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COOKING UP HIGH – CHALLENGES FACED BY THE ANCESTRAL PUEBLO ON THE COLORADO PLATEAU

Alan Osborn

7:30 PM, Tuesday, November 14, 2023 Albuquerque Museum of Art and History 2000 Mountain Road NW (Also available online)

The Ancestral Pueblo exploited vast portions of the Colorado Plateau that covers more than 75,000 square miles of the American Southwest. This immense cold desert presented the Ancestral Pueblo people with a range of opportunities as well as challenges. Cooking meals at high altitudes required increased use of fuelwood. The costs of collecting and transporting fuelwood were no doubt a major part of women's workload. Fuelwood scarcity had significant impacts on Ancestral Pueblo that were dealt with by women who made more intensive use of retained heat cooking technology involving the use of corrugated cooking pots.

Dr. Alan J. Osborn is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Nebraska – Omaha. He is also the Curator of Anthropology at the Nebraska State Museum at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, and he is the Director of the Nebraska Archaeological Survey. He obtained his PhD from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque in 1977 based on work on El Niño and marine resources on the Peruvian coast. His archaeological fieldwork has been conducted in Arizona, Colorado, Ecuador, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Peru, South Dakota, and Texas. He has overseen archaeological projects in Canyonlands and Capital Reef National Parks for the Midwest Archaeological Center and in Amistad Reservoir in the Texas-Mexico borderlands. Dr. Osborn has published extensively on Paleoindians in North America and has been part of the debate about the effects of climate change on Paleoindian adaptations and on poison hunting of mammoths, mastodons, and elephants. He is the co-editor (with Marcel Kornfeld) of *Islands in the Plains: Ecological, Social, and Ritual Use of Landscapes*. (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2003). He is currently working on two projects, one examining the impacts of drought, rodents, and ritual burning in the Iron Age of southeastern Africa and the other involving high-altitude cooking and the use of corrugated ceramic vessels on the Colorado Plateau

This program will be presented electronically in real tine at the regular members meeting in the Albuquerque Museum Auditorium as well as available on Zoom. Prior to the meeting, an email message with the Zoom link will be sent to members.

Note that the meeting is a week early due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2023 MEETING OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The meeting was called to order by President Ann Braswell at 7:33 p.m. One new student, Jennifer Benson, and one visitor, Marcia Secord, were recognized.

MINUTES: As there were no corrections or additions to the minutes published in the September 2023 newsletter, the minutes stand as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT (read by President Braswell)

Income for the past month was \$35 from one new membership (there was also one new free student membership). Operating expenses for the month were the \$16.77 Zoom license fee, \$30 to Lobo Internet Services for DNS hosting, and \$6 in fees to BMO for a printed monthly statement with check images. BMO (Bank) bought Bank of the West earlier this year; the financial conversion happened over Labor Day weekend. We are now BMO customers. The statements have been changed to online statements only, so no monthly fees will be charged. There were no program expenses for the month.

The checking account balance is \$6,943.61. The money market account earned \$12.46 for the month and that account balance is \$17,523. A check for \$1000 toward purchase of the Tijeras Canyon site was sent to The Archaeological Conservancy.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bob Hitchcock announced that next month's speaker is Alan Osborn from the University of Nebraska. His talk is entitled, "Cooking up High."

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – **Mary Raje:** Membership renewal is normally in December, but members can renew anytime from now through December 31 and they will be in good standing until December 31, 2024. Please fill out a current AAS Membership form (attached) and make sure your contact information is legible and accurate. You may mail the form with the dues to the Treasurer at PO Box 4029, Albuquerque, NM 87196 or give them to Mary at the monthly meeting.

Maxwell Collections (Lab) – Karen Armstrong: The crew works Wednesday mornings on the Maxwell Museum artifact collections in the basement of the Hibben Center on the UNM campus. The Museum recently received a \$400,000 grant for new shelving, and the crew will be working on moving the artifacts from the old shelves to temporary storage to the new shelves. New volunteers are welcome to join the group.

Rock Art – **Carol Chamberland:** Reports have been submitted to the Archaeological Records Management System in Santa Fe. The AAS/BLM rock art recording group plans to resume work in November.

Field Trips – **Pat Harris:** The Lion Mountain trip was a success. The next trip to Silver City to meet the Grant County Archaeological Society is set for this weekend, October 20–22, and 14 people are signed up. This will be the final trip for this year.

Pottery Southwest – **Hayward Franklin and Gretchen Obenauf:** The fall/winter edition is in preparation and the summer edition is available online.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donation: President Braswell reported that The Archaeological Conservancy recently appealed for donations to the Conservancy's Preservation Fund for the purchase of another New Mexico site, Sagradis Jardin de Piedra (Sacred Stone Garden) on Mesa Prieta near the Wells Petroglyph Preserve. Dense concentrations of petroglyphs found across the 22-acre site are dated to the Archaic, Pueblo, and Historic Periods. The Conservancy wants to buy the property because as private land, it is unprotected. The AAS Board has voted unanimously to donate the remaining \$1000 in our donation budget to this cause.

Board Nominations for 2024: Evan Kay will run for interim President, current officers Gretchen Obenauf for First Vice President, Bob Hitchcock for Second Vice President, Susan King for Secretary, and Tom Obenauf for Treasurer.

Ann Braswell as past president will run for Director at Large, and Dick Harris for the second Director at Large to replace Jo Lynne, who has resigned. Nominations from the floor were entertained, and when there were none, Helen Crotty moved that the nominations be closed. The motion was approved by members present in person and on Zoom.

December Holiday Party: Gretchen Obenauf reported that planning is underway for the December meeting. The program traditionally consists of 10-minute talks by several members about their archaeological experiences in the past year, and Gretchen asked that volunteer speakers contact her.

Adjournment: President Braswell thanked Jo Lynne for providing refreshments and Sherry Kircher for taking notes. She adjourned the business meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by Helen Crotty, Secretary pro tem, from notes by Sherry Kircher.

SPEAKER

Vice President Gretchen Obenauf introduced Paul Secord, who spoke about his friendship with the late Stuart Baldwin during the time that Baldwin was doing extensive research and analysis in the Salinas region that later resulted in a dissertation and numerous papers. Among the papers were five on the rock art of the area. In a presentation illustrated by his own recent photos of the rock art, Secord reported on Baldwin's discussions of specific rock art motifs in Abo Pass. His compilation of Baldwin's rock art papers, *The Rock Art of Abo Pass*, was available for purchase at the meeting and on Amazon.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT ~ MARY RAJE

Membership renewal in AAS is normally in December of each year. However, any "early birds" who wish to renew anytime from now until December 31 will be members in good standing until December 31, 2024. Please fill out a current AAS Membership form (attached). Please be sure we can read your email addresses and phone numbers correctly. You may mail the membership form and dues to the Treasurer at PO Box 4029, Albuquerque, NM 87196, or give them to me, Mary Raje, the Membership Chair, at a monthly meeting. AAS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and your membership and sustaining contributions are tax deductible. Questions? Please contact Mary Raje at raje39@icloud.com.

BOOK REVIEW

Late Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherers and Farmers of the Jornada Mogollon, edited by Thomas R. Rocek and Nancy A. Kenmotsu. Denver: University Press of Colorado. 2018. xxxii+286 pp., 60 figures, 19 tables, bibliography, list of contributors, index. \$43.95 paperback (ISBN 9781646423781), \$79.00 hardcover (ISBN 9781607327943), \$35.00 eBook (ISBN 9781607327950). Review of 2023 paperback edition with new preface by Myles Miller, Thomas Rocek, and Nancy Kenmotsu.

Reviewed by Thatcher A. Seltzer-Rogers

Late Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherers and Farmers of the Jornada Mogollon represents is the first book published by a major press that presents the diversity of material culture and practices encompassed by the term "Jornada Mogollon." The Jornada Mogollon region spans much of southern New Mexico, west Texas, and northeastern Chihuahua with a generational divide between those who label it the "Jornada Branch of the Mogollon" and those, including me, who view it as connected, but distinctive in its own right. The editors, Thomas Rocek (Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Delaware) and Nancy Kenmotsu (Principal Investigator, Versar), are well suited to the task given their extensively publications over the past thirty years on the Sierra Blanca and La Junta subregions, respectively. The preface, by Myles Miller, Thomas Rocek, and Nancy Kenmotsu, provides a brief summary of recent investigations and ideas in Jornada Mogollon archaeology over the past five years and attests to the rapid developments that are actively ongoing.

The first part, "Diversity and Change in the Jornada Mogollon Region," consists of two chapters. The first, "Diversity and Change in a 'Marginal' Region and Environment," by Thomas Rocek and Nancy Kenmotsu introduces the book,

its objectives, and the Jornada Mogollon region. The second, "Jornada Huts and Houses: Implications of Formative Architectural Diversity in the Jornada," by Rocek discusses the incorrect assumption of architectural homogeneity across the Jornada Mogollon region and the implications of the diversity recognized in the archaeological record.

The second part, "Farming the Jornada Lowlands," includes three chapters that focus on subsistence and early farming lifeways. The third chapter, "Measuring Diversity: Land Use and Settlement Intensity in the Western Jornada before and after AD 1000," by Myles Miller and Nancy Kenmotsu summarizes subsistence data from the greater El Paso area during the middle to late Formative period. The fourth chapter, "Evaluating Plant Utilization and Subsistence Economies in the Western Jornada: Current Trends and Perspectives." by Peter Condon and Javier Vasquez builds upon the prior chapter by examining Late Archaic and Formative period plant use in the southern Tularosa Basin. Chapter 5, "Farming Dependence in Southern New Mexico: Earlier Than We Thought," by Jim Railey and Christopher Turnbow assess the transition to farming throughout southern New Mexico through the early Formative period.

The third part, "Mobility Within and Beyond the Lowlands." includes four chapters. Chapter 6, "Deciphering Prehistoric Trails and Unraveling Social Networks in the Tularosa and Hueco Basins," by Myles Miller, Tim Graves, Moira Ernst, and Matt Swanson presents a series of trail networks throughout the heartland of the southern Jornada Mogollon. Chapter 7, "The Dunlap-Salazar Site Lithic Sources and Highland Pithouse-Period Mobility in the Jornada," by Shaun Lynch and Thomas Rocek provides an investigation of mobility change during the neolithization of the Jornada Mogollon based on analysis of lithic provenance at the Dunlap-Salazar site. Chapter 8, "What's for Supper?" The Contents of a Complete Vessel Found in Southeast New Mexico," by Douglas Boggess, Chad Yost, David Hill, Linda Scott Cummings, and Mary Malainey discusses the implications of extensive study of a complete vessel at the Rascal Rabbit site near Carlsbad as they relate to larger patterns of mobility and exchange in the Jornada Mogollon region. The ninth chapter, "The Circulation of Prehistoric Ceramics in the Eastern Extension of the Jornada Mogollon," by David Hill is a study of ceramic provenance in the eastern Jornada Mogollon region of far southeastern New Mexico and adjacent western Texas.

The final part, "Finding the Borders of Jornada Lifeways," includes five chapters. Chapter 10, "Jornada Connections: Viewing the Jornada from La Junta de los Rios," by Nancy Kenmotsu summarizes the archaeological record of La Junta de los Rios, an area 250 miles southeast of El Paso and long thought to be directly tied to the El Paso area. Chapter 11, "The Jornada Mogollon South of the Río Bravo," by Rafael Cruz, Timothy Maxwell, and A. C. MacWilliams offers a summary of prior investigations in northeastern Chihuahua with a focus on the Jornada Mogollon aspects of it, rather than the more widely discussed Casas Grandes contributions. Chapter 12, "Plant-Baking Facilities and Social Complexity: A Perspective from the Western Jornada and Southeastern New Mexico," by Myles Miller and John Montgomery provides a long-overdue investigation of one of the most commonly encountered feature types in southeastern New Mexico – the rock earth-oven. Chapter 13, "Jornada's Other Half: Radiocarbon Dates, Climate Change, and Long-Term Trends in Far Southeastern New Mexico," by Jim Railey focuses on large-scale changes in far southeastern New Mexico using new data from contract archaeological investigations in the Mescalero Plain, southern Llano Estacado, and along the eastern slopes of the Guadalupe and Sacramento Mountains. The concluding chapter, "Some Potential Ethnic Entities within the Jornada Mogollon Region," by the late Regge Wiseman takes a broad picture approach to the Jornada Mogollon and the history of archaeological research to advocate for subdividing it based on material culture and behavioral differences that may represent distinctive ethnic groups.

This book, initially published five years ago as a hardcover, provides an opportunity for archaeologists to acquaint themselves with the Jornada Mogollon, several major debates about the region, and offers them a way to reorient how they understand prehispanic southern New Mexico. It is a triumph of the contributors and a testament to the substantial quantity and quality of compliance investigations in the region over the past thirty years. Some minor faults I point to for the volume are: the absence of a cohesive discussion of the concepts and subregions, the highly technical but somewhat disjointed contributions, the lack of inclusion and discussion of the Rio Abajo and Salinas areas, and a lack of an ethnographic/historical piece on the Mescalero Apache and other groups. That said, this book, rather than synthesizing the Jornada Mogollon as we currently know it, demonstrates the array of topics, ideas, and patterns in the

region's archaeology. *Late Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherers and Farmers of the Jornada Mogollon*, is a dynamic turning point for southern New Mexico archaeology and will leave readers wanting to learn more – and it provides a bibliography to facilitate that. I highly recommend it to all Southwestern archaeologists as well as avocationals intrigued by recent developments in the region.

CALENDAR CHECK

Free Lectures

"The Pleistocene Footprints Are Younger Than We Thought: Correcting the Radiocarbon Dates of Ruppia Seeds, Tularosa Basin, New Mexico," by David M. Rachal, Robert Dello-Russo, and Matt Cuba at 6:00 to 7:30 pm on Friday, November 10 in Hall 163, Anthropology Building, UNM campus or via Zoom https://arizona.zoom.us/j/83782978194.

"Two Related Bridges: On the Pecos River in New Mexico and in Sevilla, Spain" by Richard Flint and Shirley Cushing Flint on Tuesday, November 14 at 6:30 pm at the Sandia Ranger Station, Tijeras. \$5 donation suggested for non-members.

Conference

NMAC Fall meeting "Innovative Research and Management of Cultural Resources on Federal Lands in New Mexico" on Saturday, November 11, 8:00 to 4:30 at the UNM Hibben Center on the UNM campus or via Zoom at https://arizona.zoom.us/j/85761185977. See nmarchcouncil.org for NMAC membership, program, and registration details.

ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 4029, Albuquerque, NM 87196 www.abqarchaeology.org and www.facebook.com/abqarchsoc

Annual Dues: For emailed newsletter: Student, no charge (provide copy of current ID); Basic Individual \$25; Basic Family \$30. Print newsletter by First Class mail: Basic Individual \$30; Basic Family \$35; Institutions/Libraries: \$10 for print newsletter by First Class Mail, emailed newsletter at no charge.

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