

Pictures From The Past

NEWSLETTER OF THE
COLORADO ROCK ART ASSOCIATION (CRAA)
A Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society

<http://www.coloradorockart.org>

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Spring is here with blooming flowers and spring snow storms. The Colorado Rock Art Association (CRAA) board is making plans this spring for activities and events for 2016.

You are currently reading the second CRAA newsletter of 2016. We plan to publish a short newsletter every month. Peter Faris is graciously allowing us to use his blog articles for the newsletter. We would love to have other contributors too. If you are interested in contributing an article or event of interest, we would welcome it. Please contact us coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com or contact a board member directly.

We are offering a variety of field trips this spring, summer and fall. Your job as CRAA members is to participate in them. Please look at our list of field trips in this issue and make plans to join us. We don't have all the details yet on some of them yet, but we do have some dates you can put on your calendar. Please support us by attending field trips.

We have several open positions on the CRAA board. Open positions include At-Large Board Member, Membership Chair person, Newsletter Editor and Field Trip Coordinator. We hope you will consider contributing to CRAA by taking one of these positions.

If you hear of any events or projects relating to rock art, please let us know. CRAA memberships are due in May. We hope that you will renew your membership. Thank you for your past membership.

We will be holding CRAA elections in May 2016 via Survey Monkey. Please participate in electing and re-electing CRAA board members.

Colorado Rock Art Association Field Trips

May 21, 2016

Hicklin Springs Field Trip

Location: La Junta, Colorado

Date: Saturday, May 21

Leaders: Bob Rushforth & Bob Tipton

Details & sign up information for Hicklin Springs Field Trip:

Bob Rushforth and I (Bob Tipton) will be in LaJunta on May 21 and plan to do some exploration in the Hicklin Springs rock art site. There's lots of cool petroglyphs and some pictographs (if we can find them). If you would like to join us, you're more than welcome. When we're finished, you'll be free to visit other sites of interest on your own.

We will meet at the Walmart on the west end of LaJunta at 10 in the morning and, if you like, you can make carpool arrangements among yourselves. The site is accessible by car if you're really careful, but a pickup or SUV would be better. You'll want to bring a lunch or snacks. Boots and gaiters are recommended as there are snakes and poison ivy in the area.



Other places of interest in the area are Vogel Canyon, Picture Canyon, Carrizo Canyon, Bent's Fort and Boggsville. Not to be missed are the ribs at Boss Hog's in LaJunta.

We are making 16 slots available. Preference will be given to CRAA members. Membership forms are available on the CRAA website. Please contact me by email, junkdocs@q.com to sign up or by phone, 720.289.9033 if you have any questions,

Yours,
Bob Tipton

For additional information about Hicklin Springs rock art from Peter Faris' blog go to <http://rockartblog.blogspot.com/search?q=Hicklin+Springs>. He has several articles that reference Hicklin Springs rock art.

June 18, 2016

Field Trip to San Luis Valley site

Location: San Luis Valley

Leader: Ken Frye

Details & sign up information to come

July 23, 2016

Field Trip to Sweetwater Cave

Ute Rock art located in a cave.

Location: Eagle County, Colorado

Activity Level: Short but very steep hike to cave.

Leader: Jo Morgan

Details & sign up information to come

October 31 – November 4, 2016

2016 CRAA Texas Rock Art

Clear your calendars! We will be sponsoring a rock art tour to western Texas, October 31-November 4 (travel days Oct. 29-30 and Nov. 4-5). Our stops will be Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site near El Paso, an archaic boulder petroglyph site on a private ranch, Museum of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Fort Davis National Historic Site, Seminole Canyon State Park and Historic Park (Fate Bell Shelter), 2 sites on private property—White Shaman and Curley Tail Panther. Camping is available at Hueco Tanks, Davis Mountains State Park, and Seminole Canyon; motels can be up to 30 minutes away in El Paso, Fort Davis/Alpine and Comstock/Del Rio.

This trip is rated moderate to strenuous due to uneven ground, rocks, boulder scrambling, prickly bushes, cactus, steep climbs into and out of deep canyons, narrow paths with drop-offs on one site.

More detailed information coming in July/August.

MAPS IN ROCK ART

By Peter Faris



"Map Rock", Turkey Creek, Fort Carson, Colorado.

Photograph: Peter Faris, July 2005.

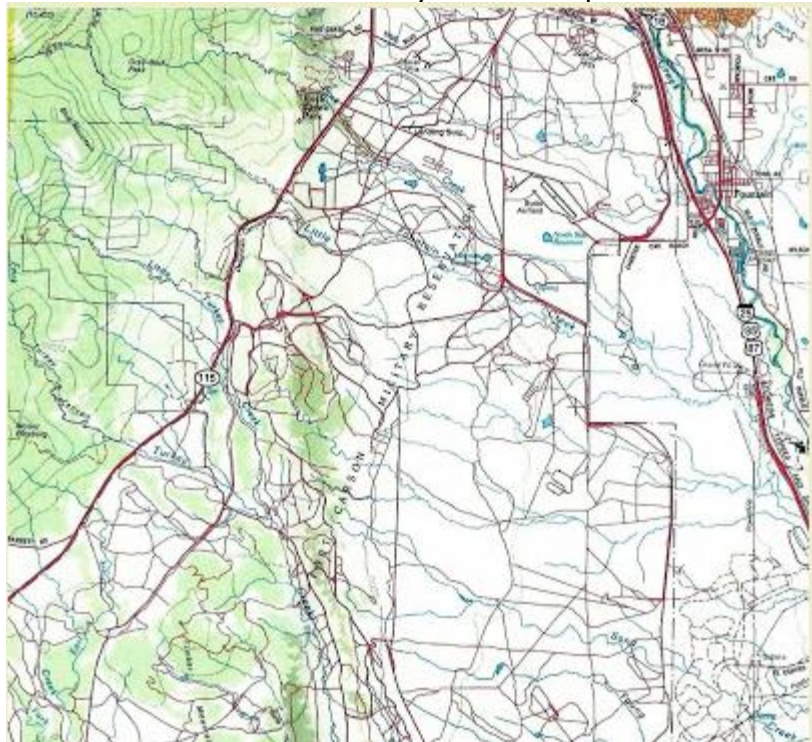
On April 18, 2009, I posted a column titled "ARE THERE MAPS IN NATIVE AMERICAN ROCK ART?" In this column I presented a so-called map panel petroglyph from southeastern Colorado and explained my belief that it could not represent a map as we define the term.

A fairly simple illustration of this question is found at the so-called "Map Rock" at Turkey Creek, Fort Carson, Colorado, pictured above. The most common explanation of any so-called map rocks is that they picture the landscape around the site. The lines are matched up to water courses or valley bottoms for explanation.



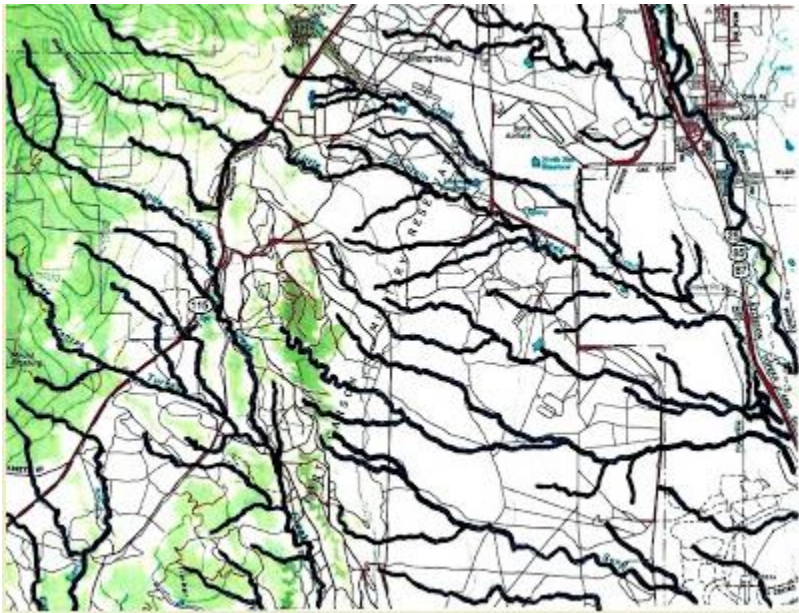
Petroglyph lines traced over photograph of "Map Rock", Turkey Creek, Fort Carson, Colorado.

As you can see I have done this for the Turkey Creek map rock. The first step was to trace the

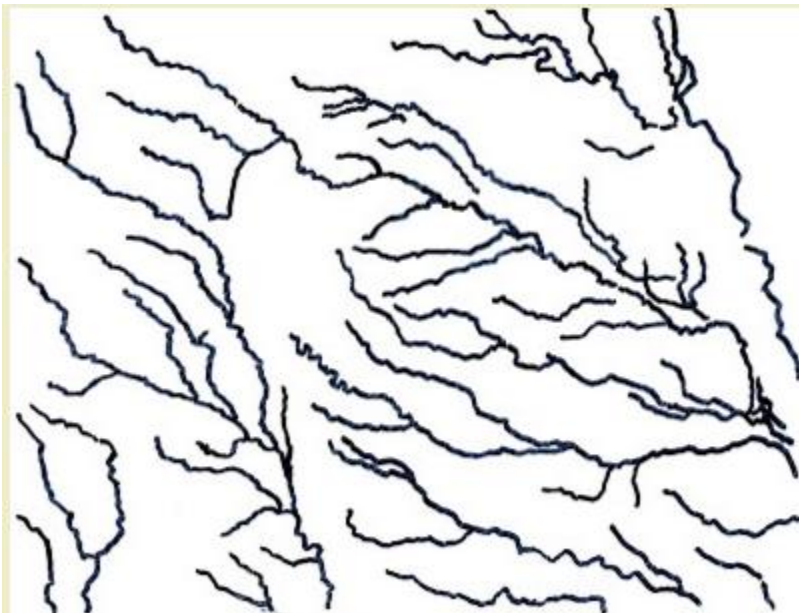


lines on the rock.

Map of Fort Carson, Colorado. The Turkey Creek area is in the bottom left quadrant.



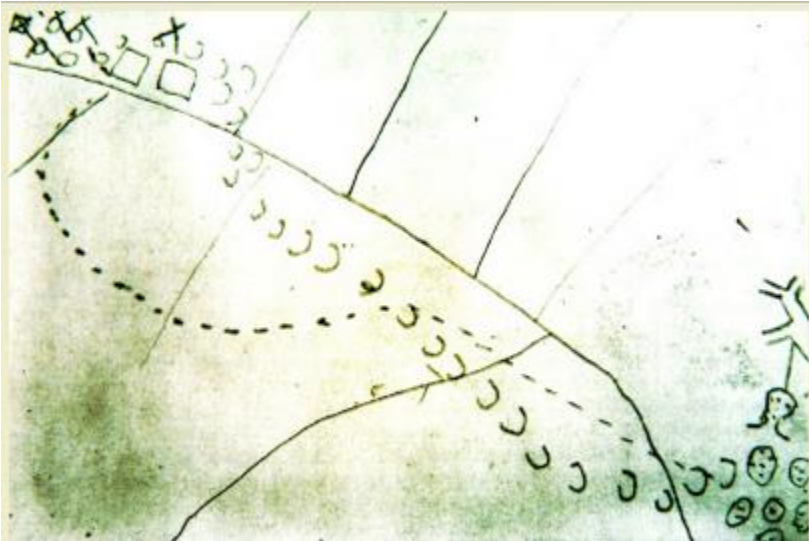
Then I traced the streams and waterways on a map of the Turkey Creek area at Fort Carson. It is a relatively simple step then to compare the tracings for commonalities that would identify the petroglyph as a map. "But what about scale" you say? I think we can see that there is no grouping of lines on the map tracing that matches the petroglyph at any scale.



Tracing of the watercourses on the Fort Carson map.

"Ah, but what if it is a map of trails, not streams?" There I have to fall back on my previous explanations. I do not believe that Native Americans ever created what we identify as a map to record trails. First, you do not need a map to follow most trails, you can see them clearly there on the ground, and this map is not going to fit into your pocket anyway. Then the map

proponents declare that it is a "secret trail" that will take the people to safety in a time of war. Some secret! If that were the case their secret is posted on the equivalent of a billboard for their enemy to find and follow.



Lean Wolf's ledger book drawing of his horse raid. From Warhus, 1997.

About the closest I can come to acknowledging a map in Native American art would be an example from ledger art that shows a figure traveling a route for a horse raid (Warhus 1997). That is the map drawn by Lean Wolf, 1881, recording, and advertising, his heroism, but that is not intended to accurately portray the geographic details of the route, it is intended to be a record of Lean Wolf's deeds and actions, his personal history. This was also drawn during the period when Anglo culture was changing the native practices, and so is strongly influenced by American culture.

So, in the end, I fear I have to stick with my opinion that there just are no maps in rock art. If you believe otherwise please send me the evidence.

REFERENCES:

Faris, Peter

<http://rockartblog.blogspot.com/2009/04/are-there-maps-in-native-american-rock.html>

Warhus, Mark

1997 Another America: Native American Maps and the History of Our Land, St. Martins Press, New York.

Peter Faris is a 30+ year member of the Colorado Archaeological Society, Founder and former President of the Colorado Rock Art Association, Member of the Arapahoe County Cultural Commission, President of Institute for Archeoesthetics. 2013 recipient of the Ivol Hagar Award for outstanding service to the Colorado Archaeological Society, and a 2013 Colorado Rock Art Association Chapter Achievement Award. Member of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Committee and also Programs Committee of History Colorado. Arapahoe County Cultural Council. He writes a regular blog on Rock Art at <http://rockartblog.blogspot.com>.

CRAA Members attend 2016 Colorado Council of Professional Archaeology (CCPA) Conference



From left-to-right: Lynda McNeil, Anne Robinson, Cheryl Damon, Rosi Dennett on a field trip to the Venado Enojado ("angry deer") site, a multi-component open camp located in the upper Arkansas River Valley close to Buena Vista. Photo courtesy of Rosi Dennett

The 2016 Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists (CCPA) conference was attended by several CRAA members: Cheryl Damon, Rosi Dennett, Ken Frye, Karen Kinnear, Lynda McNeil, Anne Robinson, Bob Rushforth, Linda Sand, and Jack Warner.

The meeting was held in Salida, Colorado in March 2016. Conference Topics included a very interesting talk on using D-stretch with a Rock Art Panel at a Historic Ute Rock Art Panel. CRAA Member Jack Warner gave a presentation on "Blackfoot Cave (5DA2358): An Oasis on the High Plains for Early Archaic Peoples."

CRAA member Lynda McNeil said of the conference, "At the recommendation of fellow IPCAS members, I attended my first CCPA annual conference in Salida, CO. It exceeded my expectations (as a non-archaeologist) with highly informative presentations--from analysis of Zea mays phytoliths to track human migrations to Japanese "therapy gardens" at Amache, the Japanese-American internment camp. On the less serious side, a rabble-rousing trivia game after Friday's banquet (a scholarship fundraiser) confirmed the rumor that archaeologists can partee!"

Next year's conference will be in March 2017 in Grand Junction. The CCPA conference is a great way to learn about current research and projects in Colorado Archaeology.

American Rock Art Research Association Conference

Las Cruces, New Mexico
May 27–30, 2016

Conference Registration Pre-Registration Deadline: May 1, 2016

The 43rd annual American Rock Art Research Association Conference will convene in Las Cruces, New Mexico, over the customary Memorial Day weekend. Las Cruces, with Three Rivers and other outstanding rock art sites on the field trip list, is an ARARA member's dream venue. In addition to fantastic field trips, the conference will feature interesting papers, the ever-exciting auction, and the awards banquet.

Presentation of research papers forms the core of the meeting. Come learn the latest in rock art research, ask questions of our presenters, and share your ideas.
For more information and to sign up go to

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