Rosy Canyon - The Basket Site

The Basket Site in Rosy Canyon has been reviewed previously (http://dixierockart.webs.com/Field%20Trip%20Reports/Rosy%20Canyon%20Field%20 Trip%20-%20April%202011.pdf). However the photography did not fully illustrate the site due to poor lighting conditions. This review will have improved photographs and some further observations.

The Left Side Panel

Previously this panel was viewed only from below. Figures 1 and 2 show the panel from a "straight on" point of view.



Figure 1 – Left side panel (left side)



Figure 2 – Left side panel (right side)

Figure 3 (previously identified as an elk) looks to be a coyote in front of a tree of life. The figure also appears to be pregnant. This figure could still be an elk, but it was identified as a coyote based on another glyph on the site – Figure 4. Figure 4 shows what could be two coyotes with the largest one having what appear to be internal organs along with a journey symbol. The general deign motif on the animal glyphs in both Figure 3 and Figure 4 are very similar.

Also shown in Figure 4 is a "double" hand or foot print (lower left).

Figure 5 is an anthro in what could be a birthing scene.



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6 – The main "basket" panel

The Basket Panel

Figure 6 is an overview shot of the main basket panel. Figures 7 to 11 are details of the various sections of the panel.

The emphasis of the panel is the baskets. The baskets are upright, indicating they are full, further indicating prosperity. Rosy Canyon is a north / south drainage and could have had a significant amount of water. Even today the water table in the valley is high. In early pioneer times, the valley was full of wild rice and cane. In pre-historic time this could have been a good place to be – but the droughts forced the Anasazi abandon the area and move to more a favorable location.

Careful observations of the baskets show that they have different symbologies within each basket symbol. This could be a clan symbol associated with the owner of the particular basket. Figure 12 is a pictograph on the ceiling of the ruin showing a basket with a pair of what could be walking sticks. This indicates that the baskets could have also been from traders (from various clans?) who had visited the site. This same conclusion could also come from the spiral journey symbol associated with the baskets.



Figure 7

Figure 11 was included in this report because it is a rather different motif. The "potato "shaped figure utilizes the defects in the rocks to give him his features. The figure on the right makes a basket shape into the shape of an anthro.

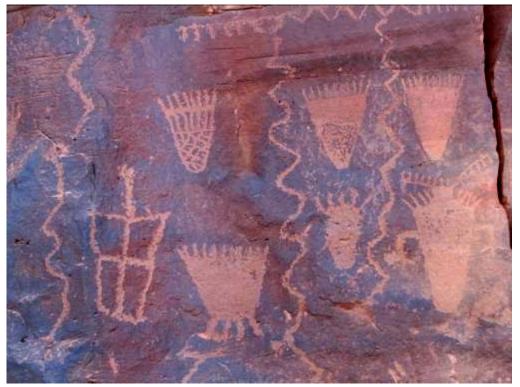


Figure 8



Figure 9



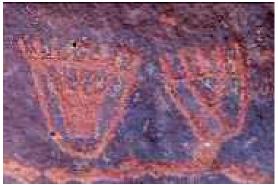


Figure 10 a



Figure 11



Figure 12



Figure 13

The Ruin

The ruin was described accurately in the previous report. However it is shown again in Figure 13. The ruin is located under a rock outcropping. There are numerous pictographs on the ceiling and back wall, again described previously.

One new observation was a series of dots on the ceiling of the ruin. These are in very light white or yellow color and were very difficult to see, let alone photograph. It was felt that this feature had to do with the night sky and could possibly be a map of key stars or constellations. This combined with a perfect view of the western horizon indicates that this could be a sky-watcher site.

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