

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)

Volume 54, No 4

April, 2016

A Visit to the Parkin Site By Reid Farmer



While visiting relatives in Arkansas recently, I took an afternoon and drove to Parkin Archaeological State Park outside of the town of Parkin in Cross County. It's located about 40 miles west of Memphis and admission is free. The park contains a prehistoric Late Mississippian archaeological site that covers about 20 acres and has an excellent small museum. I spent some money at their bookstore.

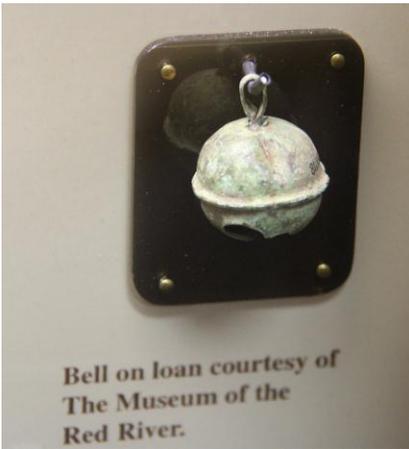
The Parkin Site (3CR29) was occupied from around AD 1350 - 1600, and has one temple mound that you can see in the picture above. Archaeologists believe that it was the capital of a small chiefdom that controlled 18 other local villages seen today as nearby archaeological sites containing mounds, moats and palisades. These are collectively referred

to as the Parkin Phase.

It is located on the east bank of the St. Francis River, near its confluence with the Tyronza River. The general plan of the site is D-shaped, and it is surrounded by a moat, connected with the river. The ground level of the area within the moat is perceptibly higher than that outside of the moat, attesting to the archaeological deposits present there.

Around most of the site, the moat has been worn down by modern farming and earth-moving, but at the north end of the site the moat is still largely intact and you can get an idea of its size here, maybe 4 or 5m deep. The archaeologists who've worked here have found the remains of a palisade on the inside edge of the moat.





One of the interesting things about this site is the fact that it is almost certainly the town of Casqui, visited by the Spanish conquistador Hernando de Soto in 1541. Its location and appearance fit with the descriptions of the de Soto chroniclers. Also this copper hawk bell and a glass trade bead appropriate to the period were found at the site.

There is an additional piece of evidence. When de Soto and his party arrived at Casqui, the area was in the midst of a prolonged drought. The High Miko (or chief) of the town, greeted de Soto and told him that he had heard of the great power of the Spanish and their god. He asked de Soto if he could give the people of Casqui a sign of the Spanish god and perhaps that would help with the drought.

De Soto ordered his Genoese carpenter and shipwright to cut down a cypress tree and use it to build a large cross. This was then erected in front of the High Miko's house on top of the mound, as shown in this artist's reconstruction of the event. The Spanish and Indians held a solemn procession to the cross where the Spanish priests celebrated mass. According to the Spanish accounts, a big rainstorm broke that night. The High Miko was so convinced of the power of the Spanish that he allied with them in warfare against the neighboring chiefdom of Pacaha.

When archaeologists excavated the top of the mound in the 1960s, they found a large cypress wood post in place in front of the remains of the structure. Radiocarbon assays on the charred wood date it to the 1540s, making a case that this is the base of de Soto's cross.

Also, if you look closely at the upper right corner of the painting above, you will see animal skulls on the roof of the house. The de Soto chroniclers also said that the High Miko's house was adorned with bison skulls. There were no bison in the area and the Indians had traded for them with people to their west. The Spanish never saw any bison, though they ventured as far west as East Texas. They were told all about them, however and were fed bison meat and given bison robes that circulated in trade.



The Spanish remarked that the Indians of Casqui and the surrounding region had the finest material culture and best and most sophisticated architecture they had seen on their multi-year trip overland from Florida. Most ceramics in the prehistoric Southeast were brown wares, and this region is one of the few to have bichrome and polychrome pottery as you can see in this picture from the museum.

Another common style for this period is effigy pots that depict animals and people. The museum had quite a few of these like this frog effigy pot.





Here's a goose effigy - very appropriate for their location on the Mississippi Flyway. Duck effigy pots (especially Wood Ducks) are also common, but I didn't see a good one in this collection. Crested woodpeckers (Ivory-billed and Pileated) were also a favorite.



There are also effigies of humans, perhaps most striking are these head pots. Most researchers are convinced that these represent portraits of actual individuals, but differ as to who they represent. They may represent trophy heads taken in warfare or perhaps death masks of high status individuals. Wear patterns on the pots show that they were likely used in ritual activity.

Sources:

Hudson, Charles
1997 *Knights of Spain, Warriors of the Sun: Hernando de Soto and the South's Ancient Chiefdoms*. Athens: University of Georgia Press.

Morse, Phyllis
1981 Parkin: The 1978-1979 Archaeological Investigation of a Cross County, Arkansas Site. *Arkansas Archaeological Survey Research Series 13*.

Walker, Chester
2004 Prehistoric Art of the Central Mississippi Valley. In R. Townsend and R. Sharp eds. *Hero, Hawk and Open Hand: American Indian Art of the Ancient Midwest and South*. Chicago: The Art Institute of Chicago.

April General Meeting: Monday, April 11th, at DMNS in Ricketson Auditorium at 7 PM.

Speaker: Reid Farmer

Title: Desert Training Center: World War II Military Archaeology In The California Desert

Abstract: In early 1942, soon after the entry of the United States into World War II, the War Department sent General George Patton to establish a large-scale training area for American troops in contiguous areas of the California, Arizona and Nevada desert. This was called the Desert Training Center (DTC) and it operated throughout the war. In the course of its use, two million American troops trained there. In recent years, cultural resource management projects in the area have uncovered extensive remains left by

the use of the DTC that are well-preserved in the desert environment. These can tell us interesting stories about how the military used the DTC and the involved soldiers' lives.

Speaker Bio: Reid Farmer began doing archaeology when he was sixteen, when he began volunteering as a field technician for the Arkansas Archaeological Society. His parents thought it was a phase he would grow out of, but he never did. Mr. Farmer has a BA in Anthropology from Tulane University, an MA in Anthropology from the University of Colorado - Boulder, and an MBA in Finance from Regis University. He has more than 35 years' experience in cultural resource management, program management, and contract administration. He has conducted cultural resource studies in Colorado and 16 other states and has held Cultural Resource Use

Permits as a Principal Investigator in seven western states. Mr. Farmer has managed a wide variety of CRM projects ranging from literature and records reviews to complex, large-scale inventories and data recovery efforts.

Minutes of the DC-CAS Board Meeting, March 8, 2016

The DC-CAS Board Meeting was held at the Tivoli Center at Metro State University Denver March 8, 2016.

Attending were Linda Sand, Jon Kent, Preston Niesen, Teresa Weedon, Reid Farmer, Cashel McGloin, Ken Andresen, Michele Giometti, and Kendra Elrod.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Linda Sand.

Vice President/Speakers (Linda Sand) confirmed Pascale Meehan will be the March meeting speaker and Reid Farmer will be the April speaker. Linda also reminded the board of the August schedule conflict leaving the meeting to be held the third Monday, August 15, 2016.

Scientific (email from Neil Hauser) it was confirmed that the papers submitted for the upcoming CCPA meeting to be held March 17-20 about finds from the Blackfoot Cave analysis have been accepted. It was raised that funding may be needed for costs associated with these papers and poster. **Motion was raised and passed** to allocate \$200.00 to help cover costs associated with the approved papers and poster. Regarding the Ken Caryl Survey, Reid Farmer reported the survey may be finished as it was found that another survey conducted in the late 1990s may have covered the project area.

A request has been made to transfer the DC-CAS domain name from Jack Warner's sole responsibility. Plans have been made to shift the responsibility to the chapter and should be completed soon.

Membership (Cashel McGloin) reported about one third of DC-CAS members have renewed their memberships for the year and two new members have been added.

CO-CAS (Teresa Weedon) the next quarterly meeting to be held is April 23, 2016, at History Colorado. Teresa confirmed space has been reserved at History Colorado. Still in the planning stages are arranging for box lunches to be purchased by attendees in the morning to beat the 'lunch rush' and parking options.

Library DC-CAS awarded Teresa Weedon for her heroic work in dismantling the DC-CAS library.

PAAC (Preston Niesen) confirmed the Historical Archaeology course to be held in Denver starting in April 14 is on schedule and there are still seats open.

Treasurer (Michele Giometti) distributed the past month and current financials and noted the membership dues are starting to come in. Michele reported a concern that was passed to her regarding the Alice R Hamilton Scholarship Fund is not an option on the membership application as a donation option. It was raised the donation option is available through the Colorado CAS site but plans have been made to make the option to donate to the Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund available on the online form.

APB/e-APB Newsletter (Ken Andresen and Cashel McGloin) reported the March APB has been published.

Old Business

January and February Board Meeting minutes have been approved.

Linda had made the Executive Decision to purchase 75 of the Archaeology Coins from the Pikes Peak Chapter. The coins will be distributed for future events. Linda will be reimbursed as the coins are awarded.

The upcoming CCPA event was discussed further, four papers and a poster have been submitted and approved covering finds and results of the Blackfoot Cave work and Reid Farmer confirmed one paper has been submitted and approved covering the Cherokee Ranch work.

New Business

Linda Sand announced a possible schedule conflict of the DC-CAS General Meetings in 2017 and proposed if the conflict is confirmed then the General Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month instead of the second Monday.

A request has been made that the Internet Policy and Procedures be reviewed and updated. The document will be sent to the board members in the coming days and the board will be expected to review and make comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM by Linda S.

The next DC-CAS General Meeting is scheduled for March 14, 7PM at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

The next DC-CAS Board Meeting scheduled for April 5, 2016, 7PM at Metro State Tivoli Center.

Minutes of the DC-CAS General Meeting, February 8, 2016

The DC-CAS General Meeting was held at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science Ricketson Auditorium March 14, 2016.

Approximately 35 people attended.

Linda Sand called the meeting to order at 7:04pm and welcomed guests and members. Linda announced the March APB has been published and posted and thanked Cashel and Ken for their efforts.

Scientific (Linda Sand) reported papers from CAS projects have been submitted and will be presented at the upcoming CCPA event in Salida. Papers to be presented are from the Blackfoot Cave analysis and results as well as from the Cherokee Ranch project that DC-CAS has run. For information on the CCPA event visit the website. Linda also brought up the schedule for visiting the Mitchell Springs Site is also available on the website.

Membership Cashel McGloin reminded members March 1 is the due date for their current membership dues and to renew as soon as possible.

PAAC (Preston Niesen) reminded attendees the next PAAC course offered in Denver will be Historical Archaeology. Course fee is \$12.00, begins April 14 and will be held at History Colorado. If you are interested in attending the Historical Archaeology course contact Preston to sign up.

Treasury (Michele Giometti) reported nothing new to report other than the membership dues are rolling in. Another announcement was a reminder the August General Meeting will be held August 15 at 7pm in the Denver Museum of Nature and Science Ricketson Auditorium. Linda also raised the possibility of moving the 2017 general meetings to the second Tuesday of every month instead of the second Monday due to a possible location schedule conflict. More details will follow in the coming months. The next quarterly CAS meeting will be held April 23 at History Colorado and will be hosted by the DC-CAS chapter. Anyone interested in volunteering for the event is asked to contact Teresa Weedon or Linda Sand.

Speaker (Catherine Griffin) introduced the speaker Pascale Meehan and her presentation titled "New Data From an In-between Place: Preliminary Research results from the Site of Zacatepec, Oaxaca."

Pascal Meehan began by defining her project area of Zacatepec, Oaxaca, located in the coastal mountains between the highlands and the coast in Oaxaca and adjacent to the state of Guerrero. Survey was conducted 2014-2015 in an area not largely explored though some historic records exist. By studying one such historic record, a lienzo, archaeologists can identify key locations and events in the surrounding areas of Zacatepec. It also points to the importance of Zacatepec in commerce. Oral traditions through the Tacuate population also support the importance of Zacatepec. In 2014 a proposal was made to verify the information recorded through the lienzo and oral

history records via archaeological means and, if possible, locate the areas visited through historic records. Through the support of the local community members of modern-day Zacatepec, who are interested in their heritage, Pascale Meehan and company were able to conduct archaeological investigations on the Zacatepec areas.

The 2014 survey focused on the area known as La Pared, or old Zacatepec. A site was identified by some architecture, masonry walls, and a mound as well as pottery sherds eroding from the surface. No diagnostic pieces were found.

In the 2015 session focus was on identifying the size of the site of La Pared, identify visible features and identify the locations referenced in the lienzo. With permission from local land owners five distinct areas were identified and surveyed: Rio Blanco, El Mirador, La Muralla, Carretera and Santa Ana. These were named after local land features and in the end each area yielded differences in land modification and artifacts. Some site boundaries were made but due to the limits of surveyable land (land owner permissions and vegetation overgrowth) it is likely some sites are much larger than currently identified. Several different features were identified in the various areas including terraces, mounds, a flattened hilltop, walls and a free standing stelae. Artifacts found on the surface or in test excavations included pottery sherds (few diagnostic to type of pottery), groundstone, obsidian, a flute-like figurine and a feline mask with unknown styling.

Nothing largely diagnostic was found or noted but some sherds found were decorative or monochromatic. Styling was not like pottery found in the highlands or the coastal regions leading to the possibility that the Zacatepec region they were investigating had their own unique styles. The presence of obsidian and other non-local materials do suggest migration or trade. Zacatepec's distinct location between highlands and coastal region also supports the likelihood of its importance in trade. As for identifying Zacatepec from the lienzo more investigation is needed.

Future for Zacatepec investigations may happen several years in the future as Pascale's immediate plans include finishing school and starting her career. Linda thanked Pascale Meehan for sharing her experiences with her Zacatepec project and welcomed her to future presentations.

Old Business

January and February minutes were approved.

New Business

No new business was raised.

Linda adjourned the DC-CAS General Meeting at 8:10pm.

AIA Lecture: Sunday, April 17, 2016:

Speaker: Erin Baxter, University of Colorado Boulder

Title: End of Days: A new history of the tumultuous end of Aztec Ruins (New Mexico)

Abstract: This paper will be a biography of a place and time: it will tell two tales. The first is the vibrant and complex story of the prehistoric site of Aztec, NM (A.D. 1080-1300). And the second is the narrative of the Aztec Ruins as we came to know it when it was excavated (AD 1916-1934), and studied by Earl Morris, the famous Southwest archaeologist. Aztec was once the center place and political capital of the Ancestral Pueblo World, but some of what it has to tell still lies buried – in both the ground and in Morris' unpublished work. I would like to share with you 'new' information gleaned from his notes, letters, field notebooks, and photographs. When synthesized and combined with 'new' 21st century research, Aztec indeed has some new tales to tell.

Bio: Erin Baxter is a graduate student at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She has worked in Turkey, Bolivia, Ireland, Tunisia, but returned (quite happily) to the only place you can get a cherry limeade and green chili after work: the US Southwest. After seven years at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, she is currently mid-life crisising in 25th grade at CU-Boulder, where she's interested in political organization, architecture, and the post-Chacoan era of the Upper and Middle San Juan Basin.

PAAC Course

Hurry, hurry time is running short to register for the spring 2016 PAAC, class here in Denver. This class is titled "Historical Archaeology" and will be taught by Kevin Black, Assistant State archaeologist. Classes will be held at the History Colorado Center on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 PM beginning April 14 and lasts through May 26. The registration fee for the class is \$12.00 and can be mailed to Preston Niesen, Denver Chapter PAAC Coordinator. If you have questions concerning the class please feel free to contact Preston at preston.niesen@gmail.com. Preston's mailing address is: Preston Niesen, 13263 W. Utah Cir., Lakewood, CO 80228.

Selection of a PAAC Class for this coming fall will be made in the next few months. If you have a specific PAAC Class which you are interested in please let Preston know your desires.

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, 2016, through October, 2016. Remains of extinct species of Columbian mammoths, camel, horse, and buffalo have been excavated from this prehistoric hunting site. Mammoth remains have been C14 dated to about 16,000 years ago. Cody Paleo-Indian culture artifacts have been dated to about 10,000 years ago. For more information and to make a tour reservation: lambspring.org

Four Corners Research-Archaeology in the Mesa Verde Region

Four Corners Research has announced their 2016 field school opportunity. For more information, visit <http://www.fourcornersresearch.com/index.html>

2016 Archaeological Field Opportunities in the Rockies

Excavate and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the end of the first excavations at Hell Gap. We are hosting the Paleoinian Archaeology at the Edge of the Rockies advanced field school this summer while at Hell Gap. The curriculum includes advanced field techniques, electronic and digital data recording, analysis techniques, and workshops on lithics, zooarchaeology, and stone tool production
Sessions:

Hell Gap I: July 2 through July 11, leave Laramie on July 1

Hell Gap II: July 16 through July 25, meet at Hell Gap at 7:00 A.M. on July 16

Hell Gap III: July 30 through August 8, meet at Hell Gap at 7:00 A.M. on July 30

Please contact Marcel Kornfeld, PiRL, Department 3431, 1000 East University Avenue, Laramie, Wyoming 82071-3431 or go to <http://www.uwyo.edu/pirl>
PaleoIndian Research Lab: Email – anpro1@uwyo.edu or messages at (307) 766-5136.

Colorado Archaeology Society
Denver Chapter
Prepared by Michelle Giometti, Treasurer
Balance Sheet
February 29, 2016

ASSETS

Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Key Bank Checking		\$3,112.91
1st Bank CD 182 day 7/5/16 .05%		\$5,693.80
1st Bank CD 182 day 4/19/16 .05		\$4,808.17
1st Bank CD 1 Yr 2/17/17 .15%		\$4,997.38
Total Checking/Savings		<u>\$18,612.26</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>\$18,612.26</u></u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Temp. Restricted Net Assets		
Scientific Applications Fund		\$3,411.91
Swallow Report Project Fund		\$2,681.81
D Bucknam Memorial Speaker Fund		\$1,747.10
Blackfoot Cave Fund		\$70.00
Library Fund		\$202.45
Education Fund		\$182.00
Field Trips / Social Fund		\$483.01
Student Membership Fund		\$57.50
Speakers Meal Fund		\$811.62
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets		<u>\$9,676.40</u>
General Fund		\$7,268.40
Net Income		\$1,667.46
Total Equity		<u>\$18,612.26</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		<u><u>\$18,612.26</u></u>

Income Statement

February 1 - 29, 2016

GENERAL FUND

Income	MTD	YTD
Membership Dues	\$854.00	\$854.00
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	\$1.23	\$4.46
Donations Received	\$290.00	\$812.00
Total Income	<u>\$1,145.23</u>	<u>\$1,670.46</u>
Expenses		
Bank Service Charges	\$3.00	\$3.00
Net Income	<u>\$1,142.23</u>	<u>\$1,667.46</u>

Denver Chapter
Colorado Archaeological Society
P.O. Box 100190
Denver, CO 80250-0190

The All Points Bulletin is published monthly by the Denver Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society, and is governed by the bylaws of the Denver Chapter. Articles appearing in the All Points Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of the officers or members of the Denver Chapter. The All Points Bulletin is published monthly by the Denver Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society, and is governed by the bylaws of the Denver Chapter. Articles appearing in the All Points Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of the officers or members of the Denver Chapter.

CIRCULATION: Cashel McGloin

EDITOR: Cashel McGloin

Denver Chapter CAS, P.O. Box 100190, Denver, CO 80250-0190

WEBSITES: Denver Chapter: www.cas-denver.org

Colorado Archaeological Society: www.coloradoarchaeology.org

DENVER CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Linda Sand
11341 Quivas Way
Westminster, CO 80234
llsand@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT - Catherine Griffin
720-301-7492
cgriffindig@gmail.com

SECRETARY - Kendra Elrod
6742 S. Holland Way
Littleton, CO 80128
303-948-4229
elrod@smenet.org

TREASURER
Michele Giometti
michgio@msn.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

Cashel McGloin
303-990-2758
cashel@zoho.com

CAS REP
Teresa Weedin
1189 Norfolk St.
Aurora, CO 80011-7513
303-366-7843
weedin@comcast.net

PAAC REP
Preston Niesen
preston.niesen@gmail.com

EDITOR
Cashel McGloin
303-990-2758
cashel@zoho.com

DIRECTORS

Jon Kent
Campus Box 28, Metro State University
Denver, CO 80217
(W)303-556-2933, (H)303-504-4463
kentj@msudenver.edu

Reid Farmer
trfarmer60@gmail.com

Aaron Theis
303-648-1968
theis.aaron@gmail.com

revised 01-08-2016