November Webinar

The Great Rock-Art
of Chaco Canyon

Date & Time: Tuesday, November 19, 6:55 – 8:00 pm MST
Location: Click on http://zoom.us/j/6136944443 any time after 6:45 pm. Program will start at 7 pm.

Presenter: Janet Kolber, Rock Art Specialist

Description: Chaco has been famous for many years for its magnificent architecture as well as some of its other features. Howev-

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The November webinar has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. We hope to reschedule the speaker for a future date. Please check the Upcoming Events section for other programs around Colorado and the region.

Sorry for the inconvenience.

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Zoom link
http://zoom.us/j/6136944443

Need webinar help? see page 3

November 2019

Volume 10, Issue 8
2019–20 Colorado Rock Art Chapter Officers and Board

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To contact any of the above, email: coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com

Notes from the CRAA Board compiled by Lucy Burris

• No new information.

Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events compiled by Lucy Burris

Locations are in Colorado unless notes. Times are local times at the event location. "Livestream" in the location information means the event can be streamed. See the event website for information.

On-going
• November 1-30—Pueblo City-County Library, Giodone Branch, Pueblo. Native American Heritage Month Exhibit from Special Collections. [https://pueblocitylibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=72586&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2019/11/01](https://pueblocitylibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=72586&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2019/11/01)
• Through December 15—University of Colorado, Jerry Crail Johnson Earth Sciences and Map Library, Boulder. Print exhibit "Protect This Land: Making Change Through Visualization". [https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/protect_this_land_making_change_through_visualization](https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/protect_this_land_making_change_through_visualization)
• Michener Library, 1stFloor Gallery, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. Exhibit of Pueblo pottery from the Department of Anthropology collection. [https://www.unco.edu/hss/anthropology/](https://www.unco.edu/hss/anthropology/)

November
• November 9-10—46th Annual Idaho Archaeological Society Conference, Pocatello, ID.

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er, the rock-art, which covers most of the walls of the ten-mile long canyon on all three benches as well as its side tributaries, has been mostly ignored. Close scrutiny has revealed an abundance and variety of images that will one day reveal a closer understanding of these mysterious people.

**Presenter background:** Jane Kobler has researched and taught about rock art for over 40 years. From 1996 through 2018, Jane was the Director of the Chaco Rock Art Assessment Project at Chaco Culture National Historical Park, New Mexico. She has directed rock art research projects and recordings in Mexico, Bolivia, Portugal, and the western United States. In 2013, Jane and Donna Yoder were honored with a conference session recognizing their work with Chaco rock art at the International Federation of Rock Art Organizations Congress in Albuquerque.

**How do you join our web lecture?**

Join from your PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android, includes tablets and smart phones.

Starting at 6:45 pm on the webinar date you can join our web lecture using the information below.

1. Go to zoom.us and click "Join a Meeting" at top right and then enter our meeting number 613-694-4443. Follow the zoom application instructions. If you have used zoom before you will likely go straight to the lecture page. If you have problems, please call the help line below and a monitor will help you get online.

2. Click on this link [http://zoom.us/j/6136944443](http://zoom.us/j/6136944443) Follow the zoom application instructions. If you have used zoom before you will likely go straight to the lecture page. If you have problems, please email the help line below and Joel Hermence will help you get online.

3. If you haven’t used zoom in recent months, be sure to update to the latest software version.

**Help line.** If you do have issues email coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com with a description of the issue you are experiencing. We will have someone monitoring the email account from 6:45pm until 7:15pm.

**Missed a past webinar?**

Some of our past webinars are available to CRAA members in the "Members" section of the Colorado Rock Art Association web site.
Peter Faris Rock Art Blog

In an interesting connection between Charles Darwin and Colorado rock art, Peter posted the following blogs on June 3, 2009 (Article 1), and October 5 (Article 2) and October 12 (Article 3), 2019 at https://rockartblog.blogspot.com/
Reprinted with permission.

1. CHARLES DARWIN’S BEAR
At the time of his death Charles Darwin had in his correspondence files a letter that had accompanied a photograph of a Colorado pictograph. According to the on-line database of the Darwin Correspondence Project at the University of Cambridge, England, they were sent on May 24, 1874, by Lieut. George J. Anderson, of Fort Lyon, Colorado,


http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/darwinletters/calendar/entry-9466.html. The database entry refers to the letter, which describes the image as a “photograph of a ‘natural curiosity’, a bear apparently ‘painted’ with red iron on the face of a soft rock”. The letter itself forms part of the Darwin Archive at Cambridge University Library, but the photograph has not been found.

I had found mention of this a number of years ago and was interested enough to pursue a search in an attempt to identify which bear image from southern Colorado this might be. During a subsequent conversation with Larry Loendorf we agreed that it might be the large Picketwire bear. This figure was prominent, had been discovered and publicized early on - its photograph had been printed in newspapers. Loendorf also pointed out that it was originally known as the “cinnamon bear” because rain runoff from the canyon rim had dyed it red with the red dust of the soil. This seems to match the description of it being “apparently ‘painted’ with red iron on the face of a soft rock”.

On May 13, 2009, I received from the Darwin Correspondence Project a transcription of the letter, which described the picture and its location. “The image is painted – as it were – on a perpendicular face of a very soft grey sandstone rock, about 40 feet from its base & 38 feet from its top, but may be easily reached – to the level of the bottom of the picture – by climbing over the dèbris at the foot of the bluff. ... The coloring matter appears to be iron (probably Fe3O4) and penetrates the rock to a depth of more than ½ inch. ... The

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image is in length, from nose to tail, about 8½ feet”. (This preliminary transcription has yet to be published in the Correspondence of Charles Darwin.)

Anderson’s description of the image size seems to fit that of the large Picketwire Bear and I know of no other bear pictograph in southeastern Colorado of that size, but its location is nothing like that described in the letter. The location of the large Picketwire Bear is basically just a little above the present ground surface on a slight slope. Unless we can be assured by a geomorphologist that the canyon bottom has been raised by nearly 40 feet (unlikely since the canyon bottom can be demonstrated to have been eroding deeper) since the creation of the pictograph, then I see no way to reconcile the present location of this bear with the described location. If we are lucky the original picture may some day be located in the Darwin archives: meanwhile the identity of the southeast Colorado bear pictograph sent to Charles Darwin remains a mystery.

I wish to extend an extra thank you to Rosemary Clarkson of the Darwin Correspondence Project for her generous assistance with my inquiry.

2. CHARLES DARWIN’S BEAR – REVISITED

In 1874, the great Charles Darwin received a letter with an accompanying photograph from a G. J. Anderson. This letter read as follows:

From G. J. Anderson
Fort Lyon, C. T. U. S. America
May 24th 1874

Mr. Charles Darwin, F.R.S. & c.
Hon. Sir;
It is with a feeling of great diffidence that I forward you by this mail a photograph of a natural curiosity found near this post, in Lat 37° 30’ N, Long. 103° 20’ W., as I hesitate to intrude my ignorant curiosity on your valuable time.

The object in question is a very accurate representation of some animal not unlike the Grizzly Bear found hereabouts, except in the peculiar formation of the mouth & nose.

The image is painted----as it were----on a perpendicular face of a very soft grey sandstone rock, about 40 feet from its base & 38 feet from its top, but may be easily reached----to the level of the bottom of the picture----by climbing over the debris at the foot of the bluff.

The coloring matter appears to be iron (probably Fe3O4) and penetrates the rock to a depth of more than ½ inch.

The image is in length, from nose to tail, about 8½ feet; it was found here by the first white

(Continued on page 6)
settlers who came to the country, & Indian tradition refers to its origin to a most remote past. Among the Indians—who hold it in the highest veneration—it is called a “Bear”, & worshipped as such. The color is noticeably dark near the shoulder, growing gradually lighter toward either extremity.

I have forwarded copies of the photo. To several scientific men in this country, & from a few have received acknowledgements. Prof. Henry of the Smith’n. Instn. Suggested that it is a work of Indian art, but the color—which is the same as that with which the rock is in many places stained—seems to have withstood the action of the weather too well, & to have penetrated too deep into the rock to add confirmation to this theory. Prof. Kendrick of the U.S. Mil. Acad, at west point, thinks it a lusus naturae.

I am Sir with great respect, Your most obedient & Humble servt.


(Note: At that date the C.T. in the originating address would have stood for Colorado Territory. I have reproduced Anderson’s abbreviations and punctuations as accurately as my keyboard would let me.)

I first wrote about this in a column on June 3, 2009, titled “Charles Darwin’s Bear” (Article 1 above) in which I reported that I had conversed about this with Larry Loendorf and he and I agreed that, given the size, it was likely to refer to the great Picketwire “Don’t Deface the” Bear. The color of that bear is wrong, but Loendorf said that it used to be called the “cinnamon bear” so the color has apparently changed with age.

Now I do not have accurate enough maps to work out the exact distances but I believe that 37 deg. 30' North by 103 deg. 20' West places this site in the northeast corner of Las Animas County, Colorado.

My August 4, 2019, inquiry with Las Animas County got this response: "The lat. lon. location is North of Kim,"
CO, just west of Hwy. 109 in Las Animas County. It appears the property is owned by (name withheld for personal privacy.)” (Lucero 2019). The bear in Purgatoire Canyon is 25 miles or so from the site of the exact coordinates reported, however, we have no way of knowing the accuracy that Anderson could have achieved in his calculations and, until we get better information I have to assume that Anderson could have been 25 miles off, after all he did not have GPS. It would be of great interest, however, if someone would visit the site of the precise coordinates and see if there is a bear pictograph there. Bear pictographs are common in southeast Colorado, but not bear pictographs 8½ feet long as reported. Until proven otherwise I believe we will just have to assume that Charles Darwin’s Bear is the large "Don't Deface the Bear" in the Picketwire (Purgatoire) River Canyon and that Loendorf was correct all along.

NOTE: Some images in this posting were retrieved from the internet with a search for public domain photographs. If any of these images are not intended to be public domain, I apologize, and will happily provide the picture credits if the owner will contact me with them.

REFERENCES:
Loendorf, Larry 2009 .Personal communication.
Lucero, Paula, 2019. Personal communication.

3. IS THIS CHARLES DARWIN’S BEAR PICTOGRAPH?
- Continued from October 5, 2019 blog (Article 2 above) -
Found among Charles Darwin’s personal correspondence is this letter (see Article 2 above) from Ft. Lyon, in southeastern Colorado. (letter no. 9466) The photograph mentioned in the letter has not been relocated and
Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events (cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

https://www.idahoarchaeology.org/ias-conference

- November 12, 8 pm—Colorado Archaeological Society, Hisatsinom Chapter, Cortez. Grant Coffey presents "Designing Social Landscapes in the Central Mesa Verde Region". https://sites.google.com/site/hisatsinomchapter1/calendar

- November 13, 7pm—San Juan Basin Archaeological Society, Durango. Dr. Randy McGuire presents "Building an International Archaeology in Sonora, Mexico". http://www.sjbas.org/index.html

- November 14, 7pm—Colorado Archaeological Society, Indian Peaks Chapter, Boulder. Kaitlyn Davis presents "Pueblo Agricultural Adaptations to Socioeconomic Changes in New Mexico". http://www.indianpeaksarchaeology.org/ipcas-lectures/upcoming-lectures


- November 17, 6pm—Teso Historic Lecture Series, Morrison. Drs. Steven Lee and Bethany Williams present "The Night the Stars Fell". Dinner lecture, reservations required. https://www.tesoroculturalcenter.org/historic-lecture-series/

- November 18, 7:30-9 pm—Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society, Tucson, AZ. David Purcell presents "Seasons in the Sun: Experimental Time-Lapse Photographic Documentation of Archaeoastronomic Sites". https://www.azarchandhist.org/event/david-purcell-title-to-be-announced/


- November 20, 6-8pm—Colorado Northwestern Community College, Rangely and livestream. Lukas Trout presents "Archaeology and Paleontology in Northwest Colorado". https://www.cncc.edu/spartan-talks


- November 21, 7-8pm—Erie Community Library, Erie. Bob Dean presents "History of the San Luis Valley". http://mylibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=65539&qag=3&lib=3,1,10,0,16,2,12,21,1004&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2019/11/01

- November 22, 5-7:30pm—Nebraska History Museum, Lincoln, NE. Opening and reception for "Piecing Together the Past" Exploring 13,000 Years of History with Nebraska's Archaeologists" exhibit. https://history.nebraska.gov/events/piecing-together-past-exhibit-opening

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Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events (cont.)

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December

- December 3, 6-7pm—Archaeology Southwest, Tucson, AZ and livestream. Jeremy Moss presents "Why you should experience Pecos National Historic Park".  
  https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/event/why-you-should-experience-pecos-national-historical-park/

- December 4, 5:30-8pm—Cherokee Ranch & Castle, Sedalia. John Fielder reception and book signing "380 Miles East to West: Celebrating 40 Years of Colorado Photography".  

- December 4, 7pm—Archaeological Institute of America Lecture, University of Colorado, Boulder. Kaitlyn Davis presents "Agricultural Adaptation of Socioeconomic Changes in New Mexico".  
  https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/aia_lecture_agricultural_adaptations_in_light_of_socioeconomic_changes_in_new_mexico#.XbXGPFVKjmg

- December 10, 7pm—Wyoming Archaeological Society, June Frison Chapter, Laramie, WY. Amanda Cas- taneda presents "Lower Pecos Rock Art."  
  https://www.facebook.com/JuneFrisonChapterWAS/

Coming in 2020

- January 7, 6-7pm—Archaeology Southwest, Tucson, AZ and livestream. R.E. Burillo presents "Why you should experience Bears Ears".  
  https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/event/why-you-should-experience-bears-ears/

- January 8-11—Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, Boston, MA.  
  https://sha.org/conferences/


- January 30-February 1—Southwest Symposium Archaeological Conference – 17th Biennial Conference, Tempe, AZ.  
  https://southwestsymposium.org/

- February 17, 7:30-9:pm—Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society, Tucson, AZ. Steve Lekson presents "Studying Southwestern Archaeology"  

- March 5-8—Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists Annual Meeting and Conference, Pueblo.  
  http://coloradoarchaeologists.org/meetings-events/annual-meeting/

- April 16-19—Montana Archaeological Society 62nd Annual Meeting, Polson, MT.  
  http://mtarchaeologicalsociety.org/mas-meeting/

- April 22-24—Oklahoma History Conference, Hulbert, OK.  
  http://www.okhistory.org/calendar/event/conference/2020-04-22/

- April 22-26—Society for American Archaeology, 85th Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.  
  https://www.saa.org/annual-meeting

- May 8-10—Archaeological Society of New Mexico Annual Meeting, Taos, NM.  
  https://taosarch.wildapricot.org/ASNM2020

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Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events (cont.)

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- June 5-8—American Rock Art Research Association Conference, Great Falls, MT. https://arara.wildapricot.org
- October 22-25—Texas Archaeological Society 91st Annual Meeting, Houston, TX. https://www.txarch.org/tas-annual-meeting
- November 4-7—78th Plains Anthropological Conference, Boulder, CO. https://plainsanthropologicalsociety.org/annual-meeting/future

Information is accurate at the time of preparation but check the listed web sites for specific details and any changes. Check the listed web sites for any fees, membership, and advance registration requirements. Listing does not imply endorsement by the Colorado Rock Art Association.

PAAC Class Schedule compiled by Lucy Burris

There are still two Program for Avocational Archaeology (PAAC) classes offered this fall around the state through the Office of the State Archaeologist. Classes are hosted by local chapters of the Colorado Archaeological Society. Get registration information and details at https://www.historycolorado.org/paac-event-schedule

11/1—11/3—Archaeological Dating Methods, Pikes Peak Chapter, Colorado Springs (University of Colorado)
11/22—11/24—Colorado Archaeology, San Juan Basin Archaeological Society, Durango (Fort Lewis College)

Pictures From the Past Guidelines compiled by Lucy Burris

See page 13 of the September 2019 issue of "Pictures From the Past" for submission guidelines. Published items do not necessarily reflect the views of the officers, members, or sponsors of the CRAA. Past newsletters are available on the website at http://coloradorockart.org.
On June 3, 2009, I wrote in RockArtBlog “Charles Darwin’s Bear” (See Article 1 above) in which I reported this correspondence and a conversation I had with Larry Loendorf about the identity of Charles Darwin’s Bear. We agreed that, because of the reported size, it was likely to be the large bear in the Picketwire Canyon. “This figure was prominent, had been publicized and discovered early on – its photograph had been printed in newspapers. Loendorf also pointed out that it was originally known as the “cinnamon bear” because rain runoff from the canyon rim had dyed it red with the red dust of the soil. This seems to match the description of it being “apparently ‘painted’ with red iron on the face of a soft rock.” (Loendorf 2009) Another resemblance is the fact that it is the “darkest near the shoulder, growing gradually lighter toward each extremity.”

Some time later I received a correspondence from Russell A. Potter which included this stereoscopic view card, suggesting that it might be the same image. A little background research actually suggests that this might be true. The label on the back of the stereo card says it was made by a photographer named Byron H. Gurnsey. Gurnsey “operated a photographic studio in Sioux City, Iowa from about 1866 until he sold out in 1871.” (Ephriam 2015). From 1872 until his death in 1880 Byron operated a photographic studio in Colorado Springs, specializing in scenes from the Rocky Mountains.

The inscription on the back of the stereo card reads:

Gurnsey’s
Rocky Mountain Views.
Published at Colorado Springs, Colorado, Pike’s Peak Avenue.
No. 99,
Photograph of a Bear on the Rock.
This great Natural Curiosity was discovered about the year 1833 by some Voyageurs and Trappers, and consists of a distinct Photograph or Picture of a Bear, impressed on the face of a cliff of solid rock on the Purgatoire River, 18 miles from Las Animas, Colorado.

It is supposed to be an Electric Photograph.”

By “Electric Photograph” I believe he means an image burned onto the rock face by a lightning strike very near a bear standing by the cliff, in much the same way as the faint ghostly images of victims were found on some concrete surfaces in Hiroshima and Nagasaki after the atomic bomb blasts.

A second version of the label exists which reads as follows:

Gurnsey's
Rocky Mountain Views,
Published at Colorado Springs, Colorado.
Natural Photograph of a Bear
on the rocks of the Purgatoire River.
No. 99. 18 miles from Las Animas, Colorado.

Note that both versions of the card label state that the original image is along the Purgatoire River, also pointing to "Don't Deface the Bear" as the probable original.

Since Anderson sent the photo to Charles Darwin in 1874, and since we know that Gurnsey was living and photographing in Colorado from 1872 on, and since we now have a photograph of a large bear taken by Gurnsey, I believe it is reasonable to assume that Anderson did, indeed, send a copy of this stereo card to Charles Darwin, and that until other information surfaces we may safely assume (keeping in mind that this is still only circumstantial evidence) that this is indeed likely to be Charles Darwin’s Bear.

REFERENCES:
Anderson, G. S., 1874 Personal Correspondence, From the Darwin Correspondence Project Archives: DAR 159:58, Cite As: Darwin Correspondence Project, “Letter no. 9466,” accessed on 3 August 2019.