



THE
Albuquerque Archaeological Society
Newsletter

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HORSES ON THE ROCKS

Lawrence L. Loendorf

7:30 PM, Tuesday April 17, 2018
Albuquerque Museum of Art and History
2000 Mountain Road NW

Even though there are very old horse bones found in the Americas, the world's oldest horse images are painted on cave walls in France and Spain. New World horses became extinct at the end of the Pleistocene, so they developed and were domesticated in the Old World. Their re-introduction to the American West did not occur until Coronado came with them in the middle 1500s. A few images of horses might date to the 1500s, but by the late 1700s and the 1800s there are rock art panels dominated by horses. The Navajo made pictures of horses on canyon walls from very early times through the historic period. Horse depictions by the Blackfoot, Crow, Comanche, Nez Perce, Ute and other tribes exhibit attributes that allow researchers to recognize tribal affiliation.

Dr. Loendorf will present an illustrated discussion on painted caves and rock art sites where he has recorded images of horses or found horse bones. The presentation will range from the painted horses in Chauvet Cave to the horse bones found in Natural Trap Cave, Wyoming, and to the hundreds of horse images in the American West that demonstrate their importance to Native Americans.

Larry Loendorf is an archaeologist who received BA and MA degrees from the University of Montana and a PhD from the University of Missouri, Columbia. He taught anthropology and archaeology at the University of North Dakota for 21 years and then at New Mexico State University for 11 years before retiring from university teaching and research. He currently directs Sacred Sites Research, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) non-profit company that he founded with his wife, Paula. A primary goal of the company is to protect rock art sites across the American West.

MINUTES OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

March 20, 2018

President Carol Chamberland opened the meeting at 7:33 pm, welcoming visitors and new members. She invited all to stay after the meeting and enjoy refreshments provided by Pete McKenna and Ann Carson.

Meeting Minutes: Carol asked for corrections or additions to the February minutes, stating that the insurance policy for Directors and Officers was effective on February 15, not February 1. The minutes stand as corrected. Gretchen Obenauf asked for a correction to the March article on *Pottery Southwest* to read that she will be the copy editor, not the lead editor. The editors are Pete McKenna and Hayward Franklin.

REPORTS

Treasurer – John Guth: All bills have been paid and there is a balance of \$6182.00 in the checking account.

Archives – Karen Armstrong: The crew finished the Elkins project and took a trip to the warehouse. They accepted a challenge from Karen Price, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology Collections Manager, to finish 1000 boxes in 18 months. She asked for volunteers to assist in this challenge.

Membership – Mary Raje: She currently has a total of 136 members. She will send a second reminder notice this week to 2017 members who have not renewed. She asked that anyone who knows Bob Foreman please contact her; Bob paid his dues but did not provide his contact information.

Rock Art – Carol Chamberland: The group went out this morning and “it was a perfect rock art day.” The team has been looking for an archaeologist, and Tom Windes has agreed to provide his services.

Field Trips: Carol announced, as a preface to field trip report, that after a lengthy discussion the Board decided to charge a \$10 fee for field trips to cover expenses. The fee will go into effect in April.

Pat Harris reported that we recently learned of the loss of one of our members: Ray Hitt died last June at the age of 61. Ray participated in nearly every hiking field trip.

Pat said that field trip is planned for April 28 to two sites in the El Morro Valley. Signup will be at the April meeting. [Ed.: See more information about this field trip on page 5.]

ONGOING BUSINESS

ASNM Annual Meeting – Nancy Woodworth: Information and registration forms for the Annual Meeting are on the table in the lobby and at the AAS and ASNM websites. Early registration ends on April 15, and the deadline for registration with meals is April 25. W.W. (Chip) Wills is the keynote speaker on Friday May 4, and Patricia Crown will deliver the Bandelier Lecture on Saturday evening May 5. The annual volume honorees are Tom Windes and Peter McKenna.

Webmaster: Carol asked for a volunteer to work with Evan Kay to learn the process of managing the AAS website. She and Evan welcome the help.

Seminars: Carol announced that a free seminar will be offered April 7 from 9 to 12 on mapping archaeological sites, USGS topography maps, GPS, and Universal Transverse Mercator (UTMs). The sign-up sheet is on the table outside. Gretchen will send an email to those who have registered.

A policy on “no shows” for seminars has been initiated to ensure those who are interested have the opportunity to attend. If a person does not show up for a seminar, he or she will be eligible only for the wait list for the next seminar.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homer Milford informed attendees that he and Paul Secord have published a book, *The Galisteo Basin and Cerrillos Hills*. He plans to bring copies of the book to the next meeting for sale at a discount.

Nancy Woodworth said that Paul Secord will be speaking on the subject at the Friends of Tijeras Meeting at the Sandia Ranger Station on April 10 at 6:30 pm.

The business meeting concluded at 7:58 pm.

Speaker: Gretchen introduced Matt Barbour, who spoke about the history of hunting in New Mexico. Mr. Barbour provided the following synopsis.

Respectfully submitted by Ginger Foerster, Secretary.

An Archaeological Perspective of Hunting in New Mexico

By Matthew J. Barbour, Regional Manager, Coronado and Jemez Historic Sites

&

Sherry Hardage, Research Associate and Docent, Coronado Historic Site

Throughout the thousands of years of human occupation in the New World, hunting has been a cultural expression as well as a means to survival. Archaeological evidence includes not only projectile points and bones, but fire-pits and other landscape features transformed by human activity. In New Mexico, there are four broad periods over which archeologists often track the changes in hunting strategies: Paleoindian, Archaic, Pueblo, and Historic.

The Paleoindian Period began with the earliest known occupations of our state around 11,000 years ago, and lasted until 8,000 years ago. During this time frame, Native American hunters used spears thrown with the help of atlatls (throwing sticks). These were tipped with large flaked stone spear heads known as Clovis points, named for the New Mexico town near the site where the first ones were found. The hunters also flaked stones for knives and scrapers that were used for butchering and processing hides. Over time, the style of the Clovis fluted point changed. Later examples of points with longer flutes were found near Folsom, New Mexico, and points without flutes near Plano, Texas.

These Native Americans hunted very large animals, such as mammoth and bison, in groups. Often the Paleoindian hunters herded the animals into a pit, a box canyon, or over a cliff to kill more effectively. Occasionally these hunts resulted in the deaths of more animals than they could eat or preserve. This overkill, when combined with climate change, resulted in the extinction of many of these animals.

With fewer large game animals, people focused on grains and other plants that could supply a larger portion of their caloric needs. This marked the transition into the Archaic Period. Hunters perfected techniques that were easily utilized during plant-foraging activities. Their movements coincided with times of the year when seeds and nuts would be available, or when herds of animals were most likely to be in certain areas. While looking for grass seeds and tubers along a riverbank, nets could be used to catch fish or frogs. When collecting piñon nuts in a forest, the thrown spear could be used to dispatch nearby deer or peccary.

Archaic tool-making technology changed; spear points became smaller and were mounted on lighter spears that could be thrown farther. The style of projectile points grew more recognizable and localized, reflecting regional variation and preference. New technology was also added to the tool mix: stone seed grinders – better known to archaeologists as *manos* and *metates*. These allowed Native Americans during the Archaic Period to efficiently process the seeds and grasses.

As populations grew, environmental pressures made reliance on plants ever more crucial. Toward the end of the Archaic Period, people adopted agriculture and began living in more permanent camps with pit structures and

storage features. The Pueblo Period began with the adoption of pottery, ca. AD 600, and later the bow, ca. AD 700.

Farmers, during the Pueblo Period, developed a greater dependence on agriculture for subsistence, with corn (alone) possibly providing more than 80% of their caloric intake. These people built large multi-storied villages that we call pueblos today. However, not all Native American communities transitioned to agriculture; many, such as the Apache, continued to follow a hunter/gatherer lifestyle often trading with and sometimes raiding their neighbors.

Rabbits and other vermin were an increasing problem for the Native American farmers. Community based drives, or “rabbit hunts,” became a key subsistence strategy for preserving fields and providing a source of protein during much of the year. Winter was the time when fields lay fallow and large game such as deer and buffalo could be pursued. These hunts were blessed with ritual dances, many of which are still performed in Pueblo villages today.

Hunted animals were used not only for their caloric value but often to fulfill a spiritual role. Birds were killed for their feathers, which could be used to perform curses or prayers. Predator claws and teeth provided strength and protection. Consuming a large powerful animal could allow the hunter to become imbued with the spirit of the creature.

The Historic Period began with the arrival of the Spanish in 1540. European diseases, warfare, and migration had dramatic consequences for Native American populations. Similarly, new technology and domesticated animals had a major impact on traditional hunting practices.

The introduction of food animals – pigs, goats, sheep, chickens, and cows – provided Native Americans a constant source of animal protein. In addition, horses gave both nomadic and sedentary people a previously unimagined mobility. Plains Indians and the Navajo quickly adopted the horse and became proficient riders, pursuing game (especially bison) over greater distances. Their long-standing tradition of raiding Pueblos for grain and high-status goods became more efficient with the horse providing a fast getaway. To them, raiding and hunting were not mutually exclusive activities.

Although the Spanish possessed firearms, the scarcity of gunpowder limited the use of these weapons during the decades of Spanish and Mexican domination. It was not until the early 1800s that this changed with the import of rifles and cartridge munitions over the Santa Fe Trail. As a result, the nineteenth century witnessed the rise of commercial hunting and trapping. American mountain men and Native Americans focused on game primarily for the sale of hides to markets in the east. Taos became a major center for this trade.

The widespread use of firearms and overhunting for commercial exploitation led to a drastic reduction in the availability of game animals during the late 1800s. In New Mexico, elk and bison became endangered – if not extinct. Other animals like the pronghorn and beaver experienced a major reduction in their population and ranges.

In the early twentieth century, the conservation movement began under Teddy Roosevelt and led to government management of public lands. Hunting transformed into a recreational sport with trophies as the goal. Elk and bison were reintroduced and others, such as pronghorn, were redistributed throughout the state. Non-native species, such as Persian Ibex and Namibian Oryx, were also brought in to bolster hunting opportunities.

Today, hunting in New Mexico consists of a wide array of both traditional practices and modern sporting activities. Commercial hunting continues in a highly controlled system but no longer has a wide market for pelts or meat. Native Americans still hunt for spiritual reasons, recreation, trophies, and sustenance, but hunting as the primary means of subsistence is no longer viable.

FIELD TRIP TO EI MORRO VALLEY APRIL 28

Our first AAS field trip for 2018 consists of archaeological tours of two of The Archaeological Conservancy's proto-Zuni sites: Tinaja and Scribe S Ruins. These are located in the El Morro area near Grants. Our guide will be Jim Walker, Southwest Regional Director and Senior Vice President of The Archaeological Conservancy.

This will be a full-day trip. We will see Tinaja, a thirteenth century pueblo which had more than 130 rooms and a large stone roomblock. Currently a few rooms are open and there are lots of pottery sherds. Scribe S consisted of 15 roomblocks situated on a ridge and containing over 400 rooms. We will see scattered roomblocks and sherds on a steep hill. According to Jim Walker, the access to these ruins is as follows: The elevation is 7,296 feet. To reach Tinaja, we will walk 100 yards through tall grass over flat level ground to a low 30-foot rise. To reach Scribe S we drive 45 minutes from Tinaja. At the site we will have a good steep hill – 200 yards up. Not rocky, not loose rock, but in ponderosa forest, and there is pine dust. **Caution: Due to elevation, no well-defined trails and a steep hill, participants must be in shape and experienced in this type of terrain.** Group size: 30 current AAS members.

Note: In case of inclement weather, on Friday night you will be notified by email of cancellation. According to the new trip policy, as members sign up they will pay \$10 (non-refundable) to Pat Harris; cash or check made out to the Albuquerque Archaeological Society with the notation "Field Trip." We hope you will join us on this very interesting trip.

APRIL 15 IS DEADLINE FOR ADVANCE REGISTRATION FOR ASNM ANNUAL MEETING MAY 4–6

Deadlines for the Archaeological Society of New Mexico's Annual Meeting May 4–6 at Nativo Lodge are fast approaching. The registration fee goes from \$45 to \$60 after April 15, and the guaranteed reduced room rate at the Nativo ends April 13. Meal reservations for the Friday dinner buffet (New Mexican food — not limited to tacos) and the Awards Banquet on Saturday must have been received by April 25. For those who register in time (and seating is limited), it promises to be an exceptional meeting on the theme of "Chaco Culture: In and Out of the Canyon." Renowned UNM professors are the keynote and Bandelier speakers: W. H. (Chip) Wills discusses "Chaco Legacies: New Research Built on Deep Foundations" on Friday evening, and Patricia Crown speaks on "Re-excavating Room 28 at Pueblo Bonito: The House of the Cylinder Jars" following the Awards Banquet on Saturday. A total of 18 papers on theme-related subjects will be presented on Saturday morning and afternoon with 4 more on other topics scheduled last. More details, registration forms, and hotel reservation information are posted on the ASNM and AAS websites (<abqarchaeology.org> and <newmexico-archaeology.org>). Online registration is not available. Registrants will be able to pick up their pre-registration packets after 3 pm on Friday and starting at 7 am on Saturday. If space remains, walk-in registration will be available at the \$60 fee, or \$10 for students with current ID.

BOOK REVIEW

By Matthew J. Barbour

Mimbres Life and Society: The Mattocks Site of Southwestern New Mexico by Patricia A. Gilman and Steven A. LeBlanc. 2017. University of Arizona Press, Tucson. 656 pp., 160 b/w illustrations, 100 tables \$80 (cloth), ISBN 980-8165-3563-7.

The Mogollon culture area extends over large sections of eastern Arizona and western New Mexico in the United States, as well as the northern portions of Chihuahua and Sonora in Mexico. During the eleventh and twelfth centuries, the most densely populated region in the Mogollon culture area was the Mimbres Valley. People living

in the valley developed an elaborate pottery style that is instantly recognizable both to archaeologists and to the public at large today.

Mimbres Life and Society details one of the largest Mimbres villages. Consisting of over 100 above-ground and subterranean rooms, the Mattocks Site was occupied during both the Pit Structure and Classic Phases. Its archaeological record tells the story of rise and decline of the valley and manages to both personify and deviate from expectations of Mimbres as a cultural expression in the region.

Mimbres Life and Society is an excavation report detailing archaeological research conducted at the Mattocks Site by Paul Nesbitt (1929–1931) and the Mimbres Foundation (1974–1977, 1979). It reports on the architecture, burial practices, chronometric data, and artifact analyses while examining questions related to chronology, building practices, diet, and trade. In this way, the book is like any number of other archaeological technical documents.

The size of the report may put off some readers, but it shouldn't. Half the book is raw data necessary for the archaeologists to support their conclusions. The rest, with the exception of the architectural descriptions in Chapters 2 and 3, is reminiscent of a concise and well-illustrated novella. The authors do not linger on any one subject for very long and provide a comprehensive overview of all pertinent topics.

Most excavation reports are relegated to the realm of “gray literature” and are of limited use to all but a small core of researchers focused on the culture area. *Mimbres Life and Society* is more than that. Gilman and LeBlanc are among the brightest minds in Southwest archaeology today. They have crafted the entire narrative from start to finish – with the exception of a small and worthy contribution by Michael D. Cannon. As a result, the text never loses focus and is presented in a way that is accessible to all audiences.

The conclusions reached also challenge expectations regarding archaeology in the Mimbres region. For example, the transition from pit structure to above-ground rooms was not complete by the early eleventh century. Residents of the Mattocks Site continued to utilize both well into the Classic phase. Moreover, the transition does not appear to reflect a change in household size or structure.

Overall, Gilman and LeBlanc have done a fantastic job with *Mimbres Life and Society*. It is an engaging read for those interested in the Mogollon. As a research text documenting life and society in the Mimbres Valley, it is second to none.

ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 15, 2018, Office of Contract Archaeology University of New Mexico

President Carol Chamberland opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Attendees: Carol Chamberland, Gretchen Obenauf, Evan Kay, John Guth, Ginger Foerster, Mary Raje, Maggie Knight, Cindy Carson, Helen Crotty, Pat Harris, and Dick Harris. Absent: Nancy Woodworth.

REPORTS

Vice-Presidents Gretchen Obenauf and Evan Kay reported on the roster of speakers for April, May, September, and a potential for November. The November meeting will be on the second Tuesday due to the Thanksgiving holiday falling during the third week of that month.

Treasurer John Guth: The checking balance is \$7020.50. He has received 136 new or renewed members; 59 existing members have not renewed. Those who have not renewed by March 31 will be removed from the membership list.

ASNMM Annual Meeting checking account balance is \$5966; 72 people have registered, which is half the number needed to cover the costs of the event; 56 have signed up for the banquet. Capacity is 150 for registration and 140 for the banquet.

An insurance policy for Directors and Officers has been in effect since February 15 at the cost of \$632 to be paid for in 2019 by an increase in membership dues by \$5.00.

The need for two separate General Liability Insurance policies was discussed.

1. ASNMM Annual Meeting: a policy for the annual meeting would be purchased by ASNMM. If that policy does not cover AAS as hosting affiliate a policy will need to be obtained. Evan Kay moved that AAS purchase a separate policy for \$250, if necessary, to be paid out of the revenues generated by registration fees for the conference. The motion was seconded by Gretchen. The vote by the board was unanimously in favor of the motion.

2. AAS policy: Gretchen moved that AAS purchase General Liability Insurance for all AAS activities for one year on a trial basis, to be paid for by charging \$10 for field trips. The motion was seconded by Evan Kay. The vote was unanimous in favor of purchasing said policy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Mary Raje: A second reminder will be sent to those members who have not yet renewed after the March 20 meeting. She has been compiling the Membership Directory, and it is her goal to complete it by May.

Mary sent a letter of condolence to the family of Raymond Hitt who passed away last year.

Field trips – Pat Harris: A trip for April 28 is tentatively planned, with information forthcoming at the March meeting.

Rock art – Carol Chamberland: The rock art team continues to work on a humungous site but they canceled this week due to rain and mud. She went to a former site on March 13 with Tom Windes, who will be the team's consulting archaeologist.

OTHER TOPICS

ASNMM Annual Meeting: Dick Harris gave an update on registration saying that 81 people have registered for the meeting and 60 for meals. He reported that he set up an ASNMM 2018-designated email account and he will be sending registration confirmations. Gretchen reported that the call for papers deadline is April 1. She said she has seven speakers for Saturday morning, and Evan reported that he may have five poster submissions.

Pottery Southwest: Gretchen will copy-edit and Pete McKenna and Hayward Franklin will be co-editors of the publication.

Respectfully submitted by Ginger Foerster, Secretary.

NEWS AND NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

Archaeologists Document Oldest Known Footprints in North America. A team of Canadian scientists from the University of Victoria and the Hakai Institute has found fossilized human footprints of at least three different sizes impressed into a 13,000-year-old paleosol beneath beach sands on Calvert Island, off the Pacific coast of Canada. Led by anthropologist Dr. Duncan McLaren, the team excavated active beach deposits at the Meay Channel I archaeology site on the shoreline of Calvert Island, where the sea level was 6.5–10 feet (2-3 m) lower than it is today at the end of the last Ice Age. The researchers

uncovered a total of 29 human footprints in these sediments, which radiocarbon dating estimated to be around 13,000 years old. “During the last Ice Age (which ended around 11,700 years ago), humans moved into the Americas from Asia across what was then a land bridge to North America, eventually reaching what is now the west coast of British Columbia, Canada, as well as coastal regions to the south,” Dr. McLaren and colleagues said. The team’s results are published in the journal *PLoS ONE*. [Excerpted from a *Science News* article noted in *Southwest Archaeology Today*, a service of Archaeology Southwest. See <http://bit.ly/2IjOiuC> – Sci News.]

CALENDAR CHECK

Conferences

ASNM Annual Meeting May 4–6 at Nativo Lodge, Albuquerque. See <abqarchaeology.org> and article above.

Pecos Conference August 9–12 in Flagstaff, location TBA. Check the website <pecosconference.org> for announcements coming soon.

Mogollon Conference October 11–13 at Corbett Center, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces. Call for papers on the archaeology of the Mogollon region. Deadline for submissions August 1. See the website <lonjul.net/mog2018/> for details.

ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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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.

2018 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

To contact officers or committee chairs, or to change mailing or email address, email info@abqarchaeology.org or consult Membership Directory. Current members can sign up for field trips at meetings or by emailing trips@abqarchaeology.org.

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