

**BRYCE CANYON
MUSEUM COLLECTION BACKLOG CATALOG PROJECT
PHASE II**

**Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Study Unit
US DOI National Park Service No. H1200040002/J1330050042
CPCESU Project ASU-18-02**

**FINAL REPORT:
BRCA PHOTO ARCHIVES AT WACC (BRCA ACC 422)
[Western Archeological & Conservation Center]**

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Abstract

In early 2008, (February – May), Marin Bey (Arizona State University (ASU) Cooperator at WACC) completed Phase II (ASU-18-02) of the Bryce Canyon Collection Backlog Catalog Project (ASU-18) for Bryce Canyon Accession 422, a photographic collection and related archives housed at the Western Archeological & Conservation Center (WACC) in Tucson, AZ.

The archives from Bryce Canyon Accession 422 consist of associated field records. The archives from Bryce Canyon Accession 422 consist of associated field records. The field records came to WACC already organized in archival-quality folders by site number. An inventory at the folder level was started for the field records, but discontinued to focus on the photographs.

The decision was made in consultation with Lynn Marie Mitchell and Khaleel Saba to organize the black-and-white photographs in ascending order by site number. The photo log was re-typed in an excel worksheet (to facilitate import into Re:Discovery) to reflect the roll number, frame number, date, photographer, state and field site number, IO# (if applicable), view, and photo description. The original hand-written field photo log was checked with each roll, to ensure accuracy of data and to include any additional description detail.

The descriptions are based on field notes, and whether the dendroglyphs are easily identified by the ASU Cooperator, Marin Bey. When the dendroglyphs were not easily identified, and not included in the two existing photo logs, Marin Bey included description statements such as “letters/symbols/graphics” or “heavy scarring.” This language is consistent with the language used in the field photo log to describe hard-to-read dendroglyphs.

A total of 2,875 black-and-white prints, within 12 binder boxes, were described in the photo log. While not cataloged, the photos are accessible to park staff. The excel spreadsheets for *Photo Boxes 1 through 12*, and for the *BRCA ACC 422 Associated Field Records – Partial Inventory* were produced and made accessible to NPS staff at WACC. This final report was compiled to document the project, the decision making process, related future tasks, and a complete set of the excel spreadsheets.

Final Report

During 2008, (February – May), Marin Bey (Arizona State University (ASU) Cooperator at WACC) completed Phase II (ASU-18-02) of the Bryce Canyon Collection Backlog Catalog Project (ASU-18) for Bryce Canyon Accession 422, a photographic collection and related archives housed at the Western Archeological & Conservation Center (WACC) in Tucson, AZ.

The BRCA ACC 422 Collection

The archives from Bryce Canyon Accession 422 consist of associated field records. An archeological survey was conducted during the summers of 2000 and 2001 to document dendroglyphs within the park boundaries. These features were photographed in several different views. Object collections were not generated as the sites were primarily features. Isolated occurrences (IOs) were recorded, such as glass bottles and chipped stone, but were left in place.

The field records came to WACC already organized in archival-quality folders by site number. The site forms in the boxes are organized by ascending state site number and had the photographs incorporated into them. Each print is labeled on the back with its roll and frame number. The sleeve is labeled with the state site number and a brief description (e.g., “overview”), as well as the dendroglyph, trough, or tree number (e.g., 58-01, 46-1). An inventory at the folder level was started for the field records, but discontinued to focus on the photographs.

Black and white prints were incorporated with their associated paper documents. The photographs were already stored in polypropylene sleeves and labeled with the roll and frame number. The prints were removed from the field records to store them separately in archival binder boxes.

The black-and-white photo log seems to be organized by roll and date, rather than by state or field site number. However, each site was photographed many times over the two field seasons, resulting in one site being represented across several rolls of film. For example, roll 1 has 35 frames from 14 different sites. The photo log itself is well organized, including the frame number, date, photographer, state and field site numbers, IO number (if applicable), view, and descriptions.

The Archiving Work Plan

The initial plan was to organize the black-and-white prints in the binder-boxes using the photo log as the divider between rolls. The Archivists at WACC wanted to do this because the photo log was so well organized, and included the cross-reference between state and field site numbers. This organization, however, would result in the photographs being organized loosely by date and roll number, and not by site numbers. The established method is to organize photographs in ascending order by state site number.

Thus, the decision was made in consultation with Lynn Marie Mitchell and Khaleel Saba to organize the black-and-white photographs in ascending order by site number. The photo log were then re-typed in an excel worksheet (to facilitate import into Re:Discovery) to reflect the roll number, frame number, date, photographer, state and field site number, IO# (if applicable), view, and photo description. The original hand-written field photo log was checked with each roll, to ensure accuracy of data and to include any additional description detail.

The description field of the new photo log includes the dendroglyph number, and a brief description of the inscriptions. It is important to note that the field notes include a more thorough description, and drawings, of the dendroglyphs. Thus, the description field on the photo log is to serve as an initial, and not final, description of the dendroglyphs.

The descriptions are based on field notes, and if the dendroglyphs are easily identified by the ASU Cooperator (Marin Bey). When the dendroglyphs were not easily identified, and not included in the two existing photo logs, Marin Bey included description statements such as “letters/symbols/graphics” or “heavy scarring.” This language is consistent with the language used in the field photo log to describe hard-to-read dendroglyphs.

A total of 2,875 black-and-white prints, within 12 binder boxes, were described in the photo log. While not cataloged, the photos are accessible to park staff.

Future Tasks

Bryce Canyon Photo Collection and Photo Logs at WACC (BRCA ACC 422)

In 2008 (February – May), Marin Bey double-checked each print with the photo log that was included with the associated field records. There are two types of discrepancies:

1. There are missing prints from sites that are represented in the photo boxes. These are highlighted in yellow on the desk copy of the photo log. It is possible that these prints are still with the associated field records for the site, and I missed them when I was removing all the prints. I included the photo box number the other prints from the same site are housed.
2. There are missing prints that are not represented in the photo boxes. Many of these are not site-specific, and so many not have been included with the associated field records.

Both of these discrepancies will need to be investigated before processing and cataloging of the prints continue.

Color digital images were also taken. A processing plan needs to be created for them.

The negatives to the black-and-white prints need to be cut and organized. Ideally, each site should have all of its associated negatives stored together (as discussed above, each site is spread across several rolls). The negatives will need to then be cataloged.

Because the field records are already organized by site, and stored properly, no further arrangement should be required. A decision will need to be made whether to have a single site per folder (which would result in re-housing records and labeling new folders) or retaining them the way they are, with several sites to one folder. The field records need to be cataloged, and entered into ANCS+.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Bryce Canyon Photo Collection and Photo Logs at WACC (BRCA ACC 422) (PROJECT ASU-18-02)

- **BRCA PHASE II, WORK PLAN – HOURS LOG (Total 76 Hours)**
- **Photo Organizational Notes**
- **BRCA PHASE II, Amendment NCE, end date 12/31/2008**
- **BRCA PHASE II, Amendment NCE, end date 12/31/2008**

BRCA ACC 422 (Excel Spreadsheets)

- **BRCA Photo Box 1**
- **BRCA Photo Box 2**
- **BRCA Photo Box 3**
- **BRCA Photo Box 4**
- **BRCA Photo Box 5**
- **BRCA Photo Box 6**
- **BRCA Photo Box 7**
- **BRCA Photo Box 8**
- **BRCA Photo Box 9**
- **BRCA Photo Box 10**
- **BRCA Photo Box 11**
- **BRCA Photo Box 12**
- **BRCA ACC 422 Box Inventory**