A Brief Introduction to Phil Wilke

Mark Q. Sutton

Preface

I first encountered Phil at an SCA data sharing meeting in 1981. He was having some issues with the BLM at the time, and I was a BLM archaeologist; thus, I was on his list that day (funny now). I next met Phil in 1984 when I took his seminar on Great Basin Archaeology. It was a wonderful class and changed my life; I quit my job and went back to school to get my Ph.D. at UCR with Phil as my sponsor (I needed one, a long story for another time). I set up a desk in the corner of Phil’s lab, began my studies, and became involved with the Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology in all its detail. What a great experience that was; Phil demanded perfection but was tolerant of my errors, and I learned a great deal (years later becoming its editor). I was able to get by working for the Archaeological Research Unit (ARU), sometimes borrowing rent money from Phil until I got my ARU check. Phil became a regular faculty member at UCR in 1986, and he became my committee chair. Phil always encouraged me to follow my own academic research interests, never imposed his on me, and I believe that I was able to flourish under that environment.

Phil views prehistory a bit differently from most and has had many great ideas and insights into the past. He held (and holds) strong opinions, and there were numerous spirited discussions on various topics. Some have taken issue with this character trait, but while it was sometimes intimidating, it was always useful. While I was at UCR, we had a great cohort of grad students, and we all became successful. Phil laid the foundation for those accomplishments, and we all owe him. Thanks, Phil, I hope this modest volume by some of us will continue to remind you of your great and positive influence on all of us.
A Short Biography

Philip J. Wilke was born in Nebraska in 1944. In 1967 he earned a BS in biological sciences from Colorado State College, Greeley. Phil got a job teaching science at a secondary school in Blythe, California, but decided to return to school to get a degree in anthropology at UC Riverside. He received his Ph.D. in 1976. His dissertation work on the prehistoric ecology of the northern Coachella Valley (Lake Cahuilla) is widely regarded as a seminal work.

After graduating from UCR, Phil began his university teaching career, teaching part time at UCR and UC Berkeley before being appointed (in 1978) the director of the Archaeological Research Unit (ARU) (coupled with a half-time teaching appointment) at UCR. In 1986, Phil became an Assistant Professor at UCR, soon promoted to Associate, and then quickly to Full Professor. While at UCR, Phil organized and directed the Lithic Technology Laboratory and taught many flintknapping courses and field schools. Phil retired from UCR in 2010 and was awarded Professor Emeritus status.

Phil was one of the “founders” (with Harry Lawton and Michael Kearney) of The Journal of California Anthropology (JCA) in 1974 and served as its Assistant Editor (1974–1977) and Editor (1977–1979). In 1979 the JCA changed its name to the Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology (JCGBA), and Phil served the JCGBA in various capacities (Associate Editor, Editor, Coeditor) until 1990. For his exemplary service with the journal, he received the Meritorious Service Award from the Great Basin Anthropological Conference in 1992, and in 1993 he received the Martin A. Baumhoff Special Achievement Award from the Society for California Archaeology. Phil also served (1979–1981) as the Coeditor of the Ballena Press Publications in Archaeology, Ethnology, and History and since 1993 has been on the Editorial Board of Lithic Technology.

Phil’s research interests have changed over time. Early in his career he was interested in a variety of anthropological issues and problems in California and Great Basin and conducted a great deal of research on a variety of topics, including human ecology, rock art, game drives, waterfowl decoys, and basketry technology. Later he became interested and very involved in understanding lithic technology and expends most of his efforts in that area. He now is focused on Near Eastern lithic technology and prehistory, including Lower Paleolithic archaeology, and the origins of agriculture and nomadic pastoralism in the Near East, although he remains working on the lithic technology of Paleoindians and of the Plains. Phil is currently involved in several excavation projects in Jordan, and he has received a number of grants and monetary awards to support his research.

Publications and Papers of Philip J. Wilke

In Press


Monographs (not refereed)


Articles, Chapters, and Reports (Refereed)


PCAS Quarterly 49(3&4)


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Invited Articles and Chapters (Not refereed)


Volunteered Articles, Chapters, and Reports (Not refereed)


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Newsletter Reports, Short Contributions, and Notices (Not refereed)


1980 (P. J. Wilke). Prehistoric Weir Fishing on Recessional Shorelines of Lake Cahuilla, Salton
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Book Reviews


Video Review


Comments, Replies, and Rebuttals


Selected Technical Reports


2006 (P. J. Wilke). Antler Flintworking Hammers and Billets from Late Prehistoric Contexts in Eastern Nebraska. MS on file at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.


2004 (P. J. Wilke). Disproportionate Right-Left Production of Percussion Bladelets at Ohalo-II, Israel. MS on file at the laboratory of Professor Dani Nadel, Department of Archaeology, University of Haifa.

2003 (P. J. Wilke). Antler Artifacts from Sites 25cc120 and 25cc71, Near the Nehawka Flint Quarries, Cass County, Nebraska. MS on file at the Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln.

1987 (S. J. Bouscaren and P. J. Wilke). Excavations at Mammoth: Archaeological Data Recovery at Four Sites near Mammoth Creek, Mono County, California. Riverside: University of California Archaeological Research Unit, UCRARU Project No. 733.


Papers Presented at Professional Meetings


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<th>Year</th>
<th>Authors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>P. J. Wilke and L. A. Quintero</td>
<td>Cultural and Natural Resources of the Desert Landscape: The Past and Future in Conflict</td>
<td>Invited lecture, University of California, San Diego, Workshop on Jordanian Archaeology, La Jolla.</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>P. J. Wilke</td>
<td>Early Paleoindian Bifacial Flake-Core Reduction Strategies</td>
<td>Annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Philadelphia.</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>L. A. Quintero and P. J. Wilke</td>
<td>Technology of Lower Paleolithic Stone Tool Production</td>
<td>Annual Research Day, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside, California. (Poster).</td>
</tr>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>K. K. Swope and P. J. Wilke</td>
<td>Small-Scale Mining in the California Deserts</td>
<td>Annual meeting of the Society for California Archaeology, Sacramento.</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>P. J. Wilke</td>
<td>A Small, Simple, and Highly Portable Device for Folsom Fluting</td>
<td>First Symposium on the Archaeology of the Coachella Valley, California, La Quinta.</td>
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1994 (P. J. Wilke). Derivation of Bullet-Shaped Microblade Cores in Prehistory. First Annual Faculty/Student Research Day, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside, California. (Poster).


1992 (L. A. Quintero, and P. J. Wilke). Replicative Experiments of the Naviform Blade Technology of ’Ain Ghazal. Workshop on Late Pre-Pottery Neolithic to Pottery Neolithic: Recent Research in Jordan. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, Yarmouk University, Irbid, Jordan. (In conjunction with the Fifth International Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan.)


1972 (P. J. Wilke). Late Prehistoric Change in Land Use Patterns at Perris Reservoir. Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Anthropological Association, Long Beach.

