
SEARCH FOR EL PUEBLO

An archeological project has been initiated in Pueblo, CO, to locate the remains of El Pueblo, an important trading post which was the namesake for the modern city and was located in the heart of present-day Pueblo. It was probably constructed in 1842 and abandoned in 1854, following a massacre by Indians of most of its inhabitants.

The Pueblo area, where several major tributaries join the Arkansas River and where the Taos Trail crossed that river, contained other nineteenth-century trading posts and occupations, dating as early as 1822. El Pueblo was visited and used by many well-known frontier characters and western explorers.

The Colorado Historical Society museum in Pueblo has a frontier theme and a full-size replica of how El Pueblo may have appeared. The museum is some distance from the site of the original post, tentatively identified from archival, historical, and other research. The Univ. of So. Colorado

and the City of Pueblo are cooperating in the archeological and other investigations at the location, and excavations directed by William G. Buckles will begin June 5 of this summer, part of an archeological field school of the university. It is probable that a number of years of research will be conducted.

The project will incorporate public involvements as much as possible, and visitors to the excavation are welcome. Some members of local historical and archeological societies will be involved in the investigations as excavators and in other capacities.