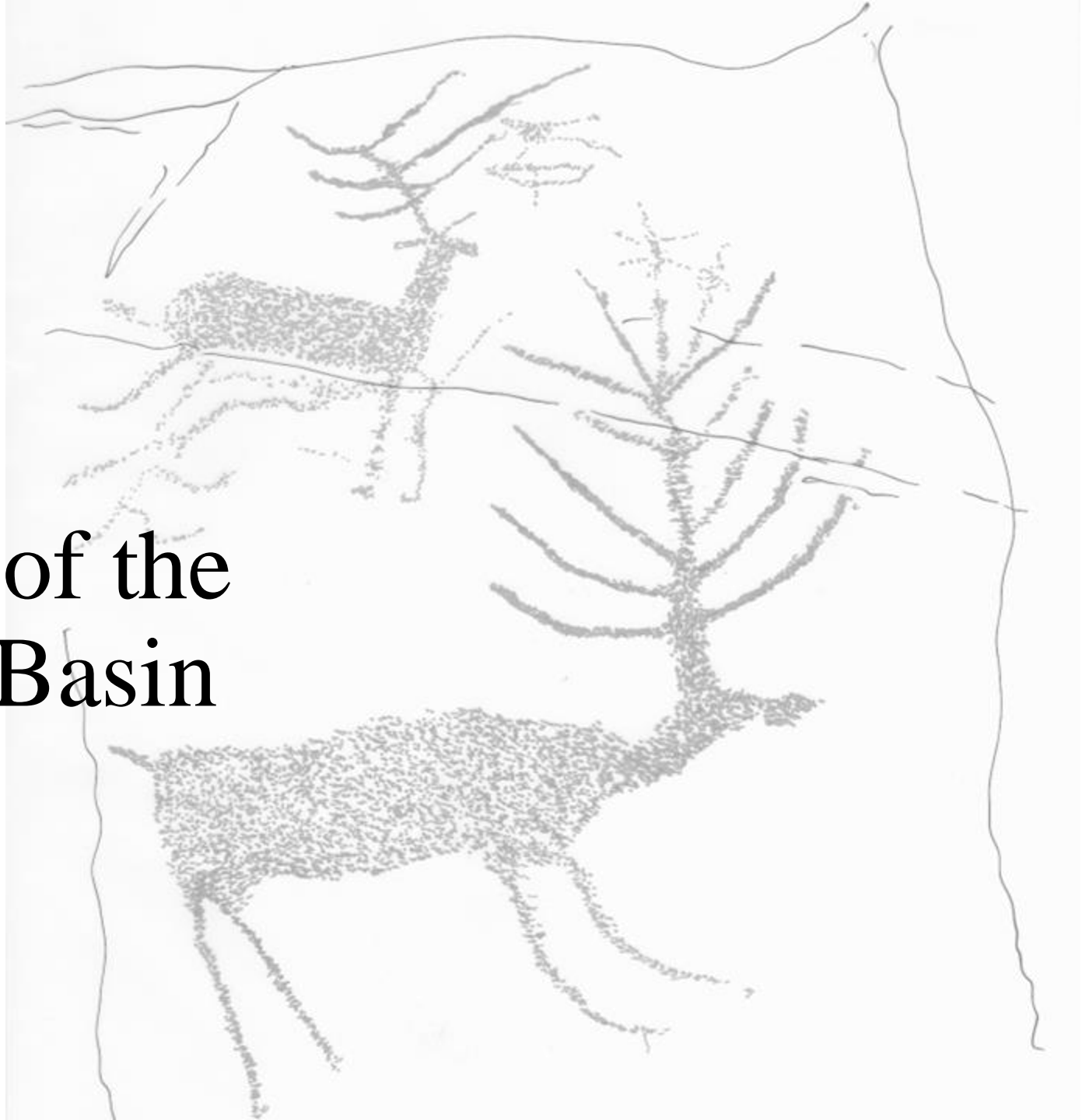


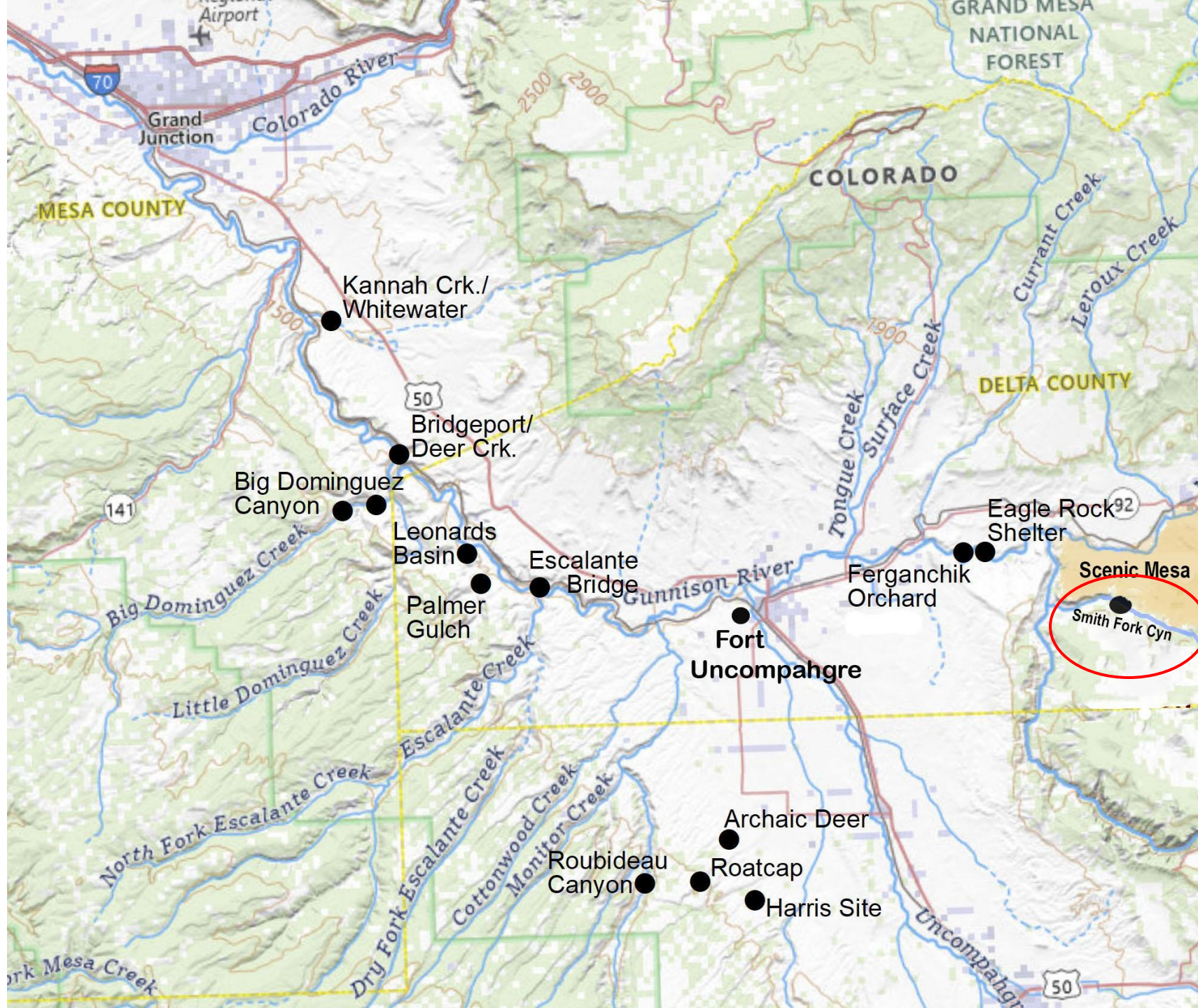
The Rock Images of the Lower Gunnison Basin

Carol Patterson



Acknowledgements

- Ute traditional owners, Weeminuche and Uncompahgre.
- Owners of the Lower Smith Fork Canyon Ranch
- Chipeta Chapter volunteers and Volunteers at large
- Colorado Rock Art Association for \$1500 Grant
- Joe Oglesby, George Decker, Glenn and Margaret Stone
- Clifford Duncan, Ute Elder
- Leigh Ann Hunt, and Lee Bennet, project team writers



‘Relational Thinking’

What’s in the neighborhood

Upper Smith Fork Canyon



Lower Smith Fork Canyon



Alma Evans, (*camp boss*)...“Let’s get to work!”



Joe Oglesby and Leigh Ann Hunt



Dave, Alma, Pam and Quent, Leigh Grench



Dave Manley and Leigh Grench on Photography and Recording





24 L
24 A

22 23

21 20

19

17 18
16 15 14

12 13
11 10

9 8 7
6 5

4 3
2 1

593 ft

Google Earth

Interpreting the Rock Images “Through Native Eyes”(Larry *Cesspooch*)



Sharon Gloshay, (Western Apache),
Larry Cesspooch, (Northern Ute),

Ramon Riley, White Mt. Apache,

Chris Lewis (Zuni) and Austin Qootsyamptewa (Hopi).



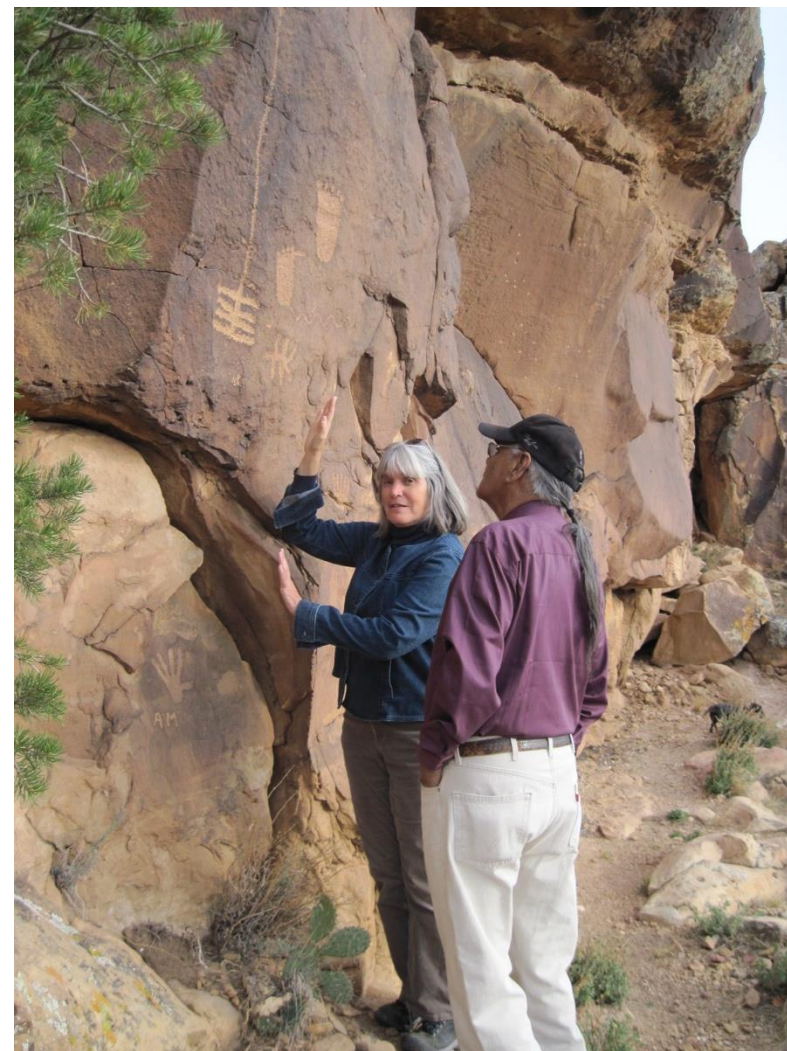
Images of maps and Ute charcoal drawings

with
Clifford Duncan,
Northern Ute.

photo by
Glenn Stone



Clifford Duncan on Rock Art Maps

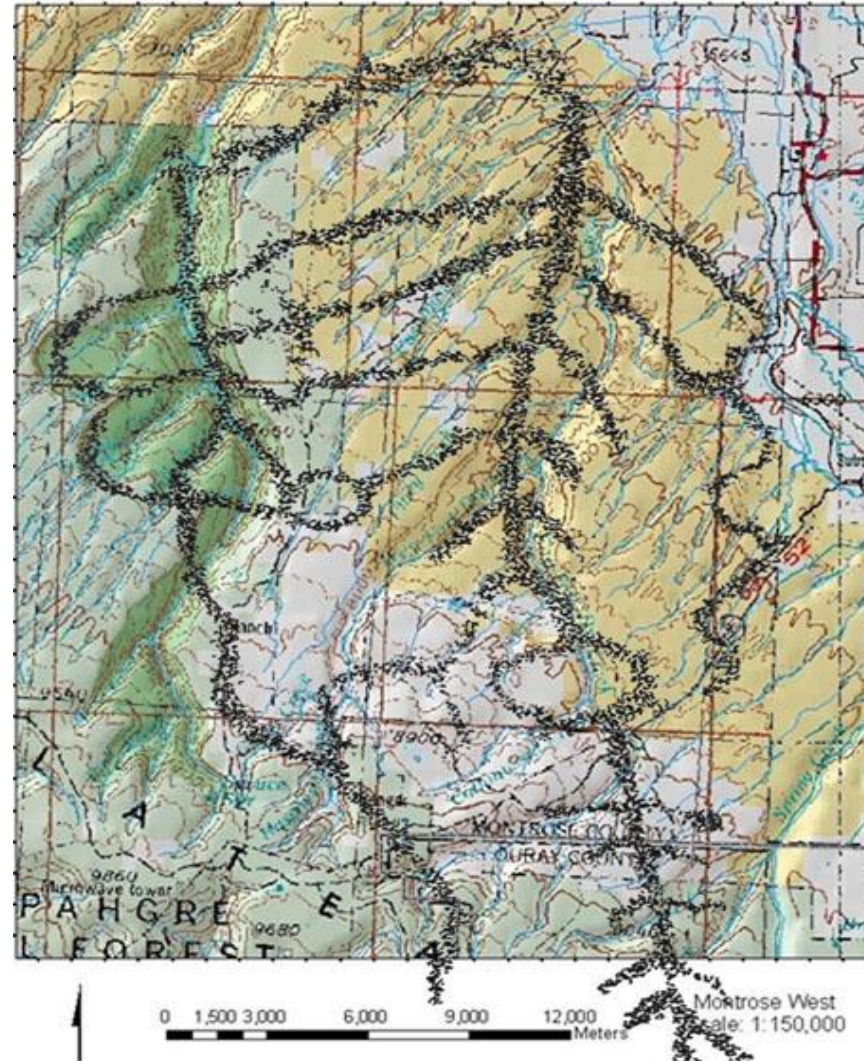
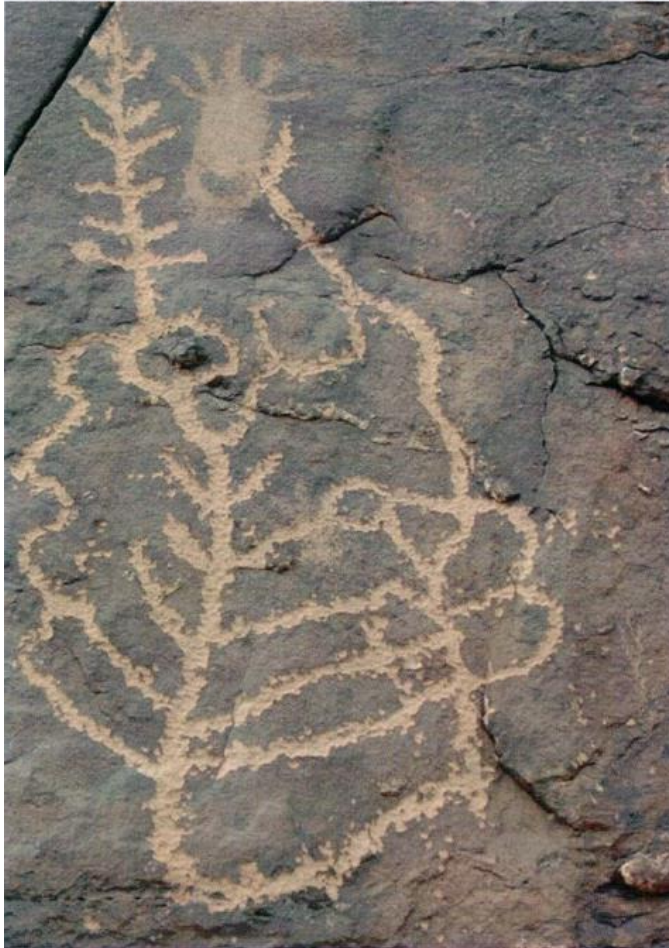


Cartographic images, According to Clifford Duncan,

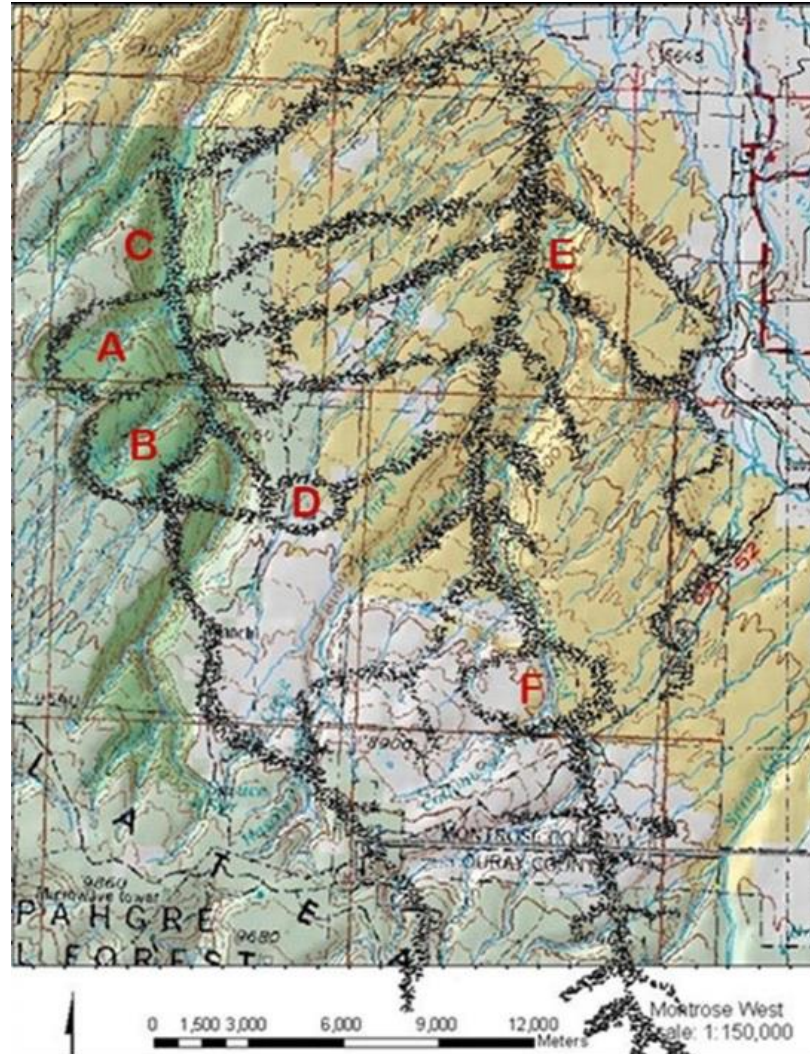
- Duncan (2005) proposed several cartographic and interpretive conventions:
 1. **Southern orientation:** Unlike Western norms, Ute 'map' petroglyphs are oriented to the south where the sun comes from, and sun-wise direction from east to west (clockwise) is the preferred direction of travel.
 2. **Variable scale:** Maps vary in scale, with rock surface features mimicking the surrounding landscape.
 3. **Symbolic elements:** Circles may represent places or areas, lines represent trails, and undulating lines represent rivers.
 4. **Hunting Maps** -Animal tracks, figures, and humans associated with linear elements may indicate hunting or plant procurement locations.
 5. **Terrain Maps**- complex linear figures may represent trails and routes through the local region.

Shavano Valley Petroglyph Map

Shavano Petroglyph Map



Shavano Valley Petroglyph Map



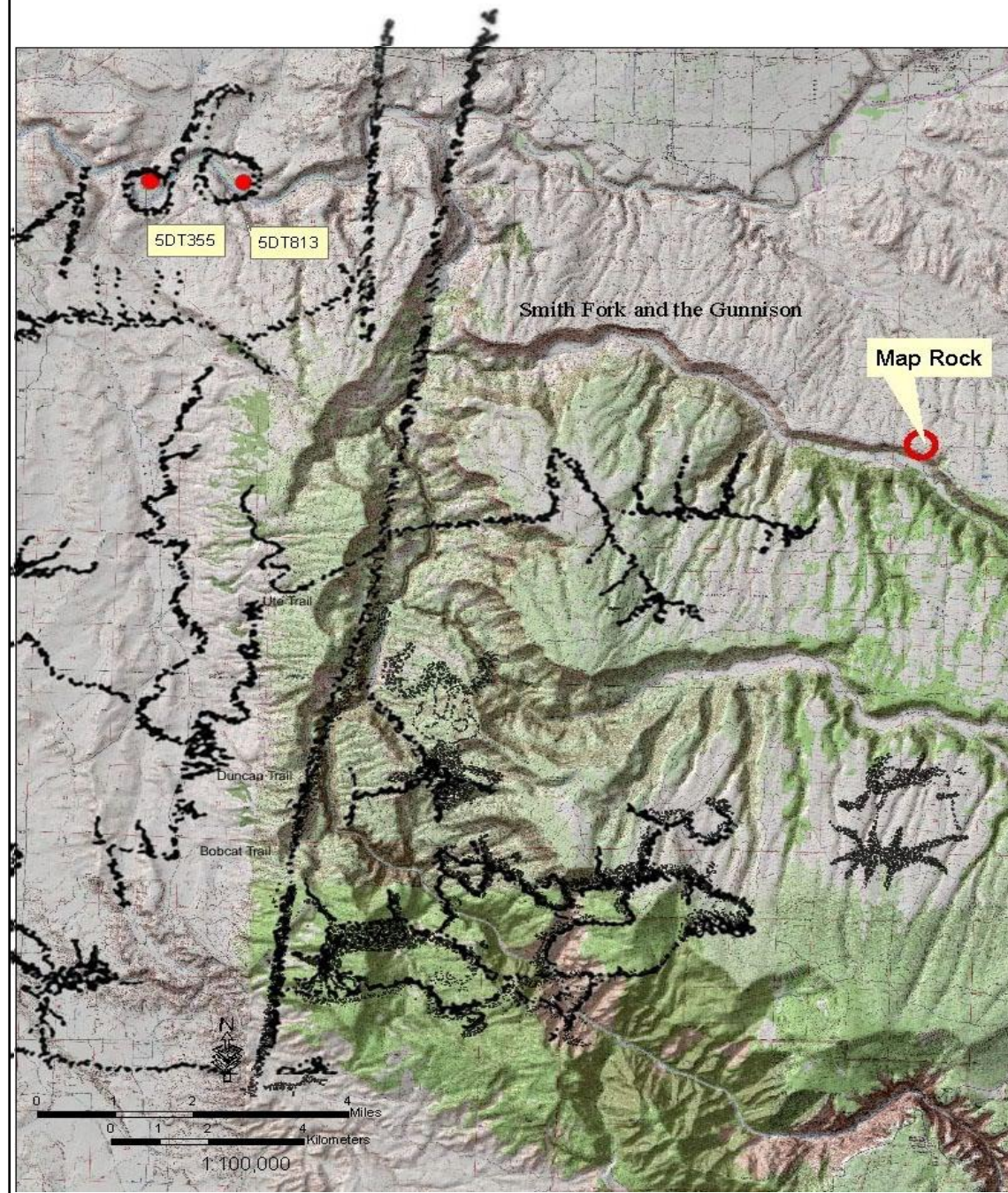
- A - Horseshoe Basin
- B - Travelers Basin
- C - Roubideaux Canyon
- D - Oak Hill
- E - Dry Creek
- F - Horsefly Basin
- G - Uncompahgre River
- H - Shavano Valley

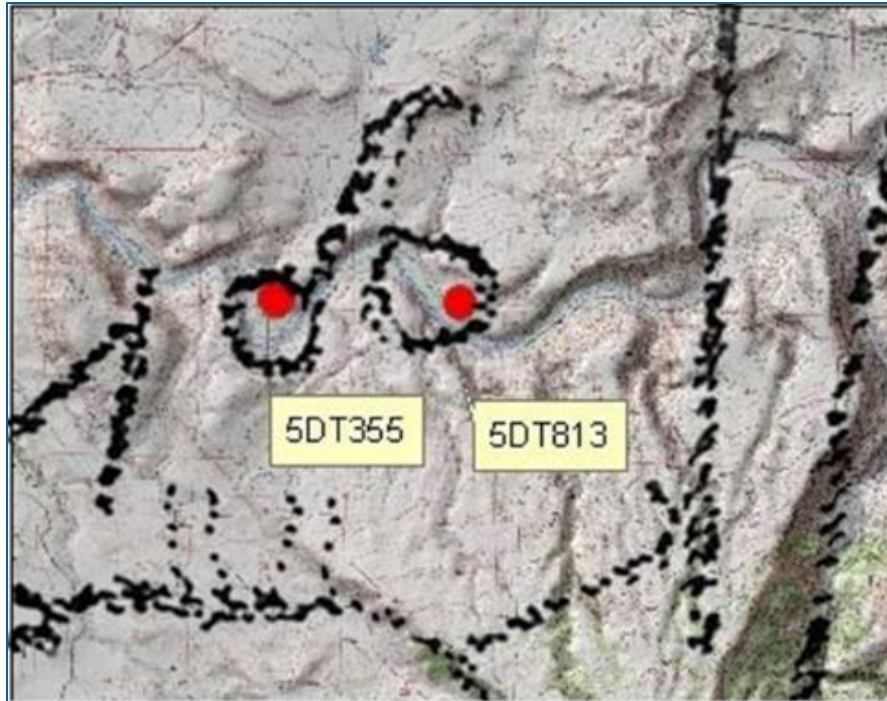
Upper Smith Fork Canyon Rock Art Map



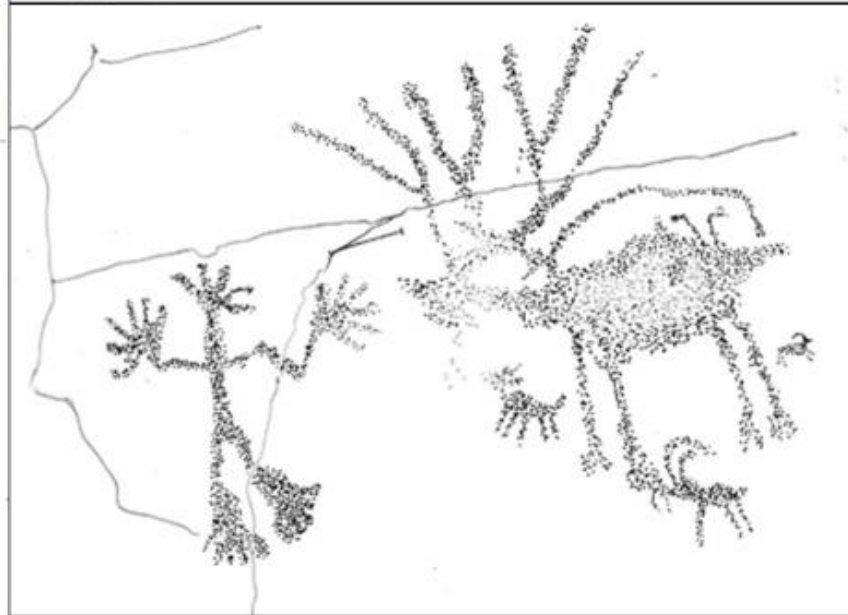
Interpretation by Galeb Casebier published in 1979 shows what he thought were trails to the towns of Olathe, Crawford and Maher. He assumed the petroglyph map was oriented to the North.

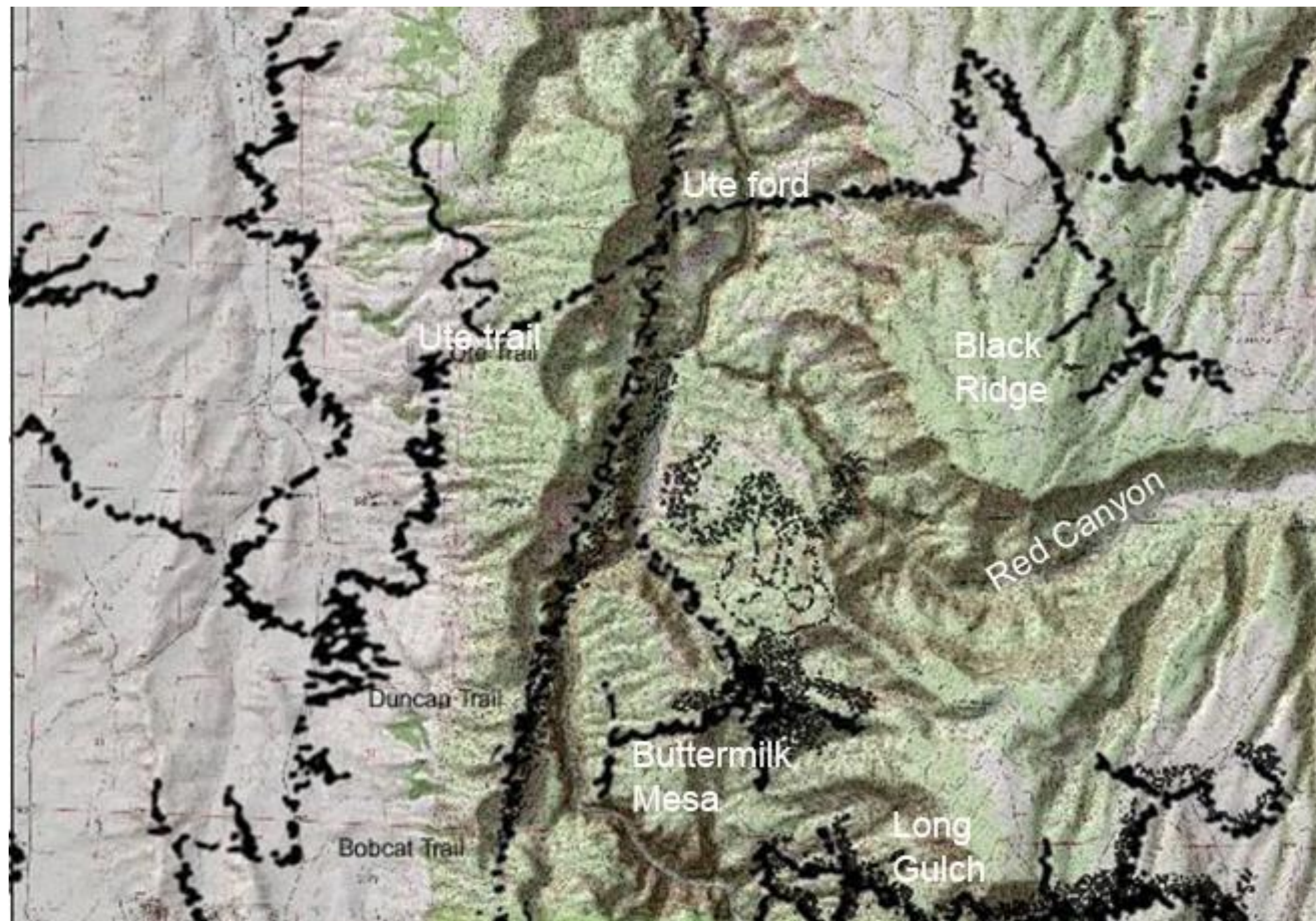






Closeup of the circled sites on either side of Lawhead Gulch. Both sites overlook the river and contain dozens of Archaic through Historic petroglyphs

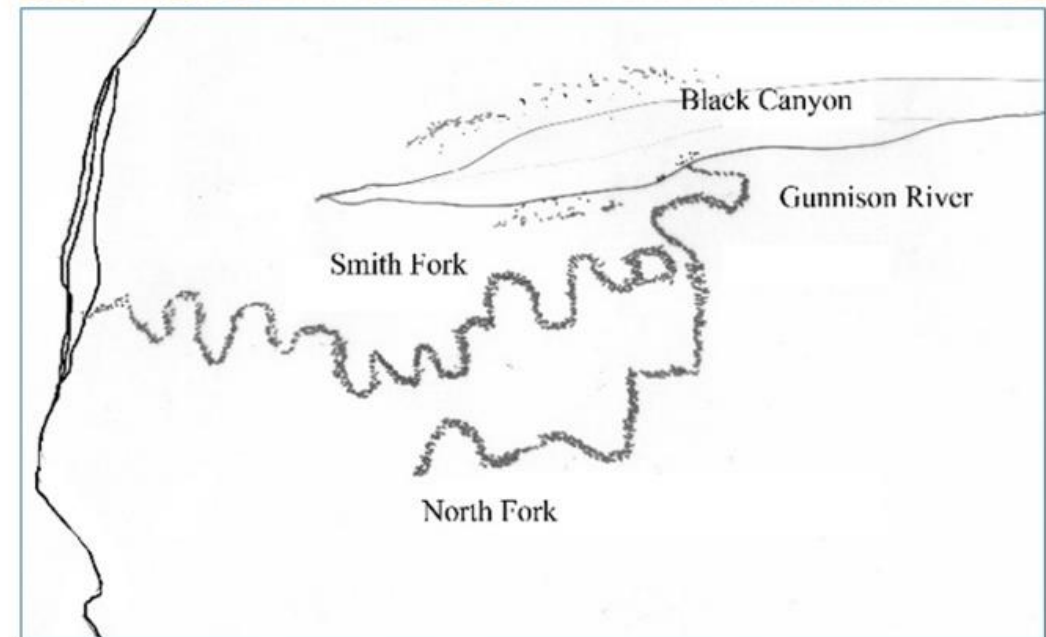




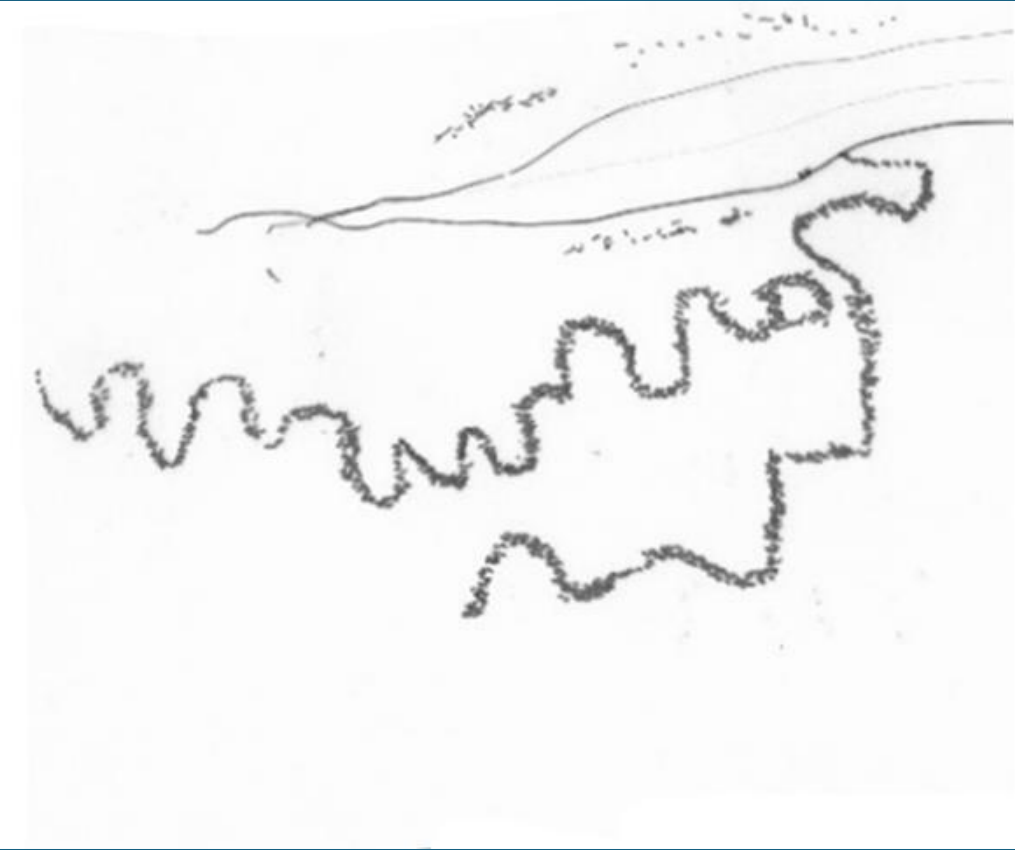
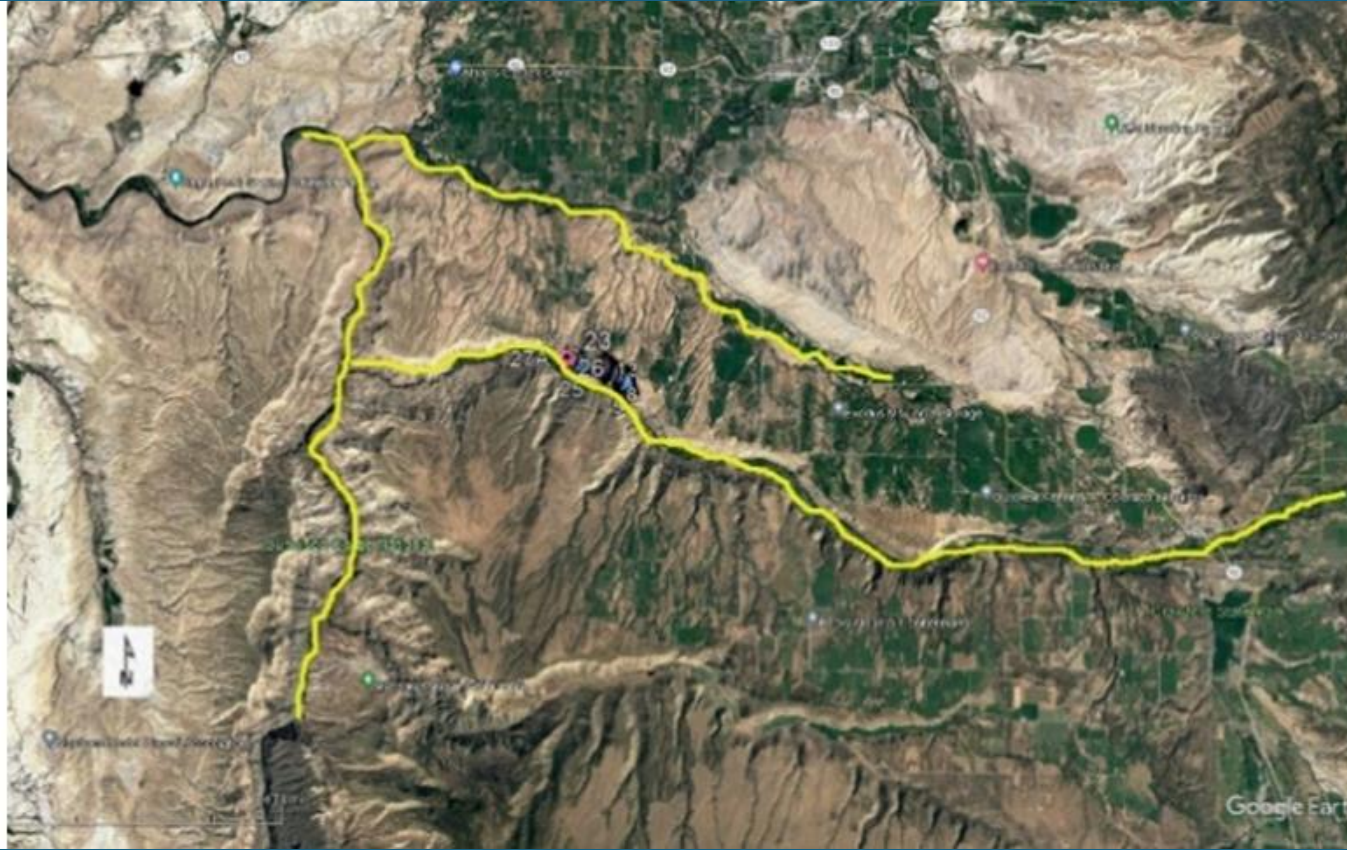
Lower Smith Fork Map



A 'map' placed on a protruding rock face overlooking the river. it has two wavy lines that converge, similar to the two rivers that converge at the end of the canyon

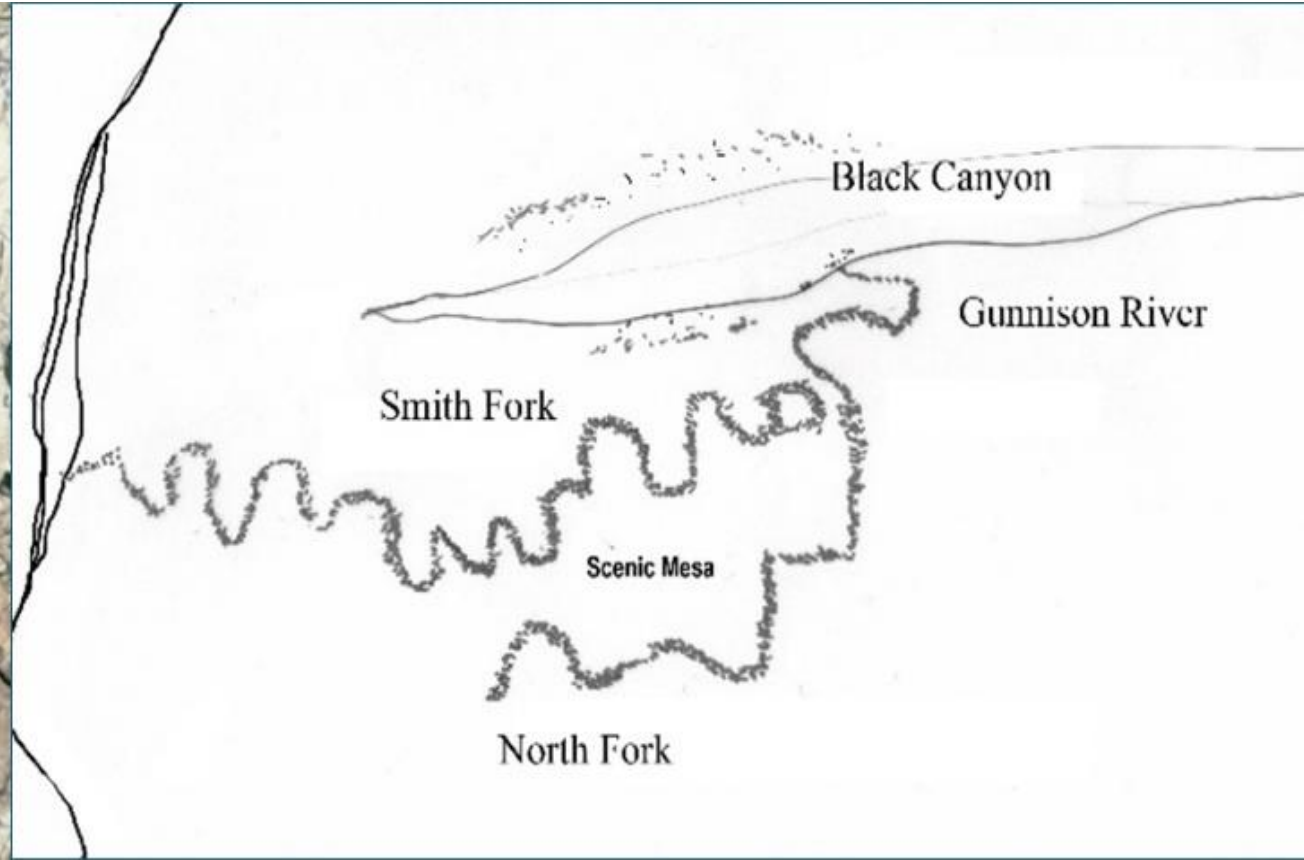


Google Maps is Oriented to the North



Google Earth's view is oriented to the North; the rivers flow right-to-left. The petroglyph depicts possible river motifs flowing from left-to-right

Google Map is oriented to the south

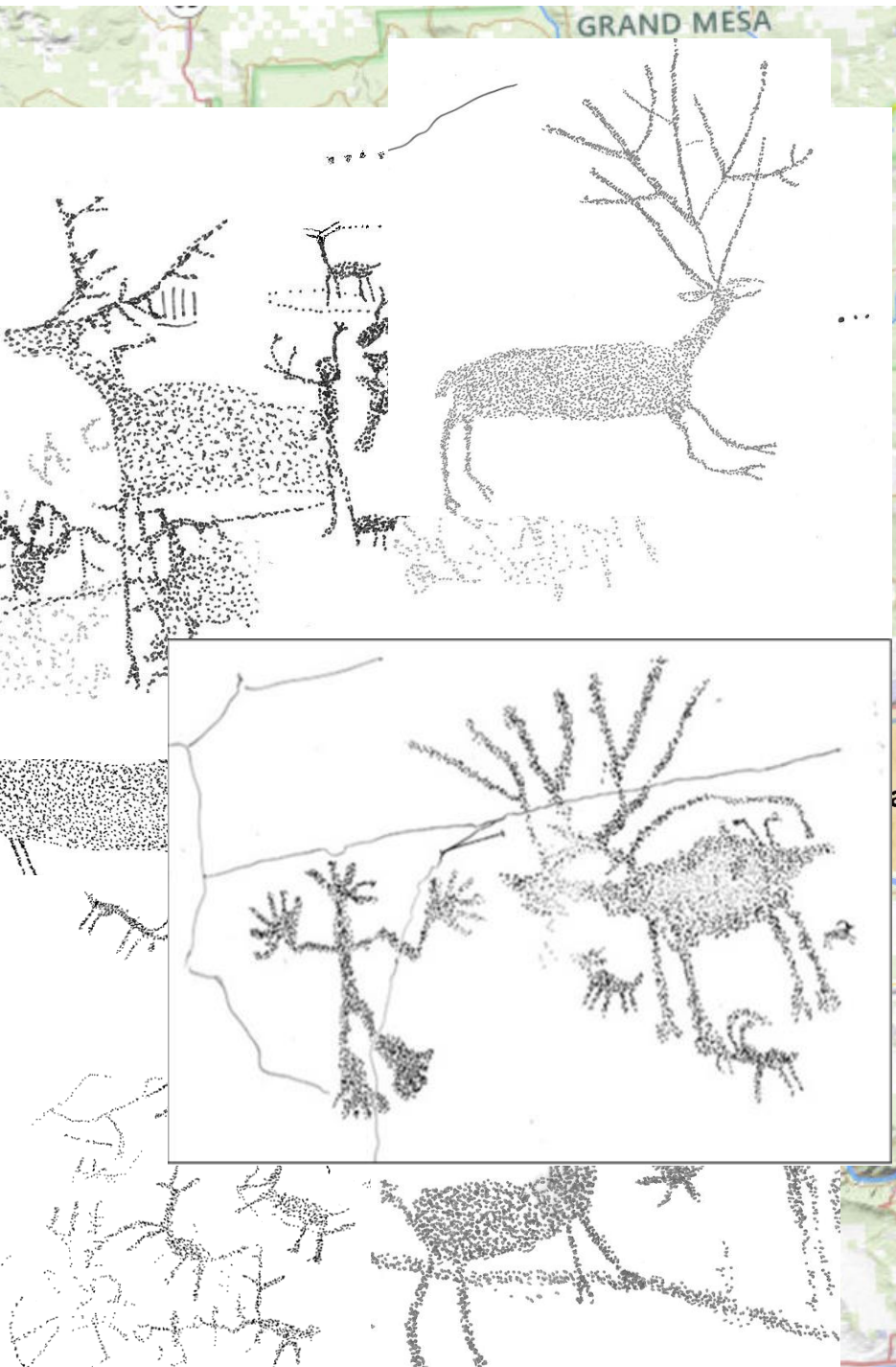
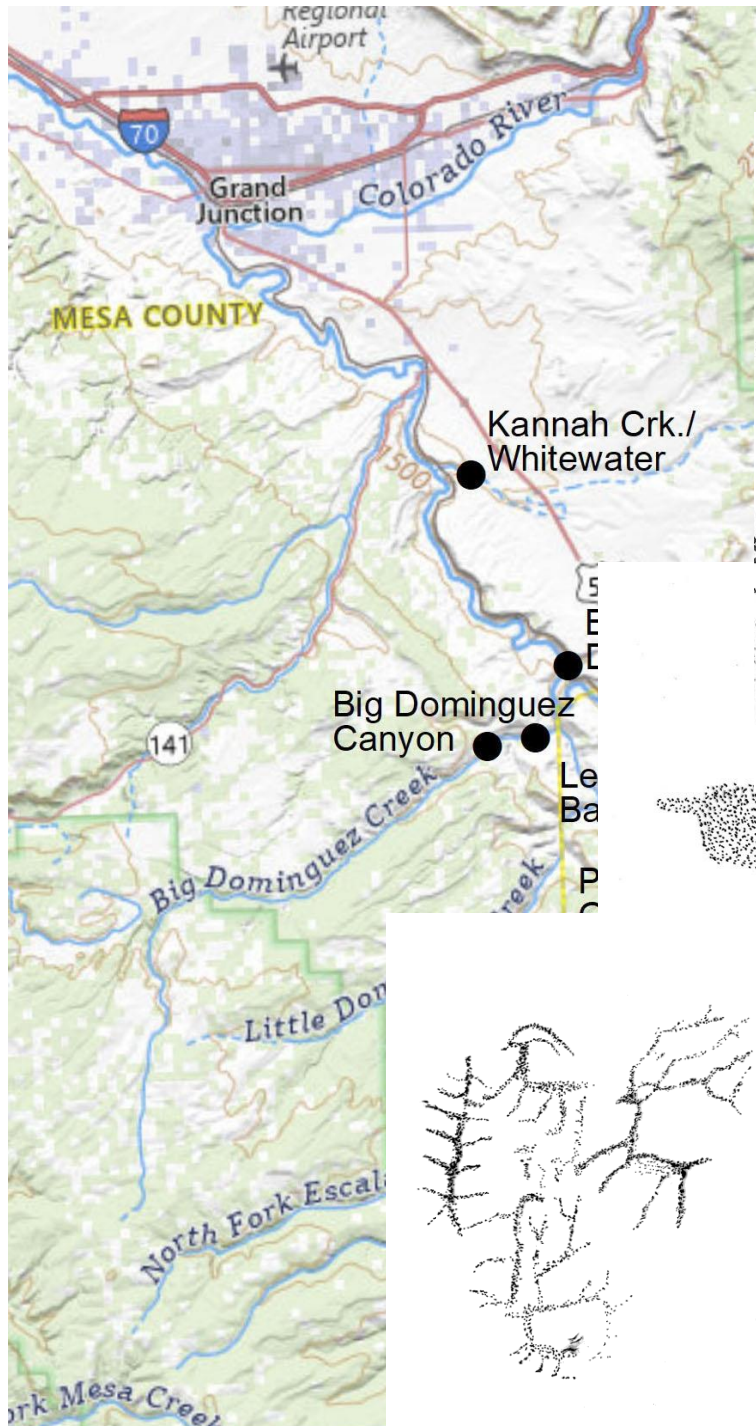


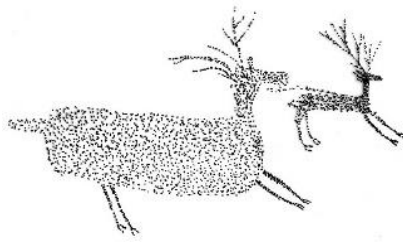

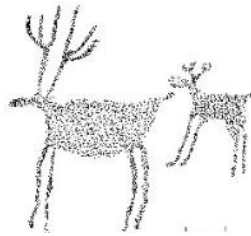
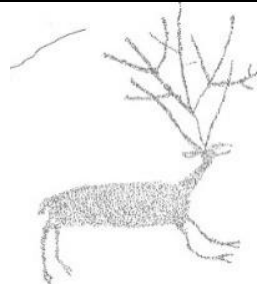
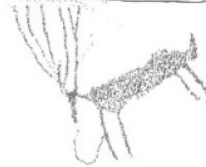
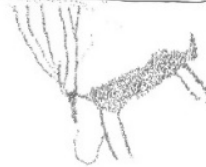




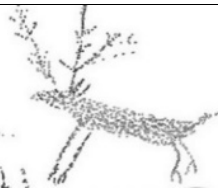
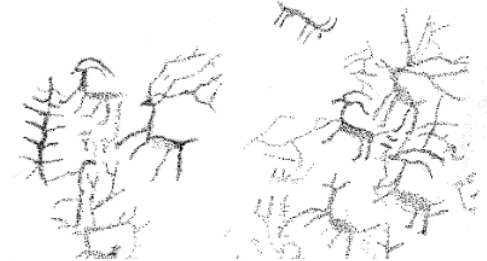

By turning the Google Earth map 180 degrees, the rivers are similar in both images. The Smith Fork, and the North Fork flow left-to-right towards the Gunnison River. The two rivers border Scenic Mesa.


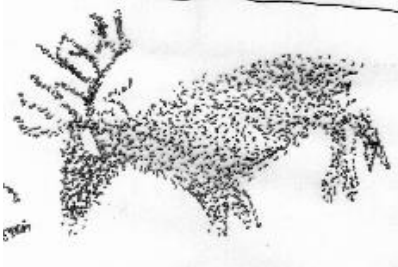

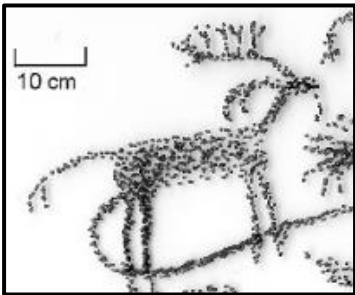
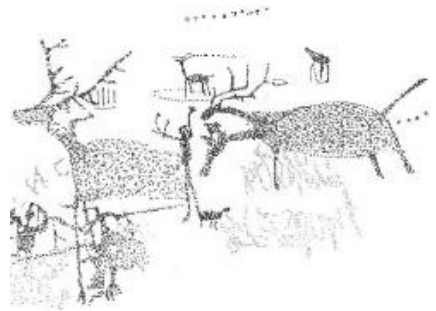
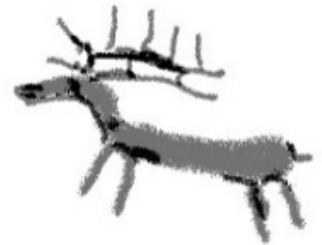

Deer and Elk horn profiles



Mule deer with tree-like branching points. Elk with swept horizontal line with vertical points. The differentiation between the two species is represented in the petroglyphs during the Formative era



Deer				
Escalante Bridge		Fraganicik orchard	Smith Fork	Plateau Creek
				
Smith Fork	Smith Fork	Smith Fork	Escalante Bridge	
				
Escalante Bridge	Palmer Gulch	Roubideaux Canyon	Leonards Basin	

Elk				
Smith Fork				Roatcap
				
Eagle Rock Shelter	Eagle Rock Shelter	Alpine Springs	Roatcap Gulch	

Escalante Bridge Game Drive Site



Escalante Game Drive Site

Alpine – Game Drive

Prehistoric Use of the Escalante Game Drive Site

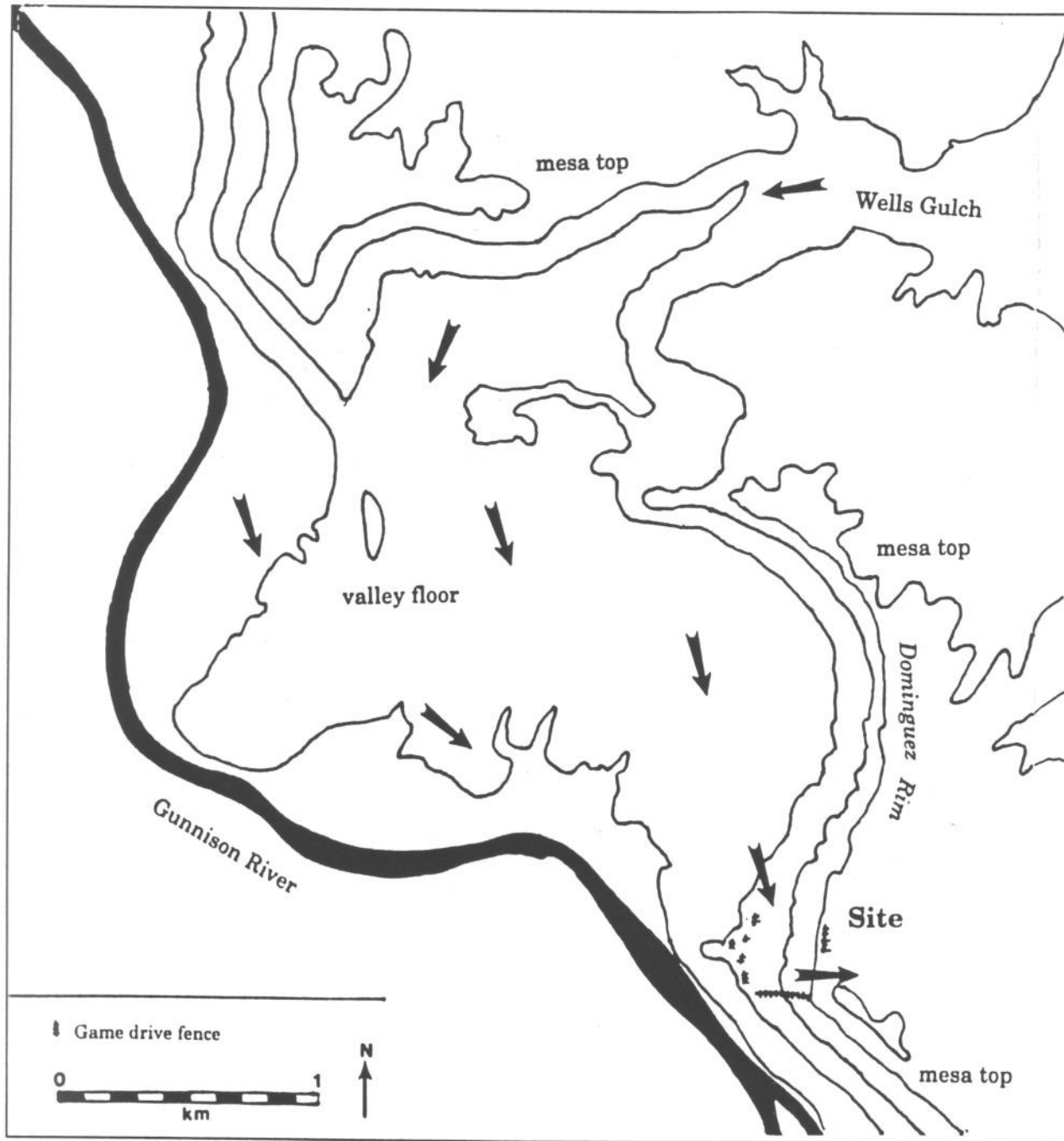



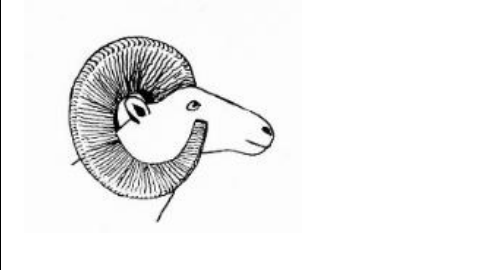




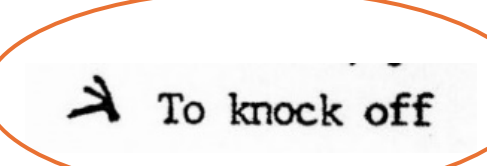

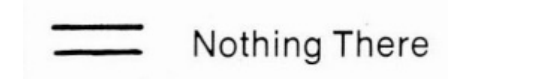

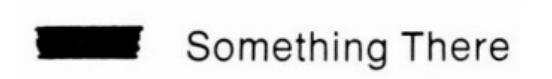




Figure 12. Model of game drive system. Contour intervals are 200 feet.

Reed, 1997

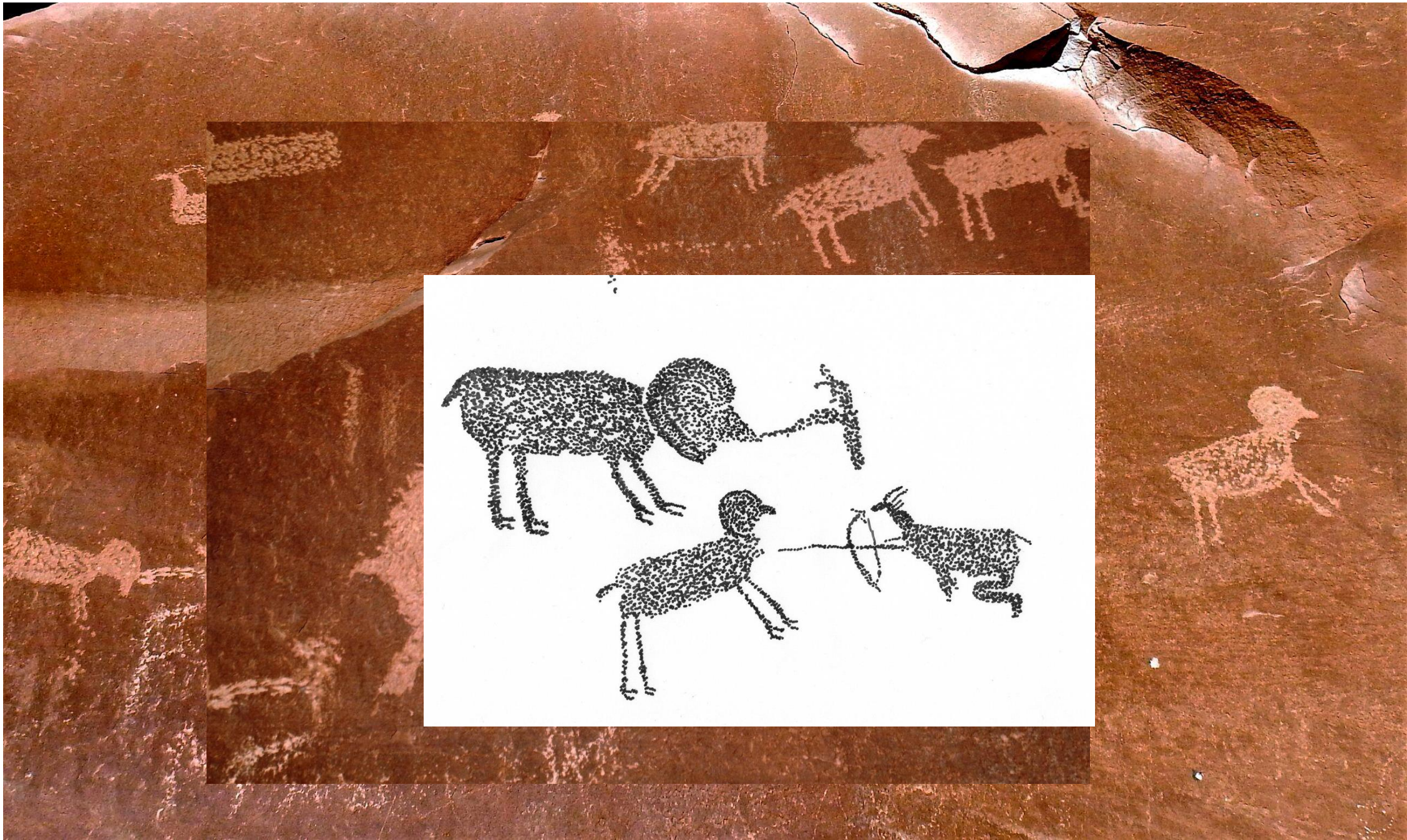
Addition of the horned quadruped

- Martineau (1973) coined the term “horned quadruped” or “goat” to label the sheep-like images.
- They are omnifarious, comprising all sorts of body shapes, postures, limb positions, hooves or no hooves, and varieties of horn configurations.
- They appear in just about every complicated, narrative panel from every state in the western United States.
- The real bighorn sheep are depicted in several areas, without abstractions.
- Martineau argues that theories of hunting scenes “just don’t add up when under close examination... Hunting was so common among Indians that they would hardly have mentioned such one-sided and profuse depictions... Only in the case of an unusual hunt or the unusual animal.” (Martineau 1973, 7).
- The only real ‘hunting scene I have observed is on the Colorado River near Moab, Utah. (see Chart of ‘sheep’)

			
Desert Bighorn sheep	Sheep hunt panel, Colorado River near Moab, Ut Drawing by C.P.		(drawing by Martineau 1973,8)
			 A Good Journey
"direction", or "movement"	"nothing there" "wiped, or knocked off"	"encumbered movement", "something on it"	 To knock off
	 Nothing There  Not Turning Aside	 Something There	Martineau 1981 Symbol chart 149 Martineau 1973 Chart 8, 160)
Horns on the face		, 'under, beneath, shielded, protected,	Martineau's unpublished dictionary,.
		"Ahead or in front", or "in the future"	

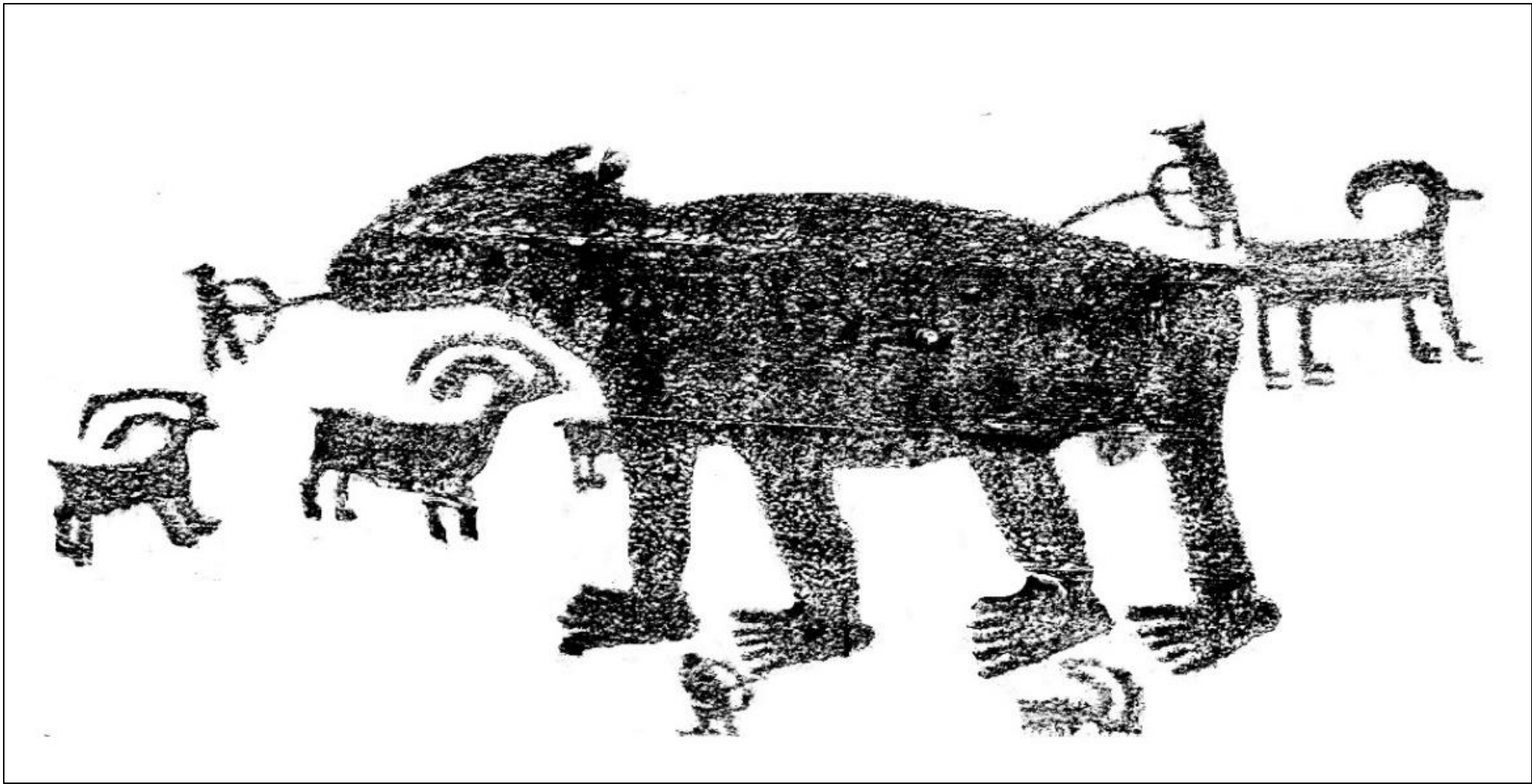
“The purpose for these neutral figures being to depict ideas such as running, walking, climbing, lying down and show the direction of movement,” (Martineau 1973, 11).

This is called, a *semasiographic* system of communication or writing, that “conveys ideas independently from language and on the same logical level as spoken language rather than being parasitic on them as ordinary scripts are. They are supralinguistic because they can function outside of language.” (Boon and Mignolo, 1994,15)



Bear Hunt, near Moab, UT





Martineau's breakthrough solves the mystery, as the quadrupeds supply the context for the motion in the battle with this bear. Each horn shape and body shape is a 'word' and is added together to form a phrase.

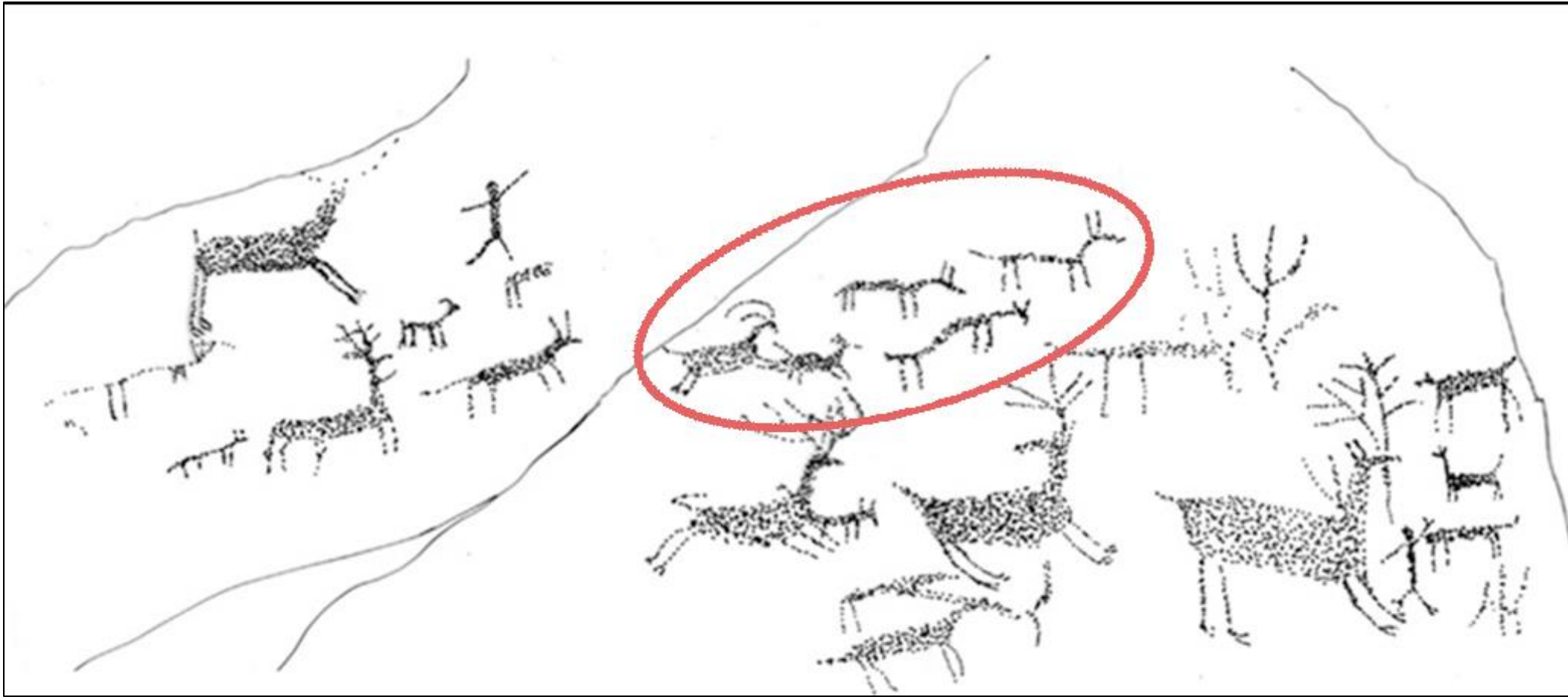
Musical notes, Mathematic notations,

- This is called, a *semasiographic* system of communication or writing, that “conveys ideas independently from language and on the same logical level as spoken language rather than being parasitic on them as ordinary scripts are. They are supralinguistic because they can function outside of language.” (Boon and Mignolo, 1994,15)

Gestures, Postures, and Emojis

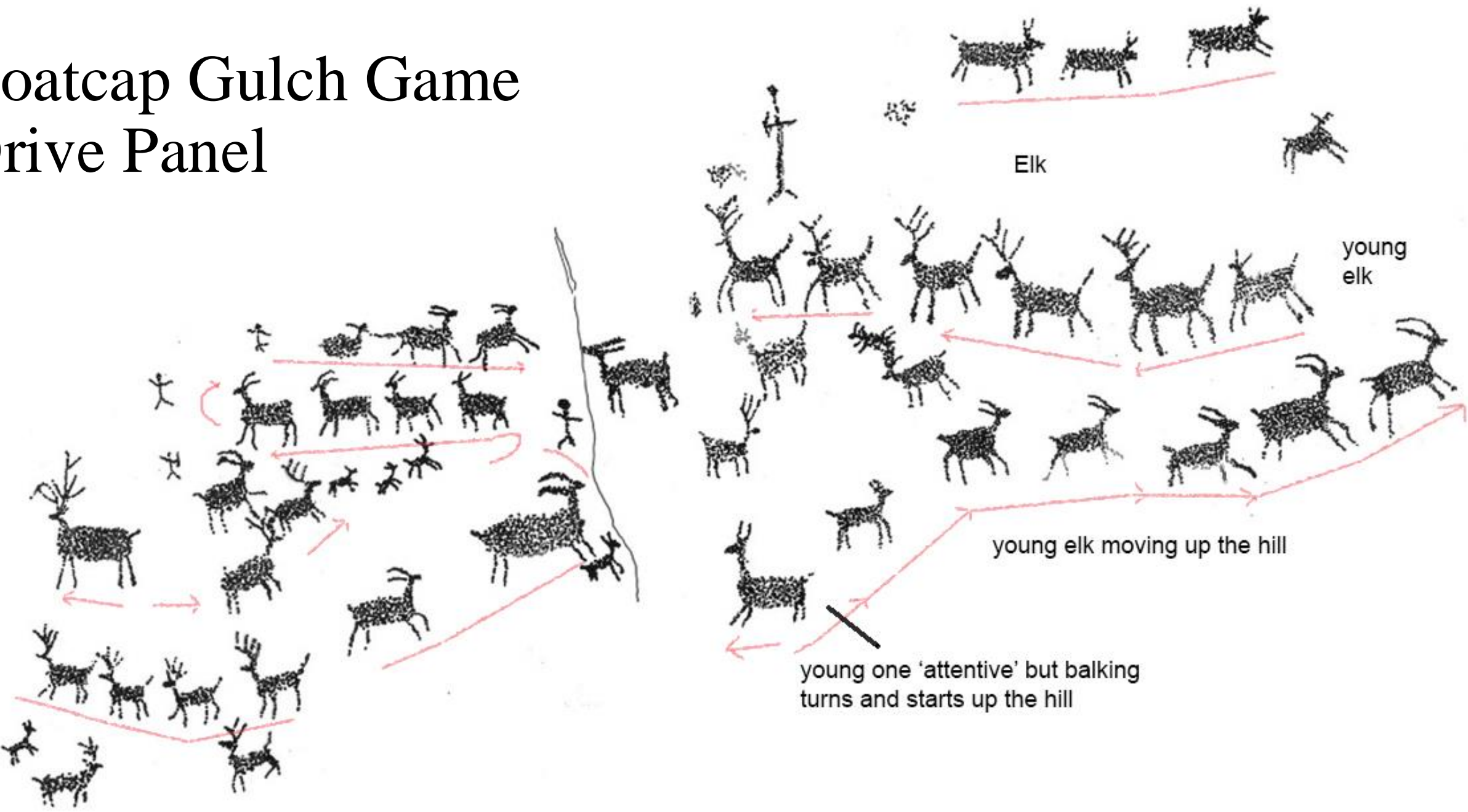
- Gestures and speech have evolved together. (Kendon A. 2004)
Gesture is a constant companion to spoken language, as a dualistic arrangement. What is spoken is augmented by gestures for emphasis, directionality, emotions, behavior, feelings, tone, humor, metaphor, etc.
- Today we see emoji inserted with text messages and emails to provide the missing gesture words that accompany spoken words.
- Think of the horned quadruped as an emoji used by hunting and gathering cultures to communicate kinetic information

Escalante Bridge Game Drive Panel

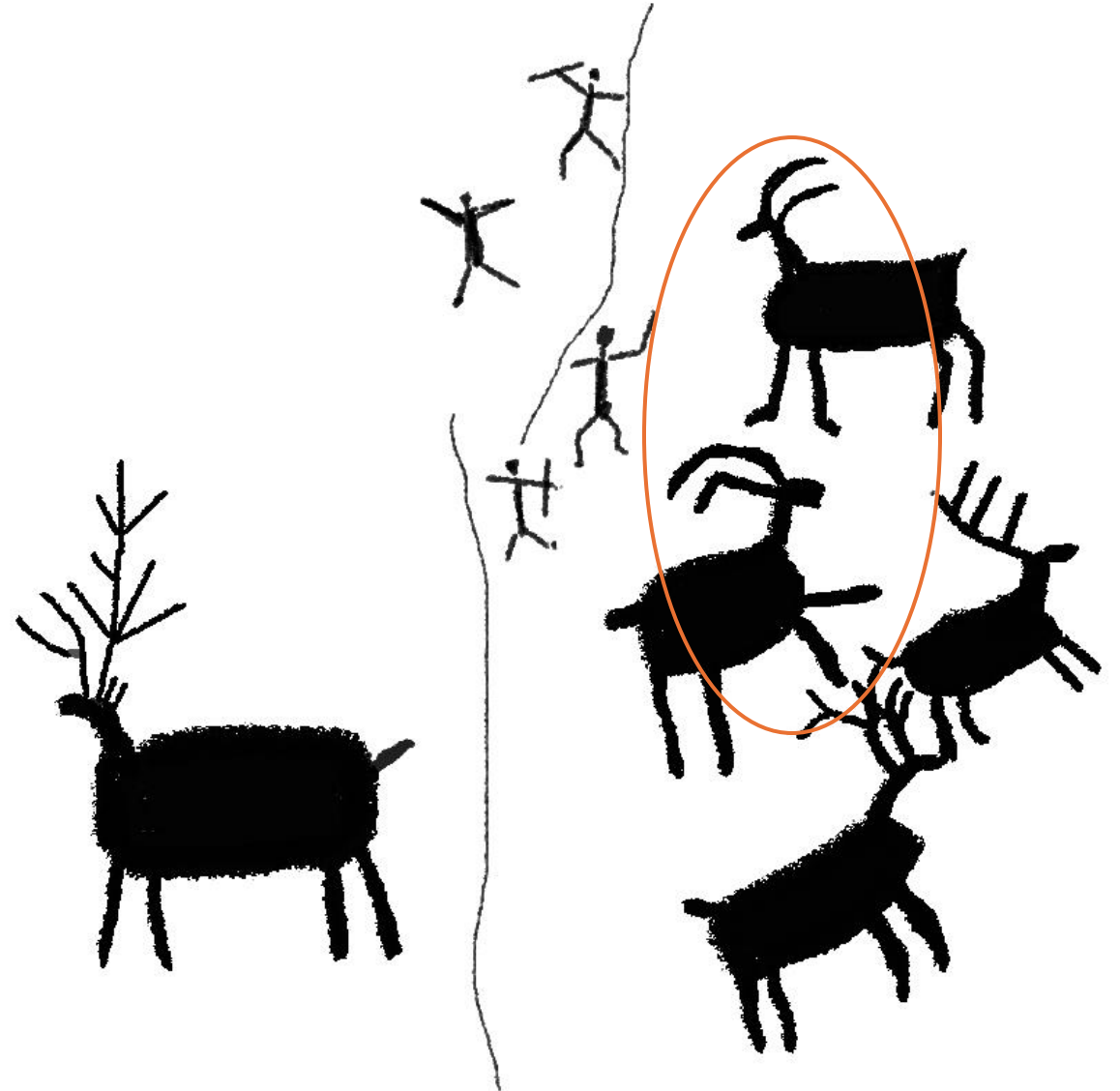


The Escalante Bridge game drive panel, the Archaic era, showing the horned quadruped (emoji), providing the action verb for the direction of motion of the dogs and the deer. The hunters are using gestures to drive them up the hill to the kill site.

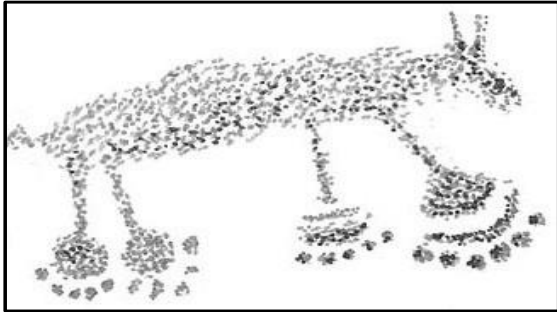
Roatcap Gulch Game Drive Panel



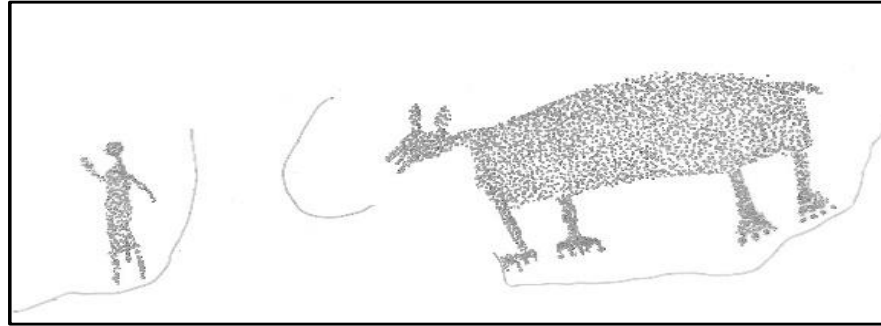
What about the Quads? The Emojis showing the actions.



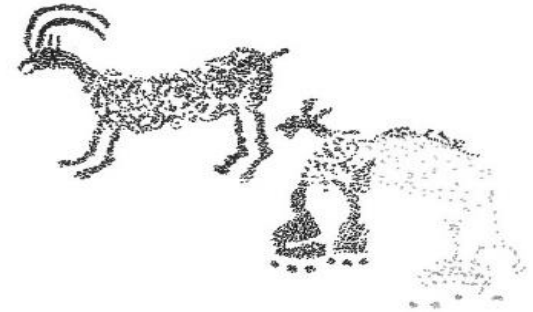
Archaic through Formative era Bears



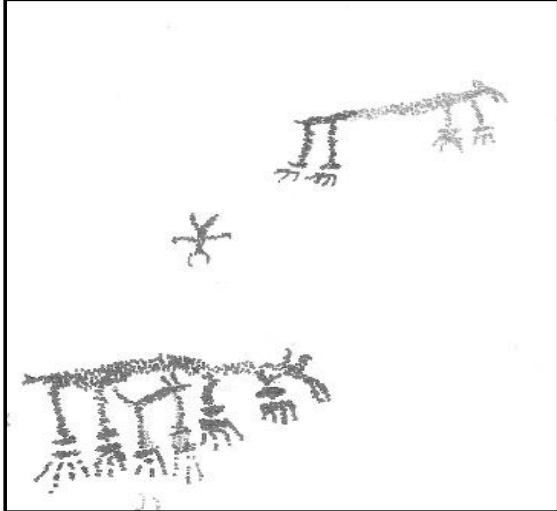
Leonards Basin



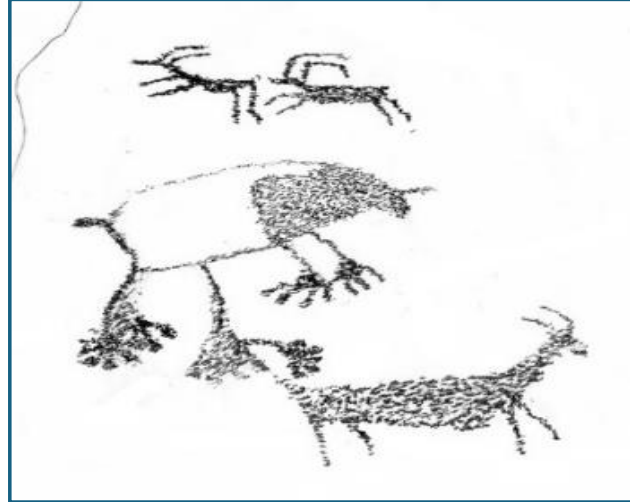
Escalante Canyon



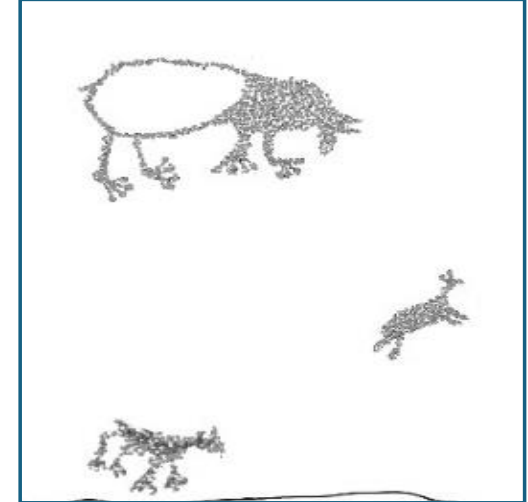
Palmer Gulch



'starving bears' Dolores River



Smith Fork River



Smith Fork River



Gunnison River

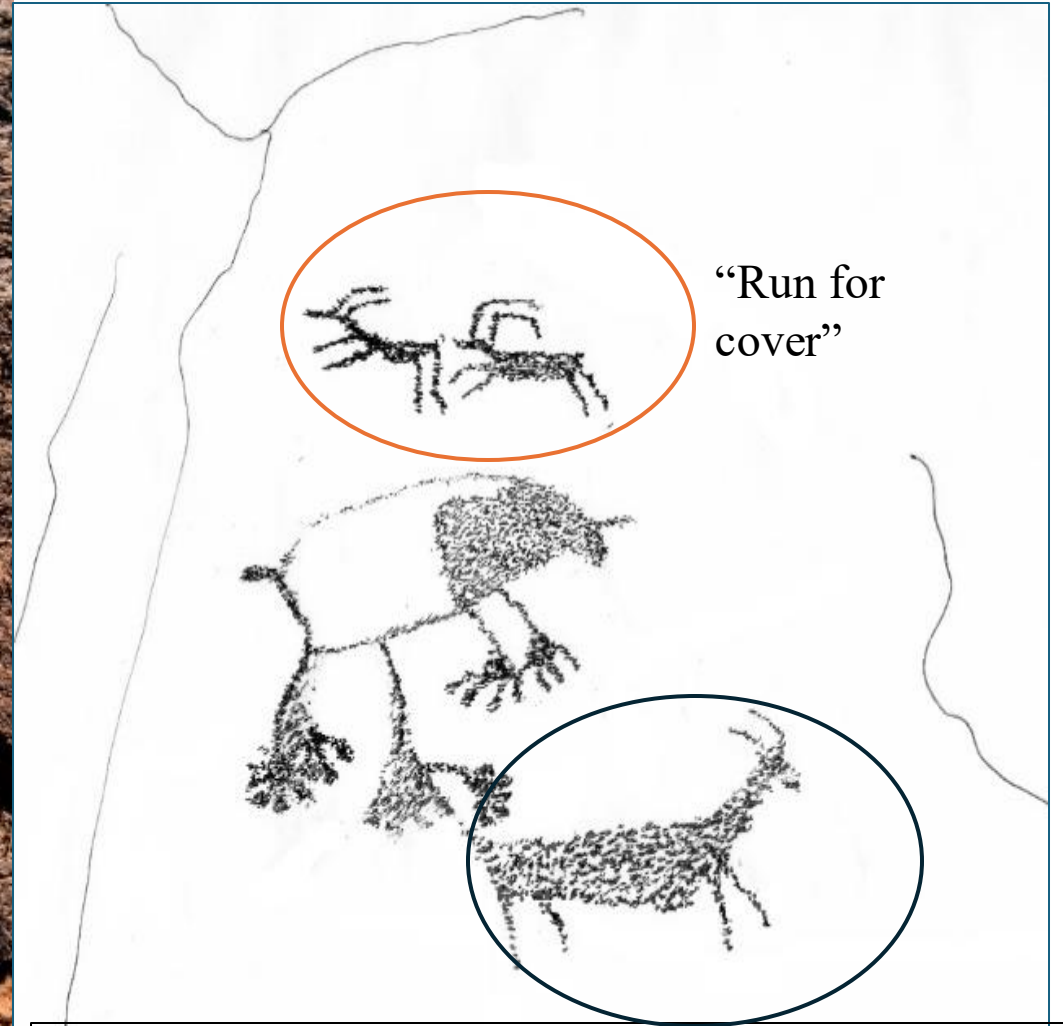


Kannah Creek



Kannah Creek

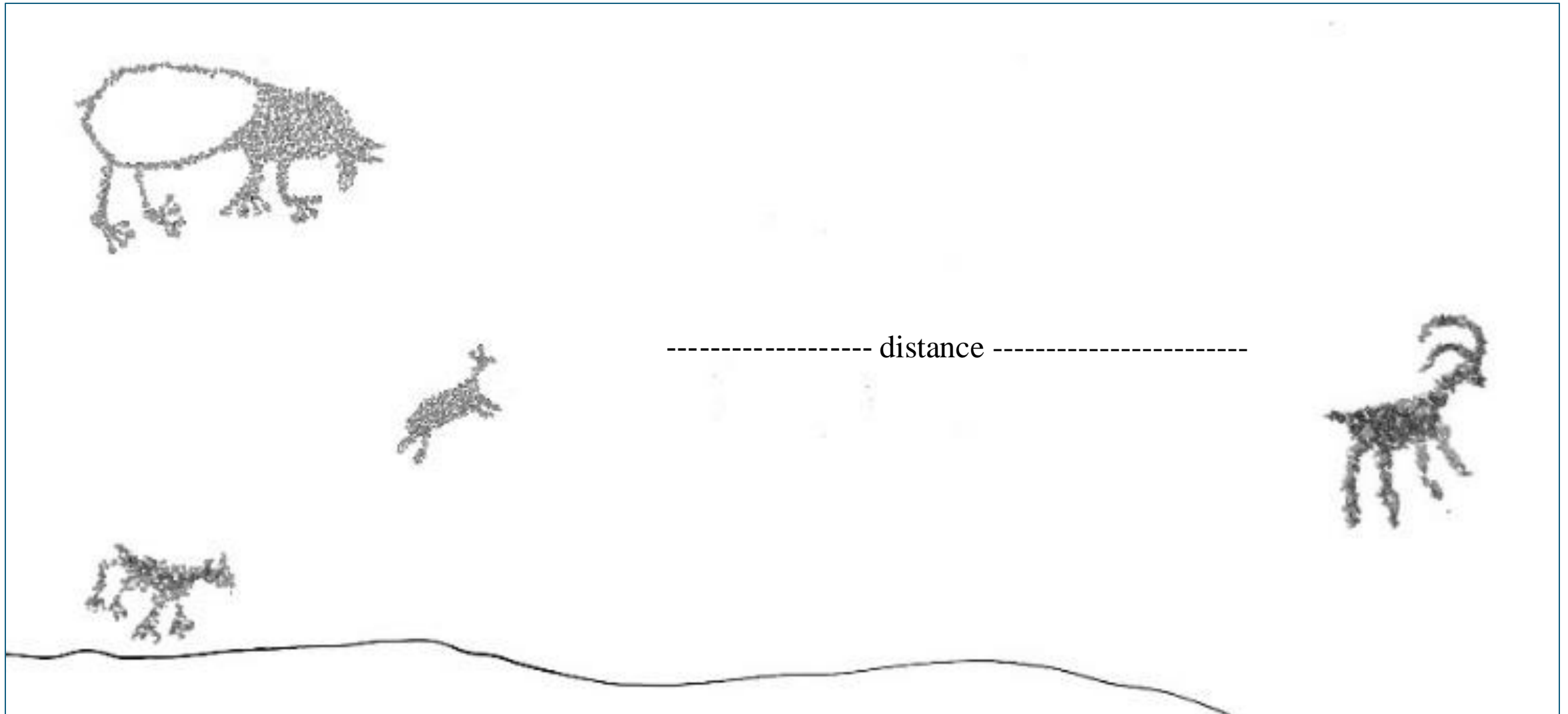
Smith Fork Bears and the Emojis

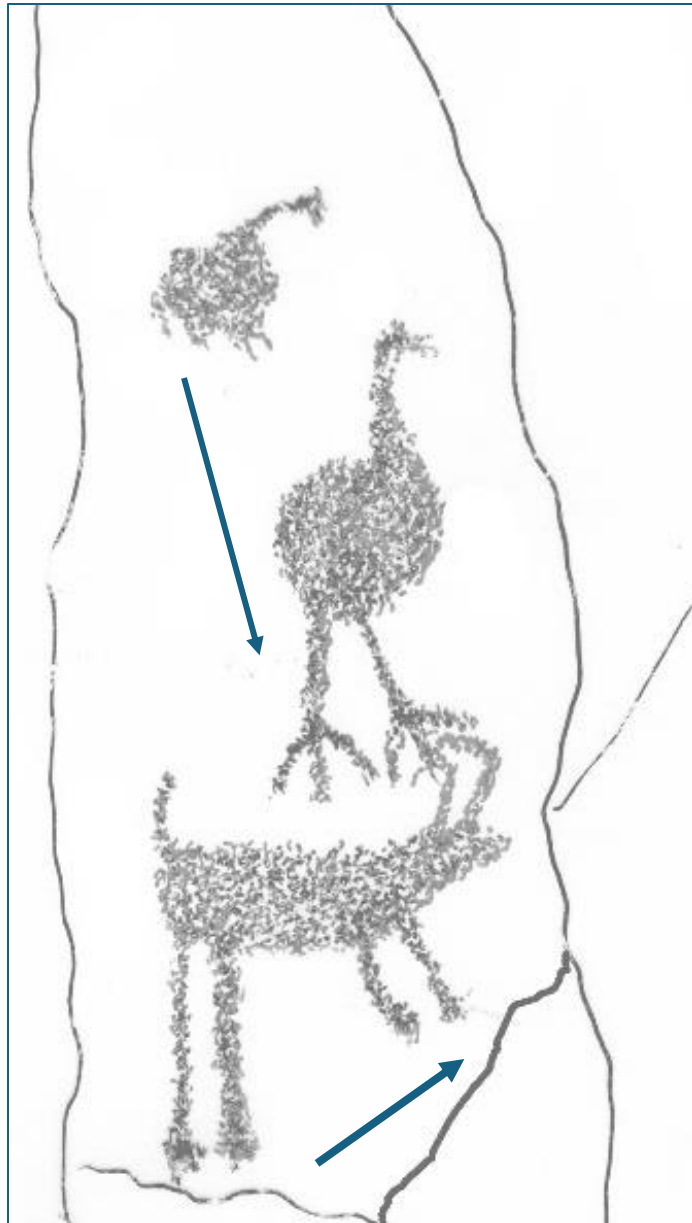


"He will move along slowly (this way) as he fills his empty belly."



Bear (sow) and cubs with the emoji showing the spatial syntax.

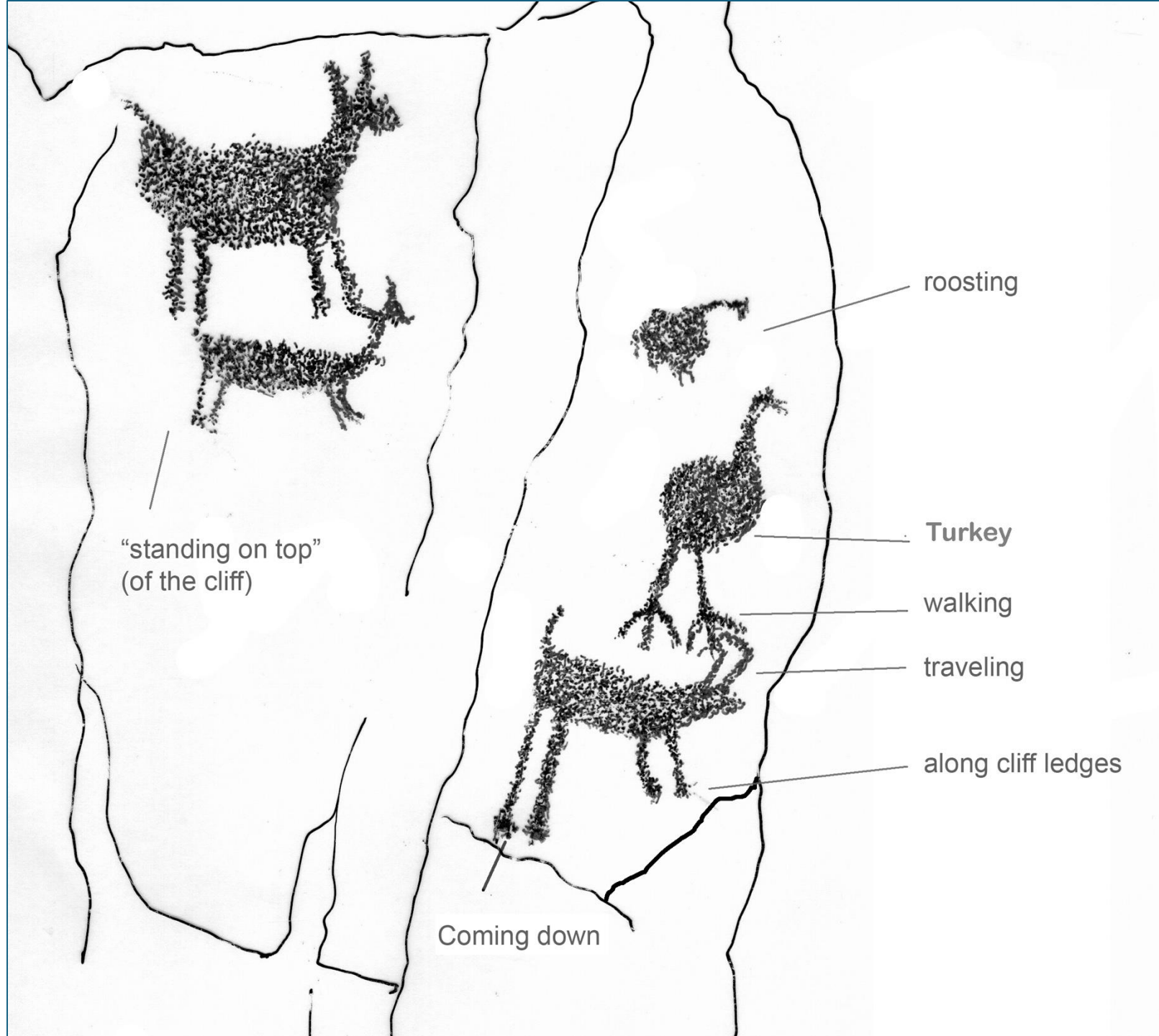


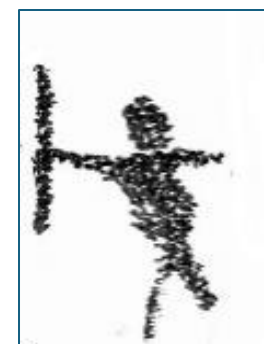
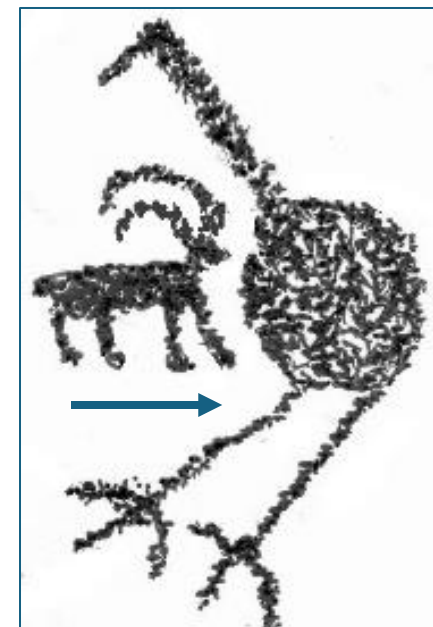
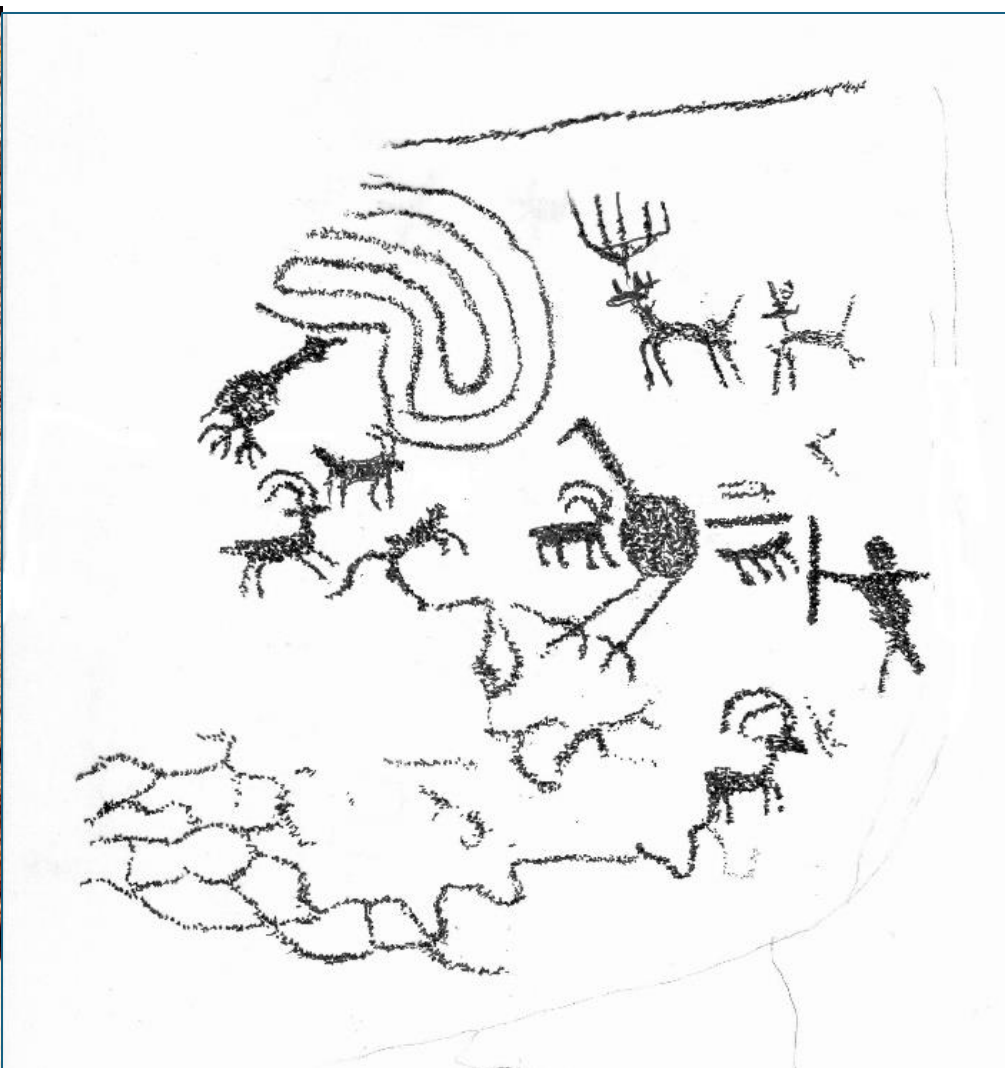


Birds and Emoji



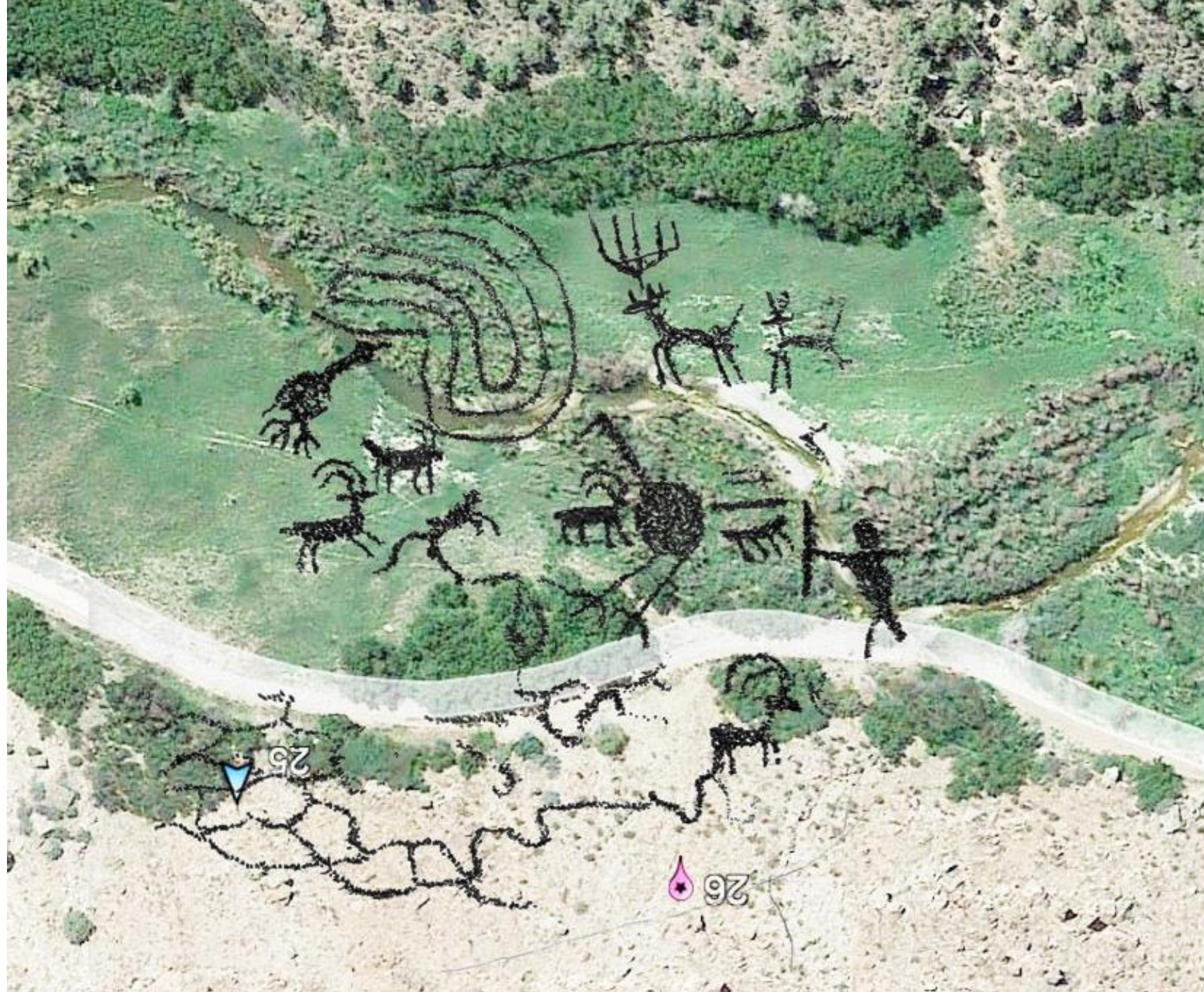
When Two
Birds are One



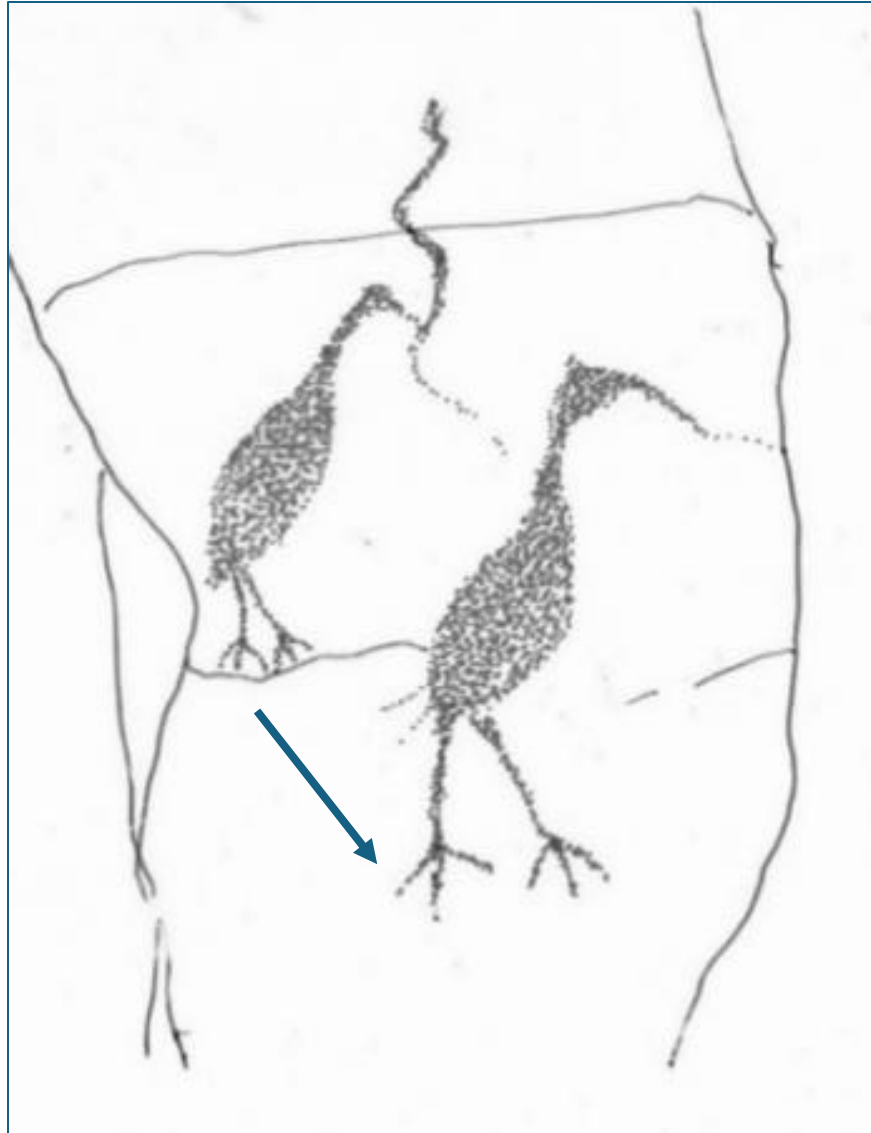
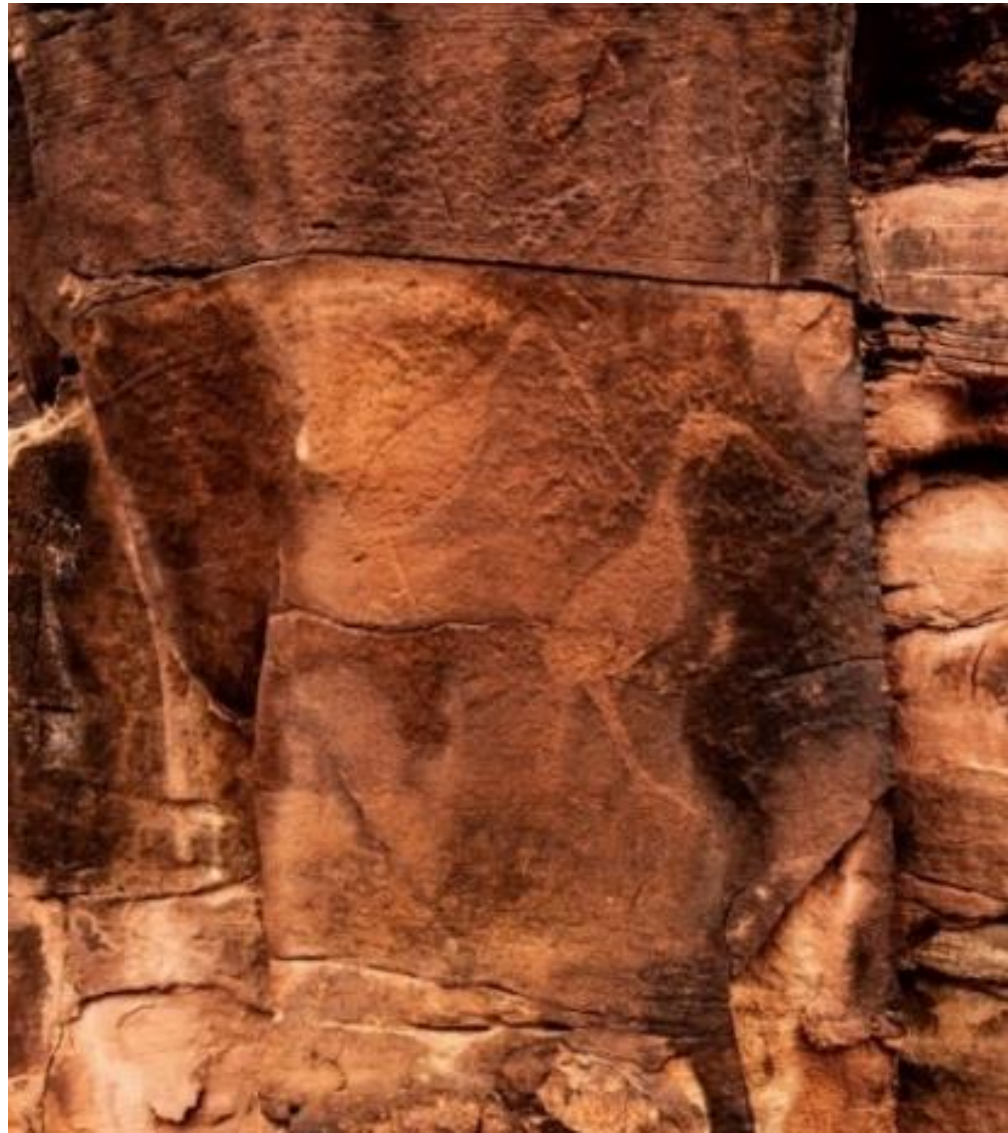


When the Two are One

➤ To knock off



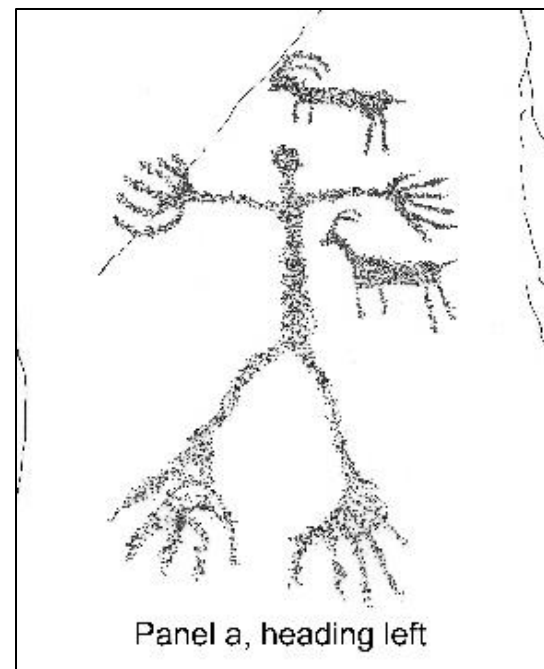
When Two are One



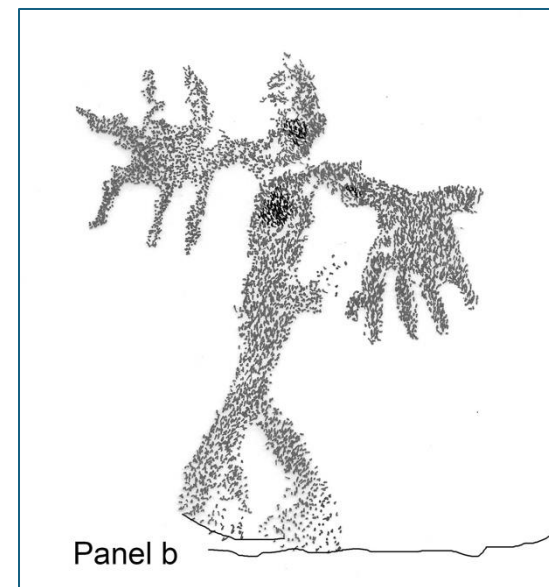


Google map shows a close-up of the location of this panel, which overlooks the shallow wading ponds that flood every spring.

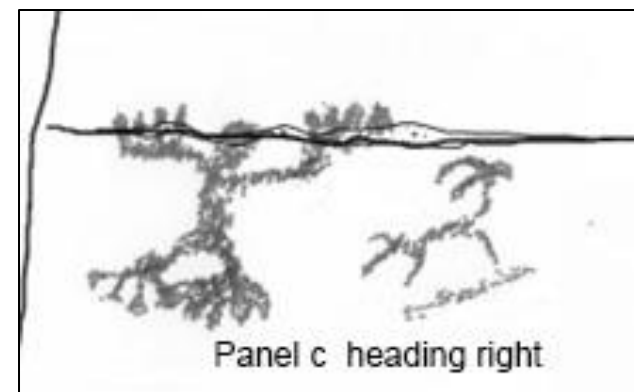
Talking with Hands (and emojis)



Panel a, heading left

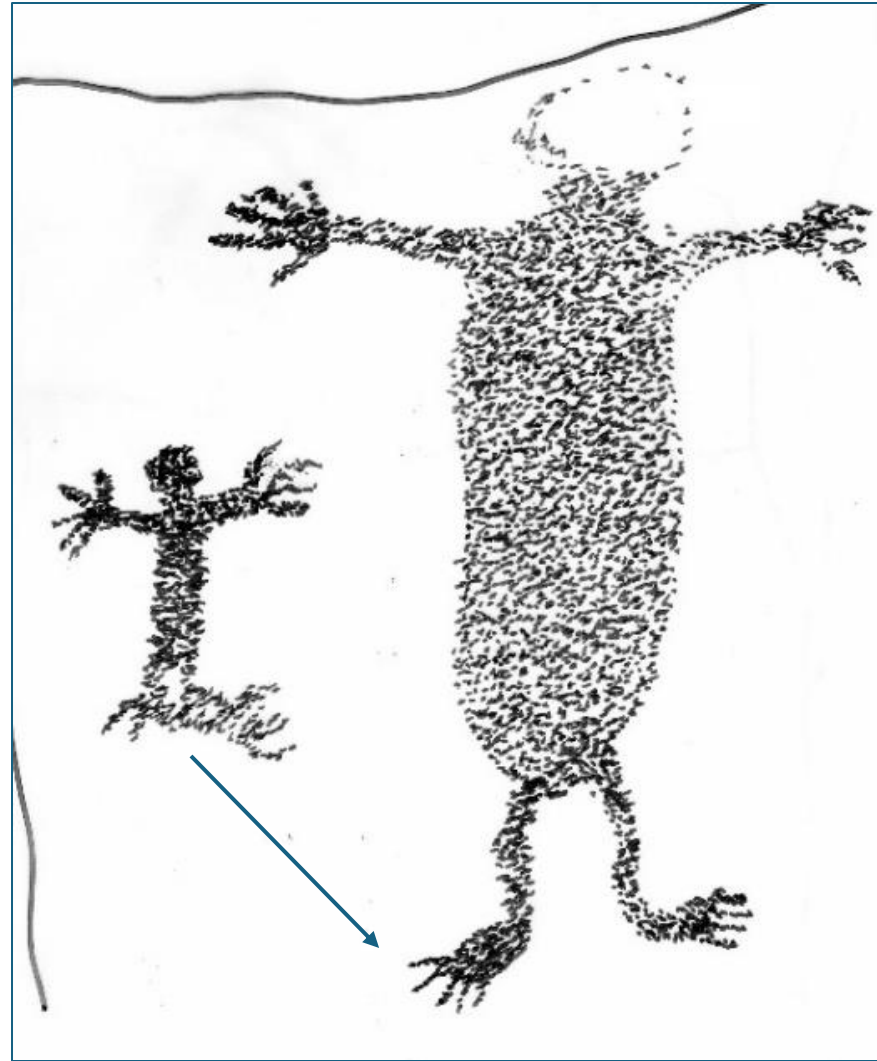


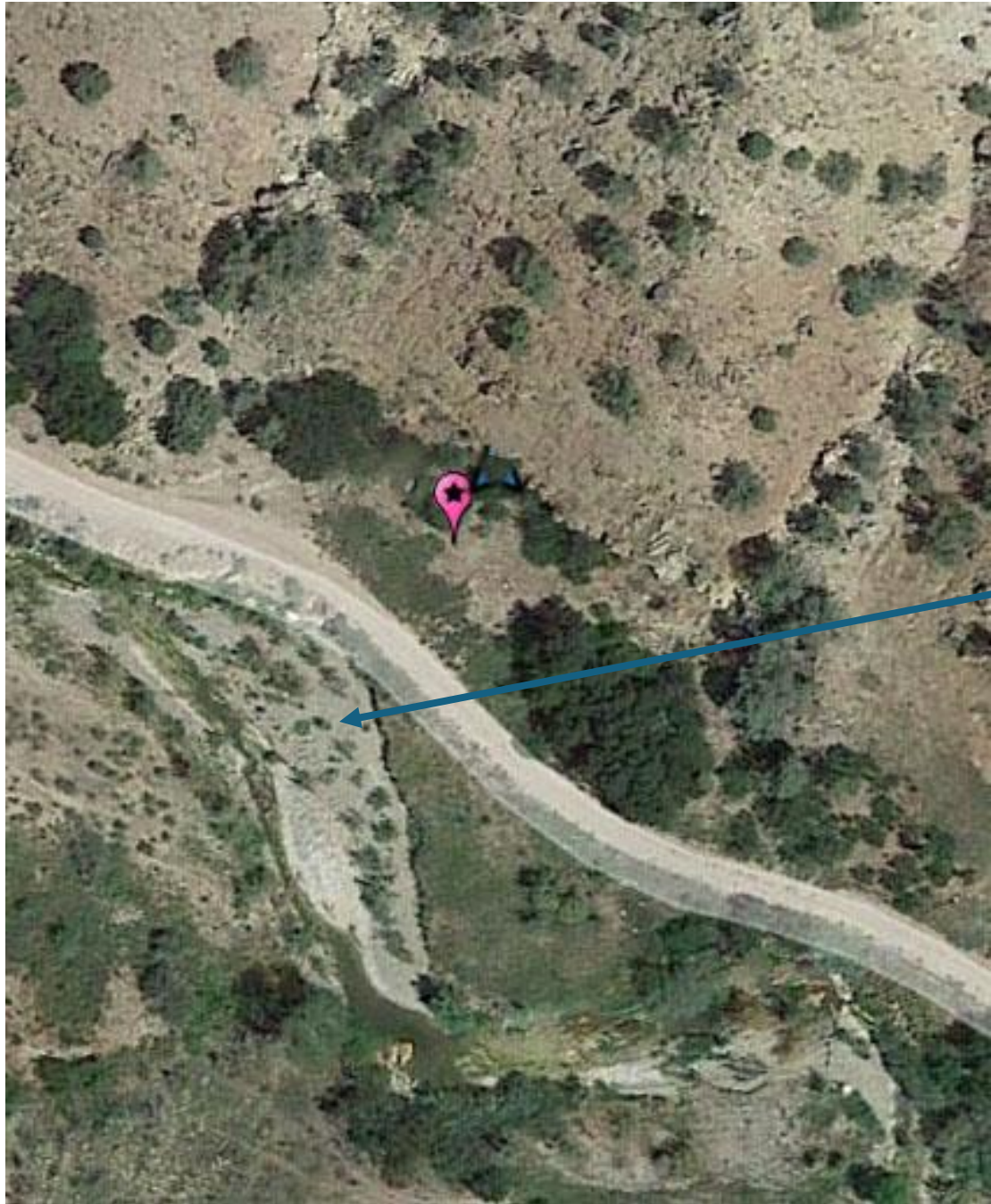
Panel b



Panel c heading right

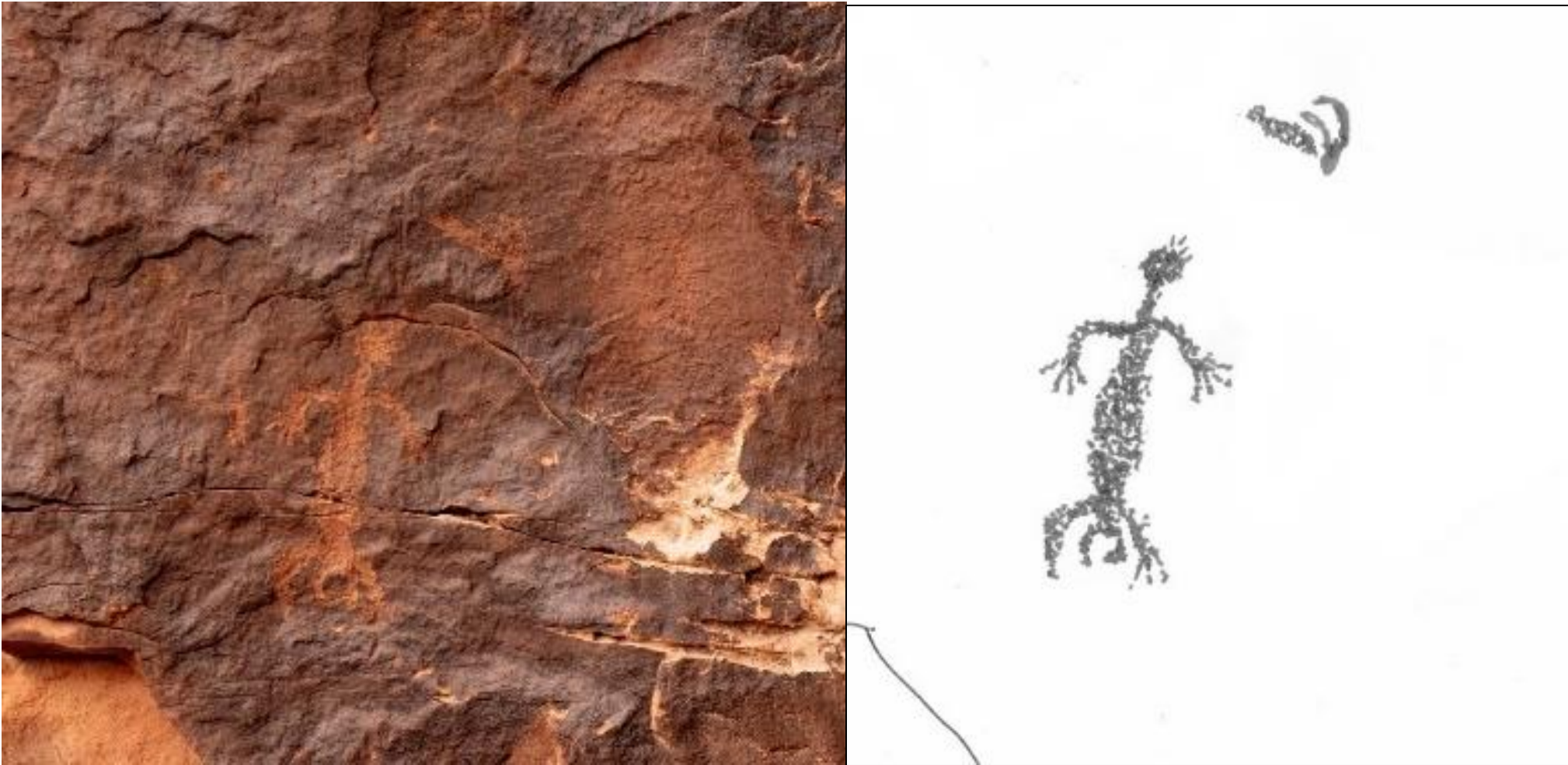
The Two Anthros are One





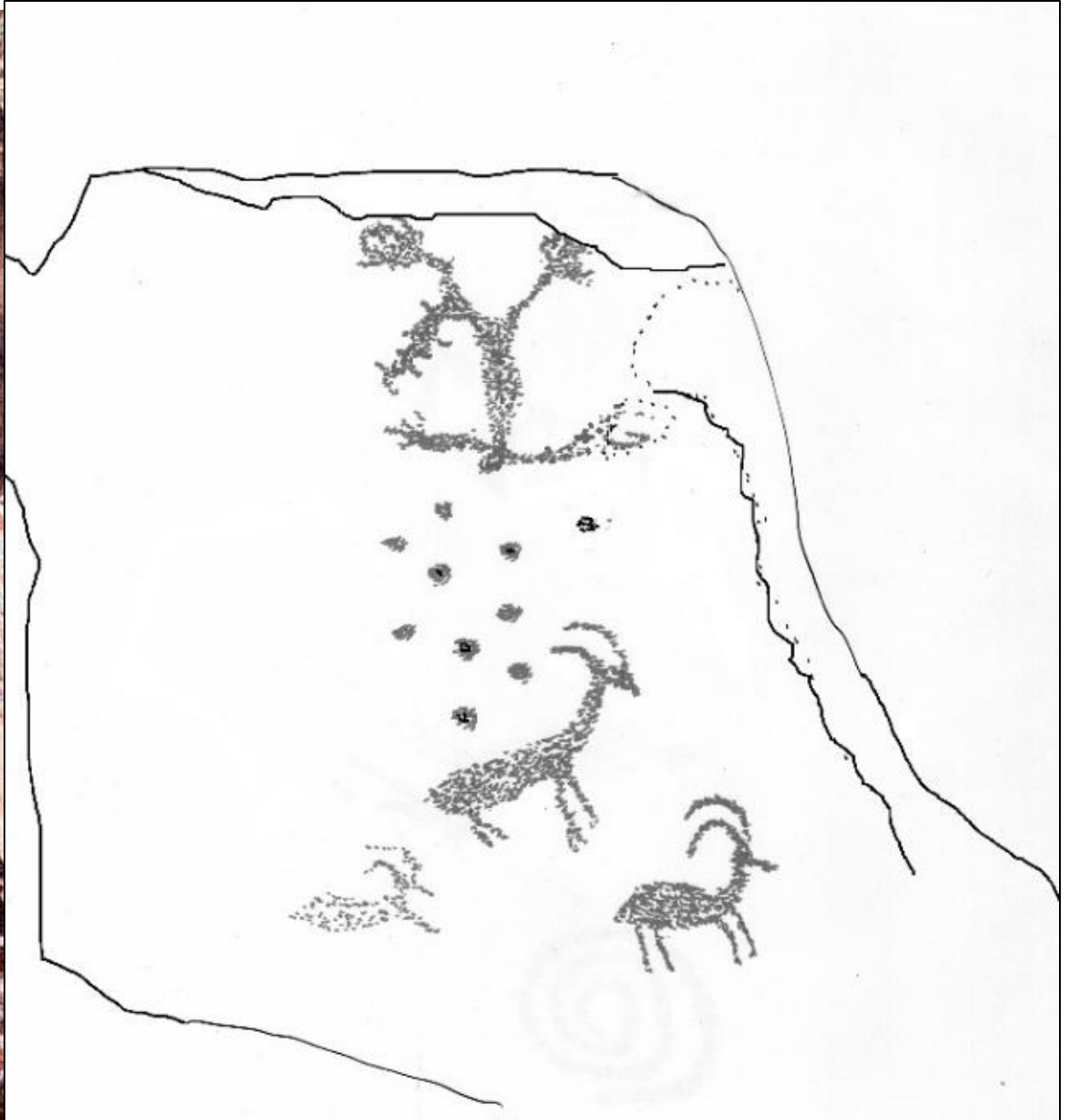
Quicksand warning

A close up in Google Earth shows the meander of the river that swells much wider as it flows past the two part panel. During spring flooding, this could be a raging torrent with quicksand and especially dangerous to cross.



The birthing panel of what looks like a woman with a “footling” breech birth with the feet of the infant sticking out between her legs.

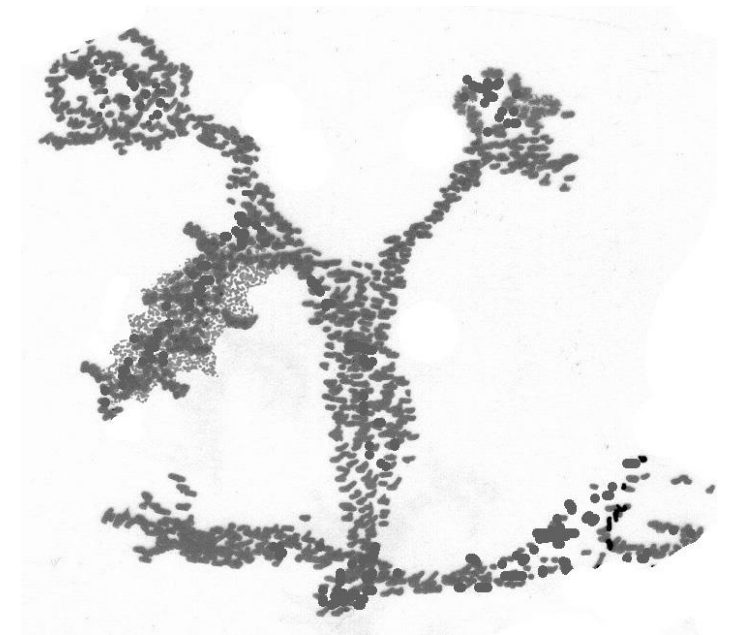
Rock Falls in Motion (and the Emojis)



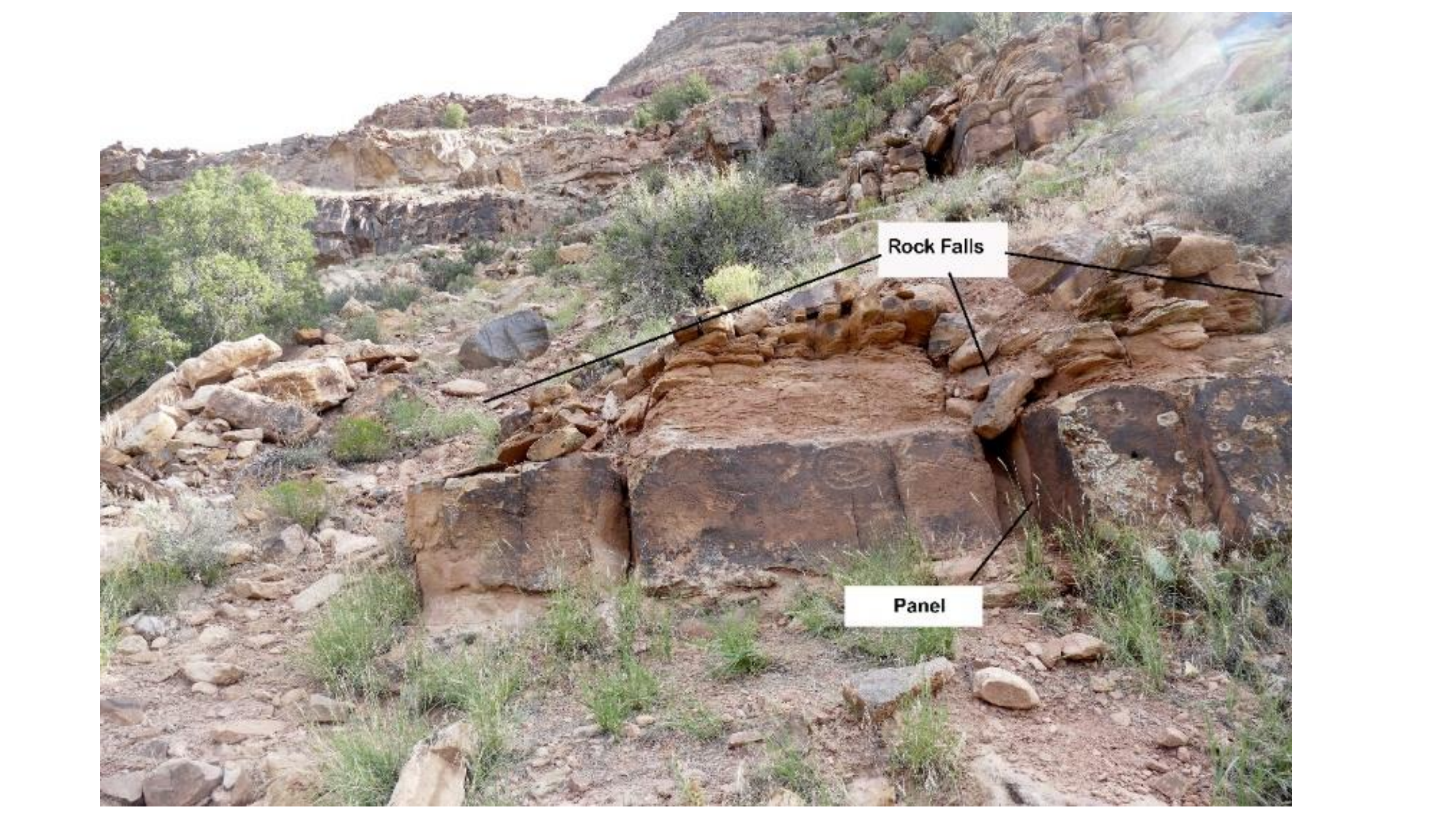
Close up



*Archaic stemmed
projectile point.*

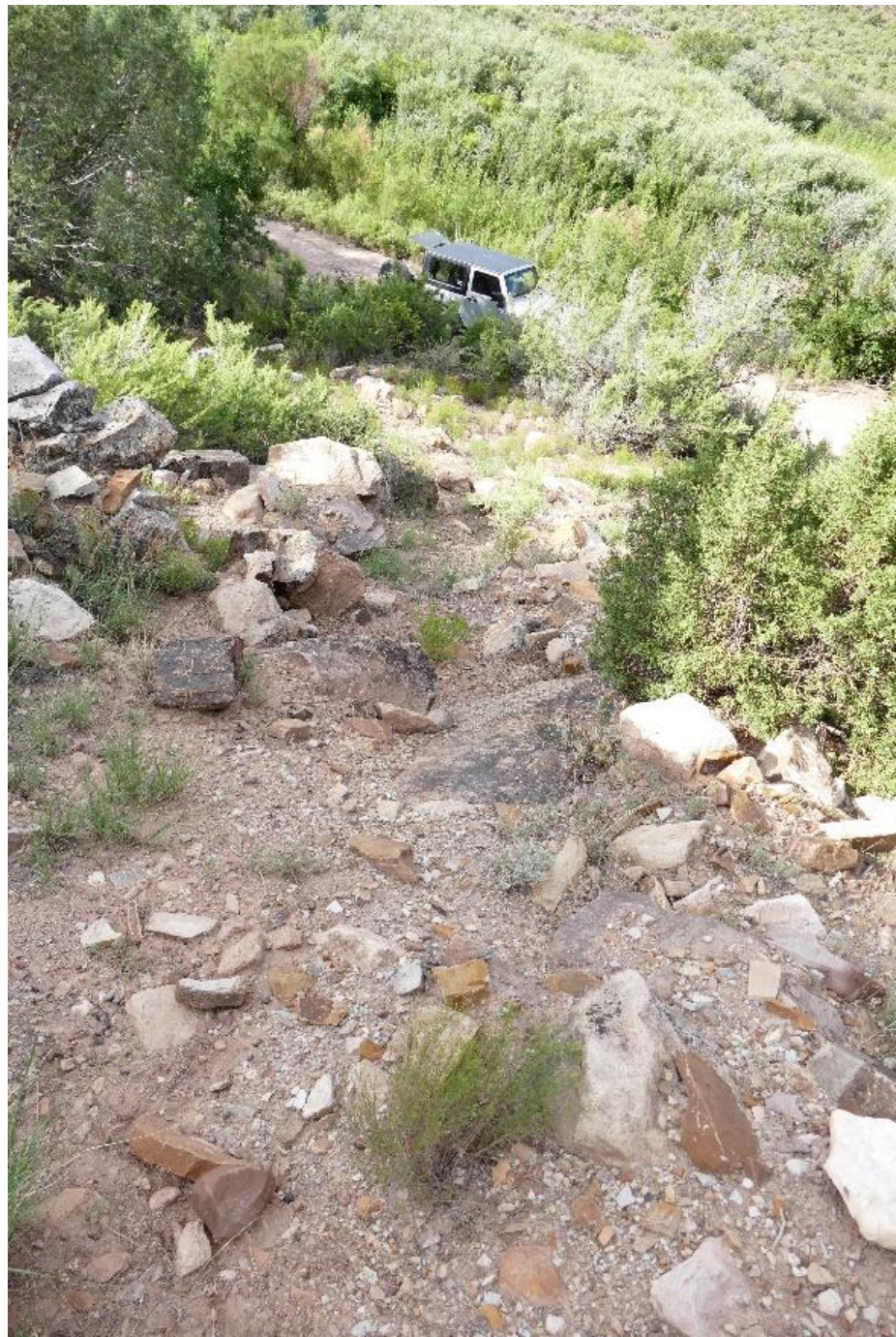


An Archaic stemmed projectile point with a serrated edge. The drawing is a close-up of the ‘spikey’ stone sticking in the leg of the inverted figure.



Rock Falls

Panel



Summary

The study is only a brief sampling of petroglyphs in Western Colorado, particularly in the Gunnison River drainages, spanning from the late Holocene to the present.

- These petroglyphs showcase a progression from Archaic to Formative eras, with changes in imagery like 'elk' and 'deer' representations.
- Most surprising was the high number of quadrupeds that occur prior to the Formative and Proto-Historic eras. Both animals and human figures are animated with gestures and placed in spatial arrangements that communicate information about their environment.
- Ethnographic studies have enhanced our understanding of cultural preferences for geocentric referencing that make interpreting petroglyph maps more plausible.
- Relational thinking ties these stories into the landscape and lifeways of people who lived here for centuries. The gesture analysis and sign vehicle assistance give context for the suggested meanings communicated in these petroglyphs.

and Conclusions

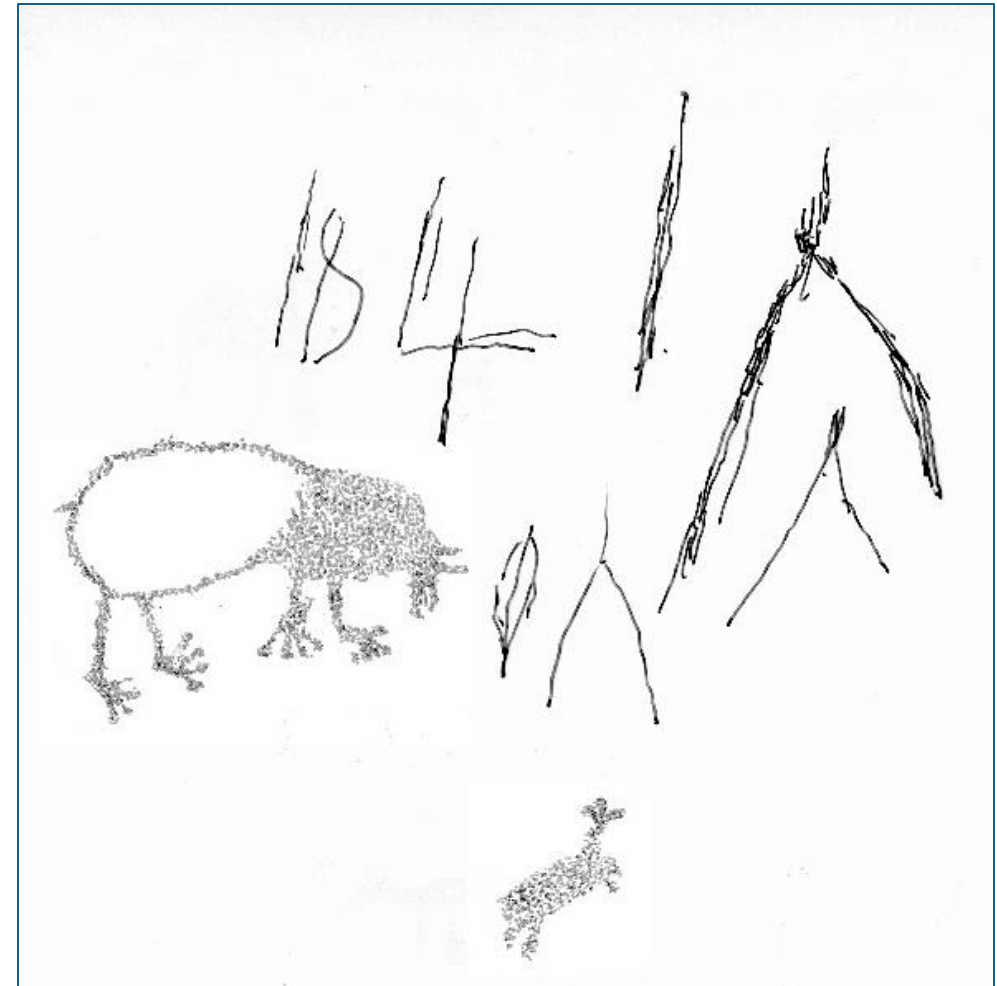
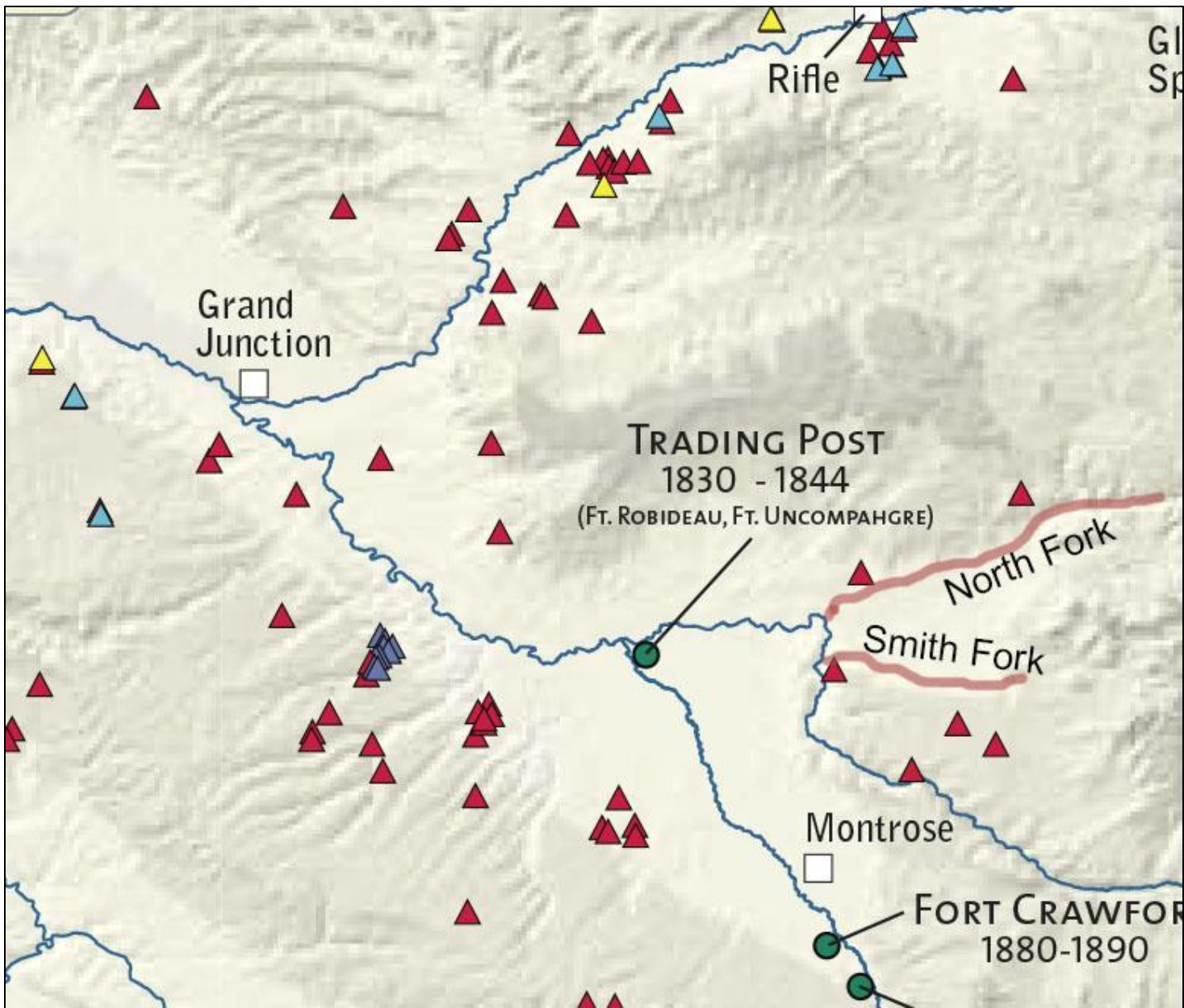
- The Archaic narrative petroglyph panels discussed in this study are **semasiographic writing**, a picture writing.
- They “can be understood once one understands the logical system (grammar) that drives and orders them,” (Boon and Mignolo 1994).
- Spatial syntax, along with geocentric referencing, supplies the grammar.
- Gestures and postures with the quadrupeds supply the narrative action.
- It is my hope that others will continue with this research, following what was initiated by Martineau over fifty years ago.

Historic Ute Images

with
Clifford Duncan

photo by
Glenn Stone





Ute Wikiup Camps (Colorado
Wikiup Project Part 2, Conner and
Ott.)



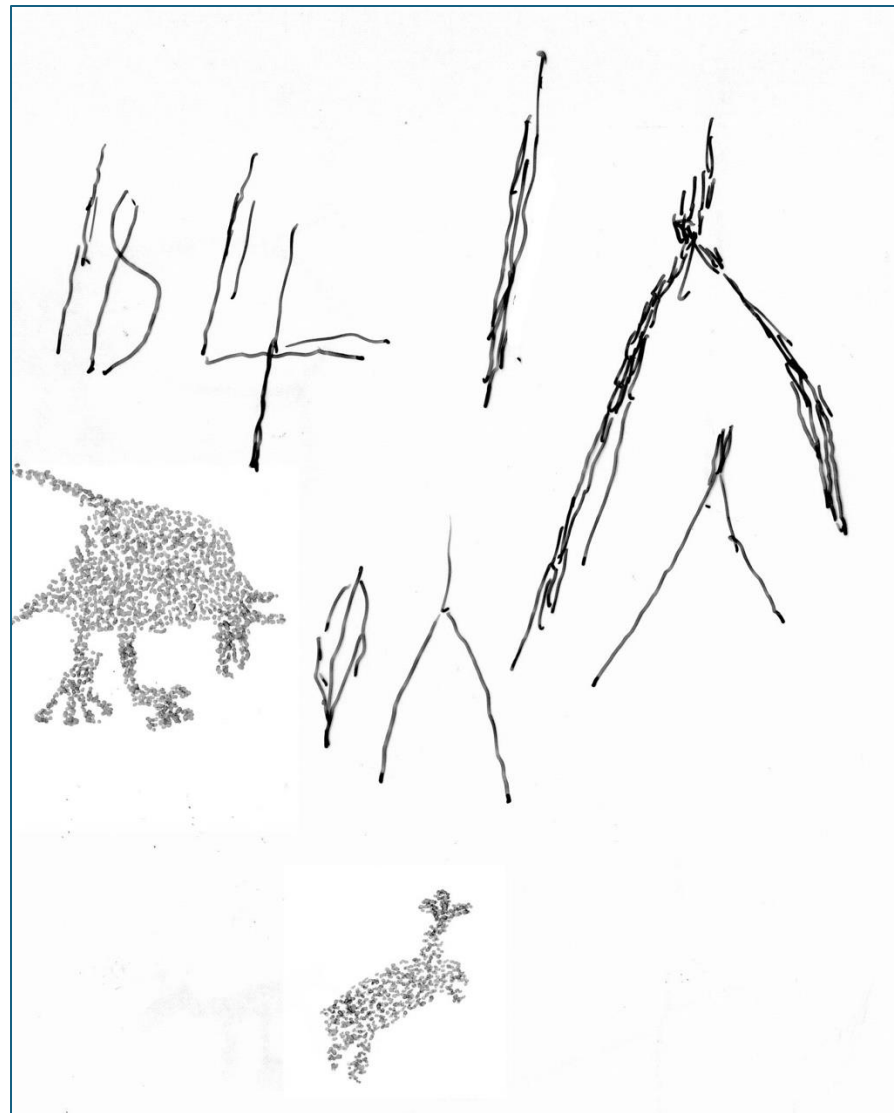


RAT TRAPPERS TENT,

AT LITTLE FISH LAKE.



Dates and Trapper Tent

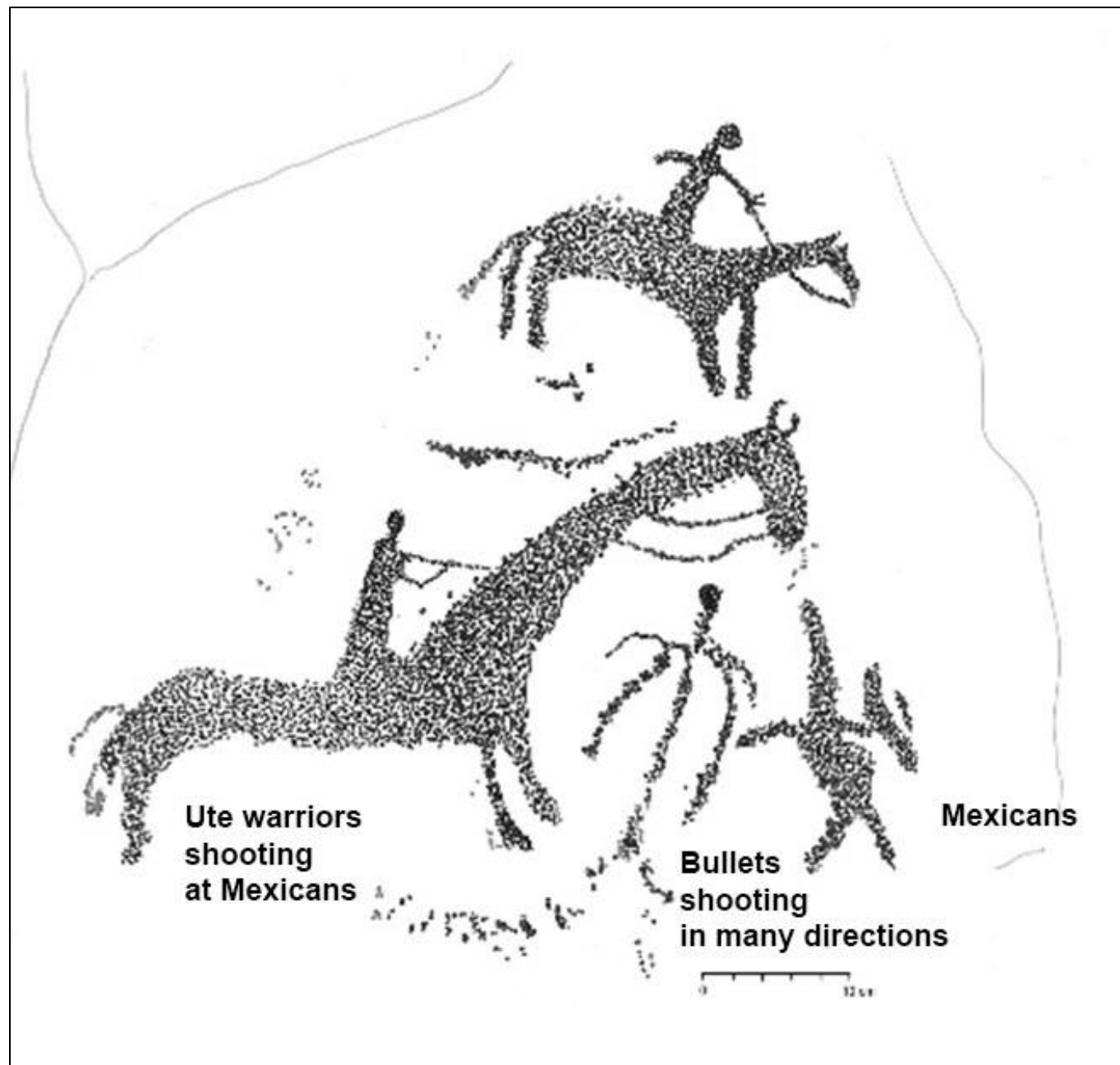


- During the summer of 1843, Navajo warriors raided several ranches west of Santa Fe. Armed Mexicans rode out after the raiders, but could not locate them, and instead attacked a camp of peaceful Utes killing ten people and capturing three. .. in protest, in September of 1844, six Ute chiefs and around 100 armed warriors journeyed to the Santa Fe, Palace of the Governors demanding to meet with the Mexican governor and his deputies.
- A fight broke out and one of the Ute Chiefs was killed. The Utes fought their way out of the city and went on a rampage killing Mexicans along their trail through Abiquiu, and ranches in the San Luis Valley, over Cochetopa pass and down into the Gunnison Valley and west towards Antone Rubidoux's trading post on the Uncompahgre River confluence with the Gunnison. Over 100 Mexican men, women and children were killed.
- All of the employees at Fort Uncompahgre were Mexican and were killed but one, Calario Cortez, who was downstream checking his traps, survived by hiding and making his way undetected into the Gunnison Valley to safety. (Reyher 1998, 62-63.)



Leonards Basin (photo by Dave Manley)

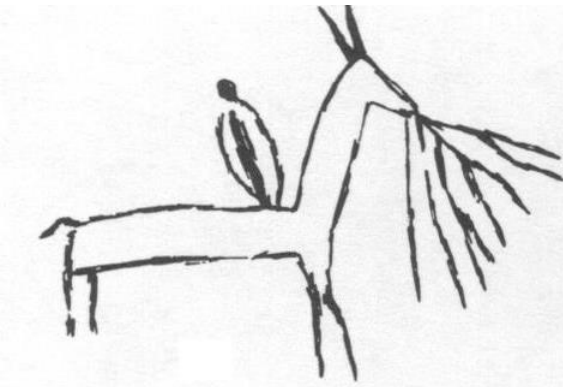
Hail of bullets







Feathered bridles

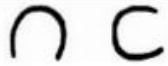




Buffalo Hunt

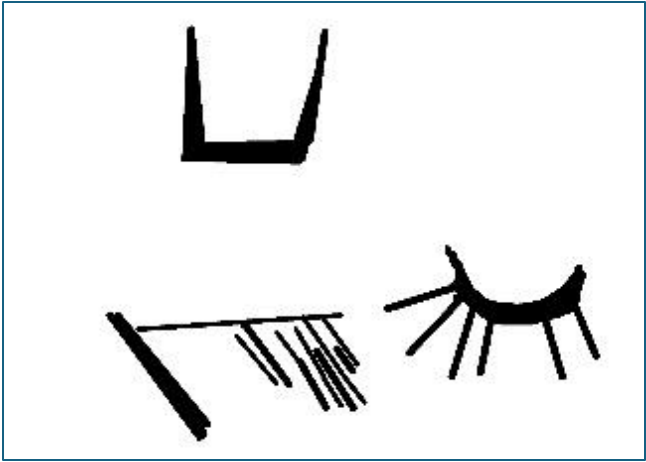
Sweetwater
Cave



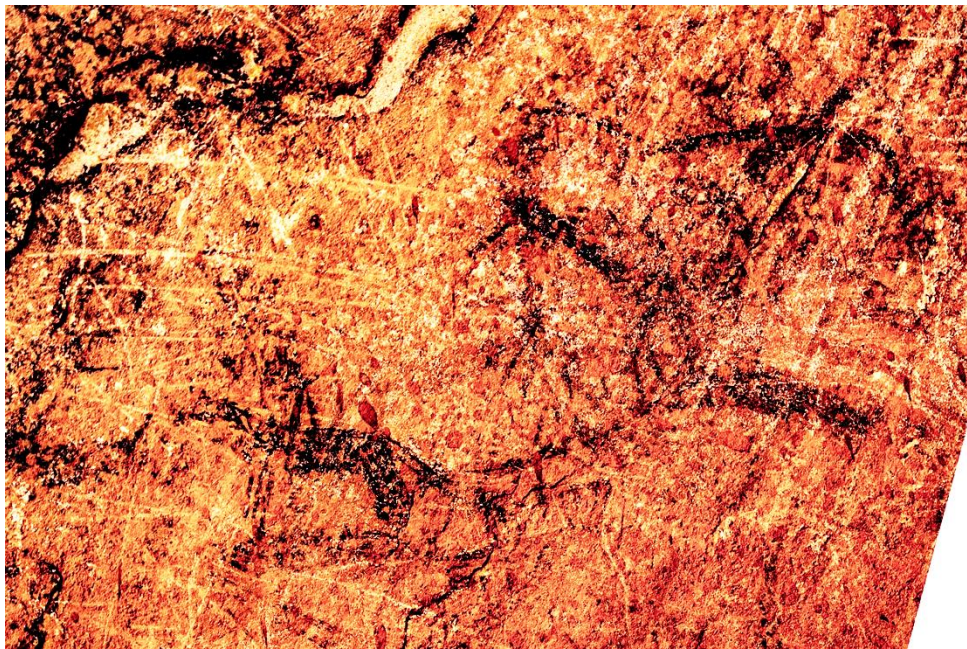


Horse captured	
Scalp taken	
War party leader	

Keyser (2001)

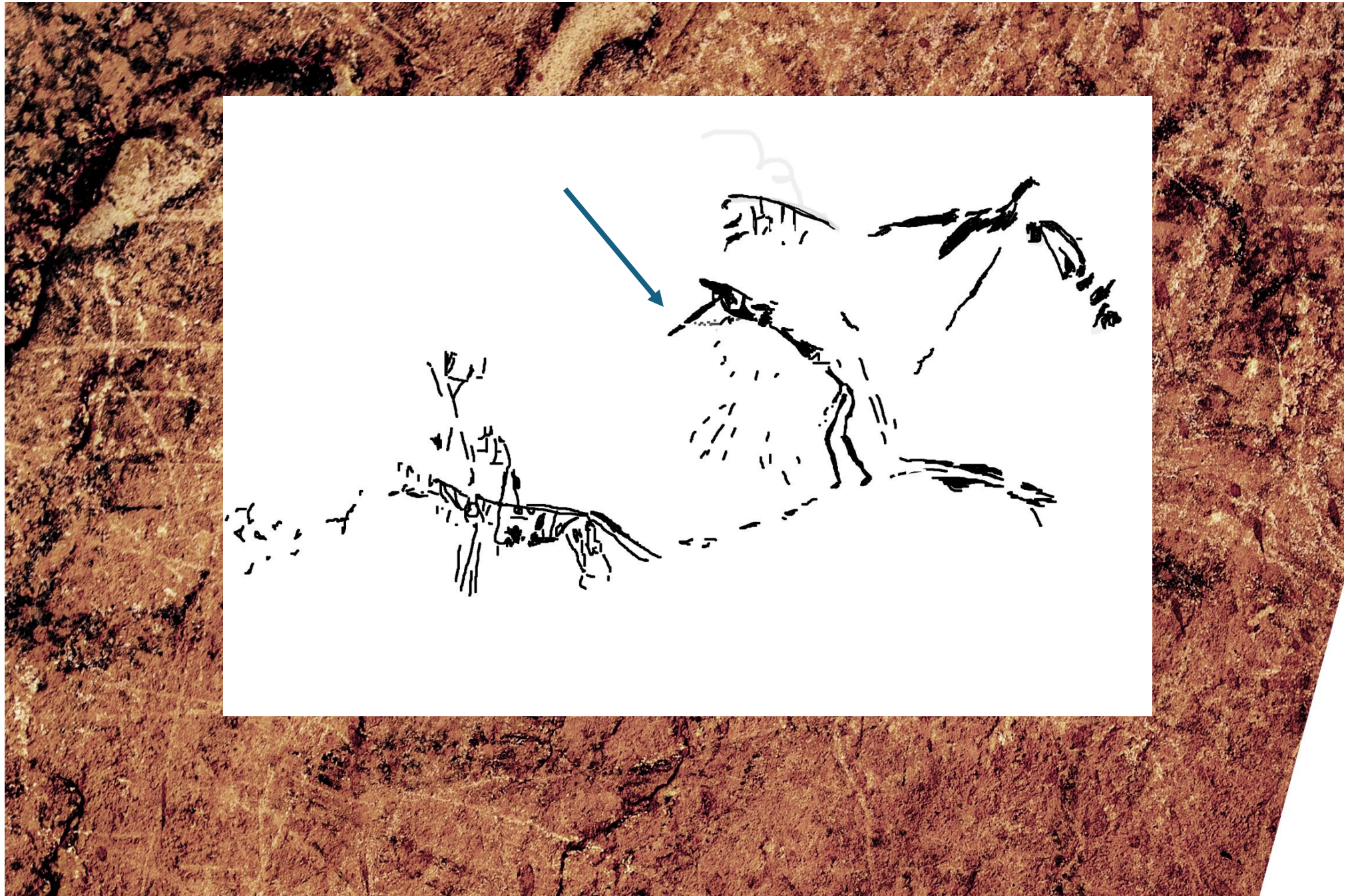






Pointing a rifle







Army pistols and guns were traded for beaver pelts at Fort Uncompahgre in the 1840s. They were issued to the soldiers and easily recovered by the warriors from fallen soldiers.





- The Asa Waters Model 1836 Military Horse Pistol .54 caliber, flintlock was modified in 1855. The pistol was known as a “horse pistol” and kept in a saddle holster. The United States Cavalry trooper normally had on Asa Waters’ pistol on each side of his saddle the two pistols were called a “brace” and offered the trooper a quick second shot in battle. A petroglyph in Cow Canyon of East Douglas Creek in northwestern Colorado illustrates a flintlock pistol possibly the same model. The rugged smooth bore flintlock gun was so popular and reliable that the design did not change in almost 100 years. (Reyher 1998)

Still a work in progress.....

Thank You



In Memory of Ed Horton and Lizzy

