

UPAC NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE UTAH PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

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Jerry D. Spangler, Editor

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

President Clinton's decision to establish the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Southern Utah prompted much debate and speculation on the long- and short-term effects on Southern Utah's rural economies and the government's future role in federal land management in Utah and the West. Will this decision affect Utah's archaeological resources? Quite simply, yes. However, the nature and scope of those effects are far from clear. What is clear is that the President's use of executive powers to establish the monument reiterate the precept of numerous pieces of federal legislation that federal lands and the resources and values they contain belong to the nation as a whole. This includes the study and preservation of Utah's archaeological heritage to which UPAC and its members have dedicated themselves.

At this early stage, it is difficult to predict the management emphases that will be established for the resources of the new monument. I've seen some reports suggesting that multiple uses will be continued and maintained. I've also seen some react with fear to speculations that such traditional uses will be prohibited if the monument is managed in the National Park concept. Either of these alternatives and their possible variations have the potential to affect archaeological resources.

What can UPAC play at this early stage? I believe UPAC can play a constructive role by encouraging planning that fully considers the long-range effects of this new designation. In particular, designation of nearly 2 million acres in southern Utah as a national monument seems to set up a scenario of "if you build, they will come." Consequently, recreation/tourist uses and visitation to archaeological sites can be expected to increase. Impacts associated with these uses can also be expected to increase. This is something that (cont.)

SUBMISSIONS: UPAC News welcomes all submissions by Utah archaeologists and others working in Utah in archaeology or related fields. Issues of relevance to UPAC News readers include ongoing research, education and preservation efforts, ARPA investigations, new hires, conferences and symposia, etc. Please submit to Jerry D. Spangler, 6400 E. Emigration Canyon Road, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84108 (801-582-2900). Whenever possible, please submit in Word Perfect 5.1 format. The deadline for the winter issue is Jan. 15, 1997.

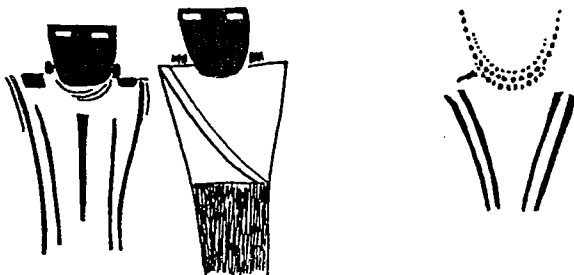
BLM probably could not anticipate in previous planning efforts.

A new round of planning can be anticipated. UPAC can assist this planning by framing and presenting archaeological management issues and opportunities for land managers that provide for adequate consideration of the research, public use and preservation values of archaeological resources in the monument. I fully expect UPAC members to have some strong and differing views on archaeological management alternatives for the monument. However, by finding common ground, UPAC can present a strong voice on behalf of Utah's professional archaeology community to promote effective conservation and management of the monument's archaeological resources. When new planning is initiated, UPAC needs to be prepared to offer its knowledge, expertise and professionalism to facilitate effective decisions governing the fate of the monument's archaeological heritage.

The second issue I want to touch on is that of recent road maintenance activities in southeastern Utah. In recent weeks, San Juan County conducted road maintenance on several apparent "user created" roads on public lands without considering potential effects to cultural resources. These actions appear to have been motivated by the county to resolve other politically contentious issues. However, the political motivation(s) of these actions should only be of tangential interest to UPAC.

What is of particular concern to UPAC is that road maintenance activities were undertaken on public lands at the direction of public officials with little or no consideration for the protection of cultural resources. In southeast Utah, where archaeological site densities are exceptionally high, the potential for damage to archaeological resources from such activities is particularly acute. Throughout Utah, we should be alarmed when the actions of public officials disregard Utah's archaeological heritage and place it at risk with potentially damaging or destructive consequences. UPAC will express its concerns to public officials in San Juan County, and encourage negotiations that provide for the adequate consideration and protection of archaeological resources.

Stan McDonald, UPAC President
Manti-LaSal National Forest



Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS)

As many of you probably already know, the BLM has been looking for some time for a software package that can be used to store and manipulate the IMACS data in Utah, Idaho and Nevada. We began in August 1992 by having some of the more interested archaeologists from Utah and Idaho examine our data management needs by looking at a combination of things: 1) Our current needs and how the data base will be used in the future, 2) The state of the cultural resource data base that currently resides in various systems, 3) Other data base management systems (Oracle, dBase, rBase, Paradox and UNIX-based systems) and whether our needs would be served by adopting one of these systems, and 4) Contracting for data base management services versus our own ownership and maintenance of the system.

Our "user's group" went about compiling a rather lengthy list of criteria that the new cultural data base system would have to meet, and we began comparing existing products to that list. It didn't take long to eliminate just about everything on the market for one reason or another, and that left us with the rather expensive option of starting from scratch on a new custom package. About that time, we were introduced to the Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) that had been developed by the Cultural Resources Research Center, a branch of the Corp of Engineers.

After spending a couple of days with CRIS, we decided that this program was a good base from which to work. The early version of CRIS that the Corp was using did just about all of the things we wanted and met most of the needs identified by the group of IMACS users in the participating states. But it needed a few modifications and additions to make it suitable for general IMACS use. We then began work on an IMACS interface that would become part of the CRIS program. Over the years, tens of thousands of site records have been stored in various data bases. We have written a conversion program that successfully translates most of this data into the CRIS system.

When complete, the CRIS system will allow us to easily enter IMACS information, retrieve it, manipulate it, use it for research and analysis, planning documents, literature searches, etc. CRIS will have built-in IMACS capability, and it will also allow the user to create and design as many additional data bases as necessary to track inventory information, curation material, report information, etc. And, since the IMACS form changes from time to time, CRIS will have expansion and modification capabilities.

One of the big problems confronting us has been that the BLM maintains site data in one format, while private

consultants, who probably account for the majority of sites recorded on public lands, submit data in another. When complete, CRIS will be public domain software, which means we can hand it out free of charge to all cultural resources consultants permitted to work in Utah (or other states as applicable) and have all site data submitted to us on a disk in CRIS so that it can be read directly into the system. We are also discussing the idea of an electronic bulletin board to do that. Several consultants, other agencies and the Utah SHPO have expressed an interest in CRIS. The latest CRIS contract (the first one died about two years ago) was awarded at the end of September and should be completed in about 60 days.

Craig Harmon
 Richfield District
 Bureau of Land Management

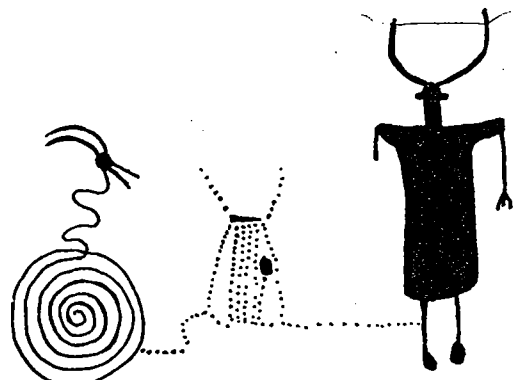
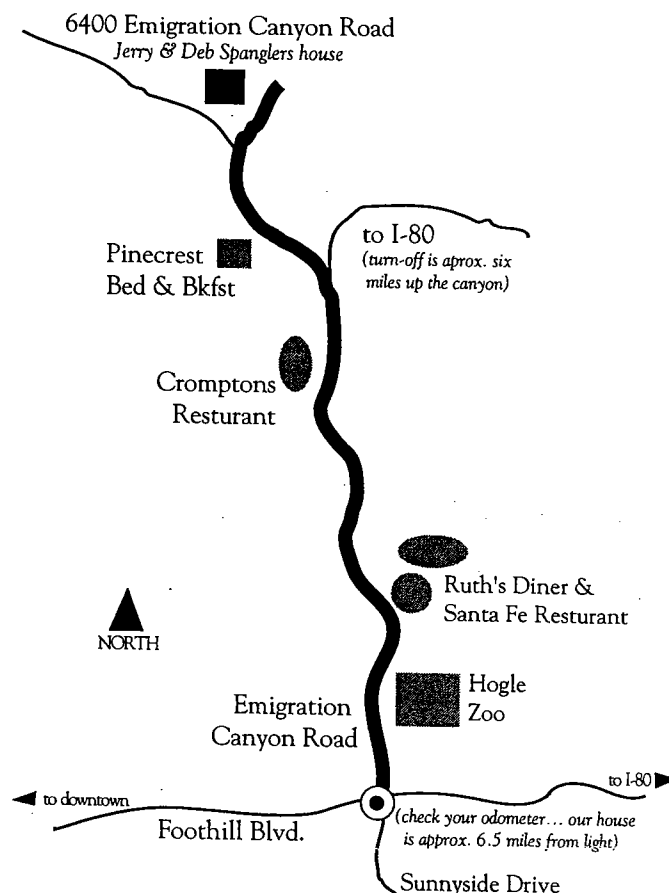
TRUST LANDS:

The Office of School Trust Lands Administration has moved to 675 E. 500 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84102 (801-538-5100). Trust lands archaeologist Kenny Wintch can be called directly at 538-5168 (please do not send UPAC dues to this government address).

FALL UPAC MEETINGS AND BARBECUE

The semiannual UPAC meeting will be held November 8 and 9 at the Division of State History offices, Rio Grande Depot, Salt Lake City. A business session will begin at 1 p.m. Friday. Research papers will be presented Saturday morning beginning about 9 a.m. Agenda items should be directed to UPAC president Stan McDonald at 801-637-2817. If you have a research paper you would like to present in the Saturday session, contact Nancy Coulam, vice-president of membership and ethics, at 801-259-3911 ext-2134.

A UPAC chicken barbecue and beer social is scheduled for Friday night from about 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the residence of newsletter editor Jerry Spangler, 6400 E. Emigration Canyon Road, about 6.5 miles east of Hogle Zoo (see map). The chicken and beer are free of charge, although voluntary contributions to UPAC will be collected. And all participants should bring their favorite deli salad, chips, cheese, crackers, vegies, hors d'oeuvres, etc. If you are drinking something other than store-bought 3.2 beer, plan on bringing it yourself. Call Jerry at 801-582-2900 for more information on the social.



CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Society for American Archaeology: The 62nd annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology will be held April 2-6, 1997, in Nashville, Tennessee.

UPAC RENEWALS:

UPAC membership rolls contain the names of more than 90 individuals whose membership has expired (in some cases many years ago). UPAC activities, which includes quarterly issues of UPAC News and the annual Utah Archaeology, are funded entirely from membership dues. In the past, those whose memberships have expired have continued to receive the UPAC News and notices of UPAC meetings and activities. In effect, members who have regularly paid their dues have subsidized those who have allowed their memberships to lapse. The current UPAC officers have decided to discontinue mailings to those who have made no attempt to maintain current membership. If you need to renew your membership, please send \$25 and updated address information to Kenny Wintch, 5280 S. 2150 West, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84118 (801-538-5168). Students and associate members can renew for \$12.50.

IN THE NEWS

Vandalism: A prominent Blanding doctor and his wife have been formally charged in 7th District Court in connection with the vandalism of an Anasazi alcove site near Bluff. James Redd and Jeanne Redd were charged with one count each of desecration of human remains, a third-degree felony, and trespassing on School Trust Lands, a Class B misdemeanor. It is not clear why the couple was not charged with violations of state laws protecting archaeological resources. The charges came after the Hopi Tribe formally protested the failure of Utah authorities to file charges in the matter. "The Hopi Tribe is dismayed at your apparent reluctance to bring these vandals to justice," tribal chairman Ferrell Secakuku wrote in a letter to Grand County Attorney Bill Bengé (Bengé was given the case when San Juan County Attorney Craig Hall declared a conflict of interest). The investigation began when two hikers reported seeing a group of individuals digging at the site north of Bluff. A San Juan County deputy was sent to the scene, but no arrests were made, apparently because of confusion as to where a private property boundary was located in relation to the excavation. A report prepared by BLM archaeologist Dale Davidson described the incident as an "illegal excavation and ... disinterment of human remains at a prehistoric pueblo site." The vandalized site was actually located on lands belonging to the Office of School Trust Lands Administration. Trust Lands archaeologist Kenny Wintch said the criminal case marks the first attempt in Utah to use the desecration of human remains law in connection with an archaeological vandalism case. He also indicated the Office of Trust Lands Administration is still considering civil charges in the matter.

Old Bones: A Sandy man digging in his field got more than he bargained for: A visit from police and then from state archaeologist Kevin Jones. The land owner was digging near 9000 South 900 West when he unearthed a human cranium. Subsequent investigation by the State Medical Examiner revealed the skeletal remains were those of a prehistoric female 30 to 40 years of age. Jones later examined the site and found groundstone tools, lithic debitage and charcoal scattered among a series of sand dunes. Approximately 70 to 80 percent of the skeleton was recovered, although amateurs had vandalized the site previously. "These bones had been previously excavated in a haphazard manner," said Medical Examiner Todd Grey. "There are a lot of broken bones ... and everyone tossed everything back in the pit and covered them up again." The discovery again raises the issue of private property rights versus protection of Native American remains. *Source:* Salt Lake Tribune.

ONGOING RESEARCH:

The Crystal Site

Alan D. Reed

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc.

During the summer of 1995, Alpine Archaeological Consultants conducted excavations at the Crystal Site (42SA21063) in San Juan County, just southeast of Monticello, Utah. The work was performed for Rust Geotech, which is constructing a haul road for removal of mill tailings from the Monticello Mill Tailings Site. Excavation of 96 m² yielded evidence of five archaeological components. A Paleoindian component is suggested by three lanceolate projectile points and a spurred scraper. The projectile points are similar to those characteristic of the Foothills-Mountain tradition. Limited data regarding Middle Archaic, Terminal Archaic, and Formative stage occupations were also recovered. The majority of recovered data were attributed to a Ute occupation, indicated by the presence of brown ware ceramics, Desert Side-notched and Cottonwood Triangular projectile points, and a radiocarbon determination which, when calibrated, points to a date between A.D. 1215 and 1405. The report is now on file at the Antiquities Section, or can be obtained by contacting Alpine at (970) 294-6761.

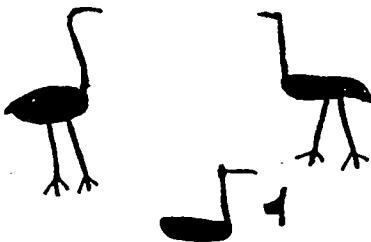
Shirrtail Excavations

Rand Greubel

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc.

The report is in preparation for the excavation of four sites along Highway 191 near Shirrtail Junction, south of Blanding, Utah, conducted by Alpine Archaeological Consultants for the Utah Department of Transportation durin:

the summer of 1995. The sites were excavated under the supervision of Jim Firor (Project Director) and Rand Greubel (Field Supervisor). Alan D. Reed is the Principal Investigator. At the Milepost 43 site (42SA20977) a number of structures and features were investigated, including a two-chambered Basketmaker III pithouse; a small, round subterranean or semi-subterranean room; one, or possibly two, small vertical slab and jacal surface storage rooms; four slab-lined hearths; and three small pit features. Dendrochronology has established that the pithouse and subterranean room were constructed during the early A.D. 680s. At the Corral Canyon Village (42SA7659), two pithouses, a kiva, and several other features of the Pueblo II period were excavated. Both pithouses are square. One is large and deep, with a narrow bench and a small storage room incorporated into the vent system. The kiva is large and unlined, with an earthen bench and eight masonry pilasters. Also excavated was a sub-rectangular, semi-subterranean mealing room with masonry upper walls and a floor excavated more than 60 cm below the prehistoric ground surface. The structure was built over a deep bell-shaped storage pit that was abandoned and filled in prior to the construction of the mealing room. A shallow surface structure and a large, extramural hearth were investigated as well. Good dendrochronological dates were obtained from burned juniper posts from the pit structures, which yielded cutting dates ranging from A.D. 1042 to 1054. The Happy Salamander site (42SA7660) is a small unit pueblo of the Pueblo III period. A masonry-lined kiva; a small, semi-subterranean masonry room block; and a 9 m-long, curvilinear jacal wall with attached ramada were excavated. A number of pit and hearth features were found in the plaza area, and the midden was sample excavated to 10%. Dendrochronology was not successfully employed at the site, but radiocarbon and archaeomagnetic dates suggest that the site was occupied between A.D. 1175-1300, a date range that accords with the ceramic data. At the Feedlot site (42SA7657), several suspected slab cist features were investigated. The features were found to be hopelessly impacted by cattle trampling or other historic disturbances, but blading of the site surface resulted in the discovery of a relatively intact hearth that produced a radiocarbon date with a calibrated calendrical range (at two sigma) of A.D. 380-645. Little else was found at the Feedlot site. The final report for the Shirttail project is expected to be completed by May 1997.



PUBLICATIONS OF LOCAL INTEREST:

Allison, James R.

1996 **Comments on the Impacts of Climatic Variability and Population Growth on Virgin Anasazi Cultural Development.** *American Antiquity* 61(2):414-418.

Report by Allison (Orem, UT) argues that Virgin Anasazi populations probably did not grow or decline as rapidly as suggested by other researchers. Further, radiocarbon dates suggest that the Virgin Anasazi occupied the area until late in the 13th century.

Woodward, Scott

1996 **Genealogy of New Kingdom Pharaohs and Queens.** *Archaeology* 49(5):45-47.

Woodward (BYU) offers a brief overview of royal Egyptian lineages and current DNA research at BYU. Other articles in the same issue offer succinct overviews of various DNA research (human, plant and animal) throughout the New World and elsewhere that are more relevant to Utah archaeologists.

Greubel, Rand

1996 **I-70 Castle Valley to Rattlesnake Bench Final Report.** Alpine Archaeological Consultants Inc., Montrose, Colorado.

The final report for the I-70 Castle Valley to Rattlesnake Bench data recovery project, conducted by the University of Pittsburgh in 1988-89 in Emery and Sevier Counties, has been completed. The report is in two volumes. The first is a stand-alone document detailing the results of data recovery on eleven sites. The second volume comprises the appendices, and includes geology and geomorphology, pollen and macrobotanical results, faunal studies, blood residue results, lithic replication experiments, and the results of other ancillary studies. The results of the studies detailed in the second volume are summarized in the first. Copies of the report are available for the cost of printing from Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., P.O. Box 2075, Montrose, CO 81402, (970) 249-6761, e-mail alparch@rmi.net. Volume 1 is \$33, Volume 2 is \$30, plus postage.



