



Overview



Puzzle House excavated, following the 1993 field season

This is a report of archaeological field work carried out at the Puzzle House site by the members of the Fort Lewis College Archaeological Field Schools during the 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1997 seasons, and members of the Advanced Laboratory Techniques and Advanced Southwest Archaeology classes held on the college campus during those and subsequent academic years.

This final report on the archaeological work at Puzzle House is being published electronically on the Internet for two reasons—first, to satisfy professional obligations to publish the results of research undertaken by the author, and second, to develop a template or model for future web-based publications of this nature. More technical information, including how to navigate and print from the report, is presented in the next section, “Using this Report.”

Puzzle House (5MT11787) is one of a number of ancestral pueblo sites associated with the Lowry Ruin (5MT1566) in Montezuma County, southwest Colorado. Lowry is located on County Road CC some 8.5 miles west of Pleasant View, Colorado, about 25 miles northwest of Cortez. It is well-known to southwestern archaeologists and tourists alike. Located in the Canyon of the Ancients National Monument and administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Lowry and its associated great kiva have been excavated and stabilized, and are open to the public. Puzzle House is a relatively isolated structure located some 1500 meters SSE of Lowry. Test excavations conducted at Puzzle House indicate that the site was occupied for various time intervals between