



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

May 2009

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SQUARE B RANCH

Reported by Jeff B. Davis

Tommy Bolack, owner of 12,000 acres along the San Juan River (near where our Animas River joins its waters), often excavated the sites on his land and frequently discovered Archaic and early Pueblo ruins. Because of the passage of the Native American Graves Preservation Recovery Act (NAGPRA), and his finding of native American bodies, Bolack needed professional help to make everything work. At this point in time our SJBAS guest, **Linda Wheelbarger**, an expert anthropologist and faculty member of San Juan College, Farmington, entered the scene. She has worked at many sites throughout the Four Corners, and she joined Tommy to do extended research at his B Square Ranch.

Linda has taken field study groups of her students to the ranch for several summers, and for our April SJBAS meeting, she told us about these findings in a rapid-fire, profusely illustrated talk. (No age limit at the digs! 89-year-old Pete Saunders, an SJBAS member of Farmington – was a very lively participant.)

Because of the high cliff banks along the San Juan, erosion over time has covered the valley floor deeply with dirt and sand. This covering has required that considerable excavation (eight feet deep or more) be done to uncover walls and dwellings. Numerous sites were examined.

Walls up to 50 centimeters wide enclosed blocks of 15 or 20 rooms plus kivas. Most of the walls' stones were round river rocks, not squared stone as precise as that of Mesa Verde. Numerous shards, black on white, were found – although some Mogollon redware, a quantity of shell, lithic beads and turquoise were also found indicating trade from afar. There were turkey parts and an unusual green building rock also uncovered. The best whole ceramics, black on white bowls and pots, were found at ranch owner Tommy Bolack's house (on display?); there were also photographs of dozens of other pieces of ceramics. There was plenty of rock art at these sites including broad-shouldered figures over which to puzzle.

Only a small part of the ranch has been excavated, and Linda and friends will doubtless return. Our thanks to her for this taste of this rich location.

May Meeting of SJBAS

Patricia Lacey will discuss "South African Archaeology" at our next meeting, May 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lyceum in the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College. Everyone is welcome.

Hisatsinom Chapter May Meeting

At the next meeting of the Hisatsinom Chapter at the Cortez Cultural Center on Tuesday, May 7, Chuck Riggs will discuss "Identity and Community Designation at the Pigg Site."

What's Inside

SJBAS Field Trips.....	2
Upcoming Area Events.....	3
Upcoming PAAC Courses.....	4
Internship & Volunteer Jobs...	5
Grants Awarded.....	6
John's Corner.....	7
Archaeological News.....	7

McElmo Canyon Trip

From Carol Dalseth

On Saturday, March 14th, twenty-one of us visited some of the lesser known, but no less interesting, sites in McElmo Canyon. We started with three sites near the Ismay Trading Post. One of these sites contained a basketmaker petroglyph of very impressive size. It was three foot high and contained anthropomorphs. Another of the sites was just over the border in Utah and contained a very large, unnamed, mesa top pueblo that enclosed an impressive, walled-in plaza.

During lunch, Gail LaDage, Dr. Gillam, and Richard Robinson shared information on the archaeology of the period and geology of the area. In the afternoon, we visited Castle Rock Pueblo located immediately next to the Sand Canyon parking lot. It contained a great war scene petroglyph high above a remnant of a tower wall. This was the site of one of the most horrific massacres in the area with 41+ disarticulated skeletons unearthed around the turn of the nineteenth century.

Thanks so much to Gail LaDage and Jim and Kathleen Shadell for co-leading this trip. Thanks also to the many members who contributed information about these sites.

Help

Janice Sheftel is preparing a report of all SJBAS speakers. She needs information from or copies of Moki newsletters: All of 1979 through 1998; Months in other years, as follows: **1999** - Jan., Feb., Mar. Apr., Dec.; **2000** - July, Aug.; **2001** - Jan., Feb., Mar., May, June, July, Aug., Sept.; **2002** - All months, except December; **2003** - Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., July; **2004** - July, Aug., Nov.; **2005** - Jan., May, July, Dec.; **2007** - Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.; and **2008** - July, Sept., Nov.

If you can help by providing information, contact Janice at jsheftel@mbsllp.com or by calling her at 970-

CAS Meetings

July 25 - Durango

October 2-4 - Pueblo (Annual Meeting)

SJBAS Field Trips

Total Petroglyphs

Day Trip – May 3, 2009

This is a new trip in the 2009 Trip Schedule. On this day trip we will hike up a canyon to see some marvelous petroglyphs. The level of difficulty of this two mile hike is medium to hard so bring shoes with good ankle support and trekking poles. It may be hot so bring a hat, sunscreen, and lots of water. Also, bring a sack lunch. High-clearance vehicles are recommended, but carpooling will be available.

There is no participation limit. Trip Leader is Richard Robinson. Contact him at 259-1943 or Robinson@frontier.net.

Navajo Country

Four-day Motel Trip – May 8-11

Visit the Crownpoint Auction, the Hubbel Trading Post and Canyon De Chelly. Several short (<1 mile) relatively easy hikes to petroglyph sites are planned with one exception, for which participation is not required. Trip participation limited to 20. Please follow the links on SJBAS Web site to Navajo Country trip notes. Trip Leader is Linda Robinson 259-1943, Robinson@frontier.net.

Farmington Area

Day Trip to visit B-Square Ranch – May 16

Explore several archaeological sites and a petroglyphs panel. View historical museum items and abundant wildlife. Bring cold water and a sack lunch. Trip participation limit of 20. Trip Leader is Mary Ann Hiller 259-5170.

San Juan River Float Trip

Three day camping or hotel trip, one day commercial float trip, plus a half day tour of the Bluff area - May 22-24

Visit several sites and petroglyphs panels. Trip is full but if you want to be added to the wait list please contact Jill Ward at 382-5394 jward@peterpattison.com or 259-5170 johnhill-durca@durango.net.

Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Park Service Day

Day of manual labor and a day of touring sites not often seen by the general public— June 6-7

Either a day trip for the public service

(Continued on page 3)

(SJBAS Field Trips Continued from page 2)

project or a camping trip. Trip Leaders are Kathleen and Jim Shadell 247-5597 shadjk@durango.net.

Hovenweep Summer Solstice Celebration

Day, camping, or motel trip- June 20-21; June 26

Observe the light at sunrise striking petroglyphs at the Holly House, Holly Unit of Hovenweep National Park. Be there at 6:45 a.m. June 26. Also visit the Lance Site. Trip Leader is Richard Robinson 259-1943 or Robinson@frontier.net.

Four Corners Speakers' Series - May and June

- Joseph Day - "Confusion on the Cultural Frontier" - May 7, 7:00 p.m., Cortez Rec Center;
- James Enote & Dan Simplicio - "Creating Collaborative Interpretations" - May 10, 1:00 p.m., Anasazi Heritage Center; and again on May 11, 7:00 p.m., Far View Lodge, Mesa Verde NP;
- Sharon French - "Black Shawl" (Outdoor Drama about a Navajo and Paiute Child and Grandmother) - May 26 through June 27 (every Tue. and Thurs.) - 7:30 p.m., Cortez Cultural Center;
- Peter Pino - "The Two Sisters According to Zia Oral History and the Difference Between Them" - June 5, 7:00 p.m. - Cortez Rec Center;
- Randall McGuire - "Setting Things Right: the Massacre in the Sierra Mazatan and Indigenous Archaeology in Sonora, Mexico" - June 12, 7:00 p.m. - Far View Lodge, Mesa Verde NP;
- Stephen Lekson - "A History of the Ancient Southwest" - May 3, 2:00 p.m. - Tattered Cover Bookstore (LODO), Denver;
- David Edwards - "Contemporary Hopi Political Economy" - June 21, 1:00 p.m. - Anasazi Heritage Center.

Animas Museum Activities

- Florida Cemetery Tour - May 16, 10:00 a.m.;
- Community Heritage Award - May 20, 5:30 p.m. - Dinner & Programs at the Bar-D; Animas Museum Open House - June 13, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Hermosa Cemetery Tour;
- Special Programs at the Museum; Free admission all day.

Upcoming Area Events

Colorado Rock Art Association Annual Symposium

May 15-17, Cortez

Registration on Friday afternoon, with wine and cheese reception at the AHC from 4-6 p.m., with access to the Museum. Music by a local Ute artist. The Symposium, to be held at the Cortez Conference Center ("CCC") at 2121 E. Main Street, will feature papers by regional rock art experts.

Saturday events begin with breakfast snacks and registration at 8 a.m., presentations throughout the day, a break for lunch, silent auction, and adjournment at 5 p.m. The evening banquet will feature Marvin Rowe: "Gimme that Old Time Religion: The Origin of American Indian Peyote Ritual."

Sunday will include field trips, led by CRAA members. Pre-registration for the Symposium, including field trip descriptions and sign-up, and banquet reservations available on the symposium web page, ww.coloradorockart.org.

Reminder: 2009 Pecos Conference

August 6-9, McPhee Campground Volunteer Opportunities

If you can help with any of these committees; WEB SITE, REGISTRATION, PROGRAM, BOOK SALES, FIELD TRIP, KIDS ACTIVITIES, FACILITIES, FOOD SERVICE, or ENTERTAINMENT; please let Patricia Lacey know at 565-0634 or patricia@fone.net.

Hisatsinom Field Trips

For information call Larry Tradlener, 565-7804; insitu@fone.net. Hisatsinom Chapter members have first preference for trips.

Denver Chapter Field Trip

For information contact Ken Andresen (303) 278-0855; gandresen@earthlink.net. Known trips at this time are:

June 20-21. Rock Art: Hanksville, Utah Area; September 4-7. Rock Art: Lander, Wyoming area.

CAS Member 3-Day Beginner/Intermediate Colorado River Canoe Trip

from Fruita, 30 miles to Westwater, Utah—June 12-14

(Continued on page 4)

(Upcoming Area Events Continued from page 3)

Cost: \$335, \$280 kids 6 to 12. To register, contact Centennial Canoe Outfitters at 877-353-1850 or at centennialcanoe.com. Safety equipment, canoes and food provided. Limited to 24 participants, who need to bring a sleeping bag, tent and basic personal supplies. A deposit of \$100/person to accompany reservation (Visa and MasterCard accepted); balance due by May 12.

It is important that you report you heard about the trip from CAS. CAS Hosts: Tom and Terri Hoff, thoff@hotmail.com, 970-882-2191.

American Rock Art Research Association Conference

This Bakersfield, California conference will convene May 22-25, 2009 in an area home to several Native American tribes. The cultural evidence of the prehistoric inhabitants is abundant throughout the area. More information at http://www.cdarc.org/sat/2009_arara_conf.pdf.

Rocky Mountain Anthropology Conference

October 24, Gunnison.

Plains Anthropological Conference

October 14-17, Norman, OK. More information at www.ou.edu/cas/archsur/plainsanth.html.

* April Showers Bring May Flowers *

Upcoming PAAC Courses

"**Perishable Materials**" Grand Junction, May 15-17.

College Credit for PAAC Classes: Adams State College's Extended Studies Program (http://www2.adams.edu/extended_studies/).

Register with the College in addition to enrolling through SJBAS's PAAC coordinator, Peggy Morris, 382-8688, or sipapu@ecentral.com.

The Summer PAAC Survey, led by Kevin Black, will again be in Antelope Gulch near Salida, June 16-23.

North Carolina Museum of History Exhibit Emphasizes Pirate History.

Summary from The Daily Sentinel, March 8, 2009

"Knights of the Black Flag" traces the pirate trade from ancient Egypt and Greece to today's Somalian pirates. The exhibit has paintings of pirates to show images of the culture of pirates, covering pirates of the Red Sea. It has paintings of the golden age of piracy and shows the largest collection of artifacts ever exhibited from the shipwreck believed to be Blackbeard's flagship, Queen Anne's Revenge, found in 1996 at Beaufort Inlet. This exhibit includes a skull from the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts purported to be Blackbeard's, although curators at neither museum stand by that claim, and provides an interactive exhibit where visitors can open small chests to sniff the smells of the ships -- gunpowder and rum included -- and test their aim by shooting toy cannons at computerized ships on a screen.

Much of the show focuses on Blackbeard, who terrorized his victims along the North Carolina coast until 1718, when his ship ran aground. Blackbeard wasn't the most successful pirate, but he is the most famous, probably because he had good PR agents. Blackbeard would light matches in his beard to terrify the enemy, which made him look like the devil. Very theatrical, he knew how to play an audience, apparently, as well as being basically a cutthroat.

Explorers such as Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh operated under the more genteel name of privateer, but basically were pirates who worked with the winking support of Queen Elizabeth I. Piracy was a "dirty, nasty business" but not much different in that respect from life on land, only pirates had the chance to make money. Some pirate myths remain, but walking the plank was a rare event. It was easier to simply toss a man overboard or run a sword through him. Pirates were more likely to leave crews at sea on disabled boats than kill them. If a person put up a particularly good fight, he might be offered the chance to join the pirates.

History has romanticized pirates, despite the murder and mayhem they created, because they were non-conforming, rugged individualists who sold stolen goods at prices far below the same goods that were sold with large tariffs.

Field Schools

(1) University of Arizona Dendroarchaeology Field School,

May 18-June 5, 2009, 3 credits or non-credit, 9am-4pm daily

The Laboratory of Tree-ring Research at the U. of Arizona is offering a course on the collection, analysis, and interpretation of archaeological tree-rings. Contact Dr. Ronald H. Towner. Phone: 520 - 6 2 1 - 6 4 6 5 ; rtowner@ltr.arizona.edu.

(2) Archaeological Field School, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument ("VCNM"), Arizona

Northern Arizona University & the Kaibab Vermilion Cliffs Heritage Alliance, north of the Grand Canyon, June 1 to July 10, 2009

Students will learn about surveying, excavation, mapping, artifact analysis, and cultural resource management, primarily at West Bench Pueblo, a Late Pueblo II (A.D. 1050-1200) Virgin Anasazi village on the Colorado Plateau. Contact fmo@asu.edu or go to <http://www.public.asu.edu/~ohara/2009fs.htm>.

Museum of Western Colorado Trips

Trips from the museum include Meeker Sheepdog Trials, McDonald Canyon, and A climb to Independence Monument,. The Discover our Local Museum series includes traveling to Delta, Montrose, Telluride and Gateway; Rifle Falls; and a Saturday Family Dinosaur Dig. International trips include trips to Mexico and Peru, including Machu Picchu, the Amazon Basin and Lake Titicaca, Oaxaca, Puebla and Mexico City. More information at

www.museumofwesternco.com/programs_and_events/trip_and_tours/

Don't Forget Your Dues

Don't forget to send in your membership dues for 2009 to Mark Gebhardt at 107 Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301. You can access the membership application on our website at www.sjbas.org.

Internship and Volunteer Opportunities

Anasazi Heritage Center

Summer internships in Collections Management, Exhibits and Interpretive Media, and Visitor Services, start dates in late May to early June. For further information see: www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fi/ahc/internships.html.

Mesa Verde National Park Seeks Volunteers

The volunteers partner with the Parks' staff in visitor services, education, trail monitoring and maintenance, data collection, archiving, landscaping, and special events is asking for summer volunteers. For more information or to sign up, contact volunteer coordinators Cheryl and Chuck Carson at cccason@aol.com or visit www.mesaverdevolunteers.org.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association ("CRIA") Seeks Volunteers.

CRIA, a non-profit organization devoted to public education and protection of the Chimney Rock Archaeological Area, operates in partnership with the USDA Forest Service, San Juan National Forest, and Pagosa Ranger District, through a special-use permit. Through participation in tours and programs, generous donations from the public, CRIA memberships, Friends of Chimney Rock and visitor center purchases, the site's care, protection and preservation are assured. For program information and volunteer opportunities, view the Web site at www.chimneyrockco.org., or call Cher Logsdon, 970-731-1273; or Glenn Commons, 970-731-9155.

Native Perspectives on Southwestern Archaeology, "Visit With Respect" Featured on the Archaeology Channel

Filmed at Canyon of the Ancients National Monument and the Pueblo of Acoma, the video explains how Pueblo people feel about visiting archaeological sites. The case from Hopi, Santa Clara, and Acoma emphasizes the living connections between ancestral villages and their modern-day descendants. The Colorado Historical Society gave the Caroline Bancroft History Award to the AHC which worked with the Crow Canyon in its production. Respect for living descendants is just another way to take care while visiting archaeological sites. www.archaeologychannel.org.

Grants Awarded

Crow Canyon Receives \$137,586 Grant from the State Historical Fund.

(Summary, [Cortez Journal](#), February 28, 2009)

This grant will help fund two long-term projects: archaeological research and education programs at the Goodman Point Unit of Hovenweep National Monument and the writing of a final report on the Albert Porter Pueblo project. The Goodman Point Unit covers approximately 142 acres and is in its fifth year of a six-year excavation. Excavations at the Albert Porter Pueblo project started in 2001 and ended in 2004. An online publication will be released once final reports are finished. The money will also support the "oral history" of the communities surrounding the sites by creating videos and audio records.

Saving History: Animas Museum one of 34 to Receive \$150,000 from Institute of Museum and Library Services Conservation Project

(Summary, [Durango Herald](#), November 12, 2008)

After 30 years of donations, the museum is overcrowded to the point of having to turn down donations of large artifacts and sizeable collections. "Connection to Collections: A Call to Action", a multi-year national initiative of the Institute and partners, to raise public awareness and inspire action to care for America's collections for future generations, resulted from "A Public Trust at Risk: The Heritage Health Index Report" on the state of America's collections. Sixty-five percent of collecting institutions have damaged collections because of improper storage and 40 percent of institutions have no funds allocated in their annual budget for preservation and conservation. Most museums maintain a significant portion of their holdings in storage so that exhibits can change regularly, tell different stories, and rest in the dark so not constantly exposed to environmental and security risks.

Ute Mountain Tribal Park.

(Summary, article by Jann Dillon in [All Points Bulletin](#), April 2009)

Art Cuthair, former director of Ute Mountain Tribal Park, told Denver Chapter visitors a story about Louis L'Amour, who, with his wife, wanted to experience the "feelings" of the Anasazi spirits before writing "Haunted Mesa". At Tree House, the three spent the night in the kiva, listening to the wind and feeling as if they were being watched. Several guides, over the years, have told of actually seeing spirits in Anasazi clothing, going about daily chores of basket making, making sandals, and preparing food. Many years ago, a group led to a Morris ruin by Doug Bowman, then archaeologist at UMTTP, found an intact sandal and a perfect white chalcedony point, which are displayed in the park museum. While hiking alone in the park, Doug startled a sleeping mountain lion in a cliff dwelling. The Denver group visited Two Story House, the first recorded cliff dwelling entered by a white man, and the first ruin photographed in 1874 by William Henry Jackson. One Chapter member found two stone axe heads, beautifully finished. Another visitor found an animal stick figure in the same area, which can also be seen at the park museum.

Jann Dillon reported on the spectacular views after climbing a thirty foot ladder to access the Eagle's Nest, which contains a kiva plastered and painted with ten to twelve layers of white clay applied to an inner wall. The lower half is painted red, with three triangles, with dots painted in between the clusters of the triangles. In 1913, the kiva had an intact roof. Archaeologist Earl Morris had wanted to photograph ruin paintings.

(Continued on page 7)

JOHN'S CORNER

"The She King of Egypt: The Woman Who Would Be King"

Why did Hatshepsut decide to rule Egypt as a man while her stepson stood in the shadows? Her mummy and her true story come to light. National Geographic, April 2009, by Chip Brown. A box identified with Hatshepsut found in a cache of royal mummies contained a tooth that exactly matches a hole in the mouth of a mummy found next to that of the nurse of Egypt's great female pharaoh.



(Grants Awarded—Continued from page 6)

Since he had no flash, he removed the roof. Bibliography: Akens, Jean Ute Mountain Tribal Park, The Other Mesa Verde, Moab, Utah Four Corners Publishing, 1987; L'Amour, Louis Haunted Mesa, Bantam Books, 1987; Nordenskiold, G. The Cliff Dwellers of the Mesa Verde, Mesa Verde Museum Associa-

ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS: NEAR AND FAR

Archaeological Dig at Chimney Rock This Summer.

(Summary, Pagosa Springs Sun, April 16, 2009)

Dr. Steve Lekson, University of Colorado, employing several University graduate students, will excavate one small room in the Great House Pueblo and one smaller room from May 23 until July 3. The "dig" is funded through several grant sources and CRIA matching funds. The excavation will reduce the dirt level in one room and increase the level in an adjacent room to stabilize the walls. Additional stabilization work on the Great House to repair the damage done by harsh winter weather is also scheduled for this and next summers. Guided tours will not go inside the Great House Pueblo, but instead will climb the fire tower to view the Pueblo and the archaeologists at work. CRIA may implement special limited tours to view the work. Check with the CRIA after May 15 by calling the cabin at 970-883-5359 or go to the Web site: www.chimneyrockco.org

New Study Points to Ways to Date Rock Art

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, April 2009)

A new dating method allowing archaeologists to incorporate rock paintings into the evidence used to study life in prehistoric times is the conclusion of a new report in ACS' Analytical Chemistry. www.physorg.com/news156017586.html.

A Race Against Time in the Grand Canyon

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, April 2009)

Archaeologists are excavating sites along the Colorado River to save artifacts before they wash away. Although the NPS typically leaves such artifacts alone, about 60 canyon sites are being undercut by water, or unearched by wind, topography, and a lack of sand. NPS archaeologists and the Museum of Northern Arizona are working to uncover nine of the sites, which are mostly about 1,000 years old. www.cdarc.org/page/i3js ABCNew

Disasters Doomed Early Civilization

(Summary, Durango Herald, January 25, 2009)

U. of Florida anthropologists say that 3,600 years ago earthquakes and floods, followed by blowing sand, drove away residents of an area in the Supe Valley along the Peruvian coast.

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

The farming community, established about 5,800 years ago, was successful for over 2,000 years. According to recent evidence, people worked the land adjacent to productive bays and estuaries; fished with nets; irrigated fruit orchards and grew cotton and a variety of vegetables; and built stone pyramids thousands of years before the Mayans. Researchers found that a massive earthquake, or series of quakes, struck the seismically active region, collapsing walls and floors and setting off landslides from the mountains surrounding the valley. Layers of silt indicate that massive flooding followed. Then came El Niño, which brought heavy rains that damaged irrigation systems and washed debris into the streams and the ocean, where the sand and silt settled into a large ridge, sealing off the previously rich coastal bays. The land became uninhabitable and the Supe society collapsed.

Scientific American Examines Clovis-Era Comet Impact Theory

(Hisatsinom Newsletter)

About 12,900 years ago, massive global cooling led to the extinction for 35 different mammal species, including the mammoth, as well as the Clovis culture of North America. Theories for the die-off range from abrupt climate change to overhunting. Nanodiamonds, found in the sediments from this time point to an alternative: a massive explosion(s) by a fragmentary comet, similar to but even larger than the Tunguska event of 1908 in Siberia. <http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=did-a-comet-hit-earth-12900-years-ago>.

The Horticultural Lifestyles of the Ancient Americans

Well before early humans in North America grew corn and beans, they were harvesting and cooking the bulbs of lilies, wild onions and other plants, roasting them for days over hot rocks, according to Alston V. Thoms, Texas A&M University. Evidence for this practice, long known in fire-cracked rock piles found throughout the continent, has largely been ignored. <http://www.latimes.com/news/science/la-sci-earlyfoods27-2008dec27,0,6385869.story>.

Two Distinct Migrating Groups Posited to have Peopled the Americas

A new genetic study suggests that within a relatively short time, between 17,000 and 15,000 years ago, at least two groups of people crossed a land bridge from Asia to Alaska and went their separate ways: one down the Pacific Coast and the other into the heart of North America. <http://www.cdarc.org/page/g560-Science-News>.

Ancient Responses to Catastrophe in the Southwest

Archaeologists have unearthed the ash-smothered villages and the lava-created casts of the corn placed in the path of lava from the most recent volcanic outpouring in the 8-million-year process of building Mount Humphreys, the tallest mountain in Arizona. <http://www.cdarc.org/page/dh9c-Payson-Roundup>.

Scholars Discover Ancient Hohokam Canals

(Summary, Farmington Daily Times, January 22, 2009.)

Scholars unearthed a section of an ancient Hohokam canal system while conducting an archaeological and cultural study tied to the planned development of a massive water park in Mesa, Arizona. The canals cannot be seen with the naked eye but, through satellite imagery, the signature of the canals can be seen because the soil in them is different from that around them -- more porous and moist. The first portion of a study on a tract of future water park land was completed using radio carbon dating to determine the age of the canals. Hohokam canals and dwellings have been found throughout the Phoenix area. Four American Indian tribes today, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa, the Ak-Chin, the Gila River, and the Tohono O'odham, trace their ancestry back to the Hohokam, who disappeared from the area in the 15th century.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Ancient Mound in Phoenix a Relic Temple

(Summary, *Farminqton Daily Times*, January 19, 2009)

Near Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, a mound of dirt and rock is part of the Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park. Museum Archaeologist Todd Bostwick believes the mound was built as a temple by the Hohokam, who lived in the Sonoran Desert for 1,000 years. A map on Bostwick's wall shows the 1,000 miles of irrigation canals that once existed in what is now metro Phoenix, some built so well that their remnants were used centuries later by early settlers and for the Salt River Project. A room in the mound marked the solstice.

People came in and out of Hohokam society, including workers to create a complex, specialized society, organized in part by priests and engineers. Sometime around 450, a distinct way of life emerged in southern Arizona and the Salt River Valley, with strong influence from Mesoamerican cultures. The Hohokam traded with Pueblo people to the north, made red-on-buff pottery and built ball courts. From 450 to 1450, the Hohokam built their villages based on agriculture and specialized labor that allowed them to withstand the desert climate. They planted corn, beans, cotton, and squash and built a community that grew to about 40,000 people, all without wheels or machines.

The Hohokam farming relied on water from the Salt River, which flooded in wet years and dropped in low years. The challenges came in the wet years between droughts, when floods destroyed canals, but the people were able to rebuild. There are stories of a great ruler being overthrown, which some researchers believe marked the downfall of the Hohokam. The people did not leave all at once. The Hohokam drifted away. Around 1,100, the ball courts were abandoned, and the temple mounds were built. A few villages were abandoned, but the society remained. Eventually their farms were abandoned, and the people scattered.

Wreck Found of Legendary British Man-of-War that Sank in the English Channel 264 Years Ago

(Summary from *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, February 3, 2009.)

The wreckage of the HMS Victory, found under 330 feet of water, may carry a jackpot of over \$500 million, since research indicates the ship, returning from Lisbon, was carrying four tons of gold coins, 100,000 gold Portuguese coins, when it sank in a storm. So far, two brass cannons have been recovered. The discoverer, Florida-based company, Odyssey Marine Exploration ("Odyssey"), is negotiating with the British government over collaborating on the project. Thirty-one brass cannons and other evidence on the wreck allowed definitive identification of the HMS Victory, a 175-foot sailing ship that was separated from its fleet and sank in the English Channel on October 4, 1744, with at least 900 men aboard. The ship was the largest in the fleet and, with 110 brass cannons, the most heavily armed vessel of its day. It was the inspiration for the HMS Victory commanded by Adm. Horatio Nelson decades later. Odyssey was searching for other valuable shipwrecks in the English Channel when it came across the Victory. A British Ministry of Defense Spokesman said the government was aware of Odyssey's claim to have found the Victory. If the wreck is that of a British warship, it is the government's policy that no intrusive action may be taken without the government's consent.

Newspapers of the day and other historical records analyzed by Odyssey indicated that the Victory sank off the Channel Island of Alderney near Cherbourg, France. A 1991 British postage stamp depicts the Victory crashing on the rocks there. Pieces of the ship had washed up in various places, but its final resting place remained a mystery. The belief that the Victory had crashed onto the rocks marred an otherwise exemplary service record of the ship's commander, Sir John Balchin, and a lighthouse keeper on Alderney was prosecuted for failing to keep the light on. Odyssey believes the discovery exonerates both men. The ship had sailed to help rescue a Mediterranean convoy blockaded by the French in the River Tagus at Lisbon.

(Continued on page 10)

Pyramids Expert Reviewing Grand Mesa Find

(Summary, *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, January 22, 2009.)

Perhaps the floor found nearly a century ago on Grand Mesa could have something in common with the Great Pyramids of Egypt. Chunks of sandstone from the floor, excavated by the Western Investigations Team four years ago, were sent to Drexel University for study by Michel Barsoum, professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, who theorizes that the Great Pyramids at Giza were not made from carefully chiseled native stone, but were manufactured on site. Geologists who studied the floor concluded that what seemed to be carefully inlaid tiles were better explained as a natural occurrence. Barsoum disagrees. He believes the Grand Mesa floor is manmade and that he has an "almost foolproof" technique to determine whether the tiles are natural. Unlike shales that split easily into layers when separated with a knife or chisel, the yellow-tinted sandstone of the floor resisted efforts to split it off with a hammer and chisel, but when Barsoum rubbed chunks of the rock between his forefingers, it collapsed into a fine-grained sand.

The floor will figure in a new Museum of the West exhibit, "The Search for Lost Kingdoms," which will include investigations into structures along Kannah Creek on the Mesa. The research team theorizes that Spaniards and others who traveled through western Colorado before the Dominguez-Escalante expedition of 1776 were looking for a lost colony along the banks of the Colorado River. The team got its start studying artifacts from Cannibal Mesa, where Alfred Packer survived a brutal winter. Using the Center for Electron Microscopy at Mesa State College, the team determined that Packer was likely telling the truth when he said he killed one of his companions in self defense.

Two Men Fined for Defacing Petroglyphs Near Gateway

(Summary, *Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, February 7, 2009)

Two men will have to pay more than \$8,000 in fines and restitution for defacing petroglyphs believed to have been created by the Anasazi, and dated from 1000 to 1200 A.D., by scrawling their names over them on public lands. They will have to pay \$5,250 to mitigate the damages that were incurred. The men said they did not know what they had done was wrong because it is not a crime in Mexico to deface rock art. There are about 40,000 such historical sites on Colorado's BLM land, but only about seven percent are inventoried and maintained.

Archaeologists Learn to Listen to Oral Tradition in Native American Culture

(Summary of article by Ernest Atencio, *High Country News*, in *Cortez Journal*, February 5, 2009.)

A century ago, a Santa Clara Pueblo man told about his ancestors migrating from their Teguayo, ancient homeland, far to the northwest, to the Santa Clara in northern New Mexico. He described the homeland based on stories handed down over six centuries, and spoke of landforms that in his Tewa language mean "Yucca Mountain" and "Valley of the Yucca Mountain." He also drew a detailed map of an ancient pueblo that he said lay in that valley. This is a remarkably accurate description of a place 170 miles northwest of Santa Clara: the Valley of the Yucca Mountain now known as the Montezuma Valley, Yucca Mountain is the Sleeping Ute, at the base of which sits the remains of the pueblo the man described. Archaeologists have long understood that the Ancestral Puebloans left the region in a series of migrations over many generations, eventually ending up on the mesas of Hopi, Acoma and Zuni, and along the Rio Grande Valley, but archaeologists have generally ignored the oral history of these people, and even anthropologists working with contemporary Pueblos. Today, however, archaeologists are paying more attention to modern Puebloans. One of the most visible signs of this change is the Native American Advisory Group for the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center.

Miguel Vasquez, a professor of applied anthropology at NAU, has worked extensively at

(Continued from page 10)

Hopi, helping with projects like restoring historic terrace gardens and encouraging youth to get involved in traditional agriculture. In the past, tribes were involved in archaeology only to satisfy federal law. Several tribes declined to participate in archaeological work on the Animas-La Plata Project because they thought decisions had already been made. Tito Naranjo, a social worker by training and scholar, does not believe federal consultation on archaeological projects has been sensitive to Native American concerns. His ancestors infuse the natural world. He sings a song to the clouds in his native Tewa language, indicating that the Pueblo worldview is something foreign to archaeology and Western science.

At Crow Canyon, Scott Ortman, the Director of Research, met with tribal representatives discussing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act ("NAGPRA"), who suggested that the archaeologists review NAGPRA like lawyers trying to find loopholes. Ortman, considering the tribal question of why archaeologists would want to desecrate ancestral places, today uses genetics, oral history, and linguistic analysis of modern Tewa to help understand the connections between Four Corners-area Ancestral Puebloan sites and modern pueblos in New Mexico, work that would be impossible without the help of the living descendants. Through this research, Ortman uncovered the Santa Clara story relating to Yucca House. Its architectural layout is unlike anything else in the region, but very similar to 14th-century structures near modern pueblos in New Mexico. The Tewa for "pitched roof" is a combination of the words for "basket" and "timber," which describes something more like prehistoric pit house or kiva roof construction than the pitched roofs people use today. The Tewa word for "plaza" or "town" comes from a term for "bowl," which evokes the topography of Yucca House and other cliff and canyon villages in the area.

Zuni Bread Business

(Summary, Durango Herald, February 8, 2009)

At the Paywa home in Zuni Pueblo, along with freshly baked Zuni bread, visitors find a unique tourist stop, information about a centuries-old tradition, Zuni bread making, and a personal glimpse into an American Indian home. The Paywa's house has the largest bread oven in Zuni Pueblo, which can make 100 loaves at a time. Paywa's Zuni Bread, started in the 1970s, is run by siblings Jimmy Paywa, Rose Seeyouma, and Jimmy's daughter, Karlene Paywa. Three days a week the family members work from about 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., preparing and selling their bread, pies, and turnovers. On Saturdays, Jimmy sells baked goods at the Gallup Flea Market and Seeyouma sells in front of the Zuni tribal building. On Sundays, Karlene Paywa and her husband haul firewood for the next week. They take two vacations a year during times of religious ceremonies in Zuni Pueblo. The rest of the year, the family sells about 180 loaves of traditional Zuni sourdough bread each week, along with 80 loaves of yeast bread and 24 loaves of raisin bread. The family also makes and sells about 16 fruit pies and nearly 100 turnovers each week.

13,000-year-old Tools Unearthed in Boulder

(The Daily Times, February 27, 2009; Daily Sentinel, February 27, 2009)

Landscapers digging a fish pond last May found a cache of more than 83 ancient tools buried about 13,000 years ago by the Clovis people. Biochemical analysis of protein residue revealed the tools were used to butcher camels, horses, sheep and bears, proving that the Clovis people ate more than just woolly mammoth meat. The cache is one of only two that have been analyzed for protein residue from ice age animals. The tools reveal a design -- complicated, artistic and utilitarian at the same time. The landowner paid for the analysis by California State University at Bakersfield. The cache was buried 18 inches deep and in a hole the size of a large shoe box. The tools most likely were wrapped in a skin that deteriorated over time. Stone that flakes to a good sharp edge isn't widely available in this part of Colorado. The materials could have been being stored for use later. Some of the tools will be reburied.

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San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

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