1. **Dredging Donner: Results of Data Recovery Efforts from CA-NEV-13/H.** William Bloomer, Lithic Arts, Joshua Peabody, Stantec Consulting, and Denise Jaffke, California State Parks.
   
   **Abstract:** We present the results of the cultural constituents recovered from roughly 6,200 cubic yards of artifact bearing sediments removed from Donner Creek between Donner Lake and the Donner Lake Dam. Over 5,300 prehistoric artifacts, including 106 projectile points and 275 bifaces were recovered, with a diverse collection of other flaked stone tools and groundstone that represent the richness of a long-term residential site. Projectile point morphology includes common forms and stylistic variants that reflect the unique character of an important native settlement on Donner Lake.

   
   **Abstract:** Olivella shell grooved rectangular beads or N series beads as classified by Bennyhoff and Hughes (1987) are the oldest Olivella wall beads in central California dating to a narrow time-frame during the mid-Holocene. This bead type, thought to have originated in the southern Santa Barbara Channel Islands, has been identified across a wide geographical area including most of central and southern California, and portions of Nevada and southeastern Oregon. Used by some to argue for a Middle Holocene Uto-Aztecan socioeconomic interaction sphere, we demonstrate that their broad geography is simply a barometer of the widespread transmission of cultural knowledge and the establishment of extensive trade networks circa 5000 years ago. We also present new isotopic data that suggests that at least some of these beads were manufactured from shells obtained north of Point Conception, beyond the greater Santa Barbara Channel region.

3. **Preliminary Results of Acorn Storage Experiments.** Carly S. Whelan, California State University, Chico.
   
   **Abstract:** Though food storage can prevent subsistence shortfall in environments with seasonal resource disparities, it is costly relative to immediate consumption. Food stores are vulnerable to theft, and are susceptible to incremental loss from vermin and mold. I have previously presented a model that takes into account the decay rates of resources to evaluate which foods should be preferred for storage periods of various lengths. To generate the data needed to apply this model to the prehistoric acorn economy of California, I have started a series of acorn storage experiments. I present some preliminary results of these experiments here.
4. **XRF of Obsidian from the Wurlitzer Site, Butte County, California**. Joshua Nowakowski, California State University, Chico.

Abstract: This presentation will show the results of XRF testing of obsidian artifacts from the Wurlitzer site in Butte County, California. The purpose of this testing is to create a better context from which to understand the site. While a general chronology of the site is understood, little is known about settlement patterns. As a result, x-ray fluorescence spectrometry (XRF) was run on 1130 artifacts (207 points, 53 bifaces, 3 cores, and 867 flakes) to determine the raw material sources.

5. **The North Bloomfield Campoodie; Investigations of a Gold Rush Town’s Native American Neighborhood**. Mark Selverston, Sonoma State University, Anthropological Studies Center.

Abstract: We can all agree that the second half of the 19th century was a tumultuous period in California. The population of California’s native population collapsed as the numbers of new immigrants from around the world exploded. As Randall Milliken concluded about the impact of Missionization along the coast, it was a time of little choice. It is also a time that is difficult to study. Archival records are lacking, and they even often omitted Native Americans. Archaeological sites reflecting Native American life in the historic era are few and far between. One has been identified at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, however. Background and data from recent investigations at the site will be shared.

6. **I’d Record That...** Alex DeGeorgey and Risa DeGeorgey, Alta Archaeological Consulting.

Abstract: Cultural resources can be defined as the physical evidence or place of past human activity. Archaeologists are accustomed to recording prehistoric and historic resources on site record forms and filing this information with the California Historical Resources Information System for inclusion in their archive. Rarely do archaeologists document places that don’t conform to the standard definition of a cultural resource. This paper describes a variety of non-standard properties that should be documented and the benefits of recording these places.

7. **Floodplain Archaeology of the Northern Sacramento Valley: Archaeological Investigations in Rancho Llano Seco**. Gregory G. White, Sub Tera Consulting, Archaeology and Paleontology.

Abstract: Most of the Northern Sacramento Valley has been levelled for flood irrigation, erasing surface soil variation, topographic signatures, as well as the archaeological traces which should link positively to both these variables. Further, our major projects to date in the region (Hwy 45, Feather River West Levee, J-Levee) have been axial and therefore sampled only the natural levee landforms containing settlements, but not the floodplains and their ancient channels, meander scars, overflow features, and basins, where archaeological traces of resource harvest should be found. Recent archaeological investigations in Rancho Llano Seco, an 18,000-acre tract substantially unaltered since its issuance as a Land Grant by Mexican Governor Pio Pico in 1844, solves this shortcoming in the archaeological record and reveals landscape-level chronostratigraphy as well as the structural organization of the floodplain archaeological record.
8. **Archaeological Investigations: Archaeological Methods of Representation and the Philosophy of Wittgenstein.** Steven Nathan McGannon, San Francisco State University.

Abstract: This developing project is a multidisciplinary examination of representation of material and non-material culture within the field of archaeology. Archaeologists regularly employ a great diversity of representational tools—from creative narrative to photographs to mathematical formulae (often within a single work). Developed out of questions that arose while conducting experimental archaeological research along the coast of California, this project considers when and in what way these various representational methods are employed, and what ties them together (if anything). In addressing these questions, considerations from the later work of philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein are discussed.


Abstract: California has a diverse ecological history and using that information in conjunction with cultural resource studies undoubtedly adds depth to our understanding of human history. My study looks past the discussion of whether CRM and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) benefit each other in research, and examines the relationship between CRM and TEK in the field. The study was conducted using an online poll and follow up interviews discussed the results and personal experiences. There is much to discuss, but the results show larger concerns over budgets and complicated misunderstandings, rather than staunch disagreement on methods.


Abstract: The research aims to understand the genealogical ties between Native Hawaiians and Native Californians throughout Chico, CA. Intercultural encounters between Native Hawaiians and Native Californians are documented to have begun in 1834. The history of Native Americans and Native Hawaiians has helped shape the cultural identity of Chico, giving cultural lineage to many past, present, and future generations. Evidence from archival documents in Hawai’i and Chico on the experiences of Native Hawaiians from the 1830s, including their journey to Chico, social status, and extensive genealogies will contribute to addressing the current gap in literature on California and Hawaiian history.

11. **From Ishi to Maple Creek Ranch: A Local Perspective on the History of Cohasset, California.** Amy Huberland: Northeast Information Center, California State University, Chico.

Abstract: Located in the foothills east of Chico, the small community of Cohasset has a long history associated with logging, homesteading, and the early 20th century apple industry in Butte County. Immediately north, along Deer Creek, the land now known as the Ishi Wilderness was once home to Ishi and the Yana tribe. This paper will touch on the transition from native occupation to the historic period, highlighting the development of Cohasset and focusing on several early pioneers, including the Sorenson family, on whose property the campout for the current data sharing meetings will take place.
12. *Convergence: Merging the Maiduan and Euro-centric Views on Prehistory.* Makoto Kowta: California State University, Chico Professor Emeritus

Abstract: Archaeologists postulate that the Maiduan peoples came to occupy their ethnographic homeland around a thousand years ago while Maiduan tradition holds, to the contrary, that they have been here since the beginning. This paper suggests that by taking into consideration oral narratives and linguistic analyses and searching for areas of agreement, we can achieve a better understanding of the issue.
POSTERS

1. *Stuck Between Rockfall and a Hard Place: A Preliminary Assessment of Excavations at Wagontire Springs Cave.* Cecily Merwin, Katie Jorgensen, Caity Bishop, Noel Jones, and Matt O'Brien, California State University, Chico

Abstract: Excavations at Wagontire Springs Cave, a prehistoric site located in Little High Rock Canyon in northwestern Nevada may reveal insights into the Numic Spread proposed by Bettinger and Baumhoff (1982). Buried deposits in the cave yielded Desert Side-Notched and Rosegate series projectile points, representative of an occupation spanning the Late Archaic to the Terminal Prehistoric periods. Although excavations recently concluded, cursory analysis of lithic and faunal remains suggest continuous occupation that may shed light on differing land use strategies employed by pre-Numa and Numa occupants. Future work will examine variation in obsidian procurement, tool-kit composition, subsistence preferences, and residue analysis.


Abstract: Portable X-ray fluorescence had proven to be a useful tool in segregating skeletal elements in small commingled assemblages. However, to date, studies have failed to establish standards for skeletal pXRF analysis. This paper seeks to propose standard practices for pXRF analysis of human bone by applying this technology to the heavily commingled Point San Jose collection. This historical collection was excavated from a medical waste pit at Fort Mason, San Francisco, and dates to the 1870s. The PSJ collection provides a real-life test of pXRF commingling analysis.

3. *An Analysis of Net Sinkers from CSU Chico’s Archaeology Collection.* Joshua Nowakowski, California State University, Chico.

Abstract: Net sinkers are often mentioned in archaeological reports in northern California but little analysis of these materials from archaeological assemblages has been published. I will present the metric data I have gathered on the net sinkers from CSU Chico’s archaeology collection along with a synthesis of literature published on net sinkers in California. This data was collected in order to establish a relationship between physical traits; however, no statistical relationships have been found. Instead, it appears that net sinkers need to be understood in context of the sites they were collected from.

4. *Analysis of Anatomical Dissection at Point San Jose Hospital, Fort Mason, San Francisco.* Mallory Peters, California State University, Chico.

Abstract: In 2010 a pit of commingled skeletal remains was discovered next to the building that served as the military hospital at Point San Jose, San Francisco. The nature of the disposal was unclear; but the posting of several military surgeons at the fort suggested that it was likely associated with one or more of their practices. Analysis of the remains revealed numerous postmortem modifications which include incised cut and saw cut marks. The frequency, distribution, location, and directionality of the modifications were analyzed. A differential diagnosis of the context of the pit was difficult due to conflicting modifications.