



THE
Albuquerque Archaeological Society
Newsletter

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**BASKETRY SHIELDS AND (IN)VISIBLE DEFENSE IN THE
ANCIENT SOUTHWEST**

Edward A. Jolie

7:30 pm Tuesday, March 15, 2022

At Your Computer, Tablet, or Smart Phone

Indigenous North American shield-making traditions are best attested among the peoples of the Plains and Southwest cultural provinces where shields were used in martial and ceremonial contexts. In these regions, shields are frequently represented in images cross-cutting a range of visual media including pictographs, petroglyphs, and mural paintings, some of which exhibit considerable antiquity. Actual shields, however, are almost unknown archaeologically. This article presents new data resulting from an analysis of five coiled basketry shields recovered from archaeological sites in the northern Southwest. Digital image enhancement clarifies the nature of early shield decoration, while evidence for use in combat contributes to knowledge of shield evolution and function. Improved dating suggests the possibility that basketry shields predate the proliferation of shield imagery in the AD 1200s. These observations help reorient discussion of shield form, function, and iconography within the context of wider cultural developments during the AD 1200s and beyond.

Dr. Edward A. Jolie is Clara Lee Tanner Associate Professor in the School of Anthropology and Associate Curator of Ethnology at the Arizona State Museum at the University of Arizona. His scholarly interests include the archaeology of the Americas (with particular emphasis on the desert west), past and present sociocultural diversity, perishable material culture globally, Native American/Anthropologist relationships, and ethics in anthropology. Jolie received his PhD from the University of New Mexico. (*Continued, next page*)

A day or so prior to the meeting, an email message will be sent to members with the link for the Zoom meeting, which will open around 7 to allow for greetings among friends. Please mute your microphone and turn off your video during the presentation until the question-and-answer session.

AAS DUES FOR 2022 ARE NOW PAYABLE

If you have not already done so, please fill out the attached membership renewal form and mail it with your check to Treasurer, Albuquerque Archaeological Society, PO Box 4029, Albuquerque NM 87196. The grace period for dues ends March 31. Members who have still not renewed by then will be dropped from the mailing lists. Questions about dues status can be addressed to info@abqarchaeology.org.

MORE ABOUT THE MARCH SPEAKER

Much of Jolie's research has focused on the study of perishable material culture (e.g., string, nets, footwear, baskets, and textiles) to address a wide range of anthropological questions including those that bear on technological innovation and change, social interaction and identities, and population movement. Being of mixed Oglala Lakota (Sioux) and Hodulgee Muscogee (Creek) ancestry, and an enrolled citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, he strives to cultivate collaborative relationships and research partnerships with Native Americans and other descendant communities. He is presently in the process of re-establishing the Perishable Material Culture Laboratory at the Arizona State Museum. The lab is one of a handful, globally, that specializes in the documentation and analysis of perishable material culture. It receives perishable material culture from all over the world for study, and currently it contains multiple items from the United States, Honduras, Mexico, and Peru.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2022 VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by President Evan Kay.

MINUTES: As there were no corrections or additions to the January minutes, they stand approved as published in the February 2022 newsletter.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ann Braswell announced that the speaker for next month's meeting is Edward Jolie of the Arizona State Museum, who will speak on Basketry Shields in the American Southwest.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Obenauf: Income for the month was \$710 from membership renewals. Operating expenses for the month were \$31.31 for postage, \$16.17 for the monthly Zoom fee. The one program expense for the month was \$100.00 for our annual Archaeology Southwest "Advocate" level dues. The checking account balance at the end of the month was \$7,955.19.

A proposed budget was discussed at the January Board meeting and later accepted electronically by the Board. It was published in the February Newsletter. Approval by the membership at the next general meeting is required in our bylaws.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED BUDGET

Helen Crotty moved that the Proposed Budget for 2022 be approved by the members. The motion was seconded and as there were no dissenting votes, Evan Kay announced that the Proposed Budget was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Mary Raje: Membership dues were trickling in. We have three new members.

Newsletter – Helen Crotty: The annual meeting of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico will be held by Zoom this year, from May 5 through 8.

Lab/Archives: No report this month.

Field Trips – Pat Harris reported that Hayward Franklin will lead a group to visit Jaral Pueblo on February 19. On Sunday, March 27, there will be a field trip to the Albuquerque Museum.

Rock Art – Carol Chamberland: The team has completed a project they had been working on for five years, and that has concluded 15 years of fieldwork. Carol announced that she will be retiring from active rock art recording but will spend the remainder of the year writing reports. Gretchen Obenauf thanked Carol and the team on behalf of the BLM for the monumental work accomplished.

Pottery Southwest – Hayward Franklin: The Fall/Winter issue is up on the website.

SPEAKER

Vice President Gretchen Obenauf introduced Michael Waters, Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Center for the Study of the First Americans at Texas A&M University, who spoke about archaeological and genetic evidence for the peopling of the Americas. The talk was followed by a lengthy question and answer period.

Susan King, Secretary

[Ed. Note: No synopsis is available, but those interested in the subject can visit the Center for the Study of the First Americans website <liberalarts.tamu.edu/csfa> for more information and/or membership in the Center, which includes its quarterly publication *Mammoth Trumpet* and discounts on other Center publications.]

FIELD TRIP NEWS FROM PAT HARRIS, AAS FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR

On Sunday March 27, 2022, The Albuquerque Archaeological Society will have a New Mexico History Tour at the Albuquerque Museum led by Docent and AAS member Carol Chamberland. The 90-minute tour will include the History, Indigo, African American and Art Galleries. Carol, an artist herself, always gives an interesting tour, providing thought-provoking comments on the artwork. She also provides background that makes the tour a learning experience. It's a great way to spend a Sunday.

There are no fees for parking or museum entrance, but the AAS field trip fee of \$10 will be collected at the beginning of the tour. To sign up, please email trips@abqarchaeology.org.

BOOK REVIEW

The Archaeology and History of Tijeras Canyon, by Paul R. Secord with contributions by Hayward H. Franklin, Frances Léon Swadesh Quintana, and Lucy “Lou” C. Schuyler and a foreword by David A. Phillips, Jr. Albuquerque: Secord Books. 2022. vii+92 pp., 69 figures, 4 tables, bibliography, appendices. \$19.95 paperback (ISBN 9798787457902). Available on Amazon.

Reviewed by Thatcher A. Seltzer-Rogers

When entering Albuquerque from the east on Interstate 40 and passing through Tijeras Canyon, I always look south toward Tijeras Pueblo, a location that embodies multiple significances. It is foremost a sizable late prehispanic Middle Rio Grande community. It is where a generation of University of New Mexico students gained training in excavation and laboratory analysis methods under the auspices of W. James Judge and, in particular, Linda Cordell. Finally, thanks to the Friends of Tijeras Pueblo, it remains a place where professional archaeologists, up-and-coming archaeologists (i.e., students), and the public can learn about life in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries in central New Mexico. But Tijeras Canyon contains many other prehistoric and historic sites, as well – notably the extensive prehistoric San Antonio Pueblo about two miles north of Tijeras, which had later occupations by Hispanic communities into modern times, and the historic villages of the Cañon de Carnué Land Grant at the western end of the canyon.

The volume aims to provide a synthetic view of the archaeological and historical record of Tijeras Canyon. In so doing, it seeks to resolve a significant issue inhibiting public engagement with the extensive, yet substantially damaged archaeological record of the Middle Rio Grande Valley: the lack of a professional but accessible book that can be placed in the hands of academic, field, and avocational archaeologists alike. Linda Cordell published the closest example of such a work in 1980, which is about Tijeras Pueblo and accompanied an exhibit at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at the time. This new volume is composed of an introduction, three chapters (“parts”), a conclusion, and five appendices that expand upon several topics. It is edited by Paul Secord, a supporter of many archaeological publications and author of several local history volumes. Secord is the main author of the Introduction and Parts I and III. Hayward Franklin, a longtime ceramic specialist for central New

Mexico and author of several publications on Pottery Mound Pueblo, authored Part II and contributed to the Introduction and Conclusion. Previously published contributions by Frances Léon Swadesh Quintana, at the time of her writing Curator of Ethnology at the Museum of New Mexico Laboratory of Anthropology, are found in Part III and Appendix E, and one by the late Lucy “Lou” C. Schuyler, author of several studies of jewelry from Middle Rio Grande sites, is included in Part II.

The introduction to the volume lays out its structure as well as key background details regarding environmental attributes of Tijeras Canyon and the natural resources available to its past and present inhabitants. Secord also provides details regarding the different cultures associated with Tijeras Canyon, including the often-overlooked *genízaro*, and the various time periods (such as Developmental, Coalition, Classic, and Historic periods) that archaeologists employ to refer to a suite of associated material culture, typically pottery. This section is strongly oriented toward the general public or those less familiar with technical terms, methods, and concepts employed by archaeologists.

The next section of the volume (“Part I”) describes the outcome of archaeological investigations at Tijeras Pueblo. I greatly applaud the listing and descriptions of previous investigations at the site, given the lengthy history of research there and difficulty locating reports for each project, as is the case for much compliance archaeology that results in “gray” literature. Throughout this Part, Secord provides numerous color photos from UNM’s field school excavations, maps conveying UNM’s excavation strategy and the history of Tijeras Pueblo’s construction, and field photos showing evidence for its long occupation in the form of sealed doorways and new floor surfaces. Toward the end, Secord incorporates data and conclusions from Schuyler’s jewelry study (a modified version of her 2010 publication) and provides a synthetic overview of other types of material culture, including rock art.

The second section (“Part II”), authored by Hayward Franklin, provides information on other archaeological sites in Tijeras Canyon, enabling readers to better understand the importance of Tijeras Pueblo and the social context in which the inhabitants lived. After an overview of archaeological surveys conducted in the Canyon, Franklin synthesizes the results of investigations at three sites—Coconito Pueblo, the Silva Dance Hall/Carnuel Site (“Silva Site”), and San Antonio Pueblo. These sites relate to the Coalition (Coconito Pueblo, Silva Site), Classic (San Antonio Pueblo), and Historic (Silva Site, San Antonio Pueblo) periods. Importantly, Franklin poses topics for future research, specifically the relationship between Tijeras Pueblo, San Antonio Pueblo, and Paa-ko Pueblo (located north of San Antonito on the east side of the Sandia Mountains).

The third section (“Part III”), composed of an introduction by Paul Secord and a republished contribution by Frances Léon Swadesh (1980), presents the events and trends that characterized life in Tijeras Canyon during the mid-eighteenth through late twentieth centuries. Although Swadesh’s paper is over forty years old, her insights into *genízaro* life and the risks associated with the borderlands between Hispanic communities and Indigenous-controlled spaces, as well as how the development of Albuquerque-impacted local communities to the east, remain a vital perspective on a dynamic, yet poorly studied period. (Ongoing investigations by Kelly Janks and Erin Hegberg into this period should greatly expand our future understanding of daily life in the Middle Rio Grande region during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.)

The conclusion to the volume integrates the three parts into one relatively short cohesive narrative. Importantly, Franklin relates patterns identified in Tijeras Canyon to larger regional trends, thereby demonstrating the need for archaeologists to carefully consider the subregional patterns that may expand our current understanding of the Classic period in the Middle Rio Grande Valley. Following this is a series of bibliographies and five appendices that provide additional details on several topics related to the Canyon: archaeological sites recorded in Tijeras Canyon as of 1984; a list of pottery types found in Tijeras Canyon and their production ranges; historical uses of playas in the Estancia Basin; historical data relevant to Carnué and other similarly named sites (such as the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant, Carnuel, and Rancho de Carnué/Singing Arrow Site, among others) that have resulted in widespread confusion among archaeologists and historians; and the re-publication of Swadesh’s (1976) evaluation of various suggested Carnué locations.

This volume provides a wonderful synthesis of life in Tijeras Canyon starting around A.D. 1250, with some discussion of earlier patterns. However, its greatest strength lies in the authors’ adherence to presenting conclusions in an open-ended manner. Each reading of this book has led me to ask questions I had not previously

considered about Tijeras Pueblo as well as the historic period. Does Tijeras Pueblo show similarities to Pecos Pueblo as a location of Plains-Pueblo interaction? Did the *genízaro* inhabitants of Tijeras Canyon live significantly differently from those near Mesilla? Do the trends that characterize the late Coalition through middle Classic periods identified at sites such as Coconito Pueblo, Tijeras Pueblo, and San Antonio Pueblo parallel those in the northern and southern portions of the Middle Rio Grande Valley? Although this work lacks the advanced statistical analyses, discussions of reams of data, and specific responses to a series of prompted research questions that are *de rigueur* in contemporary archaeological research, it provides an accessible discussion of Tijeras Canyon and the long cultural heritage that defines it. It does have several textual issues in terms of misspelling and incomplete sentences and references that mar the book; however, most readers will not notice these without repeated readthroughs. This volume fits well with a resurgent interest in Middle Rio Grande archaeology, and in Tijeras Pueblo in particular, with a special issue of *Kiva* forthcoming that reports on recent analyses of materials from Cordell's excavations. Nevertheless, unlike those mostly technical or academic publications that the public may find dense and bland, this text should satisfy visitors and professionals alike. For that, I commend the authors and the Friends of Tijeras Pueblo. I highly recommend this volume to those seeking a better understanding of the historical and archaeological record of the Middle Rio Grande, as well as to those who visit Tijeras Pueblo, walk the interpretive trail, view the museum exhibits, and ponder about the people who lived in Tijeras Canyon so many centuries ago.

References Cited

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1980 *Tijeras Canyon: Analyses of the Past*. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque.

Schuyler, Lucy C.

2010 *The Jewelry of Tijeras Pueblo*. Maxwell Museum Technical Series No. 15. Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

Swadesh, Frances León

1976 Archaeology, Ethnohistory and the First Plaza of Carnuel. *Ethnohistory* 23(1):31-44.

1980 Ethnohistory of the Area. In *Archeological Investigations at San Antonio de Padua, LA 24, Bernalillo County, New Mexico*, edited by Al Dart, pp. 35-64. Laboratory of Anthropology Notes No. 167. Laboratory of Anthropology, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe.

[Ed. Note: The late Lucy "Lou" Schuyler, a very active member of AAS and Friends of Tijeras Pueblo, wrote about much more than jewelry from the Middle Rio Grande sites. The final four volumes of her six-part series on the 1970s excavations at Tijeras Pueblo appeared posthumously this year, the first two in 2020. Maxwell Museum Technical Series No.34, Parts 1-6 *Tijeras Pueblo 1970s Excavations* details the excavations room block by room block. The Technical Series is available free of charge online < maxwellmuseum.unm.edu/research/technical-series>.]

CALENDAR CHECK

Free Lectures

"The Fall of Tenochtitlan" by Sherry Hardage at 2 pm on Sunday, March 20 at the Bernalillo Town Hall Council Chambers, 829 Camino del Pueblo, Bernalillo. (The Bernalillo Town Hall is Covid-19 compliant with spacing and masks). Or via Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81138312831?pwd=NjBMeHpMWndnSGk5WnpEb1RLRUI2QT09>

Meeting ID: 811 3831 2831

Passcode: 640710

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Abstract: Most of us were taught in school that the Spanish easily overwhelmed the powerful Aztecs in Mexico because they were taken for gods who had been prophesied to return from the east. Their superior technology and the fearsome beasts they rode were so awe inspiring that it led to the Aztec king's quick and terrified surrender. With new insights resulting from modern archaeological research, it becomes clear this long-standing historical narrative was based on fabricated accounts that were sent to the King of Spain to elicit his support for the invasion and wholesale destruction of the Aztec Empire. 2021 marked the 500th year since the fall of Tenochtitlan. It's appropriate to revisit our ideas about how that happened and the effect of such a momentous event on the history of the Americas.

Sherry Hardage, President of the Friends of Coronado Historic Site, has had an enduring fascination with the cultures of Mexico since she attended college at La Universidad de las Americas in Cholula, Puebla.

“China as the Aim of the Coronado Expedition” by Richard and Shirley Flint at 10 am on Saturday, March 26 at the Martha Liebert Public Library in Bernalillo.

Abstract: Perhaps our most dramatic conclusion about the Coronado expedition is that the evidence has been slowly mounting over the forty years we have been doing archival research and writing about the expedition to the Tierra Nueva of Cibola: the members of the Coronado expedition did not intend to end up among adobe and stone pueblos, where the people grew corn, wore cotton clothing, and traded in turquoise, bison hides, painted ceramics, salt, and other such things. Instead, they were sure they would reach Asia by land, where they could obtain the most valuable luxury goods of the day: silk, porcelain, spices, and dyes. In our talk we outline the evidence that led Spaniards and other Old World natives to spend their savings, borrow additional money, and finance groups of followers in order to make a lengthy but nearly certain journey to a land where their permanent prosperity could be established.

Location: The Martha Liebert Public Library is located about half an hour's drive north of Albuquerque or an equal distance south of Santa Fe, at 124 Calle Malinche in Bernalillo (“The City of Coronado”). The Library occupies a refurbished WPA-era public school that is itself a place to step back in time, a classic adobe structure with hand-hewn vigas, soaring windows, and high ceilings that is on both the National and State Registers of Historic Places. Our talk will be given in a large second-story meeting room (former classroom), which is accessible by both stairs and an elevator. With new Covid-19 guidelines now in place, the wearing of masks in the Library is optional. The building is situated about 200 feet west of the Bernalillo Town Hall (829 Camino del Pueblo). There is ample free, paved parking immediately adjacent to the Library.

“The Evolution and Changing of the Human Microbiome” by Christina Warinner of Harvard University and Max Planck Institute at 7:30 pm on Monday, March 28 in the Anthropology lecture hall (Room 163) on the University of New Mexico campus. LII *Journal of Anthropological Research* Distinguished Lecture.

Abstract: Humans have a deep and complex relationship with microbes. Beyond disease, microbes also profoundly shape human health and behavior through their activity in the microbiome and their diverse roles in food and cuisine. And yet we know very little about the origin, evolution, or ecology of the trillions of microorganisms that call us home. Recent advances in genomic and proteomic technologies are opening up dramatic new opportunities in the field of microbial archaeology, allowing us to investigate the complex and diverse microbial communities that have long inhabited our human bodies and our food systems - both in sickness and in health. From epidemic disease to alcoholic beverages, microbes have influenced the course of human history. This talk discusses how emerging research on microbes is impacting how we investigate the human past and changing how we understand human and microbial cultures today.

[CURRENT UNM COVID 19 REGULATIONS REQUIRE PROOF OF FULL VACCINATION (UNM ID OR VACCINATION CARD) AND INDOOR MASKING AT ALL TIMES.]

“Archaeology of the Invisible” (Specialized Seminar) by Christina Warinner at 12 noon on Tuesday, March 29 in Anthropology Room 178 on the UNM Campus.

Abstract: Advances in scientific technologies are transforming our vision of the past and opening our eyes to a vast new kind of archaeology – an archaeology of the invisible. This talk focuses on recent microscopic and biomolecular discoveries that are revealing unprecedented detail about the human past and expanding our understanding of ourselves and the ancient world.

Conferences

ASNM VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING “Taos at the Crossroads of Trade,” hosted by the Taos Archaeological Society May 5-7. Three afternoons of one-hour lectures by invited speakers starting at noon. Online Auction, Awards Ceremonies. **Free registration with suggested donation** of \$15, \$30 brings access to recordings, \$50 brings recordings access and a T shirt. Program and list of lecture topics will be sent to registrants. Early registration ends April 15. Visit Taos Archeological Society website <Taosarch.org> for registration form. Questions? Concerns? Contact TAS President Phil Alldritt <taoscuba@hotmail.com>.

TULAROSA BASIN CONFERENCE Presented by Jornada Research Institute in collaboration with the Village of Ruidoso and Lincoln County Historical Society June 2,3,4, and 5 at Ruidoso Convention Center, Ruidoso. Pre-registration required. Opens Thursday June 2 at 6 pm with Keynote Speaker Deni Seymour “Men of Iron, Gods of Thunder and Lightning: Coronado in Arizona.” Visit JRI website <jornadaresearchinstitute>for registration form or registration online. Seniors/Students \$25, \$20 for JRI members, all others \$35, \$30 for JRI members. Questions? Contact JRI President David Greenwald <dgreenwald@tularosa.net> or call 575-430-8854.

PECOS CONFERENCE August 11-14 on Rowe Mesa, New Mexico hosted by the Site Steward Foundation. Registration opens May 2022.

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ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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www.abqarchaeology.org and www.facebook.com/abqarchsoc

Annual Dues: For emailed newsletter: Student, no charge (provide copy of current ID); Basic Individual \$25; Basic Family \$30. Print newsletter by First Class mail: Basic Individual \$30; Basic Family \$35; Institutions/Libraries: \$10 for print newsletter by First Class Mail, emailed newsletter at no charge.

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