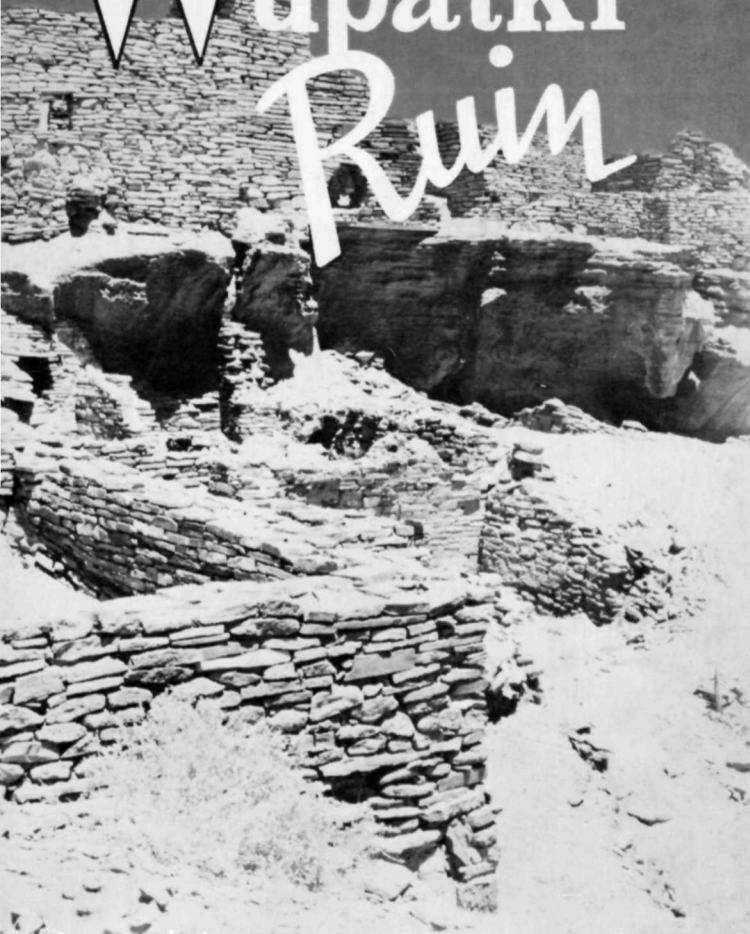


Wupatki Ruin



Wupatki National Monument

Arizona

National Park
Service

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF
THE INTERIOR



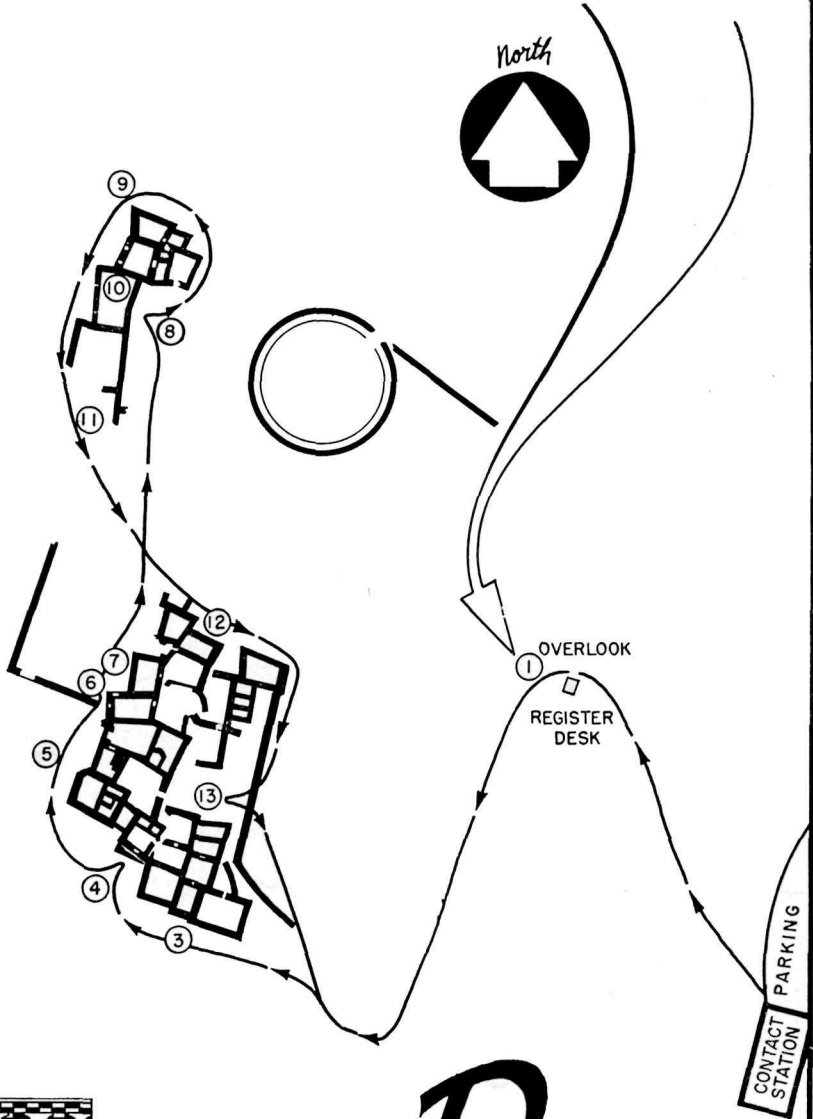
PRICE 10¢
IF YOU TAKE THIS
BOOKLET HOME



WUPATKI RUIN
TRAIL
PAMPHLET

Or you are welcome to use it free of charge,
returning it to the register stand when you go.

FOLLOW THE NUMBERED STAKES



Wupatki *Ruin*

The map on the facing page shows the trail and location of the numbered features. Paragraph numbers in the pamphlet refer to the stake markers on the trail.

INTRODUCTION

This trail pamphlet is intended for use with the free 2-fold leaflet which gives the general story of Wupatki National Monument. It might be advantageous to read that story prior to going through the ruin itself.

We would appreciate it if you would register, both here and at the Citadel Ruin.

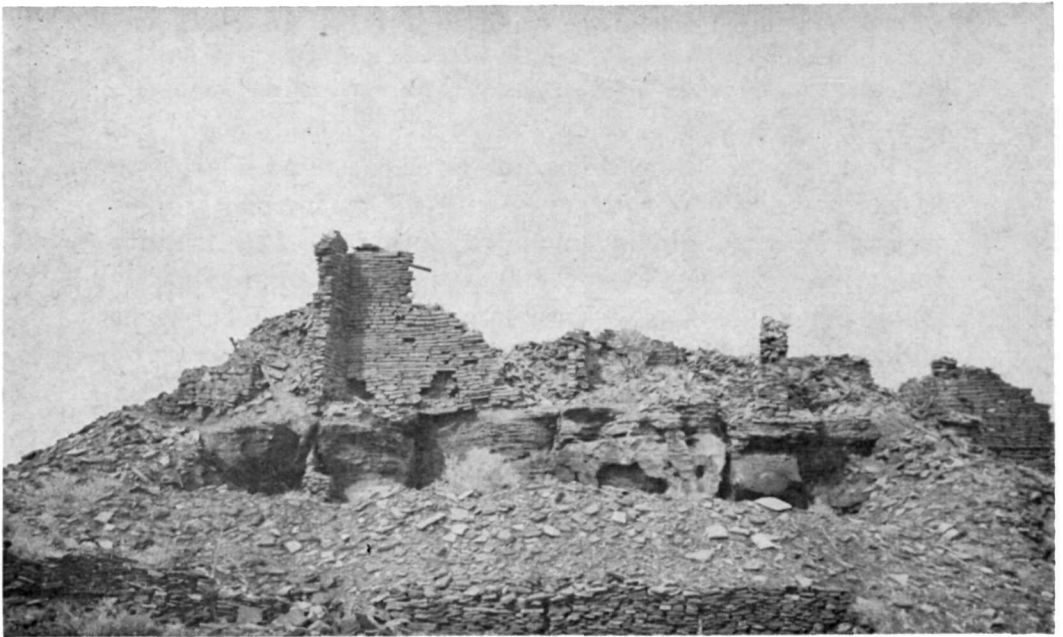
Spend as much time in the ruin as you can; all we ask is your cooperation in keeping off the walls and not removing any pottery fragments, rocks, plants or other material from the area. Thank you.

Post No. 1. From this point an excellent view may be had of the entire ruin together with the ceremonial amphitheater. When originally inhabited during the 12th century this village contained over 100 rooms with approximately 250 to 300 inhabitants. It is the largest of more than 800 ruins within the boundaries of Wupatki National Monument and was partially excavated in 1933 and 1934 by the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Post No. 2. Note the extent of the building along the slope of the mesa. The outside rooms on the right were excavated in 1952. The rooms were constructed over and around the boulders which were too large for the builders to move.

Post No. 3. These three small rooms have been excavated; they were originally about the height of a man and had a roof over them. The entrance to most of these ground-floor rooms was through an opening in the roof. Note the firepit, the ventilator opening going out through the wall behind, and the vertical slab placed to keep the draft of fresh air from blowing sparks throughout the room. The smaller depression in the middle room was a storage bin.

Post No. 4. Climb the ladder into this room if you wish. Notice the two beams at the rear of the room. They are original beams that have been in the ruin almost 800 years. The T-shaped doorway that you enter is quite common in Southwestern ruins. The probable purpose behind this shape was that in the winter a skin could be hung over the larger opening, leaving the smaller one free to admit fresh air.

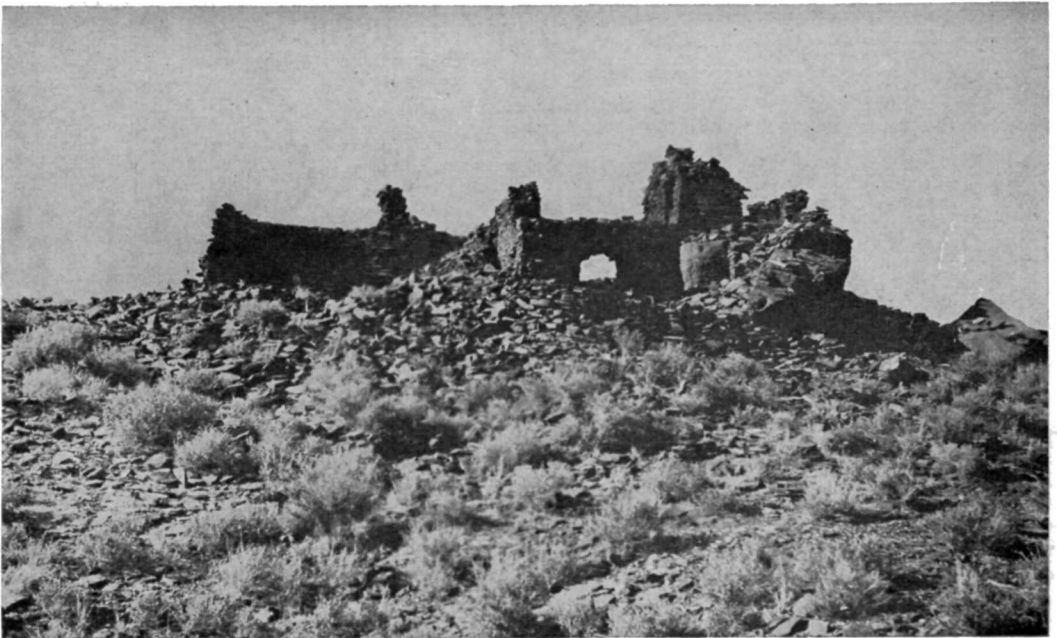


South portion of Wupatki before excavation.

Post No. 5. The sloping ground to the left all along this side of the ruins is the rubbish heap. It is here that archeologists are able to reconstruct much of the culture, or ways of life, of these prehistoric Indians. Just to the west the small modern building is on the site of the spring which furnished water for Wupatki in prehistoric times, as it does now.

Post No. 6. Upon entering this room notice how the original builders took advantage of the two natural rock walls. This eliminated the construction of two sides of the room. The lower portion of the room was filled 5 feet deep with trash before the first floor was laid. There were finally two stories.

Post No. 7. From this vantage point one is able to obtain a much better view of the ceremonial amphitheater or dance plaza. This circular depression resembles a kiva, or under-



North portion of Wupatki before excavation.

ground ceremonial chamber, so common in many Southwestern ruins and even in the contemporary pueblos. There is no indication, however, that this ever had a roof over it. Note the fine masonry construction and the bench around the inside. This is the only structure of this type yet found.

Post No. 8. Looking in toward the ruin at this point one can see, to the left of the wall, an unexcavated portion of the structure, while on the right you may climb down the small ladder and examine a partially restored room.



Pole-supported wall before repair, above you at Post 13.

Post No. 9. Looking down just across the road you will observe an oval-shaped depression in the ground. This is an unexcavated ball court, one of several that have been found in the Flagstaff area, the northernmost ones that have yet been discovered. In southern Arizona and all through Mexico these ball courts are fairly common. This court is the only

masonry one known in the United States.

We know very little about the game that was played in the court. It was probably similar to soccer except that it was played with a small ball of natural rubber.

Post No. 10. In this room seven infant burials were located, in slab-lined pits, of which two can be seen today. As with all people, the Indian held a close relationship to his children, believing that the spirit of the dead child would be reborn in the next baby. Consequently the deceased was buried in the mother's house.

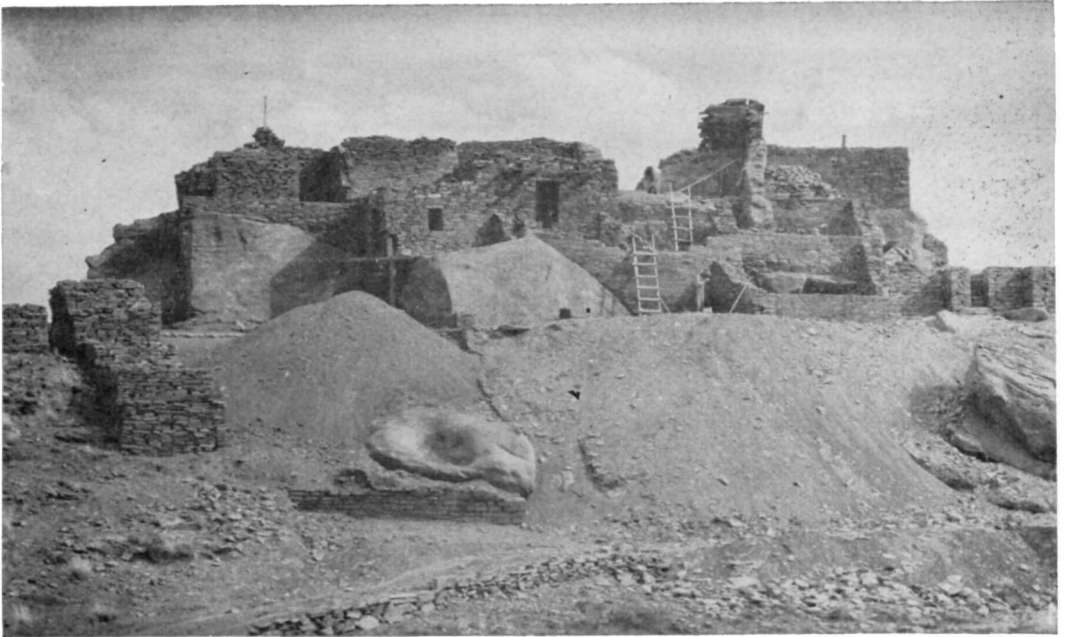
Post No. 11. The area in which you are now standing was an outdoor workshop, or patio, where the people could grind corn, make pottery, mend clothes, gamble or gossip. It was surrounded by a low "wind-break" wall and perhaps in the summer was covered by a brush "shade."



Collapsed roof. Note vigas, shakes, and juniper bark.

Post No. 12. As you examine this room notice the long, stone-lined channel. This was used as a ventilator, the opening being at floor level in the cliff wall to your right. Evidently the family occupying this room came to the village quite early because they were able to use the natural rock walls to good advantage. Then as more and more people came and built around them, their air supply started to be cut off. They then hit upon the ingenious idea of cutting the long ventilator through to the outside and the heat from their fire would cause drafts of air to flow into the room.

Post No. 13. These rooms were excavated in 1952. Notice the two types of ventilators, one above the floor, the other sub-floor. As the house grew towards you from the higher portions, the added outside rooms blocked air from the older rooms, as you noticed at Post 12.



After excavation, 1934.

GENERAL INFORMATION

You are probably wondering just what brought prehistoric people into this seemingly desert area and how they managed to survive here. The story goes back to the eruption of Sunset Crater about 1066 A.D. Sunset Crater is the most recent volcano among the 400 in the Flagstaff region, and is located 11 miles south of here. It is one of two prehistoric volcanoes in the world that we can accurately date and one of the few that had a profound effect upon people living in the area at that time. When it erupted it covered almost 800 square miles, including the Wupatki area, with fine black volcanic ash. This eruption took place *before* Wupatki Ruin was built.

When the eruption was over, a few individuals probably wandered into this area to find out what had happened. When they did they found that, for some reason, they were able to farm where they hadn't been able to farm before. The reason for this was the volcanic ash, laid down to a more or less uniform depth of four or five inches, acted as a moisture-retaining mulch; the people could plant their crops in the underlying soil and the cinder cover would hold enough moisture to insure them a relatively profitable crop.

When this word spread around, it created a great prehistoric land rush, the only one we know of in America. Thousands of Indians from all over this part of the Southwest swarmed into the Wupatki region to take advantage of the new farming land.

The main occupation took place between 1100 and 1200 A.D. and during that time the area covered by cinders was inhabited by perhaps 8,000 Indians.

The abandonment of the area is almost as interesting as the occupation. We have found that in the latter part of the 1100's there were a number of years of severe, localized

drought, accompanied by high winds. These winds turned the area into a dust bowl, carrying away the moisture-retaining cover of cinders that the people had depended upon for their livelihood. The big boom town of Wupatki began to be deserted. Some of the people migrated to the high mesas on the eastern horizon where the Hopi Indians are living today; others moved further to the south.



One of the seven infant burials in Room 7.

We hope you have enjoyed the monument and this trail. Please return this booklet to the register stand before you leave, or you may purchase it if you wish, by depositing ten cents in the coin slot in the register stand.

NOTICE

If you have time it would be most worthwhile to visit Sunset Crater and also Walnut Canyon National Monuments, to the south of us. Don't hesitate to ask the Ranger for details on this or any other part of your trip in the Southwest.

This area includes almost 35,000 acres. Please help us keep it clean.

This booklet is published by the
SOUTHWESTERN MONUMENTS ASSOCIATION

Box 2011 K, Santa Fe, New Mexico

which is a non-profit distributing organization pledged to aid in the preservation and interpretation of Southwestern features of outstanding national interest.

The Association lists for sale hundreds of interesting and excellent publications for adults and children and very many color slides on Southwestern subjects. These make fine gifts for birthdays, parties, and special occasions, and many prove to be of value to children in their school work and hobbies.

May we recommend, for instance, the following items which give additional information on Wupatki National Monument and its environment?

*****2x2 INCH KODACHROME DUPLICATES.....50c each or 6 for \$2.50**
 (order by number and letter)

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- K-10 A. Wupatki Ruins
- B. Wupatki Ruins and Amphitheater
- C. Sink Hole and Citadel Ruin
- D. Lomaki Ruin
- E. Box Canyon Ruin and San Francisco Peaks
- F. Earth Cracks

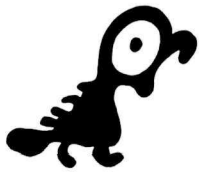
- B-1c Red House in black cinders
- G46 Wupatki from southwest (Lollegard Slide)
- S-113 Spectacular Wukoki Ruin near Wupatki
- S-114 Citadel Butte and Ruin with Nalakihiu Ruin in Foreground
- S-115 Huge dry sink in the Kaibab Limestone by Citadel Ruin
- S-116 Crack-in-Rock Ruin on its sandstone cuesta
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SWMA SERIES

- B-1a Wupatki from southwest
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