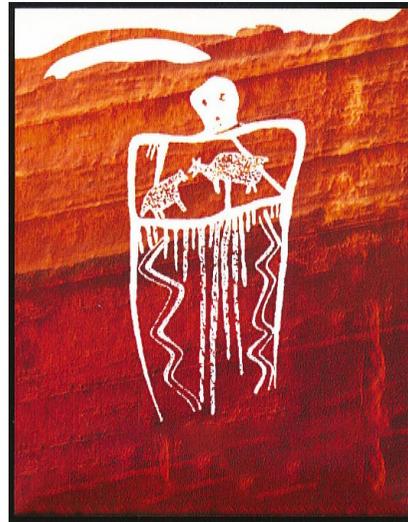


# Canyon Country Photographs

Richard Halliburton

March 2024



*Canyonlands Natural History Association*



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## INTRODUCTION

Canyon Country encompasses much of southern Utah and northern Arizona, with smaller areas of Colorado and New Mexico. Its unique geology, biology, and cultural history is preserved in places like Grand Canyon and Arches national parks, along with numerous smaller parks and preserves. It is home to invertebrates which have evolved unique life cycles, such as fairy shrimp, and endemic (found nowhere else) plants like the Canyonlands Biscuitroot. The area is beautiful and a very popular tourist destination.

There are millions of color photographs of the region, some quite beautiful and unique; I have two hanging in my home. However, in my own photography I have taken a different approach. I believe that removing color allows one to better appreciate the unusual structures and textures of the geological and biological features. Small details become apparent, and consistent patterns emerge. My hope is that viewers will come away with a new appreciation of the character of the region.

These photographs were exhibited at Viewpoint Photographic Art Center, Sacramento in November 2024. They were chosen from hundreds, taken over many years. Cameras include 35mm film cameras, several digital cameras, and two 4x5 view cameras.



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The canyon country of southern Utah and northern Arizona—the Colorado Plateau—is something special. Something strange, marvelous, full of wonders. As far as I know there is no other region on earth much like it, or even remotely like it. Nowhere else have we had this lucky combination of vast sedimentary rock formations exposed to a desert climate, a great plateau carved by major rivers—the Green, the San Juan, the Colorado—into such a surreal land of form and color. Add a few volcanoes, the standing necks of which can still be seen, and cinder cones and lava flows, and at least four separate laccolithic mountain ranges nicely distributed about the region, and more hills, holes, humps and hollows, reefs, folds, salt domes, swells and grabens, buttes, benches and mesas, synclines, monoclines, and anticlines than you can ever hope to see and explore in one lifetime, and you begin to arrive at an approximate picture of the plateau's surface appearance.

-Edward Abbey

*The Journey Home*



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*Bryce Canyon, Sunrise*



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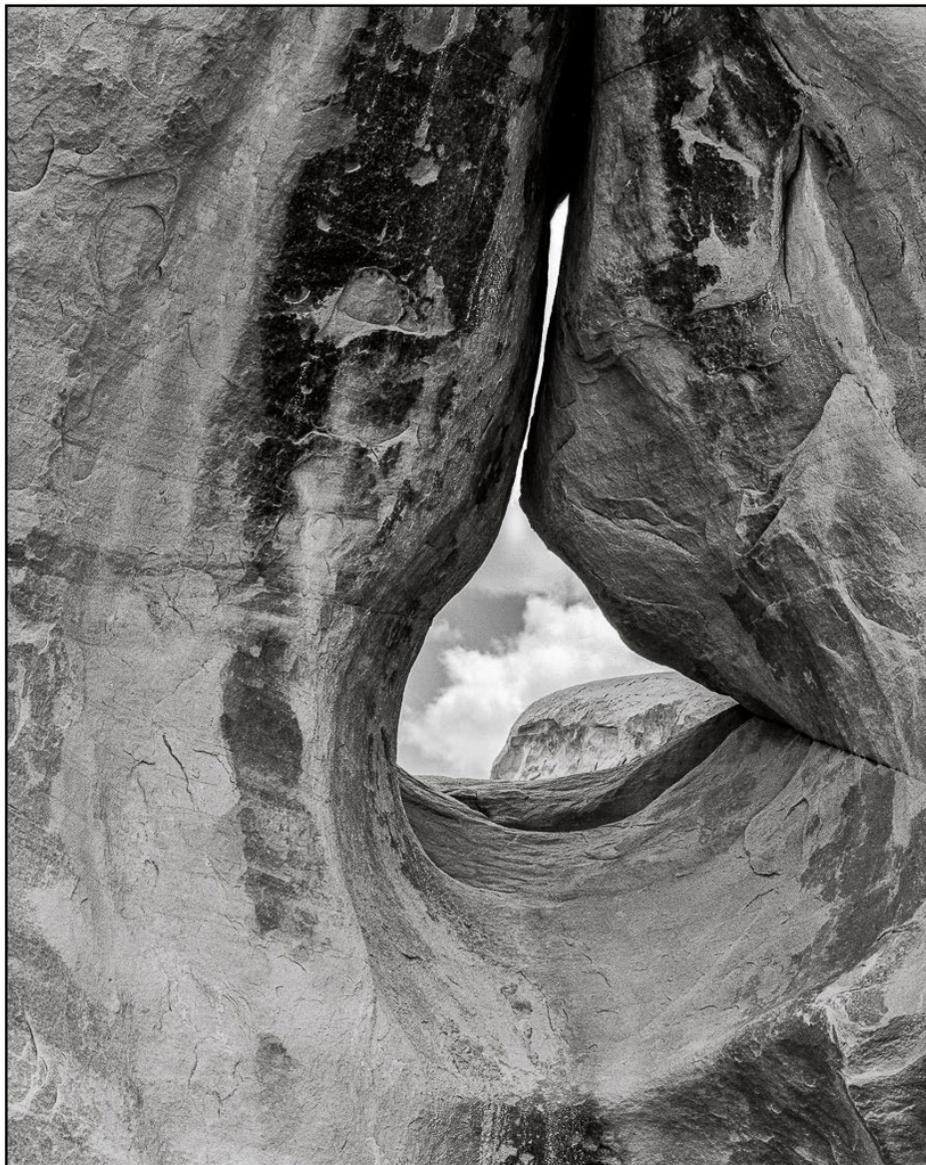


*Canyon Overlook*



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*Devil's Garden, Utah*



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*Turret Arch*



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*River Overlook*



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*The Subway*



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*Sunset, Canyonlands National Park*



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*Sandstorm*



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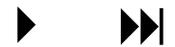


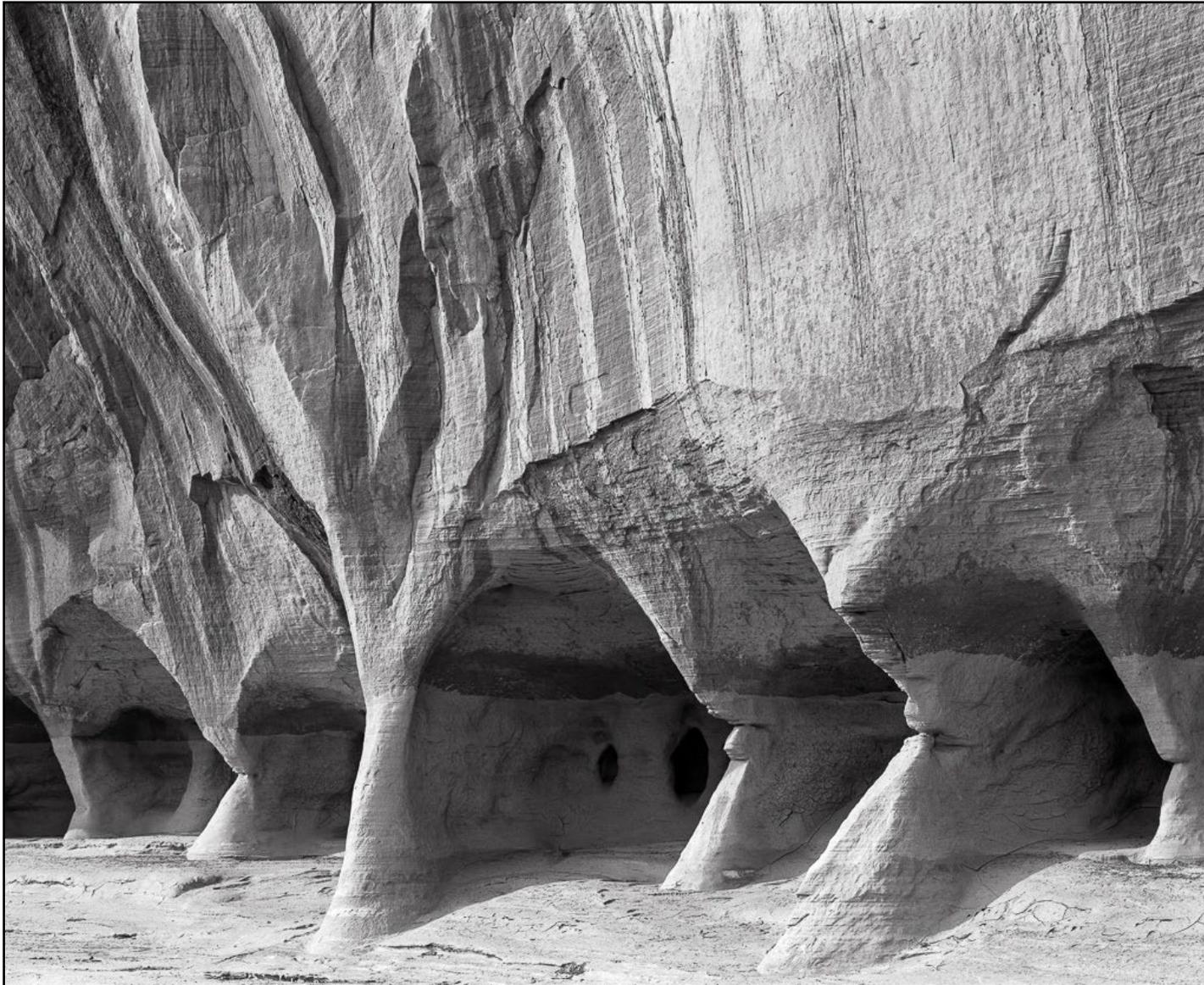


*Desert Storm, Utah*



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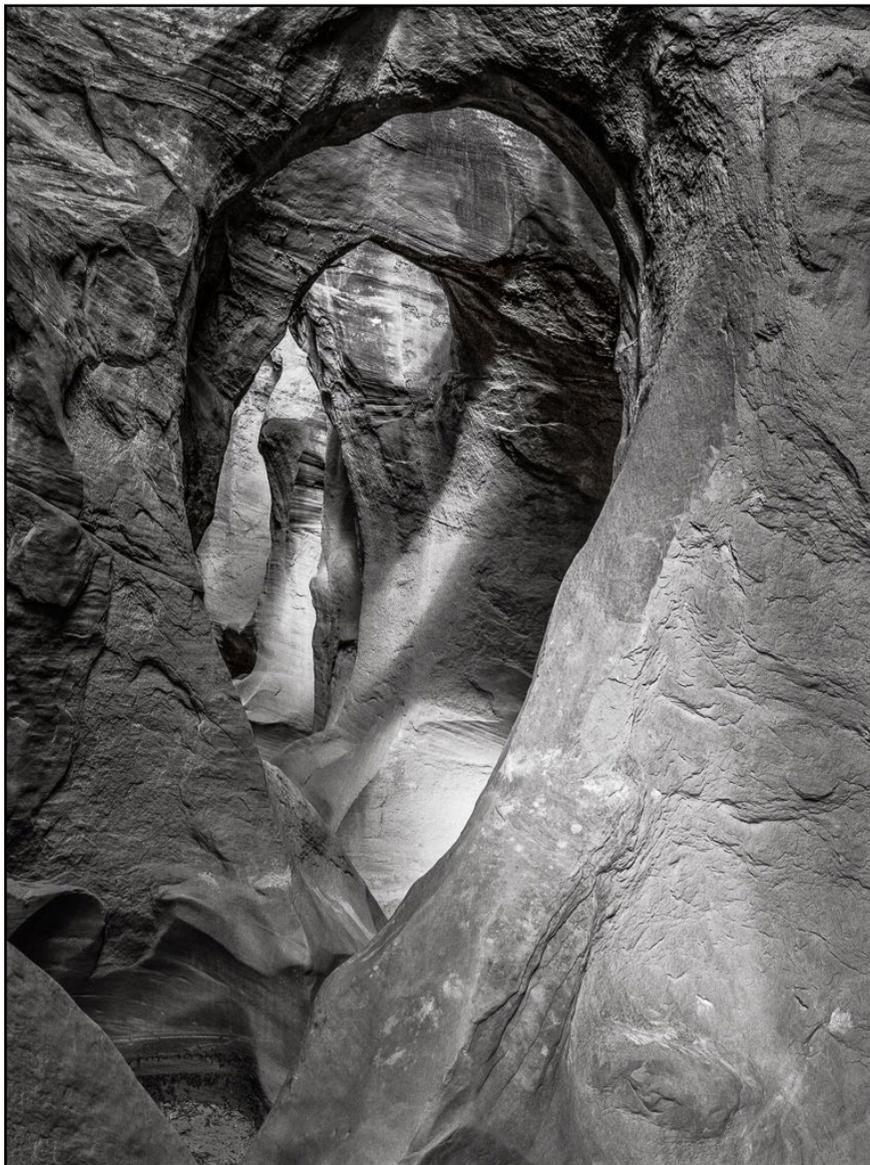


*The Windows*



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*Peek-a-Boo Canyon*



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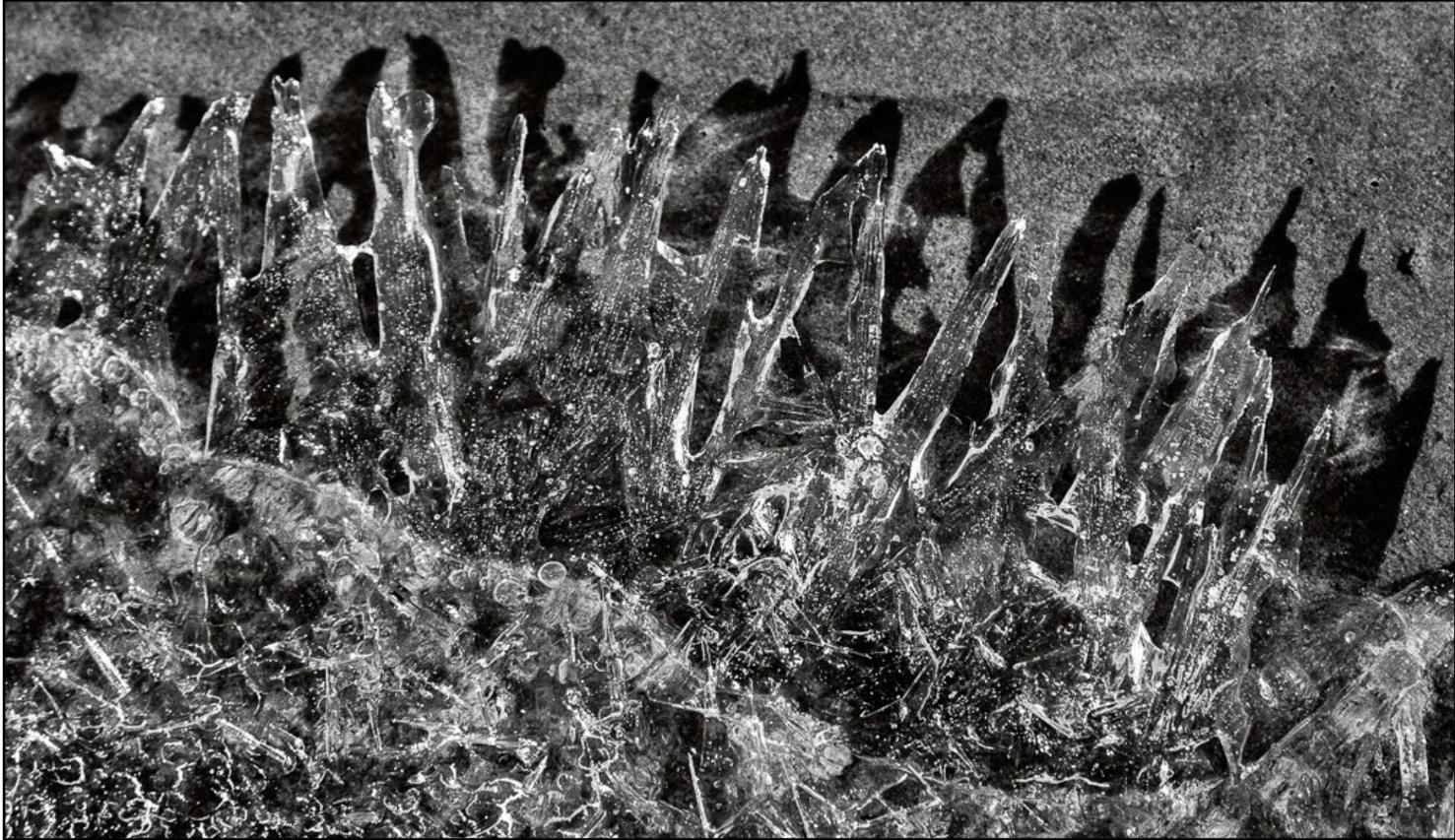


*Double Arch*



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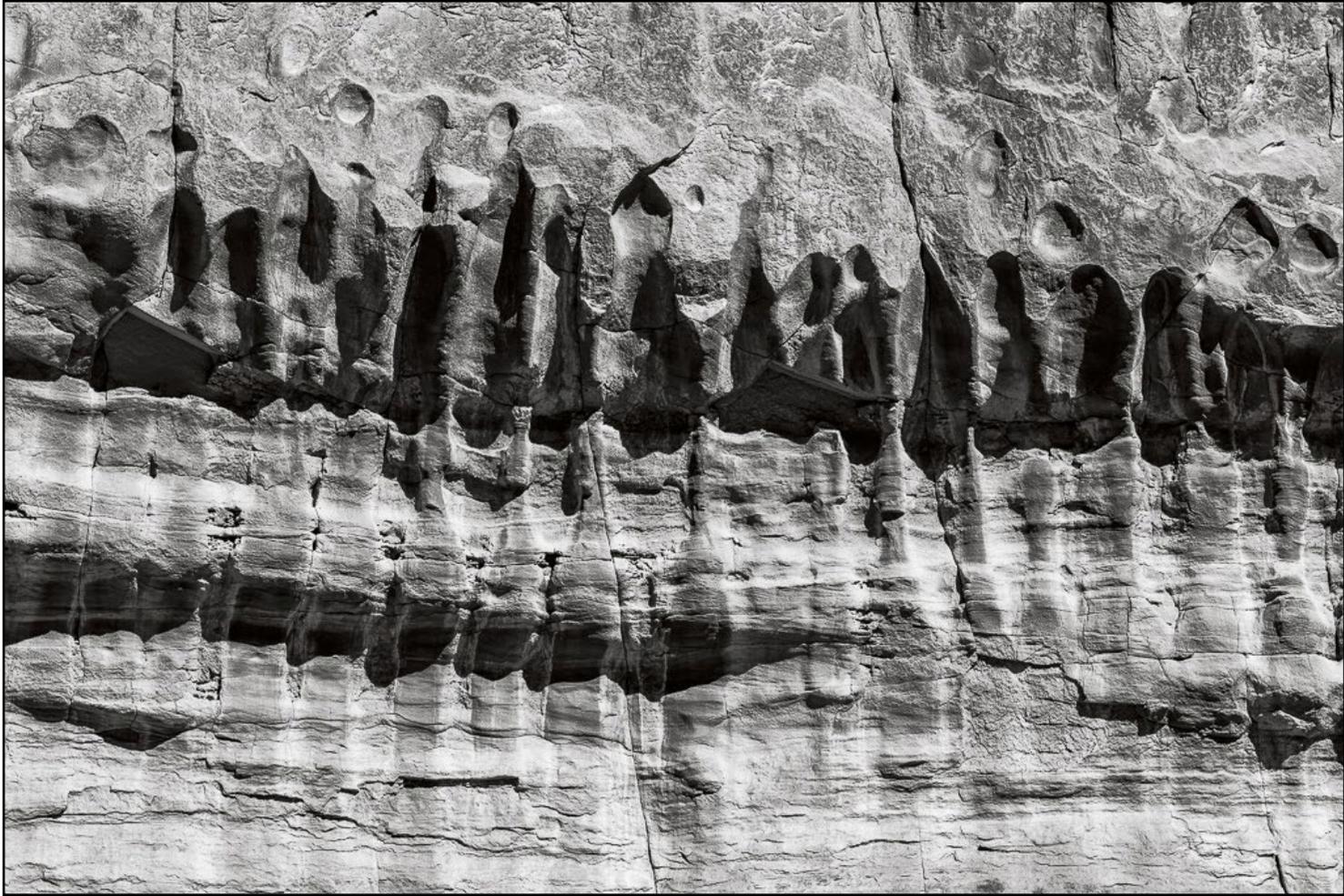


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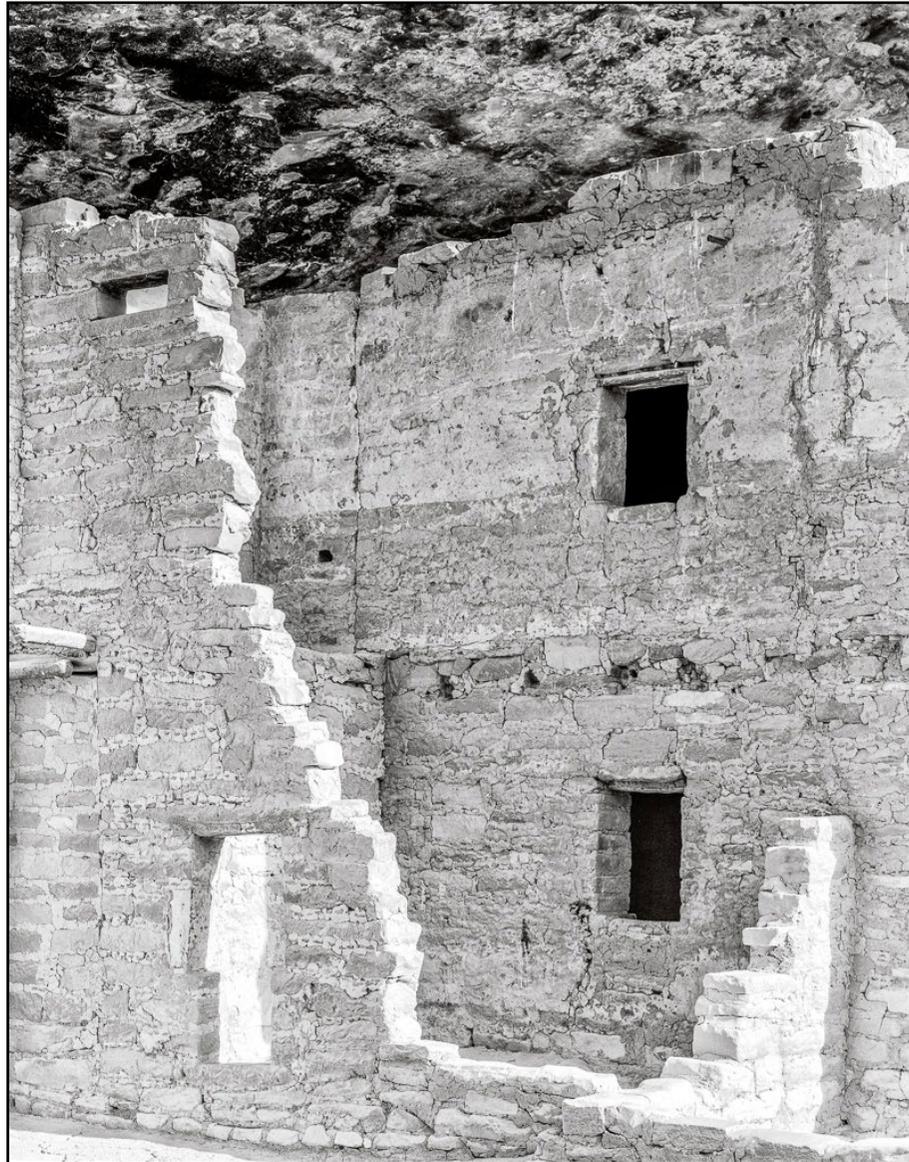


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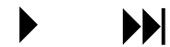




*Spruce Tree House*



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*Petroglyph (2085)*



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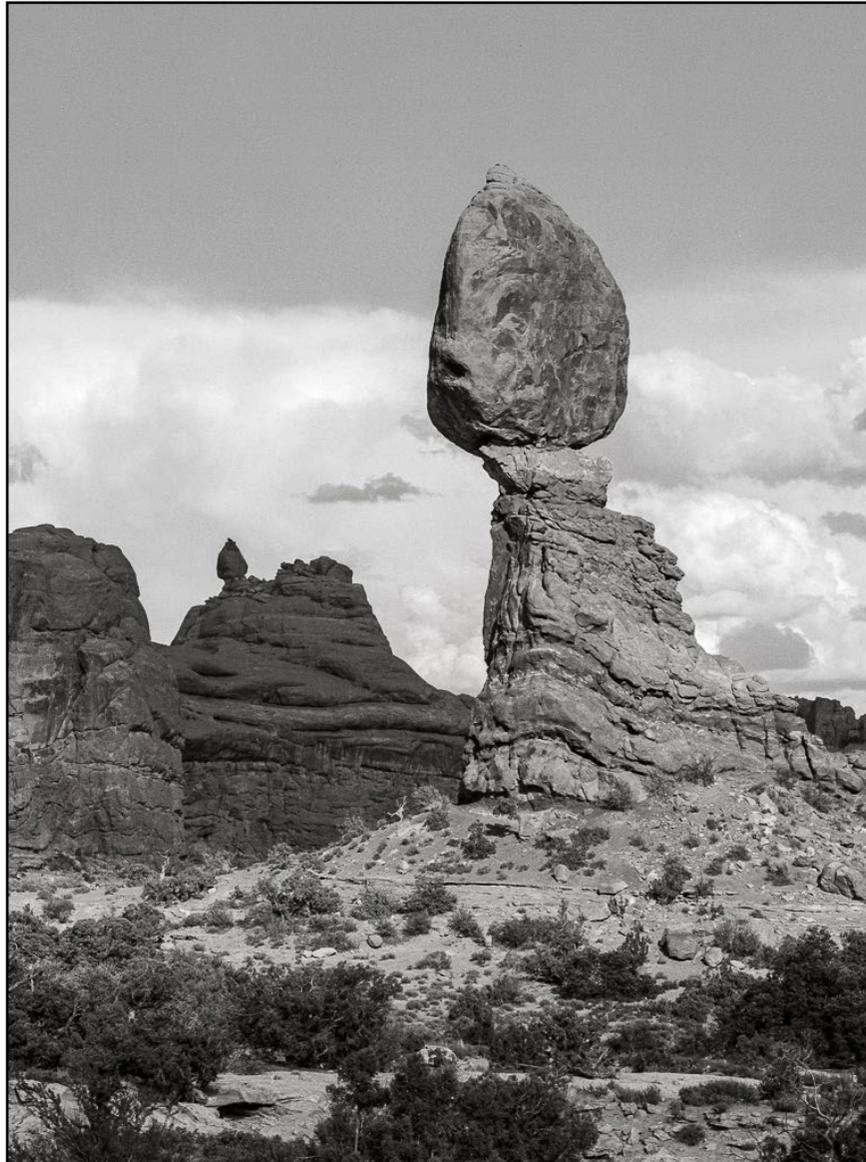


*HorseshoeCanyon*



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*Balanced Rocks*



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*Canyon Floor, The Maze*



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*Metate Arch*



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*Slot Canyon (037)*



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*Untitled (1932)*



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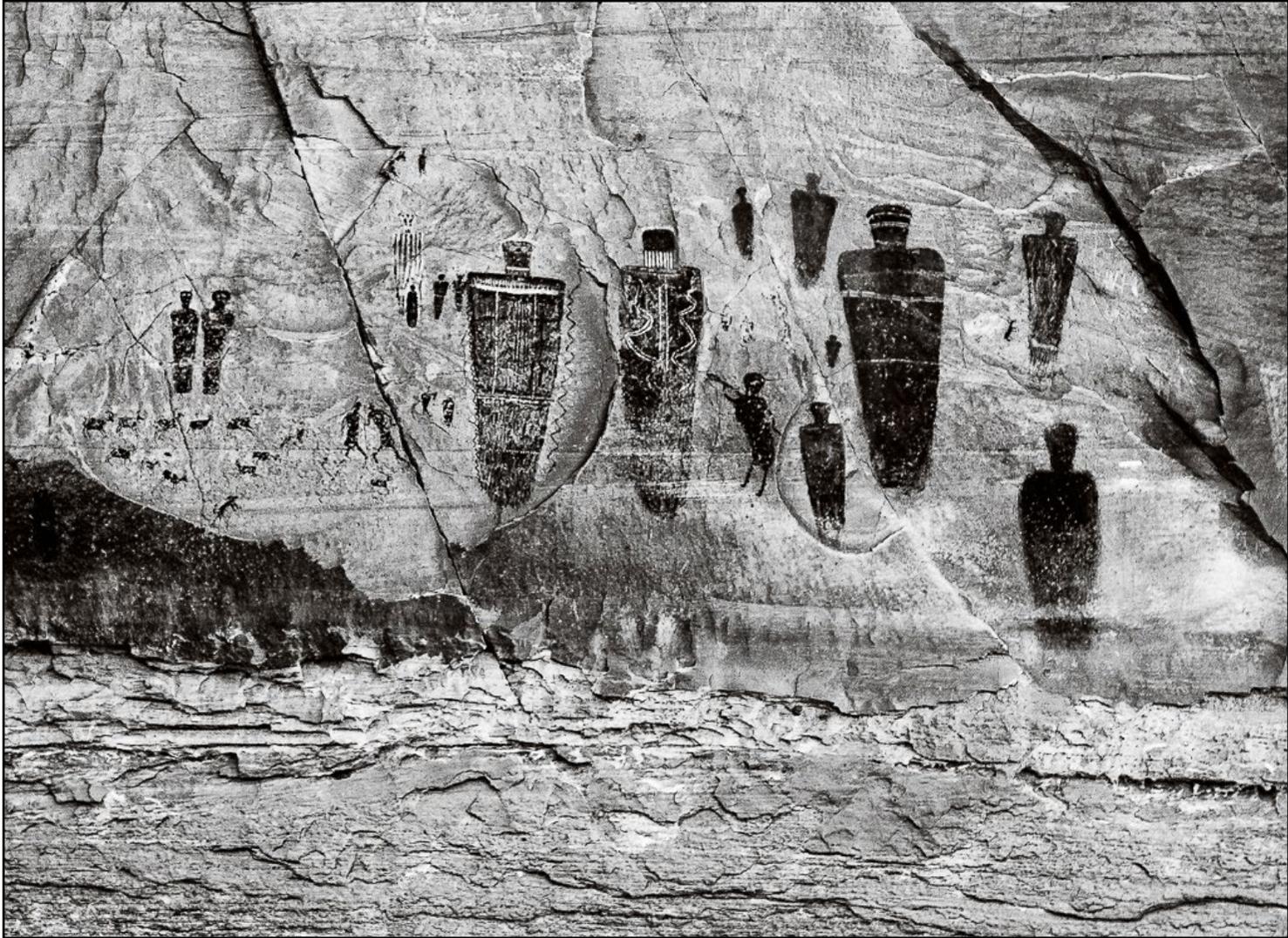


*Sand Patterns*



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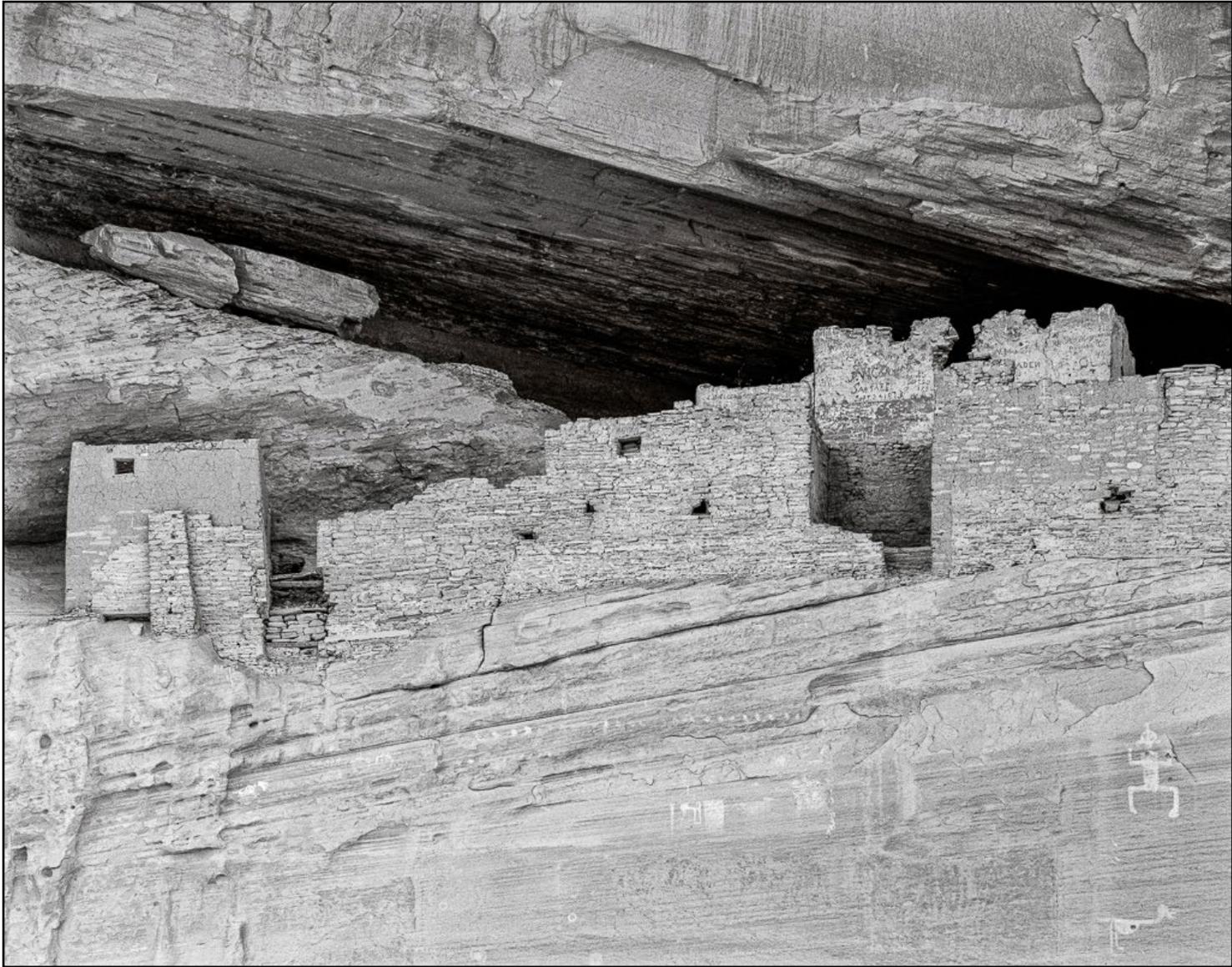


*Petroglyphs (2093)*



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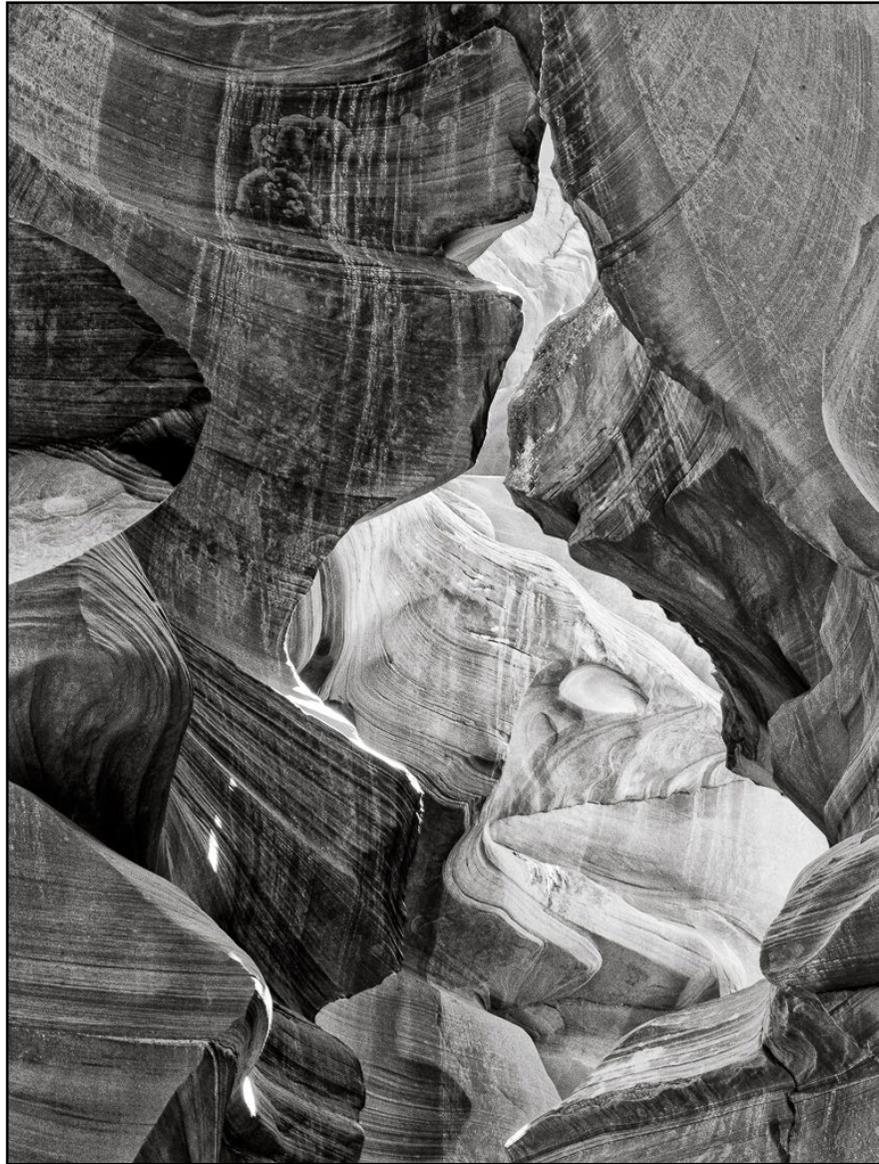


*White House Ruins*



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*Slot Canyon (079)*



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*Untitled (150)*



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## BIO

Richard Halliburton is Emeritus Professor of Biology at Western Connecticut State University, where he taught and conducted research in genetics, evolutionary biology, and related subjects. He is the author of *Introduction to Population Genetics*, as well as research papers and general articles.

Halliburton has photographed the western landscape and national parks, especially Yellowstone, for many years. Since retiring, he spends most of his time on photography, wandering in search of truth in black and white. His favorite camera is still a folding wooden view camera little changed from those of the nineteenth century. He develops his film in a developer first formulated at the dawn of photography. Only recently has he been dragged, initially kicking and screaming, into the digital age.

Halliburton currently lives in a small town in the Central Valley of California. His photographs have been exhibited and published in a variety of venues.

Halliburton has no relationship to the infamous company of the same name, but he is related to the bestselling adventurer and travel writer of the 1930s.

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