

NEW MEXICO ARCHEOLOGICAL COUNCIL 2021 FALL CONFERENCE

Legacy Projects – Old Data, New Research

Hibben Center, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque

Saturday, November 13, 2021

Livestream address: *TBD*

(Agenda subject to change before or during the conference)

Keynote Event: Friday, November 12, 2021

7:30–9:00 P.M. Public Presentation: *Sixty Years at Sapawe: An Update on Ongoing Archaeological Investigations at an Ancestral Tewa Village in the Rio Chama Valley of Northern New Mexico* by Thomas C. Windes, Peter J. McKenna, Nancy J. Akins, and Regge N. Wiseman

Free event, Hibben 105, UNM main campus.

Saturday, November 13, 2021

- 8:00–9:00 A.M. On-site registration; continental breakfast (Hibben Atrium)
- 9:00–9:20 A.M. Welcome and Announcements: Distinguished Archaeologist Award and Lucy C. Schuyler Award —Meaghan Trowbridge, NMAC President
- 9:20–9:25 A.M. Conference Introduction—Teresa Hurt, NMAC Past President
- 9:25–9:45 A.M. Presentation 1: *Variability in Southern San Juan Structure Orientation*, by James L. Moore (Museum of New Mexico-Office of Archaeological Studies)
- 9:45–10:05 A.M. Presentation 2: *Ceramic Analysis at Kuaua Pueblo*, by Hayward Franklin (Maxwell Museum of Anthropology)
- 10:05–10:15 A.M. Questions and Comments
- 10:15–10:30 A.M. BREAK**

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10:30–10:50 A.M. Presentation 3: *Kit Sargeant's Chamisal Site, a Small Middle Rio Grande Village: Results 40 Years and Counting in the Making*, by Alexander Kurota and Thatcher Rogers (Office of Contract Archeology, University of New Mexico)

10:50–11:10 A.M. Presentation 4: *Companions, Food, Commensals: The Mammalian Faunal Record at Chamisal Pueblo in Regional Context*, by Emily Lena Jones (University of New Mexico)

11:10–11:30 A.M. Presentation 5: *Archaeological Evidence of Peaceful Pursuits, Warfare and Rebellion Along Pecos Pueblo's Perimeter Wall*, by Charles M. Haecker (National Park Service)

11:30–11:40 A.M. Questions and Comments

11:40 A.M.–12:00 P.M. NMAC Business Meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

12:00–1:30 P.M. LUNCH

Lunch on your own

1:30–1:50 P.M. Presentation 6: *Digitizing and Updating Legacy Projects in the Natural Resources Manager Heritage Database, Tonto National Forest, 1968–2015*, by Sara Cullen, (Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest)

1:50–2:10 P.M. Presentation 7: *Pathways to Redefining the Chronology of Mogollon Village*, by Lori Barkwill Love (University of Texas at San Antonio)

2:10–2:30 P.M. Presentation 8: *What We Have Learned from Haury's Field Notes on Mogollon Village*, by Patricia A. Gilman (University of Oklahoma) and Lori Barkwill Love (University of Texas at San Antonio)

2:30–2:40 P.M. Questions and Comments

2:40–2:50 P.M. BREAK

2:50–3:10 P.M. Presentation 9: *NMBIOARCH: Legacy Data for New Mexico Bioarchaeology*, by Ann L.W. Stodder (Office of Archaeological Studies, Museum of New Mexico) and Shamsi Daneshvari Berry (Western Michigan University Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine)

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- 3:10–3:30 P.M. Presentation 10: *Jane's Legacy: Results from Excavations at Robinson Pueblo, a Late Prehispanic Village in the Sierra Blanca of South-Central New Mexico*, by Thatcher Rogers (Office of Contract Archeology, University of New Mexico)
- 3:30–3:50 P.M. Presentation 11: *Excavation, Preservation, and Interpretation of Talus Unit No. 1, Chaco Canyon*, by Frances Joan Mathien (National Park Service)
- 3:50–4:00 P.M. Questions and Comments

Poster Presentations (Hibben Atrium, All Day Saturday, November 13)

Poster 1: *Documentation and Interpretation of 21 Rock Art Sites in Southeastern New Mexico*, by Myles R. Miller, Lawrence L. Loendorf, Tim B. Graves, and Mark Willis (Versar, Inc.)

Poster 2: *Pueblo on the Plains: The 2019 Investigations at the Merchant Site of Southeastern New Mexico* by Myles R. Miller, Tim B. Graves, Charles Frederick, Mark Willis, John Speth, J. Phil Dering, Susan J. Smith, Crystal Dozier, John G. Jones, Jeremy Loven, Genevieve Woodhead, Jeff Ferguson, and Mary Ownby (Versar, Inc.)

Student Poster Contest

Kaitlyn E. Davis, University of Colorado: *The Tewa Community at Tsama Pueblo (LA908): Artifacts from the 1970 Excavations*

William Marquardt, University of New Mexico: *Title forthcoming*

Jana Valesca Myer, University of New Mexico: *The Spatial Distribution of Artificially Modified Bone at Tijeras Pueblo*

Robert Weiner, University of Colorado: *The Road Continues: New Chacoan Roads Research Using Old Data*

ABSTRACTS

Friday Night Keynote Presentation: *Sixty Years at Sapawe: An Update on Ongoing Archaeological Investigations at an Ancestral Tewa Village in the Rio Chama Valley of Northern New Mexico*, by Thomas C. Windes, Peter J. McKenna, Nancy J. Akins, and Regge N. Wiseman

Abstract forthcoming

Saturday Conference:

Presentation 1: *Variability in Southern San Juan Structure Orientation*, by James L. Moore

In 1961, Stewart Peckham of the Museum of New Mexico excavated four Ancestral Pueblo sites in the Red Mesa Valley along the southern periphery of the Southern San Juan region. These sites were mainly occupied during the Pueblo II to early Pueblo III period. During preparation of a final report for this project by the Office of Archaeological Studies, deviation from what is usually considered the normal San Juan region pattern of a southerly orientation for structures was noted and considered potential evidence for Mogollon influence at these sites. In order to test this possibility, comparative data were collected from reports documenting communities across the Southern San Juan region, including small houses in Chaco Canyon. This study shows that variation from the typical pattern is fairly common in the southern periphery of the Southern San Juan region but is not unique to that area.

Presentation 2: *Ceramic Analysis at Kuaua Pueblo*, by Hayward Franklin

Kuaua Pueblo (LA 187), at the Coronado State Historic Site, near Bernalillo, is a well-known Classic Period Puebloan town situated along the Rio Grande. Famous for its kiva murals, Kuaua still has gaps in our knowledge of its complete chronology. Fortunately, site testing around the site perimeter in 2007 provided useful ceramic samples across much of the site area. Analysis of the sherd collection has yielded new insights into the overall site chronology, and the sequence of roomblock occupation. An article in *Pottery Southwest* (Vol. 35, no. 1&2, June 2019) provides more details.

Presentation 3: *Kit Sargeant's Chamisal Site, a Small Middle Rio Grande Village: Results 40 Years and Counting in the Making*, by Alexander Kurota and Thatcher A. Rogers

More than 40 years after archaeologist Kit Sargeant began excavations of the Chamisal Site (LA 22765), the write-up of analyses and the overall report is finally being completed. The site is a primarily Classic Period pueblo of the Tiguex Province in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque and contains some 3 m of complex, stratified deposits. The results of our analyses reveal emerging insights into population trends in the Middle Rio Grande region from the 13th through 17th centuries. It is widely known that during the early 14th century, pueblos in the Middle Rio Grande region included immigrant members from the areas of White Mountains, Acoma, Zuni, and Hopi pueblos; however, the precise impacts of this migration event remain unclear due to the historical impacts within the Middle Rio Grande region. The Chamisal Site is one of the best

examples to delineate and investigate this trend as its lower strata ceramic assemblage indicates that this migration correlates with a significant increase in artifacts representing a wide range of ceramic types that contain a diverse array of slip variants. Ceramic frequencies in the site's middle and upper strata also suggest periodic retraction and expansion of its population, as well as provide insight into ritual activities. This presentation provides an update on the analyses results and the interpretations of the data.

Presentation 4: *Companions, Food, Commensuals: The Mammalian Faunal Record at Chamisal Pueblo in Regional Context*, by Emily Lena Jones

Changing human-animal relationships in the prehispanic Middle Rio Grande have long been of interest to New Mexican archaeologists. Do animal remains recovered from archaeological sites reflect diet, ritual activity, a combination, or something else entirely? Were mammals scarce on the landscape, or were they abundant? The relative lack of large, fully analyzed, zooarchaeological assemblages makes these questions difficult to answer. The faunal record from Chamisal Pueblo, excavated under the direction of Kit Sargeant in the 1980s, thus present an opportunity. In this paper, I present data from the UNM Zooarchaeology Lab's analysis of the mammals recovered from Chamisal Pueblo, placing these results in the context of those from other analyzed Middle Rio Grande sites.

Presentation 5: *Archaeological Evidence of Peaceful Pursuits, Warfare and Rebellion Along Pecos Pueblo's Perimeter Wall*, by Charles M. Haecker

Since 1996, an NPS archaeology program conducted remote sensing sample surveys within Pecos National Historical Park, producing data sets that provide a more refined interpretation of Pecos Pueblo's historic period. Research topics include, as examples: the month-long siege of Pecos Pueblo by elements of the Vásquez de Coronado expedition; Nomadic Tribal-Puebloan-Spanish interactions within the pueblo's trade fair locality; Civil War-related actions in the vicinity of the pueblo; and indicants of Native-Spanish attacks directed at the pueblo. To address this latter research topic, NPS conducted a metal detection sample survey along the exterior of Pecos Pueblo's perimeter wall, recovering evidence of the pueblo's copper fabrication industry, centuries of warfare, and the 1680 Pueblo Revolt.

Presentation 6: *Digitizing and Updating Legacy Projects in the Natural Resources Manager Heritage Database, Tonto National Forest, 1968–2015*, by Sara Cullen

Abstract forthcoming

Presentation 7: *Pathways to Redefining the Chronology of Mogollon Village*, by Lori Barkwill Love

Although Mogollon Village (LA 11568) had a suite of tree-ring dates from Emil Haury's excavation and 19 radiocarbon dates from the excavations conducted in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the site chronology was not well understood. New AMS dates and a Bayesian framework allowed for not only a more refined site chronology but also provided date estimates for individual pithouses. These new results suggested that Mogollon Village was a persistent place in which only a few pithouses were occupied at any given time. Redefining the chronology of a legacy collection, however, can be challenging. There are issues of "old wood" or other problematic existing dates and unavailable or missing material — just to name a few. This paper outlines the pathways taken to overcome some of these challenges and summarizes the work completed to date on revising the chronology of Mogollon Village.

Presentation 8: *What We Have Learned from Haury's Field Notes on Mogollon Village*, by Patricia A. Gilman and Lori Barkwill Love

Emil Haury helped define the Mogollon culture in the 1930s based on excavations at Mogollon village and the Harris site in southwestern New Mexico. His field notes and maps, however, contain much more information than he published in his monograph on the sites. Our presentation focuses on Mogollon village and what we have learned from those field notes and maps. Specifically, even though it is primarily an Early (AD 200-750) and Middle (AD 750-800/850) Pit Structure period site, we note that Mogollon village has two possible plazas that are surrounded by pit structures. As well, Haury excavated very few burials, with only one being inside a structure, suggesting that people were quite mobile. Haury's field notes have opened new interpretations of the site, and his data support recent analyses of mobility during these periods.

Presentation 9: *NMBIOARCH: Legacy Data for New Mexico Bioarchaeology*, by Ann L.W. Stodder and Shamsi Daneshvari Berry

This paper describes the New Mexico Bioarchaeology Database project, its purpose, and progress. NMBIOARCH is a compilation of biological information that comprises a people-based parallel universe to NMCRIS, with compatible cultural and temporal affiliation. Initiated in 2016, the database in 2021 holds skeletal and dental morphology and health information from the study of approximately 1300 individuals from 137 archaeological sites in New Mexico, ranging from the Archaic to Territorial Period. The emphasis to date has been to gathering information from Museum of New Mexico (Laboratory of Anthropology and Office of Archaeological Studies) projects, including very early CRM excavations associated with pipelines and other infrastructure projects. Data also have been generated by new analyses of old collections from sites like Pindi Pueblo (LA 1) and the settlements in the I-40 right of way in the Red Mesa Valley, and from lab analysis forms, CRM reports, PhD Dissertations, and other publications. NMBIOARCH has provided data sets to undergraduate and graduate students, and to senior researchers. To continue growing the resource we encourage data contributions from individual researchers as well as companies and agencies, especially those who can expand the scope of

data beyond the current emphasis on the Northern Rio Grande and San Juan Basin. While the project may never be “finished,” we see this as a resource that will enable the continued exploration of life in New Mexico in the recent and distant past, and as a means of engaging with the past that can be accessible to those who do not study human remains directly, but who are interested in what this part of history can teach us. NMBIOARCH is supported by the Don E. Pierce Endowment for Archaeology and Conservation, The Museum of New Mexico Foundation.

Presentation 10: *Jane’s Legacy: Results from Excavations at Robinson Pueblo, a Late Prehispanic Village in the Sierra Blanca of South-Central New Mexico*, by Thatcher Rogers

Between 1984-1986, Jane Kelley and Joe Stewart conducted the Capitan North Archaeological Project, a project designed to gather data on late prehispanic changes in the Sierra Blanca area of south-central New Mexico. Joe Stewart led the Mobile Crew in survey and testing for subsistence data at over 60 archaeological sites, while Jane Kelley led excavations focused at Robinson Pueblo, a large plaza-oriented pueblo. Although a brief summary of the excavations can be found in the published proceedings of the 5th Mogollon Conference, no detailed report or systematic investigation of the results of Kelley’s excavations exists. Jane sadly passed in 2016 and Joe this year. Having met Jane in Chihuahua in 2014 and shared our interest in northern Mexico archaeology, I began to access the archival documents and artifacts from these excavations curated at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology in 2019 with the objective to publish the results of her excavation and address major research questions that remain unanswered for the prehispanic Sierra Blanca. In this presentation I synthesize the results of my investigation and write-up, including the ceramic, architectural, and mortuary data and frame them within large, late prehispanic regional processes.

Presentation 11: *Excavation, Preservation, and Interpretation of Talus Unit No. 1, Chaco Canyon*, by Frances Joan Mathien

Excavated in the 1930s during the University of New Mexico/School of American Research field schools, Talus Unit No. 1 provides clues that help us better understand social relationships in downtown Chaco Canyon. Several later projects contributed additional information: The 1959 Ruins Stabilization, Gwinn Vivian's study of Chaco roads, the 1970s National Park site survey, Lekson's architectural summary, and Windes' Chaco Wood Project. An ongoing review of these studies sheds additional light on undocumented preservation work that affected interpretations of the role of Talus Unit No. 1 in the central canyon community.

Poster 1: *Documentation and Interpretation of 21 Rock Art Sites in Southeastern New Mexico*, by Myles R. Miller, Lawrence L. Loendorf, Tim B. Graves, and Mark Willis

Rock art sites in the Guadalupe Mountains and Carlsbad region of southeastern New Mexico have been recorded and studied since the 1930s, but the research has been sporadic and often remained unpublished. To remedy this situation, the Carlsbad Field Office of the BLM developed a task order under the Permian Basin Programmatic Agreement that dedicated

funding to the documentation and study of 21 prehistoric and historic rock art sites. Totals of 168 rock art panels and 1,045 individual elements were drawn, photographed, and described at the 21 sites. Both prehistoric cultures and historic Native American tribes (most likely Apache, Comanche, and Kiowa) created the rock art at the 21 sites. However, it is noted here that the term “deep history” is gaining traction as a way of avoiding the artificial dichotomy of history and “pre” history, particularly when it comes to rock art that often represents a symbolic and metaphorical narrative account of past beliefs and experiences, or what Carolyn Boyd in *The White Shaman Mural* has called the earliest “books” in North America.

Poster 2: *Pueblo on the Plains: The 2019 Investigations at the Merchant Site of Southeastern New Mexico* by Myles R. Miller, Tim B. Graves, Charles Frederick, Mark Willis, John Speth, J. Phil Dering, Susan J. Smith, Crystal Dozier, John G. Jones, Jeremy Loven, Genevieve Woodhead, Jeff Ferguson, and Mary Ownby

The Merchant site is a 14th and early 15th century pueblo settlement located near Grama Ridge, a prominent escarpment near the boundary where the basin-and-range region merges with the southern Plains of southeastern New Mexico. The Merchant site is representative of the Ochoa phase, a poorly understood time period of southeastern New Mexico dating from a.d. 1300 to 1450. The Ochoa phase was contemporaneous with the Pueblo IV period of the greater Southwest, the Antelope Creek phase of the southern Plains, and the Toyah phase of central Texas. As such, Merchant and other Ochoa phase settlements were part of the widespread patterns of population aggregation, migrations, changing hunting practices, and accompanying developments in social and ritual organization that occurred throughout the Southwest, northern Mexico, and southern Plains during the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries. The first investigations took place between 1959 and 1965 but the only description of the site was a brief paper published by Robert Leslie in 1965. To remedy this situation, the Carlsbad Field Office (CFO) of the Bureau of Land Management developed a task order under the Permian Basin Programmatic Agreement to fund a remedial mitigation and investigation in 2015. Versar, Inc. mapped the site and re-excavated some of the areas dug by the LCAS. The results of that work confirmed that the site retained significant research potential. The CFO funded a second season of fieldwork and laboratory analysis in 2018. The work included additional excavations of domestic rooms, midden deposits, extramural areas, and agricultural fields. A 1,257-acre parcel around the site was intensively surveyed to search for Ochoa phase pueblos or villages of other time periods.

STUDENT POSTER CONTEST ENTRIES:

Student Poster 1: *The Tewa Community at Tsama Pueblo (LA908): Artifacts from the 1970 Excavations*, by Kaitlyn E. Davis and Scott G. Ortman, University of Colorado:

Tsama Pueblo (LA908) is an ancestral Tewa community in the Northern Rio Grande region of New Mexico. The village was excavated by Florence Hawley Ellis and students in 1970 as part of a University of New Mexico archaeological field school. The resulting artifact assemblage, however, remained uncatalogued and unanalyzed until the 2000s. This poster presents

summary analyses and contextual information for the artifact assemblage. It displays background information on Tsama Pueblo, tabular presentations and images of the artifact data organized by type and location, and comparisons with other sites in the Northern Rio Grande and Northern San Juan. This poster is a summary of a more detailed report on the Tsama excavations and material culture that is forthcoming in the Maxwell Museum Technical Series. The report is intended to make information from Tsama more widely available, to contribute new data for regional comparisons, and to consider the artifact assemblage in light of current trends in archaeological interpretation of ancestral sites in the Northern Rio Grande.

Student Poster 2: *Title and abstract forthcoming*

Student Poster 3: *The Spatial Distribution of Artificially Modified Bone at Tijeras Pueblo*, by Jana Valesca Myer

Artificially modified faunal remains are an important artifact category in the North American Southwest, which can inform us not only on the procurement and use of osseous raw materials but also on patterns of craft production. This study investigates the intra-site distribution of bone artifacts at Tijeras Pueblo (LA 581), a Pueblo IV Period site in the Middle Rio Grande area, to assess evidence for activity areas associated with craft production involving bone artifacts. The spatial analysis employs global and local methods of spatial autocorrelation analysis (Moran's I and Hot Spot analysis, respectively) to identify statistically significant clustering of specific bone artifact categories within the site. The study shows that the spatial distribution of the total modified bone assemblage, as well as the distribution of bone awls, which form 47% of the entire bone artifact assemblage, exhibits a highly significant clustering (99% confidence) in and around room block 3, as confirmed by both Moran's I and Hot Spot analysis. Other artifact categories – including ornaments, flutes, and production debris, all of which have a comparatively smaller sample size than awls – show significant hot spots, as well as cold spots within the site based on Hot Spot analysis, although their global distribution is not classified as clustered based on Moran's I. These results suggest the possibility of specific activity areas within the site involving the use of bone awls, while the distribution of other osseous artifact categories, which produced conflicts between local and global spatial statistics, possibly related to small sample sizes, warrants further investigation after additional data collection efforts to expand the data set.

Student Poster 4: *The Road Continues: New Chacoan Roads Research Using Old Data*, by Robert S. Weiner, John R. Stein, Richard A. Friedman, and Daniel R. Van Essen

This poster reports on our ongoing Chacoan roads research, a project which builds upon initial documentation of these features during the 1970s and 80s. Monumental linear earthworks associated with Chaco-era Great Houses have intrigued researchers for over a century. Pioneering projects by the Bureau of Land Management and others documented dozens of road segments throughout the Four Corners region, with researchers concluding that most

were short spokes not used for travel and trade. Despite these initial findings over three decades ago, key questions regarding the chronology, use, and meaning of Chacoan roads remain—and there has been minimal research on Chacoan roads in recent years despite the advent of new technologies and theoretical perspectives. We describe our ongoing fieldwork at 15 locations throughout the Chaco World, including the use of emerging technologies such as LiDAR, drone-based Structure from Motion photogrammetry, and GIS, along with insights from new on-the-ground mapping of roads and their relationship to larger landscapes. We focus specifically on recent fieldwork at Chambers, Llave de la Mano, and Kin Nizhoni to highlight the interplay between legacy data and new insights in this renewed investigation.