Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly

Volume 36, Number 1       Winter, 2000

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Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly

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Archeology of San Clemente Island, Part 1

Clement W. Meighan and David Horner, original manuscript editors; Constance Cameron, Pacific Coast Archæological Society Quarterly volume editor

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About the Authors

Rainer Berger is UCLA Professor Emeritus of Geophysics, Geography and Anthropology, where he taught and conducted research in scientific dating methods and their applications in archaeology and biological anthropology.

Paul Bouey completed his B.A. at UCLA and his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of California, Davis. He undertook post-doctorate work at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History and worked for Far Western Anthropology Research Group in Davis. In 1994, he started his graduate degree in Public Health from John Hopskins University with an interest in ethnic health issues.

Constance Cameron received her M.A. degree in Anthropology from California State University, Fullerton where she was Curator of the Museum of Anthropology and Editor of the Occasional Papers. She has been involved with southern California archaeology since 1972 with long-term projects at Zzyzx (the Desert Studies Center), Los Piños in the Cleveland National Forest, as well as the Channel Islands. Mrs. Cameron participated in the 1983 and 1984 field seasons on San Clemente Island. She has presented a number of papers and is published in the PCAS Quarterly, The Masterkey, Proceedings of the Society for California Archaeology, and The Archives of California Prehistory.

Carol Goldberg worked on San Clemente Island in 1985 and 1986, while attending UCLA.

Ellen Hardy received her Ph.D. from UCLA, where Clem Meighan served as chair of her dissertation committee. She attended the first UCLA field school on San Clemente Island in 1983 and has also excavated sites in Central America. She now works in the Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division at the Twenty-nine Palms Marine Corps Base.

David Dubois Horner graduated from the United State Military Academy at West Point (B.S.) and Yale University (M.A.). He served in the U.S. Army, retiring as a Lt. Colonel. He has taken several archaeology courses at UCLA and has participated in excavations in California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Guatemala. He assisted Clem Meighan in editing the student papers submitted for the San Clemente Island investigations.

Clement Meighan received his Ph.D. from Berkeley and taught at UCLA from 1952 until retirement in 1991. He served as either Chair or Director of the Department of Anthropology, Field School in Archaeology, Latin American Center, Archaeological Survey, Obsidian Hydration Laboratory, and Rock Art Archives. He conducted field work in Belize, Utah, Arizona, Baja California and other parts of Mexico as well as Nubia, Syria, Guam, Peru, and Chile. His rock art studies included Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Southern Arizona, and Oregon. He published well over 200 titles and was known as a great scholar and teacher, and a source of guidance.
Roy Salls received his Ph.D. from UCLA. He served as assistant director of the Northridge Center for Public Archaeology at CSU Northridge, and then as director of the Lompoc Museum until shortly before his death. He published in *The Journal of Field Archaeology*, UCLA Monographs, *The Journal of Ethnobiology*, *Research in Economic Anthropology*, *California Anthropologist*, *The Masterkey*, and the *PCAS Quarterly*.

Janet L. Scalise holds a B.A. in Social Science and an M.A. in Anthropology from California State University at Los Angeles. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from UCLA and currently, she teaches at community colleges in the Los Angeles area. Her research interests include social and economic exchange networks.

Michelle Titus participated in the 1983 and 1984 field seasons on San Clemente Island and completed her M.A. degree in Anthropology at UCLA in 1987. Currently, she is teaching Anthropology in the Bay Area at Cañada College in Redwood City and at West Valley College in Saratoga.

Andrew Yatsko is Archaeologist and Cultural Resources Program Manager for the Navy Region Southwest in San Diego, California. A federal archaeologist since 1979, he worked for the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management before coming to the Navy in 1984. Between 1984 and 1986, he was the Navy’s sponsor for the UCLA San Clemente Island fieldwork discussed in this issue. He received his Ph.D. from UCLA; his dissertation research focused on San Clemente Island paleodemography. He has written or co-authored numerous manuscripts and articles on cultural resources management and on the archaeology of San Clemente Island, some of which have been published in *Proceedings of the Society for California Archaeology*, *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology*, and *Center for Archaeological Research at Davis Publication*. 
Forward

Constance Cameron

Dr. Clement Meighan began his analysis of the artifacts found at the San Clemente Island sites during the summer of 1983. His field approach involved cataloguing the archaeological material on a day-by-day basis as it was recovered and typing daily reports every evening, with copies sent to the mainland for safe-keeping. Students in a laboratory class, taught at UCLA in the fall of 1983, began the analysis of the artifacts, complete with detailed research and comparison studies. This procedure was repeated each year.

I became involved in the San Clemente Island project as a participant in the first two summer field schools and accompanying lab classes in 1983 and 1984. Dr. Meighan served as advisor and chair for a number of students’ masters and doctoral degrees, all the while juggling the writing/editing/organizing of the present work. He retired from teaching in 1991 and continued to work on this manuscript.

In 1991, David Horner generously stepped in to assist in organizing and processing the student papers and the resulting massive bibliography. The final editing, however, was still incomplete at the time of Dr. Meighan’s death in 1997. Because of the quantity and quality of some of the singular information contained in this report, it seemed appropriate to make it available to a wide audience. That resolve resulted in the present publication with the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society.

This manuscript was originally envisioned as a single issue. Because of its length, it is divided into four issues of the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly (PCASQ). Due to the passage of time, some information is not available and many of the authors could not be contacted for further data or to answer questions concerning their articles. Major revisions have been necessary and, through the years, these articles have been subjected to the tender ministrations of three, very different, editors.

Many thanks are due to the PCAS Quarterly editorial committee members who spent many hours editing the manuscripts and checking the bibliography—an endless job. I am also grateful to Dr. JoAnne Van Tilburg who added important information to the Rock Art of the Channel Islands chapter. Drs. Van Tilburg and Meighan shared an abiding passion in the importance of accurately recording pictographs and petroglyphs before they disappear forever.

Both professional archaeologists and those who share an interest in the early populations of the New World will find the material in these papers exciting. As Dr. Meighan points out in Chapter 1, the information contained in these issues was acquired from what is probably one of the last large excavation programs in California. Archaeological research continues on San Clemente Island, under the guidance of the U.S. Navy; Dr. Yatsko has provided the following citations of recent research on San Clemente Island. Readers will see that the UCLA investigations from 1983 to 1987 set the stage for later studies on the Island and in other parts of Southern California.
Clement Meighan, breakfast time at the “front porch” of the archaeology lab on San Clemente Island. Photo courtesy of Vince Lambert.
Published research on San Clemente Island since the UCLA fieldwork in the 1980s:

Raab, L. M., K. Bradford, and A. Yatsko


Raab, L. M., and A. Yatsko