ISSUE 24 • WINTER 2020

# THE CURATOR

Official E-newsletter of the San Diego Archaeological Center



# Director's Message

BY CINDY STANKOWSKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I hope that you have had a chance to see our exhibit, "By Land and By Sea." The exhibit explores the different theories of how humans came to the New World (North and South America). In the current issue of Smithsonian Magazine (January – February 2020), there is a great article, "Tracking the First Americans" by Fen Montaigne. Archaeologists on Quadra Island, British Columbia, have discovered further evidence of the Kelp Highway Theory, discovering artifacts from 14,000 years ago. The Kelp Highway posits that, instead of walking on foot from the Beringia land bridge, people traveled along the coast in boats. The artifacts found on the island, rock scrapers, spear points and hammerstones, are suited to hunting marine mammals, shellfish and waterfowl.

The article also discusses the Beringia Standstill Hypothesis, that people were trapped by ice on Beringia for about 20,000 years before moving southward. This would explain the significant genetic difference between modern Eurasian and native North and South American populations. Eske Willerslev, who directs the Center for Geo-Genetics in Copenhagen, feels that the migration was because of an innate yearning to explore. "In a few hundred years they are taking off across the entire continent and spreading into different habitats," he says. "It's obviously driven by something other than just resources. And I think the most obvious thing is curiosity."

We are planning our next major exhibit, and I would like to know what topics you are curious about. Is there a particular type of artifact, archaeological methodology, theory, or other topic that you would like to have presented in an exhibit? Please let me know. Drop me an email at <a href="mailto:cstankowski@sandiegoarchaeology.org">cstankowski@sandiegoarchaeology.org</a>. Stay curious!

Calendar year 2019 was a very busy for the San Diego Archaeological Center. The Center welcomed 2,272 visitors in 2019. Fifteen new collections were accepted for curation, bringing the total to 1,243, an estimated 1.3 million artifacts. Our wonderful volunteers and interns donated 4,125 hours. The Center served 8,076 people during 101 events. Please check our website for volunteer opportunities and information on upcoming events. See you soon!

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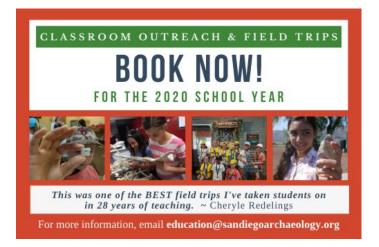
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# Are You a Member? Why Not?

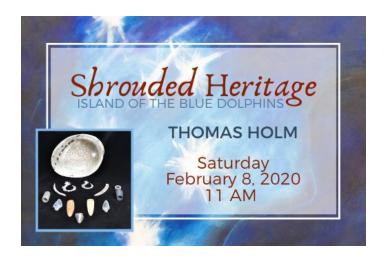
BY STEPHANIE SANDOVAL, PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY DIRECTOR

The San Diego Archaeological Center is excited to announce multiple adult educational programs leading up to the BBQ in May. Coming soon in February, Tom Holm will present his book, Shrouded Heritage: Island of the Blue Dolphins. In March we will have our third San Diego's First Peoples Tour led by Dr. John Hildebrand and later that month Anne Morgan will present her book Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest. These opportunities to learn about our shared past would not be possible without the support of our members and donors. If you find yourself attending the Center's events and are not yet a member, what are you waiting for? The easiest way to support the Center and the many programs we provide for adults, college students, kids, and the academic community is to become a member. Members enjoy free admission, discounted BBQ and event tickets, library borrowing privileges, and other perks through our affiliates such as the Big Exchange where our members are given free admission at 30 other museums in San Diego County.

If you are interested in supporting the Center's effort to protect pieces of the past either through membership, donation, or volunteering, please visit the <u>website</u> or call the Center at 760-291-0370. We look forward to hearing from you.



# **Upcoming Events**





For more upcoming events at the Center, visit our website.

### Save the Date



## From the Stacks

BY SUZANNE MORAMARCO, COLLECTIONS AND LIBRARY SPECIALIST

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to do more reading, check out the SDAC Library which has over 13,200 catalogued items. Among these items are books, journals, magazine, maps, monographs (unpublished/limited published), personal files (archives), and CDs/DVDs/VHS tapes.

The SDAC Library catalog is accessible online through the Center's website. The Library search homepage shows two databases: SDAC Archaeological Reports Database and San Diego Archaeological Center Library. To search the Reports database a password is needed as Reports contain sensitive material and are only available to qualified individuals (archaeologists and professional/student researchers). Anyone can search the Library database. Checking out Library materials is a benefit of Center membership. Non-members can check out books with a refundable deposit.



One can search by Title, Author, Category, Subject, Call Number, ISBN, Publisher, Keyword, or Resource Type. In the upper right corner is the option to go to the Advanced Search Screen where you can enter words in multiple fields. The more search words one enters the more likely one will find suitable titles.

The key thing to remember when searching with more than one word is to select Find All Words from the drop down box next to the search word box. Leaving Find Any Word selected will result in all titles with at least one of the words. Selecting Match Phrase is helpful if one is looking for very specific titles.



The field of archaeology encompasses many subtopics. This is seen in that 1,251 items out of 13,211 catalog entries have archaeology in their titles. A search of words with associated subjects yields 24 with bone in the title/subject, 34 with shell, 1,052 with historic, 15 with glass, 10 with faunal, 72 with marine, 17 with agriculture, and 43 with evolution.

When searching the word agriculture, among the titles that come up are Before the Wilderness: Environmental Management by Native Californians; The Emergence of Agriculture; The Food Crises in Prehistory: Over Population and the Origins of Agriculture; Living Historical Farms Handbook; Nursery Manual for Native Plants; This Bittersweet Soil: The Chinese in California Agriculture, 1860-1910.

If one does not have a specific subject in mind, enter any word(s) in the search box and see what titles come up. They may lead one on a path not thought of before.

For assistance with the library, contact Center Library Specialist Suzanne Moramarco at <a href="mailto:library@sandiegoarchaeology.org">library@sandiegoarchaeology.org</a> or 760-291-0370.

# 2019 GIS Fall Intern Creates National Register of Historic Places StoryMap

BY JESSICA MCPHETERS, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

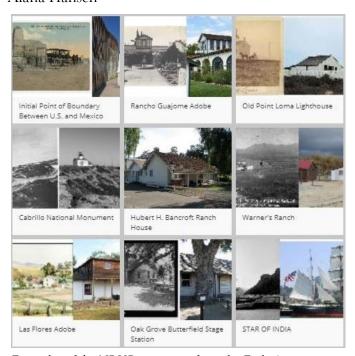
Last fall the San Diego Archaeological Center was fortunate to have Alana Hansen in the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) department as a forcredit academic intern. Instead of the San Dieguito River Park StoryMap that our summer 2019 GIS interns created, Alana's project focused on connecting the National Register of Historic Places in the San Diego region.

The purpose of her project was to create a user-friendly guide to San Diego history, beginning with Spanish contact. By using the National Register of Historic Places database, Alana was able to connect physical spaces with specific time periods in San Diego history. In the process, Alana has created a tool where users may virtually, and also physically, explore the unique stories and histories that San Diego has to offer.

The map includes 136 of the 150 properties that Alana had access to for San Diego County. Many properties were sensitive in nature or have been demolished since their nomination for the NRHP so these types of properties were omitted from the final product. The time span covers the Spanish Settlement, the Mexican Period, the Early American Period, the Railroad Boom, the Panama-California Exposition, the Depression/New Deal/World War II era, and more recently nominated properties. Each time period highlights these properties' history and architecture and includes photographs and other relevant facts found during research.

"This project was a lot of fun to work on and I learned a lot of local, state and national history while researching these National Register properties. The project information is largely drawn from the properties nomination forms which are available to the public online but are not always

easy to parse through. It is my hope that the StoryMap will help the public explore San Diego's cultural heritage and discover historic places in their own neighborhoods. The web app allows users to explore historic places in the county by time period of first significance and offers a concise summary of the location's history and current accessibility. While not a complete database of historic properties in the county, the selection provides a good general overview and very visible examples of architectural style. Most of the properties are at least visible from the road and many are home to museums or businesses. However, many are private homes so please explore respectfully!" – Alana Hansen



Examples of the NRHP properties from the Early American period.

By using GIS and supporting the creation of projects like Alana's, the SDAC is able to further our mission of benefiting a diverse public with education. Creating these StoryMaps provides a more inclusive and user-friendly experience that connects San Diego County's people and places throughout time. To explore Alana's NRHP map, visit the <u>Center website</u>.

If you are interested in learning more about this project or pursuing a GIS internship, please email Collections Manager, Jessica McPheters at <a href="mailto:jmcpheters@sandiegoarchaeology.org">jmcpheters@sandiegoarchaeology.org</a>.

# Support the Center's Renovation

BY DANTÉ FARENGA, DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING DIRECTOR

The Center curates millions of artifacts and shares them with the public through research, exhibition and public education. In order to continue preserving and sharing local history, we ask for your help to fund a renovation of the San Diego Archaeological Center. There are several major facilities improvement projects that need to be addressed this year. Upcoming projects include

- Replacing sun- damaged wood on the building exterior
- Repainting signage and outdoor infrastructure
- Installing a shade feature for the outdoor picnic area
- Refinishing the floors in the exhibit hall and classroom
- Repairing exterior stonework
- Repaying the parking lot



Tax-deductible donations may be made online on our <u>website</u>, by phone at 760-291-037, or by mail with a check sent to the following address:

San Diego Archaeological Center ATTN: Development Department 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road Escondido, CA 92027

Thank you for your support!

# HandsOn San Diego Volunteer Project

BY VANESSA CHAPPINS, CENTER INTERN & HANDSON SAN DIEGO VOLUNTEER

Finding the right volunteer opportunity can be challenging. You may think, "Does it fit my schedule? Is it something I care about? How long do I have to volunteer? Is it convenient for me?" HandsOn San Diego does the legwork to make volunteering easy for you!

We work with local nonprofits, schools, and parks to identify group volunteer projects. All of our partners share the common vision that civic engagement is the pathway to positive change. Our projects are hand-selected to ensure our volunteers have a great experience and truly make a difference. HandsOn San Diego strengthens communities, activate volunteers, and develop leaders.

Join us for a unique Day of Service project hosted by HandsOn San Diego for the San Diego Archaeological Center on Saturday, February 29! History buffs will love experiencing the ins and outs of the museum while helping preserve San Diego's past, present, and future.

Volunteers will be split into groups, helping with planting native plants, painting, cleaning of exhibits of the museum, cleaning the research library of the museum, building benches, and digging mock excavation units. Most volunteers will be at outdoor projects.

These projects will help restore native plants and wildlife in the area. It will also help further the efforts of the Archaeological Center to educate the community about local archaeology and help increase awareness of the San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park.

Volunteer for this project at Handsonsandiego.org.

## IN APPRECIATION

We are grateful for the time and talents, membership, donations, and in-kind support we received from 10/1/19 - 12/31/19.

#### Welcome New Members

Randy Bullock

Nicole Dimmick Margaret Garriott

Carol Jahnkow

Lynne Jett

Marc Miller

Scott Penwell

#### Thank You for Your Donations

Sheila Adolph Pam Martin & Michael

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Jim & Monica Bryant

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Susan Hector Mike Thacker

Lynne Jett Chris & Mary Vedborg

Christopher Khoury Chris White

#### Thank You for Your In-Kind Donations

A Delight of France

Jim Royle Chris White

#### Thank You to Our Volunteers and Interns

Chris O'Connor Andre Abassi Melanie Parker Julia Bell Alexis Rogers Chris Blake Hayden Bruskotter Paige Rooney Peggy Rossi Dylana Buchanan Jim Royle Vanessa Chappins Kathy Russell Linda Coulson Rick Finn Carolina Saheli Alana Hansen **Jessica Schilter** 

Neah Johnson Russell Silberberger
Rickey Ketcham Carol Smock
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Katrina Limson Cat-Tien Tran
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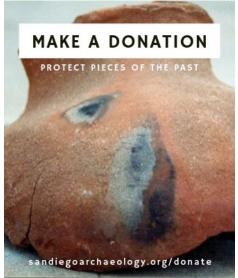








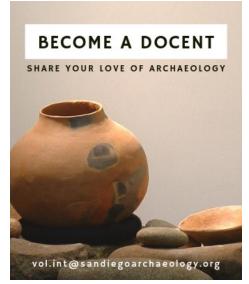
The Center is the only local organization dedicated to the collection, study, curation and exhibition of San Diego County's archaeological artifacts. Your membership helps save our history and heritage. **Membership** can be purchased <u>online</u>, over the phone, or by mail.



Cash donations may be made to the Center by visiting our website, or with a check made to the San Diego Archaeological Center. Inkind 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 winter? **Donate your old vehicle** to benefit the Center through C.A.R.S. Your generous gift is tax-deductible and will support the Center.



# San Diego **Archaeological Center**

MUSEUM · EDUCATION · RESEARCH

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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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