Baja and Alta California Archaeology
Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly

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Cover: Ames Collection incised sandstone whale effigy.
About the Authors

Michelle D. Graham earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in anthropology from York University and San Diego State University, respectively, specializing within the subfield of archaeology. She has worked on projects in Canada, Belize, Mexico, and the United States and has analyzed ceramic material from sites in Baja and Alta California, the Yucatan, and Oaxaca. Studied materials include domestic goods and figurines produced from local clay as well as wares introduced from China, England, and the continental US. Ms. Graham has four years of professional experience conducting archaeological investigations for California State Parks and cultural resource management firms in California and Arizona and has been collaborating with Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia in Mexicali since 2011. She is currently a doctoral candidate in sociocultural studies at Universidad Autónoma de Baja California. Her dissertation explores the social, economic, and political context for changes in the Yuman ceramic industry from its inception to present day.

Henry Koerper received a BA (1965) and an MA (1968) from UC Davis. He earned his Ph.D. in anthropology at UC Riverside in 1981. His varied employments have included: CDF firefighter; USFS fire suppression field and laboratory researcher; California Army National Guard explosives technician; archaeological field excavator (e.g., Old Sacramento Project, Prescott College Black Mesa Project); Peace Corps teacher and athletic coach (Voi Harambee High School, Kenya); college anthropology professor (Chapman College [5 years] and Cypress Community College [30 years]); and archaeological consultant to several southern California CRM firms.

Stephen O’Neil received his BA in anthropology in 1979 from CSU Long Beach and his MA in 2002 from CSU Fullerton. Growing up on the Orange County coast, he has been a member of the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society since 1974 and participated in numerous Society excavations while studying cultural anthropology at the university. O’Neil’s first publication was a projectile point drawing in Smoke Signals, as the PCAS Newsletter was then called. He has since published in the Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology, the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly, News from Native California, and the Society for California Archaeology Newsletter on topics ranging from village place names to cosmology and medicinal plants. O’Neil’s research interests concentrate on southern California aboriginal societies, particularly in the Late Prehistoric through modern periods, population distribution, ethnographic landscapes, and cosmology. He has concentrated on the use of Franciscan mission sacramental registers for the study of population and social networks, as well as ethnobotany and working with contemporary Native American communities to document their experiences in the modern world. His professional work includes excavation, survey, and report writing to support site interpretation. He is a past president of PCAS and currently serves on its board of directors. O’Neil is employed by UltraSystems Environmental in Irvine, California, as its Cultural Resources Manager.