



NewsMAC

Newsletter of the New Mexico Archeological Council

**P.O. Box 25691
Albuquerque, NM 87125**

NewsMAC Summer 2024 (2024-2)

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Greetings everyone!

Happy Summer Solstice! I am pleased to report that during this quarter the New Mexico Archeological Council (NMAC) has been busy planning events, including the Annual Meeting for NMAC members.

NMAC is in the planning process of creating several workshops in cooperation with agencies aimed at educating professionals across New Mexico. The workshops in the works for the fall include workshops on the built environment and the Dinéyah. Stay tuned for further details on these upcoming workshops.

The NMAC 2024 Annual Meeting will be November 9th at the Hibben Center, University of New Mexico. Further details on the upcoming fall conference are provided on Page 4 in this newsletter. In addition, to the speakers, there will be a general poster session. I encourage NMAC members to save the date and start thinking of poster presentation ideas.

Thank you all for your continued participation and support of NMAC! I look forward to meeting you all at upcoming archaeology events and the annual meeting in the fall.

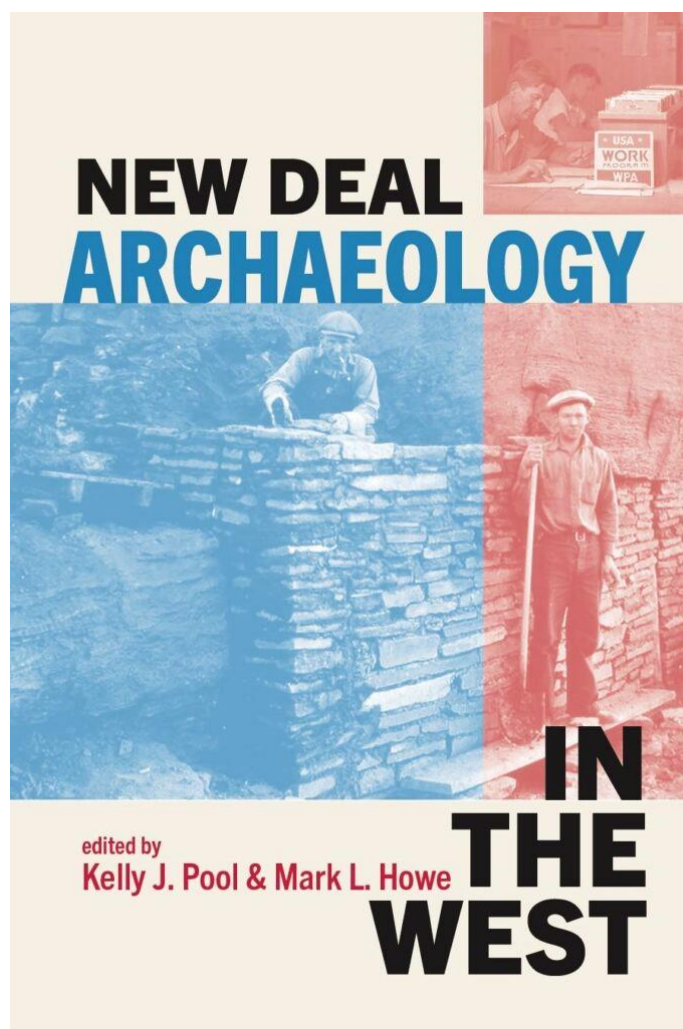
Sincerely,

Heather Seltzer-Rogers, 2024 NMAC President
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REVIEW of *New Deal Archaeology in the West*, edited by Kelly J. Pool and Mark L. Howe. 2023.

By Thatcher Seltzer-Rogers

Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press. 2023. xiv+426 pp., 83 figures, 12 tables, bibliography, index, contributor list. \$65.00 hardcover (ISBN 9781647691301), \$52.00 eBook (ISBN 9781647691318).



A history of key, early archaeological investigations in the southwestern United States would include excavations at sites such as Aztec Ruins, Pueblo Bonito, Pecos Pueblo, and Los Muertos, among many others. Yet, although many researchers are aware of the key turn-of-the-century excavations that occurred, far fewer are cognizant of the significant research that occurred as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal program from 1933 to 1944. This volume, *New Deal Archaeology in the West*, edited by Kelly Pool (Principal Investigator, Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc.) and Mark Howe (Cultural Resources Specialist, United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission) provides a summary of many of the archaeological investigations and preservation actions that occurred in the western United States during this time.

The first chapter (“Introduction: A New Deal for Western Archaeology”) by Pool and Howe introduces the New Deal, summarizes prior investigations into archaeological fieldwork undertaken as part of New Deal programs, and lays out the volume. Following this, Darby Stapp and Robert Mierendorf (“Impacts and Legacy of the New Deal on Pacific Northwest Heritage Preservation”) discuss two large projects in Washington and Oregon and provide an overview of the detrimental impacts New Deal construction (especially dams) had on Native lifeways and cultural practices. Nancy Mahoney (“The Advocate, the Avocationalist, and the Academic: A Story of Three Men and the Unlikely Success of New Deal Archaeology in Montana”) provides the story of academic infighting and successive regimes that resulted in key excavations throughout Montana. The fourth chapter (“New Deal Archaeology in Wyoming”), by Danny Walker, discusses survey and excavation at numerous sites, including rock art panels and at Fort Laramie in Wyoming.

Pool (“Repair and Restoration on the Colorado Plateau: Earl Morris and the New Deal in Aztec Ruins National Monument and Mesa Verde National Park”) summarizes and compares the excavation and preservation/reconstructive work by Earl Morris and colleagues at two National Park Service units in the fifth chapter. Succeeding this is a piece by Steven James (“New Deal Archaeology and Anthropology in Utah, 1933–1941”) that discusses the six archaeological projects in Utah that occurred as part of the New Deal. Todd Bostwick and Steven James (“Desert Digs: New Deal Archaeology in Southern Arizona, 1933–1942”) provide the background for New Deal archaeology in Arizona, the politics behind it, and a thorough summary of key investigations in southern Arizona at Ventana Cave, University Indian Ruin, and Pueblo Grande, among others. In chapter eight (“The Legacy of New Deal Programs to the Archaeology of Northern Arizona”), Peter Pilles, Jr. and Jeanne Stevens present the impact of New Deal archaeology in northern Arizona as well as the outcomes thereof for dendrochronology studies and National Park Service units such as Tuzigoot, Walnut Canyon, Wupatki, and Montezuma’s Castle.

John Schelberg, Thomas Windes, and Carla Van West (“The Lasting Legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps-Indian Division and the Three-C Site in Chaco Canyon, New Mexico”) return to northwestern New Mexico and focus on excavations at the Three-C Site, a small roomblock containing evidence of northern San Juan migration into Chaco Canyon. Timothy Perttula (“Recent Studies of WPA Archaeological Investigations on Ancestral Caddo Sites in East Texas”) reports on his systematic investigation of New Deal era excavations at Caddo sites in eastern Texas and the conclusions he has derived from these older data. Howe (“The International Boundary Commission and PWA Projects along the U.S.–Mexico Border: Creation of Cultural Heritage Sites during the New Deal”) provides a very different insight into the New Deal era by focusing on the infrastructure of cultural resources created by New Deal projects and the preservation of border monuments. Finally, Bernard Means (“Conclusion: How the West Was Dug”) situates the works in this volume into the larger scholarly corpus on New Deal archaeology and advocates for new avenues for research and a need to seriously undertake NAGPRA actions on collections produced during New Deal investigations.

New Deal Archaeology in the West makes a poorly known, under-published record accessible to current and future archaeologists. In so doing, it acts as a reference for researchers investigating these early, key projects. Notable sections discuss the political infighting that terminated and started many archaeologists’ careers and field projects. Five of the chapters are of particular interest to southwestern archaeologists, as well as notable standouts therein by Bostwick and James on southern Arizona

investigations and Pilles and Stevens on work in north-central Arizona. I applaud Pool and Howe for this fascinating study that increases our understanding of early to mid-twentieth century archaeology in the western United States. Archaeologists, historians, and preservationists will find this volume of interest.

*Reviewed by Thatcher A. Seltzer-Rogers, PhD
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**New Mexico Archeological Council 2024 Annual Meeting
The Practice of Tribal Historic Preservation and NAGPRA
November 9, 2024
Hibben Center for Archaeological Research
University of New Mexico**

The 2024 New Mexico Archeological Council (NMAC) Annual Meeting will take place at the Hibben Center for Archaeological Research of University of New Mexico on November 9, 2024. This year's theme is *The Practice of Tribal Historic Preservation and NAGPRA*. The goal of the meeting is to better illuminate to the attendees how tribes are engaging in the historic preservation field in the U.S. Southwest through a set of moderated discussion panels. The meeting will have two primary focuses: (1) the role of Tribal Historic Preservation Offices in law and practice; and (2) the implementation of NAGPRA under the newly adopted regulations.

Poster Session

NMAC will also host a poster session for the Annual Meeting. Posters will be on display in the Hibben Center atrium throughout the meeting. This session provides NMAC members with the opportunity to present their research to their peers. Posters are welcome from a range of topics and do not have to relate to the meeting theme.

Student participation in the poster session will be encouraged through the student poster contest, which awards cash prizes to the top three student posters presented at the meeting.

NEW MEXICO ARCHEOLOGICAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM (rev/2024)

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Digital Versions of Publications

\$ _____ enclosed for NMAC Publication: *Symposium on the Permian Basin Programmatic Agreement in the Bureau of Land Management, Carlsbad Field Office Area of Southeast New Mexico* (NMAC 2017 Fall Conference Papers) @ \$5

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NMAC is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to maintain and promote the goals of professional archaeology in New Mexico.

NMAC's goals are to:

- promote archaeological research within New Mexico and disseminate knowledge arising from that research
- promote awareness of New Mexico's cultural resources among public agencies, corporations, and members of the public.
- encourage the legal protection of cultural resources, and encourage high standards for professional archaeology

2024 NMAC Contacts

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