Greetings IPCASers!

Happy New Year! It’s a new year and (arguably) a new decade. I’m generally not one for New Year’s resolutions, though I can definitely get behind the tradition of thank you notes. To start the thanks, I send thanks to all chapter and CAS members. It’s only through shared support that we can promote, educate and contribute to Colorado archaeology. I also want to thank IPCAS member Kaitlyn Davis for her presentation at our November meeting. I’m proud to know that Kaitlyn’s work is supported in part by the Alice Hamilton Scholarship program. We have at least four more programs in our spring series. Find all the details on our website.

January - On Jan. 9, Laura Vernon (IDS Georadar) will present her graduate research on the Industrial Mine in Superior. Laura’s presentation integrates remote sensing, archaeological excavation and historical research in synthesizing findings on social networks and labor movements in the early 20th century.

February - On Feb. 13, Dr. Jason LaBelle (CSU) will discuss investigations by the Center for Mountain and Plains Archaeology at the Fossil Creek site in Larimer County from the last decade, including over 70 square meters of block excavations. Get ready for extensive radiocarbon dating, hearths, pottery, points and more!

IPCAS elected a new(ish) slate of officers at our November chapter meeting. I’m pleased to report that Cheryl Damon, Debbie Smith and I will remain in our 2019 roles, as well as welcome Brittany Samm as our Vice President and Larry Beidle as an at-large board member. Dan Schneider, Christian Driver, Delane Mechling, Gretchen Acharya and Kris Holien will stay on in
their appointed positions. I also want to share my profound gratitude to Rosi Dennett for her leadership as IPCAS President, Vice President and more. Rosi will continue in leading the chapter’s participation in the Projectile Point Project. I hope she enjoys a well deserved break and keeps sharing adventures on Instagram. Team Razzie for the win!

In December, past IPCAS President Michael Landem submitted a letter to the editor regarding the publication of Volume 2 of the Medicine Lodge Creek report by Drs. Danny Walker and George Frison. The volume is highly anticipated.

Mike’s letter is contained in an editorial section in this edition. IPCAS has initiated contact with the authors to find more information about the status and potential actions to aid in publication.

Don’t forget to check out the IPCAS Events page for a current list of interesting events around our area. The Calumet distribution schedule is bi-monthly now. As such, this edition of the Calumet contains content for both January and February 2020, including lecture information, events and other features.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and successful new year!

WHAT WE’RE READING

What We’re Reading is a curated collection of news stories that are of interest to Colorado archaeology and archaeological practices all around. These stories are all shared on IPCAS social media.

• Did you know that bison, unlike other ungulates, do not follow the annual spring green-up? It turns out that they create a green-up effect by intensively grazing in early spring, forcing plants to continuously produce young shoots until they move on. The larger the herd, the bigger the green-up.

• Archaeologists from Yamagata University in collaboration with IBM Japan used high-resolution aerial imagery to identify 143 potential new Nazca lines with A.I.

• In a clear-sighted picture of an Ojibwe woman’s Thanksgiving experience, the nationally celebrated holiday could be an opportunity to celebrate Native peoples rather than at the expense of Native peoples. It’s worth a read to remind us why the stories and people of the past matter in our day-to-day lives.

• If you’re interested in the op-ed above, check out Nuu~ciiu Strong, a curriculum made for Colorado fourth grade students through collaboration between Colorado’s Ute Tribes, Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, Colorado Department of Education, History Colorado, Denver Public Library, Denver Art Museum and more.

• In a recent article from Science, Nipéhe (also referred to as the Cooper’s Ferry site) on the Salmon River in Idaho was added to the list of convincingly pre-Clovis sites. The lead author on the report added to National Geographic that he suspects that the people at Nipéhe migrated down the Pacific Coast and followed the Columbia River to areas south of the Cordilleran Ice Sheet.

• To commemorate the third anniversary of the establishment of the Bears Ears National Monument, Vice Chairman Clark Tenakhongva (Hopi) and representative for the Inter-Tribal Coalition was interviewed about why he believes Bears Ears needs to be protected. Check it out for inspiration and tips for when visiting Bears Ears.
UPCOMING MEETINGS

Spring 2020 Lecture Series

Laura Vernon
Archaeologist and Customer Support Manager at IDS Georadar

Gender, Social Networks, and Labor Disputes: Household Archaeology at the Industrial Mine Camp

Thursday, January 7 at 7:00 pm

Dr. Jason LaBelle
Director of Center for Mountain & Plains Archaeology, Assoc. Professor of Anthropology at Colorado State University

Of Hearth and Home: Investigating the Fossil Creek Site, an Early Ceramic Era Campsite in Larimer County, Colorado

Thursday, February 13 at 7:00 pm

Lectures are held at the OSMP Hub:
2520 55th Street
Boulder, CO 80301

All lectures are free and open to the public.

Visit indianpeaksarchaeology.org/upcoming-lectures for more info!
Open Letter

To: The Indian Peaks Chapter of The Colorado Archaeological Society

From: Michael J. Landem

Re: Medicine Lodge Creek, Volume 2
   George C. Frison and Danny N. Walker
   The Clovis Press

To Whom it May Concern:

In 2007, Volume 1 of the Medicine Lodge Creek report was published. It is a comprehensive study of the Early Holocene archaeology of the Eastern Bighorn Basin, based primarily on the intact and deeply stratified main site at Medicine Lodge Creek, located in a sheltered and beautiful canyon on the western slope of the Bighorn Mountains. Yet it is just the beginning of all we learned there.

Since 2017, Volume 2 has been ready and waiting for publication. The analytical results of decades of careful excavation, cataloging and curation are contained therein. Many thousands of hours of publicly funded scientific endeavor have been invested in the production of this document. Yet it remains for the past several years inaccessible to the archeological community at large.

Those of us involved in the professional and avocational study of archaeology would benefit greatly from access to this invaluable resource. It would add to the body of knowledge of Holocene archaeology in general and advance our scientific progress in the field accordingly.

I ask that you please encourage the authors, George C. Frison and Danny N. Walker, and the Clovis Press, to expedite the publication and distribution of Volume 2. If we can help with funding, I ask that we do so. We will all benefit from the expedient release of the work of these two exceptional scholars.

Thank You,

Michael J. Landem
The Calumet

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES ARE HAPPENING FASTER THAN EVER BEFORE, HELPING RENEW THE HUMAN STORY

By Elizabeth Sawchuk and Mary Prendergast

In 1924, a 3-year-old child’s skull found in South Africa forever changed how people think about human origins.

The Taung Child, our first encounter with an ancient group of proto-humans or hominins called australopithecines, was a turning point in the study of human evolution. This discovery shifted the focus of human origins research from Europe and Asia onto Africa, setting the stage for the last century of research on the continent and into its “Cradles of Humankind.”

Few people back then would’ve been able to predict what scientists know about evolution today, and now the pace of discovery is faster than ever. Even since the turn of the 21st century, human origins textbooks have been rewritten over and over again. Just 20 years ago, no one could have imagined what scientists know two decades later about humanity’s deep past, let alone how much knowledge could be extracted from a thimble of dirt, a scrape of dental plaque or satellites in space.

HUMAN FOSSILS ARE OUTGROWING THE FAMILY TREE

In Africa, there are now several fossil candidates for the earliest hominin dated to between 5 and 7 million years ago, when we know humans likely split off from other Great Apes based on differences in our DNA.

Although discovered in the 1990s, publication of the 4.4 million year old skeleton nicknamed “Ardi” in 2009 changed scientists’ views on how hominins began walking.

Rounding out our new relatives are a few australopithecines, including Australopithecus deryiremeda and Australopithecus sediba, as well as a potentially late-surviving species of early Homo that reignited debate about when humans first began burying their dead.

Perspectives on our own species have also changed. Archaeologists previously thought Homo sapiens evolved in Africa around 200,000 years ago, but the story has become more complicated. Fossils discovered in Morocco have pushed that date back to 300,000 years ago, consistent with ancient DNA evidence. This raises doubts that our species emerged in any single place.

This century has also brought unexpected discoveries from Europe and Asia. From enigmatic “hobbits” on the Indonesian island of Flores to the Denisovans in Siberia, our ancestors may have encountered a variety of other hominins when they spread out of Africa. Just this year, researchers reported a new species from the Philippines.

Anthropologists are realizing that our Homo sapiens ancestors had much more contact with other human species than previously thought. Today, human evolution looks less like Darwin’s tree and more like a muddy, braided stream.

ANCIENT DNA REVEALS OLD RELATIONSHIPS

Many recent discoveries have been made possible by the new science of ancient DNA.

Since scientists fully sequenced the first ancient human genome in 2010, data from thousands of individuals have shed new insights on our species’ origins and early history.

One shocking discovery is that although our lineages split up to 800,000 years ago, modern humans and Neanderthals mated a number of times during the last Ice Age. This is why many people today possess some Neanderthal DNA.
Ancient DNA is how researchers first identified the mysterious Denisovans, who interbred with us and Neanderthals. And while most studies are still conducted on bones and teeth, it is now possible to extract ancient DNA from other sources like cave dirt and 6,000-year-old chewing gum.

Genetic methods are also reconstructing individual and family relationships, and connecting ancient individuals to living peoples to end decadeslong debates.

The applications go far beyond humans. Paleogenomics is yielding surprising discoveries about plants and animals from ancient seeds and skeletons hidden in the backrooms of museums.

Biomolecules are making the invisible visible

DNA is not the only molecule revolutionizing studies of the past.

Paleoproteomics, the study of ancient proteins, can determine the species of a fossil and recently linked a 9-foot tall, 1,300-pound extinct ape that lived nearly 2 million years ago to today’s orangutans.

Dental calculus – the hardened plaque that your dentist scrapes off your teeth – is particularly informative, revealing everything from who was drinking milk 6,000 years ago to the surprising diversity of plants, some likely medicinal, in Neanderthal diets. Calculus can help scientists understand ancient diseases and how the human gut microbiome has changed over time. Researchers even find cultural clues – bright blue lapis lazuli trapped in a medieval nun’s calculus led historians to reconsider who penned illuminated manuscripts.

Lipid residues trapped in pottery have revealed the origins of milk consumption in the Sahara and showed that oddly shaped pots found throughout Bronze and Iron Age Europe were ancient baby bottles.
Researchers use collagen-based “barcodes” of different animal species to answer questions ranging from when Asian rats arrived as castaways on Africa-bound ships to what animals were used to produce medieval parchment or even to detect microbes left by a monk’s kiss on a page.

**Big data is revealing big patterns**

While biomolecules help researchers zoom into microscopic detail, other approaches let them zoom out. Archaeologists have used aerial photography since the 1930s, but widely available satellite imagery now enables researchers to discover new sites and monitor existing ones at risk. Drones flying over sites help investigate how and why they were made and combat looting.

Originally developed for space applications, scientists now use LIDAR – a remote sensing technique that uses lasers to measure distance – to map 3D surfaces and visualize landscapes here on Earth. As a result, ancient cities are emerging from dense vegetation in places like Mexico, Cambodia and South Africa.

Technologies that can peer underground from the surface, such as Ground Penetrating Radar, are also revolutionizing the field – for example, revealing previously unknown structures at Stonehenge. More and more, archaeologists are able to do their work without even digging a hole.

Teams of archaeologists are combining big datasets in new ways to understand large-scale processes. In 2019, over 250 archaeologists pooled their findings to show that humans have altered the planet for thousands of years, for example, with a 2,000-year-old irrigation system in China. This echoes other studies that challenge the idea that the Anthropocene, the current period defined by human influences on the planet, only began in the 20th century.

**New connections are raising new possibilities**

These advances bring researchers together in exciting new ways. Over 140 new Nazca Lines, ancient images carved into a Peruvian desert, were discovered using artificial intelligence to sift through drone and satellite imagery. With the wealth of high-resolution satellite imagery online, teams are also turning to crowdsourcing to find new archaeological sites.

Although new partnerships among archaeologists and scientific specialists are not always tension-free, there is growing consensus that studying the past means reaching across fields.

The Open Science movement aims to make this work accessible to all. Scientists including archaeologists are sharing data more freely within and beyond the academy. Public archaeology programs, community digs and digital museum collections are becoming common. You can even print your own copy of famous fossils from freely available 3D scans, or an archaeological coloring book in more than 30 languages.

Efforts to make archaeology and museums more equitable and engage indigenous research partners are
gaining momentum as archaeologists consider whose past is being revealed. Telling the human story requires a community of voices to do things right.

**Studying the past to change our present**

As new methods enable profound insight into humanity’s shared history, a challenge is to ensure that these insights are relevant and beneficial in the present and future.

In a year marked by youth-led climate strikes and heightened awareness of a planet in crisis, it may seem counterproductive to look back in time.

Yet in so doing, archaeologists are providing empirical support for climate change and revealing how ancient peoples coped with challenging environments.

As one example, studies show that while industrial meat production has serious environmental costs, transhumance – a traditional practice of seasonally moving livestock, now recognized by UNESCO as intangible cultural heritage – is not only light on the land today, but helped promote biodiversity and healthy landscapes in the past.

Archaeologists today are contributing their methods, data and perspectives toward a vision for a less damaged, more just planet. While it’s difficult to predict exactly what the next century holds in terms of archaeological discoveries, a new focus on “usable pasts” points in a positive direction.

Elizabeth Sawchuk is a Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Stony Brook University (The State University of New York).

Mary Prendergast is a Professor of Anthropology, Saint Louis University – Madrid.

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As always, if you know of any events, lectures, exhibits, or fieldtrips that should be on our calendar, please email them to indianpeaksarchaeology@gmail.com.

JANUARY 8
Northern Colorado Chapter CAS
Monthly chapter meeting
Clark Building, Room A26, CSU
6:30-7:30 p.m.

JANUARY 9
Bold Women. Change History. Lecture Series
Featuring astronaut Susan Helms. Boldly go into the story of one woman’s journey into the final frontier — gender, science, and the American space program!
History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver
7-8 p.m.

Indian Peaks Chapter CAS
Gender, Social Networks, and Labor Disputes: Household Archaeology at the Industrial Mine Camp by Laura Vernon (University of Denver, IDS). Monthly chapter meeting.
OSMP Hub, 2520 55th Street, Boulder
7-8:30 p.m.

JANUARY 11
InSights & InPerson: Introduction to Research
History Colorado’s collections include a wealth of materials for those interested in Colorado history and beyond. Join our Stephen H. Hart Research Center staff in exploring how to access History Colorado’s archives, photographs, artifacts, and newspapers in an introductory program designed for researchers of all experience levels.
History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver
10:15-11:15 a.m.

JANUARY 13
Denver Chapter CAS
Monthly chapter meeting
Cherry Creek Building, Room 241, Metro State University
7-8 p.m.

JANUARY 16
The Spirit of Capitol Reef
For 12,000 years, people have left a rich record of their experiences in Utah’s Capitol Reef National Park. In the new book The Capitol Reef Reader, award-winning author and photographer Stephen Trimble has put together 160 years worth of words by 50 writers, capturing the spirit of the park and its surrounding landscape through personal narratives, philosophical riffs, and historic and scientific records. The narrative is anchored by more than 100 photographs, including pictures from Trimble’s 45 years of hiking the park. Trimble will share some of these photos and stories as well as anecdotes from his detective work to unearth stellar pieces of writing to create a one-of-a-kind volume of this special place.
Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Blvd, Denver
7-9 p.m.

JANUARY 18
Sew and Stitch: Strike-a-Light Pouch
Create from hide, sinew, beads, and cones an attractive belt pouch. Materials and refreshments provided. Instructor Aaron Klass takes you step-by-step through the construction of this Native-influenced utility bag. Reserve your spot today by calling Fort Vasquez at 970-785-2832.
Fort Vasquez, 13412 US Highway 85, Platteville
12–4 p.m.

AIA Denver Lecture

Landscape Archaeology and Human Dispersal on the East European Plains by Dr. John Hoffecker
Denver Public Library, 10 W. 14th Ave Pkwy, Denver
2–3 p.m.

JANUARY 20

Spirit of Colorado Lecture Series

Andres Resendez, history professor and author of The Other Slavery: The Uncovered Story of Indian Enslave-ment in America, examines the bondage of Native Ameri-cans — a system as degrading and vast as African slavery. Between 2.5 and 5 million Native Americans may have been enslaved throughout the hemisphere in the centuries between the arrival of Columbus and the 20th century. Resendez builds the case that mass slavery — more than epidemics — decimated Indigenous populations. Through riveting new evidence, including first-person testimonies of captives, courageous priests, and rapacious merchants, Resendez reveals a key missing piece of American history.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver
7–8 p.m.

JANUARY 21

Pikes Peak Chapter CAS

Monthly chapter meeting featuring a joint presentation on “Archaeological Adventures” from chapter members.
Fire Station #19, 2490 Research Parkway, Colorado Springs, CO
7–8 p.m.

Pikes Peak Chapter CAS

Monthly chapter meeting
Fire Station #19, 2490 Research Parkway, Colorado Springs, CO
7–8 p.m.

JANUARY 25

Bold Women. Change History. Lecture Series

Join us as we learn how one strong woman from the past helps connect Colorado to the national women’s suffrage movement with Kaylyn Mercuri. Agnes Wright Spring was an author, suffragist, and historian. Her work in the fields of applied history and the history of the American West as an author and education advocate were just part of an impressive career. But that work has rarely had the rec-ognition it deserves. Spring’s efforts, primarily in Colorado and Wyoming, represent the dedication of a well-educated and socially in-tune woman who wanted to change the trajectory of history as a discipline.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver
1:30–2:30 p.m.

JANUARY 26

Winter Heritage Day at Walker Ranch

What did pioneer settlers do in the winter? Learn about typical winter chores and indoor games when you explore the Walker Ranch Homestead. You'll see a working demo-nstration in the blacksmith shop and smell food being prepared on the wood-burning stove. Be prepared for cold, windy weather and to walk in snow.
Walker Ranch, 7701 Flagstaff Rd, Boulder
1–3 p.m.

JANUARY 29

AIA Boulder Lecture

Salt: A Mover and Shaker in Ancient Maya Economy with Dr. Heather McKillop
Hale Science #270, Boulder
12–7 a.m.

JANUARY 29–FEBRUARY 1

Saving Places Conference

Visit coloradopreservation.org/saving-places-conference for more information.
Sheraton Hotel, 1550 Court Pl, Denver
9 a.m.–5 p.m.
JANUARY 31

2020 Stephen H. Hart Awards

History Colorado is proud to host the 2020 Stephen H. Hart Award for Historic Preservation. This year, five projects will receive accolades — including the prestigious Governor's Award. The professionals involved with the projects will be accepting the awards.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver
5-8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 6

Pueblo Archaeological & Historical Society Meeting

Monthly chapter meeting

Pueblo Heritage Museum, 201 W. B St, Pueblo
7-8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 8

Second Saturday Free Day

Free entry for all at Longmont Museum.
400 Quail Road, Longmont
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

FEBRUARY 10

In Search of Health and Wealth: Colorado's Early Jewish Community

By the late 19th century hundreds and then thousands of largely Eastern European immigrant Jews came to "chase the cure" for tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases. Jeanne Abrams, director of the Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical Society and guest curator of our exhibit A Legacy of Healing: Jewish Leadership in Colorado's Health Care, shows how this second wave of migration impacted both Denver's Jewish community and the broader community at large.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver
1-2 p.m.

Monthly chapter meeting

Cherry Creek Building, Room 241, Metro State University
7-8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 12

Bold Women. Change History. Lecture Series

As we enter a historic presidential election year, best-selling author Carol Anderson explores the impact of gerrymandering, poll closures, and purging voter rolls on American voting rights and democracy.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver
7-8 p.m.

AIA Boulder Lecture

Brewing Beer in Roman Britain with Travis Rupp
Hale Science #270, Boulder
1-8 a.m.

Northern Colorado Chapter CAS

Monthly chapter meeting

Clark Building, Room A26, Colorado State University
6:30-7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 13

Indian Peaks Chapter CAS

Of Hearth and Home: Investigating the Fossil Creek Site, an Early Ceramic Era Campsite in Larimer County, Colorado by Dr. Jason LaBelle (Colorado State University, Center for Mountains and Plains Archaeology)

Location TBD
7-8:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 15

AIA Denver Lecture

The Colorado Coalfield Project by Dr. Karin Larkin
Denver Public Library, 10 W. 14th Ave Pkwy, Denver
2–3 p.m.

**Trickster Tales Hike**

Coyotes live throughout most of North America and coyote tales are found in many native cultures. Join volunteer naturalists for a moderate hike to learn more about this clever, adaptable character. Hiking poles are recommended due to possible icy trail conditions. More info at [www.bouldercounty.org/events/trickster-tales-hike-2/](http://www.bouldercounty.org/events/trickster-tales-hike-2/).

Near Lyons

1–3 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 17**

**History Colorado Lecture Series**

La Cultura y El Movimiento: Juanita Dominguez. A woman of culture and compassion, Juanita Dominguez contributed much to the Chicano Movement of the 1970s. She wrote “Yo Soy Chicano” — the movement song that accompanied so many activities and occasions throughout the Southwest — and published numerous articles about her community. Poet and educator Flor Lovato will expand on Juanita Dominguez’s contributions both prior to and during the movement.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver

6 p.m.–1 a.m.

**FEBRUARY 22**

**Colorado Women’s Vote Centennial Symposium**

In conjunction with the Women’s Vote Centennial Colorado // 2020, History Colorado will be holding the Colorado Women’s Vote Centennial Symposium on February 22, 2020, from 8 am to 5 pm at the History Colorado Center. This event is free and open to the public.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver

8 a.m.–5 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 24**

**Ale Throughout History**

Travis Rupp, beer archaeologist at Avery Brewing Company and Instructor of classics and art history at the University of Colorado Boulder, takes you on a journey through the history of beer. He’ll reveal the origins of beer in Europe and the Middle East and the beginnings of beer in early America. Learn what beer was like during the life and career of George Washington, and try a sampling of Avery’s Ales of Antiquity. Travis will tell you about his upcoming plans for the Ales of Antiquity Series based on his world travels in pursuit of beer’s history.

History Colorado, 1200 N Broadway, Denver

6–8 p.m.

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**SUPPORT IPCAS!**

IPCAS has big plans for outreach and fieldwork. Help us support activities by:

- When you shop on Amazon.com, use [Smile](http://Smile.Amazon.com) and select Colorado Archaeological Society to receive a portion of all eligible purchases. Using Smile does not change anything about your purchase.

- Don’t forget to pick up some IPCAS gear! IPCAS get a portion of all sales from our Zazzle store. Visit: [zazzle.com/indianpeakscas](http://zazzle.com/indianpeakscas)

- You can donate online to IPCAS to help us fund outreach, trips, lectures, and other events. Give at: [indianpeaksarchaeology.org/donations](http://indianpeaksarchaeology.org/donations)
About The Calumet

The Calumet is the newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society, and is produced and edited by Daniel J. Schneider in coordination with the board.

Members are encouraged to send ideas and material for The Calumet. All content is subject to review and approval by the IPCAS Board, and may be edited for length, style and clarity.

The submission deadline is the 3rd Monday of the month for the next month’s issue. Submissions should be emailed to:

indianpeaksarchaeology@gmail.com

or

dan@schneidan.com

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