



# glyphs

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

Vol. 75, No. 5

November 2024



Camp Naco, Naco, Arizona

## Next General Meeting:

Zoom Only

November 18, 2024

7:00 pm (MST)

AAHS@Home (Zoom webinar)

[aahs1916.org](http://aahs1916.org)

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## President's Message

*by Rich Lange, President*

It is clear to me that AAHS and similar organizations are at a crossroads. That image implies a choice of this way or that way, which is not exactly what I see. What I see is more a choice of one or more detours or options – one way is bumpier and shorter, but has a good restaurant, a gas station, and restrooms. Another way is smoother, but much longer and with no services. Yet another way is also smoother and longer, but much more scenic, with a great overlook!

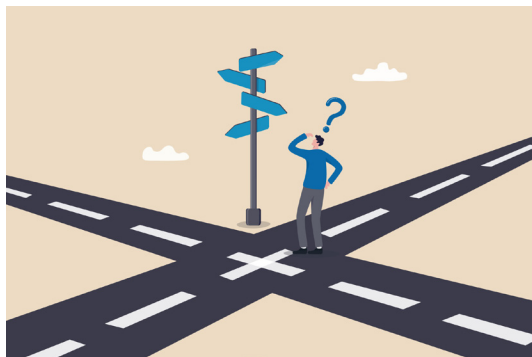
There is no one “right” choice; all would take me to where I want to go. Here, however, is where this scenario no longer fits the problem – there are certainly choices and decisions to be made, and specifically here, the end goal is not entirely clear or knowable – other than to survive.

Back to reality – AAHS is, again, like many others (meaning this is not unique to us), facing stagnant or declining membership. Who we (AAHS) are reflects choices and decisions made in the past, by which I think I mean decades past. More recent events (e.g., the pandemic) and responses or decisions have changed who we are and suggested new ways to do things (mostly related to technologies) that have also changed what we have become – who we are or what we could aspire to be.

The more public aspects of “what we are” involved in-person meetings (board meetings and public lectures [open to the general public]) and field trip opportunities (limited to members). Occasionally there were classes and fieldwork opportunities on specific projects. Most of these same things were also offered by similar organizations and still are. In those instances, we were generally providing opportunities (i.e., membership benefits) to the local community (Tucson and southern Arizona).

AAHS has, in ways, expanded its audience (but NOT necessarily its membership) by offering lectures in-person, hybrid (that is, in-person and online), and by recording them and posting to widely

accessible media. We have a website that announces upcoming events, links viewers to past lectures, and has a wide variety of other information. On the one hand, accessible information like this reaches a wide audience and allows the posting



of more and more detailed information than a newsletter can handle. On the other hand, this tends to negate the membership benefit of a monthly newsletter – in-print or electronically.

Less obvious to the general public are things that AAHS does and has done for quite awhile – some are unique to AAHS, while others are done in similar ways by similar organizations. Our lectures and our field trips are, by definition, “ours” and unique to us (planned and organized, mostly for members, etc). We have a newsletter (*Glyphs*) that previews upcoming lectures, lecturers, and field trips; announces upcoming conferences or events; and reports on AAHS business items, such as upcoming elections and candidates, awards, and bylaws and budgets. AAHS is the publisher of a highly respected quarterly journal of Southwestern U.S./northern Mexico anthropology, archaeology, and history – *Kiva* – known around the world.

AAHS has an awards program with winners announced at the annual Pecos Conference to recognize our colleagues and supporters for their assistance, participation, and leadership in the group and promotion of our interests; collaboration with other groups and entities; expanding our knowledge of and understanding about particular areas or time periods; and behind-the-scenes support of programs, projects, and institutions and agencies.

Through bequests, donations, and fundraising opportunities, AAHS has developed funding for research and travel grants to assist students, young professionals, and colleagues to attend conferences,

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to pay for particular analyses, or to publish results of research and study. AAHS continues to host used book sales, often several times each year, with proceeds going to support acquisitions and personnel in the Arizona State Museum Library. Since their inception, such grants and support have amounted to tens of thousands of dollars.

All of these things we do involve a dedicated group who serve as officers, lead organizers, or members of the many and various committees. The pool of interested persons seems to be declining, however, despite the fact that our public offerings (i.e., online presence) can register hundreds of visits. It is great to see hundreds of visits to a particular video or as lecture attendees, but we need to determine how to convert these perhaps casual interests into committed members. As an attendee of an online lecture or viewer of online video offerings, we appreciate your interest, but we also need to get to know you and count on you to become involved with the organization more deeply or with more appreciation for the need to support the less obvious things we do.

What does AAHS offer? What are membership benefits as opposed to benefits to the general public? What does a membership mean for AAHS? What does an AAHS membership offer an individual? Think about the programs and things we do – which of those should be continued? How do we ensure those can be continued? What things are unique to AAHS? What things could be potentially shared with other organizations? What other things could we do or aspire to do?

Mull these over, and hopefully take a step to get involved! AAHS needs your ideas, your commitment, and your energy! Join today! If you are already a member, get a friend or family member to join! Finally, when the Nominations Committee or other committees put out calls for help, just say YES! Get involved! Thank-you!

### **Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society Newsflash!**

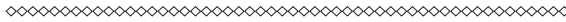
AAHS has a new web address.  
Check out the newly designed site at [AAHS1916.org](http://AAHS1916.org).

## 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.

**NOTE: The December 2024 lecture will be via Zoom only.**

- Nov. 18, 2024: Brooks Jeffery and Becky Orozco, *Preserving Place & Empowering Community: The Past, Present, and Future of Camp Naco*
- Dec. 16, 2024: Chuck Adams, *TBD*
- Feb. 17, 2025: Maren Hopkins and Kelsey Hanson, *Los Barros de Juan Quezada: Land Use and Composition*



## AAHS Used Book Sales Book Donations Once Again Accepted

Another successful Used Book Sale is in the books with more than \$3,000 raised for the ASM library. Thanks to the generosity of Desert Archaeology, Inc., we now have a place to store our inventory of books and to process new book donations.

We plan to be on the lawn in front of ASM during the March 15–16 Festival of Books.

These sales could not happen without an incredibly dedicated bunch of folks who endured the 100-degree heat to set up, tear down, and sell books! Thanks to Mary Graham, Chris Sugnet, Wally Sugnet, Harlow Sires, John Cerino, Stan Ponczek, Andy Christenson, Paul Minnis, Pat Gilman, Noah Place, Fran Maiuri, Caroline Kingsley, Bill Gillespie, Lynn Ratener, Elizabeth Burt, Jim Bender, Madelyn Cook, Dave Wallace, Molly Stohert-Mauer, and Rich Lange.

If you are interested in donating books, please contact Katherine Cerino, [kcerino@gmail.com](mailto:kcerino@gmail.com).

## November 18: Topic of the General Meeting

### *Preserving Place & Empowering Community: The Past, Present, and Future of Camp Naco*

*R. Brooks Jeffery and Rebecca Orozco*

Camp Naco is a cornerstone of Buffalo Soldier history in Arizona and represents the proud tradition of Black military regiments after the Civil War. The Camp's 17-acre site and 100+ year-old adobe buildings sit just 600 yards north of the U.S.-Mexico border in the community of Naco, Arizona, and reside on the ancestral lands of the Chiricahua Apache. In 2022, the



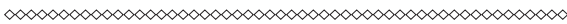
City of Bisbee and the Naco Heritage Alliance received \$8.1 million in funding support, initiating a 4-year-long journey to: (1) preserve and rehabilitate the site's 20 buildings and open spaces; (2) develop place-based programming to reactivate the site by interpreting its diverse cultural landscape and addressing community needs; and (3) build organizational capacity to successfully sustain Camp Naco's mission into the future. This presentation will outline the diverse histories of the Camp Naco site, the tireless efforts to preserve its buildings, and the future vision to reactivate Camp Naco as a destination to honor its past while addressing contemporary needs in the border community of Naco, Arizona.

***This lecture is free.***

***No registration is required if you are planning to attend in person (see cover).  
The lecture will also be offered via Zoom, also free. However, for Zoom, you must  
pre-register [HERE](#).***

*Co-speaker R. Brooks Jeffery is a heritage conservation consultant serving as Startup Executive Director of the Naco Heritage Alliance. He is a Professor Emeritus of Architecture at the University of Arizona, where he had a 35-year-long career as a teacher, scholar, and administrator advancing heritage conservation as part of a comprehensive ethic of environmental, cultural, and economic sustainability in places throughout the world.*

*Co-speaker Rebecca Orozco is a third-generation resident of the border in Arizona. She recently retired from Cochise College and the University of Arizona as a history and anthropology instructor. In 2021, she was named Faculty Emeritus for Cochise College. She helped develop a cross-border studies program at Cochise College and the Center for Lifelong Learning and continues to offer non-credit history and travel programs. For the past 22 years, Ms. Orozco has been working to save historic Camp Naco. She discovered the camp while working to develop cross-border programs for Elderhostel, an educational travel program for seniors. The abandoned adobe fort set off a quest to discover the history and then to preserve the Mexican Revolutionary War-era camp built to stop the conflict from spilling across the border. After arson fires destroyed five buildings in 2006, she helped transfer the property first to Huachuca City and then to Bisbee. The Naco Heritage Alliance was formed in 2008 and under their work, a Brownfields grant of \$400,000 was secured to mitigate the asbestos from the Camp. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2012 and named one of the Eleven Most Endangered Historic Places in 2022.*



## **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. Examples of topics include:

- ◆ Archaeology and Cultures of Arizona
- ◆ Archaeology and You: Preserving the Past for the Future
- ◆ Arts and Culture of Ancient Southern Arizona Hohokam Indians
- ◆ 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.

### *How Old is Pre-Clovis?*

*James C. Hartley, MA, RPA*

For nearly the last century, archaeologists have known that the first peoples of the New World have been present since the terminal Pleistocene. The oldest reliably dated archaeological remains in the New World are Clovis artifacts, named for the town of Clovis, New Mexico, near where they were first found (Stanford 2005). These artifacts – found across North America and often with fossils of the Pleistocene megafauna – typically date between 13,400 and 12,800 CALYBP, with more conservative dates between 13,050 and 12,750 CALYBP (Stanford 2005; Waters et al. 2020). Among other tools, Clovis artifacts include lanceolate stone spear points with a flat/concave base and a flute on either face extending to halfway from base to tip (Stanford 2005).

Since the discovery of Clovis, many pre-Clovis archaeological sites (before 13,400 CALYBP) have also been found across the Americas. Some well-known pre-Clovis sites include Paisley Caves (human coprolite site in Oregon, roughly 14,300 CALYBP) (Gilbert et al. 2008); Debra L. Friedkin (lithic site in Texas, roughly 15,500 CALYBP) (Waters et al. 2011); Meadowcroft Rockshelter (lithic site in Pennsylvania, roughly 19,000 CALYBP) (Adovasio et al. 1990); White Sands (human footprint site in New Mexico, up to 23,000 CALYBP) (Pigati et al. 2023; Rachal et al. 2024); Bluefish Caves (megafauna kill site in Yukon Territory, roughly 24,000 CALYBP) (Bourgeon et al. 2017); Monte Verde (camp site in Chile, roughly 14,500 CALYBP) (Dillehay et al. 2015); and the Reconquista River (glyptodon kill site in Argentina, roughly 21,000 CALYBP) (Del Papa et al. 2024).

Clovis-first vs. pre-Clovis is one of the most heated debates in archaeology, with pre-Clovis sites subjected to more scrutiny than later sites. Schick and Toth (1993) list the criteria for evaluating the validity of Pleistocene archaeological sites, especially pre-Clovis sites. First, the site must have artifacts/features/skeletal remains



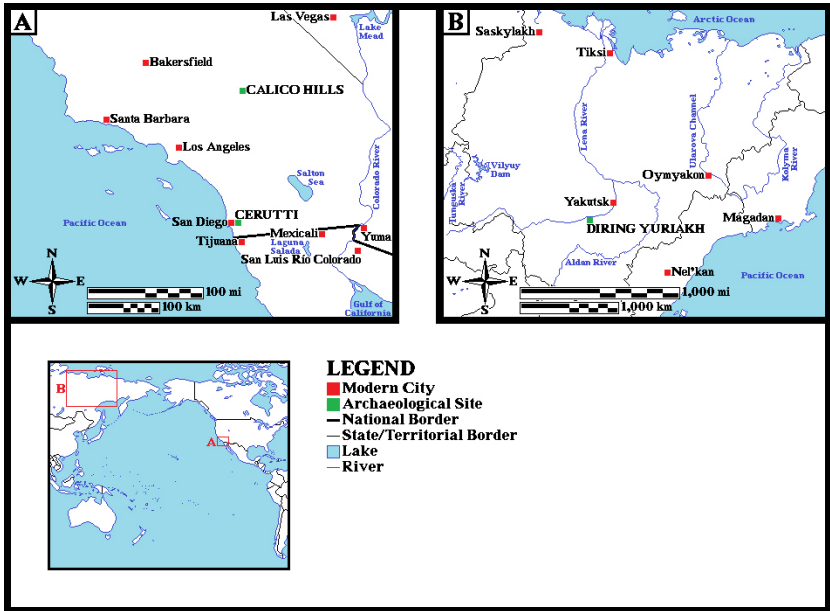
that are clearly human. Second, the artifacts or features must have a recurrent pattern. Third, the site must have intact and interpretable stratigraphy. Fourth, there must be reliable dates for sediments and associated artifacts. Most pre-Clovis sites are disregarded due to questionable or no stratigraphy, as well as questionable artifacts (i.e., made by man or by natural processes). Recently, however, some pre-Clovis sites (e.g., the White Sands footprints) have been gaining support from archaeologists (Pigati et al. 2023; Rachal et al. 2024). These sites suggest a human presence in the Americas starting roughly 24,000 CALYBP. Other studies of Native American genetics (First Rider et al. 2024) and linguistics (Nichols 2024) also show that Native Americans diverged from ancestral Asian populations roughly 24,000 CALYBP. This suggests that the Clovis-first camp of archaeologists is losing ground and that the cutoff for the earliest New World peoples is 1,000 years older than previously thought.

There are even older New World sites, including Chiquihuite Cave (lithic site in Mexico, roughly 33,000 CALYBP) (Ardelean et al. 2020); Pedra Furada (rock art site in Brazil, up to 48,000 CALYBP) (Guidon 1986); and even Monte Verde (with some remains up to 18,500 CALYBP) (Dillehay et al. 2015). There are even more ancient remains in the American Southwest at the Calico Hills site, near the western end of the Mojave Desert in southern California (Figure 1). These remains include lithic artifacts and fossils of Pleistocene megafauna and other mammals and birds, dated up to 200,000 years ago (based on uranium-series and beryllium-10 dates) (Budinger 2004). There is also a possible mastodon kill at the Cerutti site in San Diego, California, dated roughly 130,700 years ago (based on uranium-series dates) (Holen et al. 2017). These sites (with Calico Hills and Cerutti predating *Homo sapiens* migration out of Africa) are widely seen as invalid because the artifacts were likely formed by natural processes.

Recently, lithic artifacts and faunal remains from Diring Yuriakh in eastern Siberia have been dated to 417,000 years ago (based on beryllium-10 dates), nearly 10 times older than other sites in the region – and also older than the first known *Homo sapiens* in Africa (Jansen et al. 2024). Jansen et al. (2024) suggest that Diring Yuriakh

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**Figure 1.** Locations of ancient pre-Clovis archaeological sites in southern California (A) and eastern Siberia (B).

was a staging area for an early migration into the New World. These Siberian remains have just been presented, with further studies pending.

Still, these older sites raise questions. Is pre-Clovis becoming the new Clovis-first, with dates before 24,000 CALYBP being almost automatically invalid? How old is the pre-Clovis record really? Is it possible an older group of *Homo sapiens*, or even older, hominid species (perhaps Neanderthals or Denisovans) made it to the New World (at least in small groups that did not survive very long)? Is southwestern North America the site of the earliest archaeology in the Americas (see Hartley 2023)? Most archaeologists would state that ancient sites such as Cerutti and Calico Hills are erroneous, with evidence thus far suggesting a very Late Pleistocene colonization of the New World. Also, the recent findings at Diring Yuriakh need more review. Nevertheless, with far-reaching movements of modern humans across the Old World for tens of thousands of years (and

other hominids for hundreds of thousands of years beforehand), and the intermittent opening of Beringia and Pacific coastal routes through the Pleistocene, earlier human migrations into North America are technically possible. The date of human arrival in the New World is not quite so set in stone.

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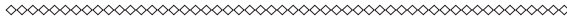
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## CALL FOR RESEARCH AND TRAVEL GRANT PROPOSALS

*AAHS entertains proposals for Research and Travel Grant Awards each year between January 1 and February 15. Membership in AAHS is required and all members are eligible to apply.*

### **Research and Travel Grants Awards**

AAHS Research Grants up to \$1,400 are awarded annually. Travel grants are also available for up to \$700 to support or present research. Research in archaeology, anthropology, history, or ethnology in the U.S. Southwest or Northern Mexico is considered.

### **F. Lewis Orrell, Jr.-Caryl B. Martin Research Grant**

This annual \$5,000 grant honors two of AAHS's benefactors, F. Lewis Orrell, Jr. and Caryl B. Martin, whose bequests to the Society made this award possible.

A single award of \$5,000 is given annually to a high-quality archaeological or historical research project that focuses on significant questions in the archaeology or history of the southwestern U.S. or Northern Mexico. In the spirit of the donors, projects that provide opportunities for participation by avocational researchers or collaboration with affiliated descendant communities are prioritized.

*PLEASE SEE THE AAHS WEBSITE [aahs1916.org](https://aahs1916.org) for grant details:  
<https://aahs1916.org/grants-awards/>.*

## 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](mailto:aahs1916@gmail.com).*

### **Deep and Recent History along the San Pedro November 23–24, 2024**

Join AAHS for a two-day tour of historic and ancient sites along the San Pedro River with BLM archeologist R. E. Burrillo.

Travel and

Accommodations: This a two-day event during which attendees have the option of attending

one day or the other or both. Motels are available in nearby Benson and Sierra Vista. High clearance will only be necessary for one location (Little Boquillas Ranch), However, Mr. Burrillo will have a government vehicle that can seat three in addition to the driver

Sites and Locales: (1) Day One (Saturday) will focus on the Fairbank area, starting at the managed ghost town of Fairbank and including the Fairbank Cemetery and nearby Little Boquillas Ranch; (2) Day Two (Sunday) will focus on the Charleston area, starting at the historic site of Millville and including the remote ghost town of Charleston.

Trip attendance is limited to a maximum of 20 people, including the trip leaders, and a waitlist has been created. There is no cost to attend, although donations are accepted and greatly appreciated. Neither food nor transportation are provided, which helps keep these trips free for members.

If you have any comments or need additional clarification, feel free to send email to [AAHSFieldTrips@gmail.com](mailto:AAHSFieldTrips@gmail.com).





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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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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