

SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society



FIELD TRIP REPORT

Date _____ June 8 2024_

Destination ____ Sand Canyon and Goodman Point Pueblos

Organizers _Rusty Chamberlain

Heritage _____ No. of Participants _ 6 _

Remarks _____

We 6 met at Santa Rita Park at 8AM to car pool to Goodman Point. Our posse included Rusty Chamberlain, Steve Harris, Andy Dennison, Stephen Bowers and Amy and Richard Hewitt. June 8th was a beautiful day, sunny and not yet hot. As noted above, our first stop was the trail head to Goodman Point pueblo. The parking lot for this outlier of Hovenweep is not well marked. So, good directions or a clear map come in handy. Goodman point has been excavated but not “restored”. The village wall is quite distinct and one can identify what could be kivas or rooms. After exploring Goodman Point, we headed a few miles west to the Sand Canyon trail head.

The trail to the pueblo ruin is well marked and easy. Just like Goodman Point this village is at the head of a side canyon and on both sides of it. Both sides are surrounded by a wall which includes 14 D-shaped towers. The trail around and through the village includes informative signage. These signs sparked lots of conversation and speculation. I must saw we were a very engaged and interested group.

Like Goodman Point, Sand Canyon has a large D-shaped bi-walled building and a Great Kiva. We could see where they were. However, one needed a map of the village, which we had, and imagination to bring landscape and rubble to life. The path led to an open area at the edge of

the canyon. From here we could see south down the canyon to bluff on the far side of McElmo Canyon.

Now we backtracked to the head of the canyon to visit the other side. Again, this side is surrounded by a hall with D-shaped towers. As this East side is different. Room blocks and kivas, for sure, but no large community buildings like on the west side.

We returned to the trail head for lunch at the large picnic table in the shade. Lots of lively conversation mostly about other sites we have all visited.

Suggestions if trip is repeated _____

Since the trip to the 2 pueblos plus lunch at Sand Canyon can be done by Noon or 1:00 PM, it could be combined with a visit to Lowrey Pueblo or the Canyn of the Ancients Museum.

No. _____

Prepared by __ Rusty Chamberlain_____