The Buckhorn Restoration Project

Reed Martin

The Buckhorn Wash in Emery County contains one of the most important panels of Barrier Canyon Style Rock Art in the United States. It is recognized on both the National and State Historic registers. However, it is located adjacent to a heavily traveled road in a recreational area and has been badly marred with graffiti and bullet holes. The Emery county Centennial Commission has proposed a program to preserve and conserve the rock art at the site. The project would entail removing the graffiti from the panels, installing protective fencing interpretative signs, upgrading roads and the parking lot at the site.

Educating the public regarding the importance of the rock art panel and its conservation and preservation are primary objectives of the plan. The committee and the Emery County Museum Board have agreed to create two exhibits detailing the conservation work being done on the panel, one to be a permanent display at the museum of the San Rafael in Castledale, the other to be travelling exhibit loaned to local schools and museums throughout out the country, at their request. The exhibits will be accompanied by a video record of the conservation project still photos and a brochure.

The following two pages contain a copy of an informative brochure discussing the project.
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. REMOVE ALL NAMES AND GRAFFITI AND REPAIR VANDALISM
   A. Hire a professional Art Conservator to do the work
   B. Complete a photographic documentation of the site
   C. Conduct testing and research at the site and in the lab
   D. Constance S. Silver has been selected to do the work

2. LANDSCAPING AND SITE INTERPRETATION
   A. Develop an overall landscape plan for the site
   B. Upgrade a 900 ft. section of road in front of the panel
      Treat with enzyme for dust control
   C. Relocate the parking area
   D. Provide graveled walkways and benches
   E. Replace the old fence with a new type
   F. Install an information kiosk and new interpretative signs

3. EDUCATION PROGRAM
   A. Have a permanent display in the Museum of the San Rafael with a
      mural of the site, art work, video and directions to the site
   B. Have an exhibit at County and State Fairs
   C. Develop an information brochure on rock art interpretation and protection
   D. Take a program to local schools yearly
   E. Conduct tours of the site

4. SITE MAINTENANCE
   A. Organize community groups to clean the site several times a year
   B. Ask BLM and local sheriff to patrol the area
   C. Obtain help from Rock Art Society to man the site on holiday weekends
   D. Provide a fund to cover future replacement and repairs

5. PROJECT SCHEDULE
   A. Road and Parking Area Construction April 18 to June 1
   B. Removal of Graffiti by Conservator May 19 to June 20
   C. Landscaping and Site Interpretation July 1 to Sept. 15
   D. Project Completion Date and Dedication Sept. 23, 1995

Projected Cost of Entire Project $110,000.