

Goat Camp Ruin: Goals and Schedule for Spring 2019

Despite the weather, we got a lot done last season and finally closed out some of our most stubborn features. The excavation program for this Spring is pretty much a continuation of what we started in the Fall. There are the perpetual carryover items that we also didn't get done last season (like backfilling and moving rockpiles and screened dirt piles), but this Spring we will finish room 28, room/courtyard 29 and the wall trenching we started for rooms 29 and 30. We will also, at long last, start Room 8 as we begin the last phase of excavation for the project. We will not, however, be finished by the end of the season...

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 finally(!) finished this room. This season we will assess the stabilization potential of the room and conduct wall treatments and/or complete backfilling as appropriate.
- Room 15 We still need to buttress the back wall with a ramp of rock to illustrate the interpretation and then add more backfill to the room.
- Room 22 Complete stabilization and back-filling.
- Room 8 Complete second test unit inside the room plus two more in the other corners, then begin excavation of the room by quarters. Also, exterior wall trenching.
- Room 28 Complete excavation of upper floor in south half, continue original test trench along west wall to original floor.
- Room 29 Revisit the floor of this open courtyard area and complete exterior wall trench on east side.
- Room 30 Complete wall trenching, interior and exterior to determine configuration, construction sequence, and, hopefully, purpose; assess need for additional excavation.
- 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. Stabilize and backfill remaining exposed features, lay out visitor trail through site, etc.

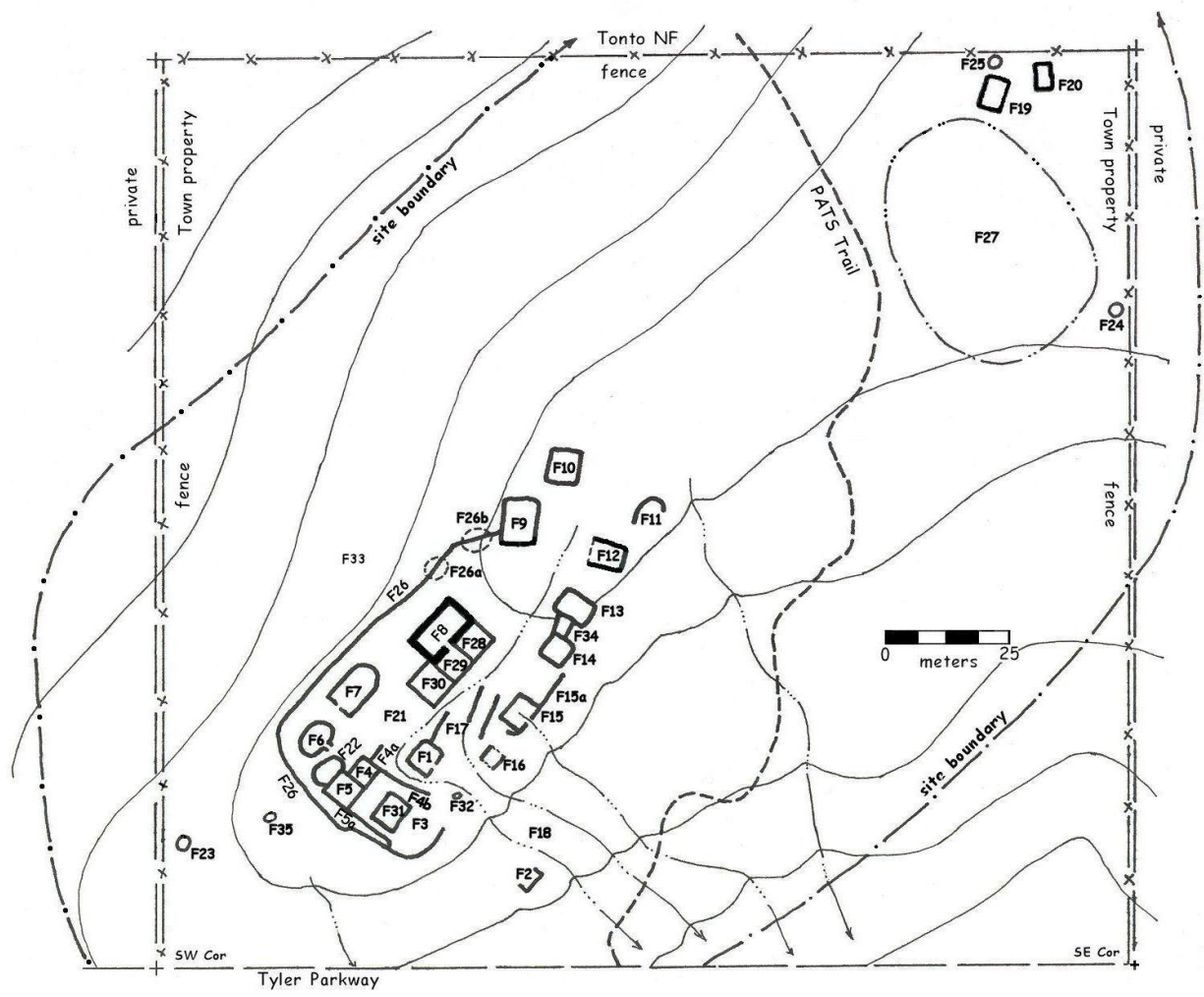
Lab Work

As usual, lab work for last Fall and this Spring will be undertaken during the summer after the close of the excavation season: ceramic rough sorting and initiation of description and analyses of lithics, shell, ground stone, etc. Depending on how much we get done, we may start work on detailed ceramic analysis. This year we will finally 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. As part of this effort, we will attempt to compile a central directory of participant photos from the project.

Other Work (carry over)

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 Spring 2019

Field Sessions

February 23-24

March 16-17

March 30-31

April 13-14

April 27-28

May 11-12

May 25-26

Field or Lab (depending on accomplishment and weather)

June 8-9

Lab Sessions

June 15-16

June 22-23

Additional 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