

glyphs

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

Vol. 74, No. 11

May 2024



Next General Meeting:

May 20, 2024

7:00 pm (MST)

University of Arizona
Environmental and Natural
Resources Building 2, Room 107
Agnes Nelms Haury Lecture Hall
1064 E. Lowell Street
Tucson, Arizona

and

AAHS@Home (Zoom webinar)

aahs1916.org

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President's Message

by Rich Lange, President

“April showers bring May flowers” is a well-known saying that is perhaps a month off in the U.S. desert Southwest and Northern Mexico. Those of us who live in this region were hoping for the early and mid-winter storms that often create abundant blooms in the desert in the early spring. The wetter winter finally arrived over wide swaths of our U.S. Southwest region in the late winter and early spring. The result was, and still is, a profusion of wildflowers that can be seen along the roads and in the desert if you have the chance to be driving or hiking around. Seemingly typical of these patterns, times of warmer, drier conditions are still alternating with colder and wetter periods. We who are interested in and study and try to understand the past can develop a deeper appreciation for the early communities and peoples who had to plan for the annual planting, growing, and harvest seasons without benefits of satellite imagery and many weather models that help us predict patterns in the modern world (or maybe at least most of the time!).



It's a special place we live in, and we are lucky to have many choices for learning about that place and history. The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society (AAHS), among many similar organizations in the region, offers a variety of opportunities for learning about and experiencing this region—lectures, workshops, field trips, and publications. Further, although we overlap with those others in many offerings, each organization also does many things the others do not do. In the case of AAHS, it is the support for production of our journal, *KIVA*. I hope you can take advantage of some of these opportunities, and we appreciate your loyalty to AAHS. I'll understand, though, if you also sample offerings from the other organizations. At times, it seems that if one signed up for all the

lectures and field trips out there, one could be busy nearly every day of the month!

It's great to be able to be a "consumer" of all these opportunities, and again, AAHS and I thank you for joining us for learning and adventure, and, to use one of the currently most over-used terms, we "appreciate" your participation. However, please remember that most of the organizations dedicated to the same interests as AAHS are not businesses – there is no staff, no stand-alone buildings. These organizations rise and fall on the enthusiasm (or lack thereof!) on the part of their members.

You can passively consume, and that is great support for all we do, but it is also important that members of such organizations step up continuously to get involved in day-to-day functions of AAHS (well, more like month-to-month, but sometimes it can be day-to-day for short bursts of time – read almost frantic!). Please join us and share in our mission and vision, and step up when you can to lead us into the future.



AAHS Lecture Series

Lectures are offered in a hybrid format, presented in-person at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Building ENR2, Agnese Nelms Haury Lecture Hall, Room 107, and simultaneously through Zoom.

- May 20, 2024: Maren P. Hopkins and Kelsey E. Hanson, *Los Barros de Juan Quezada: Land Use and Composition*
- June 17, 2024: TBD (Zoom only; no in-person lecture)
- July 15, 2024: Kellam J. Throgmorton, *TBD* (Zoom only; no in-person lecture)
- Aug. 2024: No lecture (Pecos Conference)
- Sept. 16, 2024: Suzanne Eckert, *TBD*
- Oct. 21, 2024: Richard Ahlstrom, *TBD*
- Nov. 18, 2024: *TBD*
- Dec. 16, 2024: Chuck Adams, *TBD* (Zoom only; no in-person lecture)

May 20: Topic of the General Meeting

Los Barros de Juan Quezada: Land Use and Composition

Maren P. Hopkins and Kelsey E. Hanson

Juan Quezada is a well-known ceramicist from the village of Mata Ortiz, Chihuahua, Mexico, who spent his lifetime studying the rocks and minerals near his home. While Mr. Quezada's contribution to the internationally renowned Mata Ortiz pottery tradition is well established, his knowledge of the physical environment remains an understudied aspect of his life's work. In an effort to highlight this important component of Juan Quezada's legacy, we documented various clay sources near Mata Ortiz and studied them compositionally using techniques common in archaeology, including neutron activation analysis (NAA), x-ray fluorescence (XRF), x-ray diffraction (XRD), and petrography. As the project progressed, the story of Juan Quezada's clays evolved into a rich narrative of personal and shared experiences, history, land tenure, geology, toponomy, and more. Juan Quezada's story brought the land to life. The compositional component of the project led to a new understanding of identity through the materialization of unique geological signatures expressed in each clay in terms of elements, minerals, and particles that are inherently tied to Mata Ortiz pots found on people's shelves and mantles worldwide.



This lecture is free and open to the public, but for Zoom attendance, you must pre-register at: https://bit.ly/2024MAYHopkinsHanson_REG



Speaker Maren P. Hopkins is a managing member of Anthropological Research, LLC. She has worked for 23 years as an archaeologist and ethnographer and has been part of numerous projects across the U.S Southwest and Mexico of all scopes and scales. She specializes in collaborative and place-based research to understand history, traditions, land use practices, and personal and community perspectives. Ms. Hopkins is also a Research Associate with the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona, where she works on similar types of ethnographic research. Ms. Hopkins lived in Mata Ortiz during her youth and learned to make pottery from Juan Quezada. She has remained lifelong friends with the Quezada family.



Speaker Kelsey E. Hanson is a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona, where she specializes in the archaeology of the U.S. Southwest. Her work operates at the intersections of anthropological archaeology, conservation science, and community-centered scholarship. Ms. Hanson's dissertation research is dedicated to reconstructing traditions of paint technology, communities of practice, and early governance in the Chaco World and has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Smithsonian Institution, P.E.O. International, the Getty Foundation, and others.

Suggested Reading:

Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

1994 The Pottery and Potters of Mata Ortiz, Chihuahua. *Kiva* 60(1).

O'Connor, Richard D., and Walter P. Parks

2023 *They Called It Pearson: The History of Mata Ortiz and the Casas Grandes Valley*. Parks O'Connor Publishing, San Diego and Riverside, California.

Parks, Walter P.

1993 *The Miracle of Mata Ortiz: Juan Quezada and the Potters of Northern Chihuahua*. The Coulter Press, Riverside, California.

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.

UPCOMING AAHS FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are only available to current AAHS members and are limited to 20 people unless otherwise noted. For more information or to sign up, email aahs1916@gmail.com.

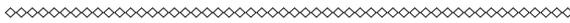
Flagstaff, Arizona June 8–9, 2024

Peter Pillis, forest archeologist for the Coconino National Forest, will lead a two-day trip to sites in the Flagstaff area. Day 1 will include Ridge Ruin, Turkey Hill, and Elden Pueblo. Day 2 will require a high clearance vehicle. AAHS can help organize car pooling for those who do not have a high-clearance vehicle.



Bear's Ear, September 2024 Perry Mesa, October 2024

Planning is in progress for tentative trips to Bear's Ears (September 2024) and Perry Mesa (October 2024).



2024 RESEARCH AND TRAVEL GRANT AWARDS

From a very large and competitive field, we were very pleased to be able to grant more than \$10,000 in Research and Travel Grants to 11 individuals from seven different institutions. These included several institutions that have never previously applied for funding, broadening our scope of support.

These grants are vital, particularly for graduate students to attend conferences where their research can be exposed and they can interact with professionals in the field.

To see a complete list of this year's grantees visit "2024 Research and Travel Grants" on the AAHS website. AAHS accepts applications for grants each year between January 1 and February 15. Application details are listed on our website.

2024 ORRELL-MARTIN GRANT AWARDED FOR HOPI POTTERY PROJECT

Congratulations to Kelley Hayes-Gilpin and her colleagues. Her proposal, *1500 Years of Hopi Pottery: Planning for Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Synthesis*, received the \$5,000 Orrell-Martin Award for 2024. This competitive award is given to projects that significantly advance current understanding of the anthropology of the Southwest.

Hayes-Gilpin's proposal will support the initial phases of a Digital Humanities Advancement Grants Level III grant proposal entitled *Refinement, Analysis, and Visualization of Hopi Yellow Ware Typology, Combining Machine Learning, Archaeological Methods, and Hopi Cultural History*. Specifically, AAHS funding will allow a Hopi advisory team meeting to discuss and refine the project's potential benefits to Hopi community members, including potters, archaeologists, and the tribal museum/learning center planning team. In addition to the Hopi participants, non-Hopi experts will participate at their own cost.

In part, the abstract reads:

Hopi pottery attests to 1500 years of unbroken tradition, innovation, and achievement. Thousands of Ancestral Hopi pottery vessels languish in museum collections and are not yet available for study by Hopi artists and archaeologists, nor the general public. More importantly, museums rarely know how their often poorly documented legacy collections can be important to descendant communities and researchers. In collaboration with the Hopi Tribe and Hopivewat Learning Center, our Northern Arizona University research team will demonstrate the application of machine learning to pattern recognition and chronological sequencing of painted Hopi Yellow Ware pottery dating between AD 1300 and 1700.

We will interpret these design sequences in relevant cultural contexts including oral history and revivals and reinterpretations of ancient pottery traditions by historic and contemporary Hopi and Hopi-Tewa potters.

We look forward to hearing the results of this initial phase.

Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society Newsflash!

AAHS has a new web address.
Check out the newly designed site at AAHS1916.org.

Current Research

Lessons from a Pot: How Corrugated Vessels Can Tell Us about Identity in the Prehispanic Mogollon U.S. Southwest

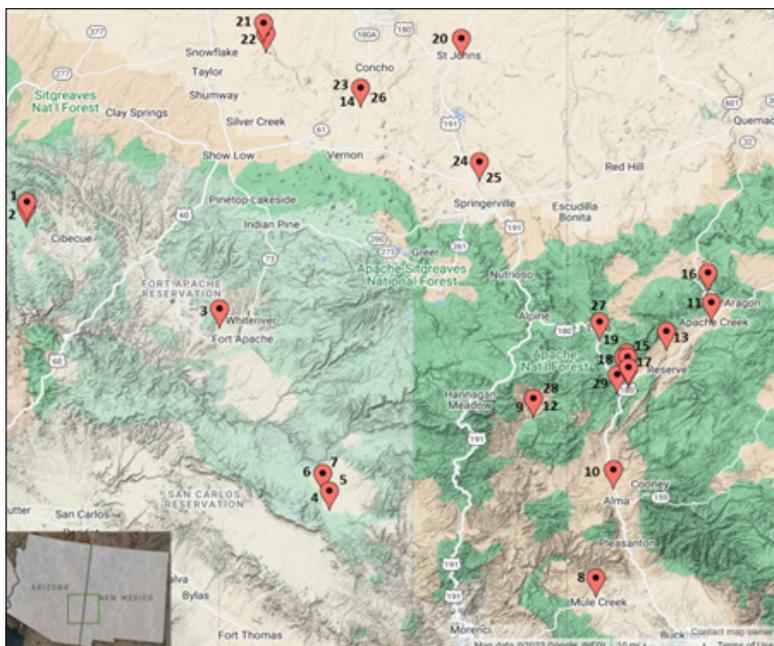
*Rebecca Harkness
University of Arizona*

Between 1250 and 1450 CE, the cultural landscape of the present day U.S. Southwest was transformed significantly, as diverse communities in northeastern Arizona migrated from their homelands after decades of environmental instability into southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. These areas had long-established local populations, but the migrants likely had previous contact through smaller-scale migrations. These large-scale migrations led to a period in which people from diverse places interacted and shared their traditions, which led to new inclusive cultural practices seen in the archaeological record through objects such as pottery and architecture. Corrugated ceramics were used across the U.S. Southwest and were made as jars and bowls in various styles of corrugation and decorative aspects. Given the complexity of corrugated wares, their widespread use, and the visibility of the designs, *I suggest that people used the decorated forms of these corrugated wares to express and negotiate group identity in new multicultural communities across southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico after people migrated.*

Corrugated ceramics are pots made by coiling clay and leaving those coils exposed. The coils may be left plain or be indented using a tool or figure. analyzes the decorative aspects, such as patterned indentations, which create easily visible designs across the vessel.

Corrugated ceramics are an excellent category of objects to examine for identity on various levels because they encompass traditions passed down through generations and vary widely. The

This work was partially supported by a 2023 Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society Research Grant.



Region of study, with archaeological sites included in my sample.

data needed to investigate whether potting communities combined or maintained separate spheres of practice can be obtained by analyzing whole vessels for 25 attributes across 29 archaeological sites in the Mogollon. The knowledge of how to make a corrugated vessel creates enough similarity in vessels made by the same potting community. Designs, like diamonds or line patterns, added to the vessels can signal larger concepts shared across multiple communities to community members.

When I look at a pot, I see the story of how it was made, from the fingerprints of the woman who created it to how it was fired and used. Each step of making a vessel the potter goes through leaves evidence of the creator's community and potters from whom they learned. The coil's thickness could be from how their grandmother first took her hands to help her roll the piece of clay into a thin rope, and the direction and depth of indentations could be from how her

(continued on page 10)

(continued from page 11)

mother taught her. **In other words, I am analyzing parts of the pot to learn how the potter learned to make a pot.**

This research addresses a period of flux in the U.S. Southwest by analyzing corrugated ceramics to look at the negotiation of identity in newly formed multicultural communities before and after migration. I seek to understand the extent of variation in attributes that indicate various identities. I will specifically examine the extent to which utilitarian ceramics are embellished, including what forms and techniques were used.

So far, I have examined over fifty vessels, and some of the trends that I have seen include the majority of indentations on vessels being made using a tool. Thus far, indentations are the most common way to create designs. This is interesting as even some painted vessels, like McDonald corrugated, have designs made first with indentations and then the signature, while kaolin paint is painted over the indented areas. I look forward to more lessons from these vessels and piecing together their lives in the past.



Corrugated ceramic types included in the study: (a) Clapboard Corrugated (AD 1050–1130); (b) McDonald Corrugated (AD 1100–1300); (c) Incised Corrugated (AD 1050–1250); (d) Tularosa Fillet Rim (AD 1100–1300); (e) Indented Corrugated (AD 1050–1250); (f) Semi-obiterated Corrugated (AD 1200–1450); (g) Zoned Corrugated (AD 1100–1300); (h) Patterned Corrugated (AD 1100–1300). All ceramic images from the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies Pottery Typology Project (<https://ceramics.nmarchaeology.org/>).



A Salado painted vessel with neck corrugations from Grasshopper Pueblo (A-34967) at the Arizona State Museum, was used to demonstrate how a rollout works for analyzing design elements, in sections, on a complicated vessel. Due to the asymmetry of the vessel, there is a wave to the image, but it captures all the pertinent details necessary for analysis. This particular vessel is unusual because it combines Salado polychrome slipped and painted register as well as a register with indented corrugation rather than painting over the corrugations as with McDonald and Cibecue painted corrugated vessels.



Old Pueblo Archaeology Educational Programs

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center offers speakers to give presentations on various topics for educators and other adults, as well as for children, upon demand.

Examples of topics include:

- ◆ Ancient Native American Pottery of Southern Arizona
- ◆ The Antiquity of Irrigation in the Southwest
- ◆ Archaeology and Cultures of Arizona
- ◆ Archaeology and You: Preserving the Past for the Future
- ◆ Modern and Historical O'odham Culture
- ◆ Arts and Culture of Ancient Southern Arizona Hohokam Indians
- ◆ Hohokam and Mimbres Art and Ideology
- ◆ Set in Stone but Not in Meaning: Southwestern Indian Rock Art
- ◆ Arrowhead Making and Flintknapping Workshop
- ◆ Traditional Pottery Making Working

To schedule a speaker on these or other Southwestern archaeology, history, and culture topics your organization might like to hear about, contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at 520.798.1201.

Cornerstone

*Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing
Arizona State Museum*

FROM THE ASM LIBRARY



Thank You, AAHS!

Great thanks for holding the biannual used book sales on our behalf. Proceeds enable the ASM library to keep its scanning and computer equipment up to date and in working order, purchase archival materials such as sleeves and boxes, and hire work-study students.

We acknowledge that these fundraisers require year-round, dusty, and back-breaking work, and we are grateful to the dozens of volunteers who take on the responsibilities. We extend our deep and sincere gratitude to Book Sale Coordinator Katherine Cerino, to the members of the AAHS board, and to all AAHS members and volunteers!



ASM's Library Catalog is More Searchable and Accessible Than Ever

Head Librarian and Archivist Molly Stothert-Maurer (left) is excited to announce that the Arizona State Museum's library catalog has been migrated to, and merged with, the UA Main Library's catalog.

This means that the ASM library will experience much better visibility and reach new users when its holdings are displayed in the Main Library's search.

Users anywhere in the world can now search more resources all in one place, including many other partner libraries such as the Law Library, Poetry Center, Steward Observatory, Worlds of Words, Desert Laboratory, and the Center for Creative Photography.

Scan the QR code to search now!



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Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
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University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 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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