



The beautiful walls and floor in Room 28, excavated with volunteer assistance at Goat Camp Ruin (Photo courtesy of J. Scott Wood)

Join retired Forest Service archaeologist J. Scott Wood as he tells us about the Goat Camp Ruin project that he has been conducting for the last 13 years for the Town of Payson in the highlands of central Arizona. Sponsored by the Arizona Archaeological Society, this project eventually will result in this important Northern Salado site being developed for interpretation and incorporated into the Town's recreational trail system.

Goat Camp Ruin began as one of the earliest and eventually largest pre-Classic Hohokam pithouse villages in the Payson area. As it continued its occupation into the Classic period, it transformed into a smaller masonry village, which is where Scott's all-volunteer project has concentrated its effort. At its height, Goat Camp Ruin contained over 20 rooms and has evidence of a later Apache re-occupation. The excavation phase is still ongoing, but will be coming to an end in a year or so as stabilization of structures and preparation of the site for visitation take over. Scott's presentation will walk you through the highlights of a decade's worth of excavation at the site, its place in Payson-area history, and the fate of the "Northern Salado" people as they were caught up in the Great Drought.

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To register for the Zoom program go to

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Zul7jb-KTXKSK1zMNEmhrQ

For more information contact Old Pueblo at 520-798-1201 or info@oldpueblo.org.

The Goat Camp Ruin Project . . .



Photo of Scott Wood courtesy of the Arizona Archaeological Society

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's guest speaker, J. Scott Wood, worked his way through both the University of Arizona and Arizona State University, and says that by the time he received his Master's degree in Archaeology from ASU (1978) he'd had his fill of academia. Along the way, he worked briefly for the Museum of Northern Arizona, the Pueblo Grande Museum, and ASU, and volunteered for the Forest Service on the Tonto National Forest. That's where he ended up, and 40 years later retired as the Forest Archaeologist. While with that agency, Scott was involved in preservation and interpretation, working with volunteers, promoting public archaeology, and incorporating citizen scientists in archaeological research. Scott helped found the Arizona Site Steward Program, is still training new Site Stewards, and serves on the Friends of the Tonto National Forest's Board of Directors. In addition to the Goat Camp Ruin project, he is working on a long-term volunteer-supported research project north of Phoenix on Perry Mesa. One of his best-known works is his "Checklist of Pottery Types for the Tonto National Forest: An Introduction to the Archaeological Ceramics of Central Arizona" published by the Arizona Archaeological Society in *The Arizona Archaeologist*.



Excavations at Goat Camp Ruin: Left, Getting started in Room 1, eight years ago; right, work in progress – the Room 8 Complex (Photos courtesy of J. Scott Wood)

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