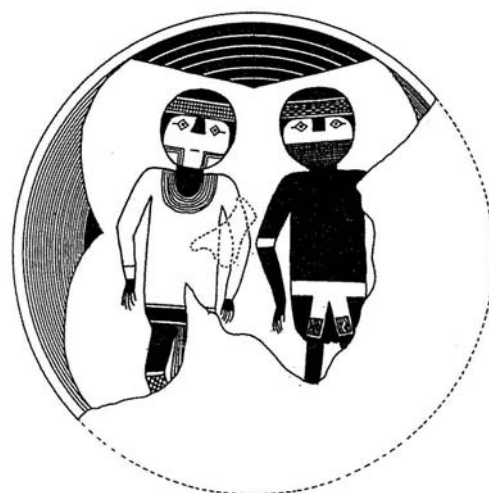
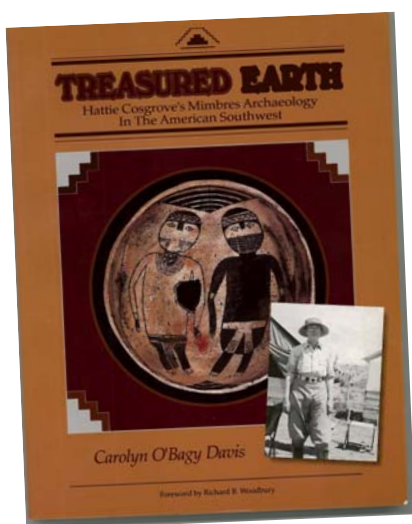


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A Visit to the Mimbres Country

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Jacque Day's "Mimbres Gods" watercolor painting on cover of *Treasured Earth* book by Carolyn O'Bagy Davis. Available from Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, this book includes over 300 ink drawings that archaeologist Hattie Cosgrove made of Mimbres Black-on-white and other ancient southwestern pottery vessels, some of which are reproduced in this issue with permission from Carolyn Davis and Sanpete Publications.

Archaeologist Hattie Cosgrove's pen-and-ink drawing of the Mimbres Black-on-white bowl from the Treasure Hill site that inspired Jacque Day's "Mimbres Gods" painting (from *Treasured Earth* by Carolyn O'Bagy Davis)

From inside a large fragment of a handmade ceramic bowl with a hole in its bottom, two ghostly images stare out at me. The human-like figure on the right is dressed in black and has a white waist sash from which two extensions dangle down to its thighs in front. On each sash extension is a rectangular design, each filled with zigzag lines. Above each black-sleeved elbow this figure wears what appears to be a white armband. What resembles a bandana obscures its mouth and chin.

The second figure in the bowl is dressed in a white tunic and black leggings. It also has a waist sash, from which a single extension hangs down in front, and it seems to have an elaborate necklace resembling an inverted rainbow, although it's only depicted by a series of concave black lines around the neck (which is painted black). On figure number two's face are tattooed or painted lines extending up from the chin on either side of the single-line mouth, then angling outward across the cheeks. A single line across this figure's right wrist may depict a bracelet. A headband confines each figure's black hair. Each one's eyes are diamond-shaped, painted in black outlines with a black dot in the center. Simple black lines represent the fingers and thumb on each hand.



Date	Gladwin 1936:123	Wheat 1955:185	Danson 1957:16	Bullard 1962:94	Graybill 1973:42	Anyon and LeBlanc 1978	Date
A.D. 1100			Mimbres Mangus		Mimbres Mangus	Mimbres	A.D. 1100
1000	Mimbres	Mogollon 5		Mimbres			
900	Three Circle	Mogollon 4	Three Circle	Three Circle	Three Circle		1000
800	San Francisco		San Francisco	San Francisco		Three Circle	900
700		Mogollon 3	San Lorenzo		San Francisco		800
600	Georgetown		Georgetown	Georgetown		San Francisco	700
500	?	Mogollon 2 (San Lorenzo)			Georgetown	Georgetown	600
400		-----					500
300		Mogollon 2 (Georgetown)					400
200						Al Cabo	300
100		Mogollon 1				?	200
0							100
100							0
200							100
300							200
B.C.							300 B.C.

Actually, the bowl I've described is in a painting titled "Mimbres Gods" by the late Jacque Day, a southwestern artist who adored southwestern New Mexico's ancient Mimbres pottery. Her painting includes some artistic license – for example, the original artifact that inspired her is only a partial bowl, from the "Treasure Hill" archaeological site near Silver City, New Mexico. In the remaining artifact fragment the black-dressed figure's left arm and both figures' feet are missing, gone with a large portion of the bowl that broke away an untold time ago. There are also differences in the way Jacque depicted the headbands and eyes of the paired figures.

Since 2005, the not-for-profit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center has sponsored educational tours to southwestern New Mexico's Mimbres Valley and surrounding areas, to visit archaeological sites dating from early centuries of the Common Era to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and to view museum collections of Mimbres pottery and other artifacts.

Mimbres-area cultural sequence as suggested by different archaeologists (From *Prehistoric New Mexico: Background for Survey* by David E. Stuart and Rory P. Gauthier, 1981, Office of Cultural Affairs, State of New Mexico, Santa Fe)

This "Mimbres Ruins, Rock Art, and Museums of Southern New Mexico" tour has included visits to important Mimbres, early Mogollon, late prehistoric Puebloan, Apachean, rock art, and historic mining sites in southwestern New Mexico's Glenwood, Cliff, Silver City, Mimbres Valley, and Deming areas, to raise funds for Old Pueblo's education programs. Our 2010 tour, conducted Saturday June 12 through Tuesday June 15, offered a few unexpected detours and surprises that we hope to repeat in our June 2011 and future tours. In this article I give a general synopsis of some of the things we see during this educational tour.

Most of the people who registered for our 2010 tour live in the Tucson and Phoenix areas, so Friday June 11 was a travel day for everyone to get settled into Silver City motels or campgrounds. Old Pueblo normally offers a van-transportation-and-accommodations-included option for the tour, but this year everyone drove their own vehicles to Silver City and carpooled to the archaeological sites.

After our arrival in southwestern New Mexico, most of us rendezvoused at Diane's Restaurant and Bakery, one of Silver City's several fine dining establishments. We were joined for dinner there by Dr. Barbara J. Roth, a University of Nevada-Las Vegas anthropology professor who has been conducting archaeological excavations at Classic Mimbres and early Mogollon village sites in the Mimbres, Lake Roberts, and Silver City areas over the past several years. Barb also has been one of our tour guides for several of Old Pueblo's previous Mimbres Valley tours.

The actual touring began on Saturday morning and lasted through Tuesday afternoon.

Saturday: Prehistoric and Historic Sites in Gila Cliff Dwellings and Piños Altos

On Saturday we all met at the designated daily take-off point (a Silver City motel parking lot), introduced ourselves to each other, arranged carpools to save on gas and excessive vehicles, then caravanned to our first tour target, the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument. Along the winding, 45 minutes of mountain road up to the Monument, we made a pit stop at the **Clinton P. Anderson Wilderness Overlook** rest area, which offers a spectacular view of the mountainous Gila Wilderness. After we arrived at the Monument, a little after 10 a.m., we were in for a treat because Monument Superintendent Steve Riley had arranged for a National Park Service ranger-guided special tour to the **TJ Ruin** for no more than 20 people, and fortunately we were able to get reservations for everyone in our group to go along.



Are you just looking into this odd circular window in one of the Gila Cliff Dwellings pueblo rooms, or is someone also looking out at you? Why do you suppose people decided to live in cliff dwellings?

The **TJ archaeological site** is a large pueblo ruin normally off-limits to the public. TJ is one of the largest, most undisturbed Classic Mimbres archaeological sites outside of the Mimbres Valley proper, where one can see hundreds of artifacts and architectural remnants of pueblo that was at least two stories high. This site also has a Salado phase component, in which apparently a new group of people took up residence at the pueblo after A.D. 1250, after its Mimbres-culture population was declining or leaving the area.

Gila Cliff Dwellings, a large concentration of stone masonry rooms, plazas, and other features that Puebloan people had constructed inside of several large, natural rockshelters high in a rugged canyon. Along the Monument road between the main cliff dwellings and the Visitor Center, we picnicked at Lower Scorpion Campground, then visited a nearby **canyon-side, two-room cliff dwelling** and the beautiful **Mogollon Red pictographs along the "Trail To the Past."** Just a little farther down the highway from that campground we visited other scattered **pictographs in Adobe Canyon**, which some archaeologists believe were painted by Apaches some time after 1700. We also had time to browse the **Visitor Center**, where several of our members bought books and gifts.

After our TJ visit, the Old Pueblo group toured the actual

Returning to Silver City from the Gila Cliff Dwellings, we stopped at a **Spanish Colonial period arrastre site** maintained by the Gila National Forest, just north of the historic mining town of Piños Altos. An *arrastre* (also spelled *arrastra*) is a circular, slab-lined feature in which a heavy drag-stone was hauled around in a circle inside the *arrastre* by mules or horses, to crush mined ore so that the minerals could be sorted and extracted for refinement. There is also a large ruined building and several ore tailings piles near the *arrastre*. Going to and from the Monument we drove through **the village of Piños Altos**, where gold was discovered in 1860 and many of the buildings from that era are still standing.



“Negative” handprint pictograph in Adobe Canyon near the Gila Cliff Dwellings

At the end of the day, some of us had dinner at the famous **Buckhorn Saloon and Steakhouse** in Piños Altos, others dispersed to restaurants in Silver City, and some retired to less formal dinners in their motels or campgrounds.

Sunday: Archaeological Sites in the Mimbres and Sapillo Valleys

Every one of the four touring days is considered a highlight by some members of Old Pueblo’s tour groups, but the Sunday itinerary was what many participants were really anticipating. This is the day that focused on the idyllic Mimbres and Sapillo valleys, which encompass most of the Classic Mimbres culture pueblo ruins. First, however, on the drive eastward from Silver City toward the Mimbres Valley, we got to view the so-called “**Kneeling**

Nun,” a hoodoo high up on the mountain slope south of the highway that some viewer long ago said looked like a Catholic Sister kneeling before the mountain. We also stopped at the **Santa Rita Mine Overlook**, an interpretive site where one can view one of the largest open-pit copper mines in the world. Copper mining has been part of the economic lifeblood of southwestern New Mexico historically, and still is a major player in the region’s economy.

Upon arriving in the Mimbres Valley, instead of heading north to the town of Mimbres we turned south onto New Mexico Route 61 to start our archaeological site touring in the lower, southern segment of the valley, from which we would gradually work back northward and observe the valley’s environmental transition from lowland Chihuahuan Desert through juniper woodland and ultimately high into the mountain pine forest. After going several miles on NM 61, we turned east off the highway on a county-maintained dirt road and drove across the Mimbres River. Often this lower part of the river is just a dry wash by late spring and early summer, but last year it had enough of a flow that water was almost up to our axles where we crossed. Not far beyond the crossing we headed south again on the east side of the river, and stopped briefly to watch and photograph the **American bison herd at Los Chaparales Ranch**.

From Los Chaparales we continued south on a two-track dirt road to the **Old Town Ruin**, the largest prehistoric pueblo site in the lower Mimbres Valley. Situated in a Chihuahuan Desert setting dominated by creosotebushes and scrub mesquites, Old Town also is one of the farthest-south big Mimbres culture sites in the valley. Old Town was first occupied by people of the early Mogollon culture who lived in pithouses during the Three Circle phase. Thereafter, it gradually developed into a Mimbres Classic pueblo and, still later, a Postclassic Black Mountain transition phase settlement. Although Old Town has been decimated by pot-hunters digging in and destroying its pueblo rooms, archaeologist Dr. Darrell Creel (University of Texas at Austin) and his students have excavated at the site over several years and have recovered much valuable information about its occupation history and former residents.

From Old Town Ruin we headed back northward up the Mimbres Valley. Before crossing back over the running river, we made a stop at the historic **Old Town Cemetery**, where most of the headstones date between 1880 and 1915. The historical Old Town townsite ruins are just to the south of the cemetery.



Back on NM 61, we slowed down enough that I could point out the entry to the Eby Ranch, where former owners constructed masonry walls on either side of the driveway and included many built-in Indian metates (milling stones). Most of the metates are believed to have been removed from the **Eby archaeological site**, a nearby Classic Mimbres pueblo ruin. Farther north we stopped to view bluffs on the west side of the NM 61 highway where there is quite an array of **prehistoric petroglyphs**. We did not have a permit to hike off the highway onto the New Mexico State Trust land where the petroglyphs are situated, but we still could see a lot of the glyphs with the naked eye; more were visible to those of us who had brought binoculars or telephoto-lens cameras.



This quartz crystal found at Old Town Ruin may have had magical or ritual significance to a prehistoric Mimbrenño (Mike Nushawg photo)

Just north of the petroglyphs we pulled over at the entry to the NAN Ranch, which is the property that contains the **NAN Ranch Ruin** – the next-largest Classic Mimbres pueblo site north of Old Town Ruin. NAN Ranch Ruin is in a cottonwood grove along the Mimbres River some distance from the highway, where the larger environmental setting is still Chihuahuan Desert (also known as Semidesert Grassland), but with fewer creosotebushes. Like Old Town and many other Mimbres pueblos, NAN Ranch Ruin was first settled by earlier Mogollon pithouse dwellers before the pueblo eventually was built (and before it was a ruin, of course!). Archaeologist Dr. Harry Shafer and his students conducted excavations at this important site from 1978 through 1989 and intermittently thereafter.

Continuing northward toward the town of Mimbres, we stopped at a highway overlook from which one can see where the **Galaz Ruin** used to be. I say “used to be” because this large Classic Mimbres pueblo had been decimated by pot-hunters without permission of the landowner. Things got so bad that when the owner confronted vandals on the property one day, he was accosted with a shotgun. That was enough – he decided to bulldoze the ruin off the landscape to prevent the marauders from molesting his property and endangering his family again. Fortunately, he allowed archaeologists from the Mimbres Foundation to monitor and record what was discovered during the bulldozing. The Foundation raised money to buy some of the unique Mimbres pots that were unearthed during this destructive event, and donated them to the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico.

Next stop was in the town of Mimbres, for lunch followed by a tour of the **Mimbres Heritage Site**, also known as the **Mattocks site**. This one is on private property owned and managed by the Silver City Museum Society, under the diligent eye of archaeology educator Marilyn Markel. Mattocks is a Classic Mimbres pueblo with a pithouse site not far to the east; both of the sites are on terraces overlooking the Mimbres River. By this time we were getting higher in elevation and into a solid pinyon-juniper environment, with dense cottonwoods along the river. Marilyn gave us some history of the Mattocks site and its historic buildings as we ate lunch, and afterward gave us a great tour of the site. She then accompanied us farther up the Mimbres Valley to visit pithouse, pueblo, and rock art sites higher up in the tall ponderosa pines.

Usually our next major stop beyond Mattocks is the **Harris site**, although we visited Harris on a separate day during the 2010 tour. (Sometimes we have to shift the itinerary around due to unanticipated circumstances.) The Harris site is an early Mogollon culture village where archaeologist Emil W. Haury excavated in 1934. Haury was one of the first archaeologists to recognize and define the Mogollon culture, largely based on his excavations here at Harris and northwest of Silver City at the Mogollon

Village site. (More on that below.) For the past few years new excavations have been under way at the Harris site under the supervision of archaeologist Barbara Roth, who received her doctorate from the University of Arizona and is now a professor at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.



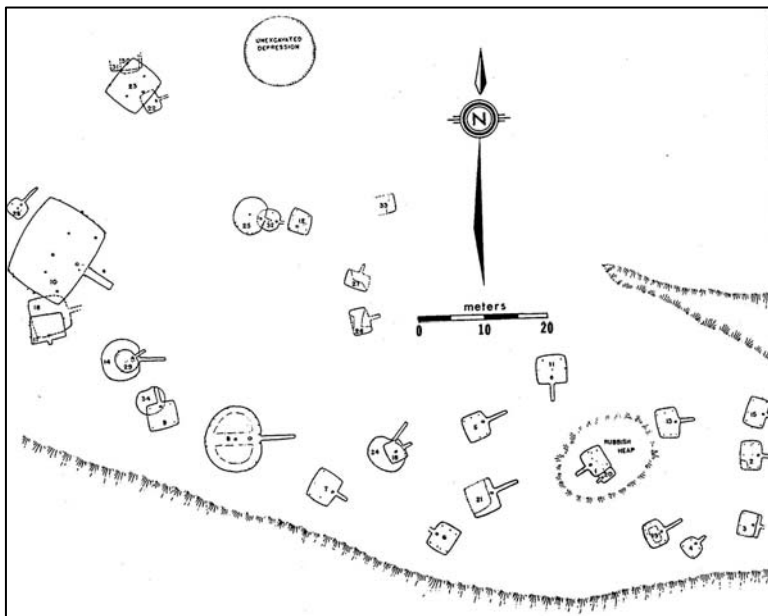
Most of the pithouses found so far in Dr. Barbara Roth's excavations at the Harris site are quite deep; this photo was taken during the June 2007 trip

Incidentally, it was Barb Roth's idea for Old Pueblo Archaeology Center to start offering these tours to the Mimbres country in 2005, and she has graciously hosted our tour groups at her UNLV archaeological field school excavations and led us to other sites for several years running. **THANK YOU BARB!** For the past couple of years at the Harris site, her students have been excavating several early Mogollon pithouses, which are remarkably large and deep.

Beyond the Harris site we stopped at the **Mitchell Pueblo** site. Located no more than about 200 ft. downslope from the highway on private land, unfortunately this small Classic Mimbres pueblo has been almost completely cleaned out by pot-hunters, leaving only some of the walls in place. (If you go there on one of our future tours, see if you can find a metate built into one of the pueblo walls.) On the high ridge across the Mimbres River to the east are the Classic Mimbres **Montezuma Pueblo** site and the **Beauregard pithouse village site**.



Professor Barbara Roth (University of Nevada Las Vegas photo <http://anthro.unlv.edu/>)



Map of early Mogollon culture pithouses at the Harris site (From *Prehistoric New Mexico: Background for Survey* by David E. Stuart and Rory P. Gauthier, 1981, Office of Cultural Affairs, State of New Mexico, Santa Fe; after Haury [1936])

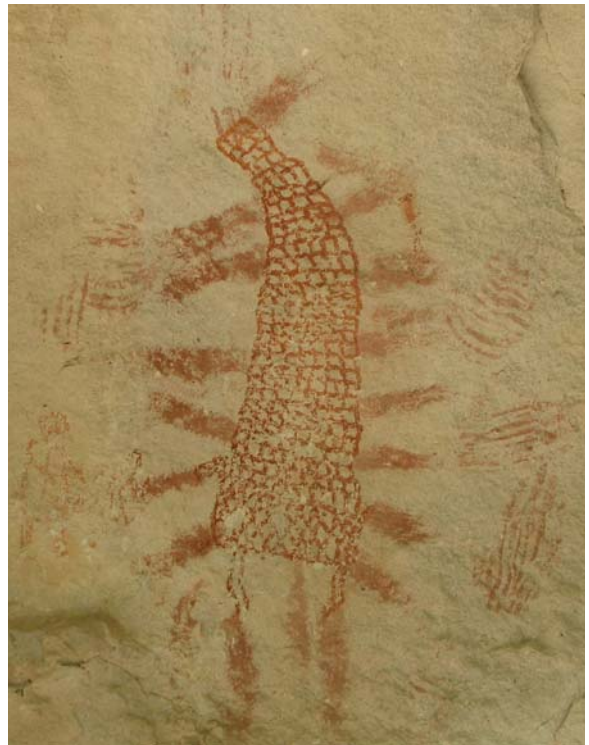
Our last stop in the Mimbres Valley proper last year was at the **Cottonwood Park site**, which is on the Gila National Forest and better protected that a lot of the less fortunate Mimbres culture sites. Cottonwood Park is a Classic Mimbres site on a low hill overlooking the highway and the Mimbres River beyond. It includes several small pueblo roomblocks in a ponderosa-juniper environment, and is the northernmost and last major pueblo site in the northern Mimbres Valley

A special treat this past year, and one that we plan to include as a regular part of the tour in coming years, was an unscheduled visit to the **Pictograph Canyon (Spirit Canyon) Apache pictographs site** with Marilyn



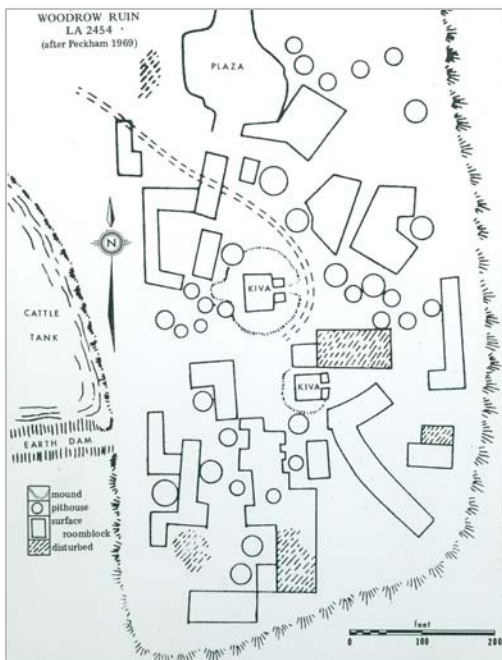
Markel, who is the New Mexico Site Steward for this splendid rock art site. Located on the eastern outskirts of the modern Lake Roberts settlement, Pictograph Canyon is accessible via a good foot trail about 1/3-mile off the highway. Many of its painted designs (mostly

in red ocher paint, but some in black) apparently depict Apache Mountain Spirits (*Ga'an* or *Gahe*). There's also a bemusing pictograph that some of the locals, according to Marilyn, call "Corn Boy" because it resembles a human or deity wearing a vestment that looks remarkably like a corncob. Marilyn notes, though, that it may in fact depict a large net, because if you look closely you can see an older, more faded, red pictograph of a deer under the lowest part of the net-like design. At the far southern end of the Pictograph Canyon rock art site is a red arc pictograph that may symbolize a rainbow.



"Corn Boy" pictograph in Apache Canyon:
Can you see the deer near the bottom?
Clue – Look for its 4 skinny legs (Scott Drane photo)

The last site visited on Sunday was the **Lake Roberts Vista site**, which is on the other side of the Mimbres Valley headwaters, in the upper Sapillo Valley. Lake Roberts Vista is a Mimbres site that includes 18 pueblo rooms and several pithouses, including what some archaeologists call a "great kiva." (Others don't like that term for Mogollon and Mimbres culture communal structures.) Excavations were done at this site several years ago under the direction of archaeologists Dr. Cynthia Bettison (Western New Mexico University) and Barb Roth. Later on the Gila National Forest, which manages the site, developed a nice paved trail with interpretive signs there, along with an important amenity – clean toilets!



Map of archaeological features at the Woodrow Ruin (From *Prehistoric New Mexico: Background for Survey* by David E. Stuart and Rory P. Gauthier, 1981, Office of Cultural Affairs, State of New Mexico, Santa Fe; after Peckham [1969])

On the way back to Silver City after touring, some of our group stopped and had dinner at another great Silver City Restaurant, **Shevek and Company**, where you can order full dinners or tapas to try a little bit of several entrees.

Monday: A Spectacular Little Museum, the Woodrow Site, and the Mogollon Village

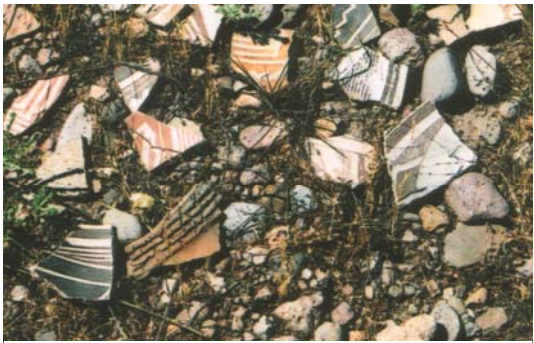
Monday begins with a visit to the **Western New Mexico University Museum**. Deceptively simple, housed in the University's former gymnasium, and recently renovated, WNMU Museum curates the **Eisele Collection of Prehistoric Southwestern Pottery and Artifacts**, one of the world's most comprehensive collections of Mimbres pottery, basketry, and other artifacts. Museum director Dr. Cynthia Bettison and assistant director Phillip Cave have given our groups professional guided tours of the spectacular Mimbres pottery and other artifact collections in the WNMU Museum each year we've come.

We spent a couple of hours viewing the Museum, then headed north and met up with Greg Conlin, the New Mexico Site



Stewards' Area Team leader, to visit the **Woodrow Ruin** east of Cliff, N.M. On the way up the valley we stopped for picnic lunch at **Gila River's Mogollon Box picnic area**, then drove back down to wander over the Woodrow Ruin.

Situated in the Upper Gila River Valley, a mountain range away from the Mimbres Valley, the Woodrow site is one of the best-preserved "outlier" Classic Mimbres pueblos. It includes several masonry room-blocks (just one of which has been excavated), several plazas, two "great kivas," and according to some interpretations, a ballcourt reminiscent of the southern Arizona ballcourts that were used by the Hohokam culture between A.D. 750 and 1070. Because Woodrow has been fenced for decades to protect it, there are still lots of large Mimbres Black-on-white sherds (and red-on-white, red-on-brown, and corrugated ones) there compared to many of the Mimbres sites elsewhere from which nearly all of the decorated pottery has been removed by collectors. A couple of interesting discoveries we made there during our 2010 visit were a piece of a *Glycymeris* shell bracelet (the most common type of shell jewelry artifact seen on Hohokam sites in Arizona) and what appeared to be a fragment of a stone palette – also very Hohokam-like!



A concentration of Mimbres pottery at one of the visited sites (Jim Diers photo)

Note: No artifact collecting is allowed at any of the tour sites.

Before this visit I was really skeptical that there were significant social interactions between the Mimbres people and the Hohokam, but these finds have caused me to rethink that idea a bit.

On the way back down the Gila Valley from Woodrow, then northward towards the towns of Alma and Glenwood, in past years we've visited the **WS Ranch/"Alma Hump" pueblo-and-great-kiva site**, situated beside huge cottonwood trees where a worn-out school bus and cars have been put out to pasture, but unfortunately in 2010 we were running late so had to pass this one up to reach our ultimate destination for Monday: **the Mogollon Village site**.

Accessible only via a 2½-mile roundtrip hike (which is an optional trip on the Old Pueblo tour), Mogollon Village is where excavations by archaeologist Emil W. Haury and the Gila Pueblo Foundation in 1933, and Haury's 1934 excavations at the Harris site, first defined the Southwest's Mogollon culture. Mogollon Village is way high up on a mesa with a beautiful view of the San Francisco River below. There are red-on-brown and brownware pottery, pieces of obsidian and other flaked stone artifacts, and ground stone artifacts strewn all over, and one can see the distinct outlines and depressions marking the locations of several of the ancient Mogollon pithouses.



Hattie Cosgrove pen-and-ink drawings of Mimbres bowls now in the Eisele Collection at Western New Mexico University Museum (from Carolyn O'Bagy Davis's *Treasured Earth*)

Some of our group who opted not to hike to the Mogollon Village instead drove east of Glenwood to visit the famous **Whitewater Catwalk**. Still maintained by the Gila National Forest, the historic catwalk spans the icy cold waters of the creek in Whitewater Canyon. The catwalk was built in association with construction of water lines servicing a mill at the town of Graham (also called Whitewater) in 1893, an engineering feat that probably would not be attempted today. Brace holes were drilled into the solid rock canyon walls – sometimes 20 feet above the canyon floor – to hold timbers and iron bars that supported the small water line along its meandering course. Some of the original 18-inch pipes support one side of the present Catwalk. The actual catwalk structures remaining in Whitewater Canyon are safe and easy to walk on but be aware that the trail up to the catwalks and beyond is moderately strenuous for hiking in some places and has lots of stairs. If you decide to cool your feet in the stream be warned that the water is ICE COLD even in June!



This petroglyph character at the Pony Hills site is identified by some modern Mimbres Valley residents as “The Traveler”

Monday was a long day! Exhausted in the evening, some of us went out for Mexican food for dinner in Silver City at the **Jalisco Café**, others opted for fast food or in-room dining.

Tuesday: Stupendous Petroglyphs and the Kipp Site Excavations

On Tuesday morning we checked out of our Silver City hotels and campgrounds, and packed up for a day of petroglyphing and visiting more archaeological excavations in progress near Deming, N.M.

The morning focused on the **Pony Hills** and **Frying Pan Canyon petroglyph sites**, two of the most beautiful and intriguing rock art sites in the American Southwest. Most of the rock symbols in this area evidently were pecked into the rocks by people of the Mimbres culture, as one can see many similarities between the petroglyph motifs and some of the designs on Mimbres Black-on-white pottery, such as macaws, horned serpents, and human figures with diamond-shaped eyes. Rock art expert Polly Schaafsma, in *Rock Art in New Mexico* (1992 revised edition, Museum of New Mexico Press), characterizes the petroglyphs of the Frying Pan Canyon and Pony Hills sites as “Jornada Mogollon” style. There also are bedrock mortars at both sites.

Frying Pan Canyon is also known as Massacre Canyon and Cooke’s Canyon. The road in to this site mostly coincides with the historic Butterfield Stage Trail over which the overland mail was delivered



Horned serpent petroglyph at Frying Pan Canyon archaeological site



through the West. Historically more people were killed by Apaches in Cooke's Canyon than any other single place in New Mexico and Arizona. Fort Cummings is just east of the canyon on the other side of the hills from where the Frying Pan Canyon petroglyphs are found.

Our final tour stop for 2010 was at the **Kipp Ruin** just east of Deming, where Professor Bill Walker hosted us at his New Mexico State University archaeological field school excavations. The Kipp site is another Classic Mimbres archaeological site in the southern end of the Mimbres Valley, where Bill and his students have found evidence of early Mogollon pithouses, a Classic Mimbres occupation (unfortunately most of the evidence for this phase was obliterated by pot hunters long ago), and a Mimbres Postclassic pueblo. While we were at Kipp we just happened to bump into University of Oklahoma archaeologist Dr. Patricia Gilman and some of her students, who were visiting while they were in the area conducting a large-area archaeological survey for the Bureau of Land Management.

Homeward Bound

The 2010 tour officially ended in the early afternoon at the Kipp Ruin, after which our travelers made their separate ways back home to Tucson and other places. So, what did we end up doing on this trip?

- **Nineteen to twenty archaeological sites actually visited** (TJ Ruin, Gila Cliff Dwellings in the National Monument, the Monument's canyon-side two-room cliff dwelling, "Trail to the Past" pictographs, Adobe Canyon pictographs, Piños Altos *arrastre*, Old Town Ruin, Old Town Cemetery, Mimbres Heritage-Mattocks, Harris, Mitchell Pueblo, Cottonwood Park, Pictograph Canyon, Lake Roberts Vista, Woodrow Ruin, WS Ranch/"Alma Hump," Mogollon Village, Frying Pan Canyon, Pony Hills, and Kipp Ruin)
- **Nine places of archaeological and historical interest driven through, by, and viewed** (Piños Altos, Kneeling Nun, Santa Rita Mine, American bison at Los Chaparales, Eby archaeological site, NM 61 petroglyphs, NAN Ranch Ruin, Galaz Ruin, Whitewater Catwalk)
- **Western New Mexico University Museum**
- **Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument Visitor Center**
- **Gila River-Mogollon Box picnic area**
- **Great restaurants**

More than 30 great places in just four days. What a trip!

The author thanks Barb Roth, Carroll & Judy Welch, Marilyn Markel, Anne Warner & Pima Community College, Neal Ackerly, Cynthia Bettison, Chris Brosnan, Phillip Cave, Greg Conlin, Darrell Creel, Scott Drane, Kyle Meredith, Josh Reeves, Aaron Woods, Bill Walker, Margie & Hugh B. McKeen, Jim Neely, Steve Riley, Rick Reycraft, Gail Firebaugh-Smith, Bob Schiowitz, Jennifer Ynostroza, Oz Gomez, John Thacker, Melissa Powell, Chris Turnbow, Susan Berry, Carolyn Davis, and Steve Lekson for assistance with our previous Mimbres-area tours.

All photos in this issue are by the author except where credited



"Mimbres Man"



A Pony Hills Petroglyph Panel

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center is offering the “Mimbres Ruins, Rock Art, and Museums of Southern New Mexico” tour again June 24-28, 2011. The number of spaces on the tour will be limited, so if you wish to participate you should consider making your reservations soon.

For the 2011 “Mimbres Ruins, Rock Art, and Museums of Southern New Mexico” tour, actual touring will start at 8 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time (not MST) Saturday in Silver City, and will wrap up Tuesday afternoon in Deming, New Mexico. Some walks/hikes are required to get to all of the sites on the itinerary for this tour but, participants can walk/hike as much or as little as they wish. The longest walk (optional) is the roundtrip hike to and from the Mogollon Village site, all other walks to sites are ½-mile or less. Please wear comfortable walking shoes.

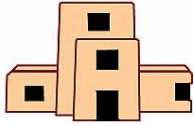
IMPORTANT TOUR INFORMATION AND CAUTIONS

Drive time: It takes about 3½ hours to get from Tucson to Silver City. We drive up to 90 miles per day during the actual tour.

Tour participants must abide by all federal and state regulations pertaining to visitation to historic sites, antiquities, and artifact sites. We leave all archaeological artifacts and features undisturbed. Archaeological sites throughout the Southwest, and especially in southwestern New Mexico, have been devastated by pot hunters and other relic collectors. Many Mimbres pueblo sites have been completely destroyed by persons using bulldozers and backhoes to find and remove artifacts to sell them. It is extremely important that all members of our tour group be respectful and leave all artifacts in place. It’s OK to pick artifacts up, ask about them, and show them around, but you need to put them back where you find them. Please see the <http://www.oldpueblo.org/collecting.html> page at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s web site.

Permissions are required to visit most of the sites included in this tour. Old Pueblo obtains permissions from the Gila National Forest (U.S. Forest Service), U.S. Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico Museum of Indian Arts & Culture, and private landowners to visit the sites included in the tour.

Old Pueblo Archaeology



Bulletin of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

Located at 2201 W. 44th Street in the Tucson Unified School District's Ajo Service Center

Mailing Address: PO Box 40577, Tucson AZ 85717-0577

520-798-1201

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Old Pueblo Archaeology is the quarterly bulletin of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Questions, comments, and news items can be addressed to editor Douglas B. Craig at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201, or by mail to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, PO Box 40577, Tucson AZ 85717-0577.

For more information about Old Pueblo Archaeology Center please visit our web site: www.oldpueblo.org
Your membership helps support Old Pueblo's children's education programs.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

PO Box 40577

Tucson AZ 85717-0577

DATED MATERIAL – PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Presents:

Mimbres Ruins, Rock Art, & Museums of Southern New Mexico Tour



with archaeologist Allen Dart, RPA

Friday June 24-Tuesday June 28, 2010

**Reservation deadline
March 13, 2011**



Registered Professional Archaeologist Allen Dart leads this educational tour to Classic Mimbres and Early Mogollon village archaeological sites, spectacular pictograph and petroglyph sites, and a museum with probably the finest Mimbres Puebloan pottery collection in the world, all in southwestern New Mexico's Silver City, Mimbres, and Deming areas. Places tentatively to be visited include the original Mogollon Village and Harris sites excavated by archaeologist Emil W. Haury; the Gila Cliff Dwellings; Classic Mimbres sites (Beauregard-Montezuma, Cottonwood, Gattons Park, Lake Roberts Vista, Mattocks, Old Town, and Woodrow); the Picture Canyon Apache pictographs site; the Frying Pan Canyon and Pony Hills petroglyph sites; and the Western New Mexico University Museum. The tour will be based in Silver City and depart from a hotel there each morning. Hotels, camping, and other accommodations for those who wish to arrange their own lodging and transport are available in Silver City.



Fee for full four-day tour \$195
(\$175 for Old Pueblo Archaeology Center and Pueblo Grande Museum
Auxiliary members)

OR

Fee per individual day of tour \$50
(\$45/day for Old Pueblo and PGMA members)

Participants are responsible for their own transportation,
meals, and lodging

**Call Old Pueblo Archaeology Center
at 520-798-1201 or email us at info@oldpueblo.org to register**

Please visit our web site at www.oldpueblo.org



IMPORTANT TOUR INFORMATION

COST AND PAYMENT POLICY: Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis. Full payment is due at time of registration. Tour cost includes a tax-deductible contribution to Old Pueblo in an amount to be determined based on tour expenses compared to revenues after all expenses have been paid. Entrance fee savings from passes, permits, memberships, etc. will become part of the donation to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center. We welcome singles and couples.

CANCELLATIONS made 30 days or more before departure will be 100% refunded. Cancellations 14 to 30 days before departure are refundable at 50% of the total cost unless the space can be filled. Cancellations less than 14 days prior to departure date are not refundable. All cancellation notices must be received in writing and will become effective as of the date received. Cancellations after the final payment date of a program will result in forfeiture of all money paid. Failure to pay the balance due by the payment due date may result in your reservation being cancelled. No refund will be made for leaving a program in progress. *Trip insurance is highly recommended.* Old Pueblo reserves the right to cancel programs while in progress and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis, when in Old Pueblo's sole opinion the health, safety, or well-being of participants requires such action. The tour itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, but participants will be notified of significant changes in advance if the change is under the control of Old Pueblo.

TRANSPORTATION: Participants are responsible for providing their own transportation. Carpooling is encouraged.

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS: No accommodations or meals are included. Motel and camping accommodations are available in Silver City and nearby communities.

DEPARTURE: Tour leader will depart Tucson at 3 p.m. Friday from south side of the parking lot at Pima Community College (PCC) Community Campus, 401 N. Bonita Avenue in Tucson in case any registrants wish to form carpools and start from there. Overnight parking at PCC is at your own risk. Check-in at Silver City hotel Friday evening. Actual tour starts at 8 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time (MDT) Saturday, ends around 5 p.m. MDT Tuesday in New Mexico. Tour leader plans to return to Tucson by 10 p.m. Arizona time (Mountain Standard Time) Tuesday.

ACCESSIBILITY: Some walks/hikes will be required on this tour but participants can walk/hike as much or as little as they wish. The longest walk would be an optional ca. 3-mile roundtrip hike to and from the Mogollon Village site. All other walks to sites are ½-mile or less. Please wear comfortable walking shoes.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: You must be in good physical and mental health to take this tour. We are concerned about your health and safety, and our tour leaders have first-aid and CPR training, but medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during all or part of the tour. You are responsible for selecting events appropriate to your abilities and limitations. If you have any doubts about your ability to participate, please contact Old Pueblo prior to registering. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported when the reservation is made, and a follow-up explanatory letter may be required.

PARTICIPANTS MUST ABIDE by all federal and state regulations pertaining to visitation to historic sites, antiquities, and artifact sites. Please do not collect artifacts or create or contribute to artifact piles or displays. Please read about archaeological site etiquette at <http://www.phoenix.gov/PUEBLO/cietiquette.html>

MEMBERSHIP: Becoming a member of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center opens a world of new discoveries. Trip fee for nonmembers includes a 1-year "Friend" membership, which provides the *Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Bulletin*, a 20% discount on our publications, and discounts on some of our tour and course fees. Contact Old Pueblo at info@oldpueblo.org or visit our web site www.oldpueblo.org for membership details.

Tentative Itinerary ****as of March 14, 2011 **** for
AMimbres Ruins, Rock Art, and Museums of Southern New Mexico≅ archaeological tour
Dates: Friday June 24 (departing from Tucson)-Tuesday June 28, 2011

Tucson=s nonprofit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center (Old Pueblo) will offer its AMimbres Ruins, Rock Art, and Museums of Southern New Mexico≅ study tour, led by Registered Professional Archaeologist Allen Dart, again in June 2011. The tour will visit Classic Mimbres and Early Mogollon village archaeological sites, spectacular pictograph and petroglyph sites, and the Western New Mexico University Museum, which houses one of the finest Mimbres Puebloan pottery collections in the world.

Places to be visited are in southwestern New Mexico=s Silver City, Mimbres, Lake Roberts, Cliff, Alma, and Deming areas. *Tentative* itinerary for the 2011 tour is as follows:

SATURDAY JUNE 25, 2011: NORTH OF SILVER CITY

Spanish *arrastre* (ore processing) site north of Piños Altos
Clinton P. Anderson Wilderness Overlook
Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument and vicinity including the Cliff Dwellings themselves, "Trail To the Past" cliffdwellings and pictographs, Adobe Canyon pictographs, and possibly the TJ Ruin Mimbres-Salado site

SUNDAY JUNE 26, 2011: MIMBRES VALLEY

Old Town Ruin (recently excavated by Darrell G. Creel)
Eby site (point out location from highway only)
NAN Ranch petroglyphs (view from highway only; binoculars, zoom-lens camera recommended)
NAN Ranch Ruin (excavated by Harry J. Shafer; point out location from highway only)
Galaz site (destroyed, point out location from highway only)
Mattocks site (Mimbres Heritage Site)
Harris site (originally excavated by Emil W. Haury; currently being investigated by Barbara J. Roth, University of Nevada-Las Vegas)
Mitchell site
Montezuma site (point out location from highway only)
Cottonwood Park site
Gattons Park site (point out location from highway only)
Pictograph Canyon (Spirit Canyon) Apache pictographs sites
Lake Roberts Vista site (excavated by Dr. Cynthia A. Bettison and Dr. Barbara J. Roth)

MONDAY JUNE 27, 2011: WNMU MUSEUM & NORTHWEST TO CLIFF AND ALMA, NM

Western New Mexico University Museum
Woodrow Ruin
Kwilleylekia Ruins (point out location from highway only)
WS Ranch/AAlma Hump≅ site (if time allows; or point out location from highway only)
Mogollon Village site (originally excavated by Emil W. Haury) or Whitewater Canyon catwalk depending on group=s hiking preference and if time allows

TUESDAY JUNE 28, 2011: DEMING-AREA

Pony Hills and Frying Pan Canyon rock art sites
Kipp Ruin (currently being investigated by archaeologist William H. Walker, N.M. State Univ.)
Deming-Luna Museum if time allows

Itinerary notes (continued)

This is a car-caravan tour in which participants are responsible for providing their own transportation, lodging,

and meals. Daily tour departure place will be the Econo Lodge at 1120 Hwy 180 East in Silver City (tour leader's lodging place). Hotels, camping, and other accommodations for those who wish to accompany the tour guide in their own vehicles are available in Silver City.

Tour leader will depart from Tucson around 3 p.m. Friday for check-in at Silver City hotel that evening. Actual touring starts at 8 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time (MDT) Saturday and ends in New Mexico around 5 p.m. MDT Tuesday. (If returning to Tucson after tour, add 3 to 4 hours travel time for return Tuesday evening.)

Fee is \$195 per person for the full four-day tour (\$175 for Old Pueblo Archaeology Center and Pueblo Grande Museum Auxiliary members), or \$50 per day to attend the tour on individual days (\$45/day for Old Pueblo and PGMA members). Participants are responsible for their own transportation, meals, and lodging.

There are several fine restaurants in Silver City and Deming along the tour route, as well as supermarkets in Silver City where participants can purchase food for their daily lunches.

Advance reservations (required) may be made by calling Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at 520-798-1201.

For more information contact:

Allen Dart, RPA, Executive Director
Old Pueblo Archaeology Center
PO Box 40577
Tucson AZ 85717-0577 USA
520-798-1201 office, 520-798-1966 fax
Email: adart@oldpueblo.org
URL: www.oldpueblo.org

Western New Mexico University Museum Visitor and Tour Policies and Code of Conduct

The mission of the Western New Mexico University Museum is to serve as an educational facility, which provides educational and cultural programs and insures the proper preservation, conservation, curation, and exhibition of the historic and prehistoric past of multi-cultural southwestern New Mexico for the enjoyment of the campus community, local communities, and visitors to New Mexico. Through its world renowned collection of Mimbres pottery and artifacts, historic photographs documenting the development of Silver City and the university, and short-term exhibitions, the museum seeks to bring the past alive for its visitors through an exploration of cultural continuity and change (Adopted 12/17/1993 WNMU BOR; revised 6/2003).

In accordance with our mission, the University Museum's permanent and short-term exhibitions are self-guided using exhibition signage. Requests for school tours, university class tours, group tours, and individual traveler tours of permanent and short-term exhibitions are contingent upon the type of tour requested, availability of staff, and the code of conduct presented below. Director-led VIP tours of permanent and short-term exhibitions and collection areas are available by special request only as described below.

Code of Conduct

To ensure a safe, pleasant, and engaging educational and learning experience at the University Museum, it is respectfully requested that the Code of Conduct be followed by all visitors. Please go over the Code of Conduct with all students and tour participants prior to tours.

Note: The University Museum is housed in historic Fleming Hall, built between 1916 and 1917 as the University gymnasium (emphasis on basketball) and science building. The building features an intact truss-beamed ceiling soaring to a height of three stories from the main floor and exhibition rooms and offices with very high ceilings. Fleming Hall is on the State of New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties, in the Western New Mexico University Historic District, and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

- It is requested that all visitors treat the building and all of its internal parts as an important artifact of the state and the nation's history and act accordingly.
- Prepare in advance for your visit, if at all possible, by storing backpacks, bulky coats, and all photographic equipment in secure locations or in vehicles prior to entering the University Museum.
- Discard all tobacco products in the appropriate waste receptacles located outside the Museum's Main Entrance.
- Discard food, drinks (except plain bottled water in plastic containers), candy, and chewing gum in the trash receptacles located in the front entrance prior to entering the reception area.

- Refrain from smoking or spitting chewing-tobacco waste within 25 feet of the Main Entrance and any open doors or windows.
- Turn off or place cell phones and beepers in “quiet” mode prior to entering the University Museum.
- Refrain from answering and/or talking on cell phones within the University Museum.
- Photography, including video-cameras, cell phones, wireless feeds, etc., of any type is not permitted within the University Museum/Fleming Hall Building. Requests to photograph collections or exhibitions, including the historic men’s urinals, must be pre-approved by the Museum Director and follow WNMU Museum’s *Permission and Reproduction of Photographs of Museum Objects/Exhibits Contract*.
- Please do not touch historic objects, photographs or artwork so that they may be preserved for generations to come.
- Do not lean and/or write on Museum walls, or exhibition cases, glass, or Plexiglas.
- Refrain from running, yelling, or roughhousing in the University Museum. Unruly visitors of any age will be asked to leave or escorted from the premises.
- Be respectful of other visitors in the University Museum.

Individual Traveler Tours:

These tours are available to maximize educational opportunities of the individual, couple, or small family unit (2-4 people) traveler visiting the University Museum. These tours are available for permanent Main Floor exhibitions only on a case by case basis depending on the availability of staff. Maximum length is one (1) hour and there is no cost. A donation to the University Museum of \$5 per person is suggested.

K-12 School Tours/University Class Tours (Archaeological Field School Tours fall under Director-led VIP Tours)

These tours are available to maximize the educational opportunities and learning experience of K-12 and university students. Tours can be tailored to the needs of the class or course of study to focus on particular permanent exhibitions or short-term exhibitions currently on display. K-12 School/University Class Tours are almost one (1) hour in length. These tours are free and must adhere to the following guidelines in addition to the WNMU Museum’s Code of Conduct. Please go over WNMU Museum’s Code of Conduct and the guidelines below with all educators, adult companions, and students prior to the tour.

- School/Class Tours are provided* between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, with the exception of University Holidays and Closures.
- School/Class Tours must be scheduled at least four (4) weeks prior to the requested tour date with the Assistant Director/Curator of Education & History by calling 575-538-6386.
- Please indicate the size of the group when scheduling the tour. Maximum tour size is twenty (20) students. Large classes/courses will be split between multiple Museum tour guides if available and may need to be staggered.

- Unless notified of a late arrival, the appointed Museum tour guide will wait ten (10) minutes past the scheduled tour time, after which the group must self-guide.
- Students (age 18 and under) must be accompanied by one (1) adult per ten (10) students.
- Students must be well supervised at all times and accompanying adults must be so informed.
- Unsupervised or unruly students will cause the entire group to be asked to leave the premises.
- Please contact the Assistant Director/Curator of Education & History with any special accommodations or needs.

*Depending on staff availability

Group Tours

These tours are available to maximize the educational and learning opportunities of groups or families over four (4) individuals (see Individual Traveler Tours). Group Tours are provided by Museum tour guides of permanent Main Floor exhibitions and are one (1) hour in length. Group Tours must adhere to the following guidelines in addition to the WNMU Museum's Code of Conduct. Please go over WNMU Museum's Code of Conduct and the guidelines below with all tour participants prior to the tour.

Group Tours are provided* between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, with the exception of University Holidays and Closures and must be scheduled two months prior to the requested tour date with the Assistant Director/Curator of Education & History by calling 575-538-6386. Requests for Group Tours on Saturdays or Sundays can be accommodated only on a case by case basis depending on the availability of staff. A donation to the University Museum of \$5 per person is requested for all group tours.

Ideal tour size is 15-20 people to ensure a safe, pleasant, and engaging educational and learning experience. Please indicate during scheduling if your group exceeds or may exceed twenty (20) people since consideration must be given to the acoustics of the historic building housing the University Museum and additional Museum tour staff will be required for a pleasant and engaging visitor experience.

Unless notified of a late arrival, the appointed Museum tour guide will wait ten (10) minutes past the scheduled tour time, after which the group must self-guide.

*Depending on staff availability

Director-led VIP Tours

These tours provide an in-depth scholar-led tour of the permanent collections and collection area and are provided by special request only. A Director-led VIP Tour of the collections is a once in a lifetime experience with a great deal of knowledge imparted to the participants in an engaging and experiential manner. Participants, whether in a small or large groups, are provided with deeply personal individual experiences.

Requests must be made in writing to the University Museum Director & Archaeologist, Cynthia Ann Bettison, Ph.D., RPA, six (6) months to one (1) year in advance of the requested tour date. Requests will be accommodated on a case by case basis according to the availability of the University Museum Director's, University Museum's, and University's schedules.

At the time of the request, please provide the following: several alternative dates, if possible, from which to choose; the requested time of day the tour begins; the total number of individuals participating, including the group's tour staff; the length, extent, depth, and focus of the tour requested; and whether a hands-on experience is requested. Due to the nature of Director-led VIP Tours, specifically the expertise and knowledge of the Director and the time, effort, and commitment by Museum Staff in preparation and presentation to provide an exceptional experience to tour participants, a Scholar's Honorarium for the Museum Director and a separate donation to the WNMU Museum will be negotiated with the Museum Director at the time of the original request. The honorarium and separate donation will be based on the information provided at the time of the request.

Dr. Bettison can be reached via email BettisonC@wnmu.edu or by mail WNMU Museum, P.O. Box 680, Silver City, NM 88062. Please provide all contact information in your request.

The Tour Agreement form is located on the next page.

WNMU Museum Tour Agreement

I acknowledge that I have read the **Western New Mexico University Museum Visitor and Tour Policies and Code of Conduct** and agree to follow the guidelines listed above.

Signature _____ Date _____

Contact Name _____ Title _____

Affiliation (School, University, Group Name) _____

Mailing Address _____

Contact Number(s) _____ Email Address _____

Please mail** or bring this completed document when you check in for tour.

If a suggested donation or Scholar's Honorarium is requested, please mail or provide it at the beginning of the tour.

** Mailing Address: WMMU Museum c/o Museum Assistant Director/Curator of Education & History—Tours, P.O. Box 680, Silver City, NM 88062

Archaeological Site Visitors Etiquette Guide

Gila National Forest

Archaeological sites on the Gila National Forest are the remains of a long occupation of prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic cultures. They are a fragile, and non-renewable resource. You and the Forest Service are responsible for the stewardship of these ruins both for public enjoyment and education, and preserving their scientific values.

PLEASE HELP PRESERVE AMERICA'S SITES

1. Walls are fragile and continually deteriorating. That is why they are called ruins. Don't climb, sit, or stand on walls or pick up or move rocks.
2. Artifacts, where they lay, tell a story. Once they are moved, a piece of the past is forever destroyed. Don't dig, remove artifacts, or pile them up in a site.
3. Contamination of cultural deposits are important for scientific tests used in reconstructing past environments. For instance, from such information we know that the Mogollon who lived here were farmers. Don't add anything (offerings) to a site!
4. Fire destroys prehistoric organic materials, ruins the dating potential of artifacts, and damages or even destroys rock art by covering them with soot. Absolutely no fires or smoking (even candles) in sites!
5. Oils from hands can cause deterioration of the drawings and ruin the dating potential for future scientists trying to unravel the meaning of the symbols painted on stone. Don't touch rock art.
6. Graffiti is a sign of disrespect for the ancient heritage of this important site. Subtle symbols of the past have been mindlessly destroyed. Don't draw or scratch graffiti on rocks or cliff faces.
7. Fragile desert plants and soils are destroyed when you stray from the trail. Also snakes and other small desert animals make their homes in the bushes and under rocks and in burrows... you may disturb them. Stay on trails...they are there for a reason.
8. Animals damage sites by digging, urinating, and defecating in them. They can destroy fragile cultural deposits and frighten other visitors. No pets allowed in the sites

If you see people vandalizing sites, please report it as soon as possible to the patrolling ranger or the Gila National Forest Fire Dispatcher 24 hour line 575-538-1644.

All archaeological sites on the Gila National Forest are protected by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and other laws which prohibit digging, removing artifacts, damage, and defacement of archaeological resources on public lands and provides for both felony and misdemeanor prosecution with imprisonment and fines up to 10 years and \$100,000.

By following these simple guidelines, YOU help preserve these unique and fragile remnants of OUR American heritage. Thanks for your cooperation, and we hope that you enjoy