



2005 Annual Report

Center for Desert Archaeology



Adriah Halsey

Pursuing Community-based Preservation Archaeology Across the Southwest

Relative to our ambitions, the Center for Desert Archaeology's resources will always be limited. In part, our pursuit of community-based archaeology is a way to implement our mission and overcome the limits of our resources. This strategy involves developing meaningful, long-term relationships with a diverse set of community members. As we work together, we develop shared views on the importance of historic preservation to the health and well-being of specific archaeological sites and historic buildings and also to the entire community's welfare. We serve to introduce one another to new people and perspectives in the process.

This approach takes time. Relationships are not built over days; they take years. The year 2005 was one of great progress in building relationships with many communities across the Southwest.

This annual report is a summary of some of those activities.

. . . middle san juan region of northwest new mexico

The Chacoan outlier Salmon Ruins Pueblo, located in the community of Bloomfield, New Mexico, is the nexus of a long-term collaborative effort to reinvest in the research potential of that remarkable site. In 2005, Center Preservation Archaeologist Paul Reed completed work on the Salmon Ruins excavation report. The resulting three-volume report, *Thirty-Five Years of Archaeological Research at Salmon Ruins, New Mexico*, makes decades of high-quality scientific research at this site available to the broader community of Southwestern archaeologists.

In July of 2005, the Center received a National Science Foundation research grant for \$200,000 to continue exploring the Chacoan phenomenon in the Middle San Juan region. This new project adds Aztec Ruins National Monument to the existing collaboration between the Center and Salmon Ruins Museum, and brings together an experienced team of researchers from across the country to investigate Chacoan influences at Aztec, Salmon, and other Great House communities in northwest New Mexico.



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. . . middle and upper gila region of southeast arizona

Through the Center's endowed Preservation Fellowship program, a talented and promising archaeology graduate student is given the opportunity and financial support to pursue a preservation archaeology research project for his or her dissertation. In December 2005, Anna Neuzil became the Center's latest Fellow to earn a Ph.D. degree (from the University of Arizona) while undertaking community-based archaeology under the Center's guidance.

Anna focused her research on issues of prehistoric migration and demography in the Safford and Aravaipa Valley region. This project required a great deal of community outreach and cooperation as Anna

studied 35 different sites managed by 25 private landowners and leaseholders, as well as the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Arizona State Land Department, and Arizona Game and Fish. Residents had opportunities to learn more about local prehistory through lectures at historical societies and museums, and as field volunteers.



Preservation Archaeologist Jacquie Dale successfully re-established the Arizona Site Steward program in the Safford region, providing community members an ongoing way to be involved with local archaeology by monitoring important sites in the valley.

The Center helped the administration, faculty, and students of Eastern Arizona College in Thatcher, Arizona, better understand the scientific importance of the Mills Collection, an extensive collection of whole ceramic vessels and other artifacts curated and exhibited at the college. Our analysis resulted in the recognition of several new types of Roosevelt Red Ware, a finding that will help archaeologists calculate more specific dates of occupation for late Classic period sites throughout the southern Southwest.

Bringing the results of archaeological research to local communities is a key element of community-based archaeology. As part of our ongoing commitment to the Middle and Upper Gila region, the Center was proud to co-sponsor the Fall 2005 Arizona Archaeological Council Conference, which focused on recent research on the prehistoric archaeology of the Safford Basin, and was held on the campus of Eastern Arizona College.

. . . little colorado river valley, arizona and new mexico

Preservation Archaeologist Doug Gann took the lead on several outreach and preservation efforts at the site of Casa Malpais, working with community members from the Town of Springerville to create a stabilization and interpretive plan for that site. He also successfully wrote a \$10,000 Arizona Humanities Council grant to improve interpretation at the Casa Malpais Museum and Visitor's Center.

Doug worked with the Archaeological Conservancy to complete the architectural analysis and interpretive materials for Sherwood Ranch Ruin, including the online exhibit, *The Story of Sherwood Ranch Pueblo*. Center website visitors can view this exhibit at: <<http://www.cdarc.org/pages/library/swf/sherwood/>>.

Several years ago, the Center began exploring the use of National Heritage Area (NHA) designations as tools to implement community-based outreach programs and to promote local stewardship of cultural resources. A NHA congressional designation encourages residents, government agencies, non-profit groups, and private businesses to collaboratively plan and implement programs that recognize, preserve, and celebrate their region's distinctive cultural and natural heritage.

The Center's first efforts were focused on creating a feasibility study for a Santa Cruz Valley NHA in southern Arizona. In 2005, we began outreach and fundraising efforts for a proposed Little Colorado National Heritage Area feasibility study, including a successfully funded grant proposal to the Arizona Heritage Fund for \$96,892 to fully implement this work.

. . . southern and central arizona

While the Center has active community-based programs across the Southwest, we have never forgotten that Tucson and southern Arizona is our home. Our first efforts at community-based archaeology were focused on the Tucson Basin and the San Pedro River Valley, and strong programs continue in those areas today.

In Tucson, Center staff continued to consult on aspects of projects associated with the City of Tucson's Rio Nuevo Project, a downtown revitalization initiative that includes the preservation and interpretation of 4,000 years of Tucson's prehistory and history.

Also for our Tucson-based members, the Center hosted two popular public lectures. In February, David Grant Noble and Paul Reed discussed Chaco Canyon; in October, Coronado experts Richard and Shirley Flint gave a presentation on historic documents from the 1540 Coronado expedition.

The Center's work for historical preservation was recognized with several awards from the Tucson Pima County Historical Commission on May 1, 2005:

- ◆ Jonathan Mabry was awarded a Historic Preservation Certificate for his efforts on the Santa Cruz National Heritage Area initiative.
- ◆ The Center for Desert Archaeology, the Arizona State Museum, Desert Archaeology, Inc., and the Arizona Historical Society were jointly recognized with Historic Preservation Certificates for public outreach and education projects connected with Tucson's Rio Nuevo project.
- ◆ Bill Doelle, the Center's President and CEO, was awarded the Alene Dunlap Smith and Paul C. Smith Award in acknowledgment of his high level of dedication and long-term commitment toward historic preservation.

Tucson's Rio Nuevo Archaeology and Education program won top honors in the Governor's Historic Preservation Awards program at the 2005 Arizona Historic Preservation Conference. The award recognized the effective partnership between Desert Archaeology, Inc., Center for Desert Archaeology, Arizona Historical Society, and Arizona State Museum.



The Center helped stage an archaeological law enforcement training session in Sierra Vista, Arizona, in April 2005. Members of the U.S. Border Patrol, the Cochise County Sheriff's Department, and the Sierra Vista Police Department attended the conference, co-sponsored by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Department, the Arizona State Land Department, and the Center. This was the sixth such archaeological law enforcement course organized by the Center since May 2002. Previous sessions have been held in Window Rock, Tucson, Scottsdale, Prescott, and Camp Verde.

Jacquie Dale continued as Regional Coordinator of the Arizona Site Steward program for the Lower San Pedro region, and increased the area's number of active volunteer site stewards from two to over 18. These volunteers are now monitoring threatened archaeological sites on private, state, and federal land all along the Lower San Pedro River.

The Center's San Pedro Archaeological Preservation Program began in 1996. This long-term initiative to focus archaeological research, preservation, and education activities on the San Pedro River watershed continues. Preservation Archaeologist Jeff Clark devoted much of his time in 2005 to writing the formal report summarizing the Center's years of archaeological investigations in the Lower San Pedro Valley.

Building on insights gained from our San Pedro Valley research, Center archaeologists are now focusing on museum-based collections research as part of our current Coalescent Communities project. This involves the study and comparison of data from sites in the Perry Mesa area; the Phoenix, Tonto, and Safford basins; and the San Pedro Valley to better understand reasons behind the prehistoric population decline which began in these areas in the A.D. 1300s.

In October 2005, the Center received a commitment from a private foundation to support a new, multi-year project focused on population changes of the late prehistoric era to earliest historic era (A.D. 1200-1700), in partnership with the Hopi, Zuni, and the O'odham tribes of southern Arizona. Planning will begin on this project in 2006. With a goal of bringing substantial closure to the explanation of major demographic decline in the southern Southwest, it is crucial that we pursue this research in a way that is truly collaborative between Native American communities and archaeologists. As a first step, the Center is working with Pueblo Grande Museum and the Huhugam Heritage Center to create an exhibit on the Coalescent Communities research process.

... building a community beyond the southwest

The community of people who share a connection to the archaeological and historical heritage of the Southwest is much broader than Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. The Center has members and donors throughout the country and even internationally. New Internet features, traditional publications, and museum exhibits all help build that broader community network.

Much effort was put into improving the Center's Internet presence in 2005. On June 1st, the Center implemented *Southwest Archaeology Today*, a free e-mail archaeology news service, now with over 800 subscribers worldwide. Two to three times a week, we search the world wide web for news and events relating to southwestern archaeology, history, and historic preservation, and deliver a simple text-only summary, with links, to subscribers via email. Back issues are available on the internet at <<http://www.cdarc.org/pages/library/sat.php>>.

In addition to *Southwest Archaeology Today*, the Center's website expanded with additions to the online exhibits section, including reconstructions of the Early Agricultural period site of Clearwater in Tucson. Visit <<http://www.cdarc.org/pages/library/onlineex.php>> for this and other online exhibits.

Adriel Heisey's remarkable landscape archaeology photographs gave museum goers a different view of southwestern archaeology when the Center for Desert Archaeology/Albuquerque Museum exhibit, *From Above: Images of a Storied*

Land, traveled to the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Anthropology in the fall of 2005.

Archaeology Southwest continues to be a key tool in implementing the Center's community-based preservation mission. Issues in 2005 included:

♦ "The Quest for Coronado" (Vol. 19[1], Winter 2005), edited by Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, Center for Desert Archaeology. This issue shared the results of the Center's 2004 *In Search of the Coronado Trail* project with over 500 ranchers, farmers, and landowners living in the general area thought to have been Coronado's route through Arizona and New Mexico in 1540.

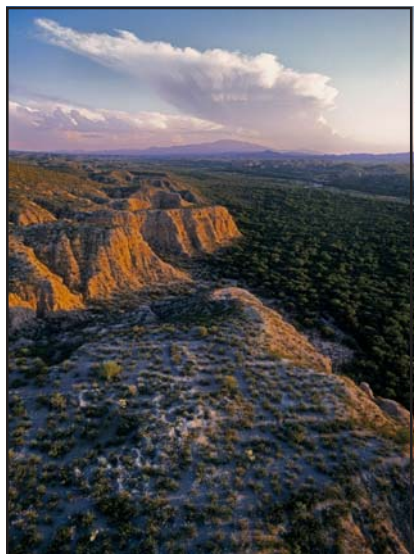
♦ "Mormon History and Archaeology in Northern Arizona" (Vol. 19[2], Spring 2005), edited by Alan Ferg, Arizona State Museum. Bringing together the research of various historians on the early Mormon settlements of northern Arizona, this issue summarizes one of the unique cultural elements of the Little Colorado River Valley and will play a roll in efforts to create a National Heritage Area for the region.

♦ "Preserving Archaeological Landscapes" (Vol. 19[3], Summer 2005), edited by Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, Center for Desert Archaeology. This issue, focused primarily on southern and central Arizona, helps better explain current threats to our archaeological heritage and methods the Center and others are employing to counter those threats.

♦ "Archaeology and the Public in the Galisteo Basin" (Vol. 19[4], Fall 2005), edited by James Snead, George Mason University. The Galisteo Basin, south of Santa Fe, New Mexico, is home to incredible archaeological sites, most of which are located on private lands. On-going efforts by a number of local community groups are resulting in the protection of a number of these irreplaceable sites. This issue summarizes the story of Galisteo Basin archaeology, and has become an important outreach tool for archaeologists in this region.

Thanks to the generous financial support of the Homolovi Chapter of the Arizona Archaeological Society, "Homol'ovi: An Ancestral Hopi Place," the Fall 2000 issue of *Archaeology Southwest*, is once again back in print. This popular issue features summaries of work done by the Homol'ovi Research Program of the Arizona State Museum along the Little Colorado River.

Sharing archaeological research with other archaeologists is also part of the Center's mission. Our Anthropological Papers series brings the results of major archaeological investigations to the professional community. 2005 saw the publication of several new volumes featuring research from the cultural resource management firm, Desert Archaeology, Inc., including the following titles.



Adriell Heisey

♦ *Subsistence and Resource Use Strategies of Early Agricultural Communities in Southern Arizona* (Anthropological Paper No. 34), edited by Michael W. Diehl.

♦ *Material Cultures and Lifeways of Early Agricultural Communities in Southern Arizona* (Anthropological Paper No. 35), edited by R. Jane Sliva.

♦ *Down by the River: Archaeological and Historical Studies of the Leon Family Farmstead* (Anthropological Paper No. 38), by J. Homer Thiel.

♦ *Ancient Farmers of the Safford Basin: Archaeology of the U.S. 70 Safford-to-Thatcher Project* (Anthropological Paper No. 39), edited by Jeffery J. Clark.

... looking forward

The Center is committed to continuing its community-based work across the Southwest in the years to come. In the Middle San Juan region, in addition to new research, we will work on ways to completely meet Salmon Ruins Museum's curation challenges, and will co-sponsor the 2006 Pecos Conference. For the Middle and Upper Gila, we are searching for our next Preservation Fellow to pursue research and outreach in the Upper Gila region.

Efforts to create a Little Colorado River Valley National Heritage Area feasibility study took a big step forward with the addition of Linda Marie Golier, Heritage Programs Coordinator, to our staff in July 2006. And for central and southern Arizona, we plan to step up our presence in the Phoenix basin thanks to a new Preservation Fellow studying the petroglyphs of South Mountains, and to the arrival of our Adriell Heisey exhibit at Mesa Southwest Museum and Pueblo Grande Museum in 2006.

Finally, to continue to build the preservation archaeology community beyond the immediate Southwest, future plans include major additions to our Internet presence. These will focus on expanding the impact of the printed version of *Archaeology Southwest* with an additional Internet component to share more detailed information about the topics considered in each issue with a much broader audience.

Successfully preserving the archaeological landscape of the Southwest must be a community-wide effort. Every Center member, donor, and volunteer is an important part of that greater community working to preserve and to understand the remarkable archaeology of the Southwest. We thank you for your support, and we look forward, with enthusiasm, to continuing our efforts to strengthen and expand a community-based preservation archaeology network across the Southwest.

2005 Volunteers

Volunteers play a crucial role in implementing community-based preservation archaeology across the Southwest. As local community members, they serve as key ambassadors for archaeological and historic preservation in their region, and give freely of their time and talents to help the Center meet its preservation archaeology mission. A special and sincere thank you goes to each and every one listed here. We could not do our work without you – thank you!

Bonnie Bell	Barbara Clark	Carol Farnsworth	Lonnie Hicks	Bill Robinson	Allison Towner
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					Takis Weekes

Heritage Circle

Our Heritage Circle recognizes donors who have made a commitment to support the Center with an unrestricted gift of \$1,000 or more each year for five years. Our special thanks to these donors who recognize the Center's need for reliable operating support.

For information on Heritage Circle benefits, or on ways to make a lasting gift to the Center through your will or other estate plans, please contact Linda Pierce at 520-882-6946 or <lpierce@cdarc.org>.

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2005 Financial Statements

Assets

Cash/short-term accounts	\$ 504,638
Accounts receivable	\$ 32,132
Property & equipment, net	\$ 206,548
Investments	\$3,825,226
Deposits	\$ 3,000
Total Assets	\$4,571,543

Liabilities and Net Assets

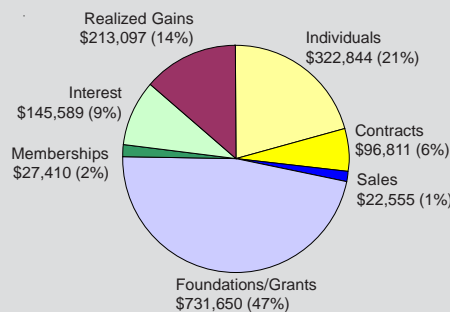
Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 25,247
Accrued expenses	\$ 3,273
Notes payable	\$ 2,936
Total Liabilities	\$ 31,456

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$3,105,908
Temporarily restricted	\$1,184,178
Permanently restricted	\$ 250,000
Total Net Assets	\$4,540,086

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$4,571,543



Total Revenue
\$1,559,956

Total Expenses
\$1,073,525

