

ALL POINTS BULLETIN



Make friends with...

...the past, through the....

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)

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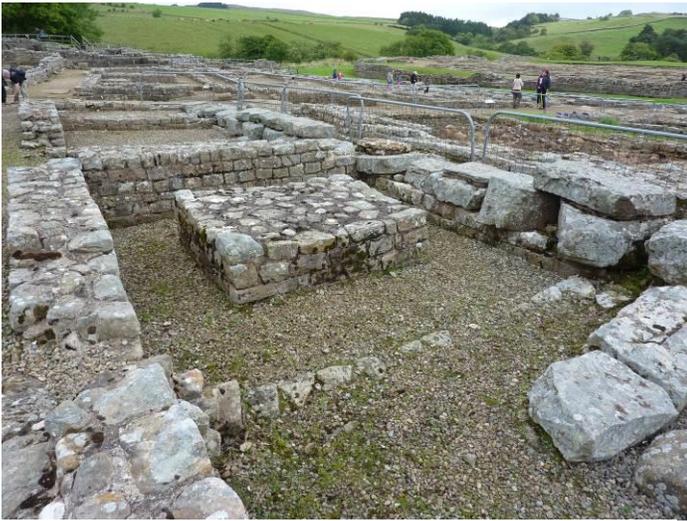
A short visit to Vindolanda, Northumberland, England September 2016 By Michele Giometti

On a tour of England in September 2016 I had the opportunity to spend a few hours at Vindolanda, an active dig site on the northern edge of England, just south of Hadrian's Wall. Recognized as early as 1715 to be a former Roman site, excavations began in earnest in 1930 but were halted by World War II. In 1970 the land was purchased by Mrs. Daphne Archibald, who donated it to a newly created archaeological charity, The Vinlolanda Trust. From that point forward, excavations have been constant. It is estimated that only 15% of the remains have been discovered and there is enough work for archaeologists to be busy for the next 150 years.



The original purpose of excavation was to study the fort's civilian settlement. The focus was to be on the soldiers' family homes, as well as the tradesmen and merchants who supported the garrison. The original

expectation was that the project would last 10-15 years. However, successive layers showed there were as many as 10 layers of occupation, civilian beneath military. Therefore, the project became much more complicated. Roman occupation began in 80 AD and lasted until after 400. Evidence of five successive wooden forts has been found and the project increased in size to at least 20 acres. In 1972, the foundations of these five timber forts were discovered below a thick layer of clay. Roman builders laid down clay or turf layers above demolished buildings in order to create flatter platforms for their new structures. This method unintentionally preserved the older artifacts by creating a seal. Because they had been preserved in anaerobic conditions, the materials were preserved in excellent condition. Iron tools were virtually uncorroded, and leather and wood goods were abundant, especially leather footwear. In addition, letters, accountings, and drawings that had been written on thin sheets of wood were also recovered, giving researchers glimpses of the day-to-day life in a Roman fort. Military documents such as goods and materials requirements were educational in that they listed dietary items such as beef, pork, venison, spices, wine and even Celtic beer. Duty rosters, intelligence reports and personal letters between soldiers and their distant relatives give glimpses into their personal lives. There is even an invitation to a birthday party.



Visitors can walk among the excavated sites. Guide markers explain archaeologists' interpretation of what each foundation may have been used for, ie, store houses, baths, temples, officer's residences, and troop barracks. There is evidence of an outline of a strongroom, where the pay of the soldiers was housed. During my tour, I had the opportunity to speak with several of the volunteers working on the site, as well as Marta, one of the archaeologists. They were very friendly and willing to share their knowledge with the tourists.



The Trust has built an adjacent museum and visitor's center. Visitors can view pottery, bone and glass artifacts, boots and sandals, and an impressive collection of Roman coins. A variety of bronze tools, silver jewelry, as well as engraved and sculptured stones are also displayed. In 2013, the museum registered just short of 17,000 artifacts, consisting of gold, silver, bronze, pewter, iron, lead jet, bone, and semi-precious stones, together with 6,000 leather assemblages, 800 textiles, 1300 wooden objects and 1600 coins (a). The Vindolanda Trust has recently purchased a neighboring farm with the expectation that they will convert its agricultural buildings into long-term museum storage.



"Teachers told the Romans built this place.
They built a wall and a temple and an edge of the
empire garrison town.
They lived and they died.
They prayed to their gods, but the stone gods did not
make a sound.
And their empire crumbled 'till all that was left
Were the stones the workmen found."
"All This Time," Sting



References:

Vindolanda: Extraordinary Records of Daily Life on the Northern Frontier, Robin Birley, Roman Army Museum Publications, 2015. 9a)
Vindolanda Charitable Trust, www.vindolanda.com.

June General Meeting: Monday, June 12, at DMNS in Ricketson Auditorium at 7 PM.

Speakers: Christopher J. Kerns and Allison M. Kerns

Title: Buried Underground: The Excavation and Re-examination of Iron Age activity at Read's Cavern, Southwest England

Abstract: The two presenters will discuss the results and conclusions from excavations they conducted at Read's Cavern during April and May 2010. While the excavation revealed intact Iron Age deposits consistent with those reported by earlier 1920's excavations, analysis of the material from the 2010 excavation has indicated a significantly more complex set of depositional practices than previously suggested. The cave will be placed in its broader Iron Age context in southwest England which includes activities in the Mendips and the Somerset levels as well as Britain and Western Europe more broadly. A more detailed understanding of the taphonomic processes raised questions regarding the original conclusions that Read's Cavern was a site of habitation and domestic activity. The possible uses of the cave have been reconsidered through comparisons to activities taking place at other Iron Age sites around Britain, including other cave sites. The defining aspect of Read's Cavern as a space is its lack of visibility, as both a feature in the landscape and as a place in which it was difficult to penetrate the darkness. Concepts of contamination and cleanliness may have had an important role in forming the intricately structured deposits within Read's Cavern. Such an interpretation of the cave may also give insight into how people in the Iron Age viewed and understood the landscape around them. It may even give further insight into cosmological concepts and structures during the Iron Age outside the context of the cavern. The contextual aspects of the site combined with the new archaeological material recovered during the excavation has led to the proposal that the cavern may have been utilized to contain and/or negate profane objects and material within a changing and developing Iron Age cosmology.

Speaker Bio: Chris Kerns is the newsletter editor for IPCAS and an appointed member of the IPCAS board. He is a true Colorado local having grown up in Boulder Canyon where his family has owned property since 1921. He started his journey in archaeology as a freshman at Northern Arizona University where he took an Introduction to Archaeology class as an elective. He later transferred to the University of Colorado, Boulder where he became a double major in History and Anthropology graduating with honors in Anthropology with an emphasis on archaeology. Since graduating from the University of Colorado in 2005, he has split his time between working for CRM firms across the United States and pursuing further education in the United Kingdom. He received an MA in Neolithic Archaeology from the University of Manchester in 2007, an MPhil in Landscape

Archaeology from the University of Bristol in 2015, and is currently pursuing a PhD, part-time, at the University of Southampton. Over the course of his career he has had the pleasure to work on amazing projects all over the United States and the United Kingdom including the Stonehenge Riverside Project in Wiltshire, England and at The Ness of Brodgar Excavations in Orkney, Scotland. His archaeological interests are varied, but he is really interested in the transition from hunting and gathering to agriculture. In particular, he's interested in how the "Neolithic" transition directly impacted belief systems and social structures. His research has included investigating changing perceptions of the landscape and changes in material culture. His publications include *For the Ferryman: The social and Cosmological Consequences of Crossing the Land-Sea Boundary during the Neolithic in Britain* in the *Archaeological Review from Cambridge*, *Monuments from the Doorstep: Exploring the temporal, spatial, and social relationship between Chambered Cairns and Settlements during the Orcadian Neolithic* in an edited volume entitled *Decoding the Neolithic Atlantic & Mediterranean Island Ritual*, and jointly with his wife, *A Preliminary Report on the 2010 Excavation at Read's Cavern* published in the *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Spelaeological Society*.

Allison Kerns is the IPCAS Education and Outreach officer and an appointed board member. She is originally from Toronto, Ontario. She started her archaeological career as a volunteer, and later staff member, at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. She graduated from York University with a double major in Professional Writing and Anthropology. After working for the Ontario Heritage Trust as well as a field archaeologist doing CRM in Canada, Allison later moved to England to pursue a master's degree in Landscape Archaeology. As a master's student she had the opportunity to work with the Newport Ship Project in Wales. The community support for the rescue excavation of this medieval ship became the focus of her MA thesis. Much of her archaeological work since has focused on Iron Age and Roman sites, including as the Assistant director for the Read's Cavern excavations. As the assistant director, Allison worked alongside her now husband managing the excavation and oversaw all of finds processing and cataloging for storage in the museum collection. After Read's cavern, Allison went on to work as the Education and Outreach officer on the Celts and Romans Project for Wessex Archaeology. Allison led the education and outreach program centered on the volunteer excavation of a Roman bath house, and a hoard of Iron Age cauldrons. In

addition, Allison also worked at the Roman Baths Museum, part of the Bath World Heritage Site, where she worked as a visitor assistant providing tours of the amazing archaeological site. Allison currently works for the Geological Society of America, where she manages the GeoCorps America program. Allison is passionate about bridging the gap between professional archaeology and the public, and getting interested people beyond museums and onto sites.

August General Meeting

Speaker: Michael Kolb

Title: Pharaonic Power and Architectural Labor Investment at the Karnak Temple Complex, Egypt

Minutes of the DC-CAS Board Meeting, May 2, 2017

The DC-CAS Board Meeting was held at the South Classroom Building/Cherry Creek Building Room 241 at Metro State University Denver Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Attending were Linda Sand, Jon Kent, Teresa Weedin, Ken Andresen, Reid Farmer, Lisa Yeager, Michele Giometti, Cashel McGloin, Kendra Elrod, Amy Howard, and Greg Davis.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Linda Sand.

Scientific Reid reported there were about 90 attendees at his talk at Cherokee Ranch on April 11. There will be three 6 day sessions of survey at Cherokee Ranch this summer. The excavation opportunity at Magic Mountain in June has been filled. Reid mentioned the possibility of a field trip to an excavation site adjacent to the Rueter-Hess reservoir.

Membership Cashel reported 23 have not yet renewed. Cashel will continue to try to contact these delinquent members. [Dues payments were due March 1.] One member donated \$250 to the General Fund. The board appreciates this gift.

CO-CAS Teresa reported on the recent Quarterly meeting. There was \$4,775 in Alice Hamilton scholarships awarded. David Melanson, Chair, Science Advisory Committee reported on a workshop to be held Friday, July 14, in the Cortez area for the Canyon of the Ancients/Anasazi Heritage Center photogrammetric team project. CAS and BLM will form teams to photogrammetrically record backcountry sites and AHC artifacts for digital curation. The next Quarterly meeting will be in Dolores Saturday, July 15. Of interest; the Anasazi Heritage Center has a Wetherill exhibit ongoing at that time.

PAAC Chris Johnston has a Quarterly PAAC report online.

Treasurer Michele submitted the April financial report via email. One expense item for the Swallow Report project was \$500 for graphic illustration preparation.

Trips/Events Teresa reported on the Ute Mounrain Tribal Park work trip. One of the two days was rained out. There were 9 attendees.

Website Greg Davis, the new Chapter Website Coordinator, has the May APB up on the site.

Vice President/Speakers Jon announced the June speakers will be Christopher Kerns and Allison Kerns talking about iron age activity in Southwest England. The August speaker will be Michael Kolb talking about the Karnak Temple Complex in Egypt.

The approval of the April Board Meeting minutes was deferred to the June 6 Board Meeting.

The June 12 General Meeting will be at DMNS in the VIP Room [past the guard station to the left].

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Submitted by Ken Andresen

Minutes of the DC-CAS General Meeting, May 8, 2017

The meeting at the Ricketson Auditorium of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science was called to order by Linda Sand at 7:12 PM. The delay was due to the destructive hail storm.

Scientific Jon reported that Neil Hauser is engaged in reviewing the Swallow Site documentation.

Speaker Jon introduced Cathy Cameron from the University of Colorado, Boulder, who spoke on "*Captives: Stolen People in the Ancient World*". Captives have been taken in all of the inhabited continents. Three hundred years ago 75% of people were slaves or indentured servants. In England 10% of the population were slaves.

Captives were most commonly women and children. Some became adoptees, wives, drudge wives, or concubines. In some cultures a man could buy a wife with a bride price. However a wife could be obtained through capture more economically. Captives were property, adding to one's wealth. In Africa captives with metal working experience were highly valued. The Vikings were active in the slave trade. Multilingual slave women could assist in relations between groups.

Following the question period the meeting was adjourned 8:32 PM

Submitted by Ken Andresen

Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve Talks and Tours

The Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve is offering talks and tours of this important Paleo-Indian

archaeological preserve just south of Chatfield State Park (Littleton address) monthly from May, 2017 through October. Remains of extinct species of Columbian mammoths, camel, horse, and buffalo have been excavated from this prehistoric hunting site. Butchered mammoth remains have been dated older than 15,000 years ago (calibrated C14 years). Cody Paleo-Indian culture artifacts have been dated to about 10,000 years ago. For more information and to make a reservation see lambspring.org.

Magic Mountain Tours

This June experience nearby nature and Colorado history in an exciting and hands-on community opportunity. Dig into the work of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science archaeology team led by Dr.

Michele Koons and the Paleocultural Research Group led by Dr. Mark Mitchell at this experiential adventure at the archaeological dig site known as Magic Mountain just outside Golden. Join us for a FREE general site tour, which will cover the prehistory and history of the region and highlight artifacts found in the site previously and current fieldwork finds. Or, choose to roll up your sleeves and try your hand at excavating. Email Sarah Fischer, sarah.fischer@dmns.org, for more information and to book your tour!

Tour Schedule

Saturday, June 10–Friday, June 16
 Monday, June 19–Saturday, June 24
 9–10 a.m.; 10–11 a.m.; 11 a.m.–12 p.m.; 12–1 p.m.
 1–2 p.m.; 2–3 p.m.; 3–4 p.m.

**COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
 DENVER CHAPTER
 Financial Report
 April 1 – 30, 2017
 Prepared by Michele Giometti, Treasurer**

Balance Sheet

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Key Bank Checking	2,273.72
1 st Bank CD 182 day 7/5/17 0.05%	5,699.50
1 st Bank CD 182 day 10/17/17 0.05%	4,810.57
1 st Bank CD 1 Yr 2/20/18 0.10%	5,003.12
Total Checking/Savings	<u>18,495.91</u>

TOTAL ASSETS 18,495.91

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities	
State CAS Dues Payable	<u>224.00</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>224.00</u>

Temp. Restricted Net Assets	
Scientific Applications Fund	3,956.16
Swallow Report Project Fund	2,353.81
D Bucknam Memorial Speaker Fund	1,747.10
Blackfoot Cave Fund	0.00
Education Fund	52.40
Field Trips / Social Fund	483.01
Student Membership Fund	57.50
Speakers Meal Fund	<u>530.02</u>
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets	9,180.00

General Fund	7,352.24
General Fund Net Income	<u>1,739.67</u>
Total Equity	<u>18,271.91</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 18,495.91

Income Statement

GENERAL FUND	MTD	YTD
Income		
Membership Dues	427.00	2,417.00
Interest-Savings, Short-Term CD	0.62	3.92
Donations Received	<u>260.00</u>	<u>603.00</u>
Total Income	687.62	3,023.92

Expenses		
Bank Service Charges	0.00	10.00
Dues Paid to State	224.00	1,108.00
Supplies		0.00
Insurance		0.00
PO Box Rental		0.00
Website		0.00
Transfer to		
Scientific Applications	29.75	166.25
DMNS Annual Membership		<u>0.00</u>
Total Expenses	253.75	1,284.25
Net General Fund Income	433.87	1,739.67

Scientific Applications Fund

Income		
Transfer from General Fund	29.75	166.25
Donations Received	<u>10.00</u>	<u>38.00</u>
Total Income	39.75	204.25
Net SAF Income	39.75	204.25

Speaker's Meals

Income		
Donations Received	<u>2.00</u>	<u>2.00</u>
Total Income	2.00	2.00
Expenses		
Speaker's Meals	<u>0.00</u>	<u>32.26</u>
Total Expenses	0.00	32.26
Net Speaker's Meals	0.00	(30.26)

Swallow Report Project

Income		
Donations Received	<u>10.00</u>	<u>128.00</u>
Total Income	10.00	128.00
Expense		
Contract Services	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total Expenses	0.00	500.00
Net Swallow Report Income	10.00	(372.00)

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