Madam Felix's Gold
The Story of the Madam Felix Mining District
Calaveras County, California
by Willard P. Fuller, Jr., Judith Marvin, and Julia G. Costello

[This article is adapted from a recent publication by The Calaveras County Historical Society and Foothill Resources, Ltd. – Ed.]

Introduction

The comprehensive study of the archaeology and history of the Madam Felix mining district was sponsored by Meridian Gold Company, whose open-pit mine, the Royal Mountain King, has removed virtually all traces of the district's historic past. The extensive historic research conducted as part of this project included reviews of all pertinent and available published and unpublished documents, photographs, and maps; interviews with persons knowledgeable about the district's past were also recorded, transcribed, and annotated. A comprehensive archaeological study of the project area was conducted in 1987, identifying the physical evidence of the land's human history. Extensive archaeological excavations were subsequently carried out by Archaeological Services, Inc., of Stockton, at a large and very ancient Native American habitation and burial site on the banks of Littlejohn's Creek in Salt Spring Valley, southwestern Calaveras County. The recovered information is currently being analyzed at California State University, Fresno; final reports on the archaeological investigations are not yet available. The preliminary summary of local prehistory included here is drawn from Chapter 1 of Fuller, Marvin, and Costello (1996).

Prehistory

There is archaeological evidence of human occupation of Salt Spring Valley perhaps as early as 9,000 to 10,000 years ago. At the Skyrocket site, abundant archaeological remains from this period were found buried six feet below the present ground surface. These earliest residents of the valley experienced a much wetter and cooler climate than that of the present. Their village was adjacent to a boggy meadow fed by artesian and salt-water springs and containing abundant marsh resources. An extensive collection of grinding stones—manos and metates—from Sky (Continued on page 3)
Chairs Glenn Caruso and Adrian Praetzellis have been doing a smashing job at organizing the meeting, and their hard work has really paid off. Thanks to Barb's good work, this year's presentation is a great event. Program Chair Barbara Voss and Local Arrangements day night, and promises to be one of the highlights of the conference. Any of you have friends or family in the area? They are exceptional, and will cover just about every aspect of California archeology imaginable. Indeed, there will be something for everyone. Onward to Rohnert Park!

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President's Message by Breck Parkman

On March 26-29, the SCA will hold its 31st Annual Meeting at the Red Lion Inn, in Rohnert Park. This year's conference promises to be a great event. Program Chair Barbara Voss and Local Arrangements Co-Chairs Glenn Caruso and Adrian Praetzellis have been doing a smashing job at organizing the meeting, and their hard work has really paid off. Thanks to Barb's good work, this year's presentations (there are over 200) are exceptional, and will cover just about every aspect of California archeology imaginable. Indeed, there will be something for everyone in Rohnert Park, even the public: a Public Session is planned for Wednesday night, and promises to be one of the highlights of the conference. If any of you have friends or family in the San Francisco Bay area, you may want to mention the Public Session to them. It'll be free, informative, and very entertaining.

The staff at the Red Lion Inn have been most helpful as plans are made for the conference. I know that we will all enjoy our stay there. As usual, the SCA has reserved a block of rooms for our members' use. I am very important that we book the minimum number of rooms that we promised the Inn. Otherwise, it will cost our Society, and we can't really afford that. The more rooms that are booked at the Inn, the better for us, as it will affect our final bill from the Inn. Therefore, I ask that everyone consider staying at the Red Lion Inn. Adrian and Glenn rolled their sleeves up, got serious, and negotiated a great rate for us: $65 per room, regardless of whether you put one, two, three, or more people in it. So please, if at all possible, reserve your room at the Inn.

Glenn and Adrian also worked hard to keep our other costs down at the conference. For example, a ticket to this year's Awards Dinner will cost only $30. That's a great deal, because not only will we be served a very nice meal, but there will also be some pretty neat entertainment. As the night's Master of Ceremonies, I promise a somewhat unique and certainly an enjoyable awards "ceremony." I don't think you want to miss it. Besides, David Hurst Thomas, perhaps the best-known archaeologist in the country, is our keynote speaker at the Awards Dinner, and I know you don't want to miss what he has to say.

Admission to the Thursday night reception, our membership social, is very affordable, too. A ticket is only $11. For that, you get a pleasant, round-trip bus ride to beautiful and quaint Sebastopol, a great dinner, beer and wine, and a night of dancing. What a deal! Tom Origer and Jessica Anderson (and others at Origer & Associates) have done a tremendous job of organizing the reception, and I guarantee that you will enjoy it.

Our Rohnert Park conference promises other attractions as well. For golfers, it'll be heaven, as the Inn is only a chip shot from the course. And for those of you who would like to see some of the local area, Janine Loyd and others have done a great job of organizing local tours to prehistoric and historic sites. There's even talk of a walking tour of Olompali State Historic Park, including a look at remnants of the so-called "hippie horizon" that is manifest there. Some of you may have seen yours truly on CNN International last year, pontificating on the archaeological significance of the 1960s and the cultural significance of the hippie movement, communes, protest, and the Grateful Dead. Of course, a tour of Olompali would also examine the remnants of the 2000-year-old Coast Miwok village (MRN-193), the 170-year-old Camillo Yuitia adobe, the 150-year-old Bear Flag Revolt battlefield, and the 120-year-old Burdell Formal Garden, all reasons this internationally-significant cultural site is listed on the National Register.

So, given all these attractions and reasons to attend, I am certain that our Rohnert Park conference will be one of the best-attended ever, and one of the most memorable, too. On behalf of Adrian, Glenn, Barb, Tom, Janine, Jessica, and all the others working to make the upcoming conference one of the best ever, I invite all of you to join us in Rohnert Park. We look forward to seeing you there!
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...ockets provides some of the earliest evidence for large-scale processing of plant foods. The trend toward a more sedentary lifestyle, and more permanent village residence, is indicated by the remains of a large stone platform which stuck out into the marsh. These early foothill populations do not appear to have traded with their neighbors, as their stone tools are almost exclusively produced out of a local, fine-grained greenstone.

There is evidence of a cultural shift in Salt Spring Valley somewhere around 7,000 years ago, when, among other changes, obsidian from the east side of the Sierra Nevada becomes the predominant projectile point toolstone. This and subsequent changes may be largely attributable to dramatic changes in the California climate. A severe drought from about 7000 to 5000 B.P. may have denuded the hills surrounding the valley, and the summer monsoons that punctuated the dry period caused massive erosion that buried the boggy meadow and the old village under several feet of alluvial deposit.

As the drought ended, ancestral Yokuts people spread out from the Delta to the eastern edge of the San Joaquin Valley and up into Salt Spring Valley. A new village was established atop the buried earlier occupations of the Skyrocket site. The marsh was now gone, replaced by an oak savanna landscape to which these new residents adapted. Bowl mortars, carbonized acorns, and a possible acorn leaching pit evidence the transition to acorn exploitation. During this period, more than 160 individuals were buried in the portion of the site between Littlejohn’s and Underwood creeks. While there is some evidence that the occupants of the site traded with their “Windmiller” neighbors in the valley, they also remained culturally distinct: Windmiller-style shell beads were found at Skyrocket, but burial practices were not the same, and no characteristic Windmiller charnstones were present.

By 3,000 years ago, large villages had been established along the Stanislaus River drainage to the south. Archaeological evidence indicates that the inhabitants of these villages were involved in trade networks extending to distant coastal and Great Basin groups. By about 1,500 years ago, however, a rapid drying and warming trend played havoc with settlements in the lower foothills. In Salt Spring Valley, the population dropped sharply and trade networks were severely disrupted. Smaller points were commonly fashioned from large points scavenged out of older village deposits, and beadmaking virtually ceased. During the final prehistoric period at Skyrocket, the village was limited to the area west of Littlejohn’s Creek, while the central portion of the site was used exclusively as a cemetery. Major changes in material culture included the introduction of cremation as an alternative method of interment, an increased dependence on acorns and the use of large grinding holes cut into the creek-bottom bedrock, and the introduction of the bow and arrow. Standardized forms of clam disc beads suggest they were being used as part of a monetary system.

The protohistoric period is well represented at the Skyrocket site; it marks the demise of Native American cultures in Salt Spring Valley. Following the discovery of gold in 1848, hordes of eager argonauts swept into the Mother Lode. Although Salt Spring Valley was not part of the boom-and-bust of the early Gold Rush, it came to have a front row seat to the traffic and from some of the greatest camps of the Southern Mines. The last Native American occupants of the valley may have moved south to the Stanislaus River, returning occasionally to the old cemetery with offerings of glass beads.

History

The seasonally hospitable landscape and year-round water resources of Salt Spring Valley attracted modest ranching and farming operations from the earliest days of the Gold Rush. Essentially all these ranchers, their employees, and their retainers dabbled in mining at some time or another. They prospected, proved up claims, formed special ventures with their neighbors, and worked as miners and laborers for the larger Madam Felix mines. A few even became mine operators in their own right. Agricultural interests allowed the local population to weather the turbulent tides of mining: as fortunes of the district’s mines ebbed, they would return to their secure landholdings and livestock operations. Part of the story of the Madam Felix district is therefore about the relationships between these resident rancher-miners, and between local families and outside mining interests.

Mining Flurries: 1858-1875

By 1859, the greater Salt Spring Valley area had been settled by over 20 farms. The majority of these, however, consisted of only 160 acres and were marginally productive, at best. These shoestring farmers were either young single men or families, most of whom stayed only briefly before either abandoning their land or selling out. During the 1860s this mobile population of hopeful farmers proceeded to claim virtually every acre of arable ground in Salt Spring Valley. The valley remained a quiet agricultural community for nearly a decade, while prospecting and mining boomed in the nearby Sierran gold fields.

Before too long, however, mining for Mother Lode gold was in a state of decline and miners were at loose ends. A great many Calaveras prospectors joined the rush to the Nevada Comstock in 1859-60 to become silver miners, while others began looking for silver in their own backyards. Hiram Hughes, a local cattleman and part-time prospector, took a crack at the Comstock, but soon returned to his old familiar Calaveras haunts with new ideas about how to identify mineral deposits. He painstakingly began to comb the hills and ravines of Gopher Ridge for evidence of old, weathered, surface gold and silver outcrops called “gossans.” Late in May 1860, he discovered a gossan on Quail Hill, where he also found some gold and indications of other minerals. Assays of his samples indicated the presence of copper. Another gossan was discovered on nearby Hog Hill where Hughes also staked a claim, naming it for his son, Napoleon, who had accompanied him on his discovery trip. The news that copper had been discovered on Gopher Ridge spread like wildfire, and soon prospectors and former gold miners were rushing to the new strike. This area would soon be known as “Copper Cañon” and within a year, as Copperopolis.

With the Confederate Army’s capture of Fort Sumter in April 1861 and the outbreak of the Civil War, the Union’s demand for copper increased enormously. California became the second most important source of vital Union copper, after the Michigan mines. This California “copper boom” was centered in Calaveras County, which had by far the most productive deposits in the state. An army of prospectors was soon swarming over the foothills west of Bear Mountain, as well as all along the West Belt of the Mother Lode from Mariposa to Grass Valley and beyond.

The local residents in Salt Spring Valley promptly jumped on the bandwagon. On January 13, 1861, a historic meeting was held at the home of Alban Hettick and Madam Josephine Felix Hettick. A dozen rancher-miners of the valley were present to draw up formal regulations for recording and working copper claims in the valley. A resolution was passed that the area be christened the “Madam Felix Copper Mining District.” The southern boundary was set at the Angels or Antelope trail, the (Continued on page 4)
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east side was at the base of Bear Mountain, and the north boundary at Bear Creek. Initially, the New Diggings, south of the Angels Road, were within the Copper Canyon district. Time and events were to change the southern boundary, however, so that eventually the New Diggings were included entirely within the Madam Felix district.

The copper produced by Calaveras County for the Union army's shell casings and other strategic products was an important factor during the Civil War. Nearly 20,000,000 pounds of copper came from California during the 1860s, most of it from Calaveras County. With Confederate capitulation in 1865, however, the price of copper broke, and by 1867 the boom was over. The death knell of Copperopolis was sounded late in 1867: a fire broke out in Kelly's Hotel on the plaza, and the ensuing conflagration destroyed the major portion of town, which was never rebuilt.

With the close of the Civil War, a new interest in gold mining reappeared like the proverbial phoenix. This renewed interest developed into a speculative boom, vigorously supported not only by a particularly numerous group of promoters, but also by local newspapers and the general populace. It was a time of great optimism and financial recklessness that was virtually unsupported by current mining conditions, with the notable exception of the fabulous Comstock silver mines. New attention was focused upon the gold-bearing quartz veins of the Mother Lode and the Northern Mines, where both old and new prospects were investigated by prospectors and speculators. For a time it appeared as though there were not enough claims to satisfy everyone.

The revival of gold prospecting in Salt Spring Valley's New Diggings sparked a flurry of new claims in what came to be known as the Pine Log area. Farmers and ranchers entitled to land by the Homestead Act of 1862, as well as prospectors and miners, flocked to the region. By 1864 there were over 40 ranches in the valley, most comprising from 160 to 320 acres, with a few holdings as large as 640 acres, raising cattle, sheep, hogs, horses, poultry, hay, and grains.

Commercial enterprises were established near the center of the mining activities; Cohen's (Pike's) Store, conveniently located close by the Pine Log claim, became a busy and well-frequented spot. Another store was opened nearby by James Howard, who had purchased the Morgan homestead in 1863. A native of England, Howard was a widower who arrived in the area with his sons John and Mark to assist him in his mercantile, ranching, and mining enterprises. Ultimately more important for the social life of the valley, however, Howard left behind a daughter, Mary, in Michigan.

Encouraged by her father, twenty-four-year-old Mary Howard left a minister's home in Ann Arbor in September 1863, to make the adventurous sailing trip around the Horn. She first lived with her father in his combination store and saloon, well-situated in the midst of the mining claims. Conditions in Salt Spring Valley were far different for Mary than in Michigan. Her first experience with a sailing drunk so shocked her that she threatened, "I'm going home, taking the next ship home tomorrow." But after meeting Jacob Tower, the man her father had described in his letters as a nice young gentleman with a beautiful home, she changed her mind and stayed. The couple was married in May, 1864, and Mary moved into the large white ranch house on a knoll on the Angels Road, where she was to raise eight children and exert a major influence on valley life.

The Towers and their several hired men were occupied operating a successful waystation and ranch. In addition to the nine bedroom, two-story Neoclassical farmhouse, by the mid-1860s the Tower Ranch boasted a schoolhouse, a burkhouse, stage barns, a blacksmith shop, and a meat market.

Granted an award for "Best Improved Farm" in 1865 by the San Joaquin County Agriculture Society, much of the Tower Ranch's success was due to Mary Tower. Like most ranch women, Mary began her day at 4:30 a.m. and worked until dark. Her granddaughter reminisced, while perusing Mary's diary:

She made her husband's shirts, his partner Wilson Bisbee's shirts, and all of her children's clothes. "I tore enough material for eight sheets tonight." And the next day would be, "I hemmed the eight sheets tonight." She would take a dress apart and wash it and turn it, and then make another garment out of it. Every day she finished a garment ... besides doing all the work she had to do, washing every morning until noon.

By the 1860s there were several established ranches in the southern end of Salt Spring Valley. Josephine Felix and Alban Hettick planted a garden on a small drainage below her house, leveling a large area with a stone retaining wall and featuring a stone-lined well. Grapes, figs, apples, pears, walnuts, fruit and vegetables were grown and sold to travelers and local residents. The ranch was evidently known beyond the boundaries of the valley, as an 1863 farming magazine reports on their progress:

The Madam Felix gardens, now known as improved by A. Hettick. The whole place embraces 200 acres; cuts 30 tons of hay, and uses land to pasture stock. The garden is some 3-4 acres, planted in 1856, and is now in very good order.

By the mid-1860s, however, it was difficult to make a living in Salt Spring Valley from the small acreages initially claimed. Improved transportation and marketing facilities resulted in most supplies being brought to the gold camps from the more favored Central Valley. Growing conditions were marginal, and the valley was located a considerable distance from the major towns in the Southern Mines. As most of the original claimants departed for richer pastures elsewhere, the consolidation of small farms into the substantial landholdings of the turn of the century had begun. While some of the departing homesteaders sold their patents to those more successful ranchers, others simply walked away, abandoning their land to squatters.

The Royal Consolidated Mine: 1885-1897

Hardrock mining for gold in Salt Spring Valley was instigated by Henry Botcher, a Telegraph City rancher and erstwhile miner. When he and his son Louis located two new claims in 1879-80, they unofficially but effectively moved the southern boundary of the old Madam Felix copper mining district about three miles south, to include the new Pine Log mining area. After 1879, activity in the "new" Madam Felix district was centered in the gold-bearing hills at the south end of Salt Spring Valley. The year 1881 marked the beginning of intensive claim-staking activity in the Madam Felix district that was to continue for the next quarter of a century.

The Royal Consolidated Mining Company, a merging of several smaller claims and companies, was firmly in control of the central part of the Madam Felix district by 1885. Various improvements to the mine and stamp mills over the next decade turned the Royal into a very successful little mine, and by 1897 it was declaring monthly dividends of up to 55,000. By 1903, Manager J. C. Kemp van Ee had built the Royal (Continued on page 5)
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...and mills into the most impressive and up-to-date operation along the Mother Lode. Even so, the consistently low grade of the Madam Felix ore, the generally low recovery of the chlorination method used to extract the gold, and a constant squeeze in cash flow combined to cause a steady deterioration in the company's financial situation. The Royal Consolidated Mining Company was declared bankrupt in 1905, and most of the miners and merchants departed for better job opportunities elsewhere.

Society Business & Activities

Onward to Rohnert Park!
Invitation to the
1997 SCA Annual Meeting
by Barb Voss, Program Chair

By now, you should have received your registration packet for the 1997 Society for California Archaeology's 31st Annual Meeting; if not, expect it soon. The meeting will be held at the Rohnert Park Red Lion Inn from March 26 through 29, 1997. If you haven't registered yet, do so now! This year's meeting promises to be one of the best ever, with exhibits, public events, workshops, roundtables, tours, and symposia that both celebrate the richness of archaeology in California and address some of the most pressing issues facing our discipline.

The Annual Meeting will begin the afternoon of Wednesday, March 26, with the Executive Board Meeting, Registration, and a no-host bar at the Red Lion's “Club Max.” That evening, we'll kick off the conference program with an exciting public event. Featuring talks by Donald Johanson, David Hurst Thomas, Julia Costello, Judy Tordoff, and Kent Lightfoot, this event is free and open to the public. Avocational societies, SCA committees, and other groups that would like to have a table at this event should contact me at (510) 848-5773.

Paper presentations and conference events will begin on Thursday morning with an introductory plenary session. Beyond formally kicking off the 1997 meeting, this session will continue the SCA’s emphasis on archaeology in education by showcasing several innovative educational projects. In particular, the plenary will highlight ways that the Internet and multimedia technology are bringing archaeologists, educators, and students together in new and different ways.

During the conference, SCA members will present over two hundred papers, organized into twenty-two symposia and an ongoing poster session display. On Thursday, a symposium titled “Early Holocene Adaptations across the Pacific Rim” will reignite the international dialogue that was started at last year’s meeting. With speakers from Russia and Japan, this session is an important milestone in the ongoing effort to link California archaeology to broader archaeological research issues. On Friday, the meeting’s largest symposium, “Archaeological, Vernacular, and Designed Landscapes” will continue the discussion on cultural landscapes that began at last year’s annual meeting. This session should be of interest to all of us who are confronting landscape concerns in resource management and archaeological research. Another large Friday session, titled “From Sea Shore to Lake Floor,” will present recent research in maritime and underwater archaeology in California, including papers on some recent controversial court rulings. A third topical session, scheduled for Saturday morning, will bring together researchers from a wide regional and topical base under the umbrella “Zooarchaeology in California and the Far West.”

Regionally focused symposia cover the state, including prehistoric sessions on California’s northern frontier, Santa Barbara County, Los Vaqueros, and Santa Rosa. Symposia on historic archaeology include a general session on oil extraction and mining, a celebration of the “sights and sounds” of West Oakland, a review of recent research at Spanish-colonial sites, a discussion on native labor in the California contact experience, and a session on the archaeology of 19th-Century urban communities.

Besides these symposia, meeting-goers will have to choose between an array of workshops and roundtable discussions. Five workshops are scheduled for the conference. “Obtaining Federal Permits -- the Agency Processes” is a must for anyone who has felt confused by the morass of legal and regulatory issues involved in permitting archaeological inventories and research. “GIS, GPS, and CD ROM Applications in Archaeology” will review case studies and provide participants with hands-on practice with different instruments and tools. On a similar note, an “Interactive Archaeology” workshop will demonstrate ways that archaeologists and educators can use the World Wide Web in public education and outreach programs. Another workshop, titled “The Magic of the Past, Present, and Future,” is discussed at length elsewhere in this newsletter. This workshop will present educators and interpreters with the basic concepts, processes, philosophies, and educational opportunities for classroom application at the 4 - 12 grade levels.

The fifth workshop, “Human Remains in an Archaeological Context,” will address the scientific, legal, and political issues that can arise when human remains are found on archaeological projects. The workshop will cover determining human/non-human status, establishing prehistoric vs. forensic contexts, and compliance with the legal frameworks established by medical examiners and the Native American Heritage Commission. As part of the workshop, attendees can choose to participate in a laboratory section which will provide direct experience assessing and evaluating human remains.

Finally, SCA members have organized an unprecedented number of roundtable discussions during the conference, on topics ranging from grey literature and public interpretation to interagency cooperation, the business of archaeology, and working partnerships between Native Californians and archaeologists. Bring your questions and concerns on these topics to the meeting!

If this array of symposia and workshops and roundtables hasn’t yet convinced you to send your registration in today, let me briefly mention some of the social aspects of this year’s meeting. Thursday night’s wine and beer tasting party will be held in Sebastopol, with music, food, free-flowing beverages, dancing, and the second annual SCA silent auction. Friday’s banquet will feature David Hurst Thomas as the keynote speaker, and should be a very special and memorable event. Saturday’s tours will include trips to the obsidian quarries of Anadel State Park and to the historic town of Sonoma.

On a final note, be sure to register early! We expect the workshops, the wine and beer party, the banquet, and the tours to fill up quickly, so send in your forms now and save your place! If you have questions about registration, or for information about other local arrangements, contact Glenn Caruso (415-898-8826) or Adrian Prazemill (707-664-2381). Of course, if you have any questions about the program, contact me at 510-848-5773, or at “voss@cal.berkeley.edu.” See you in Rohnert Park!
1997 Annual Meeting Preliminary Program  
Society for California Archaeology  
Rohnert Park, California  
March 26-29, 1997

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 26
Society for California Archaeology Executive Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 26
Public Session: An Evening of Archaeology
No Host Bar

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 27
Plenary Session: Bringing Archaeology to Tomorrow’s Generations  
Barbara L. Voss, Organizer

Symposium 1: General Session - Archaeological Studies of Oil Development and Mining
- Recording California’s Oil History. R. Scott Baxter and David J. Scott  
- Archaeological and Historic Investigations along Lights Creek in Plumas County: An Overview of Engels Mining Company Operations. Amy Huberland  
- Foodways and Economic Systems on the California Mining Frontier: An Example from Forks of Butte. Daniel R. Elliott

Symposium 2: General Session - Archaeological Studies in California Prehistory
- The Prehistoric Component of the Dry Meadow Site (CA-Tuo-2106). Joseph L. Charkoff  
- The Elderberry Canyon Site (CA-LAn-324): Like the Titanic: Submerged, But Not Forgotten. Roscoe M. Loetzerich  
- The Use of Digital Images at CA-SOL-356. Randy S. Wiberg and Victor M. Bjelajac  
- Growing the Forest Backwards: Virtual Prehistory on the North Fork of the Eel River. Thomas S. Keter and Heather M. Busam  
- Scraper Planes, Juniper Berries, and Yucca Roasting Pits: Data from the Spring Site (SBR-113) and SBR-3773 in the Crowder Canyon Archaeological District, San Bernardino County. Philip de Barros

Symposium 3: New Twists on Old Topics  
Mary Praetzellis, Organizer  
Marley R. Brown III, Chair
- Guanxi: Reciprocal Arrangements between Agents of the Chinese Five Companies and American Merchants in 1850s Sacramento. Mary Praetzellis and Adrian Praetzellis  
- New Ways in the New World. Phillip Choy and Sherri Gust  
- Not Just Another Farmstead: History, Archaeology, and Memory at the Bonfantes’ Ranch. Grace H. Ziesing  
- Discussant. Marley R. Brown III

Symposium 4: Evidence of Early Holocene Adaptations across the Pacific Rim  
Jim D. Cassidy and Nina A. Kononenko, Organizers and Chairs
- Marine Resources among Prehistoric Cultures of the Primorye Region of the Russian Far East. Nina A. Kononenko  
- The Earliest Maritime Peoples of the California Coast: The View from Daisy Cave (CA-SMI-261). Jon M. Erlandson  
- A Summary Description of the Early Holocene Cultural Component at the Eel Point Site, San Clemente Island. L. Mark Raab, Katherine Bradford, Thomas Garlinghouse, and Andrew Yatsko  
- A Comparative Analysis of the Lithic Materials from the Coastal Eel Point Site and the Plateau Nursery Site on San Clemente Island. Jim D. Cassidy  
- A Basis for Sharing Archaeological Methods Throughout the Northern Pacific Rim. Michael A. Glassow
Workshop 1: Obtaining Federal Permits for Cultural Resources Consultation and Research in California — The Agency Processes
Russell L. Kaldenberg, Organizer and Chair
- Participants: Roger Kelly, National Park Service; Frank Fryman, Bureau of Indian Affairs; G. James West, Bureau of Reclamation; and Mike McIntyre, Angeles National Forest

Roundtable 1: Accessing Gray Literature
Ann Samuelson, Organizer and Chair
- Participants: Gary Breschini, Coyote Press; Philip de Barros, Palomar College; Donna L. Gillette, Bay Area Rock Art Research Association; Glen J. Gmoser, Caltrans, Oakland; Jack Hunter, Caltrans, San Luis Obispo; Terry Jones, Caltrans, Sacramento; Leigh Jordan, Northwest Information Center; and Thomas S. Keter, Six Rivers National Forest

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 27

Symposium 5: Pitas Point Revisited: A Twenty-Five Year Retrospective
Thomas A. Wake and Lynn H. Gamble, Organizers and Chairs
- The Last Highway Salvage Dig: Pitas Point 1969-1970. Chester King
- Structures, Features, and Gender at the Pitas Point Site (CA-VEN-27). Lynn Gamble
- Stone Biface Classification and Use at Pitas Point (CA-VEN-27). Glenn S. Russell
- The Bone Artifacts from Pitas Point (CA-VEN-27), With Comments on Tool Production and Spacial Patterning. Thomas A. Wake
- Evidence for Late Middle Period Island-Mainland Trade in Fur Seal Meat at Pitas Point (CA-VEN-27). Philip L. Walker
- The Avifauna and What It Can Tell Us. Daniel A. Guthrie
- Discussant. Michael Glassow

Symposium 6: Sights and Sounds: Papers in Celebration of West Oakland
Mary Praetzellis, Organizer
Janet Pape, Chair
- Connecting the Sources — Archaeology, Archives, Material Culture, and Oral History. Suzanne B. Stewart
- Workers’ Houses in West Oakland. Paul Groth

Symposium 7: Native Labor in the California Contact Experience
Antoinette Martinez and Stephen W. Silliman, Organizers and Chairs
- Introduction. Antoinette Martinez and Stephen W. Silliman
- Inter-ethnic Marriage and Cohabitation in Fur Trade Contexts. Antoinette Martinez
- Participation and Resistance on the Northern Frontier. E. Breck Parkman
- Indian Labor in the Building of the California Presidios. Jack S. Williams
- Change or Simply Exchange: What Are the True Correlates of Cultural Behavior Change on the California Frontier? Ronald V. May
- Native Laborers in Spanish, Mexican, and Russian Colonial Institutions in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. Kent G. Lightfoot
- An Investigation of Native California Indian Labor at the Mexican Rancho. Stephen W. Silliman
- Chumash Labor at the Missions and Santa Barbara Presidio. John R. Johnson
- Native American Cultural Negotiation at Mission Soledad. Paul Farnsworth
- Resistance, Subversion, and Accommodation to California Indian Slavery in Hispanic California. Edward Castillo

Symposium 8: Different Faces, Different Lives: Urban Communities in 19th-Century California
Jeannie K. Yang and Anmarie Medin, Organizers
- Old Town San Diego: Reconstruction Archeology at the Silvas/McCoy Site. Larry Felton and Gina George
- The Historical Archaeology of One City Block and Sacramento’s Chinese Community. Sunshine Psota

Annual Meeting Program

• Ethnic and Gendered Spaces: The Greek-American Community in Early West Oakland. Karana Hattersley-Drayton and Mary (Kumarelas) Mousalimas
• Going a Step Further with Mobile Exhibits. Janet Pape and Will Spires
• The Social Contradictions of a Domesticated Institution: The Oakland New-Century Club, 1895-1923. Marta Gutman
• Cast in a Redlight: Prostitution in Oakland. Elaine-Maryse Solari
• Jazzing up Seventh Street: A Sociomusicological Study of Jazz Musicians and Venues in West Oakland. Willie Collins
Annual Meeting Program

and Anmarie Medin

- Both Sides of the Street: Sacramento's Overseas Chinese Community in the 1850s. Anmarie Medin and Sunshine Psota
- Cypress-the Kumbakha Period. Jack McIlroy
- A Hotel as a Household: Interpreting the Contents of the Railroad Exchange Hotel Well. Julia E. Huddleson
- A Chicken in Any Pot? The Diet of West Oakland's Working Poor. Scott K. McCartney
- Exclude the People Not Their Pots. Michael D. Meyer
- Discussant. Pete Shulz

Symposium 9: General Session - Southern California Prehistory

- On the Origin of Dietary Grit and Implications for Dental Wear in Aboriginal California. Susan I. Wolfe and Mark Q. Sutton
- Further Analysis of Salvage Excavations at the Cross Mountain Site (CA-KER-4619), Southern Sierra Nevada, California. Jill K. Gardner, Mark Q. Sutton, Susan Kerr Siefkin, Richard Cerreto, and Matthew Des Lauriers
- Observations on Settlement and Subsistence During the Late La Jolla Complex - Preceramic Interface as Evidenced at Site CA-SDI-11, 767, Lower San Diego River Valley, San Diego County, California. Theodore G. Cooley
- Analysis of a Collection from the Red Rock Canyon Rockshelter (CA-KER-147), Western Mojave Desert, California. Matthew R. Des Lauriers
- Prehistoric Utilization of the Mesquite Grove Complex in the Antelope Valley Portion of the Western Mojave Desert, California: What Do We Think We Know? Mark M. Campbell

Symposium 10: General Session - Shellmounds and Coastal Sites

- Recent Research at CA-SCR-117: From B.P. to U.S. Abalone. Allika Ruby
- Like Sands Through the Hourglass...So are Site Structures on San Nicolas Island. Donn R. Grenda
- The Scripps Estates Site and Its Role in Defining Prehistory. Andrew P. Pigniolo
- What Have We Here? The Rediscovery of Nelson's Mound 259. James M. Allan

Workshop 2: GIS, GPS, and CD ROM Applications in Archaeology
Patricia Martz, Organizer and Chair

- The California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), the Mojave Desert Historical Resources GIS (MDHRGIS): An Electronic Future in Managing Our Records. William C. Seidel
- Should GPS Be In Your Archaeological Toolbag? Sam Shaw
- Advances in Field Work - Application of GPS Data Collector. Kip Otis-Diehl and Marie G. Cottrell
- Using GIS as a Management Tool. Steven J. Schwartz
- Introduction to the San Nicolas Island Archaeological Site Mapping and Recordation Project: Some Lessons Learned in the Field with GPS. Patricia Martz
- An Application of GPS Technology on San Nicolas Island: Data Collection, Processing, Manipulation, Verification, and Applications of Processed Data. Jed Unrot
- Hands-on Audience Participation

Roundtable 2: Engaging the Public
Margaret Purser and Pamela McKernan, Organizers and Chairs

- Participants. Dana McGowan, Jones and Stokes; Mary Maniery, PAR; Tim Gross, Affinis Corp.

THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 27

Society for California Archaeology Business Meeting
Beer and Wine Tasting/Silent Auction

FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 28

1998 SCA Annual Meeting Planning Breakfast
Women and Careers in Archaeology Networking Breakfast
Barbara White, Organizer

Symposium 11: Primary and Secondary Predation Patterns in the Taphonomic Process
Gary S. Hurd, Organizer and Chair

- Deer Bone Accumulation and Modification by Mountain Lions. Rick Travis, Robert Porter, and...
Annual Meeting Program

Gary S. Hurd
- Raptor Prey Accumulation and Modification at a Nesting Area. Mike S. Pyatt, Melissa Pryor, and Gary S. Hurd
- Rockshelter Deposition of Insect Remains by Fox and Mice. Matthew Ritter, Joubin Afshar, and Gary S. Hurd
- Fish Bone Deposition by Coyotes. Karl Allwert and Gary S. Hurd
- The Archaeological Recovery and Interpretation of Foss. Brian Stokes and Gary S. Hurd
- The Digestive Modification of Bone by Fish. Gary S. Hurd

Symposium 12: The Ups and Downs and Ins and Outs of Prehistoric Foragers within California's Northern Frontier
Eric W. Ritter and Julie Cassidy, Organizers and Chairs
- Patterns of Prehistory on the McCloud River. Elaine Sundahl
- A Glimpse at Prehistoric Foragers on the Upper McCloud River. Julie Cassidy
- Overview of the Red Switchback Obsidian Source, Siskiyou County, California. John Hitchcock
- Pragmatic Procurers: A Look at Site Distribution along the Bonita Obsidian Highway. Missy Peterson
- Archaeological Investigations at Meiss Lake, California. Jeffrey Fentress
- New Paleoindian Research in the Butte Valley, Northeast Siskiyou County, California. Ted Goebel
- Analysis of Projectile Points from Mt. Hebron Paleoindian Site. Ian Buvit and Ted Goebel
- Archaeological Remains from Hunter/Gatherer Activities within the Scott Mountains of Siskiyou County, California. Russel W. Bevell, Kathleen L. Hull, and Elena Nilsson
- Archaeological Inventory and Evaluation of BLM Land Exchange Parcels Near Copco Lake, Klamath River Canyon, California. Albert C. Oetting
- Siskiyou Utility Ware: A Southern Cascade Interaction Sphere. Joanna M. Mack
- Prehistoric Land-use Pattern Change on the Modoc Plateau. William R. Hildebrandt and Patricia Mikkelsen
- Backwoods Archaeology: Seasonal Site Types in Siskiyou County. Brian D. Dillon

Symposium 13: Recent Research in Spanish Colonial California
Leo R. Barker, Organizer and Chair
- Introduction: The Context of Spanish-Colonial Archaeology in California. Leo R. Barker
- Landmarking Mission Santa Barbara. Rebecca Allen
- This Old Mission: Hispanic Colonial Archaeology and Instructional Multimedia at Site SBN-1H, San Juan Bautista, California. Ruben G. Mendoza and Kenneth D. Halla
- Observations on Recent Archaeological Finds Associated with Mission San Francisco de Asis (Mission Dolores), San Francisco. Richard D. Ambro and Milely P. Holman
- Two Californias: Three Mission Systems. Robert L. Hoover and Brian A. Aviles
- Unraveling the Archaeological Structure of the Presidio of San Francisco. Leo R. Barker, Charles Whatford, and Vance Benté
- The Casa de Zúñiga: An Elite Residence at San Diego Presidio. Jack S. Williams
- CA-MNT-461-H, Buena Vista Adobe, near Salinas. R. Paul Hampson
- Footprints in Time: El Campo de Cahuenga. John M. Foster

Symposium 14: On the Land and Below: Archaeological, Vernacular, and Designed Landscapes
Bright Eastman and Kayleen Fleming, Organizers and Chairs
- What We Think We See: The Concept of Landscape. Bright Eastman and Christian Gerike
- Cultural Landscapes: A Theoretical Orientation. Kayleen Fleming
- The Natural Evolution of Composite Cultural Landscapes. Jack Meyer
- Buried Cultural Landscapes in a Geomorphically Active Environment. Dorothy E. Freidel
- Reading Prehistoric Human-Landscape Relationships on San Clemente Island. Andrew Yatsko
- The Right Stuff. Edra Moore
- Old Town San Diego: From the Riverbank to Ramona's Marriage Place. Larry Felton
- Mining Landscapes. Ann Huston
- From Scatter Sites to Sheep Sheds. Michael F. Crowe
- Plants are Cultural Artifacts, Too! Thomas A. Brown

Discussant. Dr. Joseph Chartkoff

March 1997
Annual Meeting Program

- The Cultural Landscape at Big Meadow: Procedures or Paradigm? Jane Caputo
- Place Names and Cultural Landscapes: Communal Identities in the Landscape. Scott M. Hudlow
- Cultural Landscapes and American Perceptions of Nature. R. Scott Baxter
- Military Memorial Landscapes and Competing Cultural Agendas. Thom Thompson
- The White Deerskin Dance: Ethnic Geography and Relicfication of Myth. Graham Dalldorf
- Discussant. Dr. Margaret Purser

(Symposium continues through Friday afternoon)

Workshop 3A: Human Remains in an Archaeological Context: Scientific, Legal, and Political Problems
(Part I: Lecture/Discussion)
Judy Myers Suchey, Deborah W. Gray and Douglas Wyler, Organizers and Chairs
- California Overview: Science, Law, and Politics. Judy Myers Suchey
- Archaeological Procedures to Alleviate Problems. Deborah Gray
- The Broader Picture: Egypt. Douglas Wyler

Roundtable 3: The California Desert as a National Performance Review Laboratory - Agencies Working to Erase Boundaries and Manage Cultural and Paleontological Resources
Russell L. Kaldenberg and Roger Kelly, Organizers and Chairs
- Participants. Rolla Queen, Bureau of Land Management, California Desert Archaeologist; Linda Greene, Death Valley National Park; Robert Rechman, Base Archaeologist, Ft. Irwin National Army Training Center; William Siedel, Office of Historic Preservation; Tom Mulhem, Chief, Park Historic Preservation, National Park Service; Rosie Pepito, Curator, Joshua Tree National Park; Richard Norwood, Base Archaeologist, Edwards Airforce Base
- Discussants. Matthew Hall, University of California Riverside, Archaeological Research Unit; James P. Barker, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada; Marie Cottrell, U.S. Marine Corps, 29 Palms.

Roundtable 4: ACRA and the Business of Historic Preservation
Dana McGowan, Organizer and Chair

Participants. To be announced.

FRIDAY NOON, MARCH 28
SCA Archaeology Week Planning Meeting

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 28

Symposium 15: Interactive Archaeology I: Progress and Trouble Shooting
Anne Duffield-Stoll and Mary A. Gordon, Organizers and Chairs
- Passport in Time Test Excavations at Salt Creek, Trinity County. Ken Wilson
- Legacy. Janet P. Eidsness
- Archaeology, Still Child’s Play. Mark M. Campbell
- Stein Farm, and Beyond. Susan D. Walter
- Public Outreach and Archaeology - The Cosumnes Archaeology Working Group. Laurie Warner
- Heritage Education Learning Center at Squaw Leap. Dave Big Bear Johnson
- Service Learning and Archaeology, Part II: Digging Kids on Campus. Anne Duffield-Stoll
- California Archaeology for California Teachers. Mary A. Gordon

(Interactive Archaeology II Workshop to Follow, see below)

Symposium 16: Recent Archaeological Research at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), San Bernardino, California
Mark Basgall and Marie Cottrell, Organizers and Chairs
- Introductory Comments. Marie Cottrell.
- Toolstone Procurement Strategies at the Wood Canyon Quarry Locality, MCAGCC, San Bernardino County, California. Mark Giambastiani and Mark Basgall.
- Quarrying and Other Prehistoric Activities at Lavic Lake. Meg McDonald and Jeff Flenniken.
- Long Term Change in Flaked Stone Material Use Profile at Deadman Lake, MCAGCC, San Bernardino County. Denise Jurich and Lynn Johnson.
- Organizational Variation in Groundstone Technologies at Deadman Lake, MCAGCC, San Bernardino County, California. Tony Overly and Mark Basgall.
- Dietary Implications of Subsistence Remains at Deadman Lake, MCAGCC, San Bernardino County, California. Pat Welsh and Wendy Pierce.
- Recent Documentation of Middle Holocene Sites in
Annual Meeting Program

- Emerson Lake Basin, MCAGCC, San Bernardino County, California. Steve Moffitt, Julie Scrivner, and M.C. Hall.
- Rock Art and Rock Alignments in the Pissag Crater Lava Flow. Dan McCarthy and Meg McDonald.
- Removal and Re-integration of Graffiti at Foxtrot Petroglyph Site, MCAGCC, San Bernardino County, California. Marie Cottrell and Antoinette Padgett.

Symposium 17: Progress in Understanding Santa Barbara County Prehistory: New Insights and Analytical Approaches
Michael A. Glassow, Organizer and Chair
- Links between Variability in Bead Production Intensity and Local Olivella Habitats on the North Channel Islands, Southern California. Ann Munns
- A Microwear Analysis of Unifacial Points from CA-SBA-53. Leslie Leidig
- Flaked Stone Artifact Technology at Two Northern Interior Chumash Sites in Los Padres National Forest. Janine McFarland and Stephen Home
- Lithic Production and Exchange of the Interior Chumash. Katherine Anderson
- Technology and Subsistence at CA-SBA-2358, a Middle to Late Period Site in the Interior of Santa Barbara County. Karin Anderson
- Specialized Groundstone Production on San Miguel Island. Christina A. Conlee
- Prehistoric Pinniped Exploitation at Point Arguello, California. Christopher Williams.
- Chumash Cache Caves of the Santa Barbara Backcountry. Bonnie Goller
- Middle Period Settlement and Subsistence on Vandenberg AFB: Excavation and Analysis of the Barka Slough Site, a Deeply Buried, Highly Stratified Residential Base Camp. Craig Woodman and Jean Hudson
- Evidence for a 200-Year-Long Late-Holocene Drought Along California's Central Coast. Barry A. Price
- CA-SBA-699: A Terminal Middle Period Archaeological Site Near Purisima Point, Western Santa Barbara County. Theresa Gregory and Michael Glassow
- 2,000 Years of Marine Subsistence at the Chumash Town of Shuku, Rincon Point. John R. Johnson and Nan Deal
- Problems with the Chronology of the Middle-to-Late Period Transition along the Santa Barbara Channel Mainland Coast. Michael A. Glassow
- Late Holocene Settlement Shifts on Santa Rosa Island, Southern California. Douglas J. Kennett

Symposium 18: From Sea Floor to Lake Shore: Current Research in California Maritime and Underwater Archaeology
Jack Hunter and Glenn Simpson
- The JULIA ANN. Sheli O. Smith
- The GOLDEN HORN. Linda Bentz
- Old Junk Still Hanging Around: The Legacy of the FREE CHINA. Hans Van Tilburg
- The Brother Jonathan - An Update. Peter Pelkofer
- Brigantine, Schooner, Houseboat: Journeys of the GALILEE. Richard Stratford
- The California Delta: GIS Applications for Maritime Resources. Kimberly Esser
- Wreckers on the Bay: The Archaeological Potential of Historic Shipwrecks in the Humboldt Region. Glenn Simpson
- Fathoming Our Past: Management of Cultural Resources in California’s National Marine Sanctuaries. Bruce Terrell
- Noyo Chute Survey. Roy Pettus
- The Shipwreck Montebello; Resource vs. Risk. Jack Hunter
- Ahjuma Wi Lava Springs State Park Revisited. Charles Beeker
- San Antonio Slough to Oakland Inner Harbor Channel: The Significance of the North and South Jetties. Celia McCarthy
- Submerged Prehistoric Archaeology in Channel Islands. Don Morris

Workshop 3B: Human Remains in an Archaeological Context: Scientific, Legal, and Political Problems (Part II)
Judy Myers Suchey, Deborah W. Gray and Douglas Wyler, Organizers and Chairs
- Hands-on laboratory practice.

Workshop 4: Interactive Archaeology II: Using World Wide Web
Annual Meeting Program

Beth Padon and Chris Padon, Organizers and Chairs
- Using the World Wide Web. Beth Padon Chris Padon

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 28

Native American Programs Committee Meeting

Central California Archaeological Foundation Meeting

Awards Dinner

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 29

Symposium 19: The Los Vaqueros Project: Prehistory and Ethnohistory in the Shadow of Diablo
Jack Meyer, Organizer and Chair
- Archaeological Landscape Evolution in the Los Vaqueros Area. Jack Meyer
- 8,000 Years of Prehistory in the Shadow of Diablo. Jeffery S. Rosenthal
- Plant Macromains from the Los Vaqueros Project. Eric Wohlgemuth
- The Burials of Los Vaqueros. Jonathan Legare
- Dental Anomalies and Pathologies in the Los Vaqueros Burial Population. Judy Gregg
- Rock Art of the Vasco Caves. Jeffery B. Fentess
- Ethnographic Los Vaqueros: Miwok, Ohlone, or Yokuts? Randall Milliken

Symposium 20: General Session - Archaeological Surveys, Stones, and Ethnography
- An Evaluation of Survey Methods at Camp Pendleton. Christopher J. Doolittle and Richard Ciolek-Torrelo
- Findings of a Class III Intensive Survey in the Southeastern Chocolate Mountains, Mesquite Mine, Imperial County, California. K. Ross Way
- Gender Symbolism in Chumash Cosmology. Sandra Hollimon
- Prehistoric/Protohistoric Sites of the Yowlumne Yokuts of Central California: A Second Look. Erik C. Zaborsky
- Kumai and Riverine Yuman Glyphs. Jay von Weihof
- Revisiting the Stege Mounds in Richmond. Donna Gillette

Symposium 21: Zooarchaeology in California and the Far West
Dwight D. Simons and Tom Wake, Organizers and Chairs
- A Farmstead Fauna from South Truckee Meadows. Dwight D. Simons
- Prehistoric Marine Mammal Hunting on California's Northern Channel Islands. Roger H. Colten and Jeanne E. Arnold
- Fish Remains from CA-SLO-165: Why Isn't There More Skepticism of Findings in Zooarchaeology?. Kenneth W. Gobale
- Notes from the Past: Bone Whistles from CA-SCR-44, Santa Cruz County, California. Gary S. Breschini, Trudy Haversat, and Paul E. Langenwalter II
- Interpreting California Animal Burials Found in Prehistoric Archaeological Contexts. Paul E. Langenwalter II
- Large Game in Colonial California: Pre-Columbian Mirror or Mirage. William Preston
- Middle Holocene Maritime Subsistence at CA-SNI-161, San Nicolas Island, California. Rene L. Vellanoweth
- Discussants. Thomas A. Wake and Dwight D. Simons

Symposium 22: Santa Rosa Junior College Contributions to California Archaeology
Thomas M. Origer, Organizer and Chair
- Adding a Little Fuel to the Fire: Some Thoughts on Fire and Obsidian Hydration. Jessica Anderson and Thomas M. Origer
- Understanding the Cultural Landscape of Salt Point State Park. Vicki Beard
- A View of Crescents from Sonoma County. Katherine M. Dowdall and Thomas M. Origer
- A Manual for Lichen Chronology. Craig E. Kodros
- Recycling Cultural Landscape Elements at Chanslor Ranch. Janine Loyd
- Stuff #2: Tracing Prehistoric Group Boundaries. Bill Stillman
- The Magic of the Past, Present, and Future: Education and Archaeology Workshop for Teachers and Educators. Faith L. Duncan

Roundtable 5: Native Californians and Archaeologists: Developing Working Partnerships
Michael Jablonowski and Madeline Solomon, Organizers
- Participants: to be announced.

Workshop 5: The Magic of the Past, Present, and Future: Education and Archaeology Workshop for Teachers and Educators
Annual Meeting Program

Faith Duncan, Organizer
(continues through Saturday afternoon)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 29

Tours (to be announced)

ONGOING EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

Poster Session
Pia Anderson, Chair
Thursday, March 27, 1:00PM - Saturday, March 29, 10:00 AM
- Basalt Distribution as a Reflection of Procurement and Mobility: A North-Central Sierra Case Study. Donna A. Day, William Bloomer, M. Kathleen Davis, Thomas L. Jackson, and Craig Skinner
- Soil-Geomorphic Interpretation of Holocene Environments around Shellmounds near San Pablo Bay. E.B. Alexander, J. Holson, R.G. Amundson, and R.I. Orlins
- Optical Profiling of Solid Artifacts. Norman L. Thomas
- TWO STICKS AND A ROPE: Non-Random Geometry for the Archaeologist. Chris Hardacker
- Cultural Hiatus and Chronological Resolution. Don Laylander
- Forest Fires as an Aspect of Human Ecology. Niccolo Caldararo
- Two Ways to Stomp Rocks: Knight Foundry and Strab Stamp Mills. Barbara White and Regina Smith

Conference Registration
- Wednesday, March 26, 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Thursday, March 27, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- Friday, March 28, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- Saturday, March 29, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Book Room
- Thursday, March 27, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
- Friday, March 28, 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
- Saturday, March 29, 8:00 AM - 12:00 AM

SCA World Wide Web Page Demonstration
- Thursday, March 27, 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- Friday, March 28, 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

SCA Newsletter 31 (1)
Society Business & Activities (Continued from page 13)

Annual Meeting Announcements (Cont.)

Auction will be held during the Reception. Here's the tentative schedule for the evening:
6:00 Buses begin departing from the Red Lion.
6:30 Beverages and hors d'oeuvres are served.
7:00 Last bus departs from the Red Lion.
7:30 Buffet dinner is served.
10:00 Mass exodus begins (buses begin returning to the Red Lion).

In order to accommodate busing everyone, about one-half of the crowd must be willing to leave for the reception at 6:00pm, and the remainder at about 6:45pm. Also, buses will be available throughout the evening to return to the Red Lion, for those who wish to leave before 10:00pm.

Awards Dinner (aka "The Banquet")

The 1997 Awards Dinner will be held at the Red Lion on Friday. Food choices consist of Pasta Primavera (vegetarian), Sliced Tri-tips, or Grilled Chicken, followed by desert and coffee. By some fast talking and unrealistic promises on the part of your Local Arrangements Co-Chairs, we have been able to get the ticket price down to $30. The dinner will be followed by the Awards Ceremony and a presentation by Dr. David Hurst Thomas, who has a national reputation as an excellent public speaker.

Saturday Afternoon Tours

Tour #1: Anadel Obsidian Quarry. Lead by our own Bill Stillman, this tour will consist of a 2-mile tour of the famous Anadel Obsidian Quarry and nearby prehistoric archaeological sites, just outside Santa Rosa. Bring your own lunch.

Tour #2: Historic Sonoma. Although Sonoma County doesn't have Buena Vista Lake, we do have Buena Vista WINERY (which some may think is an even better destination). This tour will begin at Mission Solano de Sonoma and the Sonoma Barracks, and then continue onto the BV Winery for a tour and tasting. Lunch can be bought in Sonoma.

The tours will probably leave the Red Lion at 12:30 and return by 5:00.

Teacher Training Workshop Highlights SCA Community Outreach in 1997 by Faith Duncan

I will be offering a teacher training workshop at the SCA Meetings this year. Entitled "Project Archaeology and Beyond," this workshop is an effort to reach out to local community educators who wish to incorporate into their classes curriculum and interactive activities that highlight anthropology and archaeology. I have been teaching archeology education for many years and would like to make the workshop an annual event, focusing on local archeological learning opportunities, guest speak-

University of Nevada Heritage Resources Courses

The University of Nevada Reno Heritage Resources Management Program, administered through the Division of Continuing Education, has announced the courses scheduled for 1997. Courses and workshops are being offered in a number of cities throughout the country. The program is a cooperative undertaking with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service. Courses include "Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law," "Advanced Seminar on Preparing Agreement Documents Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act," "NAGPRA Implications and Practical Application," "Evaluating Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places," "Introduction to Global Positioning Systems," "Ecosystem Management," and others. For further information on the courses, or to receive a brochure, please contact Heritage Resources Management, Division of Continuing Education/048, University of Nevada, Reno, 89557. Phone 1-800-233-8928; FAX (702) 784-4801; or eMail leaning@scs.unr.edu

Cooperation Column
Edited by Jeanne E. Arnold, UCLA

For those who missed the announcement in the September issue, the Cooperation Column is intended to serve the membership by providing a place where information can be shared, appeals can be made for assistance with locating documents or collections, conferences or calls for papers can be announced, interpretations of data can be solicited, etc. No advertisements or items for sale, please. Items submitted to the column should be 100 words or less, published on a space-available basis. Please send to Jeanne Arnold: jearnold@ucla.edu; Dept. of Anthropology/Institute of Archaeology, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1510.
Committee Reports

Report from the Education Committee
by Mary Gorden

Progress continues on the California Heritage Project toward the goal of an archaeology textbook for students. The material for Central and Southern California has been written. These sections are being edited and illustrations chosen to accompany the text. The Northeastern Handbook has been revised and is being retyped. Joanne Mack and her subcommittee (consisting of Bill Cameron, Bill Hildebrandt, Dick Markley, Clyde Woods, Shelly Davis-King, Eric Ritter, and Gerry Gates) have volunteered their expertise in writing this section. Thank you for all your time and effort.

Curation Corner
by Georgie Waugh

The most recent issue of CRM (Vol. 20, Directory, 1997), presents the Cultural Resource Training Directory. This directory presents a "Course Listings" section with a wide range of courses in all areas of Cultural Resource Management, with a healthy amount of listings devoted to workshops and classes in all aspects of museum management, museum conservation, and archival and curatorial management and care. While many of these classes are conducted at out-of-state locations, several are scheduled for Colorado, British Columbia, New Mexico, and Nevada. Copies of this directory can be obtained from:

CRM (2250)
US Department of the Interior
National Park Service, Cultural Resources
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127
Fax 202-343-3395
Internet: Ron Greenberg@nps.gov

Native American Programs Committee (NAPC) Update
by Philip de Barros

In the September 1996 Newsletter, I reported on the initial success of the three-day joint SCA-Salinan Nation CRM workshop held in May. The response of the Salinans was very positive. The following comments are excerpts from a two-page article, entitled "Site Monitor/Consultant Workshop" by Donna Haro, Tribal Chairperson of the Salinan Nation, and published in the Salinan Newsletter, Elek:

"None of this could have happened without the Society for California Archaeology ... We would also like to thank Pacific Legacy, where Janet (Eidsness) is a principle, for donating the cost of much of her time. [She then goes on to thank many others] ... SCA [also] donated $500.00 toward the workshop, and the Salinan Heritage Consultants donated over $2,000.00. The workshop turned out to be an overwhelming success ... There has been a lot of interest from other California Tribes for this workshop ..." (Haro cited in Elek, Summer 1996:6).

In August, a followup workshop was conducted for key leaders of the Salinan Nation. It focused on a more in-depth understanding of the Section 106 process, how to evaluate CRM documents, and how to network with city, county, state, and federal agency officials. It also went very well. NAPC committee member Janet Eidsness and Rob Jackson of Pacific Legacy helped to make this event a success.

This Fall, contacts were made with groups in the Bakersfield area about conducting a workshop. Difficulties were encountered about who should participate. These appear to have been worked out, and the SCA hopes to move forward with an SCA-sponsored CRM workshop with groups in the area sometime this winter or early spring.

The NAPC will hold a meeting at 5:00 P.M. on Friday, March 28th, at the SCA Annual Meeting in Sonoma County. We are looking for additional committee members, interested archaeologists, agency personnel, and Native Americans to attend.

Also at the Annual Meeting, the NAPC is organizing a roundtable discussion for Saturday morning, March 29th. It will focus on cooperation between various agencies and local Native American groups from the general Sonoma area. Several guests have been invited to participate, including Larry Myers, Executive Secretary of the Native American Heritage Commission. Committee member Michael Jablonski is organizing the session, and I will be participating either as a discussant or as chair. This roundtable is occurring because the local Native American groups requested it. It could eventually lead to a CRM workshop.

If you have questions or are interested in becoming a committee member, please call me at (619) 744-1150 x2343 or eMail me at pdob@mailhost2.csusm.edu. Also, thanks again to all those who donated money to the NAPC workshop and Sourcebook fund!

Society for Historical Archaeology
Annual Meeting Highlights, 1997
by Rebecca Allen, SHA Liaison

More than 800 archaeologists attended the Society for Historical Archaeology's annual meeting in Corpus Christi, January 7-12, 1997. The SHA gave Jim Deetz, formerly a professor at University of California, Berkeley, the J.C. Harrington medal for lifetime achievement in historical archaeology. In his acceptance speech for the award, Deetz expressed his positive outlook for the intellectual growth of the field. As an example, he noted a symposium organized by Mary Praetzellis, "Archaeologists as Storytellers," as one of the best sessions he'd ever heard at an archaeological conference. California archaeologists presenting in the session were Adrian and Mary Praetzellis, and Julia Costello. Congratulations on a well-done set of papers!


Other California archaeologists giving papers on local topics included Patrice Jeppson, discussing the oil industry in the Central Valley, and a company town in Salida. California with Dorothy Fleagle. Judy Tordoff's slides, text, and audio tape (1) illustrated the evolution of (Continued on page 16)
Committee Reports
(Continued from page 15)

SHA Annual Meeting (Cont.)

California's placer mining landscape. Julie Wizorek and Russell Skowronek presented an update of excavations at Mission Santa Clara. Several other California archaeologists presented topics of excavations and surveys outside the state.

Christy Dolan and Rebecca Allen summarized some of the archaeological information available on the InterNet. For those who didn't make the meetings, one of the highlights was seeing artifacts from the recent excavation of Belle, one of the ships used by La Salle during his exploration of North America for France and shipwrecked in 1686. Check out an award-winning web site created by archaeologists at the Texas Historical Commission at http://www.thc.state.tx.us/belle/.

Finally, Glenn Farris handed over his presidential gavel at the annual business meeting. He also presented a paper at a public archaeology session inviting local participation. Congratulations, Glenn, on a successful year as SHA President.

State and Federal Archaeology

New Forest Practice Archaeology Rules
by Dan Foster, CDF

The California State Board of Forestry (Board) recently adopted revisions to the Forest Practice Regulations which revised the rules and procedures for conducting archaeological records checks for CDF projects and commercial timber operations, pursuant to the rules. Prior to the execution of this MOA, access to the state's confidential archaeological records was available only to landowners or professional archaeologists, but not directly to the Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs) preparing timber harvesting plans. The ICs in northern California have been granting RPFs direct access in cooperation with CDF and the Board, but other ICs were not allowing RPFs to conduct records checks without involving a professional archaeologist. Through this MOA, which clarifies the access policy found in OHP's Information Center Procedural Manual, RPFs and their qualified designees can conduct records checks pursuant to the rules. Also, the MOA now provides RPFs with a variety of service options to choose from. These include Complete, Limited, Emergency Notice, and Update records checks. These options were developed to give RPFs greater flexibility to choose the appropriate records check service for any particular project. For RPFs choosing a Limited Records Check, this new process may reduce the records check processing time for certain projects, with a corresponding reduction in cost. Also, RPFs now have the ability to obtain an Emergency Notice Records Check within three business days or have the requirement waived.

Pursuant to the MOA, RPFs must use a newly created CDF form entitled Archaeological Records Check Request for a CDF Project, or an equivalent, to initiate a records check. The new rules clarified that records check information must be "current," which means it must have been conducted within five years prior to the date of submission to the Director of a Timber Harvest Plan, NTMP, or Emergency Notice of the acres or more. RPFs have also been encouraged to develop this form on a personal computer. A detailed set of instructions for completing the records check request form was also distributed to RPFs. A recent meeting between CDF and the northern ICs identified an emerging problem caused by RPFs using computer-generated maps. Archaeological records check request maps, survey coverage maps, and primary/site record location maps must be prepared using a high-quality photocopy of the appropriate USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle. IC data bases were created using these USGS maps, and problems have arisen during the transfer of data from computer maps contained in RPF reports and site records to the data base. Computer-generated maps can still be used in addition to the required USGS maps, but not as a substitute for them.

The new rules include a definition of "Native Americans" to mean local, federally recognized tribal governments and those California Native American organizations and individuals listed on the Native American contact list provided to CDF by the NAHC. The rules further stipulate that the Director shall ensure that this list includes all Native Americans identified by January 1 of each year. The Native American Contact List for 1997 was recently provided to CDF and distributed to all RPFs.

(Continued on page 17)
New Archaeology Rules (Cont.)

The manual entitled *Instructions for Recording Historical Resources* (IRHR) (March 1995), which describes the state's site recording standards adopted by the State Historical Resources Commission pursuant to PRC Section 5020.4(3), has now been made part of the new forest practice regulations, having been incorporated by reference. Archaeologists and RPFs conducting archaeological investigations pursuant to the rules will be recording resources in the format described in this manual. Over 650 archaeological and historical sites are recorded each year by RPFs and archaeologists pursuant to the forest practice rules.

All of the required information concerning the archaeological investigation for a timber harvesting plan must now be presented in a separate, confidential addendum to the plan. All of the new forms used pursuant to these rules are available by contacting any CDF archaeologist or at the following address on the InterNet:

http://www.fire.ca.gov/esmgmt/arch

Those interested in obtaining a copy of the new rules, Native American Contact list, the MOA, new forms, instructions, or other supporting documents, or those requesting additional information concerning these new procedures may contact me at (916) 653-0839.

Recent and On-Going Research

Archaeology and Ethnography in Washoe Territory - North Lake Tahoe by Susan Lindström Consulting Archaeologist, Truckee, California and Sharon A. Waechter Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. Davis, California

The U.S. Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) has asked Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. to evaluate 18 archaeological loci within the proposed Watson Creek Basalt Prehistoric Quarry National Register District. The proposed District currently encompasses 12 "simple" quarry/reduction sites and six "complex" habitation/reduction sites within a 270-acre area along Watson Creek, North Lake Tahoe. Archaeological investigations conducted in the summer and fall of 1996 included enhanced survey/site boundary confirmation, test excavation, and field lithic analyses at each of the quarry sites; a report on this work is in progress. Two of the primary goals of the archaeological study are 1) to begin to understand what role the Watson Creek quarries may have played in the larger regional sphere of prehistoric basalt toolstone acquisition and trade; and 2) to determine which of the sites and loci are contributing elements of the potential National Register District. It is hoped that the Watson Creek district can be included sometime in the future in a contiguous district that includes basalt quarries on the Tahoe, Plumas, and other national forests. With the advent of basalt geochemical sourcing, it should be possible to track the movement of many basalts from their sources, as we do with obsidian; the Tahoe National Forest already has begun assembling a basalt XRF database.

In addition to the archaeological studies, Dr. Susan Lindström and Dr. Helen McCarthy are working with Far Western to conduct documentary research and on-site ethnographic interviews with Washoe consultants, to assist in interpreting the archaeology of the Watson Creek area. The Watson Creek study area falls within the center of Washoe territory. The Washoe have enjoyed a long tenure in their known area of historic occupation. Into the 20th Century, the Washoe have not been completely displaced from their traditional lands, and they maintain enduring ties to Lake Tahoe. The Washoe regard all "prehistoric" heritage remains there as associated with their own history. Accordingly, the ethnographic component of the study will attempt to probe the potential continuity in land-use practices between 20th-Century Washoe and their ancient predecessors by combing the information gained from the archaeological remains, the ethnographic record, and the contemporary collective Washoe memory.

As part of this project, the Washoe were invited to tour the archaeological excavations at the basalt quarries and explore traditional plant collecting areas at Watson Creek. About 30 people attended the first tour, including a number of Washoe youth. Two vans from Dresslerville and one from Woodfords were filled, including others who drove private cars. In addition to the interest raised by the mutual exchange between Washoe participants and archaeologists, Bill Bloomer of Far Western conducted a basalt tool knapping demonstration that was especially engaging. A lunch and rest stop before and after the tour, at a house rented by the Far Western crew near the archaeological sites, afforded a relaxed and comfortable setting, and provided an opportunity to further discuss the day's events. The return trip home circumnavigated Lake Tahoe and afforded another occasion to exchange information with the Washoe.

A second field tour to North Lake Tahoe was integrated as part of an on-going Washoe language videography project. Nine people attended, many of whom are fluent Washoe speakers. Laura Fillmore and Carnegie Smokey, producers with Sierra Nevada Community Access Television (SNCAT), were instrumental in working with Susan Lindström to organize this tour. The intent of the field visit was to assemble elders on an archaeological site, in order to prompt conversation in Washoe (with English translation) about the surroundings (plants, rocks, artifacts, etc.). The entire session was recorded on audio-video and still photography, with tapes to be placed on file with the Washoe Tribe and at the University of Nevada, Getchell Library Special Collections Department. These Washoe tours were closely followed by the biannual Great Basin Anthropological Conference on October 9-12 in Kings Beach, North Lake Tahoe. The meetings were co-hosted by the Washoe Tribe, providing an additional opportunity for follow-up discussions.

The information gained from this study may ultimately be used in modeling the changing ecosystems in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The USFS-LTBMU has committed to an ecosystems management philosophy, one that is explicitly intended to move the Basin ecosystem towards a desired future condition and thereby restore its forest health. Ecosystems in the Tahoe bioregion have evolved with, and depend on, many kinds of disturbance, including human disturbance. It is likely that the Lake Tahoe Basin first encountered by Euroamerican groups embodied the effects of millennia of Washoe land-use practices. During that time, human populations may have exerted increasing influence over the landscape, affecting plant and animal populations through a gradual decrease in overall mobility and a concomitant increase in the intensity and diversity of land use.
Recent and On-Going Research (Continued from page 17)

Washoe Territory - North Lake Tahoe (Cont.)

The systematic harvesting and care of wild plants by indigenous people produces and maintains attributes desired by those people, creating conditions that might be mistaken as "natural." A growing body of research suggests that some hunter-gatherer populations, including the Washoe, manipulated their natural environment through such horticultural techniques as burning, weeding, pruning, and selective harvesting of particular resources (Anderson 1993; Blackburn and Anderson 1993; Hildebrandt 1996; Lindström and Rucks 1995; McCarthy 1993; Rucks 1996a, 1996b; and others).

Adaptation of the archaeological/ethnographic data base to the conceptual framework of ecosystem management in the Watson Creek study area may be considered an extension of applied cultural ecology, a tested paradigm within the discipline of anthropology. Any understanding of the ecological role of indigenous people in the dynamics of wild plant populations, communities, and ecosystems may be useful in the development of objectives and methods for managing, conserving, and restoring wildlands in the Lake Tahoe bioregion. Toward this end, a primary research goal is to discern anthropogenic landscapes in the Lake Tahoe Basin that may have originated out of Washoe horticultural practices.

This on-going ethnographic research is engaging anthropologists, ethnographers, archaeologists, and Washoe men and women who are cultural specialists, plant managers, and tribal officials. The dynamics induced by such diverse points of view engender a productive dialogue. The information exchange with the Washoe People has been greatly facilitated by the continued participation of established Washoe scholar Warren d’Azevedo, and by the involvement and recent ethnographic work of Forest Service Archaeologist Penny Rucks, the latter resulting in a Memorandum of Agreement between the LTBMU and the Washoe Tribe. Ultimately, the success of the ethnographic venture for the Watson Creek Project is entirely contingent upon the Washoe People, and their generous cooperation is greatly appreciated. The Washoe want to uphold their traditional role as active participants in shaping the future of Lake Tahoe and are willing to join in this effort by inspiring a sense of awareness and appreciation of Washoe heritage to the general public.

References Cited:


Recent and On-Going Research by Imperial Valley College Desert Museum by Jay von Werlhof

The Imperial Valley College Desert Museum Society (IVCDMS) has four major projects underway. The first of these has been an ongoing program for 25 years, offering classes in field archaeology in conjunction with Imperial Valley College. The major emphasis has always been site surveys within Imperial County, and today 7,750 sites are on record. Fully 95% of the land east and west of Imperial Valley is under the control of some federal or state agency, or within Native American tribal boundaries. Corporations, mining industries, utility companies, and a few private owners control the remainder. Survey permits have never been denied, but only in extreme emergencies have excavations been allowed, thus withholding access to much interpretive and dateable information.

A second project ongoing since 1978 is the study of Native American fish traps in Imperial County along the shoreline of ancient Lake Cahuilla (700? To 1650 A.D.). Three of the diminishing collections of these traps occur in former Desert Cahuilla territory, and a fourth in Kumeyaay territory. One of the collections of 67 traps will be destroyed in 1997, and a second containing 318 traps will be under threat. IVCDMS is working with Lynn Dunbar of Archeological Conservancy and two Desert Cahuilla bands to preserve this one, which also has an associated rich (and undisturbed) cultural habitation site. Difficult access helps protect the Kumeyaay site, which also includes an associated habitation and cremation area.

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Recent and On-Going Research
(Continued from page 18)

Imperial Valley College (Cont.)

The third emphasis is on the recording and study of earthen art throughout the far Southwest, though it is believed that the nearly 400 sites of record represent at least 95% of the total extant population. The second of three projected volumes of this study is nearing completion, and concentrates on the rich collection of Imperial Country glyphs.

The fourth emphasis, now in its 11th year, is the construction of a 10,000 sq. ft. museum on the 25 acres obtained in Ocotillo from the Congress. While the Society received a $250,000 ISTE A grant for recreational development of its grounds adjacent to Interstate 8, funding for the museum itself comes from private sources. The 1800 sq. ft. Archaeological Research Center, formed around five 8' x 40' cargo containers, is now operational, and on WWW internet through IV. The Imperial Irrigation District donated two 40' mobile homes, which are placed next to the ARC, one for the use of a resident caretaker and the other for visiting scholars desiring to work in our archives and on archaeological collections. Funding for the main building comes from "selling" each of the 10,000 sq. ft. for $55. Each "buyer" receives a donor's certificate and will have a name-plaque on the museum's Donor Wall, arranged according to number of sq. ft. purchased, and in whatever name the buyer chooses. Purchases and inquiries may be sent to IVCDM, P.O. 430, Ocotillo, 92259. IVCDM's computer eMail is: ivcdm@imperial.cc.ca.us. The Internet address is: IVCDM Home Page at: http://www.imperial.cc.ca.us/ivc-dm/ivcdm.htm.

Call for Grey Literature Regional Editors

Two of our Grey Literature Editors have had to resign because of other commitments. If you or someone you know is active in, or acquainted with, the archaeological "grey literature" (limited-distribution cultural resource reports and other publications) for the Central Coast or the Eastern Sierra Nevada (south of Alpine County), please contact Editor Sharon Waechter at Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. (916) 756-3941; eMail - sharonw@farwestern.com.

Sermons and Sound Bites

by Don Laylander

In the December Newsletter, Dr. Claude Warren lamented the trend toward shorter time limits for archaeological conference papers. He compared 10-minute presentations to political sound bites and argued that short papers necessarily lack "substance, significance, and sense," offering only "flashes of sound, color, and noise." I disagree.

First, what about the sound bite analogy? Political soundbites are carefully crafted exercises in emotional manipulation. Whatever our 10-minute conference papers may be, few of them fit that definition — unless we've reached levels of subtlety undreamt of by the polls.

Do short papers automatically lack "substance, significance, and sense"? Suppose it depends on what you take those terms to mean. When listening to a conference paper, I hope to learn what problems are being addressed, what sorts of techniques and ideas are being used, and what conclusions have been reached. I hope the paper will stimulate some thought and discussion, and will enable me to decide whether the research in question merits a closer look in another medium. A well-prepared 10-minute paper can do all of those things (although many a 50-minute lecture doesn't). Short papers force their presenters to get to the point, if they have one; if they haven't, at least the lectern is vacated sooner.

Dr. Warren points out that 10 minutes may be insufficient to make a convincing case for the validity of an association between artifacts and mammoth bones in a deeply stratified site. I agree, but I question the appropriateness of the match between goal and medium. Most of our data and many of our arguments can't be completely compressed into short oral presentations, but longer lectures may not be suitable either. To settle a complex and controversial issue, print is the essential medium. The reader must be able to examine the evidence critically at leisure, to cross check it, to cite it, and to refer back to it. An oral presentation can announce the finding and attempt to show that it merits serious consideration, but it shouldn't bear the responsibility for definitive proof.

What about the role of longer oral presentations? As Dr. Warren suggests, their roots may lie buried deep in the compost of academic custom. The professor dictating his wisdom each semester to dutifully transcribing students probably was an efficient scheme for disseminating information, back when Abelard was an undergraduate. Since then, Johannes Gutenberg, Bill Gates, and others have changed technology, but some of our institutions have lagged. Arguably, sermons and lectures are now primarily rituals, and as such they're more concerned with authority and power than with information. I talk; you sit and listen. I expound my truth to you — for your own good, of course; you validate my truths and my status by your passive presence. In colonial New England, cutting the Sunday sermon might have landed you in the stocks. In academia, class attendance counts, or at least the professor will include a few bits of didactic trivia in the final to weed out the noncommunicants. Conferences tend to be more democratic, pragmatic, and progressive, if only because they have less institutional power to wield or to protect. Therefore, they're more responsive to information users' needs and less faithful to tradition or authority.

There may be exceptional cases in which a 50-minute volunteered oral presentation really is appropriate. To accommodate those cases, we don't need to open the floodgates again to a hundred rambling disquisitions on "How I Spent My Summer Field Season, or 1,001 Underexposed Slides of Amorphous Rock Features." We can invite the long-paper presenter to borrow a video camera and tape his presentation, and we can make VCRs available at the conference for playback at the listeners' convenience.

When the British Association met in the 1880s, detailed conference papers were probably still one of the faster and more efficient ways of disseminating new scientific findings. Today, they're one of the slower and less efficient ways to do that. What hasn't changed is the important potential of conferences as forums at which to listen to and participate in critical discussion and debate. As conference schedules have become tighter, the papers have become shorter — a good thing, in my view — but there's also been less time for formal discussion. This is a real loss, particularly when the critical process is also stymied in other media, such as many of the journals and the grey literature.

My recommendations: (1) keep the ritual to a minimum by keeping papers short; (2) do whatever we can to promote "substance, significance, and sense" over "sound, color, and noise" in presentations of whatever length; (3) continue exploring new technologies for matching information to its consumers more effectively; and (4) maximize the primary roles of conferences — for building an archaeological community, for sharing updates on what's happening in the field, and as areas for critical debate over current research ideas.
Calendar

March 14-16, 1997. Oral History Workshop, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco. Workshop will be conducted by Charles T. Morrissey. For information: Gail Kurtz at (510) 525-7050 or Elizabeth Wright at (415) 928-3417.


March 26-30, 1997. SCA Annual Meetings, Red Lion Inn, Rohnert Park. For information contact Program Chair Barb Voss at (510) 848-5773, Local Arrangements Co-chairs Adrian Praetzellis (707) 664-3950 or Glenn Caruso (415) 898-8826, or visit the SCA web site at: http://www.scanet.org


April 2-6, 1997. The Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting. Opryland Hotel, Nashville, Tenn. For information: David G. Anderson at (904) 580-3011 ext. 344, or eMail danderso@scac.fsu.edu


April 11-13 1997. Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology Conference, University of Birmingham (UK). For information: P. Martijn van Leusen, CAA97 Organizing Committee University of Birmingham Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT, Phone +44 121 414 5513, Fax +44 121 414 5516, or eMail cca97@bham.ac.uk

April 19, 1997 Memory and Imagination in 20th Century Native American Art. Day long symposium exploring the nature of “tradition” in 20th century American Indian Art. (510) 238-3842 or 238-3401. Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland.


SCA Newsletter 31 (1) 21 March 1997

Artifacts from Littlejohn's Creek Site. Illustration by Dennis Leinfelder.
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The SCA publishes a quarterly newsletter of articles and information essential to California archaeology. Articles and letters from readers are welcome. Lead articles should be about five pages in length, double-spaced; longer articles may be printed in installments. Hard copy submissions must also be on diskette (3.5”, WordPerfect 6.1 formatting preferred) and may be directed via snail-mail to Sharon A. Waechter, Newsletter Editor, Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc., P.O. Box 413, Davis, CA 95617, (916) 756-3941, fax (916) 756-0811. Submissions may also be sent via e-Mail. Deadlines are January 15 (March issue), May 1 (June issue), August 1 (September issue), and November 1 (December issue). Lead Article authors should be aware that their articles may appear on the SCA website, unless they request otherwise.

Newsletter Deadlines

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March 1997
The Society for California Archaeology is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization dedicated to research, understanding, and conservation of archaeological resources. Membership is open to everyone with an interest in California archaeology.

SCA promotes cooperation among archaeologists in California by: 1) conducting symposia and meetings to share information on new discoveries and techniques; 2) publishing an annual Proceedings on archaeological research in California; 3) publishing a Newsletter on current topics of concern, with news and commentaries; and 4) promoting standards and ethical guidelines for the practice of archaeology.

The Society seeks to increase public appreciation and support for archaeology in California by: 1) helping planners, landowners and developers understand their obligations and opportunities to manage archaeological sites; 2) representing the concerns of California archaeologists before government commissions and agencies, and on legislation; 3) encouraging the conservation of archaeological resources for future research and public interpretation; 4) discouraging vandalism and exploitation of archaeological resources; 5) recognizing the significance that many sites possess for ethnic and local communities; and 6) encouraging respect, appreciation, and a better understanding of California's diverse cultural heritage.

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March 1997