



THE

Albuquerque Archaeological Society

Newsletter

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THE HILLTOP BISON SITE (LA 172328) AND THE CASE FOR MIDDLE ARCHAIC BISON AND LARGE SIDE-NOTCHED POINTS IN THE SAN JUAN BASIN

Christian Solfisburg and Robin M. Cordero

7:30 PM, Tuesday September 20, 2016

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

In the summer of 2013, the Office of Contract Archeology conducted excavations in advance of construction along the Mid-American Pipeline through the San Juan Basin. On a prominent ridge overlooking a large, broad drainage and Huerfano Mesa to the south sat the seemingly unremarkable site of LA 172328. From the surface, this was a simple lithic scatter of 60 chipped stone artifacts and a single large side-notched point. However, lying 40 cm under the Chaco Dune Field that capped the site, we uncovered the well-preserved remains of a 4,000-year old bison processing station and associated activity areas, along with a substantial Late Archaic component. These bison remains and the associated San Rafael and Sudden Side-Notch points paint a new picture of the terminal Middle Archaic in the San Juan Basin, and present a new set of questions for future research into this period.

During this talk we will walk the audience through the excavations of the site, focusing on our interpretations of the various Middle Archaic activity areas and of the artifact assemblages. Larger topics will include new dates on both Sudden Side-Notch and San Rafael projectile points, implications for the presence of multiple bison during this time, paleoenvironmental implications of the presence of bison, and the notion that the appearance of these large side-notched points may reflect a movement of bison hunters from the north into the San Juan Basin.

Robin M. Cordero earned a BA in Anthropology from Texas State University and an MA from California State University, Chico, and is working towards a Doctorate in Anthropology from the University of New Mexico. He began his career in Cultural Resource Management with his first project in 1997. Since then, he has participated in excavation, survey, analysis, and reporting throughout northern California, New Mexico, west Texas, and southern Colorado. Mr. Cordero has been with the Office of Contract Archeology (OCA), Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, since 2006. His main research region is the Middle/Northern Rio Grande with primary research interests in areas of Puebloan mortuary practices, mobility, community formation, garden hunting, and Puebloan use of avifauna with an emphasis towards migratory waterfowl.

Christian Solfisburg holds a BS degree from Southern Oregon University. He joined OCA in 2013, continuing a 17-year career in archaeology with fieldwork in New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Northern California, Oregon, and Washington. Research interests include geomorphology and geology, with a focus on landscapes and their depositional characteristics of sediments and soils. Since joining OCA, Mr. Solfisburg has led both excavations at two very significant sites: the San Luis de Cabezon site, an early maize agriculture site in Sandoval County dating to 3,400 years ago and the Hilltop Bison Site, a Mid Archaic to Late Archaic Bison processing site that is the subject of the September AAS talk.

MINUTES OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

July 19, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Carol Chamberland. A welcome was extended to all present, including two visitors, and all were invited to partake in refreshments after the meeting. The refreshments were provided by Lou Schuyler and Ann Carson.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Guth reported that we have \$5000 in our checking account. We also have \$13,000 in staggered CDs. Two of these CDs came due in July and were renewed at the rate of 1.19%.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archiving: Karen Armstrong reported that there are still ten boxes of materials from the Lady of Sorrows excavation that have not been processed. A few members of the crew will come in during the summer to finish this material. The crew will begin work August 31 on a new project that might take up the whole academic year. New volunteers are always welcome. In response to a question about parking, Karen explained that scratchers were available to volunteers for parking in Lot C near the Hibben Center.

Membership: Diane Courney announced that we currently have 184 members. The Membership Directory has been sent to all members by email or by regular mail. Diane is currently trying to get in touch with a few people who have not renewed their membership. After that she is resigning as membership chairman.

Rock Art: Dick Harris reported that the rock art group was able to go out all four Tuesdays since the last meeting.

Field Trips: Pat Harris reported on field trips. Twelve persons went to Carol Chamberland's tour of the Route 66 exhibit at the Albuquerque Museum on July 10th. The next field trip is to the Pueblo Indian Cultural Center on Saturday, August 27, for a docent-led tour of the new permanent exhibit, "We are of This Place: The Pueblo Story."

Plans are being made for an overnight trip September 24-25 for a Chaco outlier and some petroglyph sites in Largo Canyon. This is a rescheduling of a trip rained out last year.

50th Anniversary Celebration: Our Society's 50th birthday celebration will be held at the Open Space Visitor Center on October 22. The committee has been working on arrangements but will need additional people to help out the week before the celebration and on the day of the celebration. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Carol Chamberland or Lou Schuyler. Field trips to Tijeras Pueblo and Piedras Marcadas will be offered on the 24th.

SPEAKER:

Gretchen Obenauf introduced Hayward Franklin, who spoke on "Human Effigy Vessels from Chaco Canyon (and Beyond)." His talk was a PowerPoint version of a paper he co-authored with Lori S. Reed and published online in the most recent issue of *Pottery Southwest* as "Human Effigy Vessels from Chaco Culture Outlying Communities."

The following is the summary from the *Pottery Southwest* article, used with Hayward's permission. The entire article may be read at the *Pottery Southwest* website [just Google Pottery Southwest UNM].

"To recapitulate, this study calls attention to the appearance of human effigies at some of the major outlying communities affiliated with Chaco culture. Although we have not carried out a complete literature search for effigy specimens at other outliers, surely they exist. This subject may be expanded in the future to cover a wider area and larger number of contemporary sites. Several patterns are now evident. First, these figures are not confined to Pueblo Bonito, although the vast majority were seemingly made, used, and deposited there. Nevertheless, they were also transported to some of the major Chaco Canyon settlements, which had been established as "colonies" during the classic florescence of AD 1050-1150. Second, they have been recovered from Chacoan contexts at these outliers, even where later reoccupation of the great houses occurred. Third, some of these appear to have been made by potters in and near Chaco Canyon, based on the constituent materials; they are thus "intrusive" in the outlier contexts. Fourth, whether made by Chaco artisans, or inspired by them in the hinterlands, all seem to have been influenced by

the same models or prototypes during this same period of time. Last, their detailed appearance, including depiction of facial features, clothing and ornaments, suggests representation of actual individuals or venerated persons, perhaps those of high status. These may have been fashioned as icons of famous, powerful individuals or of specific deities in the communal pantheon.”

AAS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OCTOBER 22-23

Plans are well underway for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Albuquerque Archaeological Society at the Albuquerque Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Boulevard, from 1 to 4 pm on October 22. It will feature music by the Milo Jaramillo Trio, refreshments, video screenings, and informative displays about rock art recording, potsherds, “ask an archaeologist,” and the Maxwell Museum archiving project.

AAS members and the public will be able to sign up for field trips on October 23 to Piedras Marcadas and Tijeras Pueblo. The trips will be offered at 10 am and 2 pm with a limit of 20 persons each trip.

FIELD TRIP SEPTEMBER 24-25

An overnight field trip led by Linda Wheelbarger is planned for September 24-25, visiting a Chaco outlier site on the 24th and a tour of the petroglyphs at Largo Canyon on the 25th. A block of reduced-price motel rooms is reserved for the 24th. This is a rescheduling of a trip rained out last year. Members can sign up at the meeting or contact trips@abqarchaeology.org for more information.

BOOK REVIEW

Beyond Germs: Native Depopulation in North America, edited by Catherine M. Cameron, Paul Kelton, and Alan C. Swedlund. Tucson, University of Arizona Press, 2015. 275 pp. 10 chapters, 10 figures, 4 tables. \$60 (cloth). ISBN 978-0-8165-0024-4.

Reviewed by Evan Kay

For decades, the popular idea of the declining populations of Native Americans has been one of decimation by European diseases. In 1976, Alfred Crosby defined “virgin soil epidemics,” wherein a population that had had no previous exposure to a disease would be especially susceptible. This concept was used later and given new exposure in popular culture with the publication of books like Jared Diamond’s *Guns, Germs, and Steel* (1996), and *1491*, by Charles Mann (2005). The concept is easy to grasp due to its simplicity: because A, then B. The series of essays gathered together in *Beyond Germs* critiques the idea that disease was the major reason for Native depopulation in the New World by looking at the archaeological evidence. As one might expect, it’s actually more complicated.

The book opens with David Jones updating his previous arguments from 2003. Jones had already refuted much of the “virgin soil” hypothesis, pointing out that relying on that assumption removes all human agency, both on the part of Native Americans and of European colonials. He stipulates that there are two narratives on population decline: biological and social. These two narratives running in parallel may better explain Native population decline throughout North American.

George Milner follows this premise, looking at Native populations in the mid-continent region. Conflict was not unknown before Europeans made contact with the Natives. Moreover, large population assumptions may not be an accurate picture in different regions, and are likely to give an erroneous picture of events.

The Southeastern area is the focus of Clark Spencer Larsen, specifically through the lens of bioarchaeology. Florida has been extensively studied, as the European presence here was well documented. Bones recovered through the La Florida Bioarchaeology project reveal a far more complex story of Native experience and mortality under Spanish colonial rule. A marked difference in nutrition and labor can be seen in the human remains from graves dating before and after European contact. Bioarchaeology is also the subject of Debra L. Martin’s chapter on the American Southwest. Also long colonized by Europeans, the situation in the Southwest is a similar story of changes in activity and nutrition, indicative of new stresses put on Native populations.

Gerardo Gutiérrez examines the cultural destruction of Native identity in Mexico as a result of the Spanish colonial caste system, which categorized people by their parentage and codified the social strata of those with mixed parentage. This classification system of blood percentages took into account Spanish, Native and African heritage, with social ramifications that are still relevant today. From Mexico the book swings up to New England. As the other articles in this book point out, more than just European microbes were introduced to indigenous populations. Native trading traditions and conflicts were affected and altered by contact with colonists.

Expanding out from this specific geographic area, in the next chapter Catherine M. Cameron takes a look at a continent-wide phenomenon, one that is rarely taken into account: indigenous captive-taking. Cameron looks at the various indigenous-on-indigenous practices that occurred throughout North America, their possible effect on pre-contact mortality, and how those traditions were changed and exploited by colonial influence.

From the broad view of conflict taken by Cameron, Paul Kelton narrows the focus again, and looks at the specifics of Cherokee interactions with Europeans during the American Revolution, a period which ultimately led to the removal of whole populations. Swinging farther to the west, Kathleen Hull examines the effects of colonial contact on the isolated populations of California, and how the overall health was affected by the destruction of community.

James Brooks brings it all into a holistic synergy that examines the interactions of these relationships. Pre- and post-colonial intertribal contact, conflict, health, economics, and colonial disruption indicate that the whole story of native population decline is a result of a complex system that goes beyond the simple idea of poor immune response put forth by Mann and Diamond.

Beyond Germs is well written, and presents the arguments of its contributors in an easily accessible format. Though the target audience is the anthropological community, a reader without an ethnographic or archaeological background will have no trouble grasping the concepts presented. The picture of Native American population decline is one that can only be fully understood by tying together the complex arrangements of human interaction, cultural practices, and biology. Cultural context is as important as biology, and looking at epidemic episodes outside that context presents a very limited perspective.

IN MEMORIAM

John D. Schelberg

May 1, 1945 - September 1, 2016

A native of Los Alamos, New Mexico, John earned a degree in anthropology from the University of New Mexico and later MA and PhD degrees from Northwestern University. He was a member of the Chaco Project, jointly sponsored by the National Park Service and the University of New Mexico in the 1970s. It while working on the project that he met his future wife Nancy Akins and made many lifelong friends. He enjoyed a long career as an archaeologist with the National Park Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. John was an inspiration, and a mentor, for many. In 2005, while with the Army Corps, he was given national recognition with the Service to America Career Achievement Medal. He retired in 2011, but his love for archaeology continued. He became a dedicated volunteer for the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Museum of New Mexico's Office of Archaeological Studies. John and Nancy were long-time members of AAS, and while his health permitted, John helped the rock art recording team with recording of archaeological material at the rock art sites.

A brief committal service will be held Tuesday, September 13, 2016, 11:15 a.m., at Santa Fe National Cemetery, and a celebration of his life will follow in the spring. In lieu of flowers, contributions and memorial donations may be made in John's name to the American Cancer Foundation or the Animal Humane Society of New Mexico.

CALENDAR CHECK

Free Lecture

“**Writing the History of an Ancient Civilization Without Writing: Reading the Inka Khipus as Primary Sources**” by Gary Urton, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Precolumbian Studies, Harvard University on Thursday, September 29, 7:30 pm in Anthropology 163, UNM campus. XXX JAR (Journal of Anthropological Research Distinguished Lecture).

Event

Albuquerque Archaeological Society 50th Anniversary Celebration October 22 at Albuquerque Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Boulevard NW. Signups for October 23 morning (10 am) or afternoon (2 pm) field trips to Piedras Marcadas or Tijeras Pueblo at AAS September meeting or contact trips@abqarchaeology.org. [More details on Page 7]

Conferences

Southwest Kiln Conference September 15-18, Springerville, Arizona Apache County Rodeo Grounds. Visit swkiln.com for more information.

Mogollon Archaeology Conference October 6-8 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Information 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.

New Mexico Archaeological Council Fall Conference 9 am to 4 pm November 12 at Hibben Center Room 106, UNM campus.

Archaeological Society of New Mexico Annual Meeting May 5-7, 2017. Moriarty, NM. Preliminary notice.

Tour

“**Archaeology and World Heritage Tour of Portugal.**” sponsored by the Site Steward Foundation, April 16-April 29, 2017. It will focus on the archaeological, historical, and cultural riches of Portugal. A deposit of \$250 is required by Sept 15, 2016. For details contact Beth Parisi at 505 577-4066 or osito@newmexico.com.

ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 4029, Albuquerque, NM 87196

www.abqarchaeology.org

www.facebook.com/abqarchsoc

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 trips@abqarchaeolgy.org
Vice Presidents: Gretchen Obenauf 821-9412 Ethan Ortega 545-9569	Newsletter: Helen Crotty 281-2136 Mailer: Lou Schuyler 856-7090	Steve Rospopo 293-2737 Refreshments: Ann Carson 242-1143
Secretary: Joanne Magalis 565-8732	Archiving: Karen Armstrong 294-8218	Publicity: Evan Kay 249-8412
Treasurer: John Guth 821-4704	Rock Art Recording: Dick Harris 822-8571 Carol Chamberland 341-1027	<i>Pottery Southwest</i> Editor: M. Patricia Lee Contact: Arlette Miller 410-9263
Directors: Evan Kay 249-8412 Marc Thompson 508-9847	Greeter: Sally McLaughlin 898-9083	Webmaster Evan Kay 249-9847

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO AAS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY SINCE JUNE 1, 2016

<p>Alina Cardona 6001 Moon NE, Apt 1822 Albuquerque, NM 87111 505-974-316 alinacardona@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dianne Fierro 5313 Don Mariano Road SW Albuquerque, NM 87105 505-710-5425 diannelwf@comcast.net</p>	<p>Paul Secord 7737 Cedar Canyon Road NE Albuquerque, NM 87122 505-797-0985 psecord@earthlink.net</p>
<p>Joyce Clark 5302 North 24th Place Phoenix, AZ 85016 602-957-0719 joyceclarke@gmail.com</p>	<p>Homer Milford 536 Calle del los Hijos NW Albuquerque, NM 87114 505-890-4247 hemilford@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Linda Shank 5758 Pinon Flats NW Albuquerque, NM 87114 lindamusical9@gmail.com</p>
<p>Jennifer Eggleston P.O. Box 1296 Tijeras, NM 87059 505-281-1726 jenniferde06@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Marvin & Kay Pickett 4612 Almeria Drive NW Albuquerque, NM 87120 505-433-5258 mkipick@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Jennifer Starr 424 Amherst Drive SE Albuquerque, NM 87106 505-504-4387 jenstarr@aol.com</p>
<p><u>Corrected email address:</u> Lynn Southard 5801 Lowell Street NE, Unit 20D Albuquerque, NM 87111 505-804-5756 lynnsouthard@rocketmail.com</p>	<p><u>Corrected first name:</u> Brian & Carolyn Gilmore 2537 Chessman Drive NE Rio Rancho, NM 87124 505-217-9455 bcgilmore74@msn.com</p>	<p><u>New Address:</u> Richard Voorhees & Teresa Von Son 10 Shadows Drive Los Lunas, NM 87031 651-323-7906 vvoorhees70@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>New Email Address:</u> Don Fisher 558 Black Bear Place NE Albuquerque, NM 87122 505-220-8515 donf@swcp.com</p>		

FLYER FOR AAS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OCTOBER 22

Oct. 22, 2016 1-4 pm

Open House in celebration of
The Albuquerque Archaeological Society's
50th Anniversary
Music by the Milo Jaramillo Trio
Refreshments - Video Screenings
Informative Displays & Activities

- Maxwell Museum of Anthropology
- Rock Art Recording in New Mexico
- All about Potsherds
- Ask an Archaeologist
- AAS Publications & Membership Info
- Field Trip Information

Art Exhibit by Fourth Graders
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
Visit www.abqarchaeology.org

OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER
6500 Coors Boulevard NW
897-8831 TTY711

50 YEARS 1966-2016

FIELD TRIP INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER 23

In conjunction with the Albuquerque Archaeological Society's 50th anniversary celebration at the Open Space Center on Saturday, 22 October 2016, AAS members and the public are invited to attend tours on Sunday, October 23. There will be 10 am and 2 pm tours at Piedras Marcadas and Tijeras Pueblo. Tours are limited to 20 participants each. Signup sheets will be available at the September meeting or by emailing trips@abqarchaeology.org with the choice of tour, name, and phone number.

The Piedras Marcadas tour will be led by Dr. Matt Schmader, Superintendent of the Open Space Division, and City Archaeologist. This unexcavated adobe pueblo of about 1,000 rooms located in the Tiguex Province was occupied primarily by Tiwa speakers and was the site of a battle with European forces led by Francisco Coronado in 1541. Recently discovered metal artifacts from the conflict were detected on the surface of this site and have contributed to our understanding of the Coronado expedition.

The Tijeras Pueblo tour of the interpretive trail and museum will be led by Dr. Marc Thompson, the museum's Director. Major excavations at this pueblo were conducted in 1968 by Stuart Peckham, in the 1970s by W. James Judge and the late Linda Cordell of UNM, and by members of AAS in 1986. Based on a large suite of tree-ring dates, the pueblo consisted of two main building phases dated between AD 1313 and 1425. Construction included coursed adobe and masonry rooms, round and rectangular kivas, and was populated by primarily Tiwa-speaking residents before Spanish contact.