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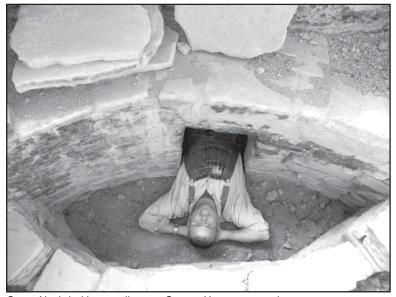
Vol. 60, No. 6

Tucson, Arizona

December 2009

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Steve Nash in kiva ventilator at Sunset House upper alcove.

Next General Meeting: December 21, 2009 http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/aahs/aahs.shtml

President's Message

The following are updates on projects we have written about in earlier *Glyphs*.

A reminder that there will be no December raffle. Money from the raffle had gone to graduate students to help in their scholarship and research. For the amount of money raised, the raffle has been a large commitment of time, particularly for the person who chairs the committee. We are taking this year to explore how we might improve the raffle if we were to bring it back, as well as to explore other options. One option is direct mail, so that in December, we would send a direct mail solicitation as an option as a permanent replacement for the raffle.

A big thank you to Todd Pitezel and the volunteers who conducted AAHS's annual book sale. The sale, which was conducted over two weekends, brought in over \$5,000! The money from the book sale goes to the Arizona State Museum's library for the purchase of books. The museum's

annual budget for books from the University of Arizona is \$2,500.

At last month's AAHS general meeting, 35 members signed a sheet expressing their willingness to help the Arizona State Museum in bringing back to the Southwest Indian Arts Fair in 2011.

After many months, the people who AAHS had contacted with to develop a website informed us they could not complete the task. They returned our money, and we have contracted with another company we feel confident will complete the project.

Finally, work continues on our Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6, celebration of the 75th anniversary of Snaketown, and the Saturday picnic celebrating the 75th anniversary of *KIVA*.

The publications committee is soliciting articles for *Glyphs*. You can contact Sarah Herr at 520.621.7788 or <sherr@desert.com> for further information.

- Don Burgess, President

GLYPHS: Information and articles to be included in *Glyphs* must be received by the 10th of each month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Contact me, Emilee Mead, at <emilee@desert.com> or 520.881.2244 (phone), 520.909.3662 (cell), 520.881.0325 (FAX).

AAHS WEBSITE: Glyphs is posted each month and can be found on the ASM/AAHS website at: http://www.swanet.org/aahs.shtml, and it can also be found at: http://www.swanet.org/zarchives/aahs/.

AAHS LECTURE SERIES

All meetings are held at the University Medical Center, Duval Auditorium Third Monday of the month, 7:30–9:00 p.m.

Dec. 21, 2009: Stephen Nash, Fast Approaching Zero: Tree-Ring Dating at

Mesa Verde

Jan. 18, 2010: John Kantner, Facts and Fictions of Ancient Puebloan

Cannibalism

Feb. 15, 2010: Henry Wallace, New Clues, New Research, and New Photos of

the Oldest Art in Western North America: Current Thoughts on

the Western Archaic Tradition

Mar. 15, 2010: Steve Lekson, Chimney Rock and Chaco Canyon, Pinnacle and

Mesa Verde: Ancestral Pueblo Regional Dynamics

Apr. 19, 2010: Will Tsosi, Yádilla, Hádiilił, Perspectives from a Practicing

Native American Archaeologist

May 17, 2010: Todd Pitezel, I Rented a Mule and Found Religion

June 21, 2010: Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, Massacre at Camp Grant:

Forgetting and Remembering Apache History

SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANTS APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society is pleased to announce its grant and scholarship applications for the year 2010. Scholarships and grants in amounts up to \$1,000 will be awarded to current AAHS members for scholarship, research, and travel related to archaeology, anthropology, American Indian studies, ethnology, ethnohistory, and history of the American Southwest and Northwest Mexico. Note that all applicants **must** be members of AAHS. Applications must be postmarked by February 15, 2010, to be eligible for consideration. Applications can be obtained on the AAHS webpage at http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/aahs/grants.shtml.

AAHS NAVAJO TEXTILE STUDY GROUP

The focus of the study group is more comprehensive and now covers more than just historic Navajo rugs. It was decided to expand the descriptive name to include all Navajo textiles. Our next meeting, Saturday, December 5, 10:00 a.m., will focus on Early Crystal rugs and saddle blankets as we continue our study and discussion of historic styles. For information and meeting location, contact Marie Lynn Hunken at <NavahoRugInfo @gmail.com>.

... The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

AAHS HAPPENINGS TOPIC OF THE DECEMBER 21 GENERAL MEETING

Fast Approaching Zero: Tree-ring Dating at Mesa Verde National Park

by Stephen E. Nash

By any reasonable estimation, Mesa Verde National Park is a remarkable archaeological resource. By any reasonable estimation, dendrochronology, the study of treerings, is a remarkable analytical tool that is (nearly) uniquely available to Southwestern archaeologists. The histories of Mesa Verde National Park and archaeological tree-ring dating are woven together like a tapestry that includes important personalities, discoveries, and milestones in the history of Southwestern archaeology.

From the collection of the first treering specimens during the National Geographic Society's First Beam Expedition in 1923, to the Wetherill Mesa Project's pioneering studies of the 1950s and 1960s, to the publication of synthetic studies of Mesa Verde tree-ring dates in 1974 and again in the new millennium, Mesa Verde tree-ring dating continues to yield fascinating insights into the pre-Columbian history of the Southwest.

Unfortunately, since 2000, five named fires have burned more than 50 percent of the park, thereby threatening, if not actively destroying, archaeological sites and tree-ring resources alike. In 2008, Dr. Stephen E. Nash of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science received a \$57,021 grant from the Colorado Historical Society's State Historical Fund for a combined collections- and field-based research project to continue applying tree-ring dating to archaeological problems.

Fast Approaching Zero: Tree-ring Dating at Mesa Verde National Park offers a progress report on Nash's efforts to date backcountry cliff sites, derive new dates for previously archived but unanalyzed specimens, and to systematically search for additional, if enigmatic, "culturally modified" Douglas fir and ponderosa pine trees within the park's boundaries.

Suggested Reading:

Nash, Stephen E.

1999 Time, Trees, and Prehistory: Tree-Ring Dating and the Development of North American Archaeology 1914–1950. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

2002 Archaeological Tree-Ring Dating at the Millennium. *Journal of Archaeological Research* 10:243–272. 2003 Not So Talkative Tree-Rings: Why Did Archaeologists Wait for an Astronomer to Establish Tree-Ring Dating? In *Picking the Lock of Time: Developing Chronology in American Archaeology,* edited by J. Truncer, pp. 140–157. University of Florida Press, Gainesville.

Nash, Stephen E. (compiler)

2004 Readings in Chronometric Analysis: Selections from American Antiquity and Latin American Antiquity 1935–2006.
Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D.C.

Speaker Stephen E. Nash is Chair of the Department of Anthropology and Curator of Archaeology at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, where his research focuses on tree-ring dating archaeological sites in Mesa Verde National Park and on the history of archaeological research in the American Southwest. He earned his master's and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Arizona in Tucson, in 1991 and 1997, respectively. Nash has published four books on the history of anthropology and archaeological dating. He is author of Time, Trees, and Prehistory: Tree-Ring Dating and the Development of North American Anthropology 1914–1950 (1999), and editor of It's About Time: A History of Archaeological Dating in North America (2000), Curators, Collections, and Contexts: Anthropology at the Field Museum 1893–2002 (2003), and Readings in Archaeological Chronometry (2009).

CENTER FOR DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY'S ARCHAEOLOGY CAFÉ

The Center for Desert Archaeology and Casa Vincente invite you to the Archaeology Café, a casual discussion forum dedicated to promoting community engagement with cultural and scientific research. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month from September to May, at 6:00 p.m.; presentations begin at 6:15 p.m. Casa Vicente is located at 375 S. Stone Avenue. The café is free and open to the community.

The 2009–2010 season includes the following presentations:

- Dec. 1: Don Burgess, Romans in Tucson? The Story of an Archaeological Hoax
- Jan. 5: Gene Caywood, Historic and Future Transportation in Downtown Tucson
- Feb. 2: Tom Sheridan, The Collaborative Conservation Movement in Southern Arizona
- Mar. 16: Steve Lekson, Where Did the Mimbres Go, and Where Did Casa Grande Come From?
- Apr. 6: Ron Towner, Early Navajos, Tree-rings, and Warfare in the Dinétah Heartland
- May 4: Suzanne Griset, Recent Research on Camp Navajo

Recent Excavations at the Site of Las Capas, an Early Agricultural Village

by Jim Vint Desert Archaeology, Inc.

Between August 2008, and September 2009, Desert Archaeology, Inc., conducted intensive excavations at the site of Las Capas, located on the grounds of the Ina Road Wastewater Recovery Facility (IRWRF). This work was conducted in advance of a major construction project in which Pima County will nearly double the size of the IRWRF to accommodate population growth in the Tucson area.

Las Capas was first recognized in the mid-1970s, when deeply buried features were found during construction related to Interstate 10 (I-10). These features were dated to the San Pedro phase of the Late Archaic period, or some 2,700 to 2,900 years ago. Later excavations by Desert Archaeology in the vicinity of the eastbound Ina Road I-10 on-ramp, as well as by SWCA, Inc., on the IRWFR grounds in 1998 and 1999, provided significant information about complex alluvial stratigraphy, multiple canals, maize, and two principle eras of occupation, one from approximately 1200 to 950 B.C., and another from about 900 to 800 B.C.

During Phase 1 of fieldwork, 2.5 km (slightly more than 1.5 miles) of backhoe trenches were excavated over almost the entire 60 acres of building-free area at the IRWRF facility. Phase 2 excavations were lim-

ited to 5 acres of construction footprint for new facilities located in five areas, although the deeply stratified archaeological deposits were intensively explored. By the end of the project, more than 155,000 m³ of sediments were excavated.

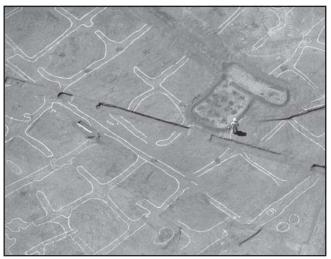
Our overarching research question for this project seems basic enough. What were the dynamics of the anthropogenic landscape during this Late Archaic period of developing agriculture and village life? To answer this question, we are considering more than the human-made impacts or modifications to the natural landscape, and more than the constraints of the natural environment on people. Rather, we are looking at both human and natural actions and the dynamic interactions between humans and their environment.

The relationship of early farmers to the Santa Cruz River and floodplain changed through time. Our goal is to understand how these early farmers successfully manipulated the floodplain in a local environment at risk for damaging floods and fluctuations in the hydrological and ecological conditions of the region as a whole.

Toward this goal, geomorphological data were collected that allow detailed reconstruction of floodplain history along the Santa Cruz River

as a whole, but that also focused on the areas of occupation and active irrigation farming at Las Capas near the confluence of the Rillito and Cañada del Oro washes.

Fred Nials, a preeminent geomorphologist and scholar of traditional



Ancient fields outlined in paint surround a modern re-creation, planted with O'odham maize. Photograph by Henry Wallace.

irrigation, directed this portion of the research. His work began with the backhoe trenches across the site, which revealed abundant new information on the floodplain. However, much more information came to light during extensive horizontal stripping with a broad-bladed backhoe bucket.

Much to our surprise, we found even more than expected, with lateral canals, field distribution canals, and individual bordered fields, essentially the irrigation system from tip to tail. The ideal combination of distinctly colored strata and substrata, with the trained eyes of backhoe operator Dan Arnit, Fred Nials, field director Greg Whitney, Alan Denoyer, and several other experienced crew identified distinct features as they were uncovered. Clearly, at Las Capas, we can now look at early farm-

ing from the "production end," as archaeologist Doug Craig calls it, not just by analyzing refuse and discarded food remains. The relationships between several kilometers of canals of various sizes and at least 640 field cells were developed in tune with the active floodplain. We can also see how irrigation enriched the native sediments with deposits of clays, silts, and or-

ganics from slow-moving irrigation water.

The site of Las Capas is significant for many reasons, and in spite of having been investigated several times previously, it continues to yield new and exciting information. Other sites of similar age along the Santa Cruz River may well hold similar surprises. With continuing research, more pieces about early farming in the Tucson Basin will be put into place, and we will better understand the development of irrigation technology, agricultural economies, and sedentary village life.

UPCOMING AAHS FIELD TRIPS

AAHS membership is required to participate in field trips. Prospective members may attend one AAHS field trip prior to joining.

December 5, 2009

A Walking Tour of Tucson's Downtown Heritage

Join archaeologist Gayle Hartmann, former president of the Tucson Presidio Trust for Historic Preservation, at the presidio, and learn about Tucson as an outpost of the Spanish empire. Then we'll walk the perimeter of the presidio and take a look at some historic buildings on the Turquoise Trail. Later, we'll have lunch at Old Town Artisans or El Charro.

We plan to meet at the entrance to the presidio at the southwest corner of Church and Washington streets at 9:00 a.m. There should be plenty of free parking on the street during the weekend. Contact David McLean at <mcleand43@gmail.com> if you wish to register for this outing.

January 23, 2010

Ft. Bowie National Monument: The Apache Wars and Butterfield Trail

Ranger-led tour of historic Fort Bowie and an introduction to the Butterfield Stage route. Three-mile round trip, moderate hike, with interpretive stops along the way. Wear good hiking shoes, bring lunch and water. Carpool from the northwest corner of Houghton Road at Interstate 10, at 8:00 a.m. Limit 20. To reserve a space, contact Ken Fleshman at <kfleshman@juno.com> or 520.648.5473.



Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society on a recent Verde Valley field trip, visiting Sinaguan rock art sites with Ken Zoll.

11th Biennial Southwest Symposium

The 11th Southwest Symposium

will provide a forum for

develop networks for

anthropological research in the

U.S. Southwest and the Mexican

Northwest.

The 11th biennial Southwest Sym-**I** posium will be held in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, January 8-9, 2010. The Centro INAH Sonora will host the meeting at the University of Sonora campus and at the Centro INAH Sonora. In the tradition of past meetings, the 11th Southwest Symposium will provide a forum for ar-

chaeologists and other scholars to discuss innovative ideas and to develop networks for anthropo- archaeologists and other scholars logical research in the to discuss innovative ideas and to U.S. Southwest and the Mexican Northwest. The symposium has been organized to explore topics in substantial depth and to

provide ample time for discussion among all who attend. The 11th Southwest Symposium will further discussions of how to transform these national archaeologies into transnational archaeologies.

Transnational archaeologies reach beyond or transcend national boundaries and they do so in numerous ways. They imply a broad vision of historical and cultural processes in the Southwest/Northwest that is not artificially limited by political, cultural, or linguistic borders. They necessarily entail a multi-sited archaeology where researchers work in different "nations." They stand strong when their foundations rest

on collaborations across cultural groups. They require archaeologists to re-examine the contributions that archaeology can make to society. They expand the archaeology of the Southwest/Northwest linguistically, culturally, and regionally.

Presented sessions include: West and North México, organized by José

> Luis Punzo and Michael Ohnersorgen; A.D. 1450 to A.D. 1540: The Lost Century, organized by John Carpenter and Anna Neuzil; Collaborating Across Cultures, organized by Andrew Darling and Davina Two Bears; and Archaeology and Society, organized by Elizabeth

Bagwell and César Villalobos.

Poster sessions include: Violence in the Southwest/Northwest, organized by James Watson; Coastal Archaeology, organized by Cristina García and Ionathan Mabry; Relations between the Southwest/Northwest and Mesoamerica, organized by Rafael Crus and Christine Van Pool; Cliff Dwellings, organized by Júpiter Martinez and Dona Glowacki; and Contract Archaeology, organized by Adrián López-Dávila and Christine Ward.

For more program, registration, transportation, and hotel information, go to our webpage at http:// sw-symposium.binghamton.edu/>.

THE CORNERSTONE

2010 - The Year of Mexico

by Michael Brescia, Arizona State Museum

The XIII Reunion of Historians of

Mexico, United States, and

Canada is scheduled to

convene next October . . .

where scholars will

debate...fine-tune... and

share...

Despite all the much ballyhooed preoccupation with Mayan prophecies and the impending doom slated for all humanity in 2012, we are much closer to a year that carries considerable "historical street cred" among historians and anthropolo-

gists. Next year, 2010, Mexico commemorates the bicentennial of its independence from Spain and the centennial of the Mexican Revolution, the first social revolution of the twentieth century. What a stroke of chronological genius to have two key moments in the Mexican past converge in 2010!

The XIII Reunion of Historians of Mexico, United States, and Canada is scheduled to convene next October in Queréaro, where scholars will debate the living legacies of those two momentous events, fine-tune their conceptual questions, and share archival leads and bibliographic finds.

Arizona State Museum relishes the opportunity to address the broad linkages between the greater Southwest/Northwest (depending on where one is standing) and central Mexico, not to mention the cultural and material connections between Arizona, Sonora, and the greater borderlands.

In addition to our on-going research activities, some new exhibits, and public programs, ASM will sponsor a learning expedition to Sonora in March 2010, and another to Mexico City in June. Both tours

will demonstrate changes and continuities in our archaeological and historical understandings of Mexico and the Greater Southwest. From Cananea and La Playa to Teotihuacan and Puebla, ASM scholars will share their insights and original research into a wide array of sub-

-Michael Brescia Arizona State Museum

ject matter.

For a complete list of ASM's learning expeditions, log on to http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/public/tours.shtml or contact Darlene Lizarraga at 520.626.8381 or <dfl@email.arizona.edu>.

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UPCOMING ARIZONA STATE MUSEUM EVENTS

Museum Store Announces Thirty-one Days of Christmas! December 1–31, 2009

It's Christmas every day in December at Native Goods, the museum store. Enjoy 35% off everything throughout the entire month. Help the store continue its vital support of Native artists by giving the gift of culture this year. Be sure to ask at the counter for your Christmas discount when making your purchase! [No compound discounts, consigned goods not eligible for discounts, no returns on discounted items.]

Opening Celebrations for Mexico, the Revolution and Beyond: The Casasola Archives, 1900–1940

December 3, 2009; 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Enjoy a panel discussion (at CESL auditorium), followed by an exhibit viewing, a booksigning, and a reception (at ASM); meet special guest Consul of Mexico Juan Manuel Calderón. Panelists: Dr. William Beezley, UA professor of Mexican history, will examine the photojournalism of Agustín Víctor Casasola and his effect on Mexican history; Dr. Roberto Rodríguez, research associate in Mexican American Studies, will compare the Mexican revolution of 1810 with that of 1910, and modern-day revolutionary politics; Dr. Celestino Fernádez, UA professor of sociology, will comment on the role and meaning of Mexican *corridos* (ballads) and share samples from the early 1900s; Cass Fey, curator of education at the Center for Creative Photography, will explain how to read photographs as visual documents. Enjoy delicious food from El Charro Café and sweet treats from Le Cave's Bakery. Kindly RSVP to Darlene Lizarrago at <dfl@email.arizona.edu> or 520.626.8381.

UPDATE ON THE REDTAIL SITE

We have had a great response to last month's article asking for volunteers to work on artifacts from the Redtail site. We now have a group in place and ready to go early in the new year. The rationale for this new AAHS project visiting the Redtail collection is to curate the artifacts using current techniques. This includes rebagging and labeling using acid-free materials and compiling an inventory in digital format to facilitate data management and analyses. The original project done in the 1980s conformed to the procedures and techniques then current, but much has changed since that time. In addition, we anticipate doing additional analyses taking advantage of advances in analytical technique. This is particularly interesting (and important) in light of recent work done at the same site by several Tucson-based archaeological firms.

OLD PUEBLO ARCHAEOLOGY

TUSD Ajo Service Center, 2201 W. 44th Street, Tucson, AZ 520.798.1201, <info@oldpueblo.org>

White Tank Mountains Petroglyphs of Waterfall Canyon and Mesquite Canyon

December 5, 2009; 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Guided tour with Shelley Rasmussen and Allen Dart, starting at White Tank Mountain Regional Park Visitor Center, 13025 N. White Tank Mountain Rd. in Waddell. See hundreds of ancient petroglyphs in the 30,000-acre White Tank Mountain Regional Park west of Phoenix. Tour includes a 3-hour walk along the 2.5-mile round-trip, fairly flat Black Rock Loop Trail to see and photograph dozens of Archaic and Hohokam petroglyphs; lunch at ramadas with picnic facilities; afternoon visits to three petroglyph sites with Archaic and Hohokam rock art tin a 3-hour, 2.5-mile round-trip hike along the Mesquite Canyon trail, which incudes some bushwhacking and boulder hopping. Bring your own picnic lunch and water; wear comfortable hiking shoes. [\$30; \$24 for Old Pueblo Archeology Center and Pueblo Grande Museum Auxiliary members; reservations required]

Cultural Resources Survey Techniques December 12, 2009; 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Archaeological field school session on cultural resources survey techniques led by archaeologist Allen Dart, starting at the Picture Rocks Redemptorist Renewal Center, 7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd., Tucson. Old Pueblo Archaeology Center is offering training in archaeological survey methods as part of a research project to identify and record archaeological sites that may be present near the Picture Rocks petroglyphs site northwest of Tucson. Training will be provided in archaeological site identification, recording, and interpretation; use of degree-reading compass and global positioning systems equipment; interpretation of aerial photographs and topographic maps; photography; other archaeological methods. [\$20; reservations needed; only available to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center members at "Individual" or higher level]

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS FOR GLYPHS: If you have research or a field project that would be interesting to *Glyphs* readers, please consider contributing an article. Requirements are a maximum of 1,000 words, or 750 words and one illustration, or 500 words and two illustrations. Please send electronic submissions to <jadams@desert.com>, or by mail to Jenny Adams, Desert Archaeology, Inc., 3975 N. Tucson Blvd., Tucson, Arizona 85716.

AAHS MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

(A membership subscription makes a great gift for your loved ones!)

All members receive discounts on Society workshops and classes. Monthly meetings are held the third Monday of each month except August, and are free and open to the public. Participation in field trips requires membership.

Categories of Membership

| | U | • | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--------|---------|--|--|
| | \$50 | Kiva members receive 4 issues of Kiva, 12 issues of Glyphs, and all current benefits | | | | |
| | \$40 | Glyphs members receive Glyphs | | | | |
| | \$35 | Student Kiva members receive both Glyphs and Kiva | | | | |
| | \$75 | Contributors receive Glyphs, Kiva, and all current benefits | | | | |
| | \$120 | Supporters receive Glyphs, Kiva, and all current benefits | | | | |
| | \$300 | Sponsors receive Glyphs, Kiva, and all current benefits | | | | |
| | \$1,000 | Lifetime members receive Glyphs, Kiva, and all current benefits | | | | |
| For memberships outside the U.S., please add \$20.00. For institutional membership, contact AltaMira Press at <www.altamirapress.com> or 800.273.2223.</www.altamirapress.com> | | | | | | |
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| AAHS does not release membership information to other organizations | | | | | | |

Membership/Subscription Information

Memberships and subscriptions run for one year beginning on July 1 and ending June 30. Membership provides one volume (four issues) of *Kiva*, the Journal of Southwestern Anthropology and History, and 12 issues of the monthly newsletter *Glyphs*.

Membership applications should be sent to:

Donna Yoder, VP Membership Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona Tucson, AZ 85721-0026 USA <donnayoder@cox.net>

Libraries and other institutions interested in institutional subscriptions to *Kiva* should contact the publisher, AltaMira Press, at 800.273.2233 or <www.altamirapress.com>.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ern Mexico; to encourage the preservation of archaeological and historical sites; to encourage the scientific and legal gathering of cultural information and materials; to publish the results of archaeological, historical, and ethnographic investigations; to aid in the functions and programs of the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, and to provide educational opportunities through lectures, field trips, and other activities. See inside back cover for information about the Society's programs and membership and subscription requirements. The objectives of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society are to encourage scholarly pursuits in areas of history and anthropology of the southwestern United States and north-

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