

THE CURATOR

Official E-newsletter of the San Diego Archaeological Center

Director's Message

BY CINDY STANKOWSKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I will be stepping down from my role as Executive Director this September. I am extremely proud of what the San Diego Archaeological Center has accomplished since we opened in 1998. Our educational programming has expanded, as have our services for the archaeological community.

However, I am most proud of preserving important pieces of human history. A flake of stone, a piece of porcelain, or a shell bead help us to understand, and appreciate, the past.

I believe the Center's greatest contribution to the community is providing tangible history. Artifacts can be more informative than written history in some ways in that the disenfranchised are not left out of the archaeological record, as they often are in the history books. Artifacts are evidence of how people lived every day. Even the most humble artifact can help date a site, tell us what people ate and how hard they had to work for it, what season of the year they lived there, and even their gender. Taken together, we gain a greater understanding of human history throughout time.

The artifacts curated at the Center are similar in many ways to artifacts found all over the world. Regardless of where we come from or how we make a living today, all humans share a common past. Our ancestors were hunters and gatherers. For more than two million years, all humans lived in small-scale groups, moving frequently and relying on wild food resources. It was not until about 12,000 years ago (less than one percent of human history) that plants and animals were domesticated in some parts of the world, allowing a more settled lifestyle.

I believe that the artifacts curated at the Center reinforce the concept of a shared human heritage and provide modern people with perspectives on their own place and time in history. I hope that you will continue to visit the Center, take part in our many programs, and continue to learn about our past.

I sincerely wish you all the best and thank you for your support of the Center in the years to come.

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Kids Dig: Breaking News in Archaeology

BY STEPHANIE SANDOVAL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Welcome back to Kids Dig, where our youngest community members can discover the latest news in archaeology.

How do you know what someone ate thousands of years ago? Archaeologists frequently answer this question by looking at faunal remains, or animal bones thrown away after a meal. Other types of food may also be preserved well enough for archaeologists to study it. However, there is another way to learn about diet or what people ate in the past...coprolites. “What in the world is that?” you might ask. Coprolites are fossilized poop. Yep, you read that right, poop. You don’t have to plug your nose for this stuff though, it’s hard as a rock!



Coprolites. Credit: Dr Lisa-Marie Shillito

Recently, archaeologists discovered several coprolites at Durrington Walls, a large settlement near the famous stone circle, Stonehenge. Located in the United Kingdom, this site is about 4,500 years old! Archaeologists think the people who lived here built part of Stonehenge.

When scientists took a closer look at the coprolites, they found the eggs of parasitic worms. Parasites are organisms that live off of another living thing and they can cause disease in humans. You do not want these parasites! This indicated that people must have eaten raw or undercooked lungs or liver from an infected animal, most likely

cattle. The faunal remains at the site tell archaeologists that the people ate meat, mostly pork, however, cow bones were also found. Eating those cow organs was likely how the residents of Durrington Walls became infected.



Stonehenge. Credit: The British Museum

Learn more about this discovery in [this article](#).



Upcoming Events

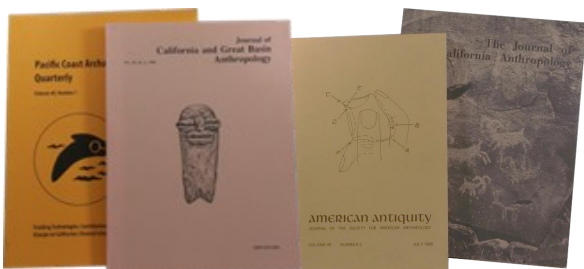
A HUMAN & ECOLOGICAL HISTORY
OF CALIFORNIA'S NORTHERN CHANNEL ISLANDS



From the Stacks

BY SUZANNE MORAMARCO,
COLLECTIONS & LIBRARY SPECIALIST

Are you a lover of books? If you are, you should know about some upcoming events: Tuesday, August 9 is Book Lovers Day; Tuesday, September 6 is Read a Book Day; and Wednesday, September 7 is Buy a Book Day. To celebrate one or all of these days, come to the Center and buy a book or two or three. Right now, most of our used or like new books are Pay as You Wish. Our more valuable recycled knowledge is 50% off for members, and 25% off for non-members. Magazines and journals are free, although donations are appreciated. We have numerous extra copies of *American Antiquity* (from as far back as 1947), *American Anthropologist* (back to 1953), *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology*, *PCAS Quarterlies*, *Journal of San Diego History*, and *Southern California Quarterly* (Historical Society of Southern California). As these journals are taking up needed space in our collection vaults, we will start recycling them in September. So now is the time to get any issues you may be missing.



Just a reminder, due to space issues, we can no longer accept any unsolicited donations without a donation form. This policy applies to both collections and library materials. Donors will need to submit a completed Collection Donation Form describing the material you wish to donate. Once you have filled out the donation form, email it to collections@sandiegoarchaeology.org. This form is available on our [website](#).



The Center Library's purpose is to supplement the archaeological collections representative of San Diego County's history. and to increase potential research value by maintaining reports, journals, books, and other documents that pertain to San Diego County. If you are interested in San Diego County history, search the Library's [online catalog](#) to see what titles are on our shelves. The checking out of Library items is a SDAC Member benefit. Library hours are Monday to Friday, 10 AM to 3 PM. Anyone can come in to look at Library items at the Center, although it is best to make an appointment first.



For any questions, contact Collections & Library Specialist Suzanne Moramarco at library@sandiegoarchaeology.org.

New Acquisitions

BY JESSICA MCPHETERS, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

Have you visited our virtual exhibits yet? *New Acquisitions* is a virtual exhibit where we share information about collections as they arrive at the Center. The exhibit is featured on the [SDAC website](#) and is updated as new collections are acquired.

Most of the collections curated at the SDAC come to us from Cultural Resource Management (CRM) firms. These CRM firms work with developers from around the county to make sure that construction is done using ethical methods and that archaeological sites are protected and documented. Once their work is complete, CRM firms curate collections at the SDAC for long-term preservation and care, allowing for community research and access. Let's see what's new!



Catalog Number: CA-SDI-11571-2020-245
Material Class: Chipped Stone
Object Type: Angular Hammer
Quantity: 1
Weight: 449.4 grams

SDAC 749 Delivered October 21, 2021

Project Name: Results of the Mitigation Monitoring Program for the Sequoia 5 Project
Site(s): SDI-11571
USGS Quad Location: La Jolla 7.5'
Year of Excavation: 2020



Catalog Number: CA-SDI-11571-2020-149
Material Class: Chipped Stone
Object Type: Flake tool
Material: Volcanic
Quantity: 1
Weight: 350.8 grams

This site had been previously excavated and recorded in the 1920s prior to the current residential development. The site was recorded by archaeologist Malcom Rogers, and he described it as an "Early Archaic Period intermittent camp along the estuary margin containing a scattered and discontinuous area of prehistoric occupation." 576 prehistoric artifacts were recorded during the excavation, and by examining the lithic assemblage, archaeologists were able to determine that this site likely belonged to the Archaic La Jolla Complex between 2,000 and 8,000 years before the present.



Catalog Number: CA-SDI-11571-2020-64
Material Class: Chipped Stone
Object Type: Drill
Material: Chert
Quantity: 1
Weight: 2 grams

Artifacts of Summer

BY VANESSA CHAPPINS,
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR & COLLECTIONS TECH

During summer, BBQ foods, cold drinks, and spending time on the beach are popular. When working in the Center lab, our volunteers and interns sometimes come across artifacts that remind them of these summertime pleasures. Here are a few highlights from SDAC collections.

San Diego county inhabitants in the mid-1800s to early 1900s consumed some of the same summer drinks and condiments that we do today. Now, we often use plastic bottles, but back then, many beverages and condiments came in glass. Well-preserved glass artifacts can indicate manufacturing dates, company names, and even what the contents were inside. Many volunteers and interns use these markings to help identify the artifacts and their connection to the site where they were found.



Beverage bottles (L to R): 1. Beverage, (Armour's Grape), 1880-1919, Armour & Co. adult-size juice; 2. Welch's Grape, colorless glass, 1905-2018, Welch's Jr. bottle; 3. Beverage, 1905-1930, Charles E. Hires Co. root beer; 4. Soda mineral water beverage, aqua glass, 1898-1919, San Diego Soda Works; 5. Alcohol (Virginia Dare), aqua glass, 1908-1925, Garrett & Co., American wine

Brands and types of beverages are still very much recognizable such as Welch's Grape juice, root beer, mineral water, beer, and even wine! One interesting find is Item 1, an adult-size Armour's grape juice bottle. Item 2 is a junior-sized Welch's bottle, a well-known brand still sold at grocery stores. The fizzy-water fad is not unique to today's crowd. Item 4 is a soda mineral water bottle that dates back as early as 1898 and was manufactured locally at the San Diego Soda Works.



Condiment bottles (L to R): 6. Salad dressing condiment (yacht club), colorless glass, 1905-1929, Tildesley Co.; 7. Salad dressing condiment, colorless glass, 1908-1929, E.R. Durkee & Co.; 8. Ketchup condiment, colorless glass, 1918-1923, H.J Heinz Co.; 9. Chili powder food/condiment, colorless glass, 1916-1929; Gebhardt Chili Powder

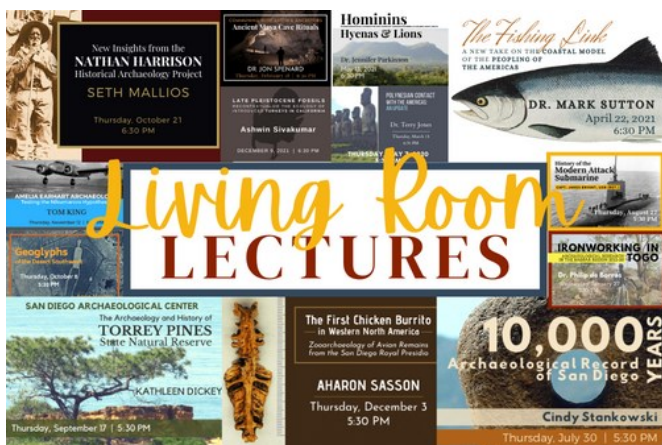
Variations of condiments that we use today can also be found in the collections. The one company that continues to dominate the condiment world is H. J Heinz Co. Item 8 is a 1918 H.J. Heinz Co. ketchup bottle. Item 9 held a chili powder that was manufactured in 1916 by a company called Gebhardt. Originating in Texas, this spice was influenced by Hispanic cuisine and helped create a taste for more diverse flavors in American home cooking.

2nd Saturday Lecture Screenings

BY DANTÉ FARENGA,
DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING DIRECTOR

Looking for a weekend excursion? You can now watch two screenings of our popular Living Room Lectures at the Center every 2nd Saturday of the month. View any lectures you may have missed, or revisit your favorite ones on the big screen in our classroom.

Lecture screenings start at 10:30 AM and 12:30 PM and are included with museum admission (free for members). No reservations needed. Seating is first come, first served.



On August 13, join us first for *The First Chicken Burrito in Western North America: Zooarchaeology of Avian Remains for the San Diego Royal Presidio* as Dr. Aharon Sasson discusses the analysis of chicken remains from the San Diego Presidio. Then hear about the role of salmonids as a magnet that drew Paleoindians south along the coast and into the Americas in *The Fishing Link: A New Take on the Coastal Model of the Peopling of the Americas* by Dr. Mark Q. Sutton.

See our [website](#) for more information and the full screening schedule.

Prefer to watch at home? You can find past Living Room Lectures and on our [YouTube](#) channel.

Thank You for Your Support

Thank you to all our sponsors, members, volunteers, and guests who helped make this year's BBQ a great success. After a two-year hiatus, we were thrilled to have nearly 200 guests this April (our best turnout ever)! With your support, we raised \$5,637 to support school field trips and programs, lectures, workshops, museum exhibits, curation, and more this year. And congratulations to Dennis Gallegos for winning this year's Golden Trowel Award for excellence in archaeology.

Membership

The San Diego Archaeological Center is the only local facility dedicated to the curation of artifacts from San Diego's archaeological sites. Help preserve these cultural treasures by becoming a member.

Center Membership can be purchased [online](#), over the phone at 760-291-0370, or by sending a check made out to the San Diego Archaeological Center.

Monthly Giving

Do you prefer a monthly payment plan instead of an annual membership? Join our Purveyors of the Past Monthly Giving Program and you will automatically receive Center membership as our gift to you.



Making recurring donations is quick and easy. Just select Monthly under Donation Frequency on our [online form](#), and enter the amount of your choice. No matter how big or small the sum, we consider every gift essential to sustaining the Center!

IN APPRECIATION

We are grateful for the time and talents, membership, donations, and in-kind support we received from 4/1/22 to 6/30/22.

Thank You for Your Donations

Creston & Stephanie Adams
William Collins
Lea Curcio
Escondido Arts Partnership
Dr. G. Timothy Gross
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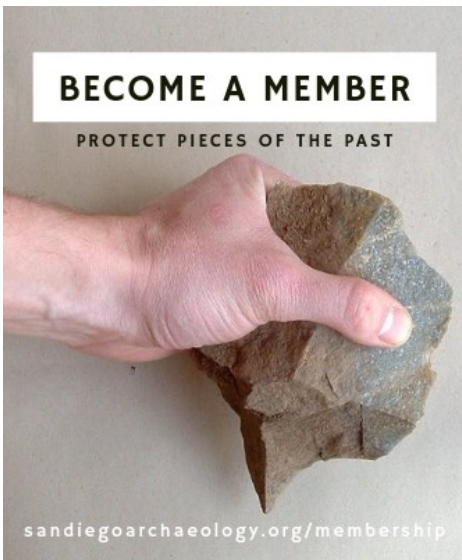
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Marnie Elam
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Brianna Hartley
Marilynn Johnson
Martin Jorgensen
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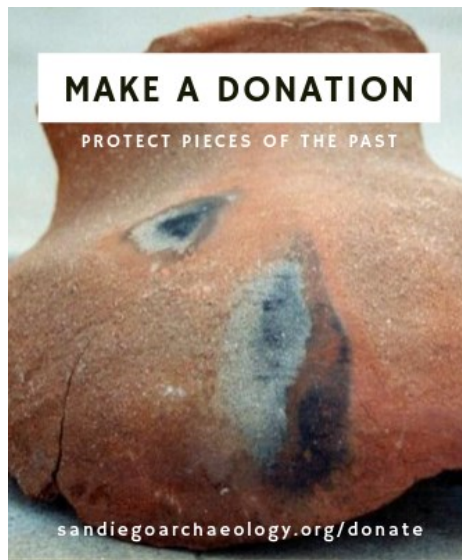


BECOME A MEMBER

PROTECT PIECES OF THE PAST

sandiegoarchaeology.org/membership

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.

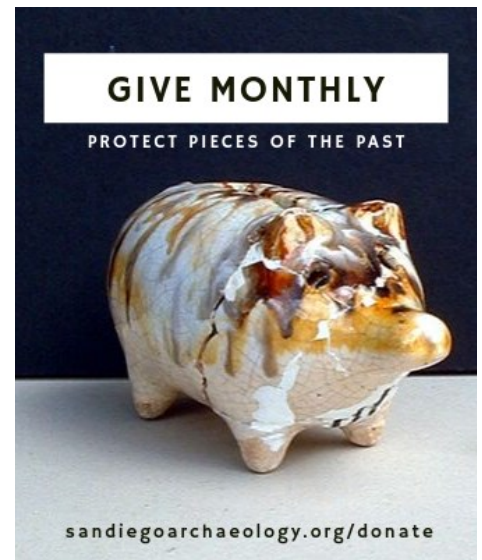


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Cash donations may be made to the Center by visiting our [website](#), or with a check made to the San Diego Archaeological Center. **In-kind gifts** are contributions of goods or services to our organization. Please [contact us](#) if you would like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

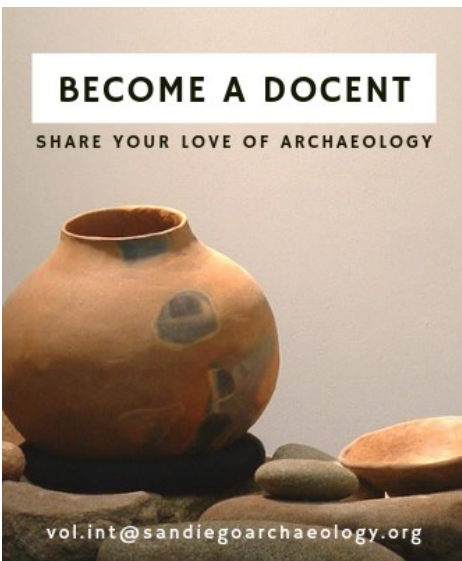


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Purveyors of the Past Monthly Donation Program is an easy and convenient way of supporting the many important projects at the Center. You may determine the amount to donate per month and the specific campaign, project, or program to fund. Please [contact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



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SHARE YOUR LOVE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

vol.int@sandiegoarchaeology.org

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.

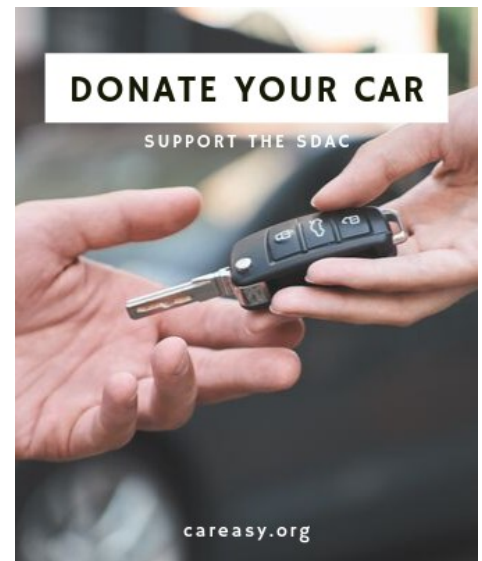


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Purchasing a new car or truck this year? **Donate your old vehicle** to benefit the Center through the [C.A.R.S.](#) program. Your generous gift is tax-deductible and will support the Center's exhibitions, programs, and curatorial efforts.



San Diego Archaeological Center

MUSEUM • EDUCATION • RESEARCH

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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.



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