



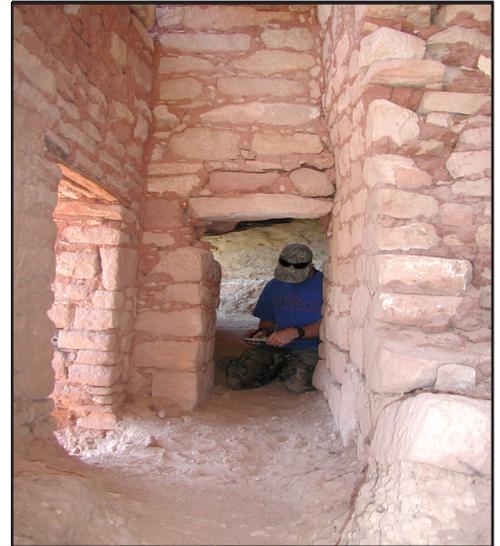
The Antiquities Act Centennial 1906-2006



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PLACES TO VISIT

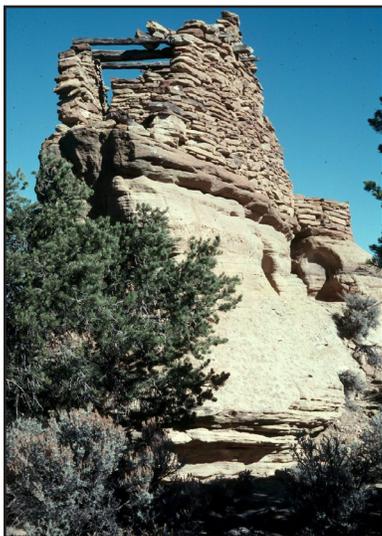
Lowry Pueblo, Colorado: Explore Lowry Pueblo National Historic Landmark, an ancient settlement in southwestern Colorado! By AD 600, the first farmers in this part of Colorado were building stone villages now called pueblos. One of the largest villages was Lowry Pueblo, a fascinating archaeological site located within the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. Once home to about 100 people, the 1,000-year-old settlement was constructed by farmers who also hunted small game, made elaborately decorated pottery, and wove cotton obtained by trade. Today's visitors can travel back in time to get a sense of what it might have been like to live at Lowry Pueblo in AD 1125. For more information about this site, contact LouAnn Jacobson, Bureau of Land Management, Anasazi Heritage Center, 27501 Highway 84, Dolores, CO 81323, E-mail: LouAnn_Jacobson@blm.gov, Telephone: (970) 882-5626, http://www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/heritage_ed/site_visits.html



Intaglios of the Lower Colorado River: Mysterious figures of animals, people and geometric designs loom out of the desert pavement along the Colorado River in southwestern Arizona and southeastern California. Called intaglios, the figures are made by scraping away the dark surface gravels to expose lighter-colored soil underneath. Some of the figures are so large they can only be seen in their entirety from the air. The deserts of the American Southwest and the Sierra Pinacate of Sonora, Mexico, are the only locations in North America where such intaglios occur. Intaglios are also found in Peru (the famous Nazca lines), New Caledonia and Australia.

The Yuman-speaking Indian tribes who live along the Colorado River are the most likely creators of the intaglios, but no one knows for sure who made them. No one knows how old the figures are, either, because there is no way to date them. They could be several hundred or several thousand years old. Why the figures were made is also a mystery. Some may have played a role in healing ceremonies and dances, and some may represent tribal origin stories or creation stories. Their elusiveness makes them all the more enigmatic, fascinating, and awe-inspiring. For more information about these intaglios, contact Sandra Arnold, Bureau of Land Management, Yuma Field Office, 2555 East Gila Ridge Road, Yuma, AZ 85365; E-mail: Sandra_Arnold@blm.gov; Telephone: (928) 317-3239, <http://www.blm.gov/az/yfo/intaglios.htm> or <http://www.blm.gov/az/yfo/fisherman.htm>

Historic Empire Ranch, Arizona: Visit the historic Empire Ranch, centerpiece of the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area, 45 miles southeast of Tucson, Arizona! The main ranch house, constructed mostly of adobe, includes 22 rooms and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The first four rooms were built around 1873. By 1906 the ranch, one of the largest in Arizona's history, covered almost one million acres and grazed about 40,000 head of cattle. At the request of citizens concerned about the preservation of Tucson's watershed and the natural resources of the area, the Federal Government arranged a land exchange through the BLM to acquire the heart of the Empire, nearly 50,000 acres, in 1988. The Empire Ranch Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the historic buildings and their history, is working with the BLM to determine future uses of the buildings. For more information about this important piece of Arizona history, contact Lorraine Buck, Bureau of Land Management, Tucson Field Office, 12661 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ 85748; E-mail: Lorraine_Buck@blm.gov; Telephone: (520) 258-7240, http://www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/heritage_ed/site_visits.html



The Pueblitos of Dinétah, New Mexico: In 1912, stories told by Hispanic sheep-herders of “pueblitos”—stone fortresses hidden among cliffs and boulder fields—drew curious visitors to the Dinétah region of northwest New Mexico. They were built by Navajos who had moved into New Mexico's canyonlands between 1,500 and 1,700, fleeing the Spanish soldiers who were capturing Navajos and sending them south to work the silver mines in Zacatecas. Some were built to shelter farm families during raids, others shielded religious leaders and the elderly, still others served as lookouts and signaling sites. Each reflects a time when frontiers were crossed, alliances made and broken, the worlds of Pueblo, Navajo, Spanish, and Ute met, and the Southwest was changed forever. For more information about these fascinating sites, contact James Copeland, Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office, 1235 La Plata Highway, Suite A, Farmington, NM 87401, E-mail: Jim_Copeland@blm.gov, Telephone: (505) 599-6335, http://www.nm.blm.gov/features/dinetah/dinetah_splash.html

Ezra Meeker Centennial and Martin and Willy Handcart Companies Sesquicentennial, Wyoming: Approximately 500,000 people traveled the Oregon, Mormon, California, and Pony Express trails between 1840 and 1870. The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center tells the story of these emigrants and the impact they had upon the United States. One of those emigrants was Ezra Meeker. He traveled the Oregon Trail in 1852 with his young family. In 1906, the year in which the U.S. Congress passed the Antiquities Act, he again walked the Oregon Trail, this time from West to East, promoting trail preservation. He was 75 years old. His purpose was to leave the Oregon Trail as a monument to that generation of pioneers who settled the West. In honor of this historic trek and the man who helped preserve the trail, the Ezra Meeker Society will re-enact his journey. Society members will perform at the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming on August 2 and 3, 2006. 2006 marks another historic anniversary. In October 1856, the Martin and Willy Handcart companies followed the Mormon Trail through



what is now Casper, Wyoming. A blizzard trapped the companies, numbering nearly 800 men, women and children. Almost 150 of them perished before rescuers reached them. This year marks the 150th anniversary of that tragic story. Recognition of these two historic events coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Federal Antiquities Act. Passed by Congress in 1906, the law requires Federal land agencies to protect and preserve archeological and historical sites found on public land. The Antiquities Act stands as an important achievement in the progress of conservation and preservation efforts in the United States. In 2006 the BLM will celebrate this anniversary with several special events, including the Ezra Meeker re-enactment at the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center. Contacts: Cindy Wertz, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Wyoming State Office, E-mail: cindy_wertz@blm.gov, Telephone: (307) 775-6014; Lesley Collins, BLM's Casper Field Office, E-mail: lesley_collins@blm.gov, Telephone: (307) 261-7603; and Gayle Irwin, BLM's National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, E-mail: gayle_irwin@blm.gov, Telephone: (307) 261-7787, <http://www.wy.blm.gov/nhtic/index.htm>

Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area, Oregon: For 4,000 years Yaquina Head, a narrow coastal headland formed of ancient volcanic flows, has provided coastal inhabitants with a 1-mile long pathway westward into the open waters of the Pacific Ocean. Native American traveled to the western tip of the basalt headland to hunt marine mammals, collect mussels, and seek spiritual renewal. Explorers, marine traders, and pirates used the headland as a navigational marker for over 250 years before the U.S. Lighthouse Service built Oregon's tallest lighthouse on the headland in 1873. Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area now protects the headland's heritage for future generations of coastal explorers. The park's tidepools, cobble beaches, and basalt cliffs provide visitors with one of the most accessible locations on the Pacific Coast to view whales, seals, and sea-bird colonies. Visitors can experience 19th century life at the historic Yaquina Head Lighthouse by participating in tours lead by BLM rangers dressed in historic lighthouse keeper uniforms. For more information about this site, contact Jay Moeller, Chief Park Ranger, Bureau of Land Management, Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area, P.O. Box 936, Newport, OR 97365, E-mail: john_moeller@blm.gov, Telephone: (541) 574-3145 (voice), (541) 574-3140 (fax), www.or.blm.gov/salem/yaquina



Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite, Wyoming: The Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite is the largest dinosaur tracksite in Wyoming and one of only a few worldwide from the Middle Jurassic Period (160 million to 180 million years old). The tracks were made at the shoreline of an ocean by two-legged dinosaurs around 167 million years ago. Until these tracks were discovered in 1997 most scientists thought the entire Bighorn Basin, and most of Wyoming, was covered by an ancient ocean. Scientists thought that only sea-dwelling creatures could have lived in this area, yet the dinosaur tracks were clearly made just at the shoreline, not in deep ocean water, and there must have been large areas of dry land to support not only dinosaurs but other animals and plants. One thousand tracks have been located so far, all formed by two-legged dinosaurs. Some, and perhaps all, of the tracks appear to have been made by meat-eating dinosaurs weighing between 15-400 pounds. The tracksite is located on

U.S. Highway 14, approximately 10 miles east of Greybull, Wyoming. For more information about this site, contact Mike Bies, Bureau of Land Management, Worland Field Office, 101 South 23rd, P.O. Box 119, Worland, WY 82401-0119, E-mail: Mike_Bies@blm.gov, Telephone: (307) 347-5291, <http://www.wy.blm.gov/rgdt/>