



THE

Albuquerque Archaeological Society

Newsletter

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**MAKING ARCHAEOLOGY PUBLIC:
A PROJECT IN CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT**

Lynne Sebastian

7:30 PM, Tuesday May 17, 2016

**Albuquerque Museum of Art and History
2000 Mountain Road NW**

Fifty years ago, on October 15, 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed the National Historic Preservation Act into law. The effect of this law on American archaeology has been profound. The requirement that federal agencies take into account the effects of their actions on historic properties has led to the identification and preservation of tens of thousands of archaeological sites and to scientific excavation and analysis of thousands more. An entire industry of cultural resource management has been created, and today in the US, by far the majority of archaeologists work in the field of CRM.

In recognition and celebration of the anniversary of the NHPA, volunteer groups of archaeologists in many US states are working on creating a series of 15-minute videos, intended for a general public audience, illustrating important things we have learned about life in the past as a result of all this federally mandated archaeology. The videos created for the "Making Archaeology Public" or MAP Project are being made available to the public on a dedicated website as they come on line. When the New Mexico archaeological community began planning for our state's MAPP video, Lynne Sebastian came to the Albuquerque Archaeological Society with a request for input. She presented short synopses of five possible topics and asked the AAS members attending her talk to vote and choose the topic they thought would be most engaging to a general public audience. To thank AAS for their help with the New Mexico video project, Dr. Sebastian will be returning to give a report on how MAPP is going nationwide, and to show the finished New Mexico video as well as two or three of the other completed videos.

Lynne Sebastian is a Historic Preservation Advisor with the SRI Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing historic preservation through education, training, technical assistance, and research. She also holds an adjunct associate professorship in the Department of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico, where she received her Ph.D. in 1988. She worked for the Office of Contract Archeology at the University from 1981-1987, then for the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division from 1987-1999. During her tenure with HPD, Dr. Sebastian served as Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, State Archaeologist, and State Historic Preservation Officer. She has received several national historic preservation awards, including the Government Award from the American Cultural Resources Association and the McGimsey-Davis Distinguished Service Award from the Register of Professional Archaeologists. She is a past President of both the Society for American Archaeology and the Register of Professional Archaeologists. Her most recent book is entitled *Archaeology and Cultural Resource Management: Visions for the Future*. In 2013, President Barack Obama appointed Dr. Sebastian to serve as an expert member on the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

MINUTES OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

April 19, 2016

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 pm by President Carol Chamberland. Visitors and new members were welcomed and invited to join us for refreshments after the meeting. Refreshments were provided by Ann and Cindy Carson and Ethan Ortega.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Guth reported that the organization is in good financial shape. We have \$7022 in the checking account. This should be sufficient to finance our 50th anniversary celebration and donations we are considering. We now have 163 paid-up members for 2016.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Diane Courney reminded those people who have not paid their dues to do so. Helen Crotty has sent reminders by email and Diane is preparing to send letters to those without email. There will be membership applications on the table outside the door.

Diane also discussed membership in the ASNM (Archaeological Society of New Mexico). Everyone who is a current member can pick up his or her copies. A ballot for the election of ASNM trustees is enclosed in the volumes, and ASNM members are urged to vote if they haven't already done so. Diane will have a ballot box on the table by the auditorium entrance. Carol Chamberland urged all members of AAS to also join ASNM. This year's annual ASNM meeting will be in Santa Fe on April 29 – May 1. AAS members are urged to attend these meetings.

Archiving: Karen Armstrong reported that one of our members, Phyllis Davis, has been in the hospital for a month. Phyllis is in her 90s and is not doing well, but she is now back in her home. Karen asked that a card be sent. Diane Courney will send the card.

Karen then reported on the activities of the archiving crew. The collections from the 1965 and 1967 UNM field schools at Taos are almost finished. Eight large boxes from Taos 1961 suddenly turned up. These boxes contain surface collections from many different sites in the Taos area. These will be archived separately. David Phillips already has another project lined up for the crew. Volunteers for the archiving crew are always welcome.

Carol Chamberland noted that joining the archiving crew was a good way to get involved in actual archaeological activities. Michael Bletzer was now excavating every month in the Socorro area. Information about volunteering for that dig can be found in the April Newsletter.

Rock Art: Gretchen Obenauf reported that the BLM has instituted a new award to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. Gretchen nominated our rock art crew, and they have won the very first Heritage Heroes award. It was noted that one of the reasons that they received the award was that they did not just do the "fun stuff"; they submitted complete reports on the rock art they recorded.

Dick Harris reported on the activities of the rock art crew. The weather has been cooperating, and the group was able to go out on three out of the last four Tuesdays. They are currently working on a site in the Socorro district; one more week should finish that site. Then, as the weather warms up, they will move to sites farther north. Carol Chamberland remarked that the rock art group never runs out of sites to investigate. Gretchen Obenauf added that anyone who knows of a rock art site on BLM land that might be unknown to the BLM should inform one of the rock art crew about the site.

Field Trips: Pat Harris reminded the group that only current paid-up members can participate. Scheduled field trips include the Sunday April 24 trip to Pueblo Pintado, the May 15 rock art trip to the Manzanos, and the June 4 trip to Tenabo and vicinity. The Tenabo trip signup sheet will be on the table by the entrance. If the signup sheet is full, you should still feel free to add your name because some people who signed up may decide not to go. Steve Rospopo added that the trip to the Chaco outlier that was rained out last year will be rescheduled for this coming September. Pat added that they were thinking of an indoor, local field trip in July. One possibility is to a new exhibition at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

Pottery Southwest: Marc Thompson reported that Editor Patricia Lee has no submissions for the next issue. He urged members to consider submitting a paper for the next issue. Articles, book reviews, and other reports will be considered.

50th anniversary Celebration: Carol Chamberland stated that the celebration will take place October 22 and 23, with a party at the Albuquerque Open Space Visitor Center on Saturday and field trips on Sunday. A committee consisting of Marc Thompson, Lou Snyder, Ethan Ortega, Evan Kay and Carol Chamberland has begun planning for the party. There is now a need for volunteers to aid in the work, especially in the areas of food and advertising. Lou is in charge of food, and she asked for recommendations for good caterers and for volunteers to help with the food planning. Ethan is organizing a PowerPoint display and needs photographs of our activities from the last 50 years. Contact him by email.

Helen Crotty reported that she has five volunteers working on the volume that will cover the history of the last 25 years of our society. Pictures are also needed for this publication. The volume will not be ready this year, as it will include the events of 2016.

Minutes: Secretary Joanne Magalis reminded the President that we had not approved the minutes of the last meeting. The minutes were then approved as published.

SPEAKER

Ethan Ortega introduced Loa Traxler, Director of Museum Studies at the University of New Mexico and faculty member of the Anthropology Department since 2013. Dr. Traxler spoke about the organization and planning of the exhibition “Maya 2012: Lords of Time” at the Penn Museum in Philadelphia in 2012. Her talk was entitled “A New Bak’tun: Maya Archaeology, Stewardship, and Exhibitions Beyond 2012.” [Ed. Note: No synopsis of Dr. Traxler’s talk was available at press time. For more information about the Maya exhibition at the Penn Museum, search the Internet for “Maya 2012: Lords of Time.”]

Respectfully submitted

----Joanne Magalis, Secretary

BOOK REVIEW

Los Primeros Mexicanos: Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene People of Sonora by Guadalupe Sanchez, 2016. University of Arizona Press, Tucson. 162 pp. 108 figures, 43 tables. \$19.95 (paper). ISBN 978-0-8165-3063-2.

Reviewed by Matthew J. Barbour

Los Primeros Mexicanos is a monograph, or technical report, that provides a comprehensive overview of archaeological research into the Paleoindian Period throughout Mexico. However, the author’s focus is primarily on Clovis culture and the greater Sonoran Desert region. Central to this theme is the hypothesis put forward by Sanchez that Sonora might represent the origins of the Clovis Complex. She argues that Sonora marks the location where Paleoindian peoples migrating from Asia into North America along the coast started their trek inland to populate the American Southwest and Great Plains.

The notion that Sonora represents the origins of Clovis Culture may not sit well with some readers. However, the monograph is a must read for Paleoindian enthusiasts. Much of the information presented in the report has never before been published in English. Moreover, the data-rich approach to the narrative provides researchers with much-needed details by which they can compare their own studies with that of work conducted in Mexico.

Central to this data set is the author’s own research at Fin del Mundo, a gomphothere kill site, and the basalt quarry at El Baijo. Fin del Mundo represents a truly spectacular find. Gomphothere are elephant-like creatures thought to have been extinct in North America before the coming of man. Now it appears clear that the extinction process may have been helped along by humanity’s arrival on the continent.

Similarly, El Baijo is among the best preserved Clovis-era flaked-stone quarries ever discovered. The materials collected from this site show Clovis culture at its most diverse, and arguably in its formative state. The blade, unifacial-, and bifacial-flaked-stone industries present at the quarry demonstrate both experimentation and proliferation of the lithic technologies which will come to characterize Clovis Culture throughout North America.

Among the many other sites discussed are El Gramal in Sonora, Guila Naquitz in Oaxaca, and the Valsequillo Reservoir in Pueblo. Sanchez goes out of her way to critically analyze the data from Paleoindian sites throughout Mexico. In some instances, she even questions the validity of earlier findings before ultimately comparing the archaeological record of that country with the adjacent U.S. states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

Sanchez is to be applauded not only for the in-depth nature of her research but the clarity in which it is presented. *Los Primeros Mexicanos* is accessible to a general audience, a rare feat for any monograph. Meanwhile, the quality and quantity of data provided sets the report up to be cited by researchers for decades to come.

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR FALL 2016 ISSUE OF *POTTERY SOUTHWEST*

Pottery Southwest's editor M Patricia Lee announces that submissions for the Fall issue are needed. Articles, book reviews, and other reports will be considered. To see the Spring issue, just search on Pottery Southwest-University of New Mexico and then Current Edition or visit the website unm.edu/~psw. This issue features an article "Human Effigy Vessels from Chaco Culture Outlying Communities" by AAS member Hayward Franklin and Lori Reed.

UPCOMING AAS FIELD TRIPS

Pat Harris, Field Trip Co-chair, announces that the May and June field trips to the Manzano petroglyphs and Tenabo are full. Field trips to museums are planned for the hot (and we hope rainy!) summer months.

NEWS AND NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

Decisions on Fracking and the Chaco Landscape Appear to Have Stalled. A May 5 deadline to determine whether to postpone an oil and gas lease sale on sacred land near Chaco Canyon passed without a decision, and agency officials said there's some leeway on a final verdict. "May 5 was more of our target date," said Lisa Morrison, a deputy chief of communications for the Bureau of Land Management's New Mexico office. "There's no law that tells us we need to decide by that date, so we can adjust if we need to." Three potential lease sales, totaling 2,122-acres in New Mexico, slated for October has riled conservation groups, which claim oil and gas operations would destroy a "treasured landscape." <http://bit.ly/1O9wLXG> – The Durango Herald [From *Southwest Archaeology Today*, a service of Archaeology Southwest.

Reminder from Friends of Cedar Mesa: Join the Fight to Protect Bears Ears Region. The archaeological community has urged the preservation of the Cedar Mesa/Bears Ears region for at least 113 years, dating back to a report in 1903 by T. Mitchel Prudden. Thanks to the leadership of Native American Tribes, 2016 is finally the year to protect this internationally significant cultural landscape. If you're a professional *or avocational* archaeologist, please add your voice to the chorus calling for permanent designation of a place that should have been protected more than 100 years ago! <http://bit.ly/1Sm08G4> – Friends of Cedar Mesa. You can also sign by going to the Friends of Cedar Mesa website and choosing Archaeologist Petition from the bar at the top. Or, if you prefer not to claim archaeological expertise, you can go to the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition website to sign a citizen's petition asking President Obama to use his authority under the Antiquities Act to protect the Bears Ears landscape in southeastern Utah as a national monument that honors ancestral and contemporary Native American connections to the region.

CALENDAR CHECK

Conferences

ARARA Annual Conference May 27 – 30 at The Ramada de Las Cruces Hotel and Conference Center. Call 275-526-4411 for hotel reservations. Visit arara.org for registration and field trip information.

Tularosa Basin Conference June 17 – 19 at Tularosa Community Center at 1050 Bookout Road, Tularosa, sponsored by Jornada Research Institute. Preliminary announcement. For more information, visit jornadaresearchinstitute.com.

Mogollon Archaeology Conference October 6 – 8 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Information and Call for Papers form at unlv.edu/anthro/mogollon/2016.

Society for Cultural Astronomy in the American Southwest Conference “Before Borders: Revealing the Greater Southwest’s Ancestral Cultural Landscape” October 25 – 29 at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center near Cortez, CO. Visit scaas.org for membership and registration information and call for papers for 2016 Conference.

ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Annual Dues: For emailed Newsletter: Student no charge (provide copy of current ID); Basic \$25; Sustaining \$35+. Print Newsletter by First Class Mail: Basic \$30; Sustaining \$40. Institutions/Libraries: \$10 for print Newsletter by First Class Mail, emailed Newsletter at no charge.

2016 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Officers	Standing Committee Chairs	Committee Chairs (continued)
President Carol Chamberland 341-1027	Membership: Diane Courney 228-8400	Field Trips Pat Harris 822-8571
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