In Memoriam:

Benjamin Ananian
Charles B. McKee
Frank Walker
A quarterly newsletter of articles and information essential to California archaeology. Contributions are welcome. Lead articles should be 1,500–2,000 words. Longer articles may appear in installments. Send submissions as hard copy or on diskette to: SCA Newsletter, Department of Anthropology, CSU Chico, Chico CA 95929-0401 or as e-mail or attachments to gwhite@csuchico.edu.

The SCA Executive Board encourages publication of a wide range of opinions on issues pertinent to California archaeology. Opinions, commentary, and editorials appearing in the Newsletter represent the views of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Board or Editor. Lead article authors should be aware that their articles may appear on the SCA web site, unless they request otherwise.

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June ................... May 20
September ........... August 20
December ........... November 20

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Advertising Rates*
1/4 page .................. $70
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From the President

Perhaps my recognition of the importance of the generous volunteerism I alluded to above is linked to the recent successful Northern and Southern Data Sharing Meetings held at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park and in Ensenada, Mexico, respectively. I attended both of these SCA events and found them informative and intellectually stimulating, not to mention just plain fun and enjoyable. You can read more about them in this Newsletter in the pieces by Michael Newland and Andrew York. These two smaller, regional meetings provided a unique opportunity to interact personally with colleagues, and learn more about the local archaeology and prehistory of the north coast and Baja California.

On a different front, there appears to be forward movement on one of the major issues plaguing archaeology in California: Professional Standards and Ethical Guidelines. On a wide array of projects under the CEQA umbrella, it is all too often the case that important cultural resources go unnoticed, or their value unrecognized; the end result of this neglect is the loss of a finite and potentially valuable piece of heritage. The SCA is one among several independent entities moving discussions and potential solutions to the problem forward. First, Trish Fernandez heads the Archaeology Committee of the State Historic Resources Commission and is spearheading a series of white papers dealing with archaeological practices in California. The efforts of this committee on Archaeological Standards and Guidelines will be reported in an upcoming SCA newsletter, and will provide an important foundation to move discussions ahead. Wholly independent of this effort, I have attended another series of meetings exploring how to protect cultural resources in California emanating from activists in the Native American community. Beverly Ortiz organized and hosted an important (continued page 21)
New Federal Agency Editor

Jim Cassidy

I am pleased to have recently accepted the position as Federal Agency Editor for the SCA Newsletter. I look forward to providing my fellow SCA members with significant updates on federal agency laws, policy and personnel changes twice a year. I have been a SCA member since 1994, completed my dissertation at UCSB in 2004 and have spent the last two years as an archaeologist for the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA. In contrast, I know that many of our members, both inside and outside of federal service, have considerably more experience and expertise than I. Therefore, I am inviting, and would be thankful for, any assistance in collecting federal agency related information that would be of benefit to California archaeologists. While federal legislation and policy will be of highest priority, additional information of a more personal nature (promotions, transfers, new hires, awards, accomplishments, etc.) would also be welcome.

Please feel free to contact me at any time at: jim.cassidy@usmc.mil (work), jimdcass@aol.com (personal), or phone (760) 830-8190 (work), (661) 406-0605 (cell).
to conduct research regarding the history of their tribal and/or ancestral territory, acquire project-specific information for areas of immediate concern in association with planned development, and receive education and training in inventory management and project review practices.

Also reviewed at the recent ICPAC meeting were CHRIS data conversion/automation projects. The Mohave GIS development project focusing on the Southern California desert is nearly completed. The project incorporates an application developed by Gnomon, Inc. that potentially provides online access to project partners. Currently, ten ICs are involved in another large GIS project funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Under this contract approximately 450 resource and report location maps will be converted into digital format. In response to the development of the CHRIS GIS system, the NWIC has funded a contract which will provide professional recommendations for developing a CHRIS fee structure for electronic and digital data.

As part of the CHRIS GIS data conversion effort, Caltrans, the NWIC, NEIC, and NCIC have contributed funding to the development of a Cultural Resources Database and GIS desktop application. Designed by Jay King (Far Western Anthropological Research, Inc.) in coordination with the CHRIS, the application can be utilized to conduct a record search, access specific information about a single site or group of sites, create a bibliography of selected reports, or view records or reports on the computer screen. The application links an individual IC’s resource database and report bibliography to their GIS data utilizing ARCGIS 9.1 and Microsoft Access. Also linked to this program are scanned images of resource records and reports (see below). The application not only provides a tool for organizing and supplementing CHRIS electronic and digital data but has great utility as a research tool.

A discussion of CHRIS funding issues at the November ICPAC meetings resulted in several preliminary ideas for future solutions. Among these were: (1) permanent State funding for the CHRIS, with other stakeholders involved; (2) a CHRIS “Central Bank”, where excess revenues from the urban ICs could be pooled to help out the more needy ICs; (3) an annual fee to agencies and private companies utilizing the CHRIS; (4) annual funding
contributions from various state and federal agencies; (5) a registration fee and tracking system for projects which would help to ensure that subsequent reports would be turned in to the IC’s.

Finally, good and bad news from the Eastern Information Center in Riverside. The good news is that the final edits on the draft Information Center Rules Manual (to replace the 1995 Procedural Manual) are nearly complete. The bad news is that Kay White, who is second-in-command to Coordinator Matt Hall, will retire in December of this year. Many thanks to Kay for over 25 years of hard work!

Curation Committee Report: A Crisis in Archaeology

Tom Mills

As a new member of the SCA Curation Committee, I feel a duty to address a mounting crisis already in development across California: Curation. Yes, go ahead and cringe. It’s something we don’t like to talk about; the skeleton in the closet; yet it affects all of us in archaeology on a seemingly daily basis. As an agency archaeologist with Caltrans, I see a bubble about to explode. The gist of the matter is this – we are running out of facility space for archaeological collections. I did a rough estimate of the collections that Caltrans alone generates on a yearly basis, and it’s too scary to think about. In my district (on the eastside) Caltrans projects generate an average of 10 to 20-plus curation boxes of artifacts per project requiring excavation. This will slow down once all of our huge four-lane projects are done, but that’s approximately 15 years hence! I’m reminded of the classic archaeological storybook Motel of Mysteries, where in the future the U.S. Postal system explodes and covers North America with junk mail. Don’t laugh; we’re heading in that direction.

One main issue with the curation problem is the absence of appropriate facility space. Many repositories are simply running out of room; while some will only accept collections of five boxes or less; and some won’t accept collections unless they have “appropriate research value” (for that institution). We must collectively come up with some real solutions. Ideally, the SCA in conjunction with state and federal agencies needs to work on some strategies, maybe as simple as getting funds from all agencies concerned to help build new facilities, or retrofitting old ones with more storage space that meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards (36 CFR Part 79). And let’s not forget universities, colleges, and the private sector – there’s got to be a way to get everyone on board to help in addressing this dire need. Further, our ethical considerations state that we should not be excavating sites without some sort of curation agreement or policy in hand (more on this topic in a future column).

Some things to consider:

- Maybe we don’t need to collect and curate three or four boxes of fire-affected rocks on every site we dig;
- Maybe since we collected 130,000 pieces of debitage, and have good data from the evaluation phase, possibly we don’t need to collect another 130,000 pieces from the same site context during data recovery;
- Maybe we could hire extra field staff to analyze broken pieces of groundstone or other redundant artifacts in the field;
- And historic archaeologists, I’m not forgetting you; how about utilizing the discard policy advanced by Praetzellis and Costello in the Newsletter Vol. 36, No. 3; or something similar?
- But then, is it too soon to talk about not collecting when the issue of available curation space hasn’t been adequately addressed?

I don’t know. I don’t claim to have the answers; I just want to get everyone thinking about, and working towards a solution. Many of you may disagree with some of my ideas, many of you won’t; but the problem belongs to us all. I look forward to opening discussions with anyone who has ideas. As things progress I’ll write more.

SCA Grants And Fundraising Report

Lynn Compas

As you can see, I have changed Committees. The SCA Board decided to create a Grants and Fund Raising Committee to take the burden off of the Treasurer and I volunteered to help out. Amy Huberland has stepped in as the Information Center Liaison. Thanks Amy!

Beth Padon, Ken Wilson and I recently attended the BLM State OHV Commission Grant Hearings in Sacramento. The Commission has granted funds to CASSP to help them continue their wonderful site stewardship program. The exact amount of the grant will be determined at the next round of hearings in December.

The Presidio Trust recently awarded the SCA with a $5000.00 grant to help defray the costs of printing the Summer newsletter. Once the paperwork has been completed for this grant the funds will be available.

If any of the committee chairs or SCA members know of grants or have ideas about fundraising they would like to share please contact me.

CASSP Training Workshops

Beth and Chris Padon

The SCA California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) is a statewide program of volunteers who promote the protection of archaeological and historical resources through site monitoring, education, research, and public awareness. CASSP volunteers, under the coordination of a professional archaeologist, make regular visits to known sites to report on their conditions. CASSP is
sponsored by the Society for California Archaeology (SCA), in partnership with other organizations and agencies, including the California Office of Historic Preservation, the California Native American Heritage Commission, the Northern Buttes District and the Mojave District of the California State Parks; the Mojave National Preserve and Point Reyes National Seashore of National Parks Service; the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission, and several California offices of the Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service.

Volunteer site stewards receive training at a two-day workshop: one day in the classroom and the next day in the field. Archaeologists from the SCA and agencies, with Native American representatives and other professionals, will offer in-class CASSP training workshops for site stewards at various locations throughout the state. The workshop will include:

- discussion of CASSP and what it takes to be a site steward
- an overview of the region’s prehistory and natural resources,
- Native American perspectives,
- a review of the Archeological Resource Protection Act and other laws,
- discussions and role-playing exercises for dealing with the public, and,
- planning of site stewardship assignments.

At the end of the day, workshop participants who want to become CASSP volunteers will sign a confidentiality agreement and commit to making monthly site visits. The second day of training covers how to fill out the monitoring forms with hands-on examples in the field at known archaeological sites. The local archaeologist who is leading the volunteer team will be conducting this field training.

CASSP is pleased to announce the next training workshop for new site stewards will be held in Barstow on March 10-11, 2007. BLM archaeologist Jim Shearer will serve as host for this workshop. We also are planning initial training workshops at the BLM field office in Redding and at the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area. Dates for these workshops will be announced.

Each training workshop lasts two days over the weekend and costs $25 per person. Registration (payable to the SCA) is required because space is limited. You can register for a workshop, or obtain more information about CASSP, by contacting Beth Padon at (562) 431-0300 or e-mail at bpadon@discoveryworks.com. Also, more information is available at the CASSP web site, at www.cassp.org.

Or, if you are interested in receiving a CASSP newsletter that summarizes current activities of CASSP volunteers, and announces new workshops, and other volunteer opportunities in archaeology, please send your name and address to Discovery Works, Inc, Attn. CASSP, 10591 Bloomfield Street, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

ACRA Liaison Report

Ron May

The Democratic Landslide of November 2006 almost nullifies the heroic efforts of ACRA and other stakeholders in historic preservation in Washington over the past few years. Having just returned from the “Preserve America Summit” in New Orleans, October 18-24, 2006, no one was prepared for the “political Tsunami” that has now changed the legislative landscape.

Some 450 people attended the Preserve America Summit and nearly had participated in eleven issue area meetings through the summer of 2006 to prepare reports for the summit. ACRA fielded five delegates, including Lobbyist Nellie Longsworth. Between the opening and Plenary session were a series of workshops, two evening receptions, and one final reception.

First Lady Laura Bush ensured the presence of high-level federal agency managers. Her own presentation emphasized education through the economic engine of historic preservation with public and private partnerships that unite communities. John Nau presented historic preservation as the American identity and encouraged federal agencies to plan for our future. Other speakers included Lyn Scarlet, Deputy Secretary of the Interior, Richard Moe of the National Trust,
Congressman and Majority Chair of the House Historic Preservation Caucus, Mike Turner (R, Dayton, Ohio).

The eleven issue areas focused on education, enhancement, sustainability, education, leadership, and the youth summit. All federal agencies were pressed to complete their comprehensive inventories with openness and flexibility in the identification of the resources. They are to assume the role as stewards through a central web-based clearinghouse for new ideas. They are to integrate historic preservation with the agency missions and involve all cultures and to secure and provide access to the resources. There needs to be greater quantification of what is out there and transparency in the costs and benefits of those resources. The agencies must re-engage with the international community to promote heritage tourism in America. Congress needs to improve the tax credit program. Federal land managers must appoint Preserve America “community agents” to assist in communicating their historical assets. The web-based information systems need to inform the public on economic data relating to historic preservation. Education systems need to be revamped to incorporate historic preservation in their curriculums with the goal of improving the quality of historic preservation people in the federal workforce. There needs to be an expansion of involvement with the active historic preservation community. And, whether by website or other media, there needs to be clearinghouses to disseminate information about historic preservation to other countries.

First Lady Bush made it clear that supervisors and management of the federal agencies need to raise the profile of historic preservation in their programs. There needs to be a preservation commission to promote in the private sector and full implementation of the National Historic Preservation Act with re-energization in the international community. Federal agencies need to create more private-public partnerships. Educators are encouraged to develop the concept of historic preservation in all levels of education, enliven the classroom, develop oral and local histories as class projects, develop partnerships with museums and history institutions, train the students to become researchers and develop hands-on opportunities to students. Educators need to create history events (like science fairs) and encourage clubs to stimulate student interaction in historic preservation. Students need to showcase their achievements, receive awards, fellowships and grants for historic preservation.

Stakeholders in historic preservation (including archaeologists) can go to preserveamericasummit.org for details on this summit and ideas for energizing their own workplace. Follow-up will include development of websites, creating lists of comments from the summit, and a report to the Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation at the February meeting.

Now is the time for ACRA and the SCA to introduce themselves to the new Democrat leaders of Congress and the U.S. Senate, who will be implementing the results of the Preserve America Summit. Rep. Rick Rahall (D-WV) will replace Rep. Richard Pombo (R-CA) as Chair of the House Resources Committee and now is the time to undo all the damage Rep. Pombo had in store for the National Historic Preservation Act, for his old guard Republican committee members remain behind with “fire in their eyes.” Fortunately, Rep. Donna Christansen (D-VI) will be Chair of the House Subcommittee on refunding the Historic Preservation Fund, National Parks, National Preservation Act programs, and Section 106 programs. Senator Daniel Akaka (D-Hi) will be Chair of the National Parks Subcommittee and overseeing Historic Preservation Funding. ACRA leadership will be making the rounds in all the key offices between now and January 3, 2007 when the Democrats assume control of Congress.

**Legislative Liaison Report**

*Stephen Bryne*

> It could probably be shown by facts and figures that there is no distinctly native American criminal class except Congress.– Mark Twain

> No man’s life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session.–Mark Twain

**GOP Opens Lame-Duck Session of Congress**

Lawmakers present and future mingled in the Capitol’s marble hallways as Republicans exiled from power in the Nov. 4 elections opened a lame-duck session and Democrats prepared to take control of Congress. After losing majorities in the House and Senate, Republicans of the fading 109th Congress still faced weighty work before year’s end, including keeping the government in operating funds and confirming a new defense secretary.

The session won’t be as short as some might hope. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, who is considering a bid for the GOP presidential nomination in 2008, envisioned Congress meeting three more weeks this year, this one and the first two weeks of December. Frist urged Republicans not to be
discouraged by this “time of transition” - and to listen to the voters who ousted them from power. “Change can be tough,” said Frist, R-Tenn., whose self-imposed 12-year term limit in the Senate comes to an end in seven weeks. “That is a very powerful message from the American people: Move forward and move forward together.”

Bipartisanship was more a matter of pragmatism, noted Frist’s successor. “We can’t accomplish anything as Democrats standing alone. As we’ve shown, the Republicans couldn’t accomplish theirs standing alone,” said Democratic Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, who will become the new majority leader in January. Incoming Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and her Democratic colleagues won’t formally assume control of the House of Representatives until January.

A lame-duck session could last until Dec. 22 with a two-week break for Thanksgiving. On their agenda are nine spending bills, reviving popular business and middle-income tax breaks; bioterrorism legislation and giving doctors a reprieve from billions of dollars in scheduled Medicare payment cuts.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Bill

Senators Tom Coburn (R-OK) and Barack Obama (D-IL) authored the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Bill. It has now been signed into law. This law will create a Web site for all citizens to know how their tax dollars are being spent. Each year, over $1 trillion is spent on government contracts and grants, including earmarks. Earmarks have become an increasing issue and, in the highway bill (SAFETEA-LU) last year, there were over 6,000 earmarked projects, including the famous “Bridge to Nowhere” in Alaska. The searchable website will be up and running no later than January 1, 2008. The aim of this legislation will be to make elected officials accountable for their actions.

National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 2006

The past few years have seen an increasing concern in certain quarters over the National Historic Preservation Act and its effect on federal or federally supported development undertakings.

A bill to amend the NHPA was introduced in the House last July by Representative Steve Pearce (R-NM-2). Since then, according to Pearce, the bill “has been the subject of more discussion and rewrite than any other bill that I have been involved with since becoming the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks.” He further stated that, “While this bill may not be the final product that many envisioned, myself included, I believe H.R. 5861 represents a significant step towards improving the Section 106 process...by reducing some of the conflicts that exist between the business and preservation communities and the State and Tribal Preservation Officers.” The bill was passed without discussion or vote on September 25. Its companion bill in the Senate (S. 1378) was introduced by Senator Talent (R-MO) and did not make any changes to the Section 106 language. This bill was passed by “unanimous consent” on September 29. However, there is little chance that the differences between the two bills can be worked out between the House and Senate language and, if agreement cannot be reached, Section 106 remains as written in current law.”

California Legislation

AB 2641 — An act to amend Sections 5097.91 and 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code, relating to burial grounds.
Sponsor: Assembly Member Joe Coto (D-23rd)

This bill (see page 18) establishes the scientific and ethnological criteria by which a Native American burial ground is defined and it assigns to the Native American Heritage Commission (Commission) the authority to resolve disputes concerning the existence of Native American burial grounds. It specifies that the descendents of deceased Native Americans whose remains are discovered may recommend to the Commission that the human remains and associated items remain in place. Alternatively, they may recommend the transfer of the remains and associated items to the descendents. The bill requires the landowner to consult with, but not necessarily to accept, the descendents’ recommendations.

References

Lindsay, David
Longworth, Nellie

Society for California Archaeology’s Native American Programs Committee (NAPC) Receives Significant Donation

Gregg Castro, NAPC Member

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) recently entered into a settlement with Qwest Communications, a nationwide telecommunications company. This was the conclusion of an investigation, begun in 1999, into Qwest’s construction of a national fiber optic network. The project occurred mostly along Union Pacific railroad lines and in California was subject to CEQA. The work went through documented cultural sites and likely numerous previously unknown sites. There were legal technicalities involved in the CPUC permitting process that the two sides were in disagreement on. The impact of the work on the cultural sites was also a ‘difference of opinion.’ As a result, the CPUC investigation was a very long process, made longer by procedural measures that Qwest invoked during the process.
In October of 2006, the CPUC approved a final settlement of all issues in the matter. A nonprofit cultural preservation tribal organization involved in the talks suggested as part of the settlement that donations be made to several non-profits that would benefit the indigenous communities impacted by the Qwest construction. While this tribal organization was not a party to the settlement, its suggestions were incorporated into the final agreement. One of the suggested recipients was the SCA-NAPC! The settlement has led to a donation of $10,000 for the continuation of the NAPC’s efforts in empowering Native communities to preserve their heritage in collaboration with cultural resources management professionals.

The NAPC, led by Janet Eidsness, is considering a number of plans that can be funded with the donation over the next few years. Among them are the 2007 California Indian Sponsorship Program and making the Sourcebook web accessible. Congratulations to the NAPC for their good fortune!

State Historical Resources Commission Update

Trish Fernandez and Donn Grenda

The State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC) is a body most of us have heard of but with which many archaeologists haven’t had much interaction. Some of us don’t know what it is; some of us believe the SHRC is focused mainly on National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations of buildings. While NRHP and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) nominations take up the majority of the public hearings of the SHRC, there is much more to the SHRC and much more that the archaeological community can be participating in with the SHRC. This article focuses on the recently established Archaeology Committee (Committee) of the SHRC and the work that Committee has been undertaking over the last year.

Background

Each state is required by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) to maintain an adequate and qualified State Historic Preservation Review Board. In California, that Board is called the State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC). The SHRC consists of nine members appointed by the Governor. Its mission is:

to preserve and enhance California’s irreplaceable historic heritage as a matter of public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, recreational, aesthetic, economic, social, and environmental benefits will be maintained and enrich the lives of present and future generations.

In the broadest sense, the SHRC serves an advocacy role for historic preservation. In practice, the commission serves as an advisory body to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), its primary function being a professional body that can objectively evaluate the historic significance of properties and provide professional advice on historic preservation matters.

The NHPA stipulates the SHRC’s responsibilities and California Public Resources Code sections 5020.4 and 5020.5 further define its roles and responsibilities. One of its stated responsibilities is to review and provide advice about the State’s Comprehensive Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and the Historic Preservation Fund Grant.

The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) is appropriated by U.S. Congress to states for preservation programs. The state applies for HPF grants by informing the National Park Service (NPS) of planned activities and reporting on the state’s accomplishments at the end of the year through submission of the California Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (Plan). One of the NPS requirements of the Plan is that it be implemented by SHPO operation. The current Plan outlines activities planned for 2006 through 2010 and the first chapter addresses archaeology.
Archaeological Committee

In 2006, the SHRC established the Archaeology Committee whose purpose is:

_to increase awareness of archaeology and improve the quality of professional archaeological practice in California._

To this end, the Committee is building upon previous decades’ work to meet the goals of the most recent Plan. That Plan defines six distinct areas in which archaeological practices may improve: Curation, Conservation, Interpretation, Preservation, Standards & Guidelines, and Survey & Inventory. Individuals from around the state have come together to capture what the archaeological community feels is the current vs. ideal situation for each of these areas, and how we might be able to bridge the gap. These ideas have been drafted in the form of White Papers.

White Papers

The draft White Papers will be printed in the next SCA Newsletter for review by the SCA membership. At the Annual Meeting, the SHRC’s Committee will hold an open forum for discussion of and input regarding these papers. After SCA membership input is integrated, the next draft will be sent to the California SHPO and to OHP Counsel for review, then to the SHRC for formal adoption.

Once these White Papers are adopted by the SHRC, the Committee will move forward with prioritizing the recommendations that are put forth in the White Papers and then developing very specific actions plans for each priority.

This may seem an overly lengthy process. However, as the goal of the Committee is to affect positive long-lasting changes in California archaeology, we feel that may be most successful if the following tenets are followed:

1. Build broad consensus among all parties interested and affected by archaeology in California
2. Identify the most effective means of affecting change through legislation, litigation, OHP internal policy, and education of public agencies and consumers.

3. Create an administrative record of these efforts that is accessible to the public.

The reality is that the types of changes that the archaeological community wants to see will take a concentrated effort along many fronts for a long period of time.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the SHRC’s Archaeology Committee Chair, Trish Fernandez (triskie@comcast.net), or the Chair of the SHRC, Donn Grenda (dgrenda@sricrm.com). Both of these individuals serve on the SRHC as archaeologists and comprise the SHRC’s Archaeology Committee.

(Footnotes)

1 – White Papers typically present problem(s), position(s) of the author(s), and solutions to the problem(s).
Southern Data-Sharing Meeting in Ensenada, Mexico

Andy York, Southern Vice-President

The emerging international partnership among archaeologists in the United States and northern Baja California took a big step forward on November 11 and 12 as about 75 archaeologists attended the Southern Data Sharing Meeting in Ensenada, Mexico. Hosted by the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) at Ensenada’s colonial-style Hotel Mission Santa Isabel, the SCA’s first-ever international meeting featured fifteen excellent presentations by archaeologists from both SCA and INAH, as well as a fascinating bus tour the next day of local archaeological and historical sites. The amazing hospitality of our hosts from INAH, together with Ensenada’s typically festive night life, made it a memorable weekend for all who attended.

The idea of a data-sharing meeting in Mexico grew from the SCA’s increasing role in promoting international cooperation in both research and effective site management in the U.S.-Mexico border region. As noted previously in these pages (see 38[4]:8-10), for example, the SCA has actively supported cooperation among the BLM, Forest Service, and INAH to address damage to pristine sites in Mexico that results from activities originating in the U.S., such as recreational ORV activity and the Baja 1000. Even more compelling for the SCA membership, though, is the importance of the border region’s archaeology to researchers in both Alta and Baja California. As the meeting made clear, there is a lot of very key research being done on both sides; and open dialog and data-sharing is critical for a full understanding of the region’s archaeology.

The session on the 11th was held in the hotel’s spacious meeting room, just off the courtyard. Each presentation was simultaneously translated into English or Spanish through headphones provided at the meeting. After introductory remarks by Southern VP Andy York, SCA President Frank Bayham, and Julia Bendimez-Patterson, Director of INAH in Baja California, the morning session then continued with presentations by Margaret Hangan and Majorie Burton on worked ceramic sherds; Matt Des Lauriers on terminal Pleistocene occupation of Cedros Island; Fred Lange of LSA Associates on recent work near Hemet and Glamis; Oswaldo Cuadra (INAH) on initial fieldwork at the Mesa de los Indios north of Ensenada; and Don Laylander and Dave Iverson (ASM Affiliates) on the focused exploitation of *Pseudochama exogyra* (Pacific jewelbox) in northern San Diego County and its implications for the human-environment equation in coastal southern California.

The neatly planned schedule sailed out the window at the morning break, as anthropologist Mike Wilken arranged for the appearance of several tables of traditionally-made pots, baskets, jewelry, and clothing by Paipai, Kilwa, and Kumiai artisans. These were seen by most as an even better souvenir choice than a T-shirt from Hussong’s Cantina, and the artisans did a brisk business throughout the day. Once the attendees could be cajoled back to the meeting room, Christy Dolan of EDAW continued the morning session with a discussion of the historic archaeology revealed during construction of San Diego’s new baseball park. Next was a presentation by Antonio Porcayo of INAH, describing efforts to address ORV and other impacts to important sites near the border at Mexicali. Russell Collett and Richard Shultz of RECON then discussed their reevaluation of late period settlement systems in northern San Diego County, suggesting that the patterns may be more complex than originally suggested by True and Waugh. The final presentation before lunch was by Andrea Guia and Fernando Oviedo of INAH, who discussed the methodological approach at Jatay, a prehistoric deposit north of Ensenada that will be impacted by a proposed gas pipeline.

The afternoon session featured six presentations, the first by Spencer Beitz and Margaret Hangan on the archaeology and history of California Conservation Corps campgrounds on the Cleveland National Forest. Jorge Serrano and John Joseph Temple of INAH then discussed transmission-related work at La Jovita in traditional Kumeyaay territory. Jackson Underwood then presented evidence that a late prehistoric acorn economy was not strongly expressed in San Diego County, and may have been primarily an early historic period phenomenon. Danilo Drakic of INAH discussed finds from...
several sites in the Las Palmas Valley between Ensenada and Tecate. Julia Bendimez-Patterson, INAH Regional Director in Baja California, then discussed radiocarbon dates (obtained from UC Riverside) on materials from northern Baja sites and their implications for regional prehistory. The final presentation of the day was by Gerardo Chavez Velazco of INAH, who presented the current status of INAH’s archaeology GIS program.

The next day, about 30 somewhat bleary archaeologists set off on a delightful all-day bus tour to several important archaeological and historical sites north and east of Ensenada. First stop was Jatay, where Fernando Oviedo discussed recently completed fieldwork at an important habitation area situated on a hilltop several km from the coast. The trip continued with a visit to the San Miguel Arcangel mission site, where our hosts provided snacks and pointed out efforts to preserve the remnants of the mission’s adobe walls. Heading inland over the hills, we descended into heart of Mexico’s wine country, the beautiful Guadalupe Valley. Here among the vineyards we visited the site of the Mission de Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe del Norte (1834-1840), then relaxed under the trees at the Guadalupe Community Museum for a tasty lunch and a sampling of some quite excellent local wines.

The final stop on the tour was the Ignacio Zaragoza archaeological site, an apparent early Holocene deposit located on an agricultural collective just east of Ensenada. Recent excavations at the site have yielded many artifacts that appear to belong to the San Dieguito complex, and even a quick glance at the surface showed that a rich assemblage remains buried there. The potential importance of this site to ongoing research in southern California was immediately apparent to everyone present, and the ensuing discussion among SCA and INAH archaeologists only confirmed the value of open communication – data sharing, if you will – among researchers throughout the region.

Many thanks are due to Julia Bendimez, Elinora “Pinky” Topete, and our other friends and colleagues at INAH for their graciousness, hospitality, and hard work in organizing a truly memorable event. Elinora, in particular, was tireless, and everything – the hotel, meeting room, the meals, and the bus tour – was outstanding. Alberto Fontes provided excellent translations, and Antonio, Fernando, Andrea, and Danilo were all extremely interesting and informative on the field trip. Thanks also to Ken Wilson at the BLM for organizational assistance and funding. Finally, thanks to the presenters and all who attended. Muchas gracias, everyone.
The SCA 2007 Annual Meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, San Jose. The hotel is located a quarter mile from San Jose International Airport, and 45 minutes from San Francisco International Airport. A courtesy shuttle is available to attendees arriving at San Jose International. Shuttle service runs from 5:00 AM to 12:00 Midnight; pickup service can be arranged by calling (408) 453-4000 or by accessing the Courtesy Phone in airport Baggage Claim. The Doubletree provides secure, well-lit paid parking. The SCA has negotiated reduced parking fees for the meeting. Registered Guests: $8.00/night (billed to your room); Day-use: $5.00/day (collected by parking attendant).

The Doubletree is now accepting reservations. You can make your reservations by calling 1-800-222-tree or 408-453-4000. Remember to identify yourself as an SCA conference attendee to get the discounted conference rate ($99.00 Single or Double). Please note that the 2007 annual meeting is a bit earlier than last year, and will run from Thursday, March 22 through Sunday, March 25. The deadline for reservations at the conference rate is February 19, 2007. Make your reservation soon!

Silent Auction

The annual Silent Auction event kicks off the festivities on Friday, March 23. This year’s event will be held at the Children’s Discovery Museum of San Jose (See advertisement), just blocks from the Doubletree Hotel. With over 48,000 square feet of fun, hands on exhibits, dozens of rooms, two theaters/stages, outdoor patios, and a dance floor, this year’s event promises to be a memorable affair. Tickets for this catered event are limited to 400, so be sure to sign up early!

Tours

This year’s post-meeting tour will include a guided history tour of Santa Clara University. In the midst of an impressive period of growth and construction, Santa Clara University has taken a proactive role in the recovery of historical and archaeological information prior to construction. To date, an extraordinary amount of data pertaining to Santa Clara’s ancestral Ohlone Indians, 18th and 19th century immigrants including Spaniards, Mexicans, Yokuts Indians, Germans, Italians, and others has been uncovered. Please join Linda Hylkema of SCU and Rebecca Allen of Past Forward, Inc. as they lead an informative tour chronicling 1500 years of Santa Clara (pre)history. The tour culminates with a luncheon featuring early Californio recipes and an informal talk about one of Santa Clara’s pioneering Hispanic families. The tour will take place on Sunday, March 25. Additional information (i.e., time, transportation arrangements, and ticket price) will be detailed in the preregistration packet available in January 2007.
We Need Your Support!

A successful Annual Meeting depends largely on the generosity and hard work of SCA members. Please consider supporting the organization by volunteering for one or more of the following:

- Volunteer to provide on-site assistance during the conference. Kelley Long is the Volunteer Coordinator this year. Contact her at klong@parks.ca.gov or (916) 653-7985 if you are interested in helping out with meeting setup, registration, Silent Auction setup or clean up, or meeting-room monitor. The first 40 volunteers are eligible to have the registration fee waived (volunteers must be SCA members).
- Donate an item or service for the Silent Auction. Contact Nancy Farrell at (805) 237-3838 or nancy@crms.com to make a donation.
- Host a beer or wine tasting booth at the Silent Auction! Contact Stella D’Oro at (831) 469-1771 or sdoro@albionenvironmental.com to make arrangements.
- Provide a sponsorship to help cover meeting costs such as printing, food and drinks, awards, and other expenses.

Please contact Jennifer Farquhar at (831) 469-1875 or jfarquhar@albionenvironmental.com if you would like to be an underwriter.

The Program

The program for this year's meeting has begun to take shape with the submittal of 15 symposia, and several Poster sessions. Of course, additional symposia will be organized around the range of subjects proposed in the various abstracts that are not yet associated with a symposium. Remember, the deadline for paper submittals is December 22. Send abstract proposals to mhylk@parks.ca.gov. Don’t forget that it is required for symposia chairs and their presenters to be paid members of the SCA.

In a departure from past meeting schedules, we have arranged for the traditional kickoff plenary session to be held on the evening of Thursday, March 22 before the full suite of symposia presentations, which start Friday morning and end Sunday afternoon. This arrangement will also facilitate an opportunity for the public to attend, and an invitation will be locally advertised. Workshops to be held on Thursday, March 22 are still being formulated and will be advertised in the next issue of the SCA Newsletter. Symposia proposals submitted so far include:

1) More Than Just a Meal: Recent Approaches to Studying Ancient Food Remains in California.
Chair: Seetha N. Reddy (Statistical Research, Inc.).
The primary objective for this symposium is to highlight important progress made recently using archaeological faunal and paleoethnobotanical data are sets to address substantive research issues. It will be a forum for archaeozoologists and paleoethnobotanists to highlight the diversity of topics that can be profitably addressed with rigorous investigation, including such topics as economic procurement strategies, diet breath modeling, and the role of food items in ceremonial events. The diverse range of papers will showcase the utility of these data sets within different theoretical perspectives including evolutionary/human behavioral ecology, behavioral archaeology, processual-plus.

2) Affecting Change in California Archaeology: SHRC Archaeology Committee Position Papers
Chairs: Trish Fernandez and Don Grenda (State Historical Resources Commission).
The mission of the State Historical Resources Commission’s Archaeology Committee is to improve the quality of professional archaeological practice in California. To this end, the committee is building upon previous decades’ work to meet the goals of the most recent Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. That Plan defines six distinct areas in which archaeological practices may improve: Curation, Conservation, Interpretation, Preservation, Standards & Guidelines, and Survey & Inventory. Individuals from around the state have come together to capture what the archaeological community feels is the current vs. the ideal situation for each of these areas, and how we might be able to bridge the gap. These ideas have taken the form of Position Papers, the current drafts of which will be printed in SCA’s March 2007 newsletter. This symposium will be an open forum, providing an opportunity for SCA members to contribute to the development of these papers. The drafts following this symposium will go to the SHPO for review, then to the SHRC for formal adoption.

3) Human Behavioral Ecology and California Archaeology
Chairs: Deanna Grimstead (University of Arizona), and Adie Whitaker (University of California, Davis).
Over the past several decades archaeologists have increasingly applied the theoretical perspective known as evolutionary ecology in novel and informative ways. Recent applications of human behavioral ecology, a subset of evolutionary ecology, have extended the realms of this theoretical perspective into all arenas of sociocultural complexity. As a result human behavioral ecology is providing refreshed perspectives to old questions across Americanist Archaeology. Some classic examples of archaeological applications of human behavioral ecology have occurred within California contexts, and very exciting recent research is building upon this tradition. This symposium seeks to sample these modern efforts to show the current state of human behavioral ecology in California Archaeology.

4) Pecking Away the Bias: Incorporating Rock Art into Mainstream Archaeology
Chairs: Donna Gillette (University of California, Berkeley) and Linda Hylkema (Santa Clara University).
Historically, rock art research has played a marginalized role in mainstream archaeology. Researchers have been reluctant, largely based on the lack of reliable dating methods, to incorporate rock art into their research designs. Likewise, rock art researchers have failed to place rock art in a broader
archaeological context. Increasingly, these two avenues of study are converging, presenting us with the opportunity to form a newly contextualized view of archaeology. This symposium will synthesize past and current archaeological projects to broaden our understanding of the potentially important benefits of including rock art as an integral site component.

5) Archaeology: Juggling Cultural Resources, Preservation, Public Benefit, and the benefits of Incorporating Technology.
Chair: Billy A. Silva (California Department of Transportation).
Archaeologists frequently find themselves juggling cultural resources, public funding, and improving project delivery. Academia trains archaeologists to view the preservation and leisurely excavation of archaeological sites as the norm. However, the need for improvements means that all cultural resources are not equal in terms of preservation. Also, furthering our understanding of the past must demonstrate public benefit. This symposium will explore how technology can help reach decisions regarding cultural resources impacts, handle large-scale excavations, and balance public need and stewardship of cultural resources.

6) Finding & Interpreting History and Archaeology at Santa Clara University
Chairs: Linda Hylkema (Santa Clara University), Rebecca Allen (Past Forward, Inc.), and Clinton Blount (Albion Environmental, Inc.).
In the midst of an impressive period of growth and construction, Santa Clara University has taken a proactive role in the recovery of historical and archaeological information prior to construction. To date, we have recovered an extraordinary amount of data and number of good stories to tell, including those of Santa Clara’s ancestral Ohlone Indians and 18th and 19th century immigrants — Spaniards, Mexicans, Yokuts Indians, Germans, Italians, and others. Santa Clara College (now SCU) itself was founded in 1851. SCU has been striving to balance the need for historic preservation with the needs of a growing campus. How best to interpret history and archaeology, and meet the needs of 21st century students.

7) Cultural Heritage Preservation, Education and Tourism: El Presidio de San Francisco - the Site, the Classroom, the Destination
Chairs: Sannie Kenton Osborn and Eric Blind (San Francisco Presidio Trust).
Whether it is the views to the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz, or the histories from Colonial Spain till Cold War collapse, the Presidio is uniquely situated to become an internationally significant cultural heritage site, a public classroom for “K-thru-Gray” education, and a destination for heritage tourism. Focusing on the archaeological site of El Presidio de San Francisco, papers will examine ongoing planning initiatives such as the Anza Esplanade, research programs with international organizations such as US/ICOMOS, and the Presidio’s extensive educational partnership with the University of California at Berkeley.

8) Contributions to California’s Cultural Legacy: Archaeological Research within California State Parks.
Chairs: Michael P. Sampson and E. Breck Parkman (California Department of Parks and Recreation).
California State Parks is bound by its mission to preserve and interpret the multitudinous and highly diverse cultural heritage of California. The span of human history and some of the most significant prehistoric and historic sites in California are represented within the California State Park System. The presentations in this symposium, provided by State Parks staff, contractors, and local researchers, will reflect the diversity of cultural properties and geographic areas of California. Research areas covered in the symposium include the Sonoma County coast, Angel Island, the Central Coast, the Sierran Foothills, the western Mojave Desert, the mountains of San Diego County, the Colorado Desert, and others. The presentations will provide data about new archaeological discoveries throughout the state and the results of analyses, as well as, presentations of solutions to difficult heritage management issues.

9) Recent Projectile Point Studies in California.
Chair: Michael Rondeau.
Projectile points continue to play a pivotal role in the temporal placement of archaeological sites and advanced prehistoric studies that cannot proceed without chronological controls. The reporting of progress towards the refinement of projectile point typologies and their chronology has languished. This symposium brings together a collection of recent studies that contribute to filling this gap, help point the way to future studies and suggest ways in which projectile point types may be more reliably applied.

10) A Bioarchaeological Perspective on California Prehistory
Chair: Irina Nechayev (San Jose State University).
The study of human skeletal remains presents a valuable source of information for understanding and interpreting archaeological and historical data on human evolution, development, and adaptation to changing environmental and cultural conditions. Evaluation of physiological stresses allow an understanding of processes that led to increases or decreases in population sizes, changes in subsistence patterns, and social and technological complexities of past societies. Studies of metric and non-metric traits provide information on population migrations and biological relationship of various populations to each other. This symposium will include anthropological studies from the fields of osteology, dental anthropology, demography, and

Watch for future e-mail Newsflashes containing Annual Meeting roomblock information and program updates!
paleopathology providing new insight into California prehistory.

11) Cultural Resources Protection: Round Table Session on Strengthening the Law.
Chair: Beverly R. Ortiz (CSU East Bay/East Bay Regional Park District).
Existing laws and professional ethics prevent archaeologists from revealing specific site locales to the general public, but the same laws do not prevent members of the general public from revealing that same information in print and on the internet, something that is occurring with increasing frequency. New technology, including GPS (now available on cell phones) makes it increasingly easy for unprotected sites in isolated areas to be identified and located. This panel will summarize existing legislation pertaining to site protection and discuss a course of action needed to strengthen those laws.

12) Inland, Interior, and Interface III: Expanding Research in South-Central California.
Chairs: Mathew Armstrong (URS Corporation), Gale Grasse (California State University Bakersfield), Jack Sprague (American Rock Art Research Association), and David Robinson (University of Bristol).
Whereas archaeological research in South-Central California has long been predominantly focused on the coast, recent work in the extensive interior region has highlighted the tremendous research potential of inland investigations. Continuing studies challenge perceptions of this area as “peripheral” and examine the unique and varied social, political, economic and ideological milieus inhabited by Chumash, Yokuts, Kawaiisu, Salinan and other groups. Building upon the dialog created by two earlier installments of this symposium, this selection of papers completes the trilogy in presenting studies of interior archaeologies and the results of expanding investigations in this diverse and dynamic region.

13) Potential Directions for Understanding Baja California Prehistory.
Chairs: Don Laylander (ASM Affiliates), and Julia Bendimez Patterson (INAH Centro Baja California).
Our understanding of the prehistory of the Baja California peninsula has made great strides forward in recent decades. The participants in this international, interdisciplinary symposium will step back for a moment from their ongoing research projects, in order to consider the goals and strategies for achieving further advances. We will discuss with the audience the obstacles and challenges that we face, and how we might overcome them, as well as the great opportunities presented to us, and how to maximize them.

14) Life on the River: A History of the Wintu People as Seen from CA-SHA-1043/H
Chairs: William Hildebrandt and Julie Garibaldi-Hannan (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc).
Recent excavations at CA-SHA-1043/H encountered a late prehistoric Shasta Complex village site along the banks of the Sacramento River. The effort revealed multiple structures (including charred remains), as well as a rich assortment of other domestic features, artifacts, and subsistence remains. Near the end of the project, we found an old cemetery that included people buried while the village was occupied, but many others were found with glass beads and other artifacts, signaling early contact with the Hudson Bay fur traders from the north. Based on a limited set of diaries from this crucial period of cultural transition, it appears that the historic component at the site reflects the devastating effects of a malaria epidemic that entered the northern valley in the 1830s. The symposium papers elucidate life in Shasta County during this little known interval of California history, providing a wealth of information that will be addressed more fully during an open discussion scheduled at the end of the session.

Chairs: Karen Swope and Barbara Tejada (California Department of Transportation).
Archaeological method and theory maintain that material culture should not be collected by less-than-scientific means. Collections that are unprovenienced or of limited provenience hold, at best, limited data potential. At the extreme, these assemblages may be useless in attempts to reconstruct past lifeways and cultural traditions. Beyond questions of research potential, ethics are at the heart of the problem. As a result, some archaeological societies have formulated regulations restricting publication of unprovenienced data. This symposium addresses the issue, with examples drawn from assemblages that are unprovenienced, of limited provenience, or looted. It is, at times, possible to extract important information without compromising our professional standards.
Assembly Bill No. 2641
CHAPTER 863

An act to amend Sections 5097.91 and 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code, relating to burial grounds.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2006. Filed with Secretary of State September 30, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2641, Cooco. Native American human remains and multiple human remains.

Existing law establishes the Native American Heritage Commission ("commission") and authorizes the commission to bring an action to prevent damage to Native American burial grounds or places of worship. Existing law, the California Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act of 2001, requires all state agencies and all museums that receive state funding to inventory Native American human remains and cultural items in their possession for return to the appropriate tribes.

Existing law requires the commission, once it receives notification of Native American human remains (human remains), from a county coroner, to notify the most likely descendants, and the descendant, with permission of the landowner, or his or her authorized representative, may inspect the site and recommend appropriate dignified disposition of human remains and grave goods, but are required to do so within 24 hours of notification by the commission.

Existing law requires that when the commission is unable to identify descendants, the descendants fail to make a recommendation, or other specified circumstances occur, the landowner shall return the human remains, as specified.

The bill would require that if the human remains are found during ground disturbing land development activity, to agree to additional conferral with the descendants, as specified, however, the parties are unable to agree on appropriate treatment, the remains shall be returned, as specified.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
(a) Private and public lands in California may contain the remains of ancestors to contemporary California Native Americans.
(b) Current state law provides a limited measure of protection for prehistoric and historic California Native American human remains and sites containing multiple human remains.
(c) California Native American human remains are not always located within the current boundaries of California Native American reservations and reservations, and therefore, are not covered by resource protection laws of tribal governments.
(d) It is the intent of the Legislature, in enacting this bill, to accomplish the following:
(1) Encourage landowners to consider preservation or avoidance of California Native American human remains in place, whenever feasible.
(2) Encourage culturally sensitive treatment of California Native American human remains when preservation is not feasible.
(3) Encourage meaningful discussions, including the development of agreements to establish a protocol for the dignified and culturally sensitive treatment of Native American human remains, between the most likely descendants and landowners at the earliest possible time, so that California Native American human remains can be identified and considered during development activities.
(4) Ensure that landowners and the most likely descendants meaningfully communicate when California Native American human remains may be disturbed.

SEC. 2. Section 5097.91 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

5097.91. There is in state government a Native American Heritage Commission, consisting of nine members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. For purposes of this chapter, "commission" means the Native American Heritage Commission.

SEC. 3. Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

Assembly Bill No. 2641, Chaptered:
An Act to Amend Sections 5097.91 and 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code

5097.98. (a) Whenever the commission receives notification of a discovery of Native American human remains from a county coroner pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 7605.5 of the Health and Safety Code, it shall immediately notify those persons it believes to be the most likely descendants from the deceased Native American. The descendants may, with the permission of the owner of the land, or his or her authorized representative, inspect the site of the discovery of the Native American human remains and may recommend to the owner or the person responsible for the excavation work means for treatment or disposition, with appropriate dignity, of the human remains and any associated grave goods. The descendants shall complete their inspection and make recommendations or preferences for treatment within 48 hours of being granted access to the site.

(b) Upon the discovery of Native American remains, the landowner shall ensure that the immediate vicinity, according to generally accepted cultural or archaeological standards or practices, where the Native American human remains are located, is not damaged or disturbed by further development activity until the landowner has discussed and conferred, as prescribed in this section, with the most likely descendants regarding their recommendations, if applicable, taking into account the possibility of multiple human remains. The landowner shall discuss and confer with the descendants in all reasonable settings regarding the descendants' preferences for treatment.

(1) The descendants preferences for treatment may include the following:
(A) The nondestructive removal and analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American human remains.
(B) Preservation of Native American human remains and associated items in place.
(C) Relinquishment of Native American human remains and associated items to the descendants for treatment.
(D) Other culturally appropriate treatment.

(2) The parties may also mutually agree to extend discussions, taking into account the possibility that additional or multiple Native American human remains are located, as defined in this section, are located in the project area, providing a basis for additional treatment measures.

(e) For the purposes of this section, "conferral" or "discuss and confer" means the meaningful and timely discussion and careful consideration of the views of each party, in a manner that is cognizant of all parties' cultural values, and where feasible, seeking agreement. Each party shall recognize the other's needs and concerns for confidentiality of information provided to the other.

(d) (1) Human remains of a Native American may be an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness.
(2) Any items associated with the human remains that are placed or buried with the Native American human remains are to be treated in the same manner as the remains, but do not by themselves constitute human remains.

(e) Whenever the commission is unable to identify a descendant, or the descendants identified fail to make a recommendation, or the landowner or his or her authorized representative rejects the recommendations of the descendants and the mediation provided for in subdivision (k) of Section 5097.94, if involved, fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner, the landowner or his or her authorized representative shall return the human remains and items associated with Native American human remains with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further and future subsurface disturbance. To protect these sites, the landowner shall do one or more of the following:
(1) Record the site with the commission or the appropriate Information Center.
(2) Utilize an open-space or conservation zoning designation or easement.
(3) Record a document with the county in which the property is located.

(f) Upon the discovery of multiple Native American human remains during a ground disturbing land development activity, the landowner may agree that additional conferral with the descendants is necessary to consider culturally appropriate treatment of multiple Native American human remains. Culturally appropriate treatment of such a discovery may be ascertained from a review of the site utilizing cultural and archaeological standards. Where the parties are unable to agree on appropriate treatment measures the human remains and items associated and buried with Native American human remains shall be returned with appropriate dignity, pursuant to subdivision (k).

(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 5097.9, this section, including those sections taken by the landowner or his or her authorized representative to implement this section, and any actions taken to implement an agreement developed pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 5097.94 shall be exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000)).

(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 20424, this section, including those sections taken by the landowner or his or her authorized representative to implement this section, and any actions taken to implement an agreement developed pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 5097.94 shall be exempt from the requirements of the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 50000)).
The Earnes House and the Borax Lake Site Named National Landmarks

Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne has designated National Historic Landmarks in Kansas, California, Florida, New York, Georgia, and Nevada in recognition of their importance in interpreting the heritage and history of the United States. The sites range from the Florida home of a Pulitzer Prize author, to a school dormitory in Georgia important in the civil rights movement, to one of the most significant experiments in postwar American domestic architecture in California.

California’s new National Historic Landmarks are the Eames House (Case Study House #8), Los Angeles, California and the Borax Lake Site, Clear Lake, Lake County, California. Fewer than 2,500 nationally significant historic places across the country have received this distinction.

BLM Celebrates America’s Priceless Heritage

“America’s Priceless Heritage: Snapshots in Time” a photography exhibit featuring archeological and historic resources found on BLM lands opened on September 1, 2006, in the Smithsonian Institution Ripley Center. The exhibition, celebrating the centennial of the signing of the Antiquities Act, features 21 photographs of cultural and natural resources. “This intimate and beautiful photo exhibition is a wonderful way to celebrate the 100th anniversary of President Roosevelt’s Antiquities Act, a very futurist thought at the time,” said Ellen Dorn, director of the SI International Gallery.

“America’s Priceless Heritage” shares with visitors a photographic sampling from this “outdoor museum,” including photographs of 170 million-year-old dinosaur tracks in Utah, Navajo dwellings in New Mexico, William Clark’s signature on a rock in Montana 200 years after the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and a roadhouse on Route 66. “These irreplaceable resources found on public lands tell an incredible story of the western landscape and our history,” said Kathleen Clarke, BLM director. “I believe visitors to this exhibit will be inspired to honor these fragile archeological and historic resources and be involved in their preservation.”

“America’s Priceless Heritage: Snapshots in Time” will be on display until November 30, 2006, in the concourse gallery of the S. Dillon Ripley Center at the Smithsonian Institution. Located on the National Mall at 1100 Jefferson Drive, SW, the gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily. Admission is free.

Guidance for NPS Archaeological Permits On-Line

NPS guidance on permits for archeological investigations available The first module of the NPS Archeology Guide, Permits for Archeological Investigations is available on the NPS Archeology Program website. The Archeology Guide describes operational requirements, activities, standards, and provides guidance on the responsible management of archeological resources under the stewardship of the NPS. The Guide supplements more general directions in Director’s Order #28A: Archeology, the NPS CRM Guideline, and Directors’ Order 28: Cultural Resource Management.

The Permits for Archeological Investigations module provides information for applicants, and NPS archeologists and managers about applying for archeological permits, reviewing such applications, issuing of permits, monitoring of permitted activity, and related activities. The Permits for Archeological Investigations module replaces the Technical Manual for the Issuance of Archeological Permits, which was issued by the NPS Director on 5 October 1984.


Meetings

Call for Abstracts: 10th US/ICOMOS International Symposium on Heritage Tourism, April 18 - 21, 2007 In San Francisco, California

The 10th US/ICOMOS (U.S. National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites) International Symposium on Heritage Tourism will take place on April 18 -
21, 2007 in San Francisco, California. The event will be hosted by The Presidio Trust and cosponsored by Architectural Resources Group. As conveyed by the symposium title, US/ICOMOS issues this universal call for abstracts that discuss the basic themes of culture, conservation, and economics as related to heritage tourism within the Pacific Rim. Additionally, the symposium will consider how experiences in the Pacific Rim related to other regions of the world.

Please visit our website at http://www.icomos.org/usicomas for more information or go directly to the Call for Abstracts page at http://www.icomos.org/usicomas/Symposium/SYMP07/2007_Symposium_Call_for_Abstracts.htm

US/ICOMOS welcomes abstracts from and about all geographic areas. Full attention will be given to all abstracts. We tried to make clear in the Call for Papers that heritage tourism is a global phenomenon but that the Pacific Rim countries offer an intriguing perspective. Experiences that occur in the Pacific Rim also occur in other places and we hope to illustrate the themes with the abstracts that describe them best. Basically we are looking for the best speakers and the most relevant topics. The idea behind highlighting the Pacific Rim was to distinguish the theme of the conference but not to limit it.

US/ICOMOS
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On-Line Resources
Visit The Archaeology Channel.org for New On-Line Media

Many Native American groups in North America are working hard to reconnect with a cultural legacy that was nearly lost. A case in point is conveyed by Reclaiming Our Heritage: The Monacan Indian Nation of Virginia, the latest video feature on our nonprofit streaming-media Web site, The Archaeology Channel (http://www.archaeologychannel.org).

The story of the Monacan People, from prehistory to the present, is finally told in this documentary produced and edited by Sharon Bryant, a member of the Monacan Indian Nation. Monacan traditions link to the archaeological record and include the tale of Amoroleck, the first Monacan to confront the English settlers, and his prophetic words to Capt. John Smith. Later history reflects the systemic disenfranchisement of the Monacans, along with other Indian peoples of Virginia, and their recent triumph in gaining official state recognition.

Very few people remain who can still remember the way of life established by Euro-American settlers more than a century ago in the remote corners of North America. Remembering those times is the subject of Proving Up and Settling Down: Stories of Life in Hells Canyon, the latest video feature on our nonprofit streaming-media Web site, The Archaeology Channel (http://www.archaeologychannel.org).

The basalt cliffs of Hells Canyon have witnessed the ebb and flow of Native American tribes, trappers, miners, and homesteaders as each has left a mark on America’s deepest river gorge. This film brings Hells Canyon to life through the accounts of historians; Horace Axtell, a descendent of Chief Joseph’s band of the Nez Perce; and early Hells Canyon residents, Violet Wilson, Ace Barton and Joe Jordan. These old-timers share stories of work and family, isolation and ingenuity, and a deep respect for the canyon they called home in the first half of the 20th Century.

This and other programs are available on TAC for your use and enjoyment. We urge you to support this public service by participating in our Membership (http://www.archaeologychannel.org/member.html) and Underwriting (http://www.archaeologychannel.org/sponsor.shtml) programs. Only with your help can we continue and enhance our nonprofit public-education and visitor-supported programming. We also welcome new content partners as we reach out to the world community.

Richard M. Pettigrew, Ph.D., RPA
President and Executive Director
Archaeological Legacy Institute
http://www.archaeologychannel.org

From the President (cont’d from page 3)

session at the 21st California Indian Conference in San Rafael on October 14; it was entitled Cultural Resources Protection: Strengthening the Law. Participants in the panel discussion included representatives from California Indian Legal Service, the Native American Heritage Commission, the Bureau of Land Management, the SCA and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research. This informed discussion focused on the problems with and legalities associated with disclosing prehistoric site locations in the technologically modern world while protecting their traditional and sacred values.

Also emanating from the Native American community, I attended another Strategic Planning Meeting on Protecting Cultural Heritage in California on October 15 in Santa Rosa organized and cochaired by Kashia Pomo THPO, Reno Franklin, and SCA Vice-President, Michael Newland. The stated objective of this meeting was to create an “open dialogue between Native American tribes, federal and state...
data-sharing in Mexico...

I wanted to take this opportunity to reply to Mike Sampson’s letter in the September issue concerning the location for the Southern California Data-Sharing Meeting.

For an archeologist, Baja California, Mexico is not a foreign country. Certainly, it is across the international boundary, and needing a passport to return to the U.S. is a little bit of an inconvenience, but the border has existed for less than 200 years. What archeologists study goes back in time for thousands of years more than that. Neither the 19th century Mexicans, nor the Spaniards before them, nor the Indians before them, knew that a boundary would even exist.

The geographical continuity that is essential to an understanding of coastal and interior archeology does not allow for the existence of the border. For both colonial and pre-contact archeology, we must recognize that the international boundary has no meaning.

— Frank Bayham

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The geographical continuity that is essential to an understanding of coastal and interior archeology does not allow for the existence of the border. For both colonial and pre-contact archeology, we must recognize that the international boundary has no meaning.

Our Mexican colleagues are doing pioneering work on the Baja Peninsula, and have welcomed American researchers to join them. Some fascinating results are beginning to come out of B.C. that are pertinent to work being done on this side of the border.

INAH certainly did a fine job in hosting the meetings. The hotel was comfortable, easy to get to, and very inexpensive. The simultaneous translation of presentations was well done, and we even enjoyed a FREE breakfast. Even allowing for the extra gas to reach Ensenada, the meeting was less expensive than others I have attended.

I sincerely believe that what California archeologists (both Californias!) have to gain from one another far outweighs any inconvenience that may be experienced in traveling to the other side of the border. New experiences, new perspectives and sharing of data with a wider range of archeologists, who are studying essentially the SAME history and prehistory, can only serve to enrich us all.

Richard DesLauriers
SCA member

Dear SCA,

Those southern Alta Californios who passed on the SCA Southern Data Sharing Meeting at Ensenada missed a great weekend. Ensenada is a very interesting town and a great venue for the meetings: lots of strolling, people watching, good inexpensive restaurants, cantinas, and tourist stores. The meeting facilities were fine, the translations were very well done and the papers were interesting. Attendance was estimated at about 80 persons.

I got everybody’s attention with a paper questioning the importance of acorns in the Late Prehistoric subsistence system for San Diego County. In a nutshell (so to speak), the argument is that the very low percentage of bedrock mortars, compared with bedrock metates (basins and slicks), suggests a very minor role of acorns until very late in the period or in the Historic Period. Don Laylander (ASM&A), Julia Bendimez (Directora, Conaculta-INAH Mexicali and Ensenada), Lynn Gamble (SDSU), and Andy York (EDAW) provided a lively discussion and good suggestions for the next version of the paper. Don, Julia and I went to SDSU, so for a moment it seemed like we were back grad school together.

Congratulations and thanks to Southern Vice President Andy York and all those who helped for staging a very successful event.

Cheers,

Dr. Jackson Underwood, R.P.A.
RECON Environmental
San Diego and Tucson
Lupo, K. D. and D. N. Schmitt  

Archaeological interpretations derived from faunal analyses are typically based on optimal foraging models to explain taxonomic diversity and relative abundance. The prey choice model predicts which items from a set of potential resources should be included in the diet when they are encountered. The model assumes that all foragers would rank prey universally based on net energetic return rates. The authors call for a more sophisticated analytical technique to fully incorporate fine-grained variation in forager diet breadth.

Lupo and Schmitt present ethnographic observation in conjunction with results from ethnoarchaeological bone assemblages analyses produced by Central African Bofi and Aka foragers with the objective of assessing small prey foraging practices. Results of the analyses indicate that the faunal assemblage failed to reflect the diversity of hunting choices. The authors suggest that differences in assemblage diversity and abundances are not linked to large scale changes in the diet breadth resulting from the declining availability of prey, nor are they a product of environmental change or technological innovation. Rather, “nonconsumptive” benefits, such as enhanced social relations, formation of political alliances and attraction of mates, can influence hunting strategies even if it’s considered a high risk. Lupo and Schmitt define the need to recognize individual variability and recommend the development of analytical methods to distinguish it from larger environmental or technological agents of change.

Voss, B. L.  

Although culture contact studies generally focus on the relationships between the colonized and the colonizer, Voss examines the complex relationships among the Euroamerican colonials during the occupation of El Presidio de San Francisco—a Spanish-colonial military outpost—in the late 1700s to the early 1800s. The colonial inhabitants of El Presidio de San Francisco consisted of Mesoamericans, *indios*, African-mixed individuals, *mulattos*, Indian-mixed individuals, *mestizos*, and a fourth group, *españoles*, which were individuals with mixed ancestry but afforded opportunities of upward social and political mobility. The discovery and investigation of a historic refuse deposit encased under Building 13 at the Presidio, allowed the examination of ethnic, racial and gender identifies among El Presidio colonials during 1780 to 1800.
Based on archaeological, architectural and documentary information, Voss presents a significant variation from findings at other colonial sites in North America. Analysis of the material culture failed to recognize the racial differences between the four groups that lived at the settlement; rather distinction appears to be muted. Interestingly, evidence of Native American culture were not represented in the artifact or faunal assemble, indicating the decisive avoidance of incorporating these particular lifeway strategies. Ceramic and metal vessels that replicated forms of central New Spain were dominant in the assemblage and faunal remains associated with wild foods played a minimal role in the diet.

The built environment reflects gradual alterations toward a more communal social space, incorporating larger plazas within the compound over time. Building materials reflected an ever increasing reliance on adobe, even though it was recognized as an inadequate building material for the region. Single residences expressed a single architectural style in size, material and orientation. Given these architectural elements, with the homogeneity of the material culture, Voss suggests that the military settlers of the El Presidio de San Francisco selected to fuse a shared colonial identity rather than enhance racial and social identities.

Watch your holiday mail for '07 election position statements, a ballot, and an SCA envelope.
Charles B. McKee  
1914 – 2006

Dan Foster  
Senior Environmental Planner  
California Department of Forestry

Charles B. (“Brad”) McKee passed away on Thursday, September 14, 2006, in Sacramento. With his passing, California lost another of its pioneering archaeologists. The McKee family requested that I deliver a eulogy at the memorial service on September 19th and it was my privilege and honor to do so. There were about 40 of Brad’s friends and family members in attendance, which included one other SCA Member—CALTRANS Archaeologist Rich Olsen.

Brad was born on October 3, 1914 and lived throughout his life in Sacramento, where he became interested in archaeology at the age of six or seven when he found a projectile point in a load of gravel delivered to his family home. He went on to attend Sacramento Junior College (1933-1934) and the University of California at Berkeley (1934-1937), where he obtained his degree. Brad was a member of the first archaeological field class at Sacramento Junior College in 1933 and excavated at the Augustine Mound, the Hicks Mound, and the Hertzog Mound under the direction of Jeremiah B. Lillard and William K. Purves. Other students in the class included Robert F. Heizer and Richard van Valkenburgh. The work of Lillard and his students was not only instrumental in the recognition of regional prehistoric cultural development in the lower Sacramento Valley (leading to what has become known as the Central California Taxonomic System), but also to the development of the modern science of archaeology as it is practiced throughout the world today. The field methods utilized in Central California in the 1930’s were to become formally standardized with the publication in 1949 of “A Manual of Archaeological Field Methods”, a book which is still widely in use, although many editions later. Brad McKee played an important role in this early history, although his decision to take over the family business was to take him in a different direction for most of his life.

Brad’s contributions to California Archaeology are presented in Arlene H. Towne’s (1984) “A History of Central California Archaeology, 1880-1940”, in several hours of taped interviews she made with him preparing that document, and in his own presentation in the Society For California Archaeology Occasional Papers publication “Some Thoughts on California Archaeology: An Historical Perspective” (1984). We are very fortunate to have these historical documents which bear on this significant time in the historical development of our discipline. Brad’s perspectives and remembrances are unique from others and add significantly to our insight and feeling for those times. Brad was Robert Heizer’s roommate while at Berkeley and this association led to a summer of fieldwork working on Kodiak Island with Ales

Sacramento Junior College excavations at the Augustine Mound (CA-SAC-126) in 1933. Top: J.B. Lillard (l), and Charles Hughes (r). Bottom: Charles “Brad McKee (l), Richard van Valkenburgh (c), and Robert F. Heizer (r).

Crew for the 1989 CDF Dig at Dad Young Spring (PLA-689) from left: Brad McKee, Lissa McKee, John Betts, Fritz Riddell, Don McGeein, Rich Jenkins and Dan Foster.
Hrdlicka in 1935. He recalled this as an especially interesting experience in his life, but following graduation chose not to follow an archaeological career—a decision he said he regretted many times. Brad represents the invisible archaeological worker whose contributions are unknown or forgotten, but without whom archaeology could not be done. You will not find his name in the acknowledgments of those significant archaeological reports of the 1930’s, but he was instrumental in the contributions they ultimately represented. In this sense, Brad characterizes a class of important contributors to the discipline of archaeology whose deeds have largely gone unrecognized. Fortunately, Brad never really abandoned archaeology due to a genuine interest that he maintained in the subject throughout his life and to avocational opportunities that allowed him to continue to participate in the discipline in his later years.

I first met him in 1979 through his daughter Lissa, now a CALTRANS Branch Chief. She, as an historian, and me, as an archaeologist, both worked for Fritz Riddell at State Parks. Fritz knew Brad well and encouraged me to go meet him, which I did in the Fall of that year. Brad was just entering his retired life, pretty upset about the results of an auction that was arranged to liquidate the stock of his shoe business, but now had the time to pursue one of his deep passions—exploring the wild lands of the Far West. Brad volunteered for the CDF Archaeology program as a crew member on over a dozen surveys and site excavations throughout California. He never turned us down once in over 20 years. One particularly memorable project was the week-long site dig at the Dad Young Spring Site (CA-PLA-689) above Georgetown.

Brad just loved to walk the rugged backcountry of California and Nevada to search for petroglyphs and other types of sites and he was specially gifted at finding them. We spent many weekends together recording sites near Cisco Grove, Sacramento, Truckee, Shasta County, and Roseville, but I think my most vivid memories come from our two trips to the spectacular Lagomarsino Site in Storey County, Nevada. This is one of the most spectacular rock art sites in the entire Far West but not easy to get to, at least not then. Brad drove us in there with his old pale-green Toyota Landrover, with a winch on it, by going down one of the roughest, boulder-strewn washes I have ever seen, or at least ever tried to drive on. In those years Brad could walk all day without rest; it was hard to keep up with him. He was really tall, with long legs, and the only man I’ve ever met who could step right over a tight four-strand barbed wire fence without assistance.

It was not uncommon for Brad to take his vacations by hiking 30 miles through barren, remote, almost inaccessible canyons in the American Southwest to search for undiscovered cliff ruins and petroglyphs. He often brought his children along with him, which of course, is why all three daughters acquired a similar love for the outdoors: Lissa the Historian, Debbie the Wildlife Biologist, and Mary the Climber.

Brad was a quiet and gentle man. Even if he was volunteering on your survey, he would offer to drive, and would bring lunch for everybody, and I mean a really good lunch. His wife Ann is an absolutely fantastic cook and I’m quite sure it is she I have to thank for all those wonderful meals. But most of all I am thankful to Ann for letting me take Brad with me on all those fantastic trips and for inviting me several times to his family home on Piedmont Drive to show slides, and to talk about archaeology and the great outdoors. I’m proud that Brad thought of me as one of his friends, because he sure was one of mine.

Benjamin Ananian
1947 – 2006

E. Breck Parkman
Senior State Archaeologist
California State Parks

Benjamin Frederick Ananian was born in San Francisco on July 27, 1947. He graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in San Francisco and later attended California State University, Hayward (now CSU-East Bay) where he received his B.A. and M.A. degrees in Anthropology. For many years afterwards, he was intimately involved with the University’s Anthropology Department. Numerous students came into contact with Ben while they were enrolled at CSUH and many of them were enriched by the experience. Ben was truly one of the most beloved characters who ever called the University home.

Ben worked as a contract archaeologist for most of his career. His projects took him throughout Central California but he was most at home working in the San Francisco Bay area. One of his first archaeological experiences was excavating at Coyote Hills (CA-ALA-328) on San Francisco Bay in the late 1960s.

I met Ben in 1974, when we both participated in Dr. Clarence Smith’s excavation of the Pleasanton Meadows Site (CA-ALA-394) in the Livermore Valley. At the time, Ben was conducting his thesis research at CA-MNT-85, located on the Arroyo Seco in the Los Padres National Forest. Soon, I was recruited to assist him with his fieldwork.

Over the next two years, I made numerous trips to the Arroyo Seco along with George Rodgers and several other CSUH students. MNT-85 was a difficult but exciting place to work and Ben’s field camp was Spartan at best. And yet seldom since then have I enjoyed as much the stimulation, excitement, and pleasure of being in the field. The long and grueling days of hiking our equipment in, excavating, and then hiking the level bags and soil samples out from the site...
Ben Ananian, in 2001

Unfortunately, Ben never completed his thesis on MNT-85 (he ended up taking the Comprehensive Exams, instead). In truth, Ben was not much of a writer. While he did occasionally author small sections of larger CRM reports, I can think of no substantial report that Ben ever wrote alone nor do I believe he ever delivered a single professional paper. And yet, Ben was a gifted archaeologist worthy of our respect. He just marched to a different drummer than the rest of us.

When I first met Ben, he was living in a dilapidated old house in the hills above CSUH. Ben and his roommates called their home the “Martian Landing Pad.” It was just about everything that you might imagine given its name. When Ben first moved to the Landing Pad, he rented space in a garage closet. As more senior roommates moved out, everyone moved up in their accommodations. One of Ben’s proudest accomplishments came the day he moved into the master bedroom at the Landing Pad. It had taken him years to do so.

On a number of occasions, I visited the Landing Pad to see Ben and I also attended several large parties at the house. While I am happy to report that I never met an actual Martian at the Landing Pad, I did observe other strange and Out-Of-This-World types roaming about the place. At one of the parties, there was an army of guests mingling about. One of Ben’s roommates was a little person, and she had invited a considerable number of her friends to the party, many of whom were little people, too. The music was blaring and the little people were all dancing with the big people. A resident goat had free range of the house, and you had to be very careful while dancing not to bend over, otherwise the goat was fond of charging, much to everyone’s delight. As if this wasn’t enough, one of Ben’s roommates had a young child who was autistic and the boy roamed the house that night smashing cinder blocks on the floor. He seemed to enjoy the sound and vibrations made by the breaking blocks. It was wild but no one seemed to really mind. Both the big and little people gyrating on the dance floor tried their best to avoid the ever charging goat and the smashing cinder blocks. Not everyone was successful! This was probably a typical event at the Landing Pad. It seemed like such an odd situation for someone as quiet and shy as Ben to find himself in.

Because the Martian Landing Pad had so many people sharing its crowded spaces, living there came with little sense of quiet and privacy. As a result, Ben spent much of his time at the CSUH library, located a short walk down the hill from the house. On most evenings, you’d find Ben sitting in the library, reading. He did this year after year for most of the two decades that he lived at the Landing Pad. As a result, he was probably the best-read person I have ever met. And he was one of the brightest, too. I always thought of Ben as a walking encyclopedia as did many others who knew him well.

Many archaeologists met Ben during his lifetime but probably will not remember him unless they were fortunate enough to be in his circle of friends. Ben was one of those quiet people who often attended SCA conferences but never spoke at such events other than in hushed tones among small groups of trusted friends. Ben was shy and very humble. In fact, he was much too shy to get up and talk at a professional meeting. I always wished that he would do so but he never did. Ben had a lot to say about California archaeology. His knowledge was immense. Even now, I cannot imagine its breadth.

Once, at a crew party at Dave Fredrickson’s home following the excavation of the Diablo Road site (CA-CCO-352) in 1975, George Rodgers and I listened to Ben engage in a lengthy and passionate discussion with the great and beloved Jim Bennyhoff over the fine-points of shell bead typology. With his stage fright overcome by a few cold beers, Ben leaned back against Dave and Vera Mae’s refrigerator, reached deep within himself, and surprised all of us with the extent of his knowledge on the subject. I think that Dr. Bennyhoff, himself, was surprised at what Ben knew and how well he articulated his position.

The truth is that Ben could have carried on an equally-informed discussion with any of a number of scientific specialists. In many ways, Ben was a Renaissance Man. Unfortunately, he had all that information locked away inside himself but rarely did he have an opportunity or did he find the safety to bring it out. In this sense, Ben never seemed complete to me. The realization of his incompleteness is part of the sadness that many of Ben’s friends feel now that he is gone. He was a troubled soul and we all knew it. There were reasons for the way he was but there is no longer any need to dwell on the hardships of Ben’s life. What is important is that he was a unique and very special person who gave freely of his time and knowledge, and never once, as far as I know, did he ever say a disparaging word about anyone. He was honorable and humble to the end.

Early in 2006, Ben was diagnosed with cancer for which he later underwent surgery and a rigorous treatment of chemotherapy. Ben beat the cancer but there were
complications from the chemotherapy that he could not overcome. Ben died in his sleep at Oakland Highland Hospital on October 20, 2006. He was 59 years old.

Ben is survived by a younger brother and sister, their spouses, and children. Beyond that, he had little left in the way of family. But Ben had a very large extended family when you consider his many friends. Ben Ananian will be long remembered and dearly missed by every last one of us.

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Frank Walker
First President of SDCAS
1928 – 2006

Ron May
SDCAS Life Member

Frank Walker, founding president of the San Diego County Archaeological Society, died September 17, 2006, with friends and family beside him. We all lost a great friend and mentor whose vision, leadership, management, courage and friendship carried us through the first years of SDCAS history. The old timers in SDCAS will remember Frank as a tall, thin man, with a bushy mustache, strong facial character, a great sense of humor, grand laugh and strong sense of adventure. Some even affectionately called him, “Uncle Frank.”

I first met Frank in September 1973 when I drove up to the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society meeting in Santa Ana to deliver a lecture on my field discoveries at Kitchen Creek, Interstate 8, in the Laguna Mountains. At the dinner before the meeting, Frank and Carol Walker, Sheila Neiswender, and Mickie Gaither were exchanging ideas with Lavinia Knight and Eileen McKinney of the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society over how to draft bylaws and organize nonprofit groups. Although I did not realize it at the time, this proved to be a key meeting with Frank Walker and his merry band of SDCAS founders.

Although my work at Kitchen Creek and graduate school prevented early involvement with the now famous Bonsall Site archaeology digs in 1973-1975, Frank invited me to participate by attending board meetings through his 1973-1974 reign as president and general board member and we exchanged ideas and philosophies on how SDCAS might play a role in the emerging “Cultural Resource Management” field that soon followed the landmark California Supreme Court Mammoth Decision in 1973. Suddenly, every city and county in California had to learn to do archaeology as part of their California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance and Frank wanted SDCAS to become an active player in this historical event. Frank assigned Tom Campbell to review and write letters on real estate development projects that threatened archaeology. My own shifting roles as District Liaison Archaeologist with State Highways, private consulting, anthropology graduate student, and Environmental Management Specialist for the County of San Diego in that time frame provided ample opportunity for SDCAS to be guided into a power educational and advocacy organization. And we played it close to the vest, hard-charging, and well in those early years. In one capacity or another, Frank served on the SDCAS board for ten years.

There were several key services that Frank selected to bring SDCAS into the public arena. First, he developed close camaraderie with the dedicated dig crew at Bonsall that formed the leadership core and made many friends for life. Second, he and his colleagues volunteered SDCAS to participate with the Bureau of Land Management, United States Navy and Marine Corps, United States Forest Service, California State Highways, California State Parks, and City of San Marcos to guide their policy development in the protection and management of archaeology sites. Third, Frank, Carol Walker, Bob Booher, Sheila Neiswender, Don Dedera, Joanne Kinney, Pat Campbell, Pam Loomis, John and Jennifer Bost and Jay and Nancy Hatley (and many others) organized a library, newsletter publication, liaison with Palomar College archaeology program, and liaison with San Diego State University and the San Diego Museum of Man. Remember, those were the early days of interpreting the laws. These interventions with the agencies became the field archaeology programs for the future.

Although I did not participate with the surveys of the Fallbrook Naval Weapons Depot, Frank and the SDCAS board became increasingly concerned a retired Marine was misleading the Navy by pot-hunting on prehistoric Luiseño sites under the pretext of “professional archaeology.” Frank and his merry band skillfully turned the Navy away from looting by enticing Palomar College to conduct formal field schools out there. Frank and Don Dedera then convinced the City of San Marcos to underwrite a large survey of Twin Oaks Road as a joint volunteer project to record archaeology sites and develop guidelines for site management that SDCAS then published in Learning to Spell Archaeology in 1974. That same year, Frank’s merry crew published Two Papers on San Diego County Archaeology that brought forth prehistoric archaeology research in rural Spring Valley by Peter Ainsworth and my research into Late Milling cremation practices at Cottonwood Creek and Kitchen Creek of the Laguna Mountains.

Frank drew the respect of private consultants, fledgling agency archaeologists and university professors. Frank worked with Russell Kaldenberg to develop field surveys of archaeology sites in Riverside and Imperial Counties and even helped clean spray paint off a petroglyph site near Red Mountain. In 1975, Frank and his cohorts and I joined forces to develop a long-term survey-training program at Table Mountain in the Jacumba area that eventually led to creation of the Table Mountain National Register Historic District (written by Pat Welch using SDCAS field data). Frank also organized field trips to BLM sites in the Mohave Desert. To some extent, Frank worked with Bill Siedel and Marge Morin in the Anza Borrego Desert State Park to conduct field surveys and tours of recorded sleeping circles, ancient camps, Indian trails, rock art and the famous Ghost Mountain retreat of Marshall South.
One of the emerging concerns in the mid 1970s was that the early excavations at Bonsall were not research oriented. At first, Frank relied on Paul H. Ezell, Ph.D., an anthropology-archaeologist at San Diego State University, for guidance in the early Bonsall work, but when no collections analysis was forthcoming, SDCAS elected to stop digging and develop interpretive programs. Frank recruited M. Jay Hatley in 1975 to help develop a research plan for the Bonsall Collection, which translated into a multi-year cataloguing party at the Hatley’s San Diego house. When pot-hunting had been detected at the Bonsall Site in 1977, Frank and the group organized a weekend test trench in the damaged part of the site to determine how much of the midden had been ruined and I joined that crew. About that same time, Frank, Dedera and others began developing annual exhibit booths at the Del Mar Fair to reach out to many thousands of members of the public.

When I accepted a position with the County of San Diego to work as staff archaeologist in the Office of Environmental Management in 1974, Frank brought a group of SDCAS founders to my first public hearing. They learned a real estate developer graded a prehistoric archaeology site at “Los Compadres” property in Encinitas. Frank and SDCAS got so riled up they retained attorney John Bost and filed a lawsuit against the developer for destruction of a public resource. Remember, the CEQA case law for archaeology amounted to zero in 1974. All the SDCAS founders pitched in on the lawsuit and, although they lost the suit because the court determined they should have sued the government, they won the admiration of environmental organizations all over southern California. All the local agencies shaped up after receiving the SDCAS CEQA review letters, which Jim Royle inherited in 1978 and continues to this day. And for all their efforts, Frank’s friends created the “Frazzled Ass Buzzard Award” in 1975 for the person who donated the greatest amount of time to SDCAS.

My best memories of Frank are from the first few years at Table Mountain in 1975-1976. Frank introduced Butch and Ginger Hancock, land surveyors from Camp Pendleton, to develop tight site recording procedures for the rugged mountain desert terrain. Jay Hatley, 2nd vice president of SDCAS in 1975, applied his U.S. Navy navigational experience to creating detailed maps of archaeology sites at Table Mountain. The dynamics of our group drew together a plan to systematically survey six square miles around Table Mountain to intensely document the area for the BLM. Kaldenberg arranged for an Antiquities Permit, camping permit, and ground fire permit and at least ninety people camped out that first winter of 1975. Frank lead a group of intrepid explorers into an incredible mountain of piled boulders that hid “Spirit Sticks,” rock paintings, and cached pottery. We were delirious with those discoveries.

The thing that made this so intriguing is that through Frank we were able to organize a large group of volunteers to carry out a long-term training program for SDCAS members and help the federal government manager their archaeology resources. Best of all, we had more than twenty-five wonderful camp outs on Table Mountain that later included bringing Kumeyaay elders Romaldo LaChappa, Rosalie Robertson, Tony Pinto and Cahuilla elder Katherine Saubel out to advise us how to harvest and roast agave plants. Many student papers developed from this project that Frank had such an instrumental role in developing. The memory of those overnight camping trips, passing around the traditional bottle of cherry brandy, and watching shooting stars with Butch Hancock playing a trumpet and Frank laughing to a grand joke will carry with me all the rest of my life.

Our friend Frank taught us that the best way to accomplish important things is through group dynamics and common goals. Frank was a born leader with a great sense of humor and knew how to make avocational archaeology fun and a contribution to the greater good. And now Frank joins with other SDCAS members who have gone before us. If there is a knowing of the cosmic meaning of those rock paintings Frank, Butch, Ginger, Jay, Nancy and others found out at Table Mountain, then Frank is the one to learn the secrets. The next time SDCAS conducts an archaeology test, I hope you all pause a moment to honor the memory of our founding president, Frank Walker.

Visit the San Diego County Archaeological Society Website:
http://www.sandiegoarchaeologicalsociety.com/
Between 1848 and 1967, California was the source of more than 106 million troy ounces of gold. This total was far greater than that for any other state and represented about 35 percent of the total United States production. California’s gold-mining history is a brilliant lure, and many books, pamphlets, periodicals and articles have been published on the subject. The old mining districts and settlements, including “ghost” towns, are visited by increasing numbers of tourists each year. In a few districts the old camps have been reconstructed. Several old gold mining towns, such as Columbia, Coloma, Shasta, and Bodie, are California state parks or recreation areas. In recent years more people have become aware of the importance of California’s gold rush in the history and development of the western United States, and steps have been made to preserve historical structures and equipment closely associated with gold mining.

Unfortunately, little visible evidence remains of many of California’s important gold-quartz mines other than caved shafts and tunnels and heavily overgrown dumps. The surface plants of the large underground lode mines at Grass Valley and along the Mother Lode belt, which for years accounted for a major part of California’s gold output, have been almost completely dismantled. More evidence remains of the large-scale placer-mining operations. The old hydraulic mine pits and the extensive tailing piles in the dredging fields still exist; some are used as commercial sources of sand and gravel. A number of the old ditches, flumes, and reservoirs that once supplied water to the hydraulic mines now are parts of hydroelectric and irrigation systems.

The French Gulch Mining District lies astride the Shasta-Trinity County line in the general vicinity of the town of French Gulch and includes the Deadwood area to the west. It is the most important lode-gold district in the Klamath Mountains. Clear Creek, which drains the area, yielded large amounts of placer gold. The Washington mine, discovered in 1852, was the first quartz mine worked in Shasta County. From around 1900 to about 1914 the output for the district averaged between $300,000 and $500,000 worth of gold per year. There was some activity during the 1920s and 1930s, and there has been minor prospecting and development work since. The Washington Mill exists today and is the central point for a large gold exploration project. The value of the total output of the district, historically, is estimated at more than $30 million.

French Gulch was originally prospected in 1849 by French miners, from whom the town received its name in 1856. At first, it was called Morrowtown, after a miner, H.B. Morrow, but apparently early-day residents thought the name lacked color. By 1852, gold quartz was being taken out of the Washington and Franklin mines, and a stamp mill was built. A year later, French Gulch was a thriving community of several
hundred miners and supporters of the industry, Yreka bound miners transferred here for the trip over Scott Mountain into Scott Valley and Yreka, where Joaquin Miller traipsed and wrote about his gold mining exploits. Miners were pulling down their cabins to get at new gold leads, and plans were being made to form a $100,000 company for an 18-stamp mill at Franklin mine. The Empire hotel, owned by Stoddard and O’Connell, was advertised as being equal to anything in the County Seat of Shasta, even better then the Batavia, which was the first, and there was talk of the road to be built from Shasta to the Franklin mine. The French Gulch Hotel was erected and is today operating as a bed and breakfast.

The Frederick Franck store was erected in Morrowtown, burned down, and rebuilt in nearby French Gulch. It burned down three years later, was rebuilt of fireproof brick and still stands.

Fire has always been a peril in the clapboard and canvas communities of early western mining towns. Certainly the steep mountain and canyon terrain continue to contribute to both the spread of fire and the ultimate potential for destruction of entire communities from wild fire and subsequent flooding. This has been the case for historic French Gulch and the current community and the mining district that remains.

On August 14, 2004 at 2:21 p.m. fire was reported to Shasta-Trinity CDF fire dispatch. The fire was located on both sides of Trinity Mountain Road within and around the community of French Gulch, west of Redding. The community was cut off initially from both fire fighting resources and from evacuation out of the community along the main road (Trinity Mountain Road) to Redding. Residents of the community were eventually evacuated out along a narrow dirt road through the mountains (the old road the Yreka bound miners used in the 1850’s) to Yreka and Weaverville in Trinity County.

The fire burned over 13,000 acres, consumed 26 residences, commercial property, and 76 other buildings. It also burned heavily into the historic mining district north and west of French Gulch sparing only the Washington Mill and a few old mining outbuildings. The fire exposed gold rush era mining artifacts and machinery related to the mining that went on in this area from the period spanning roughly from the late 1840’s to the first quarter of the 20th century. Artifacts related to the rich mining heritage; items ranging from different types of mining machinery, ore carts to residential living related antiques, mining tools and more, were seemingly erased by the fire or now exposed to further loss by subsequent artifact looting. The fire also burned over prehistoric Native American village and camp sites. Another threat appeared in the form of extensive salvage logging operations meant to mitigate timber loss on timberland, both federal and private, in and around the mining district.

Skidders, yoders and helicopter sky cranes were pulling logs through both historic sites and stacking logs, for transport, on log decks that occupied ridge top prehistoric camp sites.

Bureau of Land Management Archeologist Dr. Eric Ritter, was early on the scene after the fire, to assess and begin planning for mitigation and monitoring of valuable pre-historical and historical artifacts. Two known Wintun midden sites, both part of the CASSP monitoring program, were burned over. One site along French Gulch Road near the Morrowtown site, at Queens Gulch, also had artifacts from a Chinese miners cabin and was completely exposed to possible looting and flood erosion. The other midden was on my property and was significantly threatened by erosion from a seasonal drainage that transects the exposed midden. Both sites were earmarked for rapid growth grass seeding and protection from possible high water erosion with sandbags along the midden on my property and concrete K-rail barriers along French Gulch Road at the Queens Gulch site.

Because of early indications for looting and salvage logging impact, monitoring of easily accessible sites was implemented with patrols by BLM law enforcement, placing gates and signing critical roads to limit access. Also, archeologists from BLM, CDF and Forest Service surveyed areas to be logged to provide clear boundaries for logging activities. Unfortunately, at some of the sites, artifact
During the summer of 2005, BLM hired Tom Keffer and me to do archeological primary survey recording and artifact monitoring in the French Gulch Historical District. Our task was complicated by ongoing logging operations, overhead helicopter flights with bundled logs dangling, dodging loaded log trucks on the narrow dirt roads and trying to find sites long forgotten, except on 100 plus year old maps and oral history transcriptions.

Much of the historical record was lost, when the home of local miner Tom Neal burned in the fire. Tom was the keeper of old ledgers, maps and other documents that had not been curated with the Shasta Historical Society. The historic sites themselves still showed evidence of rich late 1800’s can and bottle dumps, though most glass artifacts were shattered by the heat of fire. The cans too, were often deformed with the melting of seam solder. Other artifact evidence revealed the site of a large miners boarding house kitchen and bunk room. A leather hobnail boot sole, riveted shovel head, white improved stoneware shards and various gray graniteware cooking utensils were found high on a hillside structure pad. Numerous cast iron wood stove pieces were found by metal detection in a mix of ash and semi-burned forest ground cover. The head frame of the Milkmaid Stamp Mill burned as did the cabins of the Scorpion Mine. Also lost to fire were the hoist works of the Summit Mine and several cabins and outbuildings that had survived previous hippie occupation. Remaining were motors, ball mill machine, ore carts and narrow gauge rails with looter valuable rail spikes.

Yet to be surveyed are several residential dump sites that have remained long hidden due to brush and Himalayan blackberry vines that had invaded woodland areas of the district and have begun, since the fire, to reclaim the sites with a vengeance. We will complete this project Spring 2006 when the weather allows access to the Niagara Stamp Mill and the Brunswick Ridge mine and mill sites. In the mean time monitoring of the sites continues periodically to deter looting and spot potential erosion problems.

One of the hallmarks of aboriginal California is the intensive use of acorns as a staple and the employment of the mortar/pestle complex to process that resource (e.g., Gifford 1936). The presumed correlation between acorns and the mortar/pestle complex is so strong that many California archaeologists equate the appearance of mortars/pestles some 5,000 years ago with the adoption of the acorn as a dietary staple (e.g., Moratto 1984). In addition, moderate to severe dental wear is well documented among many skeletal populations in prehistoric California after about 5,000 B.P., and it is commonly assumed (e.g., Leigh 1928; Moodie 1929) that this dental wear was largely the result of people consuming abrasive materials, or “grit” generated from the stone-on-stone wear between the mortar and pestle during the processing of acorns and other foods.

However, we believe that there are several ways that grit can be incorporated into acorn meal. We suggest that the actual processing of acorns in mortars is the least important source of grit and that more important sources are from leaching, mixing, and cooking. In addition, we also believe that factors other than grit may influence dental wear.

Finally, we suggest that pounding acorns in a mortar does not result in much “stone-on-stone” contact and that the depth of mortars may be a function of something more than just duration of use.

Methods of Dental Wear

Wear of the enamel crown occurs throughout life through a combination of attrition (tooth-on-tooth contact) and abrasion (tooth to foreign substance contact) (Williams and Woodhead 1986), and some degree of tooth wear is normal. The amount and type of wear depends on biological factors (e.g., Begg 1954), the foods consumed (e.g., their chemistry or phytolith content [Puech and Leek 1986]), the use of teeth as tools (e.g., Schulz 1977), and the technology involved in food preparation, such as the presence of grit from the use of stone milling tools, leaching, or other mechanisms (e.g., Leigh 1937).

Biological Factors

The biological and environmental factors affecting the health of dentition are important considerations in tooth wear. The general health, thickness, and defects of enamel...
Acorns must be removed before humans can consume them. Acorns contain tannic acid in varying quantities. In most species, the tannic acid must be removed before consumption.

Macroscopic enamel defects (hypoplasias or hypocalcifications) include pits or grooves in the enamel, thinning of enamel, and increased porosity in the outer surface (Plackova and Vahl 1971; McHenry and Schulz 1978; Duray 1990, 1996). Hypocalcified teeth are more prone to caries (Lukas and Pastor 1988), which increases the likelihood of wear.

Acorns are high in carbohydrates, and as food enters the mouth, saliva begins the digestion process by rapidly breaking down sugars and converting simple carbohydrates into sugars. These sugars contribute to the growth of oral bacteria and the formation of plaque (see Powell 1985:313-314, 316; Meiklejohn et al. 1988). Recent studies have shown that starchy foods also contain acidogenic bacteria, increasing the incidence of dental caries (Cook and Buikstra 1979; Duray 1990). Consequently, diets high in carbohydrates tend to encourage caries and tooth wear.

Cultural Factors

Cultural practices not related to acorn use also impact tooth wear.

Teeth are commonly used as tools, a sort of “third hand” (Lukacs and Pastor 1988), which may result in severe stress on the surface of the tooth. Teeth are used to grasp objects (such as fibers for the manufacture of basketry and cordage), to chew materials in preparation for their use (such as some fibers or leather) (e.g., Molnar 1972; Schulz 1977; Larsen 1985; Sutton 1988; Jurmain 1990; Littleton and Frohlich 1993), and even to retouch stone tools (Gould 1968).

Materials in foods other than acorns may also result in tooth wear (see Molnar 1972:513-514). For example, abrasive materials can be found in the silicate materials in bulbs and roots, in the grit from the processing of foods other than acorns on metates, in the bones contained in dried fish or ground-up animals, in bones eaten whole, and in windblown sand that might accumulate on meats or other foods dried in the open (e.g., Warren 1967; Walker 1978; Glassow et al. 1988; Jurmain 1990; Erlandson 1991; Jones 1996).

Grit Associated with the Acorn Diet

Abrasive grit can enter the diet in a variety of ways related to acorn processing. These include grinding, leaching, mixing, and cooking.

Acorn Processing

The acorns of many species of oak (Quercus spp.) contain tannic acid in varying quantities. In most species, the tannic acid must be removed before humans can consume them.

There are several ways to leach the tannic acid from acorns, such as burying unground acorns in sand or mud for some period (weeks to months) to be leached through natural percolation of water (see Gifford 1936). However, processing acorns in a mortar and leaching them is a common method and makes the acorn meal available for food within a few hours rather than months. Grinding

Acorns were commonly shelled and then pounded in mortars to produce a “flour” or “meal” that could then be leached. However, the process of grinding acorns is designed to minimize direct contact between the pestle and mortar. A “starter” material of coarse acorn flour saved from previous grindings was used to cushion the bottom of the mortar and prevent stone-on-stone contact (see Barrett and Gifford 1933; Fenenga 1952; McCarthy et al. 1985; Parkman 1994). Further, when used regularly, mortars and pestles acquire a coating of acorn meal and oil that act as a barrier or cushion, a concept similar to the teflon coating on contemporary cookware. Leaching

Leaching is the process of passing water through acorn meal to remove the tannic acid. A number of methods was employed to leach acorns, each of which introduced grit or abrasives into the acorn meal. Many groups used a sand basin as their primary method of leaching (from Kroeber 1925; also see Ortiz 1991). In this method, a shallow depression was formed, the acorn meal was placed within it, and water was poured over the meal until the tannic acid was removed. In many cases (e.g., Patwin, Wintu, Miwok, Cahuilla, Foothill Yokuts), no liner was used. In some cases (e.g., Maidu/Konkow), the sand pit was lined with leaves or needles or covered with cedar twigs (e.g., Maidu/Konkow). In other cases (e.g., Nisenan, Yosemite Miwok), needles and leaves were placed around the edge of the sand basin as a splash guard. In the desert, wind guards were constructed of sagebrush to keep blowing sand out of the flour. These precautions indicate that Native Americans attempted to keep grit out of their foods.

Other groups (e.g., Coast Miwok, Foothill Yokuts) used small platforms for leaching, sometimes lined with sand (e.g., Wakasachi), or covered with pine needles and then a layer of sand (e.g., Shasta). A number of groups leached acorns in baskets (e.g., Cahuilla, Luiseño, Cupeño, Ipai-Tipai, Costanoan), while others (e.g., Yurok) left whole shelled acorns in a basket until they were moldy, then set them in clean river sand, and roasted them when they turned black. In most of these cases, some sand (or other abrasive) would adhere directly to the acorn meal after leaching.

Acorns can also be leached without grinding by burying them in sand or soil. Gifford (1936) suggested that this may have been the original method, although it was still used in ethnographic times (Kroeber 1925).

After retrieval from burial, the sand or soil would be brushed off as much as possible but a certain amount of abrasive materials would still be present on the acorn meats.

Cooking/Baking
Acorn meal was commonly cooked with the aid of boiling stones in watertight basketry. The stones were heated in a fire, rinsed in water to remove ash and soil, and placed in the basket to heat the acorn meal (Jurmain 1990; Ortiz 1991). However, in spite of the rinsing, some foreign materials (e.g., soil and ash) would have found their way into the acorn meal during this process. In addition, heating, cooling, and reheating such stones would lead to their eventual deterioration, resulting in small rock fragments entering the acorn meal.

In some cases, soil was intentionally added to the acorn meal. The Coast Miwok mixed acorn flour with a red soil to form cakes that were baked in an earth oven (Kelly 1978:416). The Wintu added red soil to acorn meal make “Black bread” (Lapena 1978:339). In many cases, acorn meal would be baked in earth ovens. For example, to bake acorn bread, the Wintu dug a pit, put rocks in it, kept a fire in it for a day, placed the acorn dough over the rocks, then covered it with leaves, dirt, and more rocks.

Finally, a second fire was built on top and left for another day (Lapena 1978:339). Abrasive materials were no doubt introduced into the bread during this process.

Conclusion

Dental attrition in prehistoric California is commonly attributed, at least in large part, to grinding acorns in stone mortars. Yet, there are numerous other mechanisms by which dental wear can occur. In regards to acorns, we suggest that grinding is a minor source of grit and propose that most grit was introduced through the process of leaching and cooking.

The second point made here is that the process of grinding acorns does not result in much stone-on-stone contact between mortars and pestles, and so relatively little grit is generated in this manner. This suggests that mortar depth may not be related exclusively to wear and that other factors may have been involved in the production of mortars. One possibility is that different sizes and depths of mortars were used to process different resources. This is not a new idea, but we believe it is one that warrants further consideration.

Acknowledgments

This is a revised version of a paper presented at the 1997 annual meetings of the Society for California Archaeology, Rohnert Park (Wolfe and Sutton 1997). We appreciate the comments of Jill K. Gardner, Rebecca Orfila, and Greg White.

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McHenry, Henry M., and Peter D. Schulz  

Meiklejohn, Christopher, Jan H. Baldwin, and Catherine T. Schentag  

Molnar, Stephen  

Moodie, Roy Lee  

Moratto, Michael J.  

Ortiz, Bev  
From where I stand it appears that obsidian hydration dating (OHD) has never lived up to its early promise as a robust technique for chronological assessments. Currently it is at best a sequencing technique similar to pottery seriation, useful in limited areas but not a stand-alone chronometric tool on a par with radiocarbon and dendrochronology. We all know what happens in the real world when we use OHD: if the answer agrees with other data sets, great; if it disagrees or in ambiguous, we simply discount it. This is hardly the sign of a robust technique, and it is really unfortunate, since OHD is the only technique which holds the promise of directly dating obsidian artifacts.

What is the matter and what can be done about it? I submit that the problem is that OHD has never progressed beyond a heuristic discipline, a set of rules of thumb about one step above alchemy; I further suggest the key to fixing the situation lies in the development of a scientific foundation for the field, and there are some steps we as archaeologists should take to make this happen.

The anthropology of OHD is interesting in itself, and since I am working in the field myself, I can comment as a participant-observer. There appear to be three bands of hunter-gatherers roaming the OHD countryside. Aside from disputes over resources, there seems to be little communication between these tribelets or even recognition that each other exists and is doing valuable work.

First there is a band, mostly archaeologists, who are foraging around in the dirt and doing applied work directed toward obtaining practical results for archaeology, such as developing yet another equation for Coso obsidian hydration rates. Results mostly get presented in SCA papers and published in gray-literature reports. A second band, largely composed of archaeologists and earth scientists, is doing work directed toward improved techniques, based on the phenomenology of obsidian hydration. (I draw a distinction between phenomenology and basic science in this context; OHD as a discipline today has lots of phenomenology and very little science). This includes improved lab techniques, sourcing studies, induced hydration, trying to relate glass composition to hydration rates, and improved methods of computation, among other topics. Results tend to appear in places like American Antiquity and Journal of Archaeological Science. The third band, which, due to its superior funding, has nearly achieved complex chiefdom status, is composed of glass scientists and materials scientists at engineering schools, industrial laboratories, and National Laboratories. These folk are studying the physics and chemistry of water in glass, funded by the nuclear waste program and by the
telecommunication industry (since hydration affects the performance and durability of optical fibers used in communications cables). Their results tend to be published in scientific journals such as *Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids* and *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*. Unfortunately, their articles require knowledge of physics, chemistry, and advanced mathematics to understand, and equally unfortunately, they are not working on archaeological problems (with a few exceptions).

It may be a surprise to the archaeologist to find that the physics and chemistry of obsidian hydration are still poorly understood. The fact is, the entire field is in need of a systematic scientific basis, with accepted quantitative predictive models and data to support them. Obsidian hydration is in many ways more complex at the physical-chemical level than is radiocarbon dating, and a comparison of the two fields is instructive. The two techniques have been around for nearly the same length of time, but the differences in the knowledge base and level of acceptance by archaeologists is astounding. Radiocarbon technology benefited from the Manhattan Project, and its scientific basis, beta-decay, is well understood at the level of physics. It is also relatively straightforward conceptually, as long as you accept quantum mechanics, and is subject to few post-depositional perturbations. Obsidian hydration dating, by contrast, is still largely heuristic, with no unified and accepted scientific basis, and is strongly dependent on post-depositional processes. The fundamental science may eventually yield ways to control for post-depositional effects, but such data are not in hand at present.

The science of OHD needs to start with the physics and chemistry of water in rhyolitic glass, at the molecular level, and developing it will depend on the materials science and engineering community. It probably cannot be developed by the archaeology community, because, with the best will in the world, we generally lack the necessary backgrounds in physics, chemistry, mathematics, and materials science to do so. On the other hand, the materials and glass science community often does not understand our issues very well, as

some articles in the *Journal of Archaeological Science* make painfully evident, so collaboration is needed.

So what should be done? First, we, the archaeological community, should be inviting the materials and glass science community to work on our problems and develop that body of science. At present they are generally not working on our problems, and will have to be invited, and probably funded, to do so. We need to take the initiative, because we are the ones who need the resulting data.

Second, radiocarbon dating not only has its own body of science, with fundamental precepts which are generally accepted, but also has its own journal. Obsidian hydration dating does not have a journal, and perhaps it needs one, one in which the materials scientists publish as well as the archaeological practitioners. Such a forum should encourage communications among the tribelets, if nothing else.

I see three payoffs for archaeology from development of a solid scientific basis for OHD. First, it will hopefully make OHD into the robust technique for chronological analysis that it should be. Second, only when we have such a science will we know the limits of accuracy and validity of OHD. Third, only by developing one will the skeptics (who are legion) be convinced.

A negative outcome is also possible, of course. Concerted work by materials scientists may establish that there are too many post-formation variables which cannot be controlled for, and that OHD can never be developed into a chronometric technique with the accuracy and reliability of, say, radiocarbon. We may be stuck with the semi-heuristic discipline we now have. But building the scientific basis is the only way we will know.

I am certainly not suggesting that all archaeological and phenomenological work stop. It must proceed, because we need rapid answers and we need improved techniques, near-term. But development of a coherent body of scientific knowledge on OHD would be to the benefit of all uses of OHD and is a worthy long-term goal.
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October 5-11, 2006. The National Trust for Historic Preservation will hold its annual conference in Pittsburgh. The conference theme is “Making History Work!” For more information visit: www.nthpconference.org.


October 26-28, 2006. The California Council for the Promotion of history will hold its annual conference in San Jose, CA. For more information, visit: www.csus.edu/org/ccph.

November 1-5, 2006. The Department of Anthropology at the College of William and Mary, together with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation will hold the 2006 Meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory. For more information: ethnohistory.org/2006-call_for_papers.html.


January 10-14, 2007. The Society for Historical Archaeology’s 40th Annual Conference will be held in conjunction with the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown. The theme is, “Old World/New World: Cultural Transformation.” To be held in Williamsburg, VA.


May 20-27, 2007. The Sixth World Archaeological Congress (WAC-6) has been changed. Due to insufficient financial support to participants from Indigenous groups and economically disadvantage countries, the meeting will now be held as an Inter-Congress. The new date and venue will be announced within the next few months. http://www.worldarchaeologicalcongress.org/site/wac6.php.


October 13-15, 2007. The Twenty-first Annual Indian Conference will be held at Dominican University, San Rafael. Contact: Arthur Kane Scott AScott@dominican.edu.


April 22-26, 2009. SAA Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA.


Upcoming SCA Events


April 17-20, 2008. Society for California Archaeology, Annual Meeting, Hilton Burbank Airport and Convention Center, Burbank CA.

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