

DARG Dominquez Archaeological Research Group



Ute Encampments from the 1850s and 1890s:

**5EA2740
and
5MF5216**

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Dominquez Archaeological Research Group (DARG)

The Colorado Wickiup Project

- review existing knowledge of wickiups
- create centralized statewide database
- refine and expand recording techniques
- document all types of aboriginal wooden features throughout the state
- expand our understanding regarding all aspects of Ute Protohistory and Early History and disseminate findings

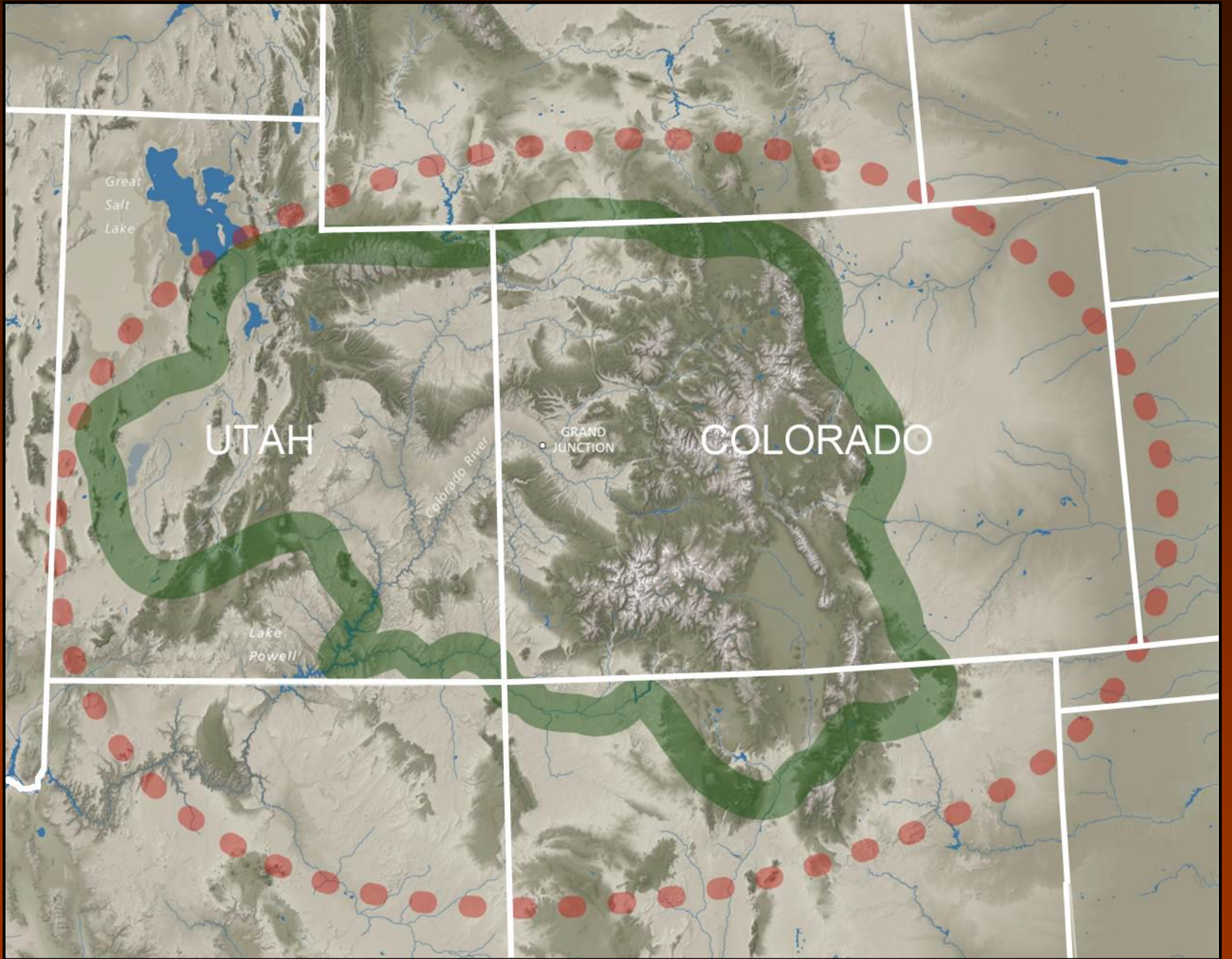
Colorado Wickiup Project

(2004 – 2011)

- **406 wooden features on 78 sites**
 - **225 wickiups/shelters (55%)**
 - **181 other types of features**







Great Salt Lake

UTAH

Colorado River

Lake Powell

GRAND JUNCTION

COLORADO





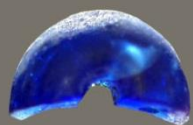




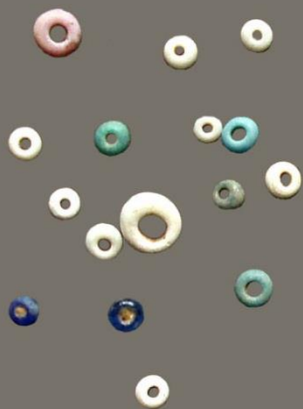








a



b



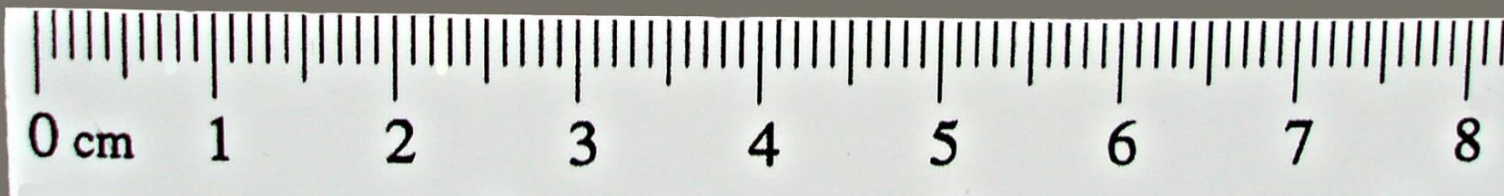
c



d



e

























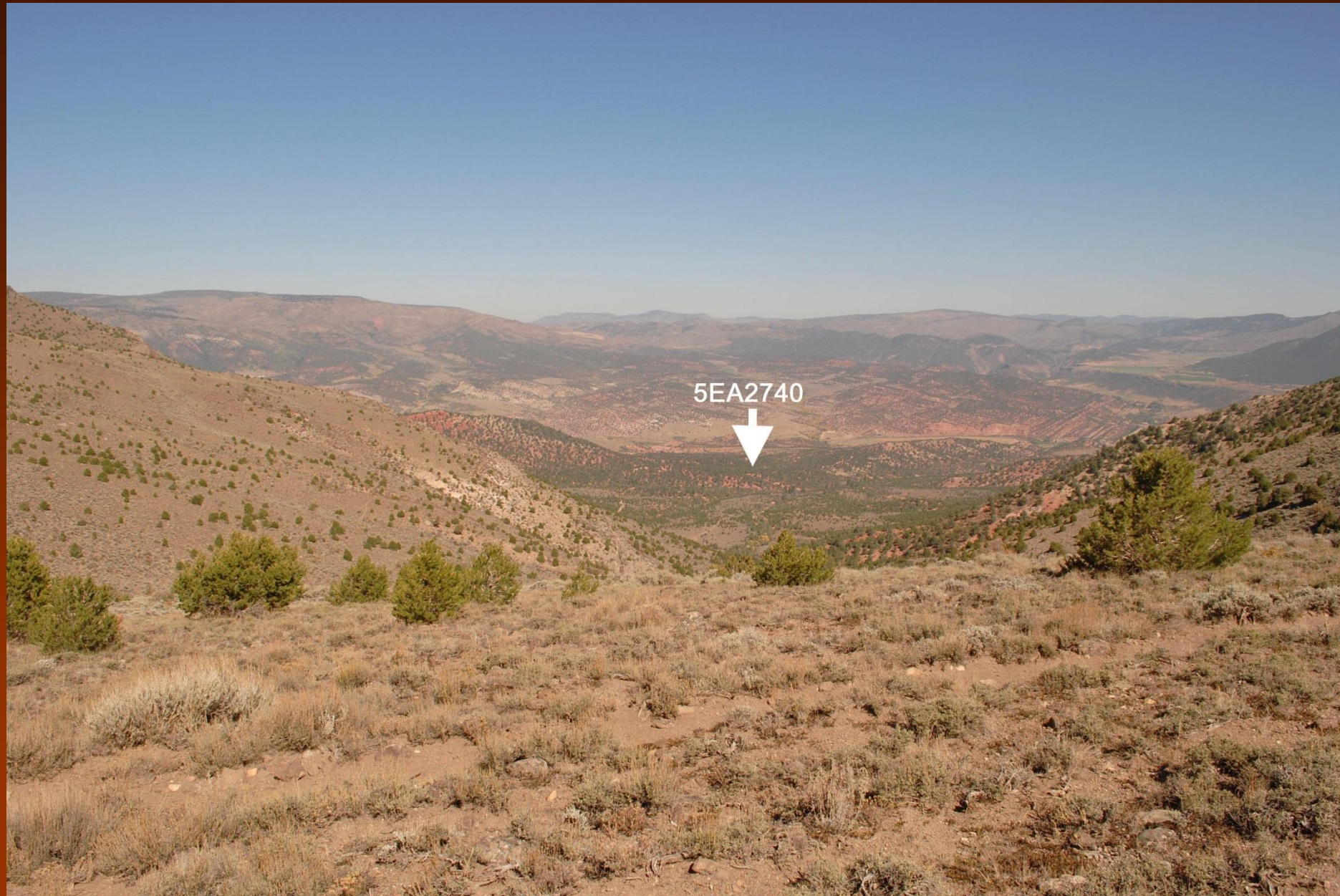




5EA2740

Wickiup Village

5EA2740 Wickiup Village



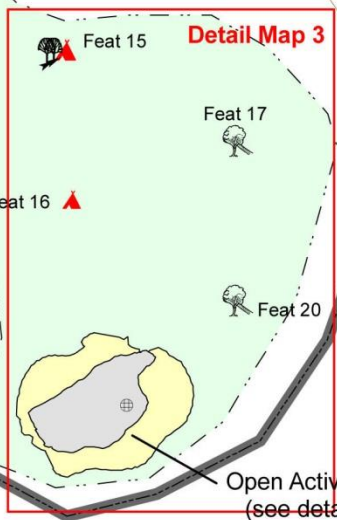
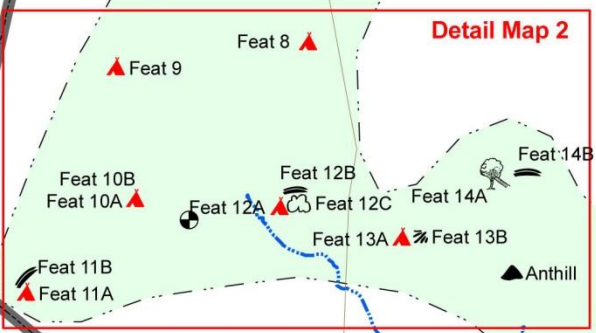
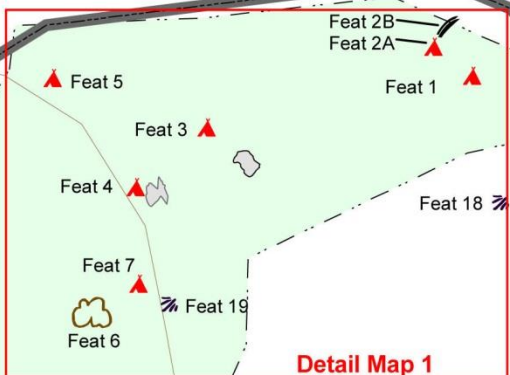
5EA2740 WICKIUP VILLAGE

28 expedient aboriginal wooden features

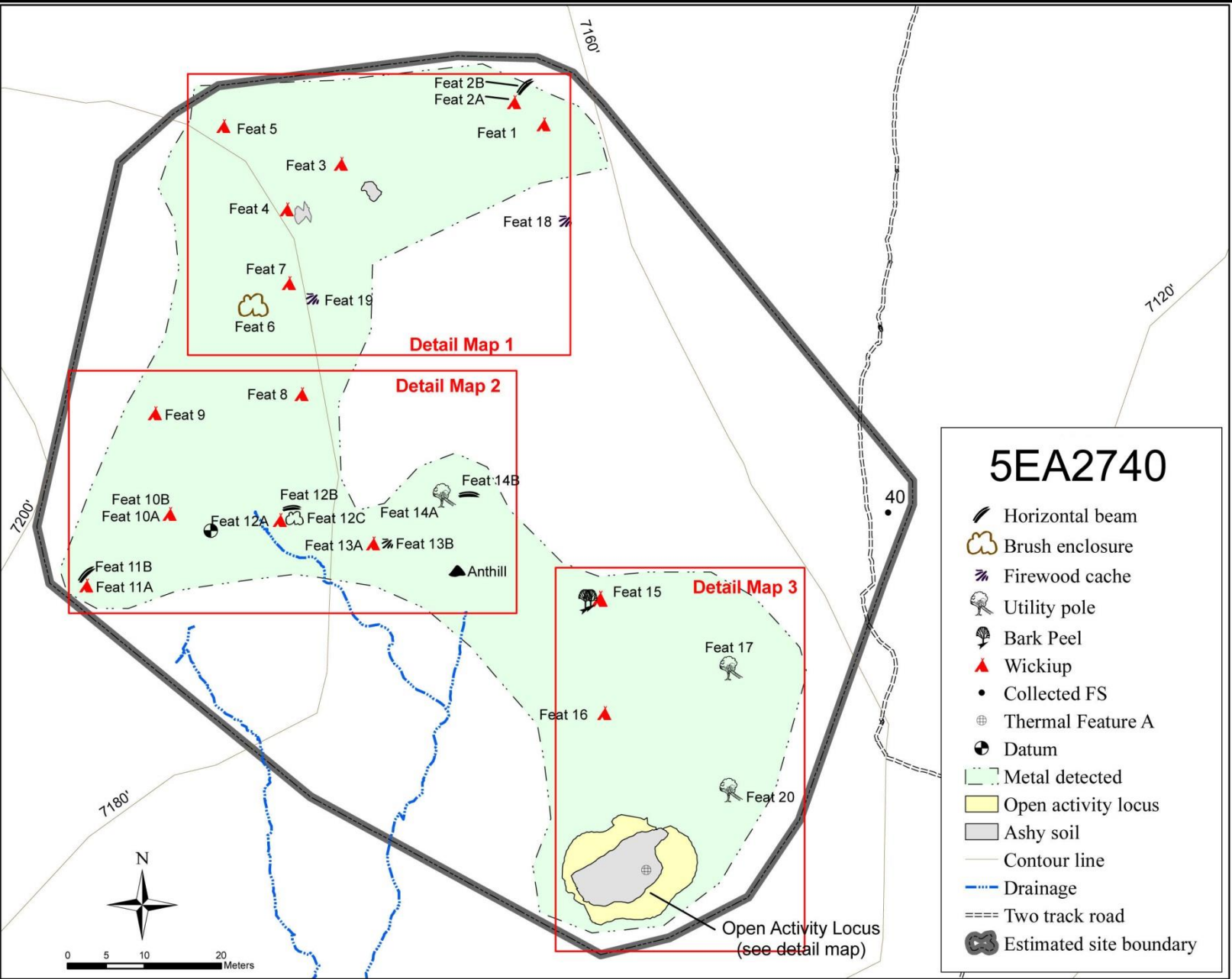
- 10 “leaner” wickiups & 2 freestanding wickiups
- 2 brush enclosures
- 4 horizontal beams & 3 leaning “utility poles”
- 1 windbreak (or firewood cache)
- 3 firewood caches
- 2 groups collapsed poles: undetermined purpose

5EA2740

- Horizontal beam
- Brush enclosure
- Firewood cache
- Utility pole
- Bark Peel
- Wickiup
- Collected FS
- Thermal Feature A
- Datum
- Metal detected
- Open activity locus
- Ashy soil
- Contour line
- Drainage
- Two track road
- Estimated site boundary



0 5 10 20 Meters













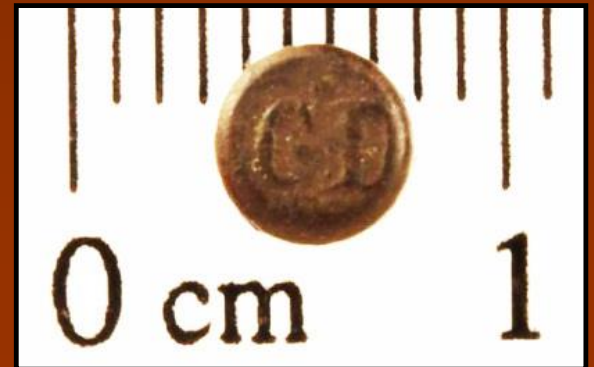
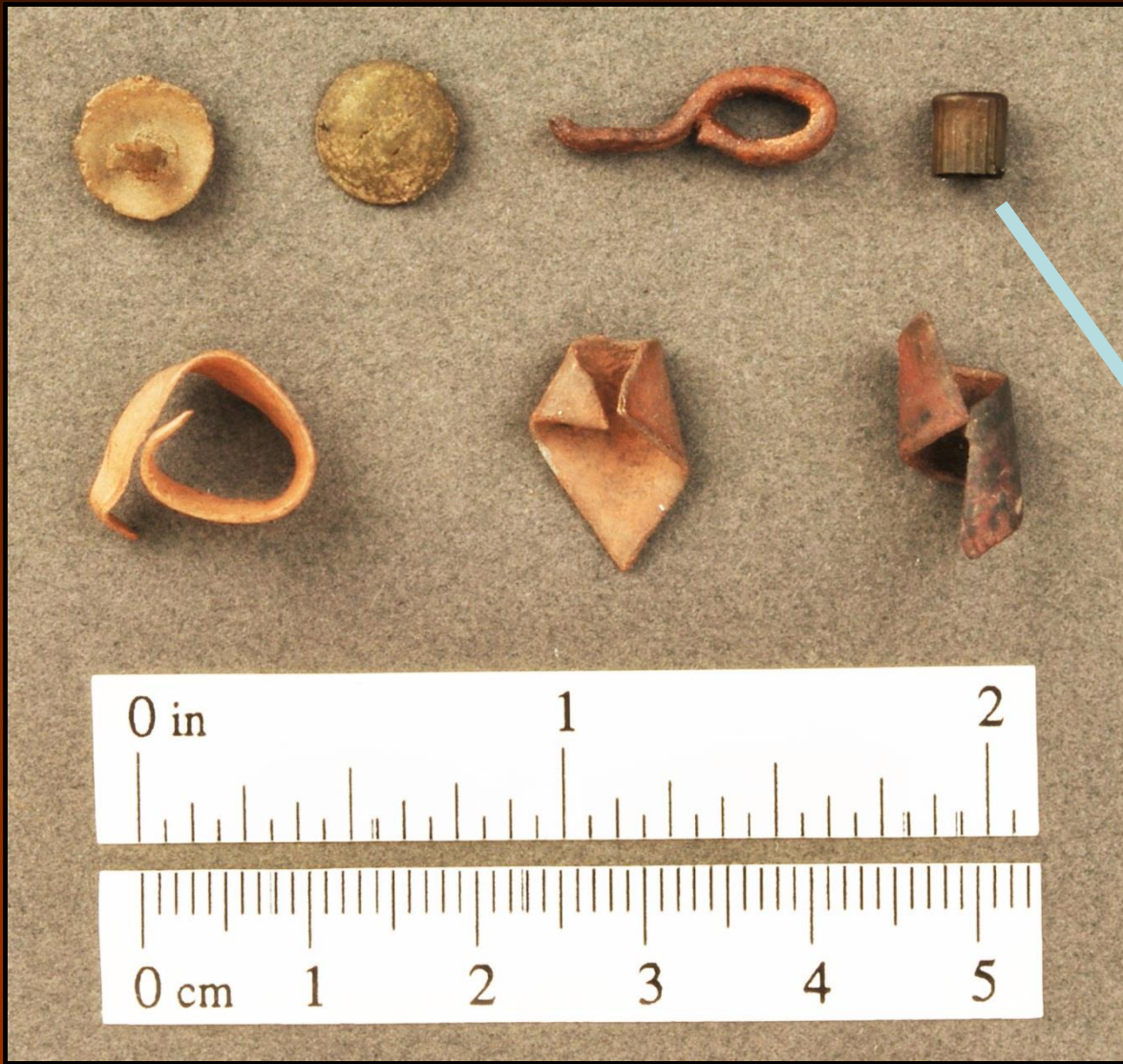














a



b



c



d



e



f



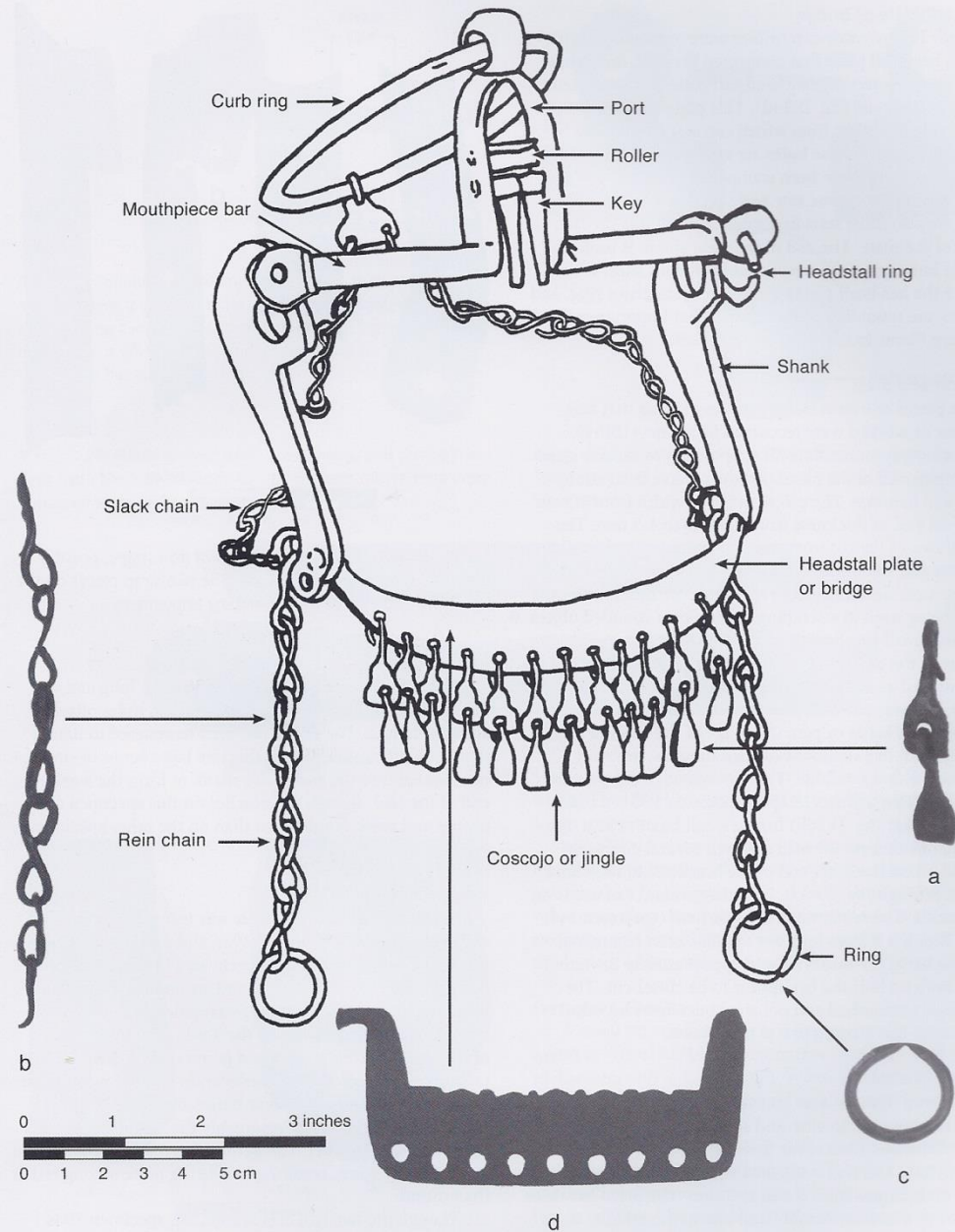


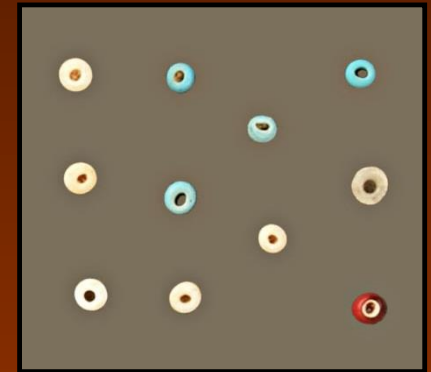
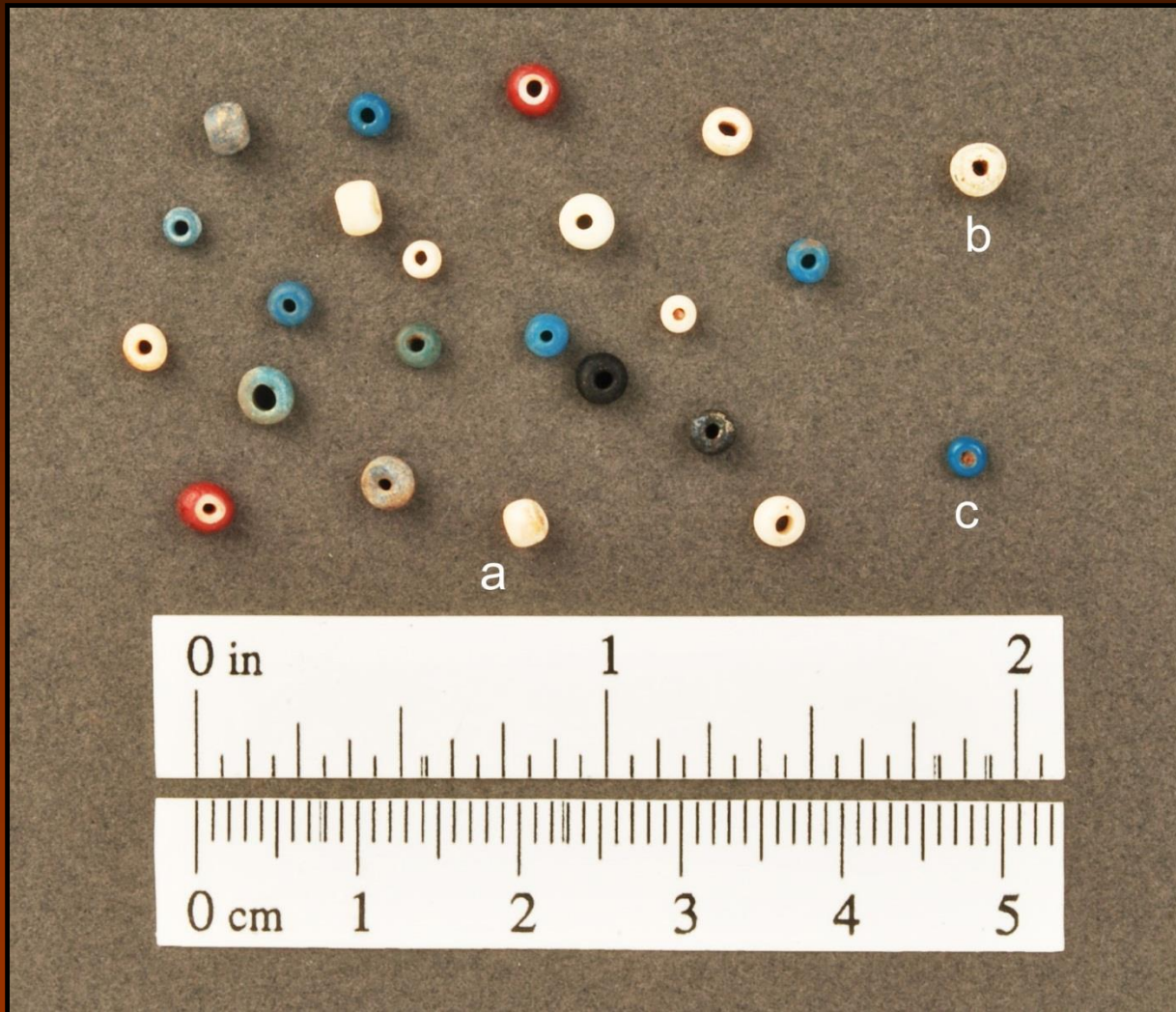
Fig. D.24. Components of a Mexican-style ring bit: a, *coscojos*; b, rein chain; c, rein chain ring; d, headstall plate. Adapted from Simmons and Turley, *Southwestern Colonial Ironwork*, fig. 1, p. 101.







Glass "seed" beads



Disappointment Draw

5EA2740 Wickiup Village

Preliminary Dating Estimates for 5EA2740 =
ca. 1830s to 1860s, rather than 1870s or later

BASED ON...

- Presence of lithic and groundstone artifacts
- Presence of metal projectile points
(as opposed to firearms)
- Percussion cap for muzzleloader
(as opposed to fixed ammunition)
- Overall large size of glass seed beads

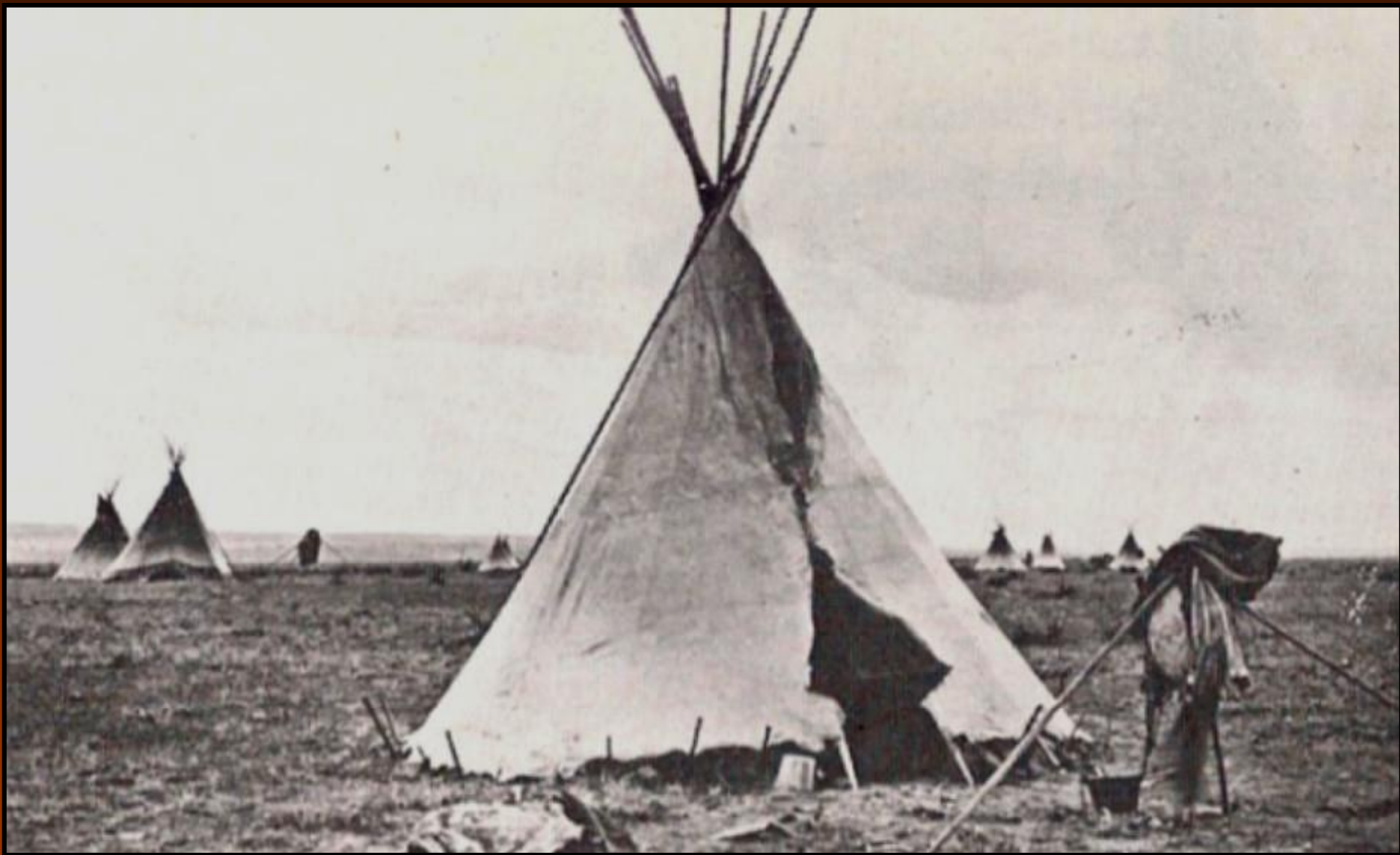


Preliminary Dating Estimates for 5EA2740
(based solely on artifactual remains) =
ca. 1830s to 1860s, rather than 1870s or later

21 metal ax-cut tree-ring samples were submitted

The results of the tree-ring dating
demonstrated occupation of the site in the
fall/winter of 1853





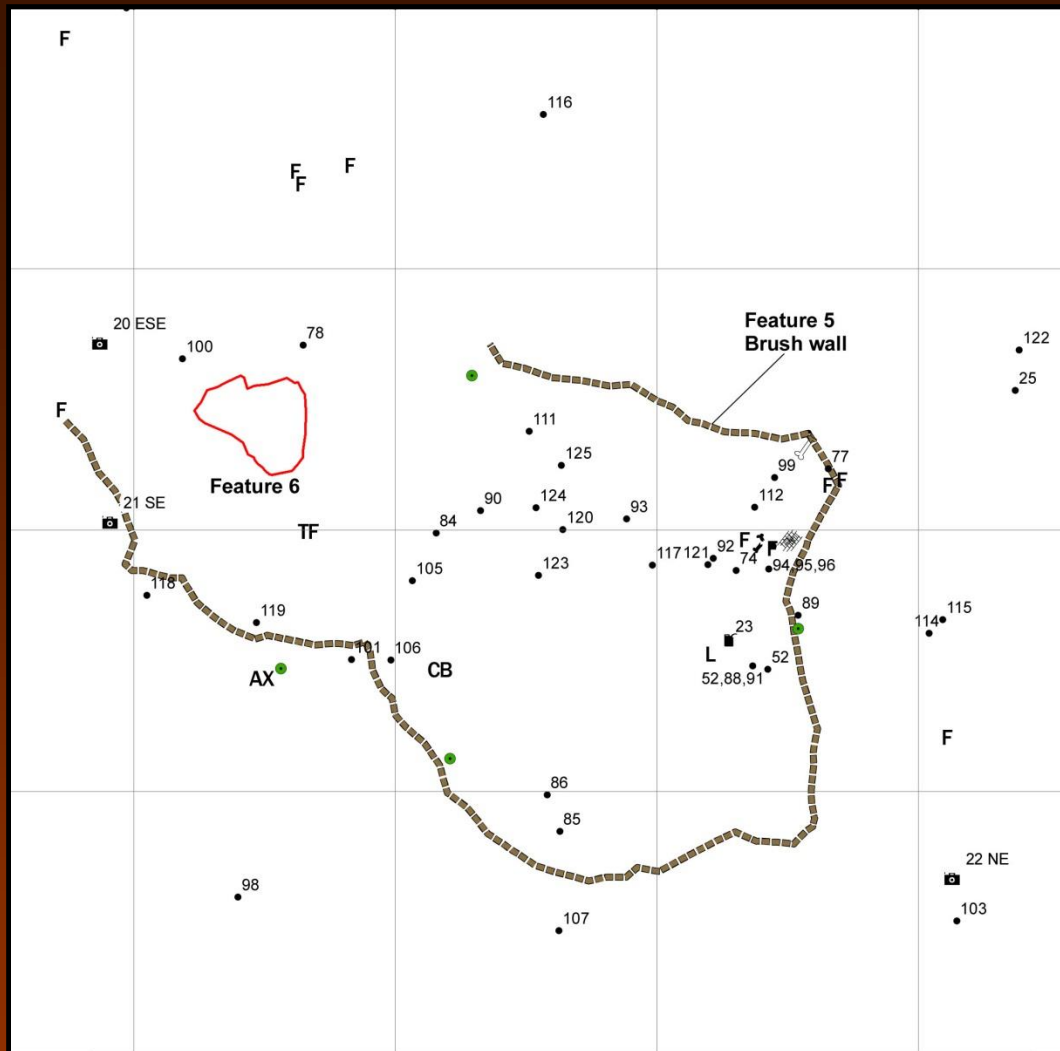

















5MF5216:
Disappointment Draw
Lodge

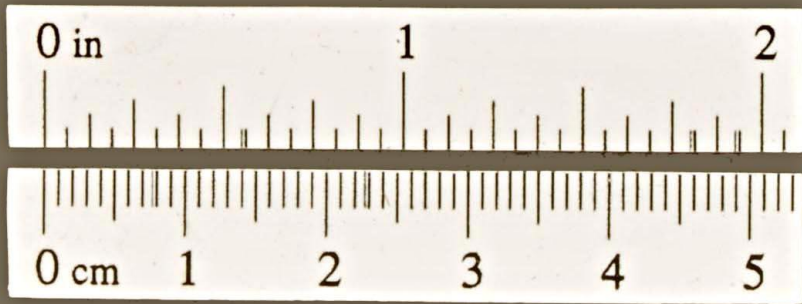






5MF5216 Feature 5 Locus Map

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
|  Hearth | AX Ax cut wood |  Photo |  |
|  Burnt bone |  Unburnt mammal long bone |  Brush fence | |
|  Metate |  Metal artifact |  Artifact concentration | |
| CB Cobble |  Powder can |  Estimated Site Boundary | |
| F Flake | TF Tin foil | | |
| L Leather artifact |  Dendro sample |  | |

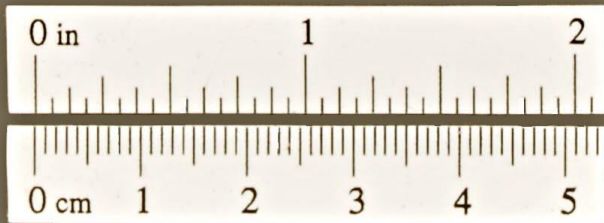


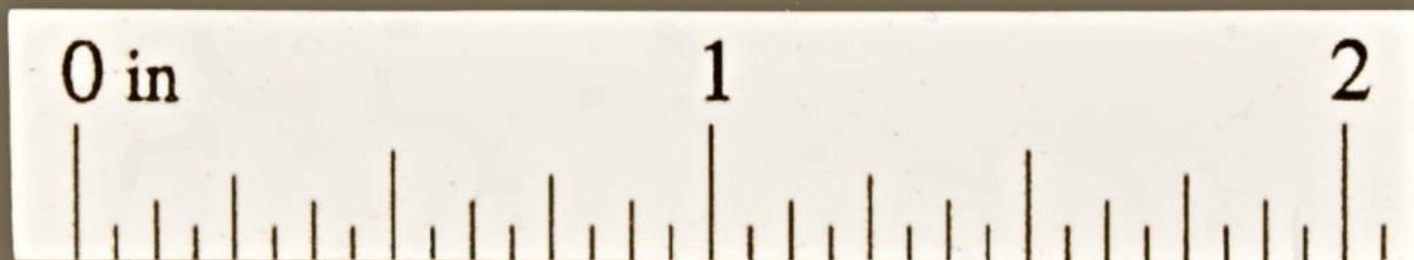


CHIEF WINNEMUCCA, the Paiute who helped bring an end to the Shoshoni uprisings.

Courtesy Nevada Historical Society





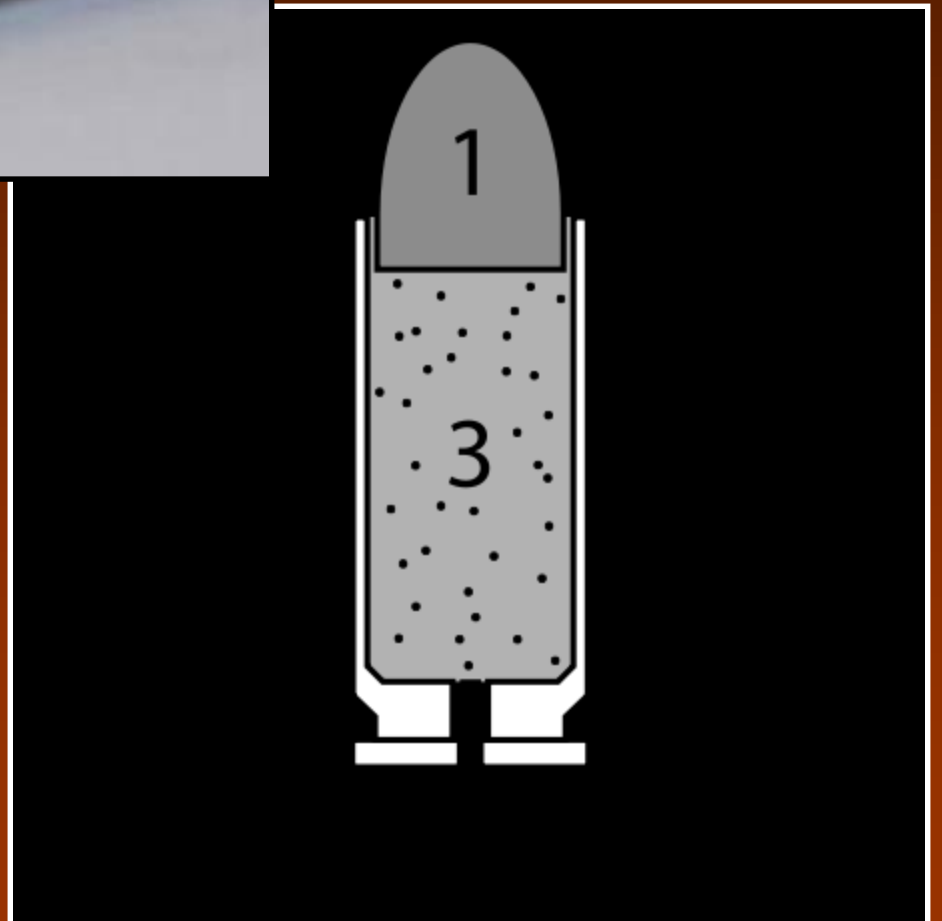




UHC



UHC



Artifacts from Disappointment Draw Lodge: 209 historic trade-ware artifacts recovered

- Approximately 50% are ammunition related (styles indicating 1894 or later)
 - Five to six separate weapons represented (Phil Born & Colorado CBI)
 - 25 spent bullet primers (Boxer and Berdan) plus 2 unspent
 - 17 brass cases
 - 13 bullet leads (incl. 3 full metal jackets)
 - 12 globules of melted lead (sprue)
 - 1 apparent shotgun pellet
 - 1 gun powder can
- Tin cans (8) (not common on Ute sites in western Colorado until 1860s or later)
- Bottle glass (58 fragments of amethyst/purple glass)
- Buttons (4) and rivets (2)
 - Incl. a 3-piece brass U.S. Union military button w/ embossed eagle (1875 or later)
- Buckle (possible sling for gun, canteen or bullet pouch)
- Leather artifacts (boot or shoe fragments plus a saddle or saddlebag fragment)
- Nails, tacks, screws, and brads (post 1830s and post 1850s types)
- Glass and metal beads (incl. 11 small glass seed beads...probably 100s or 1000s on site!)

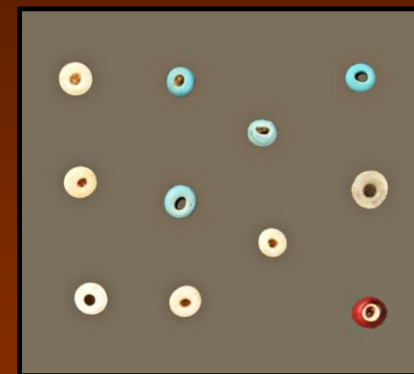
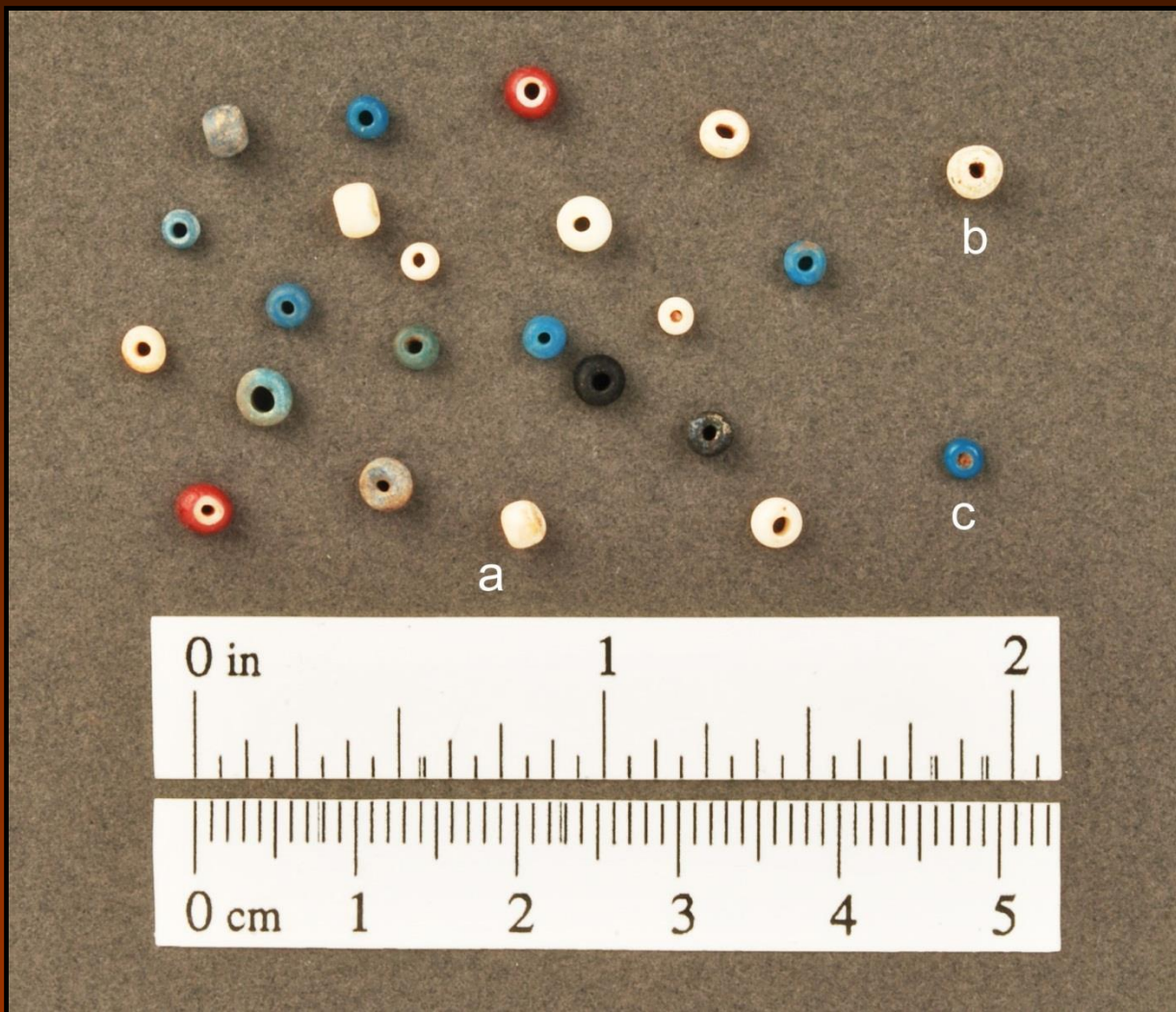
Preliminary Dating Estimates for 5MF5216
(based solely on artifactual remains) =
1875 or later

Nine metal ax-cut tree-ring samples were submitted

The results of the dendrochronological dating
demonstrated occupation of the site
after 1893

(40 years after the 5EA2740 Wickiup Village)

Glass "seed" beads



Disappointment Draw
(1893+)

5EA2740 Wickiup Village
(1853)

“Final removal of Utes from
Colorado:

“1881”

Tree-ring dates prior to AD1800

(2 sites)

Dates between 1800 and the 1881 “final removal”

(9 sites)

Post-“removal” dates between 1882 and 1916

(8 sites)

**Of the 15 Colorado Wickiup Project
sites that have produced
tree-ring dates...**

**8 were occupied after the
“final removal” in 1881
(and undoubtedly more)**

