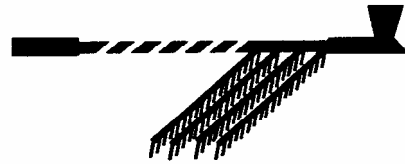


CALUMET

CONSERVATION
EDUCATION

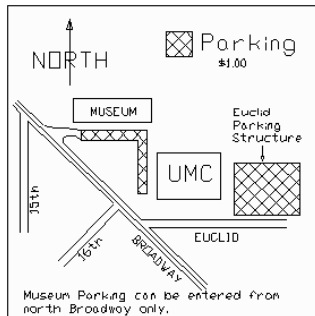
PRESERVATION
EXPLORATION



Newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society
May, 2004

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.**



The Museum parking lot 208 is **NOW AVAILABLE** to non-permit holders, even at night.
Cost is \$2.00 per vehicle. Bring \$1 bills or quarters.

You can also park in the Euclid parking structure for \$2.00. The Euclid parking lot is east of the Museum on Euclid.

2004 Event Calendar

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| May 5 | IPCAS PAAC Course, 6:30 PM to 9 PM. |
| May 6 | Executive Board, The Atrium, 30 th and Iris, 7:30 PM. |
| May 13 | Mark D. Mitchell. Topic: Native American Rock Art Traditions of the Upper Arkansas River Basin, 1500-1850. See Article on Page 2. |
| May 22 | Lyons Survey, mapping and documentation. See Page 3. |
| June 3 | Executive Board, The Atrium, 30 th and Iris, 7:30 PM. |
| August 5 | Executive Board, The Atrium, 30 th and Iris, 7:30 PM. |
| September 2 | Executive Board, The Atrium, 30 th and Iris, 7:30 PM. |
| September 9 | Linda Cummings. Topic: Prehistoric diets in the old and new worlds. |
| October 1-4 | Rock Art Tour – Newspaper Rock Area. See Article on Page 6. |
| October 14 | Bob Mutaw. Topic: To be determined. |
| November 4 | Executive Board, The Atrium, 30 th and Iris, 7:30 PM. |
| November 11 | Cherie Walth. Topic: How to recognize human bone (as distinguished from non-human bones). |
| December 9 | Holiday Party, The Atrium, 30 th and Iris, 7:30 PM. |

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Native American Rock Art Traditions of the Upper Arkansas River Basin, 1500-1850

Mark D. Mitchell, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado
Thursday, May 13, 2004

Little is known about the protohistoric archaeology of the Arkansas River basin, despite the often detailed testimony of Spanish explorers. Only a handful of sites have been dated to the period, and the locations of some of the most important sites discussed in the documentary record have yet to be identified. By contrast, rock art images that were the products of historically-known Native American groups are widely distributed throughout southeastern Colorado and eastern New Mexico. Comparative study of these images provides insights into the Native history of the region and documents the cultural and social relationships linking the Southwest and the Plains.



Mark D. Mitchell

Mr. Mitchell began his career in Colorado archaeology in 1982, on the Dolores Archaeological Program. He first worked for the Forest Service as an archaeological volunteer in 1984, participating in surveys and excavation projects on the San Juan National Forest. Between 1986 and 1991, he worked as a whitewater and wilderness guide in Canyonlands National Park in southeastern Utah. In 1991, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Utah, with emphases in hydrology, geomorphology, and ceramics.

Mr. Mitchell returned to Colorado archaeology in 1993 and since that time he has worked for several archaeological contractors in Colorado, and for three National Forests and four National Grasslands in Colorado, Wyoming and Kansas. In 1997, he completed a Master of Arts in Anthropology at the University of Colorado at Denver. Between 1998 and 2002, Mr. Mitchell has served as the Heritage and Recreation Program Manager for the Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands in southeastern Colorado and southwestern Kansas.

Although initially trained in southwestern archaeology, over the last ten years Mr. Mitchell has specialized in the archaeology of the Plains states. Much of that work has focused on Late Prehistoric architecture and rock art on the High Plains of Colorado, Kansas, and New Mexico. Mr. Mitchell is currently a doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where his primary research focuses on the eighteenth century native farming villages of the Missouri River region. He also maintains an active interest in the archaeology and rock art of eastern Colorado.

Volunteer Opportunities Lyons Survey/Documentation

May 22

This will be our second year of survey and documentation of sites on private property above Lyons. The sites are historic and related to sandstone mining activities. All the sites fall within the Lyons Historic Archaeological District. We have surveyed the first of three parcels at the top of Eagle Ridge (6500 feet in altitude). In the past, we looked for, and found, artifacts around the cistern and a quarryman's hut. And we completed the Historic Archaeological Component Forms for SHIPO for the two sites. We also mapped and documented the remnants of a boarding house and an associated trash dump. The survey areas are about a half-mile southwest of the abandoned township of Noland. The view is terrific. And the sites are easy to access.

We will meet at a parking area at the bottom of the hill for car-pooling at 8:30AM. To get to the parking area, go west on Hwy 66 to the Diamond/Shamrock service station (on the left, east of town). Then turn on the next right, on Stone Mountain – Nolan Road. Go about ¼ mile to the parking area (on the left). If you would like to participate in either of the workdays, or any future workday, please contact Tom Cree at tomcree@earthlink.net.

Call For Volunteers, Summer 2004 at Fort Laramie, Wyoming

50 Days Beginning May 27

Plans have been finalized for the 2004 archaeological field season at Fort Laramie National Historic Site. We will be testing at least seven features recorded by the previous years geophysical surveys, and continue additional geophysical survey this year. Starting date will be May 27, 2004, working five days (Thursdays to Mondays) and then take Tuesdays and Wednesdays off, for 50 days. Fort Laramie National Historic Site, 3 miles west of Fort Laramie, Wyoming, is located 85 miles due north of Cheyenne on I-25 and then 28 miles east on US 26. Motels are located in Torrington (20 miles) and Guernsey (12 miles). Guernsey is very limited on space during the summer. Campgrounds are available at Fort Laramie (5 miles east of Fort Laramie). We will be having a field camp at the fort, but it will be primitive - no hookups, etc. There will be port-a-potties there. There is room for a few trailers, but mostly tents. Water and Gatorade will be available during the day, but ALL other food and liquid refreshments are your own responsibility.

A minimum stay of two days is preferred. Because we are working only 5 days in a row (including a weekend), most people might be able to make the full 5-day period. If you have your own dig kit, please bring it. There are a few tools for those who have never dug before or don't have their own kit. Be prepared for hot weather. Last summer we started at 6:00 AM and quit at 2:30 PM, then shaded up for the rest of the afternoon. Bring sunscreen and mosquito dope. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact me through e-mail (dnwalker@uwyo.edu) and let me know the days you are interesting in helping out on this project. I can then also discuss logistics. If the past two field seasons at Fort Laramie are any indication, this should be a fun summer, as well.

Fort St. Vrain Survey June/July PROJECT NARRATIVE

Introduction

The proposed grant application is being submitted to perform a historic records search and archaeological assessment of the Fort St. Vrain site (5WL814) in Weld County, Colorado. Located northwest of the town of Platteville and west of Gilcrest, the site is accessed by a dirt road (Monument Road) that runs northwesterly from the intersection of Weld County Roads 23 and 40. The Fort St. Vrain Monument sits on an approximately site in the center of the former Fort St. Vrain. The site has been graded level and no surface evidence remains of either the townsite or the earlier fort. The one-third-acre site is owned by the Platteville Historical Society.

The first part of the proposed project will involve comprehensive historical background research to compare the archaeological record with the historical record and completion of a Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic

Preservation (OAHP) Management Data Form and Historic Archaeological Component Form. The second part of the project will involve conducting a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey of the subsurface of the fort area. The information gathered from this study may be used to direct further investigations at this site such as 1-meter by 1-meter test excavations.

Culture History

Fort St. Vrain was constructed in 1837 and operated as an important trading post, a post office, a source of food and lodging for travelers, and a center of community government and social life until 1846. Marcellin St. Vrain managed the fort for the Bent, St. Vrain Trading Company.

While three competing trading posts, Fort Vasquez, Fort Lupton, and Fort Jackson, were already located only 10 miles from each other on the South Platte River, William Bent, proprietor of Bent's Fort, along with his brother Charles Bent and Ceran St. Vrain, dreamed of building a major outpost north of Bent's Fort close to the Northern Cheyenne and Sioux hunting grounds. Thus, the major company outpost, Fort St. Vrain, was constructed just seven miles north of Fort Vasquez on the South Platte River (Brotemarkle 1998).

Fort St. Vrain, which measured 127 feet by 106 feet, was a smaller version of Bent's Fort located 250 miles southeast of Fort St. Vrain on the Arkansas River. Recommended to northbound travelers who stopped at Bent's Fort, Fort St. Vrain provided not only trade opportunities, but social and communal gatherings as well. Many important visitors stopped at the fort during its period of operation, including legendary trappers, hunters, and mountain men such as William and Andrew Sublette, Jim Bridger, and Kit Carson. Richard L. Wootton visited the fort on a regular basis as he carried mail between it and Bent's Fort. John C. Fremont reorganized his exploratory expedition there in 1842 and 1843. Although competition among the four forts was intense, Fort St. Vrain proved successful. The Bent, St. Vrain Company absorbed Fort Jackson's inventory in 1838. In 1842, Fort Vasquez closed down. The business conducted at Fort Lupton was moved from the South Platte to a location near Fort Laramie in 1844.

Previous Work

In 1911, the Centennial State Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a large granite monument marking the location of the former fur-trading post, Fort St. Vrain. A concrete platform was constructed beneath the monument in 1952.

Cursory archaeological investigation (testings/excavations) of the site occurred in 1967, jointly sponsored by the Public Service Company of Colorado, the Colorado Historical Society, and Otero Junior College, La Junta, where the project lead archaeologist, Galen Baker, served on faculty. The artifacts are currently housed at the Colorado Historical Society. Public Service Company (PSC) had recently completed construction of a nuclear-powered electric generating plant named after the old fort. In an effort to clarify the early commercial nature of the fur-trading post, PSC helped fund the archaeological investigation. The company constructed a brick evocation of the fort to serve as its Fort St. Vrain power plant visitor's center. The closure of the power plant resulted in the closure of the visitor's center. PSC donated its display cases, many artifacts, pictures, and printed materials to the Platteville Pioneer Museum.

In November 1982, Larry Steele of the Colorado Preservation Office filled out an Inventory Record of the Fort St. Vrain site for a survey update. In 1996, Todd McMahon of the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) conducted a reevaluation of the site after an "unknown marker" was discovered. McMahon determined that the concrete chunk surrounding a gray granite square was not a grave marker, but perhaps a survey marker for the railroad grade approximately 200 meters west. McMahon recommended the site as eligible for listing on the National Register due to the presence of intact buried deposits. He also recommended the site be preserved for future scientific inquiries and possible active interpretation programs.

In 2001, the Centennial State Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution nominated the Fort St. Vrain Site for listing on the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties. The nomination criteria included the site's association with events that have made a significant contribution to history, and geographical importance. The site was listed on the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties on May 16, 2001.

Need for Assessment

Fort St. Vrain was the largest and most famous of the South Platte trading posts. Although the fort was completely leveled by 1951 for farming and ranching purposes, potential for further interpretation exists through state-of-the-art archaeological investigative techniques, such as GPR. Information obtained through this potential analysis may be used to direct further investigations, including shovel or test excavations.

The assessment is timely for several reasons. First, the technology now exists to conduct this type of research with more accuracy and precision than ever before. Second, the site is in need of updated OAHF forms. Third, no current protection of the site exists besides a split rail fence. Therefore, the site is vulnerable to vandalism. Finally, the land just north of the St. Vrain site is owned by a gravel pit operator and is at risk of being disturbed. Diane Brotemarkle (prominent researcher of Fort St. Vrain and author of *Old Fort St. Vrain*) believes that a burial site may be located in the vicinity of this area (personal communication, 2004).

Public Benefit

Fort St. Vrain was an integral part of Colorado's history: the fort was the major outpost of Bent's Fort in the 1840s and the largest of the four forts along the South Platte River. As merely "one of the four forts," however, the fort never received the attention it so rightly deserves. The project will be beneficial to the citizens of Weld County and the state citizenry at large in three ways: (1) by providing important information about Fort St. Vrain, (2) by demonstrating the value of archival research and archaeological studies, particularly GPR, a new technology with archaeological applications, in understanding our history, and (3) fostering historic preservation within the community. The public, especially local residents and those interested in Colorado's rich past, desire to know as much as possible about this important time in our history.

Methodology

RMC Consultants, Inc. (RMC) proposes to conduct a comprehensive historical background research to compare the archaeological record with the historical record. RMC will complete the necessary OAHF Site Forms. Secondly, RMC, in collaboration with Geophysical Investigation, Inc. (GI), proposes to perform a GPR survey of the Fort St. Vrain site. The results from this analysis will further our understanding of the site layout and may point out prominent features heretofore unknown. This research will also be used to direct other possible research projects, including test excavations.

Qualified operators will conduct the GPR survey to assess the potential features such as the fort's foundation, possible well, privy, fireplaces, possible historic burials, trash deposits, and other potential features. The GPR will be conducted on the one-third acre site area owned by the Platteville Historical Society. The objective of the GPR survey will be to identify subsurface features (anomalies) that may represent feature locations. It is expected that most of the features will be located approximately four feet below the ground surface. The appropriate GPR equipment selected will be capable of locating features present with a high degree of resolution. The locations of the subsurface features will be plotted on a map that is referenced to a datum that will be left at the site. A report will then be prepared identifying the subsurface features that may warrant further investigation.

GPR is the proposed methodology for several reasons: the technique is non-invasive and non-destructive, it creates a subsurface map of the site in hopes of locating specific features, and it is an important first step in determining where to conduct additional work, such as excavations, based on results. GPR technology has moved beyond mere presence/absence of subsurface material to actually being able to produce a map of the site showing distinct features with proper data processing and experienced interpretation. RMC has inhouse access to the latest

GPR interpretive technology

Our fine-grained data processing techniques should enable us to further define the perimeter of the fort and discern individual features related to the fort. Products of this project will include a field assessment of the survey area, a report document including historical data, updated OAHF site forms, photographs and maps, GPR results and interpretations, recommendations for future archaeological investigations, discussion of interpretive potential, and recommendations for long-term management and protection of the site.

Long Term Plans

Future work may include a GPR survey of the land north of the St. Vrain site where a possible burial site may exist. The landowner had initially expressed interest in having GPR conducted. While GPR in and of itself is an important tool, the technique could lead to further material cultural studies and research designs. If the proposed GPR testing at Fort St. Vrain yields positive results, this information could be used to identify areas for further testing on the site, including shovel testing or 1-meter by 1-meter test excavations. The information obtained from further testing and material cultural analysis could add to our knowledge of this important site, and possibly add to our current knowledge of trade activities and lifeways of northeastern Colorado during the 1830s and 1840s.

References Cited

Brotemarkle, Diane 1998 *Old Fort St. Vrain*. Platteville: Platteville Historical Society.

Recent Evidence Discovered at Yana River Site **Paul Recer, AP Science Writer**

Artifacts Found Resemble Those Uncovered in New Mexico

A people who may have been ancestors of the first Americans lived in Arctic Siberia, enduring one of the most unforgiving environments on Earth at the height of the Ice Age, according to researchers who discovered the oldest evidence yet of humans living near the frigid gateway to the new world. Russian scientists uncovered a 30,000-year-old site where ancient hunters lived on the Yana River in Siberia, some 300 miles north of the Arctic Circle and not far from the Bering land bridge that then connected Asia with North America. "Although a direct connection remains tenuous, the Yana ... site indicates that humans extended deep into the Arctic during colder (Ice Age) times", the authors wrote in a study appearing last week in the journal *Science*. The researchers found stone tools, ivory weapons, and the butchered bones of mammoths, bison, bear, lion, and hare, all animals that would have been available to hunters during that Ice Age period. Using a dating technique that measures the ratios of carbon, the researchers determine the artifacts were deposited at the site about 30,000 years before the present. That would be about twice as old as Monte Verde in Chile, the most ancient human life known in the American continents.

Donald K. Grayson, a paleoanthropologist at the University of Washington in Seattle, said the discovery is very significant because it is so much earlier than any other proven evidence of people living in the frigid lands of Siberia that formed the gateway to the Americas. "Until this site was reported, the earliest site in Bering land bridge area was dated at about 11,000 years ago", said Grayson. "Every other site that had been thought to have been early enough to have something to do with peopling of the New World has been shown not to be so". At the time of the Yana occupation, much of the high latitudes on the Earth were in the grip of an ice age that sent glaciers creeping over much of what is now Europe, Canada, and the northern United States.

Rock Art Tour, October 1-4

Morey Stinson, Guide

Like last year, I'll go a day or so ahead and try to secure enough space for camping around Newspaper Rock for our group. I'd like the group to gather on October 1st (Friday). We'd then spent a day (Saturday) seeing sites along Indian Creek west of Newspaper Rock. There are many good sites there. The second day (Sunday), we'll drive south through Monticello and Montezuma Canyon where again there are many good sites. These sites are generally much easier to get to than those on Cedar Mesa. They are also mostly rock art, with few ruins. Also like last year, I plan to stay after the field trip (Monday) and those who have more time are welcome to tag along to find sites that I haven't visited (there are a bunch). There are no restrictions on number that I know of, but less than 20 would make getting to the sites more efficient. We've had great groups the past 2 years and I look forward to another one. I'm happy to hear suggestions and talk with interested people about the trip. Either by phone at (303) 530-7727 or email at morey.stinson@comcast.net.

CALL FOR PAPERS
2004 ANNUAL MEETING, COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OCTOBER 8–10, 2004
CENTER OF SOUTHWEST STUDIES, FT. LEWIS COLLEGE, DURANGO

The Colorado Archaeological Society is seeking presenters for its 2004 Annual Meeting.

Paper and poster sessions will be held on Saturday, October 9. Paper presentations are limited to 20 minutes. Papers and posters may cover any topic in Colorado archaeology or the archaeology of our neighboring states. Professional archaeologists, avocational archaeologists, and students are welcome to apply.

Please send: paper/poster title, author(s), abstract, and audio-visual equipment needs *by August 15* to:

Sandy Traslener, VP
Colorado Archaeological Society, 17989 County Road G, Cortez, CO 81321
Phone: day (970-565-8975, ext. 148), evening (970-565-7804)
E-mail: straslener@crowcanyon.org

Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, March 11, 2004

Meeting called to order at 8:10 PM at CU Museum in Boulder.

Attendees: Cree, Damon, Holien, Morrell, Pitre.

Secretary's Report (Damon acting): Minutes as presented by Damon were accepted.

Treasurer's Report (Pitre): Account Balance as of February 29, 2004 is \$2196.30. 14 membership renewals.

Presidents' Report (Damon and Holien): Holien has reserved dates in April, May, June, August, September, November and December at The Atrium for board meetings and the Christmas party. R. Smith is presently in China working out details for a possible tour later this year. Damon reported on the status of board members. She was able to contact Braitberg, Ferguson, and Holen. No contact with C. Miller. M. Arthur will be moving away in June. Board discussed need to recruit additional board members.

Old Business: Speaker still needed for October 2004 meeting. Board discussed several possible candidates. Cree will coordinate volunteers for Big Rock Spring field project on April 24-25. Landem has not received word yet from Chico Basin Ranch as to possible survey dates. Damon contacted Comanche National Grassland regarding tour at Picketwire. A private archaeological tour can be arranged with a minimum of 12 people in April to May and September to October. A 4 wheel drive vehicle is required. Public group tours occur on Saturdays.

New Business: Damon recommended member recognition for contributions to Chapter. Holien will check on state CAS awards. Damon and Holien planning to attend Quarterly CAS meeting in Montrose on April 17th. Damon will contact Byron Olson regarding the status of the Spotted Pony excavation this summer. Board will try to firm up field activities for 2004 at April Board meeting. Holien will check on possible videotapes as a backup plan for a last minute absent speaker. Board discussed a voluntary sign-up for bringing treats to monthly Chapter programs/meetings.

Open Floor: no issues.

Note: no members in attendance other than officers and board members.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM. - Kris Holien, IPCAS President, Secretary Pro Tem -

2004 IPCAS Officers, Board Members, and major functions

CO-President	Cheryl Damon	(303) 678-8076	cherdam@cs.com
	Kristine Holien	(970) 586-8982	kjholien@aol.com
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CAS Representative	Open		
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Board Member	Jeff Ferguson	(720) 890-2708	fergusonjeff@hotmail.com
Board Member	Cindy Miller	(303) 546-0720	cmiller@cindymiller.net
Board Member	Jo Morgan	(303) 938-9208	jlmnow2003@yahoo.com
Board Member	Russell Smith	(303) 776-5503	rdsmith@lanminds.net

Please check the chapter web-site at: <http://www.indianpeaksarchaeology.org>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER	
___ Individual \$28.50 / Year	___ New _____ Date
___ Family \$33 / Year	___ Renewal
___ Student \$14.25 / Year, with Calumet delivery by e-mail	
NAME _____	TELEPHONE (____) _____
ADDRESS _____	E-MAIL _____
CITY _____	STATE _____ ZIP _____
Please make check payable to:	Indian Peaks Chapter, CAS
Mail to:	PO Box 18301
	Boulder, CO 80308-1301
When you join or renew you will receive the <i>Calumet</i> , our monthly newsletter, and <i>Southwestern Lore</i> , the quarterly publication of the Colorado Archaeological Society.	

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P.O. Box 18301
Boulder, CO 80308-1301