

ALL POINTS BULLETIN



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Colorado Archaeological Society - Denver Chapter

"...in the future, as in the past, the gathering of information will depend to a great extent on cooperation between avocational and professional archaeologists." (H.M. Wormington, 1978)

Volume 55, No 2

February, 2017

SOME INTERESTING DISCOVERIES FROM THE 2016 CHEROKEE RANCH CLASS III INVENTORY, DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO

Reid Farmer, Jon Kent, Sarah Foster, and Brittany Soderquist

In September and October of 2016, the Metropolitan State University field school, under the direction of Jon Kent and Reid Farmer and the Community College of Denver field school, under the direction of Gene Wheaton, began a class III inventory of the property of the Cherokee Ranch. The Cherokee Ranch is located in Douglas County, just northeast of Sedalia. This approximately 3400 acre private property is owned and operated by the Cherokee Ranch and Castle Foundation (CRCF), a non-profit organization dedicated to the memory of Ms. Mildred "Tweet" Kimball, the late owner of the Ranch, which has education, conservation and preservation as its prime goals. The CRCF has generously partnered with our field schools to support research on its property, some of which is funded by a State Historical Fund assessment grant.

This year's inventory covered approximately 70 acres, and is envisioned to be the first phase of a multi-year project. Students working as field technicians on the inventory covered the areas surveyed in transects with a 10m interval. A number of prehistoric and historic archaeological sites were discovered in the course of this year's work, but two sites, here referred to by their temporary numbers as Foster 1 and Soderquist 2, were found to contain unusual features and artifacts that we thought would be of interest.

FOSTER 1

Foster 1 is a lithic scatter with associated features located on a north-south trending ridge top. The features include two rhyolite core caches and a circular depression.



This photograph is looking north, showing the site area, with the boulders where rhyolite core caches were found. Cherokee Mountain is in the background.



The first rhyolite core cache is located in and around a boulder outcropping on the top of the ridge.

Interestingly, some of the larger cores in this cache have been wedged into the cracks of the boulders, and were practically immovable. It might be assumed that this was done on purpose by whomever occupied the site, however it is unclear why.



The second cache of cores is located towards the bottom of the west slope of the ridge. It is a large cairn-like feature, which stood out because of the large size and quantity of stone.

Finally, a circular depression approximately 1m in diameter and 50cm deep was located on the top of the ridge. The depression was purposely dug because the fill is visible just outside of the depression. It is hard to tell, however, whether the depression was dug out during prehistoric or historic times, or what its use was.

In addition to the features, a substantial lithic scatter was found at this site. The artifacts included cores, debitage and shatter, indicating the site was possibly used for the manufacture of lithic tools. Additionally, several tools were found at the site including possible scrapers, as well as modified and utilized flakes. Interestingly, much of the lithic scatter consisted of quartzite and some petrified wood, unlike the caches, which were all rhyolite. All three stone types are common for lithic artifacts in the area and are procured nearby, particularly petrified wood, which is abundant on the Cherokee Ranch property. The ridge top where Foster 1 is located has spectacular south and west facing views of the Foothills, West Plum Creek, nearby flat-topped hills, and Pikes Peak in the distance. To the north, the site had a view of Cherokee Mountain, where a known prehistoric rock shelter, Cherokee Mountain Rock Shelter (5DA1001), is located.

This site's preliminary interpretation is that it was a prehistoric lithic storage and production area, based on the caches of material that were found and the amount of debitage at the site. The behavior of caching cores in cracks in boulders and in small

cairns is one that has not received much attention in published literature on this region. It would be good to hear from readers who may have made similar observations.

SODERQUIST 2

Soderquist 2 is a dense lithic scatter, containing cores, debitage, finished formal lithic tools, ground stone artifacts, ceramics and fire-affected rock. It served as an open camp in prehistoric times. The site is covered with dense tall grasses, wild flowers and cacti in an open field area. The landscape provides some visual protection of the open camp being surrounded by hills, patches of scrub oak and Cherokee Mountain to the northwest. There is good visibility to the south down the slope of an open field area and into the West Plum Creek Valley. The Cherokee Mountain Rock Shelter is visible from the site.

Soderquist 2 contains over 500 pieces of debitage including primary flakes, secondary flakes, tertiary flakes, and lithic shatter. The debitage material types is predominantly petrified wood and quartzite with some rhyolite. The site also has 70 formal lithic tools, some of which consisted of projectile points, knives, scrapers, cores, modified flakes, utilized flakes, ground stone, and spokeshaves. A single ceramic sherd was found.



This photograph is an overview picture of the dense lithic scatter facing north, as students and volunteers document the flagged artifacts and debitage.



One of the most significant finds of the Soderquist 2 site was a Puebloan black-on-white painted sherd. It has been tentatively identified as a Taos Black-on-White sherd from New Mexico, possibly dating to AD 1275-1350 (David Hill, personal communication, 2016). Further analysis will be conducted to confirm this. Puebloan painted sherds are rare finds in the Front Range, and the only other one we have been able to confirm as documented so far comes from a site named Old Man Mountain near Rocky Mountain National Park (Benedict 1985, Husted 1964).



Other artifacts found on Soderquist 2 include an unusual notched rhyolite knife pictured on the left end. The rhyolite knife exhibited only unifacial edge modification. The next three artifacts in the photograph are petrified wood projectile point fragments, most probably arrow points from the Middle or Late Ceramic periods.

References cited:

Benedict, J.B.
1985 Old Man Mountain: A Vision Quest Site in the Colorado High Country. *Research Report No. 4*, Center for Mountain Archaeology. Ward, Colorado,

Husted, W.M.
1964 Pueblo Pottery from Northern Colorado. *Southwestern Lore* 30(2): 21-25.

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February General Meeting: Monday, February 13, at DMNS in Ricketson Auditorium at 7 PM.

Speaker: Jill E. Scott, M.A.

Department of Sociology and Anthropology,
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Department of Anthropology, The University of Iowa
Evolutionary Studies Institute, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Title: *Homo naledi* and the (Dinaledi) Chamber of Secrets: A New Addition to the Human Family Tree



Abstract: *Homo naledi* is a recently announced extinct species of ancestral human (hominin) discovered in the Dinaledi Chamber of the Rising Star cave system in the Cradle of Humankind, South Africa. To date, more than 1700 specimens representing at least 15 individuals have been recovered, making it the largest assemblage of a single hominin species yet discovered in Africa. The species is characterized by a stature and body mass similar to small-bodied human populations but with a small, australopith-like brain volume. *Homo naledi* marks an exciting new discovery, displaying a unique mosaic of australopith-like and *Homo*-like morphology not previously seen in the hominin fossil record.



Speaker Bio: Jill Scott is a biological anthropologist and the Laboratory Coordinator for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Metropolitan State University of Denver. She is currently finishing her



doctoral work on the craniofacial evolution of Middle and Late Pleistocene *Homo* through The University of Iowa. Jill is also part of the team analyzing and describing *Homo naledi*, the recently announced hominin species from South Africa. To date, she has coauthored four scholarly publications detailing the skeletal anatomy of *Homo naledi*, and she is currently conducting

research on the hand of *Homo naledi* with colleagues at CU Denver and the CU School of Medicine.

Minutes of the DC-CAS Board Meeting January 3, 2016

The DC-CAS Board Meeting was held at the Cherry Creek Building at Metro State University January 3, 2017. Attending were Linda Sand, Jon Kent, Teresa Weedon, Reid Farmer, Cashel McGloin, Alex Rosa, Michele Giometti, and Lisa Yeager. Linda Sand called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM.

Vice President/Speakers-Jon confirmed the February Speaker is Jill Scott and the March Speaker is Chris Pink. He is looking at Dr. Fischer and the Alice Hamilton recipients as potential speakers. He raised the question of whether there would be an October meeting, given the annual meeting.

Scientific-Reid will start looking for people to help with a survey of Cherokee Ranch.

Membership-Cashel reported there were no new members. There was a great deal of interest, particularly at the December meeting, but they were advised to wait until February to join since the renewal date is March 1.

Colorado CAS-Teresa reminded everyone that the CAS quarterly meeting would be in Colorado Springs at Colorado College on January 14th.

PAAC-There is not a PAAC representative at this time, nor is one needed at the moment as the new assistant state archaeologist, Chris Johnston, is reworking the program and this will not be offering any PAAC classes this semester.

Treasury-Michele motioned to roll over the \$197.94 remaining in the library fund into the general fund, which passed. Otherwise the financials changed very little. She will look into getting a debit card as it

may be easier for paying for things related to the annual meeting.

Trips-Teresa stated there were none at this time APB-Cashel stated that it was late but going out. It was unlikely to be emailed however as Denver CAS is no longer able to use the old email system and without a webmaster, she would need to figure out a new system. She stated she would be able to bring the website up to date and get the APB uploaded though.

Old Business

Old Minutes-Kendra was not present with the old minutes, so they could not be approved.

New Business

Charles Lily offered us a large number of old slides as well as archaeology and excavation photos. As these were from work done by other chapters and there is no longer a library, the board declined the generous offer.

Annual meeting-The jobs that had not been assigned to people were sorted out. The venue and field trip plans are underway, and budget concerns and costs were thoroughly discussed, but no final decisions could be made this early. Betsy Weitkamp has generously offered to handle the silent auction. The plans are proceeding well based on the schedule provided by the State CAS.

Linda Adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.

Notes by Cashel McGloin for Secretary Kendra Elrod.

Minutes of the DC-CAS General Meeting, January 9, 2017

The General Meeting was held on January 9, 2017 in the West Atrium lobby of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. No AV person was available and the auditorium was locked. A problem occurred in that the DMNS violated the contract with the chapter in abiding with the scheduled meeting.

Hopefully this should not happen again. About 10 listeners and our speaker, Chris Johnston, Assistant State Archaeologist, pulled together some tables and chairs, and crowded around Chris's tablet. Chris then presented a well-prepared talk on his research on the remains at the Roberts Buffalo Jump in Larimer County. Our intimate seating arrangement encouraged a number of questions, comments and exchanges of ideas among those present. The only item of Denver-CAS business conducted beyond the lecture was an announcement of the chapter's February 13 speaker, Jill Scott, who will speak on the Rising Star cave system and discoveries of an ancestral human species.. -- Jon K.

PAAC Activities

The winter PAAC Lab certification classes will be held at the El Pueblo Museum in Pueblo. The lab will occur on Wednesdays, from 10 AM to 4:30 PM, beginning in late February or early March. Volunteers will be working with two students from CSU-Pueblo who are completing an internship related to their studies in anthropology. Volunteers will be working on cataloging, analyzing, and curating an extensive historical artifact collection from excavations at the site by the late Dr. William Buckles. If you have any interest in this class please contact Chris Johnston, Assistant State Archaeologist, (chris.johnston@state.co.us).

The PAAC summer training survey is slated for July 2017. This summer we are partnering with Paleocultural Research Group (PCRG) to do an intensive survey, testing and rock art recording project in the San Luis Valley. Participants will have the opportunity to get experience conducting survey and testing, recording and documenting sites, and working with volunteers and professionals from across the state. The Valley has a rich archaeological past, spanning from Clovis to Hispanic settlement and farming and ranching; we are very excited about this partnership and look forward to you joining us. A field camp location is being explored in or near Antonito and details will become available soon. Participants will be provided tent camping accommodations during each project session and all meals will be provided. There will be two sessions: one from July 8-15 (arrive the afternoon of the 7th), and one from July 20-27 (arrive afternoon of the 19th). More details will be announced soon but if you know you are already interested please contact Chris Johnston, Assistant State Archaeologist, (chris.johnston@state.co.us).

LECTURES

"New Perspectives on Ancient Urbanism", Dr. Jack Hanson, University of Colorado, Boulder. Saturday, February 11, 2017, 2:00 PM. Location: Auraria Campus, North Classroom Building, Room 4002, 1100 Lawrence Street, Denver, CO.

Abstract

Although we've always known that cities were one of the most important features of the Greek and Roman world, we've actually had very little idea about basic aspects of the urbanism of the ancient world, such as how many of these settlements there were, where they were distributed and how they changed over time, how large they were, and how many people lived in them compared to villages, hamlets, and farms. In this talk, I will attempt to answer

some of these questions, drawing on the new research on ancient urbanism that has been put forward in my forthcoming book, and explore what it can tell us about what it was like to live in the ancient world and how it compared to the medieval and modern world.

Bio

J. W. Hanson is a historian and archaeologist specializing in the urbanism and economy of the Greek and Roman world. He holds a B.A. in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History from the University of Oxford, as well as an M.St. in Classical Archaeology and a D.Phil in Archaeology from the same institution. He is now a Research Associate at the University of Colorado, Boulder, working for the Social Reactors project.

"Secrets of the Ness of Brodgar; a Stone-Age Complex in the Heart of the Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site" Nick Card, University of the Highlands and Islands. Saturday, March 11, 2017, 2:00 PM. Location: Auraria Campus, North Classroom Building, Room 4002, 1100 Lawrence Street, Denver, CO.

Abstract

Off the northernmost tip of Scotland lies the Orkney Islands where it is said that if you scratch its surface Orkney bleeds archaeology! This is nowhere truer than in the *Heart of Neolithic Orkney* World Heritage Site that is renowned for some of the most iconic prehistoric monuments of Atlantic Europe: the great stone circles of the Ring of Brodgar and the Stones of Stenness; Maeshowe the finest chambered tomb in northern Europe; and the exceptionally well preserved 5,000-year-old village of Skara Brae. Recent research and excavation in this area is radicalizing our views of this period and providing a sharp contrast to the Stonehenge centric view of the Neolithic. In particular, the stunning discovery of a Neolithic complex at the Ness of Brodgar that was enclosed within a large walled precinct is changing our perceptions. The magnificence of the Ness structures with their refinement, scale, and symmetry decorated with color and artwork, bears comparison with the great temples of Malta.

These excavations are revealing a 5,000 year old complex, socially stratified, and dynamic society. The Ness excavations were recognized by the American Institute of Archaeology as one of the great discoveries in 2009; named the 2011 *Current Archeology* Research Project of the Year; winner of the international Andante Travel Archaeology Award in 2012; and featured in cover article in *National Geographic* in 2014.

Bio

Nick Card is an Honorary Research Fellow of the University of the Highlands and Islands, a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquarians of Scotland, a Member of Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site Research Committee, Chair of the Ness of Brodgar Trust and Vice president of the American Friends of the Ness of Brodgar. Since the inscription of Orkney's World Heritage Site (WHS) the *Heart of Neolithic Orkney*, he has been involved in research and fieldwork relating to the sites: as director of the excavations at Bookan Chambered Tomb; as co-ordinator of the WHS geophysics programme; and

as a major contributor to the Research Agenda. His interests lie in all aspects of the prehistory of Britain and the Highlands and Islands with particular reference to the Neolithic. He has also co- directed the major excavations at the extensive Bronze Age cemetery of the Knowes of Troty and the Iron Age complex at Mine Howe, both of which are nearing publication.

**COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
DENVER CHAPTER
Financial Report
Prepared by Michele Giometti, Treasurer**

Balance Sheet

December 1-31, 2016

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings	
Key Bank Checking	1,220.98
1 st Bank CD 182 day 1/3/17 0.05%	5,698.08
1 st Bank CD 182 day 4/18/17 0.05%	4,810.57
1 st Bank CD 1 Yr 2/17/17 0.15%	<u>5,000.62</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>16,730.25</u>

TOTAL ASSETS 16,730.25

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities

State CAS Dues Payable	<u>0.00</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>0.00</u>

Temp. Restricted Net Assets

Scientific Applications Fund	3,751.91
Swallow Report Project Fund	2,725.81
D Bucknam Memorial Speaker Fund	1,747.10
Blackfoot Cave Fund	0.00
Library Fund	0.00
Education Fund	52.40
Field Trips / Social Fund	483.01
Student Membership Fund	57.50
Speakers Meal Fund	<u>560.28</u>
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets	9,378.01

General Fund 7,268.40

General Fund Net Income 83.84

Total Equity 16,730.25

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 16,730.25

INCOME STATEMENT

December 1 – 31, 2016

GENERAL FUND	MTD	YTD
Income		
Membership Dues		2,941.00
Interest-Savings,		
Short-Term CD		14.38
Donations Received		993.00
Close Library Fund	<u>197.94</u>	<u>197.94</u>
Total Income	197.94	4,146.32

Expenses		
Bank Service Charges	5.00	60.00
Dues Paid to State		1,336.00
Quarterly Meeting		
Host Expense		290.00
Supplies		99.05
Insurance		1,015.00
PO Box Rental	112.00	112.00
Website		209.93
Blackfoot Cave Expenses		130.00
Transfer to Scientific		
Applications		210.00
DMNS Annual Membership		600.00
Total Expenses	<u>117.00</u>	<u>4,062.48</u>

Net General Fund Income 80.94 83.84

Public Education

Expenses		
Poster Printing – Blackfoot Cave		129.60
Total Expenses		<u>129.60</u>
Net Public Education Income (Expense)		(129.60)

Scientific Applications Fund

Income		
Transfer from General Fund		210.00
Donations Received		<u>130.00</u>
Total Income		<u>340.00</u>
Net SAF Income		340.00

Speaker's Meals

Expenses		
Speaker's Meals	32.60	<u>251.34</u>
Total Expenses	32.60	<u>251.34</u>
Net Speaker's Meals (Expense)	(32.60)	(251.34)

Swallow Report Project

Income		
Donations Received		<u>44.00</u>
Total Income		<u>44.00</u>
Net Swallow Report Income		44.00

Library

Income		
Donations Received		32.00
Total Income		32.00
Expenses		
Supplies		36.51
Transfer to Close Library Fund	<u>197.94</u>	<u>197.94</u>
Total Expenses	<u>197.94</u>	<u>197.94</u>
Net Library Income (Expenses)	(197.94)	(202.45)

Blackfoot Cave

Expenses		
Pottery Analysis		<u>70.00</u>
Total Expenses		<u>70.00</u>
Net Blackfoot Cave Expense		(70.00)

All Denver CAS Memberships must be renewed on March 1, 2017

As a courtesy, the RENEWAL FORM is on the following page.

DENVER CHAPTER of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS)

MEMBERSHIP Application

rev 11-4-2015

March 1 — Annual Due Date for all members of the Denver Chapter

New Membership or Renewal DATE: _____

Membership Enrollment

**Southwestern Lore* is the quarterly Journal of Colorado Archaeology published by CAS.

- Individual = \$30.00 — includes *Southwestern Lore** and all other CAS mailings to members.
- Family = \$45.00 — includes *Southwestern Lore** and all other CAS mailings to members.
(A family is considered to include 1 or 2 adult(s) and all named juvenile members of their family, or two adults living together in one household. Adults are considered to be at least 18 years of age or married.)
- Student — includes *Southwestern Lore** and all other CAS mailings to members.
(Include a photocopy of school-issued ID.)
- = \$16.00 — Individual to Denver Chapter, each year
- = \$35.00 — Family to Denver Chapter, each year
- Senior Citizens/Disabled — includes all CAS mailings to members but does not include *Southwestern Lore*.*
- = \$22.00 — Individual to Denver Chapter, each year
- = \$35.00 — Family to Denver Chapter, each year
(A Senior Citizen is any person who is at least 65 years of age. Disabled is any person who is permanently disabled.)
- I have a Life Membership in CAS or I am a Member of another CAS Chapter = _____
- = \$14.00 — Individual to Denver Chapter, each year
- = \$25.00 — Family to Denver Chapter, each year

Contributions to Denver Chapter Funds are TAX EXEMPT — Thank You!

General Fund: \$ _____ Swallow Site: \$ _____ Scientific Projects: \$ _____ Contribution TOTAL: _____

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ _____ Membership + Contributions (make checks payable to: Denver Chapter - CAS)

CODE OF ETHICS (CAS) – Members of the Denver Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society will:

- Uphold local, State and Federal antiquities laws.
- Conduct field and/or laboratory activities using professionally accepted standards.
- Accept the responsibility, if serving as Principal Investigator, to publish the results of the investigation and to make the collection available for further scientific study.
- Support only scientifically and legally conducted archaeological activities. Members will not condone the sale, exchange or purchase of artifacts obtained from illegal activities.
- Respect the property rights of landowners.
- Report vandalism to appropriate authorities.
- Be sensitive to the cultural histories and spiritual practices of groups that are the subject of archaeological investigation.

By becoming a member of the Denver Chapter, which includes membership in CAS:

I/We give CAS permission to send email notices (THE SURVEYOR / CAS announcements) to the email address listed below.

I/We do hereby agree to uphold and abide by the Code of Ethics as a condition of membership in the Denver Chapter and CAS.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Signed: _____

Please include the signature of each member covered by the membership.

Mail this Form and Payment to: **Denver Chapter - CAS P.O. Box 100190 Denver, CO 80250-0190**

Denver Chapter
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