JUNE PCAS SPEAKER

Dr. Donn R. Grenda

A Railroad Runs Through It: Historical-Period Ethnic Chinese and Mexican Communities in Downtown Redlands, California

Zoom Meeting
June 10, 7:30 pm
Registration required
Please see instructions on p. 4.

Statistical Research, Inc. (SRI) conducted archaeological excavations in 2019 and 2020 in support of the development of four parcels at the northern edge of the historical-period Chinatown location in downtown Redlands. SRI’s work identified not only evidence of Chinatown, but also of a previously (archaeologically) unstudied ethnic Mexican community in the project area. This presentation focuses on household consumption and community structure in both groups from the later nineteenth century through the middle of the twentieth century.

Dr. Grenda is an archaeologist with experience in both prehistoric and historical archaeology. He is the president of Statistical Research, Inc., an archaeological and historical consulting firm with offices throughout the western United States. He has a doctorate in anthropology with a specialization in prehistoric archaeology from the University of Arizona, a master’s degree in anthropology with a specialization in historical archaeology from the College of William and Mary, and undergraduate degrees in economics and anthropology from the University of Redlands.

He was appointed to the California State Historical Resources Commission in 2005 and served as a commissioner until 2013. Dr. Grenda is currently the Chair of the Government Affairs Committee of the Society for American Archaeology (2014–2020) and a member of the board of directors of Leaders in Energy and Preservation. He is also active at the local level as the vice president of the Redlands Conservancy.

Dr. Grenda’s research interests include California prehistory, historical archaeology, prehistoric economies, and archaeological method and theory. He has published numerous books and articles and has taught archaeology at the University of Redlands and California State University, San Bernardino.

This is the combined June/July Newsletter. There are no lectures in July and August. The August/September Newsletter will announce the September speaker.
Peopling the Americas: The Channel Islands and the Kelp Highway Hypothesis

By Megan Galway

Dr. Jon Erlandson, like many of us, received his early archaeological education during a period when Clovis First was the accepted hypothesis for the early population of the Americas. People from Asia crossed the Bering land bridge, made their way down the ice-free corridor, and then through varying geographic regions and climate zones to the tip of South America. Only later did they learn to exploit coastal resources. In studies, water had been considered a barrier or danger not a resource. Dr. Erlandson named a number of sites around the world that contained various marine remains, including Olduvai Gorge with fish remains and shell middens in South Africa. At Gibraltar, which was home to both Neanderthals and Homo sapiens, there are shellfish and sea mammal remains dating to 120,000 years ago.

The Clovis-First model became problematic when much older sites were reported throughout the Americas. Tom Dillehay was ridiculed when he dated Monte Verde in southern Chile to around 14,500 years ago, but many other sites of this age and older have now been reported.

Dr. Erlandson is from the central California coast and well aware of rich coastal resources, and as the probability of coastal migration became more accepted, he was the first to describe the route as the Kelp Highway. Kelp forests in coastal waters extend almost uninterrupted from Asia, across the Bering Strait, and down the Pacific coast to the tip of South America. They are rich in sea life and provide familiar resources all along the coast. At Monte Verde, which is 10 to 14 km from the coast, Tom Dillehay identified eight different types of kelp and seaweed. Sea level was much lower 17,000 years ago than today, and the coastal route would have been much easier than an inland passage. Large inlets and rivers along the Pacific coast allowed access to the interior. Sites predating Clovis have been identified throughout this region.

Dr. Erlandson’s main research interest is the California Channel Islands region and the four northern islands in particular. San Miguel, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Rosa islands were all one island 13,000 years ago. The weather and waves come from the northwest, so research has concentrated on Crescent Bay on Santa Rosa’s southern, more sheltered shoreline. In 1959 on

Santa Rosa Island, Phil Orr discovered the remains of what became known as Arlington Springs Man, and the site was dated to 12,750–13,000 years ago, the same age as Clovis. Daisy Cave on San Miguel Island, a well-preserved site dating to 11,600 to 8,500 years ago, was found to contain a biface, woven seagrass, olivella beads, and bone fish gorges. Perhaps the most interesting find was a Channel Island Barbed point which initially appeared to be a much later style but was confirmed as pre-Clovis. Over 100 sites have been identified on San Miguel Island, dating from 13,000 to 8,000 years ago. These include four large quarry/workshop/midden sites on the Cardwell Bluffs. Bifaces and chert cobbles there have been dated to 12,200 to 11,400 years ago and may possibly be earlier.

At CA-SRI-512 on Santa Rosa Island, many stone crescents were found and dated to around 11,700 years ago. These have been proposed as fowl-hunting transverse points, and the remains of geese and ducks were found on the island. Crescents are found in association with early stemmed points along the Pacific Flyway, and Dr. Erlandson noted that both the Mississippi and Eastern flyways were still icebound at this time.

The Channel Islands Barbed points are similar to a Japanese variant, which dates to 16,000 years ago, and others have been found in Idaho dating around 15,000 to 16,000 years ago. Paisley Cave, with a basket dated to 14,200 years ago, had no sign of Clovis technology, and Buttermilk Creek in Texas had stemmed points dating to about 17,000 to 14,000 years ago. Dr. Erlandson and his team are currently conducting core testing in Crescent Bay in the hope of locating evidence of even older sites, now under water. Regarding Clovis culture, he suggests that the early migration extended down the Pacific coast, and at some point a group broke off (likely across the Isthmus of Panama) and migrated north developing the Clovis technology.
2021 Scholarship Report

It has been a strange and difficult year for many of us, and no less for our college students facing remote learning, Zoom meetings, canceled field schools, and loss of jobs needed to fund their education. All of which makes this year’s scholarship applications all the more remarkable. Our selection committee and board members have had to make difficult decisions and have finally selected the following to receive awards.

Kiana Hugins is a student at UC Merced. She tells of growing up in a small town where she learned to appreciate people and their differences and can now apply this to her anthropological studies. She has field experience with Fresno State’s field school, which she says cemented her dedication to archaeology. Kiana plans to attend graduate school with a research focus on the effects of colonialism on the indigenous community and landscape in California and beyond. Kiana will receive the Myrtle Soderberg Memorial Scholarship.

Amanda Dover transferred last fall from Cabrillo College to UC Santa Cruz. She notes that a personal interest in California Missions and Indigenous people led to her anthropology major. Prior to the pandemic, she volunteered at Santa Clara University and Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park, participating in their Summer Archaeology Project and learning lab techniques. Amanda intends to focus on lab studies, re-examining older collections using new techniques to gain a better understanding of their cultural heritage. Amanda has been awarded the Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship.

Parinita Kumari is a student at UC Davis who first developed an interest in anthropology in sixth grade. She learned that the study of recovered artifacts could provide clues to cultural history, including that of her own South Asian heritage. Her academic focus is on evolutionary anthropology and archaeology, and after graduation she plans to work with a CRM company to gain practical experience before applying to graduate school. This summer Parinita plans to attend the UC Davis Archaeology Field School at a site in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. Parinita will receive the Sherri Gust Memorial Scholarship.

Reading this year’s applications it becomes obvious we are seeing a new era in archaeology. The ghost of Indiana Jones has been vanquished; students today are interested in new scientific methods and connecting the past with the current indigenous population. Old collections are being taken out of the archives (or the basement) and given new meaning. We look forward to hearing much more from these students.

The Gloria Bogdan Memorial Scholarship, in memory of a PCAS Life Member, is funded by her husband, Tom. The Sherri Gust Memorial Scholarship honors a past PCAS President and PCAS Quarterly editor and is fully funded by Cogstone Resource Management Inc., the company she founded. The Myrtle Soderberg Memorial Scholarship and PCAS grants are funded through the efforts of Joe Hodulik and by the generous donations of our members and supporters, and we thank them all.

PCAS Grant

Marcela Barron is a first-year master’s student in anthropology at UC Davis with an emphasis on archaeology and zooarchaeology. She received her BA from CSU Channel Islands in anthropology in 2015. Upon graduating, she attended field school in Drawsko, Poland, for mortuary archaeology, where she learned practical field and lab methods. She has experience working in CRM on various field and lab projects throughout California.

Currently, her research project is aimed at determining shellfish seasonality and harvesting practices among hunter-gatherer populations from coastal and estuarine sites. Her project advisors are Dr. Christyann Darwent and Dr. Jelmer Eerkens. Determining season of harvest is possible using oxygen isotopes, or δ18O, from different shell species. Examining season of occupation of coastal and estuarine sites allows for a comparison between exploitation of different marine environments. The research will focus on comparing CA-MNT-17, a coastal site in the modern-day city of Monterey, to CA-ALA-11, an estuarine site in the city of Alameda on San Francisco Bay.

The PCAS grant will cover the cost of oxygen isotope analysis for six shell samples. The results of this study will aid in determining the harvesting and exploitation practices of mussel, clam, and oyster by the Native peoples of central California.
The 37th Great Basin Anthropological Conference will be held October 13–16 at the Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. Early fee pricing through September 13: $105; student $75. Information and registration: greatbasinantropologicalassociation.org.

Editor’s Note: Please confirm time and place of listing prior to the event. Submit items for Dig This to newsletter@pcas.org.

Visit www.pcas.org for all the latest news.

Classes, Meetings, and Events (continued)

The Virtual ARARA Conference 2021 will be held June 12–13. Fee: $50; members $40. Registration is open: https://arara.wildapricot.org/event-4219761.

2021 Pecos Conference will be held at Mancos, Colorado, August 5–8. Information and registration: www.pecosconference.org.

Exhibits


Lectures

Virtual Nostalgia Night will have pre-digital and digital presentations by San Diego Rock Art Association members on June 6, 4 pm. Information and registration: www.sandiegorockart.org.


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PCAS CODE OF ETHICS

The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society (PCAS) is a nonprofit group of professional and avocational people dedicated to proper management of our cultural resources, public education, and the protection and preservation of archaeological materials and collections.

The following principles have been adopted by the PCAS:

1. Professional methods and forms will be used on all archaeological field surveys, excavations, and laboratory sessions.
2. A complete record of field and laboratory work will be filed with the PCAS Curator and stored at a facility approved by the Society’s Board of Directors.
3. No archaeological materials will be removed without proper permits, landowner permission, and a field research design.
4. Unless otherwise legally stipulated before activity commences, all materials collected will be deposited for further research with the Curator at a facility approved by the Society's Board of Directors.
5. All generated reports will be the property of the Society and distributed as deemed appropriate.
6. All Society field activities will be performed only under the direction of a qualified field archaeologist (Principal Investigator) and the supervision of field or site directors.
7. The above principles will be observed on both Society approved projects and projects performed under the direction of an authorized institution or organization.
8. The Society and its members will strive to educate the public of the importance and proper management of our non-renewable cultural resources and to discourage the collection and commercial exploitation of archaeological materials.
9. PCAS members shall not benefit from the acquisition, purchase, sale, or trade of archaeological artifacts, materials, or specimens.
10. All members shall adhere to City, County, State, and Federal antiquities laws.

PCAS SPEAKER CALENDAR

No meetings in July and August.

September 9, 2021
Dr. Rubén G. Mendoza
*The Turquoise Corridor—Mesoamerican-Southwestern Prestige Technologies and Social Networks*

October 14, 2021
Dr. Colleen Delaney

November 11, 2021
Dr. Loren Davis

December 9, 2021
Dr. Kevin Smith

Join us for a live PCAS Zoom lecture with Dr. Donn Grenda speaking on “A Railroad Runs Through It: Historical-Period Ethnic Chinese and Mexican Communities in Downtown Redlands, California.”

Thursday, June 10, 2021, 7:30 pm

See p. 4 of this newsletter for Zoom registration instructions.
Name(s): ______________________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________________ State: _________ Zip Code ___________
Phone: __________________________________ Email: ________________________________

Newsletters will be sent by email unless a mailed copy is requested.

________________________________________
Signature

Membership  (Includes Quarterly/Newsletter) Subscription Only Scholarship Fund
- Active Member – $45 - Quarterly – $40 - Donation $_______
- Family Membership – $50 - Newsletter – $20
- Supporting Member* – $55
- Donor Member* – $75
- Lifetime Member* – $1000

* May be individual or family membership

www.pcas.org

Join online:
www.pcas.org/membrs.html

Or return with payment to:
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