



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

January 2010

January SJBAS Meeting

The January meeting will be held in the Lyceum, Southwest Center at FLC, 7:00 p.m. The speaker will be Charles Riggs, discussing *Houses of the Holy: New Perspectives on Kivas at the Pigg Site*. Charles, an Associate Professor of Anthropology at FLC, received his Ph.D. from the U of Ariz in 1999. He is a Registered Professional Archaeologist whose area of expertise is Southwest archaeology, with emphases on prehistoric architecture, migration, GIS-based approaches, public education, Native American collaboration, and cultural resource management. He has conducted fieldwork and research throughout Arizona and in southern California, New Mexico, and Colorado.

Charles believes strongly in experiential education and regularly offers off-campus courses at the Pigg Site and in places such as Chaco Canyon and Mesa Verde National Park. Charles also serves as the faculty mentor for anthropology students in FLC's Mesa Verde, Chimney Rock, and Crow Canyon summer internship programs. He directs the anthropology department's Cultural Resource Management Certificate Program.

For three summers (2002 through 2004) he was assistant director of the U of Ariz's field school in Heritage Preservation. He has actively published his own research, presenting papers at both national meetings and regional conferences. He has given informal presentations of his research at the Four Corners Speaker Series and to the staff at the Crow Canyon. His book, The Architecture of Grasshopper Pueblo, was published by the U of Utah Press. He has published articles in the Journal of Archaeological Research and the journal Kiva. Charles was awarded a grant by the Colorado State Historical fund for the years 2007-2009 to conduct excavations at the Pigg Site, a component of the Lowry Community in Southwest CO.

SJBAS TRIPS

Anasazi Heritage Center, January 22. A day trip. Presentation by Fred Blackburn about the Wetherill Collection. He will show items from the collection. A restaurant lunch in Dolores; participation limit of 20. Trip leader: Diane Skinner, 247-0849, skinnerkatz@durango.net.

The Senate Room, Fort Lewis College, February 11. A day trip prior to scheduled monthly meeting. Trip leaders: Peggy Morris and Dennis Lopez, 382-8688, sipau_72@q.com.

Salmon and Aztec National Monument Ruins, February 19. Day trip to both Bloomfield and Aztec to view architecture of Salmon Ruins and the Chaco influence. Lunch at a local restaurant; participation limit of 15. Trip leader: Bruce Howard, 385-4539, brucehoward@frontier.net;

Tombstone, Sierra Vista, Other Activities, March 4-8. Meet in Tombstone, AZ late for extended trip to museums, forts, battlefields, mines, mills, and much more. Learn about the history of Southern Arizona; options to stay longer. Trip leaders: Gail and Marlo Schulz 946-5234, mschulz@frontier.net.



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SJBAS Christmas & 30th Anniversary Party

Sixty-nine guests enjoyed our annual Christmas party and celebrated the 30th anniversary of the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society in the Ballroom of Fort Lewis College on the cold night of Thursday, December 10, 2009. Guests enjoyed appetizers, wine, dinner, and a very informative presentation by John Sanders of the events leading to the formation of our club, and the history, projects, and accomplishments of the club over the last 30 years. Guy Tomberlin and Jill Tripp shared some of their memories of the early days of the club. John Viner presented John and Jill with copies of the original SJBAS charter application from April 1979. The original has been presented to the Center of Southwest Studies for preservation. John and Jill are charter members, and we are grateful to them for their vision in creating



a club so many of us have enjoyed for so many years. Their words recalled many memories, good friends and adventures shared through the years. We look forward to many more years of the same. Ann Butler from the Durango Herald covered this 30th anniversary event and featured our organization in her "Neighbors" column on Saturday, December 12, 2009.



President Any Gulliford presented John Sanders with a birthday cake complete with 89 candles, which John blew out on the first try! Andy also honored long-time member 95 year old Bob Beers. Bud Beebe showed the work of his pottery workshop students. A drawing was held for door prizes. The slate of officers as presented for 2010 was elected. Field trip chairman Richard Robinson told us about the exciting upcoming 2010 field trips. The evening ended

with a fine presentation by Lyle Hancock of photos from our 2009 field trips.

Vice-presidents Bill Cagle and Gail Schulz want to thank everyone who volunteered and helped in many different ways to make this celebration so pleasurable for everyone. We could not have done this without all of you.

By Gail Schultz



SJBAS Field Trip Participants

In order to improve the SJBAS's accountability, we are requesting that all participants of our field trips obtain, read, sign, and submit the following two documents, an "Acknowledgement of Personal Responsibility Release," and a "Proper Archaeological and Historical Site Etiquette" form. Although you will be asked at each field trip if you have submitted these forms, you will only have to submit them once each year. At this time you can obtain blank copies of these forms by requesting them from me (Richard Robinson) at Robinson@Frontier.net. The signed copies can be presented to Eliane Viner or Richard Robinson, or may be given to Mark Gebhardt with your membership application.

The purpose of the first form "Acknowledgement of Personal Responsibility Release" is to verify that each participant on our field trips is physically and mentally capable and responsible for any mishaps that should occur to them. Although no organization can absolve themselves from negligent behavior, this is an important step in reducing the liability and burden from our trip leaders, officers, and organization.

The "Proper Archaeological and Historical Site Etiquette" form serves the purpose of assuring our trip leaders, officers, and organization that all of our field trip participants are aware of a minimal standard for proper behavior at sites that we visit. Many new members have no idea of acceptable behavior until they become educated to such and this form is an attempt to start that process. Such a form also improves our image when we are asking for permission from owners/managers to visit sites.

There is a third totally optional "Medical Alert" form. Some of our members may have a medical condition or medication program or information that needs to be conveyed to Medical First Responders in a case that they are called out. Should you feel that this condition pertains to you, obtain a copy of this form off the web or from Richard Robinson, fill it out, and present it to the trip leader at the trip participant meeting and departure location. Non submission of such a form implies that it was your choice not to participate in this option. Verbal notification of such conditions to our trip leaders can be forgotten. not heard correctly. or mixed up so a submission of a written form is best!

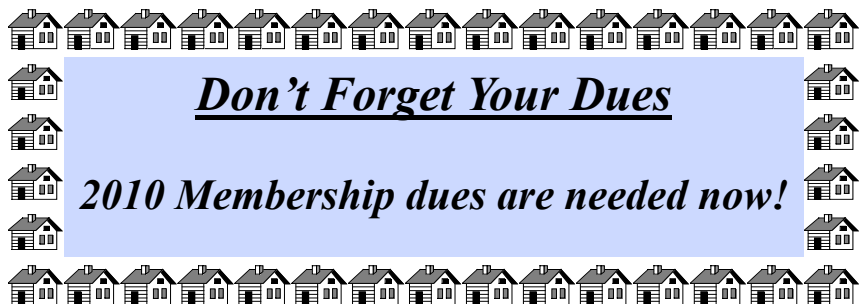
Hopefully in the future all these forms will be on our web site, and you can return them with your membership renewal. Feel free to ask questions about anything on these forms that you do not understand at our next meeting.

Please help make this new process work and identify problems so improvements can be made over time. A committee of six worked on this over a period of 10 months, and we believe that it is important to start this now.

Thanks!

Richard Robinson





Don't Forget Your Dues

2010 Membership dues are needed now!

Happenings Nearby

HISATSINOM CHAPTER

The speaker on Tuesday, January 5, will be Dave Dove. Mr. Dove will discuss "Recent Investigations at the Mitchell Springs Ruin Group." The Group, located on the south side of Cortez, was briefly studied in 1913 by T. Mitchell Prudden, and more recently from 1990-2004 by Glendale Community College. The presentation will review past research at the ruins including survey work undertaken near the main group, recent work in one of the site's great kivas, and future research.

The Mancos Historical Society

(Summary, Hisatsinom, December 2009)

Terri Helm and Midge Kirk presented *Her Story: Golden Moments from the Frontier*, December 3rd in Mancos, recreating the lives of Mary Fields and Charlie Parkhurst, two stagecoach drivers from the 1800s, whose story has been neglected.

Goodnight Trial Gallery of Western Art

(Summary, Cortez Journal, December 5, 2009)

This gallery hosted "Christmas on the Trail", a program designed to celebrate Mancos' annual Olde Fashioned Christmas. An authentic chuck wagon was parked in front of the gallery. Sculptor, and co-owner of the Gallery, Veryl Goodnight, is a descendant of the famed cattle baron, Col. Charles Goodnight. Goodnight invented the chuck wagon in 1866 for use in longhorn cattle drives from Texas to markets in Colorado and New Mexico. The heyday of the chuck wagon lasted for 20 years, but some chuck wagons were still in use until the early 1900s. The Gallery features fine art by nationally recognized artists.

White Mesa Ute History

(Summary, Daily Times, October 14, 2009)

This presentation entitled "Avikan: Remembering the Homeland," included Yellow Leaves, History, and Lunch in Allen Canyon. The White Mesa Ute Council held its community's History Day, in partnership with the Utah Humanities Council and the Edge of the Cedars Museum. Participants drove to Allen Canyon for a discussion and walk through the remains of a little known piece of history. Following the Posey incident in 1923, the federal government established a sub-agency at the mouth of Hammond Canyon for the White Mesa people whose welfare was administered from Ignacio, Colorado. For 15 years, Blanding resident E.Z. Black and his family worked with the Utes

to develop farms and livestock herds and provide education. The farmer's station, a school, and other archaeological materials were discussed on site. Based on oral histories of participants, as well as a site mapping by archaeologist Winston Hurst, their story came alive. The trading post is gone and the station is in ruins, but through the recollections of those who lived there, a picture of life in the surrounding canyons brought back those days.

Crow Canyon

The Friends of Crow Canyon 2010 Distinguished Lecturer Series will be held on Fridays at 7:00 p.m. The first of this series will be held at the Dolores Community Center, 400 Riverside, Dolores, CO. It will be on Feb. 19, 2010, and will feature Dr. Steven Lee, Dept. Chair & Curator of Planetary Science, Denver Museum of Nature and Science. The next one will be held on March 12 and is entitled *Mars Exploration Update*. It will be held at the Gates Bldg ("Gates"), Crow Canyon Campus ("CCC") and will be given by Dr. Bill Lipe, Prof. Emeritus of Anthropol, Wash State Univ. *Before Lake Powell: Memories of Glen Canyon Archaeology* will be featured on April 23, 2010 at Gates, CCC and will be given by Dr. Maelee Thomson Foster, Prof. Emerita, School of Architecture, U. of Fla. *The Megalithic Temples of Malta: Their Astronomical Significance Compared to Sites in the American Southwest* will be given on May 14, 2010 at the Gates, CCC by Dr. Peter Decker, Rancher/Author, Dir of Nat. Western Stock Show and Rodeo, past member of CO. Comm. on Higher Ed, former CO. Comm. of Ag.

Seating is limited at these lectures. The series costs \$135 for one and \$250 for two. Cost per lecture is \$30.00. Call 970-564-4341 for reservations.

Mesa Verde

(Summary, Cortez Journal, November 26, 2009)

Chief Archeologist Scott Travis lectured at Cortez Cultural Center on "New Perspectives on the Prehistoric Cultural Landscape". Travis has been a resident archeologist at Mesa Verde for two years and worked previously as an archeologist for the Canyon de Chelly National Monument and Superintendent at Canyon de Chelly. In recent months, he has been deeply involved in the planning and design stages for

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Happenings—Cont.

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the new visitor's center at Mesa Verde.

Museum of NM Foundation Support Group Lecture Series

Friends of Archaeology ("FOA") for this museum and for the Office of Archaeological Studies is presenting a lecture series at the New Mexico Film Museum Theater, 418 Montezuma Street, Santa Fe. The first lecture will be *Contact & Conflict in the American Southwest*, Friday, 7:00 p.m., January 15 - February 12, 2010. It explores the darker side of cultural change as a result of contact and conflict between different ethnic groups within the American Southwest. Lecturers will draw on archaeological, ethnohistorical, and military historical research to examine this theme. On Jan 15, *Tragedies of the Largo-Gallina*, will be presented by J. Michael Bremer and Tony Largespada. On Jan 22, *Coronado Expedition & Impacts on Indigenous Populations*, by Dr. Clay Mathers and Charles Haecker will be presented. On Jan 29, *Pueblo Revolt via Research at San Marcos*, by Dr. Ann Ramenofsky will be the topic. On Feb 5, *Kit Carson & Kidnapping on the Santa Fe Trail*, by Dr. Paul Hutton will be presented. On Feb 12, *Archaeological Perspective of Nuclear Proliferation -- the Trinity Site*, by Dr. David T. Kirkpatrick will be the topic.

Costs are for FOA members, \$50 for the series, or \$12 per lecture. For the public: \$60 for the series, \$15 per lecture. For reservations, call (505) 92-2715.

Museum Exhibits

Anasazi Heritage Center

(Summary, *Cortez Journal*, November 26, 2009)

The Anasazi Heritage Center is featuring an exhibit that highlights Stanton Englehart's View of Nature. Stanton Englehart's exhibit, an array of colorful horizons, is about the physical and emotional space defined by horizons. The paintings encourage us to move forward despite our fears. Sharon Englehart, Stanton's daughter, curated the show of 56 paintings from the private collection of the Englehart Family Trust. After earning his master of fine arts degree from the University of Colorado, Englehart returned to the Four Corners to live and paint. He founded the art department at Fort Lewis College, retiring in

Museum Exhibits

1991 after 30 years on the faculty. In an artist's statement, Englehart called nature his "spiritual center." The show represents several of Englehart's styles during his long career. Many of the paintings are for sale, ranging from \$400 to \$12,000.

Denver Museum of Nature and Science

(Summary, *CAS Newsletter*, December 2009)

A new Genghis Khan exhibit by Anne Winslow opened at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Genghis Khan (1165-1227) makes us immediately think of the warrior who united the Mongol tribes and conquered half the known world, in the process creating the largest contiguous land empire in history. The current exhibit presents an additional side of Genghis Khan, that of a statesman who formed the first unified Mongol nation, established a code of laws known as the Yasa, developed a system of writing, encouraged trade throughout Asia, and decreed religious tolerance throughout his vast empire. The exhibit presents over 200 artifacts and rare objects relating to Genghis Khan and the Mongolian culture -- the largest Genghis Khan collection ever assembled -- including artifacts from the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia and the National Museum of Mongolian History. The artifacts include a rare silk and wool dress more than 800 years old; "paizia" or passports issued for the protection of traders throughout the empire; and a shaman's robe, reflecting the Mongols' spiritual beliefs. The nomadic Mongols lived in felt-covered homes called a "ger", also known as yurts. The exhibition includes an example of this type of structure, still used by many in modern Mongolia, and a video shows the process of putting up a "ger".

While Genghis Khan established his capital at Karakorum, he remained a nomad. The city remained the Mongol capital for only about 30 years. The capital was ultimately moved to Beijing by Genghis' grandson, Kublai Khan. Karakorum was destroyed in 1338. In 1585, a Buddhist monastery was built there. There are few physical remains of the Mongol capital visible at the site, but archaeological investigations have found evidence of a thriving commercial center, including evidence of metallurgy, ceramic kilns, spindle weights, and numerous axle rings for carts which were used for transporting goods.

Archaeological excavations have also uncov-

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Museum Exhibits—Cont.

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ered the remains of a large square building that some claim has to be the Khan's palace, although others have identified this as the remains of a Buddhist temple from the second quarter of the 13th century. A video of ongoing excavations is included in the exhibit. Genghis Khan died in 1227 during a military campaign. Legend holds that his body was returned to his homeland by a group of his warriors who buried him at an unmarked site, which remains unknown.

New Mexico History Museum in Santa Fe "Santa Fe Found: Fragments of Time" explores the archaeological and historical roots of America's oldest capital city and early Hispanic life in North America. From the first Spanish colony in San Gabriel del Yungue, to the founding of Santa Fe and its first 100 years as New Mexico's capital, the exhibition shows how the founders lived, the hardships they faced, and tells the story of cultural encounters between early colonists and the Native Americans. Monthly lecture series runs from November through May; www.nmhistorymuseum.org.

Detroit Science Center and 67 other places

(Summary, [The Durango Herald](#), October 9, 2009)

Accidental Mummies of Guanajuato Makes Trawley Exhibit. This is a touring exhibition. It offers a glimpse into the lives of 36 people whose bodies, on loan from Guanajuato's Museo de las Momias, accidentally were mummified in the mining town of Guanajuato, Mexico, over a century ago. It tells the story of Guanajuato, its culture and its people.

Ohio Historical Center Columbus, Ohio

This is a long-term exhibit entitled, "Windows to Our Collection: Ohio's Ancient Past". It explores 15,000 years of Ohio's ancient Native American heritage, including some of the Ohio Historical Society's most significant artifacts, such as an Adena Pipe, a mica hand, and many animal effigy pipes from Tremper Mound; (614) 297-2300, www.ohiohistory.org.

Marin Museum of the American Indian, Novato, California

"A Thousand Years of Southwestern Pottery" shows ancient and modern examples of ceramics; (415) 897-4064; www.marinindian.com; through February 2010).

The Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois

"Travels of the Crow: Journey of an Indian Nation," portrays the lives of hunters, warriors, and nomads of the American Northern Plains. The exhibit includes a woman's superbly beaded horse regalia, a headdress of bison fleece and eagle feathers, and shields with powerful symbols. The Crow people tell the story of a search for the sacred tobacco plant that eventually led them to the Bighorn Mountains of Montana. (312) 922-9410, www.fieldmuseum.org (through July 2010).

National Museum of the American Indian, New York, New York

This is a new long-term exhibit entitled "A Song for the Horse Nation" and presents the story of the horse's influence on American Indian tribes from the 1600s to the present. How horses shaped the social, economic, cultural, and spiritual foundations of native life, particularly on the Great Plains; (212) 51403700, www.americanindian.si.edu.

Conferences

Society for Historical Archaeology 43rd Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, Jan 6-9, Amelia Island Plantation, Jacksonville, Fla. "Costal Connections: Integrating Terrestrial and Underwater Archaeology." (310) 990-2454, hq@sha.org.

XI Biennial Southwest Symposium, Jan 8-9, University of Sonora, Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico. A forum for archaeologists and other scholars to develop networks for anthropological research in the U.S. Southwest and Mexican Northwest. This year's theme "Building Transnational Archaeologies," features discussions on how to transform national archaeologies into transnational archaeologies. Contact Randall McGuire at rmcguire@binghamton.edu.

American Indian Music Fest: Evoking Prehistory Through Music, Jan 30-31, Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, Coolidge, AZ, celebrates the connection and continuity of pre-Columbian and current American Indian cultures with artists engaged in the production of traditional and contemporary arts and crafts, authentic

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Conferences

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native foods, and rhythms of the past and present; (520) 723-3172; www.nps.gov.

7th Annual Tulane Maya Symposium & Workshop, February 26-28, Tulane University, New Orleans, La, focuses on the great river cities of the ancient lowland Maya, some of the most intriguing, opulent and important segments of that civilization; (504) 865-5164, <http://stonecenter.tulane.edu>.

Trips

CAS Field Trips

Easter Island, June 22-28, 2010: Includes a day in Santiago, Chile, followed by a five-day stay on Easter Island, visiting the Poike Peninsula and the whole coastline consisting of black volcanic rock, Vaihu archaeological sites, Ranu Raraku -- the quarry where all moais were sculpted, the restored giant Ahu Tongariki and its 15 moais, the ceremonial villages Orongo and Ahu Akivi, and more. Trip limited to 10 people. Cost: **Land Only:** \$1630 per person based on double occupancy (\$500 single supplement) (Pricing subject to change.)

Archaeological Sites in Northern Peru and the Sacred Valley, June 29 - July 11, 2010: Includes sites around Trujillo (the Temples of the Sun and Moon, royal palace complex of Chan Chan), Chiclayo (the tomb of the Lord of Sipan, the Royal Tombs of Sipan Museum and the 26 pre-Columbian pyramids of Tucume), Cusco (Kenko, the ceremonial bath of Tambomachay and Sacsayhuaman, a huge fortress of massive stones, and the Koricancha - Temple of the Sun), and Machu Picchu, the Inca citadel located 113 km from Cusco at 2400 meters above sea level. Trip limited to 12 people. Moderately strenuous. Involves walking and climbing steep ramps and irregular stairs; altitude will range from sea level to near 13,000'. Cusco is at 12,000' feet. Machu Picchu is at 9,000'. Pricing (based on double occupancy. Singles supplement \$1050). Peru land-only: \$2845 + \$670 for domestic flights = \$3515 (4% surcharge assessed for credit card payments). International roundtrip from the US to Lima, Peru (Runs from \$720 and up). Contact: Teresa Weedon; (303) 366-7843(h); (303) 478-6705(c); weedon@comcast.net; or Sheridan Samano, Reefs to Rockies, (303) 860-6045; sheridan@reefstorockies.com. This trip is customizable for additional day.

Trips

FOA 2010 Field Trips

March 20-22, *Hohokam & Southern Arizona Field Trip*. Visit the San Pedro River valley, with ruins dating from 11,000 B.C. to the late 19th century. The area was part of the migration history of the Hopi, Zuni, Tohono O'odham, and Apache. Tour also visits the Amerind Foundation and the Arizona State Museum for behind the scenes views of collections and background on the cultures. Hohokom sites in and near Tucson will be visited. Registration begins January 15. Call (505) 982-7799, ext. 5.

Chiles and Sherds VIII, TBA: To celebrate the archaeology and cuisine of New Mexico, at Piedras Marcadas, near Albuquerque.

Mimbres Ceramics--Field Trip to the Gila Region of New Mexico, June 5-7. Pottery of the Mimbres culture of NM's Gila region, including highly stylized imagery of animals and human figures related directly to Mimbres life and religion will be studied. Visit ceramics collection at the Museum of Western New Mexico University in Silver City, with the Director, Dr. Cynthia Bettison; sites of the Mogollon/Mimbres in the Mimbres Valley, Lake Roberts, and the Gila Cliff Dwellings and TJ ruin. The Mogollon cliff dwellings were occupied for only 15 years starting in 1270. Enjoy a side trip to the Woodrow site in the Gila-Cliff area to the west of Silver City. The base will be in a Silver City hotel.

Gallina Sites Field Trip, September 18, Saturday day trip to sites between Coyote and Cuba, NM.

Coronado Contact Sites and Zuni Field Trip, October 8-10.

Conflict in Modern Times - Trinity Site Trip. October 31-31, with Alamogordo option. See the FOA website for more details, <http://www.museumfoundation.org/foa.html>.



Volunteering

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is looking for volunteers. Email Helen Richardson, 1218HL1944@century.net.

Denver Lab Project: The Office of Arch and His Preservation (OAHF) has archaeological collections needing processing. PAAC volunteers may receive credit toward certification at either the Lab Trainee or Lab Technician level by helping in the cataloguing and analysis of these materials at the Colorado Society's Museum Support Center in east Denver (MSCD). For more information, contact Kevin Black at Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us.

THE EDITORS' CORNER

Archaeology Volume 62 Number 6, November/December 2009: **Apocalypse Soon? What the Maya calendar really tells us about 2012 and the end of time**, by Anthony Aveni.

(Summary, [Hisatsinom](#), December 2009)

On December 21, 2012, thousands of pilgrims, many on organized "sacred tours" will flock to Chichén Itzá, Tikal, and other celebrated sites of ancient America to wait for a sign from the ancient Maya marking the end of the world as we know it. That depends on which of the New Age prophets one chooses to believe. In 2012, Long Count, an accumulation of various smaller time cycles, will revert to zero and a new cycle of 1,872,000 days (5,125.37 years) will begin.

Archaeology, Volume 62 Number 6, November/December 2009: **In the Field with Taft Blackhorse and John Stein: Reporting on the Navajo theory of Anasazi origins**, by Keith Kloor.



(Summary, [Hisatsinom](#), December 2009)

Keith Kloor, with Navajo Nation archaeologists Taft Blackhorse and John Stein, toured Chaco Canyon and other famous archaeological sites in the Four Corners, Salmon Ruins, and Aztec. Blackhorse and Stein argue that the Navajo are connected to these famous sites and have a deep history in the Four Corners region that stretches back thousands of years. The conventional archaeological view is that the Navajo migrated to the Southwest from Canada sometime in the 1500s.

World Archaeology, Volume 41 Issue 3, 2009: **Does form follow function Towards a methodical interpretation of archaeological building features**, by Peter Trebsche.

(Summary, [Hisatsinom](#), December 2009)

The functional interpretation of prehistoric architecture is especially difficult because of its fragmentary state of preservation and because possible functions are not known *a priori*. Five groups of methods allow interpretations of archaeological building features: (1) *Ad hoc* interpretations: these are mostly made implicitly and should be replaced by systematic approaches; (2) equalization of building types with functions: this method has limits because functional equivalents have to be considered; (3) conclusions by analogy: they depend mostly on the choice of objects for comparison; (4) circumstantial evidence: time-consuming and expensive techniques of excavation and sampling as well as careful studies of taphonomy are necessary; (5) contextual analyses: easily run into the danger of circular arguments. In practice often only a combination of various methods provides good results; that is why a clear explanation of analytical methods is so important.

Vatican Historian Says Faint Writing on Shroud of Turin Proves Burial Cloth is Jesus's

(Summary, [Durango Herald](#), November 21, 2009)

In a new book, The Shroud of Jesus Nazarene, by Barbara Frale, published in Italy, a Vatican archives researcher says that she used computer-enhanced images of the shroud to decipher faintly written words in Greek, Latin, and Aramaic across the cloth, including the name "(J)esu(s) Nazarene" -- or Jesus of Nazareth -- in Greek. That, she says, proves the text could not be of medieval origin because no Christian at the time, even a forger, would have mentioned Jesus without referring to his divinity. Failing to do so would risk being branded a heretic. Others, who say the historian may be reading too much into the markings, stand by carbon-dating that points to the shroud being a medieval (13th or 14th Century) forgery.

Experts, shown words cut out from photos of the shroud, concurred the writing style was typical of the Middle East in the first century -- Jesus' time. The researcher believes the text was written on a document by a clerk and glued to the shroud over the face so the body could be identified by relatives and buried properly. Metals in the ink used at the time may have allowed the writing to transfer to the linen. She counted at least 11 words in her study of enhanced images produced by French scientists in a 1994 study.

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Volunteering

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The words are fragmented and scattered

on and around the image's head, crisscrossing the cloth vertically and horizontally. One short sequence of Aramaic letters has not been fully translated. Another fragment in Greek -- "iber" -- may refer to Emperor Tiberius, who reigned at the time of Jesus' crucifixion. Text also partially confirms the Gospels' account of Jesus' final moments. A fragment in Greek that can be read as "removed at the ninth hour" may refer to Christ's time of death reported in the holy texts. The author reconstructs from the lettering on the shroud what she believes is Jesus' death certificate and said, "Jesus Nazarene. Found (guilty of inciting the people to revolt). Put to death in the year 16 of Tiberius. Taken down at the ninth hour."

The shroud bears the figure of a crucified man, complete with blood seeping from his hands and feet. Believers say Christ's image was recorded on the linen's fibers at the time of his resurrection. The artifact, owned by the Vatican, is kept locked in a protective chamber in a Turin cathedral and is rarely shown. Measuring 13 feet long and three feet wide, the shroud has sustained severe damage through the centuries, including damage from fire. The Catholic Church makes no claims about the cloth's authenticity. A Los Alamos National Laboratory researcher said in 2005 that the tested threads came from patches used to repair the shroud after a fire. He calculated it is 1,300 to 3,000 years old and could easily date from Jesus' era. A study by the Hebrew University concluded that pollen and plant images on the shroud showed it originated in the area around Jerusalem sometime before the eighth century.

While the faint letters scattered around the face on the shroud were seen decades ago, serious researchers dismissed them, because of the results of the radiocarbon dating test.

Southwestern Archeology

Forest Service Seeks Public Comment on Proposal to Remove the Chimney Rock Fire Tower and Conduct Site Improvement Projects in the Upper Parking Area.

(Summary, *Hands of Time*, October 1, 2009; *Pagosa Springs Sun*, December 10, 2009)

The USFS will likely use stimulus money to remove the Chimney Rock fire tower, but where it should be relocated is a question. Should it be reconstructed near the visitors' cabin? What kinds of interpretation or re-use of the fire tower would add value at CRAA? Should it be reconstructed at all? What alternative lightning mitigation methods should be considered? This project is being proposed to enhance visitors' ability to view astronomical alignments that are considered of major significance in the development and use of the greater Chimney Rock area during the Pueblo II period, and to improve facilities and the setting of prehistoric sites within the Chimney Rock Archaeological Area. To be eligible to appeal the subsequent decision on this project, an individual or group must provide comment or otherwise express interest in the proposed action during the comment period, which ends January 9, 2010. Written comments must be submitted to: District Ranger, PO Box 310, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. The Pagosa District Office is lo-

cated at 180 Pagosa St., Pagosa Springs, with business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Comments may also be faxed to Attn: Wendy Sutton, (970) 264-1538. Oral comments must be provided at the Pagosa District office during normal business hours via telephone (970) 264-1519 or in person. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf) and Word (.doc) to comments-rocky-mountain-san-juan-pagosa@fs.fed.us. Comments received will be considered part of the public record.

Chimney Rock Dig a Sherd Success, (Summary, *Pagosa Springs Sun*, 7/2/09)

A film crew from the National Geographic Society documented the Chimney Rock summer research project to help provide evidence that Chimney Rock is not a stand-alone site but is part of a later group of pueblos whose function is related to astronomical events. Chimney Rock was designated an Archaeological Area and National Historic Site in 1970. The site was discovered in the 1920s and major excavation and repair work was done in the 1960s by Dr. Frank Eddy, University of Colorado. Chimney Rock Archaeological Area (CRAA) is under the care and protection of the USFS and the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA). Since 2008, the site has been on Colorado's Most Endangered Places List. The CRIA has nearly 80 volunteers who conduct tours and ensure the site is cared for.

In 2009, federal grant money was awarded to the USFS for excavation work to stabilize walls of the Great House, built adjacent to the large chimneys. Stabilization work provided an opportunity for a full-blown dig, being overseen by Dr. Steven Lekson. The site has been relatively untouched since work in the 1970s. The dig has several major goals: to find large enough samples of wooden beams to allow examination of tree rings to determine cutting dates of the timbers. (Timber samples from previous excavations have determined two dates, A.D. 1076 and 1093, with both years being significant for major lunar stand-still events.); to find pottery sherds that can be dated or localized to determine the origin of the clay; and, to examine wall construction techniques to provide more evidence that the Great House is a direct export of Chaco Canyon and to determine why the House was built quickly as one project, rather than

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enlarged gradually as a growing village. The thick walls are constructed with the same techniques used at Chaco Canyon, a “core and veneer” technique that uses large stones for the structure and smaller stones for fill.

Much of the current wall damage occurred because of earlier repairs using conventional mortar that is much heavier than the natural silt and clay used in the ancient build. By a week into the excavation, archaeologists had removed most of the rubble of collapsed walls from two rooms (5 and 7) where the original roof had collapsed from fire. Small patches of the original plaster wall covering were beginning to be visible in the room interiors and the first burned timber was discernible in the dirt. The first pottery sherd, discovered in early June, had clear markings indicative of Chaco style and were sent for lab analysis of the clay. Between both rooms, at least 30 good samples of wood were found that are large enough to date by tree rings at the University of Arizona. The leader is confident that pieces of timber were preserved enough to offer at least 30 rings for dating and more importantly, pieces with outside rings to allow a determination of cutting dates.

What is found beneath the burned timbers will be most important. Under numerous burned beams in Room 7 at the floor level of the original rooms, 150 to 200 charred corn cobs were found, several with the corn husk intact and braided to each other, as if they had been hanging from the ceiling. The biggest find documented by the National Geographic Society was an intact vessel found in a corner with corn cobs inside. Both Room 7 and 5 have original, intact plaster walls, although any paint that may have existed is long gone. No artifacts were found in Room 5 at the floor level. The floor is 15 centimeters (about 6 inches) thick. Below the floor level animal bones, pottery sherds, a bi-face knife blade, and even a bear jaw were found. Room 5 may once have been outside of the Great House. When the room was built, a new floor covered the bedrock features and artifacts. In contrast, in Room 7, no relics were revealed below floor level. Nearly all artifacts were removed from the site and sent to labs for testing. In addition to the intact vessel, many broken pots were found that can be reconstructed, and the corn cobs can be analyzed to determine where the corn was grown. Once analyzed and studied, all artifacts from the site will be curated at the Anasazi Heritage Center. There is still more work. Stabilization is the reason the dig happened in the first place. Intense and systematic documentation of the construction techniques, previous repairs, newly-exposed walls, and thorough photographs of the entire process will be compiled into a report that can be used by future teams. The goal at the Chimney Rock site is long-term preservation.

First Sentencing in Blanding Raids Case.

A federal government crackdown on black-market Indian artifacts and the looting of dozens of sacred objects from Indian ruins in Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico continued to unfold as a mother and daughter were sentenced to three and two years of probation respectively. <http://www.cdarc.org/page/vha>.

A Cortez Man and a Canon City Woman Pleaded Guilty of Removing Archaeological Artifacts from Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

(Summary, [Daily Sentinel](#), December 2, 2009)

They were fined \$2,500, but \$2,000 of it was to be suspended if they stay out of the national monument for a year and write a letter of apology to educate the public about the importance of leaving artifacts where they are found. Each has written such a letter. A BLM ranger, tipped by a private citizen, said the two took artifacts from the monument this summer.

Artifacts Looting Cases for Two Dozen Defendants Set for 2010

(Summary, [Durango Herald](#), November 24, 2009)

One of the largest cases of its kind in the nation, the case is the result of a federal investigation that lasted more than two years and targeted those operating in the underground world of illegally digging, selling, and collecting American Indian artifacts. The cases hinged on an undercover operative and former antiquities dealer who arranged dozens of deals that were secretly recorded on video. There are still pieces of evidence which defense attorneys are waiting to receive, including a nearly 400-page document that a federal prosecutor described as an address book that the informant turned over to the FBI.

Larry Echo Hawk: Native American Tribes Should be Given First Opportunity to Reclaim Thousands of Ancient Southwest Artifacts being Seized by the Government in its Prosecution of Theft and Trafficking

(Summary, [Durango Herald](#), September 20, 2009)

The number of defendants in the case has grown to 26 in Utah, New Mexico, and Colorado. More indictments are expected in Arizona. With the first sentencing of a major defendant, the government became owner of more than 800 artifacts confiscated from a Blanding, Utah, family. Another five moving vans worth of artifacts have been surrendered by a Colorado antiquities dealer.

Echo Hawk acknowledged repatriating artifacts under federal laws will be arduous since it isn't always clear

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which modern tribe can claim ownership of an ancient relic. Sacred and burial objects are supposed to go back to their rightful culture, while the government can keep other artifacts stolen from public lands. Echo Hawk doesn't want to see a wholesale transfer of artifacts squirreled away in public museums. Relics include infant cradle boards, turquoise necklaces, pottery and even human remains -- adult molars and infant teeth.

For the last dozen years, the BIA has been embroiled in a lawsuit about Native American trust assets, which claims Native Americans were swindled out of billions of dollars in oil, gas, grazing, timber, and other royalties overseen by the Interior Department since 1887. For Echo Hawk, the challenge is trying to solve two centuries of tragedy and injustice in the 39 months he'll have as an appointee in Obama's first term in office.

Forensic Tests Uncover no Link Between Skull Found in a Utah Pawnshop and Brutal 1857 Massacre of a Wagon-train Party that Crossed the State, but Mountain Meadows Massacre Descendents Group ("MMMDG") Wants More Tests

(Summary, [Denver Post](#), June 4, 2009; [Daily Times](#), June 11, 2009)

The remains are probably those of an adult Asian male, possibly of Vietnamese ancestry. The skull was found in 1982 on the shelves of a Salt Lake City pawnshop. A note in the box said the artifact was from a female victim of the Mountain Meadows massacre, an 1857 attack by a Mormon militia and church members on an Arkansas wagon train that left 120 men, women, and children dead. It was turned over for testing earlier this year. A purported bullet hole on the back of the skull was also found to be post-mortem damage. The skull also lacked any evidence of damage from animals or exposure to weather, as was seen in other remains from Mountain Meadows. The eyehole screws that connect the jaw bone to the cranium suggest the specimen may have been used as an anatomical model. The President of the MMMDG is not convinced, stating there have been two examinations and two opinions (an earlier finding was inconclusive), but suggest cranial features possibly indicate American Indian ancestry.

The Larson Survey 2008-09: a Story of Conservation in Southwest Colorado.

(Summary, [Hisatsinom](#), November 2009)

Galen Larson owns 360 acres of land, covered by junipers and pinions on the edge of Alkali Canyon. In 2006, he contacted the Hisatsinom Chapter to have his land surveyed for prehistoric sites. He had willed his property to the Wild Life Conservancy but felt additional protection from future development could come from the recordation of archaeological sites. He had promised his wife Willetta, before her death, that he would do all he could to keep their property safe.

Galen's home has unobstructed views of Sleeping Ute Mountain and, on a clear day, Shiprock. He often invites friends and neighbors to use his land. Bob and Diane McBride, Hisatsinom members, were invited to hike on his land. Following an initial appraisal of the Larson property by Dale Davidson and George Ruebelmann, CAS Hisatsinom members undertook completing the 360 acre survey. Sites were identified using the criteria that Linda Farnsworth, Archaeologist for Canyon of the Ancients National Monument, had developed for the high density Ancestral Puebloan sites on the Monument, since the Larson property borders the Monument and a high density of sites was present. A site was defined by the presence of a feature and/or a concentration of artifacts of 11 or more in any given 30 meter diameter area (about 100 feet). While initially no artifacts were to be collected, this was modified as rare finds were encountered. Isolated finds were not recorded unless highly significant. The team consisted of 19 Chapter members, with Dale Davidson (Principal Investigator) and Bob McBride (Survey Leader). They enlisted the help of the Cortez Culture Center's Culture Club Kids. One member volunteered hours to search the ownership history of the property. Bob McBride compiled all of this information on Colorado Cultural Resource forms and secured Smithsonian trinomial identification numbers for all of the sites. Additionally, Dr. Bruce Bradley of Exeter University, U.K. and lab personnel at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, aided with artifact analysis.

From June 2008 through August 2009, the crew clocked 706 field hours, recording, mapping, and photographing 37 prehistoric sites and analyzing over 8,600 artifacts and 67 features. Prehistoric features and structures found included cists, check dams, vertical stone alignments, middens, rock overhang features, masonry stone walls, rubble mounds, clay sources, and kilns. Unusual artifacts included two Paleo Indian point bases, seven Archaic points, a seed jar rim sherd, a ceramic effigy and obsidian bifaces and flakes source from Jemez Mountains, New Mexico, and San Francisco Peaks, Arizona.

Prehistoric people inhabited this landscape over many periods. Based on artifacts and/or visible architecture, a breakdown of time periods follows: 10% Archaic, 18% Basketmaker II, 20% Basketmaker III, 19% Pueblo I, 21% Pueblo II, and 10% Pueblo III. The 8,608 artifacts included: 70% lithic, 26.6% ceramic, 3% flaked tools, 0.4% ground stone. Lack of ground stone and the high ratio of flakes to ceramics are additional indicators of earlier time period activities.

Use of the uplands along the rim of Alkali Canyon continued into historic times; the first homesteaders purchased the land from the government in 1915. The 12,000 years of occupation testifies to an environment that possesses the elements essential to human habitation: heavy pinion-juniper cover and nearly year-round water provided

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excellent hunting and fuel sources, silicified sandstones and mudstones for tools outcrop on the steep canyon slopes, south-facing rock bluffs and overhangs provided shelter from north winds; loose soils on top of the mesa and rich alluvial soils along the creek made agriculture possible in both prehistoric and historic times. In addition, the landscape along the canyon rim holds intrinsic values perhaps as essential to the human spirit: views of the south flowing creek 200 feet below, the western vista of Sleeping Ute (Yucca) Mountain, the San Juan Mountains to the north, and the La Plata Mountains to the east. Cardinal direction landscape markers are considered to be spiritual to Pueblos living today in the Southwest and thus the sites on the Larson property may have been highly valued as habitation sites prehistorically.

Sandy Trادلener presented survey findings at Crow Canyon's 2009 Big MACC Conference and Dale Davidson at the 2009 Pecos Conference in August of 2009, at which Galen was recognized for contributions to preservation. Additional information gleaned from the two years of work include: (1) Site density averaged 1 site for every 10 acres and this is extremely high even in the Mesa Verde region. The 37 sites covered 30.3 acres, or 10% of the 360 acres. The average site size was 0.8 acres; (2) Eight projectile points were donated to the Anasazi Heritage Center (AHC) in memory of Galen's wife -- all older than 3000 years. The Plainview point bases date between 8500-12000 BP. One of them is made of obsidian from the Flagstaff area. All of these points will fill a need at the museum for additional Paleo Indian and Archaic period artifacts; (3) The predominantly pre-agricultural periods of the Archaic and Basketmaker II comprised 28% of the sites on the Larson property is uncharacteristically high compared to other areas on the Southwest Colorado landscape. Population likewise was the lowest in the early time periods and rose to a maximum in the late Pueblo III, about AD 1250. The density of early sites increases the need for their preservation as study of early time periods would be possible in these undeveloped and preserved sites; (4) One Chapter volunteer collected clay samples from the property. Using coil and scrape methods, she fashioned several replica clay vessels, polished and painted them and then fired them in a trench kiln fueled with wood. One was given to Mr. Larson; and (5) A total of 15 *historic sites* were found consisting of trash dumps, a house, outbuildings, and a collapsed sweat lodge. Several of these sites are being recorded. In addition, there is a historic surface water collection/distribution system consisting of canals and earthen dams dating to the early 20th century. All of these need more investigation and recording and will provide some future work opportunities for the Chapter members.

100 Room Hopi Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites Showcases Tribe's Culture

(Summary, Daily Times, November 27, 2009)

The \$13 million hotel and conference center, the western gateway to the Hopi reservation, is set to open this year, where entertainment, lectures and demonstrations will provide non-Hopis with an insight into the tribe's culture and traditions. It is only the second hotel on the 1.6 million-acre reservation. The name honors 20 elders of the Upper Village of Moenkopi who painstakingly worked to regain part of the tribe's ancestral homeland and wanted it to be a welcoming place for visitors. About 7,000 Hopis live among 12 villages atop three mesas, each of which are independently governed and some of which are more insular than others. The remote reservation is surrounded by the much-larger Navajo Nation.

Hopis are known to have been in Arizona for 2,000 years, but their history dates back even further. The Hopis are believed to be descendants of the Anasazi, a prehistoric American Indian society that lived in the Four Corners area. Tourists will learn which villages, homes, and ceremonies are open, where they might not be welcome, when and where it is acceptable to take photographs.

The hotel design features colors that blend naturally with the mesas and desert landscape. The fireplace is a local architect's vision of the nearby hills and includes petroglyphs. The image of a turtle, central to many Hopi children's stories, is inlaid at the bottom of the pool, and the hotel's back doors open up to a kiva garden. Display cases in the hotel's lobby will show off Hopi work, such as carved kachina dolls, polychrome pottery and jewelry.

Retiring Mesa Verde Superintendent Highlights the Past and Future of the National Park

(Summary, Hisatsinom, December 2009)

The local impacts of the new Mesa Verde visitors' center topped the Mesa Verde National Park superintendent's final speech. The retiring Larry Wiese told the Cortez Chamber of Commerce he had come full circle since he delivered his first presentation as Mesa Verde's superintendent 16 years ago. "It really does feel right to come full circle. The timing is right to hand things off," he said, adding the visitor center is a go as soon as the president signs this year's national budget bill. Wiese said besides housing three million objects that have not had room to be displayed, the center will provide information designed to point tourists to Cortez, Dolores, Mancos and Montezuma County archaeological attractions. <http://tinyurl.com>.

Ancient Gomphotheres Remains Found with Clovis Tools in Northern Mexico

(Summary, Hisatsinom, December 2009)

Scientists have found evidence that people near the U.S.-Mexican border were butchering gomphotheres, elephant-like

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beasts from the Ice Age that had been believed to be nearly extinct in North America by the time humans appeared there. Researchers from the U. of Arizona and Mexico's anthropology institute found the bones of two young gomphotheres "along with blades, a scraping tool, and stone chips from making spear tips" at an 11,000-year-old site in Mexico's Sonora state. <http://www.azstarnet.com>.

Fort at Imogene Pass a Reminder of Strife in the San Juan Mines

(Summary, *Durango Herald*, November 8, 2009)

At the top of Imogene Pass a machine-gun emplacement and a small wooden fort survive as silent testimony to workers' struggles and a legacy to labor. A century ago, millions of dollars were made in the San Juan Mountains in gold and silver mines in deep-shaft industrial mining, but not by miners. Miners worked in increasingly dangerous conditions and demanded better working conditions and an eight-hour workday. Fierce competition between mine owners and immigrant mine workers resulted in increasing tension and calls for unionization. In Telluride in 1903, the mine workers went on strike, and Gov. James Peabody called out the Colorado National Guard.

Montrose resident Mary Joy Martin chronicled the rise of the Western Federation of Miners and its hero, Vincent St. John, in her book *The Corpse on Boomerang Road*. She writes of Bulkeley Wells, a captain in the Colorado National Guard who took command of Troop A, First Squadron Cavalry, comprising cowboys, Wells' employees at the Smuggler-Union Mining Co., and a few union-hating locals.

Mesa State Trustees Vote to Drop Anthropology as a Major or Minor

(Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, November 5, 2009)

Classes in anthropology will continue to be offered, but the phasing out of the anthropology major will mean the termination of one faculty member. The anthropology program graduated eight students in the past six years. At the request of trustees, a group of 22 college employees reviewed all academic programs at Mesa State last year. Programs were evaluated based on students' demand for classes, community demand for graduates of those programs, contribution to the college's mission, and other factors.

Recording Artifacts

(Summary, *Cortez Journal*, November 10, 2009)

Doug Sporn of Darnestown, MD, helped Julie Coleman, San Juan Public Lands Heritage Lead, record artifacts within a transect during a survey of historic and prehistoric sites in Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. Sporn was one of several Exploritas, formerly known as Elderhostel, volunteers who traveled from all over the country to learn how to conduct archaeological inventories and help the BLM survey a previously un-inventoried portion of the monument. The project was co-hosted by Kelly Place and San Juan Mountains Association in cooperation with the BLM.

Multiple Use: Tread Lightly on Resources of Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

(Summary, Editorial, *Cortez Journal* December 5, 2009)

The principle of promoting multiple uses of public lands is a sound one. For that reason, energy extraction is an extremely complicated issue. The development of domestic energy resources is an advantage for everyone, providing a degree of energy security, with benefits that extend from people's monthly heating bills to the military budget and the human costs of maintaining a complex relationship with oil-producing nations. Energy extraction provides badly needed economic development. In a region where economic growth is difficult to generate, that's an attractive proposition. Commodity prices can fall, investments can tank, companies can pull out, leaving local communities with ongoing costs and obligations long after the profits have been deposited elsewhere. Scars on the desert heal very slowly, if ever. Even stable, profitable development changes landscape irrevocably. Maybe archaeological resources can be safeguarded ruling drilling and road-building and ongoing production. Maybe energy development can take place far away from the portions of the monument most popular for hikers and mountain bikers. So far that has not been the case. Maybe some areas should be deemed off limits for development, although the history of the West is a litany of times when such protections fell to the demands for development. When that happens, "multiple use" can fall by the wayside. What most protestors mean when they insist on multiple use is that their own favored use must be allowed. That's fine, if they can find ways to balance it with other uses. A good resource management plan doesn't allow any one use to run roughshod over the others.

Grave Matter: Silvertonians Struggle Against Nature to Maintain Hillside Cemetery

(Summary, *Durango Herald*, November 22, 2009)

European immigrants who flocked to Silverton to make it big in the mines faced many threats to their survival: avalanches, mine collapses, disease, violent rivals and, in the case of at least one poor soul, bad whiskey. Even in Silverton, the 3,300 dead are having a hard time. The sloping cemetery at the north end of town, is plagued by the harsh conditions endemic to life in the rugged San Juan Mountains. Erosion can cause caskets to be expelled from their earthly resting place like boulders in a slow-moving avalanche. Grave markers spend their time buried under feet of snow,

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freezing in the frigid nights or baking in the high-altitude sun. It's only through intervention that the historical cemetery is thwarted from returning to its natural state.

Freda Peterson, a Kansas native, has spent more than two decades piecing together stories of those buried there. Her work has yielded various tomes, including the exhaustive two-volume *Story of Hillside Cemetery*. The books contain more than 3,000 alphabetically listed obituaries compiled from myriad sources, including tombstones, newspapers, books, official records, and interviews. Proceeds from sales of the books go to the cemetery. Beverly Rich, chairwoman of the San Juan County Historical Society said the indefatigable researcher had gathered material from all over the world -- a sign of what a melting pot Silverton was.

The physical upkeep of the cemetery is more than any one person can accomplish. The town, which owns the cemetery, relies entirely on volunteers. Dozens of volunteers come from all over the U.S. for an annual cemetery workday in June. The work they do includes clearing brush, picking up trash, righting fallen markers, and beating back a perennially encroaching aspen grove. During the workday, donated stones, purchased at cost from Family Craft Memorials in Durango, are placed on unmarked graves. Some graves have been sited with survey markers to identify them until a stone is donated.

Chinese Silverton residents never made it there. A marker recognizing this injustice was added more than half a century later. It reads, "In memory of the Chinese who lived and died in Silverton and who were denied burial in Hillside Cemetery 1876-1910." Another stone memorializes another historic tragedy. It reads, "In memory of the many 1918 San Juan County flu victims buried in a common grave on this site." According to Peterson's book, almost ten percent of the population died in less than a month from the "Spanish" flu. The mass grave holds 90 of the flu's 150 victims.

So far, tombstones have been purchased for about 250 of the cemetery's 2,000 unmarked graves. Among those rescued from obscurity was William "Scotty" McPherson, who died November 10, 1885. The cause listed on the stone: "bad whiskey."

Not many people died quiet deaths of old age in Silverton's early days. Babies died in childbirth. Children were stricken by disease. Most underground workers died before they reached 40 years old, by mine accidents or "miner's consumption," an irreparable scarring of the lungs caused by inhaling dust in the mines. Even those who survived into middle age were not safe. John Dalla, an immigrant of Italian descent who prospered in early-day Silverton, met his death through a cruel twist of fate.

Dalla was born Giovanni Dallavelle in Austria in 1861, arriving in America in 1895. He worked as a miner but went on to operate various successful businesses, including a leasing business, a saloon, and a boarding house. He had eight children. In late October 1911, Dalla was returning from his ranch in Mancos with a small herd of cattle and stayed over in Hermosa and continued on the next day until a driving snowstorm forced him to stop at upper Lime Creek, where he spent the night out in the open and Dalla's feet froze. The next day, the group abandoned their horses and the cattle and continued on foot, breaking trail through snow piled four feet high. At Molas Lake, Rodgers was unable to continue. They decided that Colmer would push on to summon help. After Colmer departed, though, Dalla realized his efforts were best spent helping Colmer. He caught up with him, but they only made it as far as the next lake. The two men were practically dead when they made it to Jess Herr's cabin the next day. A rescue party brought Colmer and Dalla to town for medical attention. Colmer lost several toes on each foot to frostbite. Dalla's left foot was amputated, but he died ten days later. Rodgers was found frozen to death at the lake. The horses and cattle were also located -- miraculously still alive.



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Archeology News from Afar

Pompeii Paleohydrology (Summary, *WWE Currents*, Fall 2009)

Wayne Lorenz, WWE, has studied the importance of lime deposits on the sides and bottom of the aqueducts serving the Barbegal Mill in southern France. The deposits provide a "fingerprint" of the source water and history of operations of the water system. The study of lime deposits has become an approach for paleohydrologic research of Roman water systems, including Pompeii, to show that the water supply to Pompeii was delivered through a single channel, but from two different sources. The original source was replaced in a later period.

The Beeswax Wreck of Nehalem Bay (Summary, *Oregon Coast*, January/February 2009)

The most legendary of all Oregon coastal shipwrecks left behind no name, no known crew, and only one proven clue as to her cargo. Called the beeswax ship for that one cargo, she is believed to have been a Spanish galleon, blown far off course by a storm and run aground at the mouth of the Nehalem River. Beeswax has been known on the Oregon Coast since the days of the Northwest Company of British fur traders. Alexander Henry wrote that the Clatsop Indians frequently brought such wax, collected on a beach to the south, to Astoria to trade. This wax came in blocks and chunks and tapered candle, whose wicks had long since rotted away. Many of the larger pieces were marked with queer designs -- letters, numbers, and odd symbols -- whose meaning no one understood.

Ancient DNS Says Europe's First Farmers Came from Afar (Summary, *Science*, September 4, 2009)

About 11,000 years ago, farming began to replace the hunting and gathering lifestyle in the Near East. At first, agriculture spread slowly into Europe via modern-day Turkey, Greece, and Bulgaria. But about 7500 years ago, farming suddenly took off in central Europe, spreading in just a handful of centuries from an epicenter in Hungary and Slovakia to as far east as Ukraine and as far west as France. Rectangular houses sprang up, surrounded by cow pastures and fields of wheat and barley. Researchers have long debated whether this agricultural explosion was sparked by massive migrations of farmers themselves, so-called demic diffusion, or by the spread of farming ideas, known as cultural diffusion, and for the first time directly compare ancient DNA from European hunter-gatherers and early farmers. They conclude that outside colonizers brought farming to central Europe in a major migration event. Others warn that the findings might be due in part to contamination, the Achilles' heel of ancient DNA studies. Gutenberg University built on a paper published four years ago in *Science* (11 November 2005, p. 1016), which found differences between ancient mitochondrial DNA from early farmers and mtDNA from living Europeans and was interpreted by many as supporting cultural diffusion. The new study goes much further by fully sequencing ancient mtDNA from the skeletons of 25 early farms as well as from 20 hunter-gatherers, thus allowing for direct comparison of the two ancient groups. The bones were previously unearthed at sites in Lithuania, Poland, Russia, and Germany and are dated from about 15,000 years ago to 4300 years ago.

Piece of Skull with Bullet Hole Thought to be Hitler's is Woman's (Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, September 30, 2009)

The cranium fragment is part of a collection of Hitler artifacts housed in the Russian State Archive in Moscow, preserved by Soviet intelligence in the months after Hitler and Eva Braun reportedly committed suicide in a Berlin bunker in April 1945. The collection also includes blood-stained pieces of the sofa where Hitler reportedly shot himself after taking a cyanide pill. The artifacts were put on public display in 2000. The skull fragment doesn't match what a University of Connecticut archaeologist knew of Hitler's biology. The bone was very small and thin, and normally male bones are much more robust in our species. He then took several pinhead-size pieces of the skull fragment and swabs of the blood stains back to the university for analysis. DNA samples were extracted from bone pieces and the blood samples for a forensic study. The DNA came from a 20- to 40-year-old woman. The skull fragment could have come from Braun, but to know that, the lab would need samples of her DNA. Since the DNA samples were very degraded, identification is unlikely.

Archeologists find two rare Crusader-era murals in Syria (Summary, *Daily Times*, October 16, 2009).

The Crusader murals depict heaven and hell in a medieval church near Syria's coast: the first ones found in the Middle East depicting heaven and hell. The find could reveal new information about the Christian knights who battled Muslims for control of the Holy Land. Experts are renovating the 12th Century paintings discovered last year when the team was excavating an old Crusader fortress on a hilltop near the Mediterranean Sea in the western province of Tartous. The murals, which measure about 8 feet high and 11.5 feet wide, were hanging on either side of the altar of a 12th century chapel inside the al-Marqab Citadel and had accumulated thick layers of dirt. The panel depicting hell shows people being tortured inside a wheel covered with knives and others being hanged and burned. The one portraying heaven includes saints surrounded by light colors. Crusaders did not stay in one place for long and so it is very rare to find paintings. Pope Urban II ordered the First Crusade in 1095 to establish Christian control of the Holy Land. European Crusaders soon took Jerusalem, but they lost it in 1187 to the famed Muslim leader Saladin. The al-Marqab Citadel is one of several Crusader fortresses located in Syria. The country is also home to the famed Krak des Chevaliers – Castle of the Knights.

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society
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