Director’s Message
BY STEPHANIE SANDOVAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings! My name is Stephanie Sandoval, and I am pleased to greet you as the new executive director of the San Diego Archaeological Center.

For 25 years at the helm of SDAC, Cindy Stankowski worked tirelessly to preserve the pieces of our shared human history. She became a respected leader on curation issues and established a state-of-the-art facility to care for collections, setting standards for the entire field. It is an honor and privilege to follow in the footsteps such a trailblazer.

After six years at the Center, I step into this new role with gratitude for the hard work that has taken us this far and excitement for what is yet to come. I am thrilled to begin this new chapter and look forward to working more closely with our archaeological and tribal community partners as we strive to preserve the past for generations to come.

It goes without saying that the last few years have been challenging for all of us. However, the Center is in a strong position due to the hard work and vision of our small but mighty staff, the outstanding Board of Trustees, and our dedicated donors and supporters like you! As the world continues to open, we look to expand our partnerships as we seek creative ways to increase not only public engagement, but awareness of the importance of curation.

The SDAC staff welcomes you to the Center with excellent programs and exhibits, a robust volunteer and internship program, and complete curation and library facilities. Please stop by the Center to say hello. I look forward to meeting you.
Welcome back to Kids Dig, where our youngest community members can discover the latest news in archaeology.

The world around us often serves as inspiration for art. What kind of art creations have you made lately? Hopefully, you were able to share your work with your friends and family!

A recent discovery has revealed that hominin children may have created art, too. Archaeologists have spotted a close group of tiny handprints and footprints in rock art at Quesand Hot Spring, Tibet. Dated between 169,000 and 226,000 BP, this artwork is the oldest rock art that has been found.

Archaeologists believe that these junior artists are part of the Neanderthal or Denisovan species. These artists made their prints in travertine, which is a type of limestone that naturally hardened and entrapped the prints as the weather got warmer.

Learn more about this amazing discovery in this article from the magazine *Archaeology*.

Upcoming Events

**ANCIENT MAYA ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE FOREST RESERVE, BELIZE**

**DR. JON SPENARD**

November 10, 2022
6:30 PM - online
Part of the mission of the San Diego Archaeological Center is to facilitate research with our collections, which include artifacts, documents, and library materials. Each month, the SDAC social media and collections blog New Acquisitions: A Closer Look takes an in-depth look at the collections recently delivered, the research value they provide, and the importance of archaeology in San Diego County. A trip to the SDAC Library or the SDAC online catalog can provide titles with further information on topics mentioned in the blogs.

One of the New Acquisitions: A Closer Look blog posts tells of the collection SDAC 751, Cultural Resources Data Recovery Report for CA-SDI-10070 and CA-SDI-10071, Otay Mesa, California. Of the lithics recovered from the two sites, a ninety-two percent was debitage, and eight percent were stone tools. To find out more about stone tools, including what can be learned from their creation and use, the library has the following titles: Alternative Approaches to Lithic Analysis; Lithic Use-Wear Analysis; Lithics: Macroscopic Approaches to Analysis; and Written in Stone: The Multiple Dimensions of Lithic Analysis.

Shell samples from CA-SDI-10071 were radiocarbon tested to determine the occupation dates of the area. To learn more about this type of testing, you can read the book Interpreting the Past: Radiocarbon Dating. We also have a large file of articles on radiocarbon dating that were written from the 1960s to early 1980s in the Hatley Archive.

To delve into the topic of trade and travel, among the titles to be found in the SDAC Library are Trade Routes and Economic Exchange Among the Indians of California, and Trade and Trails in Aboriginal California.

Whatever your interests are, you can search our online catalog to discover which titles are available. All patrons are welcome to look at library items on the premises. SDAC members can check out items for free as a benefit of membership; non-members can pay a refundable deposit to check out books. Library hours are Monday to Friday, 10 AM to 3 PM. Appointments are required to view or check out library materials and can be made by calling Center Library Specialist Suzanne Moramarco at 760-291-0370 or emailing library@sandiegoarchaeology.org.
New Acquisitions
BY JESSICA MCPHETERS, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

The San Diego Archaeological Center houses many prehistoric and historic collections from the San Diego County adjacent regions. The Center is equipped with over 5,000 square feet of vault space that allow us to provide long-term curation and care for a wide range of archaeological materials, including artifacts, ecofacts, maps, photographs, and site records. Partnering with local colleges and universities provides a setting for volunteers and students interested in archaeology to gain hands-on experience working with archaeological collections.

September’s featured project was SDAC 751 from Otay Mesa excavated in 2021. Archaeologists look through all past data recorded from sites prior to conducting their data recovery. Their goal is to add to the current data and, by doing so, the archaeological record. By using previous research, they can view the current project through a larger lens. To find out more about what types of research questions the archaeologists examining this project were asking, visit our virtual exhibit New Acquisitions and our blog New Acquisitions: A Closer Look now.

Have you checked out our virtual exhibit New Acquisitions? Take a behind-the-scenes peak at our most recently acquired collections and learn more about their research and contribution to the archaeological record of San Diego County. To accompany this exhibit, each month the SDAC social media (Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook) along with the collections blog

New Acquisitions: A Closer Look will dig deeper into the collections being curated for long term stewardship and preservation, the research value they provide, and the importance of archaeology in San Diego County.

Catalog Number: CA-SDI-10071-2021-132
Material Class: Chipped Stone
Object Type: Biface
Material: Metavolcanic
Quantity: 1
Weight: 174.3 grams

Catalog Number: CA-SDI-10071-2021-132
Material Class: Chipped Stone
Object Type: SUET
Material: Metavolcanic
Quantity: 1
Weight: 8.5 grams

For questions regarding Center collections, please contact the collections department by email at collections@sandiegoarchaeology.org.
Virtual Exhibit Highlights

BY DANTÉ FARENGA, DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING DIRECTOR

As part of the Center’s internship and volunteer program, interns and volunteers have the opportunity to contribute content for the Now Curating virtual exhibit or Collections Curiosities blog on our website. These posts provide students with the chance to conduct additional research and share their work with friends, family, and the general public.

Dr. Miles New Heart Cure and Restorative Nervine contained bromide and chloroform. Like many supposed “cures” of the time, it often caused more harm than good.

The Now Curating exhibit takes a closer look at collections that volunteers, interns, and staff are currently curating. In our most recent posts, volunteer Alysa Ransom highlights ceramics, beauty products, and beverage bottles in a collection from Point Loma; Intern Remy Winckler examines fish bones, a sandstone core, and a cat claw in a collection from La Jolla; and Intern Jordan Smith explores nineteenth-century medicinal “cures” in a collection from downtown San Diego.

Collections Curiosities is a monthly blog highlighting intriguing artifacts, books, and archival materials that staff, volunteers, and interns have discovered in Center collections and the Center Library. In our most recent posts, Volunteer James Sinclair explores beauty and wellness products in a collection recovered from a historic-period site in Oceanside; and Volunteer Linda Coulson explores historic ceramic tableware assemblages and what they may say about life in early twentieth-century San Diego.

Digital rendition of a Cutex nail polish bottle by Volunteer James Sinclair. These bottles are from the 1930s, when shades of red like coral or cardinal were popular.

Community Events

The San Diego Archaeological Center is proud to host local artist Jean Wheat’s Open Studio Art Class. If you would like to participate, email jc511west@gmail.com for more information.
IN APPRECIATION

We are grateful for the time and talents, membership, donations, and in-kind support we received from 7/1/22 to 9/30/22.

Thank You for Your Donations
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Welcome New Members
Michael Mendiola
Donald Risty
The Center is the only local organization dedicated to the collection, study, curation and exhibition of San Diego County’s archaeological artifacts. Your membership helps save our history and heritage. Membership can be purchased online, over the phone, or by mail.

Cash donations may be made to the Center by visiting our website, or with a check made to the San Diego Archaeological Center. In-kind gifts are contributions of goods or services to our organization. Please contact us if you would like to make this type of donation.

Purveyors of the Past Monthly Donation Program is an easy and convenient way of supporting the many important projects at the Center. You may determine the amount to donate per month and the specific campaign, project, or program to fund. Please contact us for more information.

Docents welcome visitors and answer general questions regarding the Center and exhibits. Hours are flexible. To apply for a volunteer position or for more information, please email vol.intern@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

AmazonSmile lets customers enjoy the same wide selection, prices, and convenience as shopping as Amazon.com. When you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the Center.

Purchasing a new car or truck this year? Donate your old vehicle to benefit the Center through the C.A.R.S. program. Your generous gift is tax-deductible and will support the Center’s exhibitions, programs, and curatorial efforts.
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MARKETING
Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this e-newsletter. For corrections, please contact the editor, Danté Farenga, at dfarenga@sandiegoarchaeology.org.