

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** NPS Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) Documentation of Parallel Wall House and Saddlehorn Hamlet Pueblos, Cortez, CO

**Discipline:** Cultural Resources  
**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Colorado at Denver  
**Effective Dates:** 6/15/2010 - 9/1/2014  
**Funding Amount:** \$34,993

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** Located in the four corners area of the desert Southwest, Parallel Wall House and Saddlehorn Hamlet Pueblos were constructed and occupied during the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. This impressive architecture includes habitation and storage rooms, kivas, and towers. Including an 8-10 room structure and kiva built against an overhanging cliff face with substantial portions of intact painted interior wall plaster and a tower and adjacent room built on an isolated spire 100 meters southeast. Some masonry wall fabric has collapsed, although several structures contain wall segments which stand over 3.9 meters in height. Various archaeological investigations and preservation activities have occurred at the site since 1969. The site is somewhat remote, accessible by a two-mile foot trail, from the nearest road.

Managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, the integrity of these Pueblos are threatened by a number of natural and human agents. The greatest threat to the site is considered to be human impacts. Natural erosion and weathering, and human impacts, have taken a toll on the standing architecture of the Pueblo and the talus structures.

HABS documentation will result in comprehensive recording of the significant standing architecture and extant plaster; which will serve as a permanent archival record of the site.

The Heritage Partnerships Program of the National Park Service, Intermountain Region, now wishes to work cooperatively with the BLM, Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, and the University of Colorado Denver to prepare the final HABS documentation of Serpents Quarters Pueblo. Recognized as the nation's oldest preservation programs, the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), and Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) programs document important architectural, engineering and landscape sites, utilizing measured drawings, large-format photographs and written histories. Within the Intermountain Region of the National Park Service, which includes the state of Colorado, HABS, HAER and HALS projects are approved and transmitted to the Library of Congress by the NPS Heritage Partnerships Program.

This project will be completed in two phases. Phase one will include the necessary on-site recording work and pre-document preparation. Phase two will include the preparation of the final ink on Mylar archival drawings and digital documentation.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:** July 1, 2014

**Keywords:** National Park Service, Intermountain Region, University of Colorado at Denver, NPS Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), Parallel Wall House and Saddlehorn Hamlet Pueblos

