining District, as well as for prehistoric sites also known to exist. At each recorded site, metal detectors will be used to see what artifacts lie under the surface. If time permits, attempts will be made to locate and match historic photographs to existing terrain and features. One of the more colorful characters in Bonanza was Doc Kortwright, a "Renaissance man" who was an assayer, chemist, musician, writer, composer, and director of traveling plays. Project activities will involve some restoration of Doc Kortwright's cabin, including rethinking the walls and replacing or repairing doors and windows. Come help us preserve this interesting place, where for more than 100 years miners and others lived, worked, and dreamed (and a few hardy souls still do).

**Number of openings:** 6   **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Experience in survey, restoration, mapping, and orienteering desirable; must be in good physical condition and able to hike at high elevations in steep terrain.   **Facilities:** Group will stay in nearby Brewery Creek Guard Station; water, outhouse, and cooking stove available. Volunteers must provide own gear and food. Limited space available for campers and RVs; hookups not available. Limited facilities in Villa Grove.   **Nearest towns:** Villa Grove, 16 miles; Saguache, 20 miles   **Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Colorado - San Juan-Rio Grande NF, Piedra River Area Heritage Inventory**

**Dates:** June 13-28 (weekends included), Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** Volunteers and FS archaeologists will survey for historical-period and prehistoric sites in one of the most beautiful and culturally diverse areas of the San Juan Rio Grande NF. We will locate, describe, map, and photograph evidence of human history spanning 4,000 years, from seasonal hunting and gathering of ancestral Pueblo and Ute peoples to southwestern Colorado's earliest livestock ranchers. The project will involve two major facets: survey and evaluation of sites in high mountain meadows west of the Piedra River (accessible by vehicle and easy walking), and survey and evaluation of sites in the Piedra River valley and along one of its tributaries, Sand Creek (not accessible by vehicle). The Sand Creek portion of the project is located within a wilderness study unit, which precludes the use of mechanized equipment. Volunteer and project equipment will be packed in by horse. Dr. Philip Duke of Fort Lewis College will review previous archaeological research. A Southern Ute traditional practitioner will present Ute history and accompany the group on a field trip to the ancestral Pueblo site of Chimney Rock.

**Number of openings:** 25   **Minimum age:** Under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Must be able to hike and camp at high elevations.   **Facilities:** Camping both at FS campground and in backcountry setting. Ute Campground is rustic, but offers water and toilets; RVs welcome, but no electric or sewer hookups available.   **Nearest town:** Pagosa Springs, ~20 miles   **Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Colorado - White River NF, Notch Mountain Shelter Reconstruction**

**Dates:** August 15-21, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** Notch Mountain is best known as the site where William Henry Jackson photographed Mount of the Holy Cross in 1873. For many years, pilgrims hiked to this spot to view the "Cross of Snow," and a stone shelter was constructed for them by the CCC at 13,234 feet. The shelter is in need of restoration and requires replacement of door and frame, window panes, 9-foot timber support, and roof. The project site is in the Holy Cross Wilderness, and all work will be completed using the methods and tools available to the original builders, including mule-string pack support. This is an opportunity to restore a historically significant stone shelter and visit an outstanding portion of the Holy Cross Wilderness.

**Number of openings:** 10   **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Carpentry, roofing, and stone masonry skills desirable; must be able to hike ~5 miles to the project site from the trailhead and work at high elevations.

**Facilities:** On-site primitive camping; food, water, and camping gear will be packed in to the site.

**Nearest town:** Minturn, 12 miles from trailhead (8 miles on a high standard dirt road and 4 miles on a paved road).

**Applications due:** June 15

**Project: Nebraska - Oglala National Grassland, Survey and Site Excavation on the Northern Plains**

**Dates:** July 6-12, July 16-22, July 26-August 1, Must commit to 1 full session; may commit to more

**Project Description:** The Northern Plains have a rich cultural history and diverse natural beauty. Our project area is along the slopes of the Pine Ridge escarpment, where the pine-covered sandstone buttes give way to a vast prairie that slopes north to the Cheyenne River and the Black Hills of South Dakota. Volunteers and FS heritage specialists will survey areas where prehistoric site density is high. We will also test excavate several prehistoric and historical-period sites. Our goal is to learn more about the strategies that people developed for living within the prairie ecosystem.

**Number of openings:** 10 per session   **Minimum age:** 14 years old; under 18 with a responsible adult

**Special skills:** Ability to hike short distances desirable

**Facilities:** Camping at remote research facility developed by the FS for archaeological research and education; electricity, running water, toilet facilities, showers, and telephones available. FS will provide cooking facilities and food. Motels in Crawford.

**Nearest town:** Crawford, 27 miles

**Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Wyoming - Medicine Bow Routt NF, High Plains Drifters**

**Dates:** July 5-10, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** Located between Fort Fetterman and Fort Laramie where the forested mountains meet the high Laramie Plain, the western slope of the Laramie Range contains a diverse but relatively unknown array of cultural resources. Over 20 American Indian groups are known to have used this area, including the Arapaho, Cheyenne, Sioux, Shoshone, and Crow. Prehistoric use spanned at least 11,000 years. Trappers and frontiersmen traveled here in the early and mid-1800s, the most notable of whom was Jacques La Ramie, for whom Laramie Peak and the Laramie River are named. The Fort Fetterman Stage Road runs through the area and in its day was an important travel route linking Fort Laramie and Fort Fetterman through the Laramie Plains. The unique resources of the Laramie Range demand survey and documentation, so please join us for a high-plains adventure, complete with plenty of dust and grit.

**Number of openings:** 10 **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Hiking, site recording, lithic analysis, and historical-period artifact identification experience desirable

**Facilities:** Campground with water. **Nearest town:** Douglas, 45 miles. **Applications due:** April 15

**Project: Wyoming - Thunder Basin National Grassland, Thunder Basin Stone Circle Sites**

**Dates:** June 28-July 3, Must commit to full session

**Project Description:** The traces that late-prehistoric people left while following bison through Thunder Basin National Grassland are often in the form of stone circles. While a variety of stone features is known from this era, most in the Powder River Basin are commonly called tepee rings. Crucial to deciphering these stone features is an awareness of the spatial organization used by the people who made them. We will visit and monitor previously recorded stone-circle sites

and record reported sites. If time permits, we will also visit nearby excavations of similar sites to see the next generation of techniques being used to understand stone features.

**Number of openings:** 10 **Minimum age:** 18 years old

**Special skills:** Hiking, site mapping, site monitoring, lithic analysis, and photography experience desirable

**Facilities:** Camping with water; bunkhouse with showers and refrigerator possibly available

**Nearest town:** Wright, 15 miles **Applications due:** April 15

### Field Study in Russia

Bruce Bradley, Cortez archaeologist, sent an invitation to CAS members:

"I am leading two research/excursions: one to Zaraysk near Moscow and the other to Suvorovo, north of Vladivostok, in the Russian Far East. Deadline for applications is March 1 (time is short, give him a call) with notification of acceptance on March 15. Deposits are due after notification.

#### Zaraysk

**Dates:** July 20 - August 1, 1998.

**Cost:** \$1700 (not including travel to and from Moscow, visa fee, and insurance).

**Accommodation:** housing near site in town center.

**Archaeology:** Upper Paleolithic settlement with structures and features circa 22,000 - 19,000 BP.

**Sponsoring Organizations:** Institute of Archaeology, Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

**Expedition Director:** Hizri Amirkhanov

#### Suvorovo

**Dates:** August 9 - 22, 1998.

**Cost:** \$1950 (not including travel to and from Vladivostok, visa fee, and insurance).

**Accommodation:** field camp in a remote area (you will need to bring a personal tent, sleeping bag, and gear)

**Archaeology:** Late Upper Paleolithic camp with stone tools, circa 15,000 BP.

**Sponsoring Organizations:** Far Eastern State University, Vladivostok, and the Institute of Archaeology, Novosibirsk.

**Expedition Directors:** Drs. Alexander Kryp'anko and Andrei Tabarev.

Great details about both of these excursions is available on my web-page at

<http://www.geocities.com/rainforest/vines/7010>

and follow the links to excursions. Space is limited to only 11 participants on each expedition."

Bruce Bradley, Primitive Tech Enterprises, Inc., PO Box 534, Cortez, CO 81321  
(970) 565-7618, e-mail: [primtech@juno.com](mailto:primtech@juno.com)

### **Membership Renewals**

The following members have renewals due in March:

Caryn Berg, Norma Boslough, Jim Chase, Jeannie Hamilton, Frank Hauke, Kris Holien, Gene and Kathy O'Barr, and Dock Teegarden

The following members have renewals due in April:

Connie Duras, Michael Landem, and Lori Vanagunas

### **On The Internet**

#### **Our Web-Site at <http://www.coloradoarchaeology.org>**

**Please note the new web-site address.** Please take the opportunity to view the changes that have occurred on our web-site, the Colorado Archaeology Network. The site is now supported financially by CAS. Currently, we support or connect to the information for CAS chapters at Denver, Pueblo, Fort Collins, Cortez, plus our own chapter news.

### **The Calumet - 15 Years Ago**

The Lyons Chapter of CAS (predecessor to IPCAS) held a contest to determine the name for the newsletter. Leni Clubb, newsletter editor, included a notice that the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department intended to purchase land called, Rabbit Mountain. The newsletter also included the minutes of the First Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the CAS. Attendees at that meeting were: Frank Adkins, Julia Avery, Ed Simonich, Marcia Tate, Ivol Hagar, Keith Abernathy, Ray Lyons, Brian O'Neil, Carolyn Kurtz-Medina, Alex Gray, Earl Mead, Madeline Kernen, Kay Walch, Bill Tate, Terry Murphy, Victoria Sounart, and Ann Johnson (Editor of Southwestern Lore).

### **The Calumet - 10 Years Ago**

The speaker for the March, 1988 regular meeting was "Mr. Avocational Archaeologist", Ivol Hagar. Brian O'Neil presented, at CU, information obtained from private collections of projectile points by members of the Quahada Chapter of CAS. CAS was asked by the Colorado State Fair to provide an exhibit regarding prehistoric agriculture.

### **The Calumet - 5 Years Ago**

There was no presentation meeting in March, 1993. Volunteers were solicited to work on Rock Creek (Pete Gleichman) and Arapahoe Pass (Jim Benedict). Dock Teegarden offered to guide a tour of the Stone Circle on Flatirons Mesa. The PAAC class for IPCAS was Perishable Materials, which would begin in April.

### **February Executive Board Minutes**

**Meeting called to order** on February 5, 1998 at 7:30 PM at the Boulder Police Department Community Room. Present: Cree, Damon, Holien, Kindig, Landem, Montgomery, Morrell, Owens, Patterson, Reynolds-Burton, Smith, M. Stinson.

**Secretary's Report: (Holien)** No January meeting.

**Treasurer's Report: (Owens)** Balance \$1592.29.

**Vice President's Report:** none.

**President's Report: (Landem)** State CAS approved funding up to \$700 per year to support a Web Site with a Domain Name: <http://www.coloradoarchaeology.org>, to be used by all chapters.

**Unfinished Business:** Montgomery will frame 3 sketches done for corporate donors. No update available on status of donors. Reynolds-Burton working on grant proposals and would appreciate any assistance. New stationary needed- Landem will check with Hayes for disk.

**Surveys/Excavations:** Status

1. Big Rock Site - 3 weekends in July
2. USFS Cabin Recordings - on-going in summer
3. South St. Vrain - on hold. Cree will write to Michael Oberndorf
4. Magnolia - have not applied for USFS permit. Montgomery and Morrell will contact PUMA to recommend surveys on private land to begin with a more limited scope. Nykamp possibly would be primary investigator.

**New Business:** Devils Thumb Report is out - Braitberg will make 15 copies to distribute. Kindig has written report on White Rocks. Damon will proofread it. Only 5 copies will be distributed; 1 to IPCAS, others to City of Boulder Open Space. Recommend that IPCAS do a yearly survey of White Rocks. Scheduled for Sat. April 25 at 9 am; limit of 15 people. Cree will check into having a table at Twin Peaks Mall, March 14-15.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:45 PM. --- Kris Holien, Secretary ---

This newsletter is published monthly (except June and August) by the Indian Peaks Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society. The views expressed in articles or editorials appearing in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the membership or the Executive Board of the Indian Peaks Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society.

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Please check the club web-site at: <http://www.coloradoarchaeology.org>

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER

\_\_\_\_ Individual \$25 / Year      \_\_\_\_ New      \_\_\_\_ Date  
\_\_\_\_ Family \$28 / Year      \_\_\_\_ Renewal

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
Mail to:

Indian Peaks Chapter, CAS  
PO Box 18301  
Boulder, CO 80308-1301

When you join or renew, send a #10 SASE and you will receive a membership card, a member list, and a copy of our bylaws. You will receive the *Calumet*, our monthly newsletter, and *Southwestern Lore*, the quarterly publication of the Colorado Archaeological Society. And you will have opened the door to Colorado Archaeology.

## CALUMET

Newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter  
of the Colorado Archaeological Society  
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