

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

PRESERVATION EXPLORATION



Membership Application

Newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society October, 2005

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

General (lecture) meetings are held in the University of Colorado Museum, Dinosaur Room Second Thursday of each Month, at 7:00 PM. The public is always welcome.

September 24, 25 Stone Age Fair, Pulliam Community Building, 545 Cleveland Ave., Loveland 9AM each day.

October 6	Executive Board Meeting, 7:30PM at The Atrium.
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- October 13 Presentation Meeting Bill Butler. Topic is "What's New at Rocky"
- October 15 Lyons Survey, see below
- October 19-22 Plains Anthropological Conference in Edmonton, Alberta

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	Executive Board Meeting, 7:30PM at The Atrium.	Membership Renewals	1
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November 10	Presentation Meeting – Jean Stuck	Lyons Survey	1
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December 1	Executive Board Meeting, 7:30PM at The Atrium.	Executive Board Minutes	7
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December 8	Annual Christmas Party. Details to be announced.	Officers/Board Memoers	0

**January 5** Executive Board Meeting, 7:30PM at The Atrium.

**January 12** Presentation Meeting – Dr. Bob Brunswig. Topic is "Roman Archaeology in Roman Gaul".

## **Membership Renewals**

Expired in July: Russell D. Smith Expired in August: James Egarton

Expiring in October: Cheryl Damon, Wayne Gilbert Jr., Jeannie Hamilton, William Jones, Ken Larson,

Richard Owens, Laura Viola Renewed in August: Joanne Morgan

**December 14 PAAC Class** (session 7 of 7)

#### Glad you are with Indian Peaks!

## **Lyons Site Documentation**

We will document additional sites along Eagle Ridge in Lyons during the next few months, weather permitting. Due to vacations, there is no scheduled survey in September. The next survey will be October 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in participation, please contact Tom Cree at (303) 776-7004 or tomcree@earthlink.net

# **Getting the Point**

Petroglyph



Item Type: *Petroglyph*Source of this point: Modern Replica by Sand Carved Designs

This *Petroglyph* is a reproduction of a two-tailed animal. The original *Petroglyph* is located in the Salt River Canyon, Arizona near Globe. This interesting "transformation" *Petroglyph* depicts an animal with a dog head and tail but catlike feed and a second cat-like tail extending back over the body. It is located in an area occupied, prehistorically, by the Hohokam and Salado peoples. It is 12 inches by 6 inches. The image above is carved into natural stone (not molded plaster, 'engineered stone', faux stone or painted, dyed or stained) from a photograph of the rock art site. The following is a photograph of the original.





Field archaeologist Mark Johnson looks for artifacts as he screens the soil while unearthing the foundation of a house at the Rueter-Hess dig in Parker

.AP/Craig F. Walker

# **Digging for time**

Budget issues put restraints on researchers at Parker dig By Robert Sanchez, The Associated Press

PARKER — Amid the weedy expanse that soon will become this growing town's reservoir, Erik Gantt and his archaeological crew are fighting a battle against time. The group from Fort Collins-based Centennial Archaeology Inc. was invited to Douglas County nearly a year ago to investigate findings that ancient people lived at the creek site southwest of Parker for thousands of years, building homes, creating artistic objects and hunting food.

But budget overruns due to time- consuming discoveries on the Rueter-Hess Reservoir land have prompted the Army Corps of Engineers to ask that archaeologists abandon the 6,500-year-old site early next month. Bulldozers would shovel dirt over sites that have already yielded some of Colorado's oldest pottery and what may be a one-of-a-kind kiln. "The people in (Parker) were pretty excited for the first eight months or so, but attitudes have changed drastically since then," said Gantt, whose federally mandated search over the 640-acre piece of land has yielded four 4,000-year-old houses, several weapons and hearths used to cook food. "In my opinion, this has all been reasonable work, but that's now up for debate."

The attitude shift, town officials said, came in part because the Parker Water & Sanitation District initially budgeted \$100,000 for what it thought would be short-term archaeological research. The district pays all costs for the reservoir, including the research mandated by federal law. But costs soared to \$800,000 this summer as scientists continued to find artifacts, and the final price tag could exceed \$1 million once 40,000 items are fully analyzed.

Because only 1 percent to 2 percent of the site was excavated, meaning more money would be needed, town officials argued that a cap should be put on the work. "The question is, 'How much is enough?" said Frank Jaeger, the district's manager, who is credited with helping develop the \$100 million reservoir and dam plan that will supply water to more than 33,000 homes when it opens in 2010. A bond issue to pay for the project was approved last year. "The site is very interesting, and we're glad the work was done, but I have to think about my constituents," he said. "The people (who voted) want the reservoir, and it's their money."

But if the archaeologists pack up next month and rebury dig areas, the decision could add to a continuing nationwide debate over whether public needs should trump preservation of prehistoric finds. From Pennsylvania to Georgia to Arizona, scientists, developers and governments have argued over roadways, casinos and homesites, all of which have threatened thousands of years of untouched history. In Parker's case, the work fell under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which mandates that projects receiving federal help must go through a rigorous land examination that includes a search for historic artifacts. Private archaeological firms like Centennial often are hired to do that work.

Further research might be needed later on the reservoir site as the water district petitions the Corps of Engineers — likely within two years — to expand the reservoir from 16,000 acre-feet to 70,000 acre-feet to accommodate growing water-storage interest from Castle Rock and other neighboring areas.

Alan Stanfill, a senior program analyst with the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation who oversees Western states, said the corps and Gantt's team in Douglas County would soon discuss how to proceed with the dig and subsequent analysis work. "I hope something can be worked out," Stanfill said. "You like to think that both sides could walk away with what they need because these are important, significant discoveries. "This isn't anybody's fault, and it's not anybody's mistake," he said. Corps officials said recently they are awaiting a revised budget from Centennial Archaeology that could include eliminating some analyses or bidding some out.

"There are complex deposits all along (Rueter-Hess) that you simply couldn't have planned for," said Larry Todd, an anthropology professor at Colorado State University. "If your only concern is economics, then it's impossible to argue against. "But everyone involved here has to know that you're dealing with an irreplaceable, nonrenewable piece of history." The site was home to prehistoric people that lived there 6,500 years ago to about 1,800 years ago. The oldest artifacts predate Egypt's pyramids by more than 3,000 years and Plato's teachings in Greece by more than 6,000 years.

Archaeologists began by cutting into the creek bank and examining changes in soil color and texture. Soon, flakes of rock were found, indicating that people were creating tools. And nearly half a mile away, pieces of 1,800-year-old pottery were found, along with darts, arrows and a 2,000-year-old, 5-inch knife with a still-sharp blade. Further digging partially exposed fire pits, food storage areas and outlines of homes. A clay, doglike figure about the size of a pinky finger was found in a possible kiln, which could be the first High Plains kiln found in North America. "These were semi-sedentary people, but they did more than hunt and eat," Gantt said. "They were here, talking by the fire, creating language and making art."

Near the riverbank recently, as earthmovers crawled along the edge of the planned reservoir a few hundred yards away, four archaeologists crouched over the outline of a home. The men plunged metal pipes into the soft earth, pulling up blackened soil. Erik Ferland pointed out a likely food-storage bin to a colleague. He then scratched out an outline with his index finger and scraped the dirt into a dust pan. "This is amazing stuff," Ferland said later. "I hope people understand that."

#### Prehistoric huts found at Rueter-Hess site

Archaeology News

A team of archaeologists looking for historical artifacts at the Rueter-Hess Reservoir construction site has found traces of huts used by nomadic tribes up to 5,000 years ago. Centennial Archaeology Inc., an archaeological surveyor out of Fort Collins last month found "shallow, basin-type structures" five feet below the ground's surface, said Chris Zier, owner of the company. The "saucer-shaped depressions," which are roughly 3 to 3.5 meters in diameter, were dug by tribes and covered by a crude brush structure made of sticks and other natural materials, he said. "These people were mainly hunter-gatherers, so they didn't stay in one place," Zier said. "But that doesn't mean they didn't live without shelter."

Although the artifacts have not been carbon-dated, Zier said the excavation team has found spear points used in the Middle Archaic Period roughly 3,000 to 5,000 years ago. The artifacts are being tested in the Centennial Archaeology laboratory and more data will be available by the end of the month.

One site has been excavated and crews recently began work on a second one. The team will comb a total of four sites, some of which are near an area planned for a water treatment plant. Fire pits, stone tools and debitage - flakes and chips from stone tool production - have already been found at the prehistoric sites. "We're digging trenches and seeing things in profile," Zier said. "There is not a lot on the surface, but there is stuff below." The artifacts will be removed and put into storage for the Douglas County Historical Society. Norma Miller, a member of the society, was not aware of the discovery but was excited to find out her organization would be receiving the items. The pieces will be on display when the historical society finds a location for a museum."

#### Prehistoric huts found at Rueter-Hess site

By:Chris Michlewicz

A team of archaeologists looking for historical artifacts at the Rueter-Hess Reservoir construction site has found traces of huts used by nomadic tribes up to 5,000 years ago. Centennial Archaeology Inc., an archaeological surveyor out of Fort Collins last month found "shallow, basin-type structures" five feet below the ground's surface, said Chris Zier, owner of the company. The "saucer-shaped depressions," which are roughly 3 to 3.5 meters in diameter, were dug by tribes and covered by a crude brush structure made of sticks and other natural materials, he said. "These people were mainly hunter-gatherers, so they didn't stay in one place," Zier said. "But that doesn't mean they didn't live without shelter." Although the artifacts have not been carbon-dated, Zier said the excavation team has found spear points used in the Middle Archaic Period roughly 3,000 to 5,000 years ago. The artifacts are being tested in the Centennial Archaeology laboratory and more data will be available by the end of the month.

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The artifacts will be removed and put into storage for the Douglas County Historical Society. Norma Miller, a member of the society, was not aware of the discovery but was excited to find out her organization would be receiving the items. The pieces will be on display when the historical society finds a location for a museum. Zier said the find is not rare for the area; archaeologists have uncovered about 100 similar sites in Colorado and Wyoming. Weaver Construction will be permitted to resume work at the reservoir site once the artifacts are collected. Winter is not the ideal time to be digging, but Centennial Archaeology is working with the contractor to help prevent delays with the construction of the reservoir.

Zier said he expects archaeologist to be on the site at least until April. The excavation teams could have more area to cover with the possible expansion of the reservoir. "I'm sure we'll find more," Zier said. Parker Water and Sanitation District Manager Frank Jaeger said people have recently been trespassing on the property. Signs are posted on a fence surrounding the construction site warning people not to enter. "It compromises the study of historical information during the excavation process if people are out there," Jaeger said. "We also have to worry about their safety because of all of the construction equipment."

## Alan Wormser was Guard archaeologist

By Matt Schudel, The Washington Post

Alan Joseph Wormser – who worked to make the National Guard more sensitive to environmental needs, archaeology, and cultural and historical matters -died August 12 at Inova Fairfax (Virginia) Hospital from a stroke, as a complication of diabetes. He was 48.

Trained as an archaeologist, Wormser developed his specialty in Texas, where in 1993 he launched the country's first cultural resources office for a unit of the National Guard. He supervised a staff of archaeologists, architectural historians and other specialists and advised the Texas National Guard on the impact its bases and construction programs might have on the environment, historic properties and Native American artifacts. In 2000, he brought this expertise to the federal government as national program manager of cultural resources at Army National Guard headquarters in Arlington. As a federal agency, the National Guard is required to comply with environmental and historic preservation regulations at its hundreds of locations throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia and three territories. Wormser's task was to balance the Guard's military mission with concerns for the environment and history. He worked closely with archaeologists across the country and became an authority on issues related to environmental law, land management and conservation. He was a primary liaison between the Defense Department and Indian tribes whose lands and sacred sites were affected by developments at National Guard bases nationwide.

In Texas in 1996, he succeeded in having a historic military base, Camp Mabry near Austin, nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Wormser later worked on a national scale to determine whether buildings or other sites on National Guard properties should be designated as historic landmarks. He also led workshops around the country for the National Guard, historic preservationists and archaeologists. In 1997, he was given environmental security awards from the secretary of the Army and the secretary of defense, and the following year he received a personal citation of merit from Secretary of Defense William Cohen. He was a resident of Annandale, Virginia. Wormser was born in San Antonio, Texas, and graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas. He received a master's degree in anthropology from the University of Oklahoma in 1981 and did additional graduate work there until 1984. Before finding his niche with the National Guard, he worked on the staff of the Oklahoma state archaeologist and, from 1986 to 1993, was an archaeologist for the Texas Department of Transportation. Wormser's wife of 12 years, Kerynn Lynne Darien Bissett, died in 2002 of Lou Gehrig's disease. Survivors include his fiancée and two sisters.

#### W. JAMES JUDGE RECEIVES BYRON S. CUMMINGS AWARD

The Byron S. Cummings award is given annually by the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society. The award recipients for 2004 are W. James Judge and Jeffrey S. Dean. The award is given for outstanding research and contributions to knowledge in Southwestern archaeology, anthropology, or ethnology. It is named in honor of Byron S. Cummings, the principal professional founder of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society, who was also the first Head of the Department of Anthropology (then Archaeology) at the University of Arizona, as well as Dean and President of the university. The awards were presented on August 13th at the Pecos Conference, held this year at Bandelier National Monument.

W. James Judge has made lasting contributions to Southwestern archaeology as the director of the renowned Chaco Project, a university professor of anthropology, a trainer of future archaeologists in numerous field schools, and an active advocate of preservation and conservation causes. After completing his Ph.D. in 1970 at the University of New Mexico, Jim was a faculty member at Colorado State University and the University of New Mexico before becoming the chief research archaeologist and then director of the Chaco Project. As a result of his 1974-85 leadership roles in this joint program of the National Park Service and the University of New Mexico, intensive and innovative research produced great advances in knowledge about the spectacular developments in Chaco Canyon. Jim's Chaco work is published in several coauthored books, many articles, and the well-known volume, Chaco and Hohokam, edited with Patty Crown. In addition, Jim has presented more than 100 lectures to professional and public audiences and received numerous grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Geographic, and the National Park Service.

Following the Chaco Project, Jim was Director of the Fort Burgwin Research Center, a research and teaching facility of Southjern Methodist University in Taos, New Mexico. From 1990 to 2001 he was Professor of Anthropology at Fort Lewis College and studied Pueblo III occupations in southwest Colorado. His career interests and accomplishments include Paleoindian investigations, remote sensing, conservation archaeology heritage preservation, and museum and public archaeology. In keeping with his distinguished service to the profession, Jim received the Emil W. Haury Award of the Western National Parks Association, was appointed to the Advisory Board of the National Center for Preservation Technology by the Secretary of the Interior, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Archaeological Conservancy.

#### **Executive Board Meeting**

August 4, 2005

**Meeting called to order** at 7:30 PM at the Atrium in Boulder.

Attendees: Rick Pitre, Cheryl Damon, Kris Holien, Tom Cree, Reggie Hofmaier, Christine O'Toole

Secretary's report read by Cheryl Damon. Accepted as is.

**Treasurer's Report** (Pitre): no renewals, no new members. A payment of \$150 for the months of September, October, and November will be made next week to the CU museum for room rental. We will need to pay \$25 per month honorarium for 3 months. We will need to pay Calumet expenses. The PACC class in October will be on Excavation and will cost \$70.

#### **President's report** (Damon and Holien):

- All chapters will receive a set of 4 CDs, 2 memoirs, chimney rock and rock art. Tom Cree will ask Kevin Black if material from the CDs can be used in the Calumet.
- Our chapter can use the State's tax-exempt number.
- There are denim shirts available for sale with the state CAS logo for approximately \$28
- Eileen Gose, CAS education chair, has created a trunk with archeological materials to take to 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes around the state. She can show others how to create something similar.
- Raffle tickets are available for a beautiful Navajo Squash Blossom Necklace to raise money for CAS.

Old business: none

**New business**: There was a discussion of potential speakers for the fall:

- January speaker is Bob Brunswick
- Cheryl will contact the speaker who spoke at the Longmont Museum about historic forts
- Christine will go to the Longmont Library and review tapes that might be appropriate for back-up when a speaker fails to show up.

**Open floor**: Tom Cree has put up an exhibit at the Longmont Public Library. He has left membership forms and Calumets with the exhibit. The membership forms have been disappearing so hopefully we'll see some potential new members in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM - Christine O'Toole, Secretary

### 2005 IPCAS Officers, Board Members, and major functions

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Please check the chapter web-site at: http//www.indianpeaksarchaeology.org

Individual \$28.50 / YearFamily \$33 / YearStudent \$14.25 / Year, with Ca	Renewal	
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# **CALUMET**

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