



glyphs

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

Vol. 69, No. 3

September 2018



Juniper door lintels at Aztec Ruins in northwestern New Mexico.

Next General Meeting:
September 17, 2018; 7:30 p.m.
Duval Auditorium
Banner-University Medical Center
1501 N. Campbell Ave.
Tucson, Arizona
www.az-arch-and-hist.org

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President's Message

by John G. Douglass

My father passed away this time last year after a summer-long bout of illness. I've been thinking about him as the anniversary arrives. He'd had a good, long life and was surrounded by family when he passed away at home. Dad was a World War II veteran, was a product of the GI Bill, and was proud to have studied under three future Nobel Laureates for his doctorate. He was a life-long scholar and teacher, church and scout leader, advocate for social justice, honest and open husband and father, and much more. Last summer my siblings and I were in California as much as we possibly could to be with my folks, helping Dad go through things, shopping and cooking, and taking care of errands. More importantly, we spent time together, telling stories and sharing thoughts about the past and present of family, friends, and loved ones.

As this year has progressed, the sharp edges of his passing away have dulled and it's now easier for me to fondly remember how much our extended family was together before he passed away. My Mom, my siblings, and I were together the other week to spent time together and remember my Dad, including having a picnic at the family cabin, a place my Dad loved. Being together was good.

Perhaps a bit ironically, for roughly 15 years, one of my research interests has been focused on how past groups remember passed community and family members through ritual. How were they memorialized? What activities were performed, and how did these rituals function? Can we identify who these family and community members actually were?

While I've been interested in ritual my whole career, this specific interest began back in 2003 while directing data recovery excavations of several large, complex archaeological sites sitting on a bluff overlooking Santa Monica Bay, in west Los Angeles. These sites were multi-component and consisted of what you generally find in coastal dune settings: stratified dark organic shell midden deposits containing the remains of everyday life.

Among the hundreds of features we discovered were several large pits containing numerous pieces of purposefully broken ground stone, whale bone, and other objects, some of which was burned or otherwise altered. These pit features, dating to approximately 2,000 years ago, appeared to have been used to contain items that were ritually broken in purposeful ways and then treated in specific, sequential fashions. For example, ground stone objects were broken in very specific ways, dribbled with asphaltum (naturally occurring tar used for waterproofing baskets and boats), covered in ochre, and then placed in the pit. Some pieces of ground stone were made of extremely soft materials that suggest they were not functional, but rather, were created specifically for ritual use. Similar features dating to the same approximately 2,000-year-old period were also found just down the coast from our work by colleagues, and we started collaborating about what, collectively, they represented.



My colleagues and I have interpreted these features as being part of the Mourning Ceremony, a community ritual documented to be performed by both coastal and desert tribes in southern California as late as the early twentieth century. During that time, desert and mountain groups in southern California, like the Cahuilla and Serrano, performed week-long ceremonies to mourn past community and family members. Belongings of departed members were broken and burned and, in some cases, perishable effigies of these people were created and burned during ceremonies.

Just below the bluffs from the 2,000-year-old sites we excavated in 2003, the subsequent year we excavated Mission period (for example, 1,800 years younger) features we have also interpreted as the product of Mourning Ceremony performance. Rather than being large pits that were reused year after year, these features from the Mission period were much smaller and discrete, containing ritually broken artifacts, burned food items, ochre, and other similar items found

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from 2,000 years before. These similarities suggest continuity of these native traditions over many generations. These smaller, discrete pits may signify that these ceremonies were being performed by individual families, rather than by the community as a whole. This may relate to the scattered and dissolving social network of Native Californians during the Mission period due to the arrival of colonists.

These types of ritual performances not only helped family and community members mourn and remember past members, but also bring individuals together annually. It's quite likely that related community members traveled some distance to take part in these annual activities, which helped to continue and solidify social networks and personal relationships.

In each of our own ways, family and community members have been, and will continue to be, parts of a constant cycle of birth and death. Being able to remember the good experiences of these passed members is important and vital. Family and community traditions, past and present, help us remember our elders and loved ones after they are no longer with us physically.



AAHS Lecture Series

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

Sept. 17, 2018: Ronald H. Towner, *The Forests and the Trees: Sourcing Constructino Timbers at Aztec Ruins, New Mexico*

Oct. 15, 2018: To Be Determined

glyphs: Information and articles to be included in *glyphs* must be received by the first of each month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Contact me, Emilee Mead, at emilee@desert.com, or 520.881.2244.

AAHS SUBVENTION AWARD PROGRAM

The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society (AAHS) is pleased to announce the 2018 competitive subvention award program for AAHS members. The purpose of this program is to provide money in support of the publication of digital or print books or *Kiva* journal articles that further AAHS's mission. Many sources of grant funding do not support publication costs. Through this program, AAHS can provide occasional funding to prevent this barrier to the sharing of research results. This year, awards up to \$5,000 will be considered.

Award criteria:

- ♦ The AAHS Publications Committee will review applications submitted by authors or editors. Applications are eligible for review after the manuscript has been accepted for publication by a press or the journal editor "as is" or "with revisions."
- ♦ The application will include a cover letter that describes the purpose of the subvention, the audience for the book or article, how publication of the manuscript is in keeping with the AAHS's mission, and the availability of other sources of funding for publication. Supporting materials shall include: (1) an abstract for the book or article; (2) a copy of the Table of Contents (if relevant); and (3) a copy of the letter from the press or journal editor indicating their terms for accepting the manuscript. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- ♦ The monetary award will not be paid until AAHS has been notified that the book or article has been finally accepted by the press or journal editor and will be paid directly to the publisher.
- ♦ The financial support of AAHS will be noted in the volume/article acknowledgments and on the copyright page of book publications.

To join AAHS, please visit: <http://www.az-arch-and-hist.org/home-page-members-text/membership/>.

The deadline for receipt of submissions is September 10, 2018 for consideration by the end of October. Applications should be emailed to Sarah Herr at sherr@desert.com.

September 17: Topic of the General Meeting

The Forests and the Trees: Sourcing Construction Timbers at Aztec Ruins, New Mexico

Ronald H. Towner
*Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research
University of Arizona*

Obtaining materials from distant landscapes is a hallmark of the Chacoan world. For great houses in Chaco Canyon, such as Pueblo Bonito and Chetro Ketl, flaked stone, ceramics, and other raw materials were unavailable locally. The movement of materials into Chaco Canyon, and around the Chacoan sphere, has fascinated archaeologists for decades. Large construction timbers, in particular, have been subject to intense research because so few trees grow in or near the canyon today. At the descendent Chacoan center of Aztec Ruins on the Animas River in northwestern New Mexico, however, some wood resources, including pinyon pine and juniper, were available locally. Other species that only grow at higher elevations, including ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, and spruce, still must have been imported from mountain ranges at least 20 km distant. Previous studies have used a variety of techniques to source construction timbers to areas more than 50 km distant from Chaco Canyon itself, but the methods are typically time consuming and expensive.



Here I report on our research about possible timber sources used in the Aztec great houses using tree-ring width-based sourcing

methods. To date, we have sourced more than 300 beams, including archaeological materials sampled 100 years ago by Earl Morris, which were among the first to be analyzed at the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research. We also now have comparable data for great houses both in and outside the canyon and for different time periods. Our results document surprisingly distant timber sources and a dynamic pattern of shifting resource utilization between the twelfth and thirteenth centuries at Aztec East and West Ruins.

Speaker Ronald H. Towner received his Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in 1997. He is an archaeologist and dendrochronologist with an interest in human-environmental interactions and past wood use behaviors. Much of his career has revolved around the Early Navajo occupation of northwestern New Mexico, but his interest in cultural patterns of wood use is the main thread of all his research. This collaborative effort, with Chris Guiterman and Jeff Dean, is the first attempt to delineate wood procurement patterns at the Aztec great houses. The work was partially funded by the Western National Parks Association.

AAHS FALL BOOK SALE OCTOBER 12-13, 2018

The AAHS Used Book Sale to benefit the Arizona State Museum library will be held Friday, October 12 (11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.) and Saturday October 13 (10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.). The sale will take place in the lobby of the Arizona State Museum. We have received a large collection of archaeological gray literature from the estate of Lex Lindsay as well as a large number of books on Mexican Art from another donor. Books are very reasonably priced, with many at \$1 or \$2.

If you are willing and able to help set up the book sale at 8:00 a.m. on October 12 or take down the sale at 3:00 p.m. on October 13 please contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com. Lots of strong backs make easy work!

Upcoming AAHS Field Trips

*Participation in field trips is limited to members of AAHS.
There is generally a 20-person limit on field trips, so sign up early.*

University of Arizona Tree Ring Laboratory Saturday, September 22, 2018; 10:00 a.m.

Join us for a tour of the world's first laboratory dedicated to dendrochronology, or tree-ring science. Learn how dendrochronology solved the secrets of the southwest by dating pueblo sites in 1929. What can trees tell us about fire history? What can we learn about past societies from trees? Can trees help us develop strategies for dealing with climate change? Join us as we share the science stories behind these questions and more will be found when you explore the exciting world of tree-ring science.



Dr. Jeff Dean will give a special talk, "The First Century of Southwestern Dendroarchaeology," at 10:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Pamela Pelletier, pamela@email.arizona.edu.

Rock Art of the Silver Creek Area of Arizona October 20-21, 2018

This trip is still tentative pending approval from relevant land managers.

A distinctive and intriguing style of rock art, known as Palavayu Linear Style, is found around Silver Creek in northeast Arizona between Snowflake and Woodruff. *Palavayu*, a Hopi term meaning "red river," is a name applied to several style designations of a kind of rock art that is only found in the middle portion of the lower Little Colorado River area.

Ghostly figures of beings with rabbit sticks, reptiles, deer, birds, snakes, owls, a birthing scene, anthropomorphs with "antennae," and numerous other images are located in canyons tributary to Silver Creek and the Little Colorado River. This style of rock art is

characterized by beings with elongated bodies, elaborate head attachments, hatchure-filled bodies, and triangular heads. This field trip will take participants to several panels in the 5 Mile Wash and Ten Mile Wash drainages, to a birthing panel south of Woodruff, and some images along the Little Colorado River.



Participants should be in good physical condition and able to hike over rocky and uneven terrain. Petroglyph panels are located along cliff walls and in drainages. Hiking distances will be 1–2 miles for each area visited. In some areas, trekking poles will be a hindrance.

The field trip will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday October 20 and continue until about noon on Sunday, October 21. Meeting place to be determined. If you are interested in participating, contact Kirk Astroth at kirkastroth@gmail.com. More information will be provided as it becomes available. The trip is limited to 20 people.



Southern Southwest Archaeological Conference

Pueblo Grande Museum

January 11–12, 2019

The Southern Southwest Archaeological Conference (SSWAC) is a new conference aimed at highlighting current archaeological research in the southern Southwest United States and Northwest Mexico. The goal is to hold this conference every other year, each time in a different location around the region. This will allow participants to explore the history of various localities through site visits and other activities while also showcasing new and innovative research from throughout the region. In addition to sharing research, goals for the conference include building community and facilitating collaboration among those interested in the archaeology of the region. Visit <https://sswac.org/sswac/> for more information.

Cornerstone

Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing
Arizona State Museum

The Western National Parks Association Celebrates 80 Years of Outstanding Service

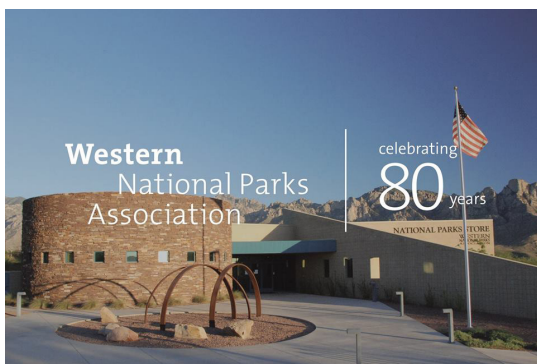
*A note of congratulations and appreciation from Raymond H. Thompson
Director Emeritus, Arizona State Museum*

When Congress passed the American Antiquities Act in 1906, it not only provided protection for archaeological remains on federal land, but also gave the President authority to establish national monuments. President Theodore Roosevelt and his successors used that authority so enthusiastically and so frequently that by the middle of the Great Depression, 27 national monuments were scattered throughout the Southwest, under the supervision of Frank “Boss” Pinkley, the Custodian at Case Grande Ruins, the first national monument established by Congress in 1892.

Pinkley was nearing retirement and his younger colleagues, concerned about the loss of his leadership and the lack of interpretive material to inform monument visitors, convinced him, in 1938, to allow them to create what the National Park Service called a “cooperating association” to meet these needs—the independent, non-profit Southwest Monuments Association (SWMA). Thirty-four individuals contributed \$234.50, not a princely sum in today’s world, but a significant amount of money during the Depression. The first publication, *A Guide to the Southwest National Monuments*, was issued in 1938. An updated version is still in print!

The early leaders of SWMA, such as Dale King, Luis Gastelum, and Earl Jackson, were hardworking, dedicated, visionary, resourceful, ingenious, and successful. For example, when Wupatki National Monument received federal Civil Works Administration (CWA) funds to repair the pueblo, additional money was needed for a cook shack. Harold S. Colton, Director of the Museum of Northern Arizona (this year celebrating the 90th anniversary of its founding in 1928), contributed \$75 to the cause.

When CWA funds were exhausted and the cook shack was no longer needed except for occasional storage, Colton suggested that the salvaged but still valuable lumber be used in a way that would best benefit the monument. It was given to the local Navajos, with the understanding that they would provide a textile in return. In due time, a blanket was produced, put up for sale, and miraculously sold for \$75, which was donated right back to SWMA. To make a long story short, SWMA was enormously successful, ultimately expanding its assistance to parks and monuments



throughout the western states and evolving into the Western National Parks Association (WNPA).

The Arizona State Museum (ASM) is proud of its long and productive association with WNPA. Some of the founders were students of ASM's first director, Byron Cummings. One of them, legendary southwestern archaeologist Emil W. Haury, who succeeded Cummings as the ASM director, was a founding and long-serving member of the SWMA/WNPA board. In 1950, SWMA spearheaded the publication of *For the Dean*, a volume of essays by friends and students of Cummings, presented to him on his 89th birthday. Last September, ASM was honored with the WNPA Edward B. Danson Award, which marked the 125th anniversary of its founding in 1893.

Today, Tucson-based WNPA, under the capable leadership of James E. Cook, provides a much-needed lifeline to 71 national parks and monuments in 12 western states. That modest initial investment of \$234.50 has been skillfully parlayed into millions of dollars that has helped national parks and monuments in the West share the nation's heritage with the public, fulfilling the original goal of that handful of young park service employees who took action 80 years ago in 1938.

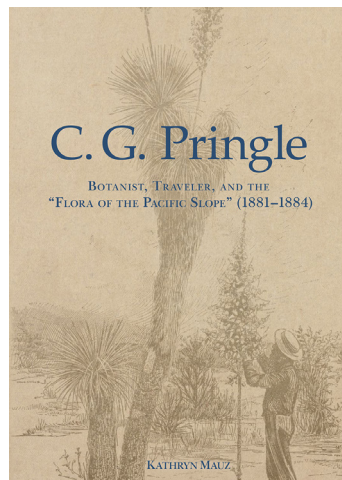
Long live WNPA!

Recently Published!

C. G. Pringle: Botanist, Traveler, and the "Flora of the Pacific Slope" (1881-1884)

by Kathryn Mauz

As one of the premier plant collectors in North America during the late nineteenth century, the work of Cyrus Guernsey Pringle (1838–1911) was, and remains, outstanding. His illustrious career grew over the span of a decade from his earlier work in horticulture. This book first considers those years, including Pringle's contributions to three scientific efforts of national scope – the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, the 1880 census of American forests, and the Jesup Collection of North American Woods.



From that point forward, the volume is devoted to documenting the travels and discoveries Pringle made in the western United States and northwestern Mexico—the Pacific Slope—between 1881 and 1884. Complementing the story are appendices listing the plant species and specimens that Pringle collected, along with a series of historical maps showing the routes and localities that he visited.

Volume is available from the New York Botanical Garden Press.



20th Biennial Mogollon Archaeology Conference

Save the Date

New Mexico State University will host the 20th Biennial Mogollon Archaeology Conference October 11-13, 2018, in Las Cruces. Visit the conference website at: www.lonjulnet/mog2018/.

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. If you are joining as a household, please list all members of the household. Monthly meetings are free and open to the public. Society field trips require membership.

Membership Categories

- ☐ \$60 **Kiva members** receive four issues of the Society's quarterly journal *Kiva* and 12 issues of *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$45 **Glyphs members** receive *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$35 **Student Kiva members** receive both *Kiva* and *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$100 **Contributing members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$150 **Supporting members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$300 **Sponsoring members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$1,500 **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.

I wish to receive *Glyphs* by (circle your choice): Email Mail Both

I am interested in volunteering in AAHS activities: Yes Not at this time

Institutional Subscriptions

University libraries, public libraries, museums, and other institutions that wish to subscribe to *Kiva* must do so through the publisher, Taylor & Francis at tandfonline.com. For institutional subscriptions to *Glyphs* (\$100), 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:

Barbara Montgomery, VP Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0026

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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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