

wall abutments. What was described as a one-room, two-story structure by survey archeologists in 1983, is now thought to be a five-room, two-story structure which was occupied during the later years of Wupatki's existence. No points were found and small sherd size led some students to believe that impacts over 50 years of visitor use were substantial. Faunal remains found in the back fill of excavations were similar to those

recorded by other researchers 25 years earlier.

The park staff and ethnography students gained valuable insights into visitor response to signs requesting help to preserve ruins by staying off walls. The students made numerous management recommendations that can be incorporated into trail use/design before next summer's high use periods. Overall, the superintendent is very excited to be in close proximity to such an outstanding academic community at Northern Arizona University.

information they wanted about prehistoric lifestyles.

The field school results have been compiled in a series of ethnographic reports which are rich in detail and have direct practical use in addressing park management concerns. The reports include profiles of what visitors want to know about archeological sites, what forms of interpretation they like and dislike, and for what reasons. They include an exploration of the ambiguity over behavioral boundaries within the park, why that ambiguity exists, and points of contact where clarification is necessary. They provide profiles of individuals who are likely to abuse the ruins. One report gives an analysis of the patterns of visitation of German tourists, and the reason so many of them are interested in U.S. prehistoric parks. Other reports include suggestions for better, and more coordinated publicity about parks, as well as people's opinions on different forms or philosophies of preservation. They provide details about what visitors expect to see, how they feel about archeological monuments and the impact those monuments have on their understanding of the world around them. Each report provides a set of recommendations for retaining current services, and recommendations for change.

Ethnography turned out to be a valuable tool for determining visitors' ideas, knowledge, and actions. We identified important issues by observing people, listening to their conversations, and then by asking them directly what they thought about the monument. This provided us with a vehicle for comparing what people did at the ruins with what they said about them. During the pursuit of this research, all of us came to value very highly Wupatki National Monument and the people who work there. We hope our efforts will make their tasks easier. Copies of the ethnographic reports produced by the students are available from the office of the superintendent of Wupatki-Sunset Crater National Monuments, or the Chief Ranger at Wupatki.

Dr. Robert T. Trotter, II is the Department of Anthropology Chair, Northern Arizona University.

Ethnographic Field School

Robert T. Trotter, II

Ethnographic research at Wupatki National Monument was directed at understanding the behavior of visitors in archeological parks. Prior to initiating the ethnography, we interviewed NPS personnel to determine the most important starting point for our research. The park staff requested that the research help determine how long people stayed at the ruins, where they went, what interested them, what types of interpretation worked well, and how visitors generally behaved. We accomplished this by periodically timing visitors, unobtrusively following their movements through the ruin, listening to public conversations, and asking questions. From these observations we devised further questions to ask for in-depth interviews about their experiences in the park.

Students received training in direct observation, interviewing, computer-based field note management, and ethnographic analysis. They began the project by making general observations and then discovering visible patterns of visitor behavior. The students subsequently selected focused topics to complete the ethnographic research cycle.

The students verified that Wupatki visitors are mostly middle class Anglo Americans. The second largest group at Wupatki are foreign visitors.

These included Europeans and Asians, and mostly from Germanic based cultures. Numbers of French speaking tourists also visit the park, as well as a sprinkling of people from Japan and other countries. Minority visitors made up one of the smallest groups. Students observed Black, Native American, and Hispanic visitors during the course of their research, but these visitors are the exception.

The average time a visitor stays at Wupatki Ruin, and the visitor center, is less than 30 minutes. During this time, visitors typically move from the parking lot into the visitor center, look at the exhibits, make purchases, and then go to the archeological site itself. About 10 percent of the visitors skip the visitor center and go directly to the ruin. Beginning with the overlook to the ruin, people choose among several routes which shorten or lengthen their stay.

The students focused their research on topics that allowed us to understand what tourists did during this brief stay. The reports provide descriptions of the similarities and differences in male/female patterns and adult/child patterns of interaction in the ruins. We made discoveries in differences in their use of interpretive material, differences in questions they asked, and in the