

Archaeology Southwest





2021 ANNUAL REPORT

YOUR 2021 SUPPORT

Dear Friends.

Depending on how we identify our origin point—and I put it at 1986, with the inaugural edition of the Archaeology in Tucson newsletter and membership program-2021 was our 35th year. In that first edition, I said that our mission was to conduct research in and around Tucson; increase public awareness of and involvement in local archaeology; interpret local resources; and preserve important sites.

A lot has changed and is changing at Archaeology Southwest, and yet a lot...has not. And will not.

Today, our mission—practicing Preservation Archaeology, a holistic and conservation-based approach to exploring and protecting heritage places while honoring their diverse **values**—contains that 1986 core. We compile archaeological information, make it accessible and understandable, share it with the public and decision-makers. advocate for site- and landscape-scale protections, and steward heritage properties and conservation easements.

But why? As our entire staff wrangled with our newest strategic plan in late 2020 and into 2021, there was a point when we realized we were in the weeds and needed to find a simple and universal answer. Why do we do this work? Why do you and others support it?

We had a collective lightbulb moment: Because **places** matter to **people**. They matter to diverse people in diverse ways. To us. To vou. To descendants. To newcomers. To people from all walks of life.

That also led us to better articulate our vision, which we expect you'll share: that heritage places, ancestral landscapes, and associated knowledge and values are stewarded, protected, respected, and celebrated across the US and the world.

To that end, Archaeology Southwest reaffirmed our commitment to real and ongoing collaboration with Indigenous communities. And we also realized we needed additional team members to achieve our goals. You'll meet all of them here. (Plus, I got to ask my favorite interview guestion, which I have been using for decades-what's your favorite place in the world and why-multiple times.)

In this report, we each share our personal favorite places with you. I encourage you to look up those you're unfamiliar with. And please reach out and let us know your places, by emailing info@archaeologysouthwest.org or by responding to the blog posts and social media posts we'll be sharing on this topic.

None of the achievements in this report would be possible without your continuing commitment and support-because places matter to you.

With profound gratitude,



Founder, President, & CEO

WY PLACE: CATALINA STATE PARK, AZ

TRIBUTE GIFTS

In Memory of

Michael H. Bartlett J.O., Evelyn, and Michael Brew Dan Bennett Dwight Brownson Jean Clark **Douglas Craig** Kim Crumbo June Harper Doelle Stephen R. Durand Alfred E. Garratt David A. Gregory Bret Harvey

In Honor of

Dr. Fric Blinman Peter Boyle William Doelle John Fryar Ainslev Kurtz Matthew Madrzvk Mary & Gene Milbrath

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For donating professional expertise and resources, our special thanks to:

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Scott Van Keuren John Welch

GREATER CHACO LANDSCAPE

2021 saw further progress on our coalition's broadly supported efforts to permanently protect a zone around Chaco Culture National Historical Park from oil-gas leasing, and to protect heritage places on public lands in the Greater Chaco Landscape more generally. We were especially encouraged by the appointment of Debra Haaland, a member of the Pueblo of Laguna, to the president's cabinet as Secretary of the Interior. Her firm position on balanced use of public lands across the West is great news for heritage preservation.

Throughout the year, I worked on initiatives related to federal review of oil-gas leasing across the US. The most significant outcome was a white paper on the findings, which former Interior Secretary (and former Governor of Arizona) Bruce Babbitt, then-Governor of the Pueblo of Acoma Brian Vallo, and I highlighted in a national press conference in the fall. We strongly recommended that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) should take a much more active and hands-on role in the planning and execution of oil-gas leasing across the West. Specifically, BLM should:

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- Take a proactive approach to removing sensitive areas from leasing including the 10-mile protection zone around Chaco Canyon
- Assess previously leased lands that require enhanced rehabilitation—New Mexico's oil fields are now a century old, and there are thousands of wells that need to be cleaned up
- Undertake much more substantive Tribal consultation and engagement in

planning, leasing, and drill-permitting by involving Indigenous communities from the beginning, seriously listening to their concerns, and involving them in fieldwork and cultural resource evaluation at the permitting stage.

I was thrilled when, in November 2021, Secretary Haaland announced the withdrawal of 351,00 acres in the 10-mile zone from federal oil-gas leasing for 20 years!

Happily, no year passes without some work with our friends and colleagues at Salmon Ruins Museum. In 2021, I was fortunate to **assist Salmon in completing its Native American** Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) process, which had proceeded over the course of several years. Consultations were successful and led to the repatriation and reburial of all human

remains and associated funeral objects.

Yan PAUL F. REED Preservation Archaeologist and Chaco Scholar

MY PLACE: (SURPRISE!) CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, NM

LANDSCAPE & SITE PRESERVATION

2021 kept me busy! In addition to participating in the Respect Great Bend campaign (pages 8–9), cyberSW Tribal Working Group (pages 14–15), ARPA Initiative (pages 10–11), and management planning for the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area, I created the first-ever strategic plan for Archaeology Southwest's Landscape and Site Preservation Program.

This robust plan mandates a stepwise transition from our prior, largely opportunistic acquisition strategy to **a more deliberate deployment of our 22 preserves** in pursuit of our goals, mission, and vision. It explicitly recognizes Indigenous peoples as co-owners and commits to collaborative stewardship with interested Tribal officials. The new plan also:

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- » Necessitated comprehensive revisions to the forms and templates used to monitor and record information on the preserves—thanks go to volunteer Jaye Smith for her assistance with that project
- Entailed multiple visits to the preserves, which are located in southern Arizona, northern New Mexico, and southern New Mexico's Mimbres Valley

Resulted in a series of clean-ups by staff and volunteers, gate installation, and perimeter signage at the 80-acre Gillespie Narrows preserve, as well as a funding proposal to the National Trust for Historic Preservation to support intensive stewardship planning for this location.

I introduced the plan in my January 2021 Archaeology Café presentation, "Archaeology Southwest's Conservation Properties and their Emerging Roles in Preservation Archaeology"—and you can find that video on our YouTube channel. In other news, I also had the continued privilege of supporting Indigenous rights group Apache Stronghold in its efforts to achieve permanent protection for **Chi'chil Biłdagoteel (Oak Flat)**, including giving testimony in federal court. A proposed copper mine must not be allowed to obliterate this sacred ground.



MY PLACE: FORT APACHE AND THEODORE ROOSEVELT SCHOOL NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK, WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE LANDS, AZ

GREAT BEND OF THE GILA

2021 represents real momentum on our coalition's campaign to permanently protect public lands in the Great Bend of the Gila, a stretch of river valley and surrounding Sonoran Desert in southwestern Arizona between metro Phoenix and Yuma. The Respect Great Bend coalition is led by Archaeology Southwest and The Wilderness Society (Arizona Director Mike Quigley). Each of our organizations has been working toward this goal for a decade or more.

Why? Because the Great Bend is an extraordinary nexus of natural, cultural, geological, and historical significance that has shaped much of the Southwest's history and heritage. Its public lands must be protected in a way that recognizes this landscape's: Importance to the 13 Tribal nations who hold cultural, historical, spiritual, and ancestral ties there

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- Abundant cultural and historical values—as a home to diverse peoples and as a travel corridor for millennia
- Abundant natural values—particularly as critical habitat for plants and animals, and as a wildlife corridor.

We have made great progress on introducing people to the Great Bend and promoting these values. We've also underscored that permanent protection will help better enforce the laws that protect cultural heritage on federal lands. In my role, I've seen passionate support for the protection of these values from Tribes, conservation organizations, and local residents, as well as people all over the Southwest. Campaign assets include:

- » A dedicated website, respectgreatbend.org, and a vibrant presence on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter. and YouTube
- Two short films by Pulitzer Prizewinning photojournalist David Wallace (visit respectgreatbend.org/multimedia to watch)
- A digital story map under development in collaboration with our coalition partners at the Conservation Lands Foundation.

We're fortunate that Representative Raúl Grijalva has long agreed it's time to permanently safeguard this inimitable, enduring, yet surprisingly sensitive



landscape. I'm pleased to let you know that **Congressman Grijalva introduced The Great Bend of the Gila Conservation Act (H.R. 8719) on August 16, 2022**. The bill establishes a process for management consultation with a Tribal commission.

Safe By

SKYLAR BEGAY (Diné, Mandan and Hidatsa) Tribal Outreach Fellow (Wyss Foundation Fellow) and Respect Great Bend Campaign Coordinator

MY PLACE: THE GRAND CANYON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE CRIME RESPONSE & PREVENTION

2021 brought an expansion of our

work to help end and respond to archaeological resource crime (ARC) on Tribal lands. Such crimes include grave-robbing, looting, and vandalism to archaeological sites. Specifically, through a Cooperative Ecosystems Study Unit (CESU) agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Western Region Office, we have since 2018 been helping to implement and enforce the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), a federal law that protects archaeological resources on Tribal and federal lands.

There are several dimensions to this **ARPA Assistance Initiative**—detecting violations, monitoring vulnerable sites, encouraging people to report incidents, responding to those reports, remediating damage, and ultimately preventing ARC by promoting heritage stewardship. Clearly, our activities are wide-ranging and varied, and 2021 was no exception. With our BIA colleagues, we:

- Conducted three **damage assessments** of possible ARPA violations on Tribal and federal land in Arizona
- Assisted in damage assessment training with the staff of the White Mountain Apache Tribal Historic Preservation Office
- Raised awareness of ARC, the very real toll it takes on Indigenous communities, and our work by producing a dedicated issue of Archaeology Southwest Magazine, "Respect the Land You Stand Upon"; an Archaeology Café presentation,

"Preservation Archaeology's Role in Responding to Archaeological Resource Crimes"; an article on forensic sedimentology in *The SAA Archaeological Record* (authors John R. Welch, Fred Nials, and Duston J. Whiting); and a print and digital campaign aimed at Arizona game hunters, "Who's Poaching the Past?"

 Grew the reach and content library of the Save History campaign (SaveHistory.org).

The ARPA Assistance Initiative and Save History owe much to longtime program coordinator Stacy Ryan, who departed in 2021 to follow new paths. Thanks for everything, Stacy! SHANNON COWELL Preservation Archaeologist

RESERVATIO

MY PLACE: MASCOUTIN VALLEY STATE TRAIL, WI



MY PLACE: ARAVAIPA CANYON WILDERNESS, AZ



ASHLEIGH THOMPSON (Red Lake Ojibwe Nation) Director, Tribal Collaboration Initiative (2022)

MY PLACE: BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE WILDERNESS AREA, MN

RESEARCH *matters*

2021 was a welcome and stimulating year. Preservation Postdoc (2020–2021) Christopher Caseldine and I completed a two-volume site monitoring, damage mitigation, and research plan for 57 ancestral heritage sites in the backcountry of Tonto National Monument. Most

research and interpretation has focused on the upper and lower cliff dwellings people can visit, but with our attention to fieldhouses, small habitations, and other smaller rockshelters, we hope to place the better-known cliff dwellings into their local and regional contexts. Other key aspects of this work include recommendations for monitoring, stabilization, and potential data recovery at **sites impacted by the 2019 Woodbury Fire**, which

Tonto National Monument has already begun to implement, assisted first by Sara Anderson, now Archaeology Southwest's Director of Outreach, and currently by Andrew Van Cleve.

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I also helped volunteer Jaye Smith and her team with research and analysis on the **Raymond F. Robinson**

Collection, a legacy collection primarily from sites in the Safford Basin and San Pedro River valley. Data from the analyses are now in cyberSW (pages 14–15), and Jaye and I authored a presentation on one of the sites for the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology.

JEFFERY J. CLARK Preservation Archaeologist

IERUSALEM



2021 provided me with the opportunity to share the results of several projects in professional and public contexts—

one of my favorite

things about working at

Archaeology Southwest. Some highlights that underscore that and include a project with Scott Ingram (Colorado College) on applying insights from research on people's responses to climate change in the past toward policies on climate change today, published in the journal KIVA and presented as "Should We Stay or Should We Go? Farming and Climate Change 1000–1450 CE" for the March 2021 Archaeology Café, available on our YouTube channel. With Michelle Hegmon and Margaret Nelson, I co-authored a summary of what we know about the Classic Mimbres Period in the eastern Mimbres area, also published in KIVA, and featured on our Preservation Archaeology blog as "Mimbres Architecture and Tucson Neighborhoods."

KAREN GUST SCHOLLMEYER Preservation Archaeologist MY PLACE: OUR EXTENDED-FAMILY CABIN ON EAGLE CREEK, WHITE MOUNTAINS, AZ

2021 was another year of completion for me. Field and data assistants Charles Arrow and Zion White and I wrapped up fieldwork on the Lower Gila River Ethnographic and Archaeological Project (funded in large part by a National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Grant) and then, because we cannot resist the pull of the Great Bend of the Gila (pages 8–9), completed a petroglyph inventory-over 5,000 glyphs—at **Gillespie Narrows** (page 7). The three of us also spoke about our years of working together on Episode 54 of the Heritage Voices podcast. Charles ioined me and volunteers Bob Caseldine. Gina M. Deane, Carl Evertsbusch, Kristin King, Alex Kouvel, Robert Mahrt, Fran Mauiri, Janet Millard, Alec Niblett IV, and Blandine Nothhelfer to complete mapping and documentation of the ancient and historical Komadk Trail through the Sonoran Desert National Monument, John Welch captured some footage of one day's fieldwork along the trail featuring Bill Doelle, Skylar Begay, Jason Andrews, Charles, and Zion that is posted to our YouTube channel as "Komatke Trail Survey."

ATTINAL



MY PLACE: SENTINEL PLAIN, GREAT BEND OF THE GILA, AZ

Top center: Basket fragment from the Robinson Collection. IMAGE: LANCE K. TRASK **Above (top)**: Komadk Trail survey work. IMAGE: JOHN R. WELCH **Above (lower, from left to right)**: Tonto National Monument; Mattocks, a Mimbres site; Annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology.

Why do low-impact and nondestructive research methods matter to you?

CYBERSW Matters

2021 rewarded us with a successful grant application to the National Science Foundation's Human Network and Data Science Infrastructure program. Jeff (page 12) is lead Principal Investigator with co-PIs Barbara Mills (University of Arizona), Matthew Peeples (Arizona State), and Scott Ortman (University of Colorado Boulder). Our project, which was awarded just over \$800,000, is titled "From Households to Landscapes: Cyberinfrastructure for Deep Time Network Analyses in the Pre-Hispanic Southwest" (NSF 2121925: HNDS-I).

This award will enable several important developments for cyberSW—an online gateway to regional archaeological knowledge that supports big-picture research—including:

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MARTIN

- Establishment of a Tribal Working Group to guide development, help establish priorities, and help expand the platform to include data of interest to Tribes
- Inclusion of intrasite, or household-level information, similar to what the US Census collects, thereby expanding our user base to geographers and other scientists who use such data
- Funding to support Josh, Andre, and Sarah's work to manage this expansion.

Our goals for this next version of cyberSW are to stimulate cross-disciplinary research on households in all times and places, and to serve as a model for large archaeological databases across the world—ambitious, sure, but we're determined!

cyberSW is free to anyone with Internet. We welcome you to check it out today at **cyberSW.org**.





MY PLACES: THE GRAFFITI YARD OFF 6TH AVE. AND 36TH ST., SOUTH TUCSON, AND GUAYO'S EL REY, MIAMI, AZ



AY PLACE: EL MORRO VALLEY, NM

ANDRE TAKAGI - My Senior Systems Analyst/ Developer

MY PLACE: AKIHABARA DISTRICT, Tokyo

Artist's visualization of a pithouse in Pecos. The inclusion of intrasite data will help provide cyberSW users with more insights into households such as this. VISUALIZATION: ROBERT B. CIACCIO

PRESERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY TRAINING & EXPERIENCES

2021 was the Preservation

Archaeology Field School's first season back after the pandemic hiatus of 2020, and the next-to-last season of the program in its current form. I've been reflecting on some of what we've accomplished since I took on the program in 2014. Perhaps most importantly, and thanks to generous support from the National Science Foundation, the University of Arizona Foundation, and other organizations and individuals, we have helped a diverse group of outstanding students gain experience in hands-on scientific research. Here is an overview of the field school's reach: Of our 88 undergraduates since 2014, 60% have been from **groups historically underrepresented in archaeology**, including 35 students from community colleges and small colleges

matter

- Our team has included students and staff members who self-identify as Hispanic (18%), both Asian and Hispanic (5%), Asian American (3%), Native American (7%), and African American (5%)
- » Our group has included many nontraditional students and

first-generation college students, and 7 **Armed Forces veterans**

- » About 65% of our field school alumni have continued to work professionally or earn graduate degrees (or both) in archaeology, anthropology, and closely related fields
- » More than 25% of our student alumni have continued on to graduate programs in anthropology, and over 55% are now employed in archaeology and archaeology-adjacent positions in state and federal agencies and private cultural resource management firms.

Funding to support their attendance was very important in making this experience possible for most of our field school alumni, and I am proud to see the contributions they are making today. I hope that you are, too.

Kan & Schullang

KAREN GUST SCHOLLMEYER Director, Preservation Archaeology Field School Preservation Archaeologist (page 13)

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SHARING WHAT WE'RE ALL LEARNING

2021 meant the return of some of Archaeology Southwest's in-person activities. Allen bounced back with his characteristic zeal, teaching 5 Hands-On Archaeology classes to a total of 26 people. He also gave ancient technology demos and talks at 12 different events in Pima County and in Grant County, New Mexico. He even started building another Early Agricultural pithouse, this time in the courtyard of the Presidio Museum in Tucson. Special thanks to members of the Pima **Community College Archaeology Club** who helped out.



Unfortunately, we did not return to in-person Archaeology Cafés—and we miss you, too. The upside of hosting the program online, though, is the vast audience we've been able to reach—in some cases. our audiences doubled and even tripled. This was especially true for the 2021–2022 series on Avian Archaeology, which broke previous attendance records. (We hope you share our newfound respect for turkeys!) And sincere thanks to all our presenters, past, present, and future. Would you believe 2021 spanned the 14th and 15th seasons of Archaeology Café? Recent seasons have been made possible, in large part, through the support of the Smith Living Trust. Please remember that you can catch up with any cafés you missed by visiting our YouTube channel (youtube/ user/ArchaeologySouthwest).

matter.

All that turkey talk was in support of the long-awaited Archaeology Southwest Magazine Vol. 35, Nos. 1 and 2, "Revisiting Birds in the Southwest," edited by Katelyn J. Bishop and Christopher W. Schwartz. That blockbuster issue was preceded by Paul Reed's issue, "Footprints in the Middle San Juan," Stacy Ryan's issue, "Respect the Land You Stand Upon," and Aaron Wright's issue, "'lihor Kwsnavk: Connecting and Collaborating in the Great Bend." It has been an honor and a privilege to feature contributions by Indigenous authors and Tribal leaders. Our editorial team-soon to expand with the help of an editorial board—is committed to sharing diverse perspectives through the magazine's pages.

Kellogg Mt



Lone Hill

CE: TERRY TRUEBLOOD RECREATION AREA, IOWA CITY, IA



KATHLEEN BADER Marketing and Design Director (2011-2021)

IY PLACE: THE SONORAN DESERT





E: 107TH ST. ALONG SAGANASHKEE SLOUGH WOODS, COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE, IL

Top center: In addition to all the turkey talk, Café attendees and magazine readers learned about the significance of scarlet macaws. IMAGE: JAROD, COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS **Above**: Allen Denoyer giving a Hands-On Archaeology demonstration at the Presidio Museum.

Everything in this report, and even our day-to-day operational and administrative costs, is made possible by you. Learn more about all that your support makes possible on: 🖡 🗖 🖋



Why do outreach and education programs matter to you?

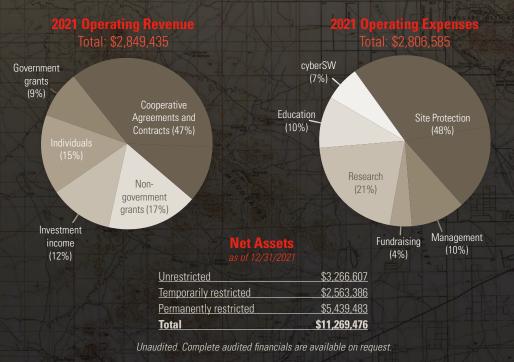


YOUR SUPPORT Matters

Archaeology Southwest staff visit southeastern Arizona's San Pedro River valley, a significant heritage place that is well protected and respectfully explored because of support from donors and engaged community members like you. Thank you!

OTHER 2021 STAFF MEMBERS (NOT ALREADY NAMED)

From the Preservation Archaeology Field School: Lauren Bridgeman, Julia Gierhart, Evan Giomi, Rebecca Harkness, and Michaelle Machuca. From the Western Archeological & Conservation Center: Emily Barrick, Stephanie Egurrola, Keenan Montoya, Laura Packard, and Abigail Thomsen. From the Front Office: Sarah Allen and Eileen Ratajczak



Archaeology Southwest works in the original homelands of Indigenous peoples who have stewarded their lands since time immemorial. Our headquarters in Tucson are located on the ancestral lands of the Tohono O'odham.