

Goat Camp Ruin: Goals and Schedule for Fall 2018

The excavation program for this Fall is pretty much the same as it was for the Spring, largely because we lost a lot of time to an early fire season. There are several carryover items that we also didn't get done last season (like backfilling and moving rockpiles and screened dirt piles), but we should be able to finish room 7 and everything we started in rooms 28 and 29 and maybe start Room 8. This season will be a big push, again.

Excavation and Stabilization Work: First Priority

- Room 6 Assess the stabilization potential of the room and conduct wall treatments and/or complete backfilling as appropriate.
- Room 7 Last season we managed to follow out a fair amount of the lower floor from the trench along the east wall to corroborate our interpretation that 7 began as a much smaller room and was expanded in three directions. This Fall we will continue to sort this out by a combination of excavation and testing.
- Room 15 Most of the stabilization was beautifully completed last season. We still need to buttress the back wall with a ramp of rock and backfill the room.
- Room 22 Begin/complete stabilization as time allows.
- Rooms 8, 28, 29, 30 Having completed the test trench through Feature 28, and Room 29, we will excavate at least one half of each of those rooms, wall trench Feature 30 to find its entry and perhaps even begin excavation of Room 8 by quarters, followed by wall construction studies and stabilization.
- Room 31 Final map and backfilling.

Excavation Work: Second Priority/Carryover to Next Season

- Feature 2 Clear brush and duff to expose walls, map, excavate 1m x 1m test unit (?).
- Features 4-5 Clear brush and duff to expose walls, map, excavate 1m x 1m test units (?).
- Feature 17 Clear and define retaining (?) walls, map.
- Feature 24 Excavate half of this roasting pit.
- Feature 26 Clear and define this presumed "retaining wall" and make surface collections along it to determine how it relates to the occupational history of the site either as an original feature or as an Apache attempt to fortify that portion of the site they had reoccupied.
- Feature 32 Relocate and excavate F. 32, the slab-lined cyst, and perhaps see how it relates to the original ground surface in front of Room 1. To do this, we will need to move one of the backdirt piles from the room excavation.
- Features 36-39 Clear brush and duff to expose walls, map and add to master site map.

Upcoming Additional Work

Relocate backdirt and rock piles.

Lab Work

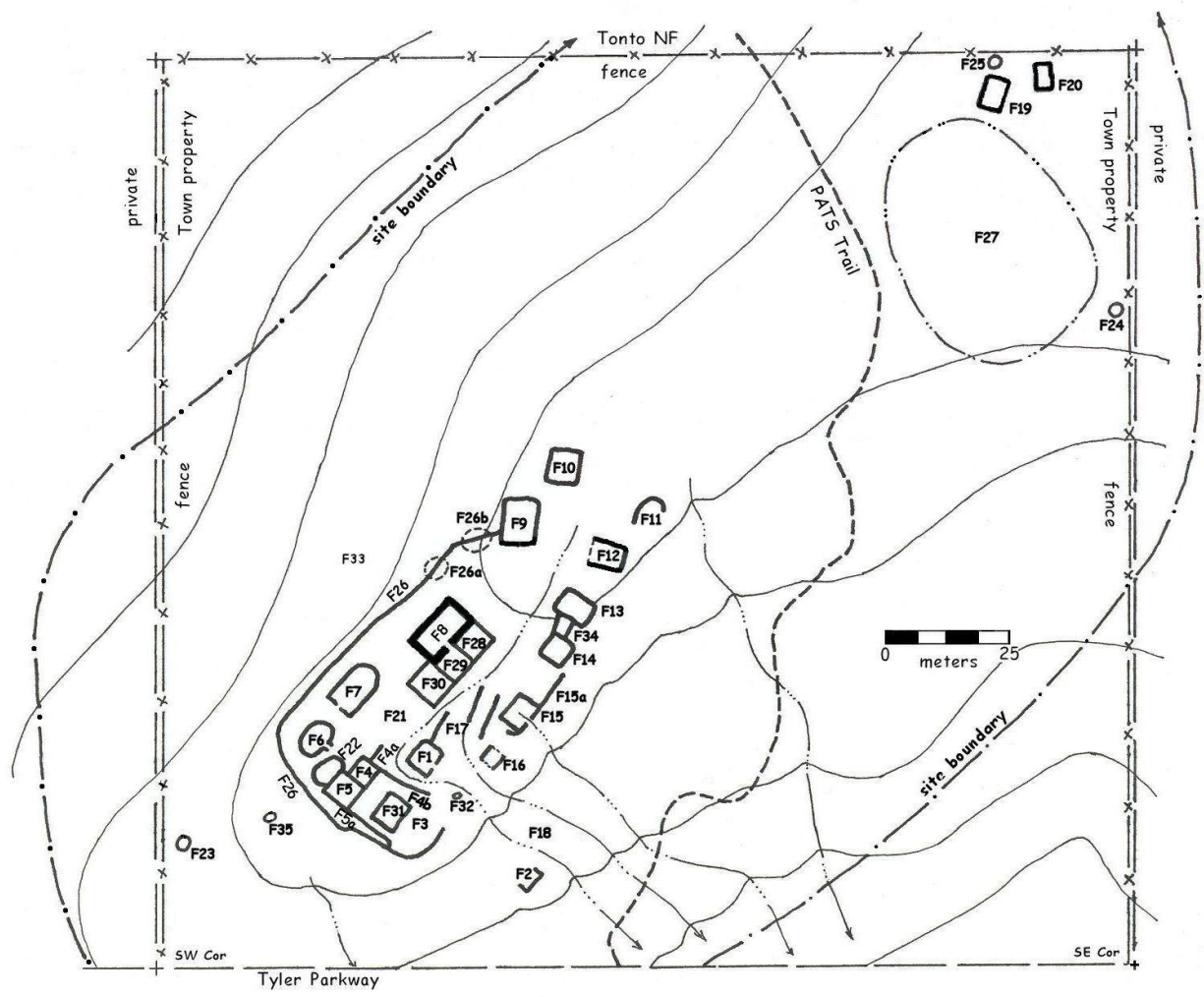
Stay caught up on artifact processing with continued progress on ceramic rough sorting and initiation of description and analyses of lithics, shell, ground stone, etc. Start work on detailed ceramic analysis. We will also initiate radiocarbon analyses with the funding we currently have available and seek to acquire additional funds for more radiocarbon and the processing of the float and pollen samples and expand our analysis of the pottery.

Compile a photo catalog of all decorated ceramics, projectile points, and "exotic" artifacts.

Owing to competition from other projects, most lab work this year will be deferred until next Summer (see Spring schedule when it comes out). Depending on how much material is generated, we may also try throwing in a couple of weekday lab sessions, maybe on Fridays before field sessions or Mondays after them.

Other Work

Survey/recording of contemporary and earlier sites in the Goat Camp area not already covered by FLEX or ADOT excavations. This will include compiling survey and excavation data from Risser Ruin for comparisons. This may not get started until next Summer. Or later.



Schedule for Goat Camp Fall 2018

Field Sessions

September 22-23

October 13-14

October 27-28

November 10-11

November 24-25

December 8-9

December 22-23 (maybe)

Lab Sessions

TBA, as needed.

Start Times: start time for all field sessions will be 9:00; lab sessions will be 10:00 unless otherwise specified. We generally work until 3PM on Saturdays and 2PM on Sundays unless we decide to stay longer on any given day. Any changes due to rain, snow, or global warming will be conveyed to all concerned by e-mail.

TBA:

Survey sessions to map and conduct surface analysis of related sites in vicinity