

Photo Summary of Field Trip to Agua Fria National Monument

January 14, 2023

Led by Michael Clinton, RCC Member

Coordinated by Brent Reed, RCC Board Member

Photos by Dennis DuBose, Michael Clinton, and Alisa Schneider

Sponsored by Rim Country Chapter (RCC) of the Arizona Archaeological Society (AAS)

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Field Trippers from Rim Country Chapter and several other AAS Chapters assembled at the Agua Fria National Monument off Interstate 17 arriving by self-arranged transportation. They then caravanned to the hike "trailhead" (There was none).



Field Trippers Searching in a Wide Field for Petroglyphs on Boulders

The Field Trippers headed across a broad boulder strewn grassy field looking for petroglyphs. The walk was about three miles total. They found lots of boulders. They also found lots of petroglyphs. They even found some artifacts, mostly potsherds. And one surprise.



Field Trippers were Regularly Rewarded with Boulders Covered with Petroglyphs





Some Petroglyph Panels Showed Similar Petroglyphs
Above and Below Both have Wavy Parallel Line Figures





Another Petroglyph of Parallel Wavy Lines.



And Spirals ...



There were a Number of Carefully Made Concentric Circle or Spiral Petroglyphs



Field Trippers Often Tried to Check Every Boulder for Petroglyphs

One Field Tripper Found a Small Boulder with a Petroglyph that Trip Leader Michael Clinton Said he had Never Seen Before, so Thorough Checking was Justified



Some Petroglyphs were Intriguing and Others Were Fantastic



Photo by Alisa Schneider

Field Trippers Photograph the “Mystic Lizard” Petroglyph



Some Boulders had Single Glyphs on Them



Some Isolated Petroglyphs





Other Boulders Had Complex Figures



And the Search for Petroglyphs Continued



There was a Lot of Space to Search

Some Artifacts were Spotted, Mostly Potsherds.

Most Potsherds Spotted were "Plainware," but Some were Decorated



Photo by Mike Clinton



Photo by Mike Clinton

More Decorated Potsherds



Photo by Alisa Schneider

The Most Impressive Artifact was this Three-Quarter-Hafted Stone Axe Head



Photo by Alisa Schneider



After Several Hours Walking for about Three Miles, with a Break for Lunch, Field Trippers Headed for Home, After Seeing Dozens and Dozens of Beautiful and Intriguing Petroglyphs Placed Here by Prehistoric Americans