

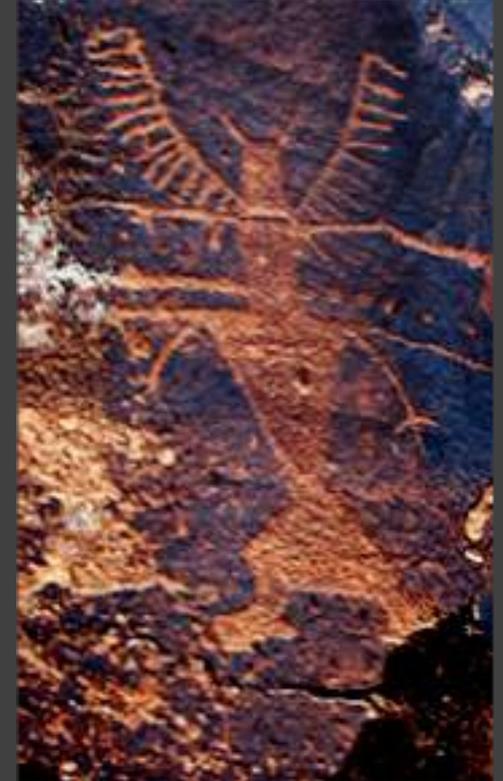
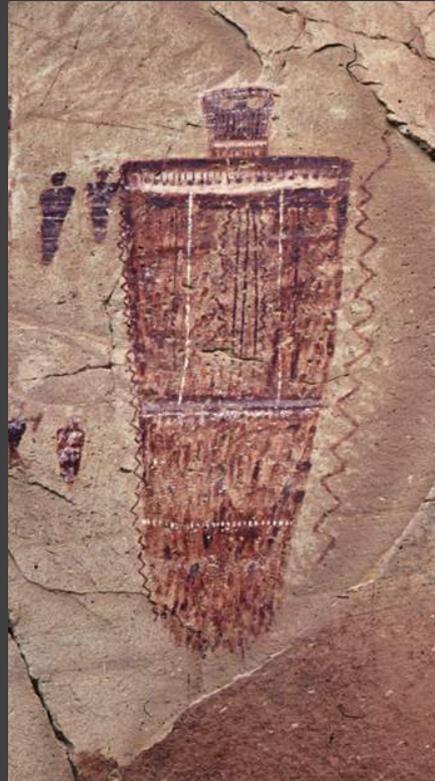
A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY?

Further Thoughts About The Image
Making Of The Barrier Canyon
And Fremont Styles

David Sucec, BCS PROJECT
URARA 2010



Barrier Canyon Style
Fremont Style



The concepts (involved in visual analysis) stress the appearance of objects rather than their purposes, their forms rather than their meanings...

J. J. Brody, Anasazi and Pueblo Painting

Fremont rock art style
area in green.

Working estimate as of
August, 2010.



Elements and Motifs of Style





The Barrier Canyon Style

- Elongated figure proportion, width to length, most often tapered
- Spirit Figures are bilaterally symmetrical
- The *parallel line motif* with long vertical lines rather than the typically horizontal orientation (rake) of other Archaic styles
- Arcs over head and/or shoulders
- Shoulder band and humped shoulders.
- Headdresses such as “crowns” and double antennae
- Oversize “vacant” eyes
- Compositions apparently representing friendly associations of animal, bird, snake and plant images with anthropomorphic spirit figures.
- Composite figures, or hybrids, made up of body parts of different species
- Quadrupeds (dogs, cougar?) with tails curved over its back
- Fletched or un-fletched spears (tall poles)



Fremont Style

- Hourglass figure / elongated trapezoidal figure (Uinta)
- Bison horn headdress and fringed “horn” headdress
- Elaborate necklace / chin line
- Horizontal “belt” line
- Slit eyes
- Arms extend straight down at slight angle from shoulders
- Feet pointed outwards
- Fringed staff
- Angularity of figures
- Bow and arrow

Fish Creek Cove figure





Fish Creek Cove rock art site, overview.



Fish Creek Cove painted images. Two figures on the left have long been assigned to the Fremont style but every element and motif is found in the Barrier Canyon style. Inset: BCS figure, Fish Creek Cove.

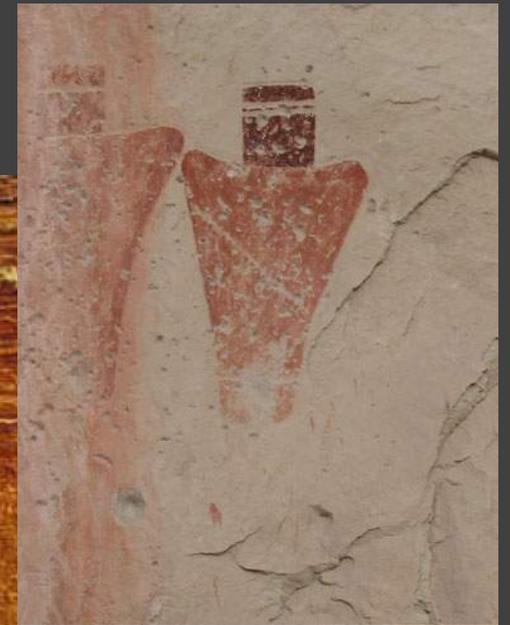


Great Gallery

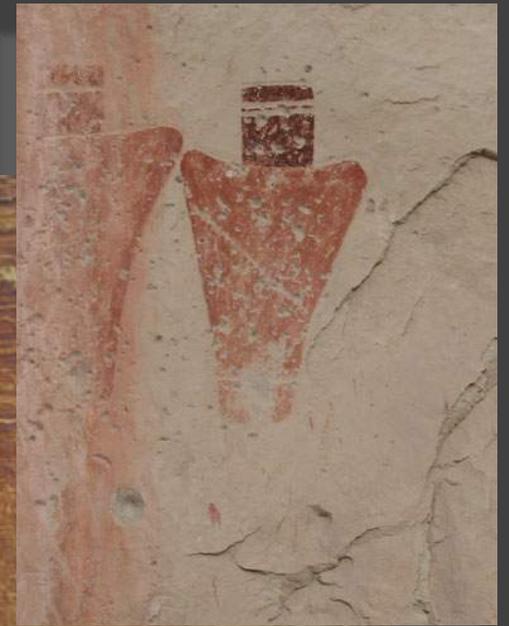


Head motif

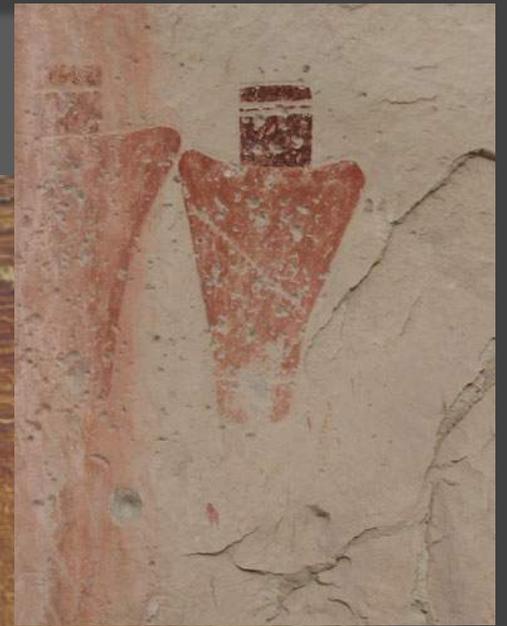
Shoulder / concavity motifs



Shoulder motifs



Shoulder motifs



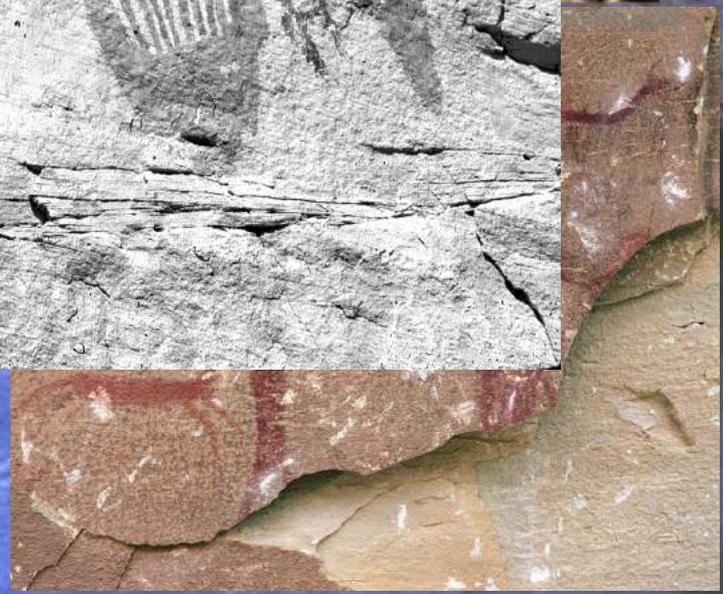
Shoulder motifs











Ferron Box High Panel





Ferron Box High Panel...what stylistic elements and motifs are seen here?



High Panel, arcs



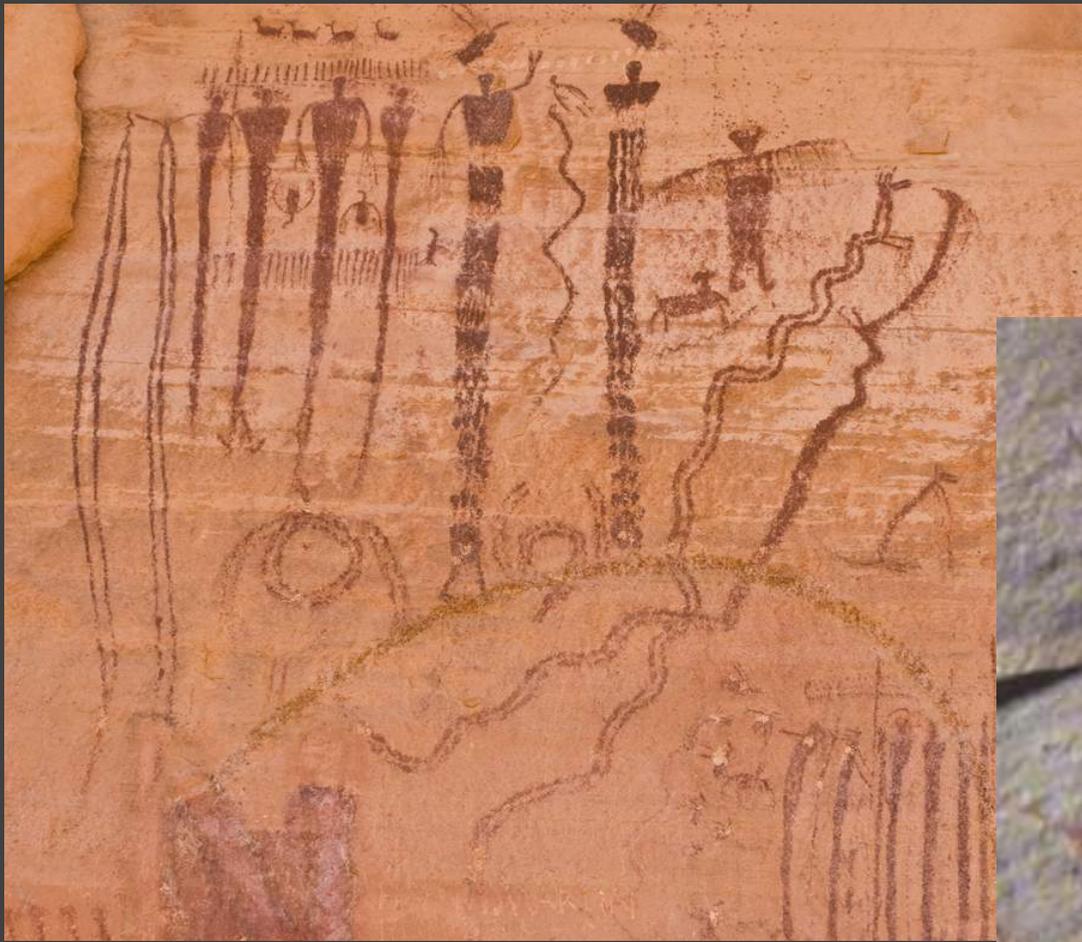
Ancestor Panel, PLM arcs over individual heads of large figures and over several figures at right.



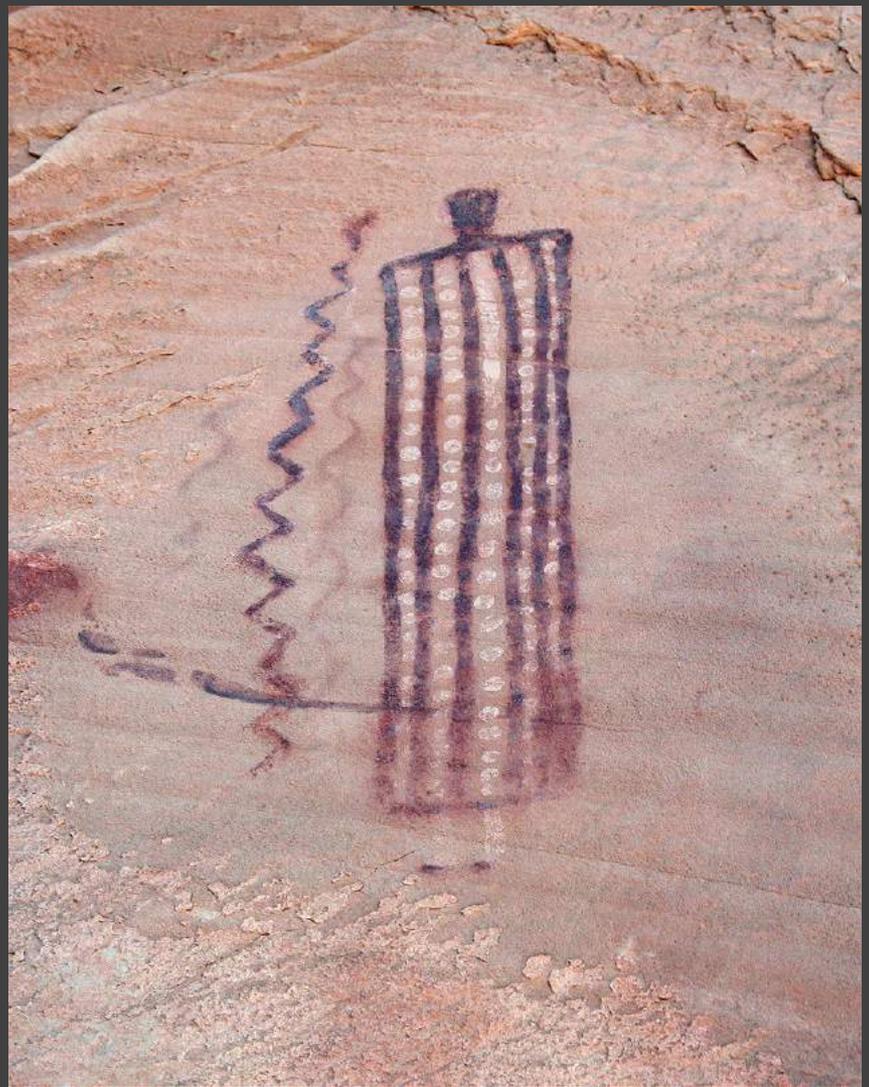
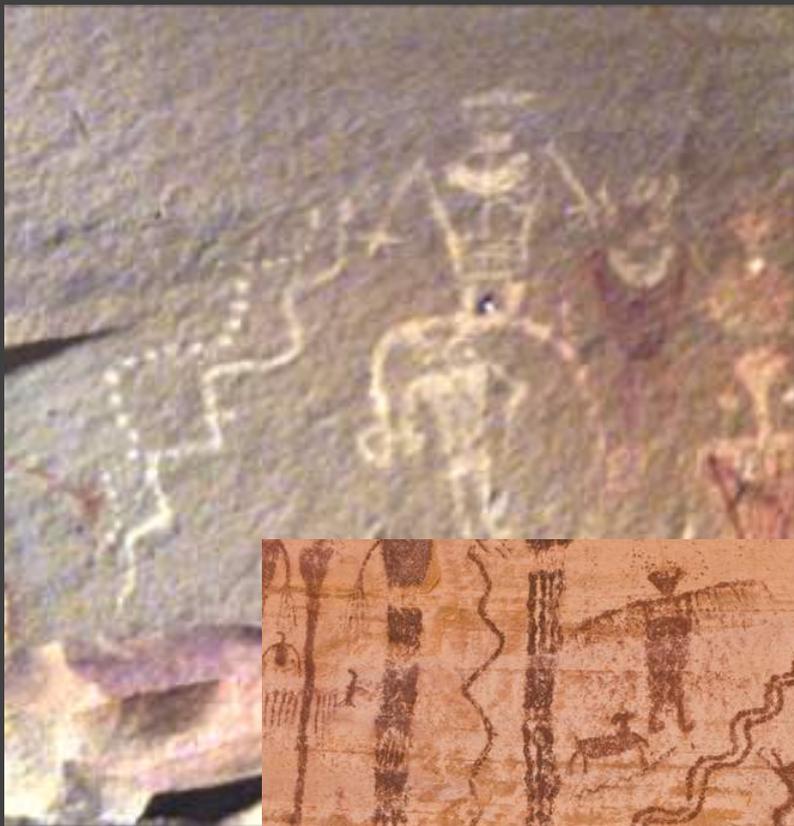
Above: Painted arc over head, humped shoulders.
Right: Abraded San Rafael Variant figure with PLM arcs over entire body. Dirty Devil area.



Ferron Box High Panel, right wall.



Snake motif. Above: Buckhorn Wash



Snake motif



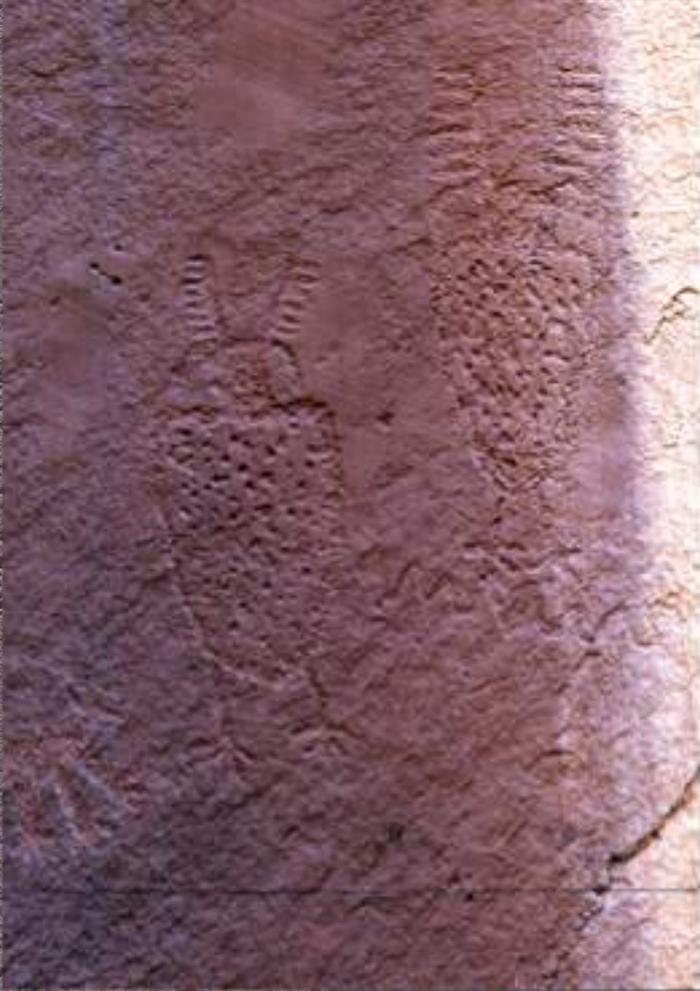
Mixed Style / Unique Images







Dark Panel





Sheep Canyon





Carrot Man Panel

Attention to Style...so what?

Classifying, as opposed to not classifying, has a value of its own, whatever form the classification may take.

...the demand for organization is a need common to art and science and that in consequence 'taxonomy, which is ordering par excellence, has eminent aesthetic value.'

Given this, it seems less surprising that the aesthetic sense can by itself open the way to taxonomy and even anticipate some of its results.

Claude Levi-Strauss, *The Savage Mind*

The concepts (involved in visual analysis) stress the appearance of objects rather than their purposes, their forms rather than their meanings...

Art objects are elements of particular temporal, spatial, and social sequences that may be called "historical styles." ... style is perceived as a function of the human imagination...rather than as the by-product of some metaphysical or social Darwinian "historic force."

J. J. Brody, *Anasazi and Pueblo Painting*



Chris Rhodes