

glyphs

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

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Structure A-3 in the South Plaza of Ceibal, Guatemala.

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Next General Meeting: January 20, 2014
7:30 p.m., Duvall Auditorium,
University Medical Center
www.az-arch-and-hist.org

January 20: Topic of the General Meeting

New Perspectives on the Origins of Maya Civilization: Archaeological Excavations at Ceibal

by Daniela Triadan

The question of how and when the Maya came to be has always been one of the most fundamental questions in Maya research. Who were the ancient Maya? When did they start to establish a society that we would today characterize as prehispanic Maya? What kinds of processes and developments were involved that led to the formation of a sophisticated, complex civilization that flourished in the jungles and highlands of Mesoamerica? Did Maya civilization develop independently, or was it influenced by developments in the Mexican Gulf Coast, the Olmec culture?

Since archaeologists from Harvard University explored it in the 1960s, the site of Ceibal in the southwestern Petén region of Guatemala has been important in the study of Maya origins. That research has shown that Ceibal was one of the earliest inhabited sites in the Maya lowlands. Its occupation started around 1000 B.C. at the beginning of the Middle Preclassic. Questions remained about how extensive this early settlement was and how it was organized. How did this city begin? Was it a planned community or did it grow slowly and haphazardly?



Stela 11 at Ceibal, Guatemala.

Did people experiment with a newly sedentary lifestyle and learned by trial and error? Or did they already have some notion of what a community should look like?

These questions are important to evaluate how the mobile hunters and horticulturalists that inhabited the lowlands changed to a sedentary lifestyle that laid the foundation for later Maya civilization. They are crucial to a better understanding of how Maya society developed and whether some of these developments were influenced by contacts with neighboring regions such as the highlands of Chiapas or the Gulf Coast. Looking into these questions may also contribute to our understanding of how early Maya society was organized and how and when social stratification and a more complex political organization developed.

Our research at Ceibal is providing new insights into the formation of one of the earliest sedentary communities in the Maya lowlands. These data add to our knowledge of when and how Maya civilization developed.

Suggested Readings:

Takesi, Inomata, Daniela Triadan, Kazuo Aoyama, Victor Castillo, and Hitoshi Yonenobu

2013 Early Ceremonial Constructions at Ceibal, Guatemala, and the Origins of Lowland Maya Civilization. *Science* 340:467–471.

Speaker Daniela Triadan is an Associate Professor in University of Arizona's School of Anthropology. She received her degrees from the Freie Universität Berlin. Projects in the Southwest include two large-scale studies on late prehistoric polychrome production and distribution, one centered on White Mountain Red Ware from east-central Arizona, and the other on Chihuahua Polychrome from the Casas Grandes region in Chihuahua, Mexico. Her research in the Maya area included work in Belize and co-directing the Aguateca Archaeological Project in Guatemala. Research there was geared toward examining social, political, and economic organization and its change through the analysis of domestic assemblages. Excavations of elite residential structures at the epicenter of this rapidly abandoned city revealed the richest in situ floor assemblages found to date at a Classic Maya site, providing a unique opportunity for reconstructing Classic Maya household organization. Since 2006, she has been co-director of the Ceibal-Petexbatun Archaeological Project in Guatemala.

Upcoming AAHS Field Trips

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

Sutherland Wash Rock Art District
January 25, 2014

TRIP FULL; WAITING LIST ONLY

Tour the Sutherland Wash Rock Art District with Janine Hernbrode, leader of a multiyear recording and analysis of this huge site on the west face of the Catalina Mountains. Much of the 5–6 mile round-trip walk is on unimproved trail with little elevation gain. It is necessary to occasionally scramble over boulders to access or view some of the panels. A 4-wheel drive road leads to the trailhead.

The group is limited to 20 people, dependent on the availability of 4-wheel drive vehicles. To register, contact David McLean at mcleand43@gmail.com

Charlie Bell Well Site
February 22, 2014

TRIP FULL; WAITING LIST ONLY

A field trip to the Charlie Bell Well site will be led by Rick and Sandi Martynec. The site has more than 3,000 petroglyphs, many of which are Archaic in age. There are also artifacts, features, and trails in the canyon. The hike is approximately 1 mile, with an elevation change of 400 feet, considered a moderate hike. We will need to carpool, as we can only take 5-6 vehicles. Rick is obtaining permission with Cabeza Prieta Refuge for us to access the site.

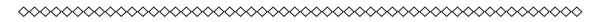
It will be a long day, 7-8 hours, so bring water and lunch. You may want to plan to spend the night in Ajo. Time and meeting location to be determined. Contact person is Chris Lange at clange3@msn.com, or 520.792.1303.

Cocoroque Butte Petroglyph Site
March 15, 2014

This site, west of Saguaro National Park, contains a marvelous

collection of petroglyphs, as well as some interesting features. Visiting the site requires walking about 2 miles and rock scrambling to view some of the rock art.

The tour is limited to 20 people, and will last for several hours. To register, contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.



Archaeology Southwest's Archaeology Café

Archaeology Southwest 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 at 6:00 p.m. Casa Vicente is located at 375 S. Stone Avenue. The café is free and open to the community. The remainder of the 2013–2014 season includes:

- Dec. 3: T. J. Ferguson, *Collaboration with Descendant Communities*
- Jan. 14: Patrick Lyons and Suzanne Eckert, *Southwestern Potters and Gender: Implications for Understanding Craft Production*
- Feb. 4: Homer Thiel and Bill Doelle, *Rio Nuevo Archaeology*
- Mar. 4: Peggy Nelson, *The Lives of People and Houses: Mimbres and Beyond*
- Apr. 8: Arthur Vokes, *Exotic Exchanges*
- May 6: Lewis Borck, *Living on the Edge (of Salado): An Examination of Life, Community, and Resistance on the Frontier of an Expansive Ideology*



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.

Current Research

Jemez Historic Site Stabilization Report: 2013 Field Season

*by Matthew J. Barbour, Jemez Historic Site
and*

Christopher Toya, Traditional Cultural Properties Project Manager

Many visitors to Jemez Historic Site remark that our ruins are among the most beautiful in the American Southwest. It is a testament to Jemez craftsmanship and the commitment between the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs and the Pueblo of Jemez to preserve them. Jemez Historic Site protects Giusewa Pueblo and San Jose de los Jemez Mission. Both were built by Jemez hands and, today, Jemez hands continue to maintain them.

Over the course of this summer's field season, which ran intermittently between May 20 and September 26, roughly \$30,000 was spent on stabilization work at Jemez Historic site. This work was conducted through a partnership between the Jemez Historic site and the Pueblo of Jemez Natural Resources Department. An all Jemez Tribal Member work crew focused on the redesign and construction of new front gate, capping the tops of the mission rooms, rebuilding and capping collapsed portions of a Giusewa Pueblo room block, and the removal of intrusive plant species throughout the site.

It is a long and laborious process. Much of the stabilization work is conducted by first removing vegetation from the treatment area. Next, the deteriorating stucco façade is chipped-away to reveal the underlying original stone and adobe walls. To these exposed walls,



Demolishing the entrance to the Jemez Historic site.

a mixture of stucco and adobe is applied and allowed to harden. The end result is a ruin, which looks like adobe, but that is actually encased in what is almost a concrete shell.

The crew that conducted the stabilization work included Curtis Vigil

(foreman), Benjamin Casiquito, Clifford Vigil, and Curtis Romero. These preservation specialists worked on the site for approximately 12 weeks, during both the catastrophic Thompson Ridge Fire and the torrential downpours of an unprecedented monsoon season. Money for the stabilization was provided by New Mexico Historic Sites and the Museum of New Mexico Foundation. Thanks to the skill of the stabilization crew and the generous funding, the site has never looked better.

However, there is still more work to be done. Delays and damages caused by this summer's storms made progress in some areas move slower than expected. Portions of the site, particularly the sixteenth century room block adjacent to the Visitor Center and the upper stories of the church, remain untreated. Plans are currently being made to address these areas next year.

The stabilization process is also not a single fix. Areas of the site treated this year will need to be re-examined and touched up within the coming years. The amount of work necessary will depend on a number of variables, including the amount of precipitation, the winter's freeze and thaw cycles, visitor traffic, and so forth. Ruin maintenance at Jemez Historic is never done. It is a continual process, but the stabilization work conducted this year was a giant leap in the right direction.

A big thank you from the Jemez Historic site and the Natural Resources Department to the stabilization crew. Curtis, Ben, Cliff, and Curtis, you did an amazing job! We cannot wait until next year.



Stabilization efforts at the Jemez Historic site.

Cornerstone

Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing
Arizona State Museum

Buy a Rug and Help a Student Finish College

Navajo and Hopi college students benefit from rug auctions held by Friends of Hubbell Trading Post NPS. The Friends of Hubbell will hold a live auction Saturday, February 22, during Arizona State Museum's Southwest Indian Art Fair – viewing from 9-11 a.m., bidding begins at 12 noon.

Sold! That familiar auction exclamation, punctuated by the sound of a gavel hitting home, is music to Frank Kohler's ears. "That means more money in support of academic scholarships for Native American college students; that's what our auctions are all about."

As treasurer and board member of Friends of Hubbell Trading Post NPS and one of many volunteer organizers of the auctions, Kohler is passionate about that part of the non-profit's mission.

Friends of Hubbell Trading Post NPS is a 501(c) (3) organization established in 1990 with a four-pronged mission: (1) to aid and promote the management of programs and objectives of the historic site; (2) to support Native American arts and crafts through a biannual Native American art auction; (3) to provide scholarships to Navajo and Hopi college students; and, (4) to increase the awareness of trading post heritage in the Southwest.

Over the past 10 years, as of January 2014, more than \$100,000 in scholarships, fed directly by fund-raising proceeds, have been awarded to approximately 50 Navajo and Hopi students, allowing them to start and continue their associate's or bachelor's degrees.



Other accomplishments are equally laudable. Auctions have returned close to \$2 million dollars to the weavers and other artists who consign items. "We make a point of encouraging young weavers to put their rugs into our auctions," says Kohler, "and when they sell, it is a strong incentive to weave more, and perpetuate the art form."

The scholarship program was established in honor of three weavers, Evelyn Curley, Mary Lee Begay, and Helen Kirk, who each spent many years demonstrating their art in

the Hubbell Trading Post visitor center in Ganado, Arizona.

To be eligible for a Hubbell scholarship, a student must:

- ♦ be an enrolled member of the Navajo or Hopi Nation;
- ♦ be attending a two or four-year college/university in the four corners region;
- ♦ have a declared major or special degree program;
- ♦ be entering his junior or senior year;
- ♦ have a 3.0 or better grade point average.

It is fitting that Arizona State Museum's Southwest Indian Art Fair has partnered with Friends of Hubbell Trading Post in support of their scholarship program. "Not only are we right here on a university campus, the missions of the museum and its art fair complement our own," says Kohler.

This is the third year Friends of Hubbell Trading Post have participated in the Southwest Indian Art Fair. "New programs take a while to get established," says Kohler. "We're hoping for a huge turnout this year. Not only are the weekend's sales supporting our scholarship program, we are also giving a portion of proceeds in

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(continued from page 11)

support of the art fair itself, to ensure its continuation, as well."

Learn more about the philanthropic work of Friends of Hubbell Trading Post NPS at <http://www.friendsofhubbell.org/>.

Better yet—stop by the auction and buy a rug!



The Annual Fort Lowell Day Celebration

Saturday, February 8 from 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Once a year, residents of the Historic Fort Lowell District invite everyone to explore this special corner town. On Saturday, February 8, 2014, from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Fort Lowell and the neighboring village of El Fuerte (The Fort) come alive in the 33rd celebration of Fort Lowell Day.

10 a.m.: Start with an Arizona Territories Vintage Baseball League game between the Bisbee Black Sox and the Tucson Sahuaros on the baseball field at Fort Lowell Park. Stay for the double header! While you're in the park, be sure to visit the Fort Lowell Museum's exhibits about the fort, the post hospital, and Geronimo and his warriors.

12–4 p.m.: Embark on the neighborhood's historic sites walking tour, which travels from Fort Lowell Park westward along Fort Lowell Road to the San Pedro Chapel, through the historic neighborhood. Explore a dozen sites, such as El Callejon, Corbett Ditch, the Old School House, and the San Pedro Chapel and its Capillita. Knowledgeable docents are stationed at every historic site. Homer Thiel will display prehistoric and historic artifacts recently unearthed in the neighborhood, and Simon Herbert, Pima County Archaeologist, will lecture on expanded exhibits planned for the park.

You'll find education and entertainment along the route lined with food booths, music, and hands-on activities. Highlights of the day include cavalry drills, a regimental band concert, Mariachis and Folklorico dancing, cowboy songs, adobe-brick making, and paper-flower making. All activities are FREE & Open to the Public. Complete schedule at www.OldFortLowellNeighborhood.org, or call 520.299.3317.

AAHS Membership Application

Membership is open to anyone interested in the prehistory and history of Arizona and the Southwest and who support the aims of the Society. Membership runs for a full year from the date of receipt, and covers all individuals living in the same household.

Monthly meetings are free and open to the public. Society field trips require membership. Members may purchase an annual JSTOR subscription to *Kiva* back issues for \$20 through the AAHS website.

Membership Categories

- ☐ \$50 **Kiva members** receive four issues of the Society's quarterly journal *Kiva* and 12 issues of *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$40 **Glyphs members** receive *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$35 **Student Kiva members** receive both *Kiva* and *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$75 **Contributing members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$120 **Supporting members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$300 **Sponsoring members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$1,000 **Lifetime members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits

Note: For memberships outside the U.S., please add \$20. AAHS does not release membership information to other organizations.

Institutional Subscriptions

For institutional subscriptions to *Kiva*, contact Maney Publishing at subscriptions@maneypublishing.com or <http://maneypublishing.com/index.php/journals/kiv>. For institutional subscriptions to *Glyphs* (\$50), contact AAHS VP for Membership at the address below.

You can join online at www.az-arch-and-hist.org, or by mailing the form below to:

Michael Diehl, VP Membership
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Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0026

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Arizona State Museum
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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 northern 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.

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