

CANYON PINTADO

NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Please help protect the past,
When it's gone, Its gone forever.

Today, cultural sites face the challenge of being loved to death, and being unintentionally damaged by visitors. Unfortunately, this remarkable record of our past is threatened.

Vandalism is a continuing problem. These priceless and fragile resources are entrusted, temporarily, into our care.



before

The Rock Art of Canyon Pintado belongs to YOU.

If someone destroys, defaces or removes these national treasures, they are stealing from you, your children, and all people Forever.

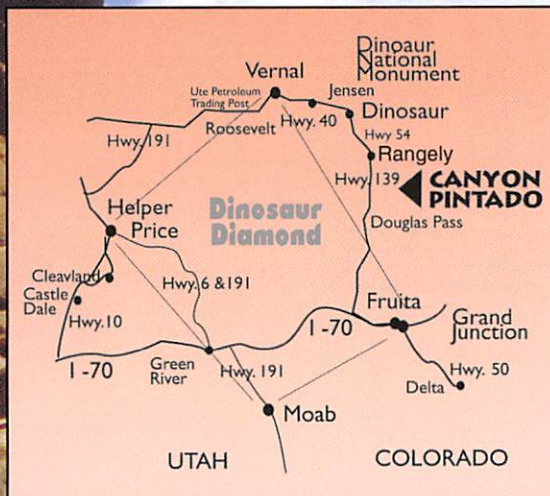


after

Enjoy rock art by viewing, photographing, or sketching only. Direct contact such as chalking, rubbing, tracing, touching or taking molds causes rock art to disappear. It can also make it impossible in the future to use new methods to date figures.

Do not add your own rock art. This is considered vandalism and is punishable by law.

HOW TO FIND CANYON PINTADO



CANYON PINTADO

IT'S EASY TO GET TO

South of Rangely &
North of Douglas Pass
on Highway 139.

Close to I-70 and Highway 40,
you will find other related
points of interest in
The Dinosaur Diamond Region
indicated on the map above.



For More Information
Please Contact
White River Field Office
73544 Highway 64
Meeker, CO 81641
970-878-3601

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VISITORS GUIDE

ROCK ART

Comes In Two Types:
Pictographs and Petroglyphs



Pictographs

Pictographs are designs that have been painted using color found naturally in minerals. Pictographs are most susceptible to weather. Those that remain were painted in protected areas, under ledges or in caves.



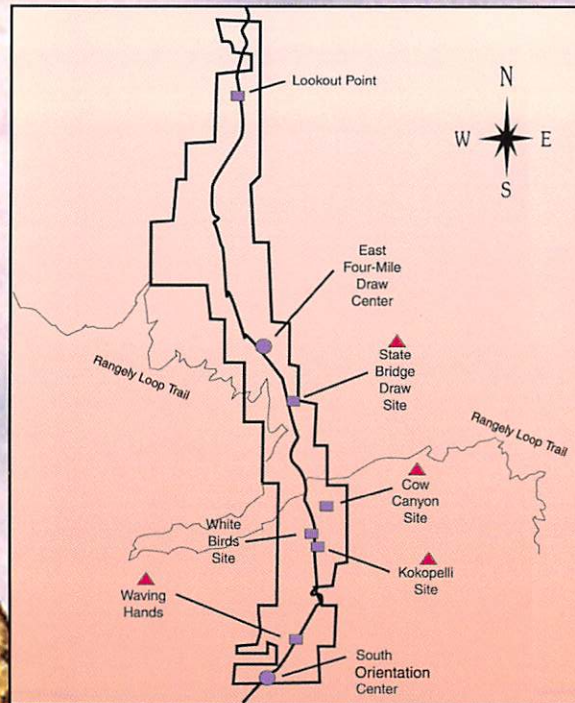
Petroglyphs

Petroglyphs are designs actually cut into the rock, usually in an area where the natural patina has made the rock surface darker than surrounding rock.

CANYON PINTADO MAP

CANYON PINTADO IS FOR EVERYONE

The complete automobile tour of Canyon Pintado can be completed in about an hour. An additional hour should be allotted for The East Four Mile walking trail loop. Many of the sites on the trail are wheelchair accessible. Those sites are indicated with a triangle on the map below.



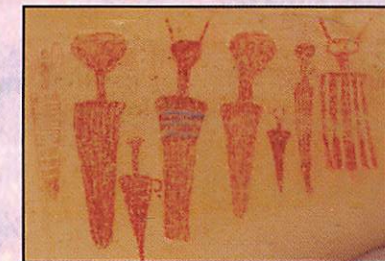
PLEASE BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Caution: Rattlesnakes, scorpions and black widow spiders, can be found in Canyon Pintado. There are loose rocks, gravel and cliffs in the area. Wear appropriate shoes and stay on designated trails. Respect the canyon and canyon wildlife.

HISTORY OF ROCK ART

Rock art is an enduring record of past ideas and practices.

This record presents an opportunity to interpret the past and contributes to the overall effort by archaeologists to explain cultural and social dynamics over time.



The rock art in the canyon depicts both humans and animals

The Fremont culture created the artwork with their own distinctive art style.

Their human figures are horned, trapezoidal shaped bodies, often shown with elaborations such as necklaces, earrings, shields, loin cloths, and headdresses.

They also developed a stylized way of making animals.

Other designs may be purely decorative or may represent maps or calendars.

The true mystery of rock art is the why of its creation

Why did these native artists go to such effort? Why did they spend so much time tediously chipping designs in rock? Can we read a message in the art?

What do you think?