

# 48TH ANNUAL

COLORADO COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

# CCPA MEETING

**WHERE THE WEST LIVES**



March 26–29, 2026

Jefferson County Fairgrounds  
Golden, Colorado



## Welcome

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Welcome to the 48th Annual CCPA Meeting! I especially would like to welcome our new members and first-time attendees. I still fondly remember my first CCPA meeting over 15 years ago, due in large part to a lot of “veteran” members welcoming me with earnest hearts and a genuine interest in hearing my story. I encourage you to all to find a new face, introduce yourself, and share a conversation. In this spirit, the organizers and the Education Committee have given nametag stickers to identify students and younger members, CCPA veteran members, and CCPA Committee representatives. They have targeted the Saturday lunch break with the food truck vendors as a prime opportunity for students and recent grads to find mentors and explore potential employment opportunities. I hope you find time some time to participate in this throughout the weekend.



A big thank you to the team at ERO, especially Marie, Tiana, Michelle, Alexis, and Kate, for lining up what I am sure will be a fantastic meeting. Also, thanks to the many volunteers for all the work that will be going into this meeting. PLEASE take advantage of the Uber coupon, or find a designated driver, if you plan to drink at an event not near your hotel. I hope you enjoy the meeting and your stay in Golden!

**Chris Johnston**  
CCPA President



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## Sponsors

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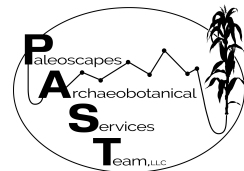
### Lookout Mountain



### Table Mountain



### Magic Mountain





## Sponsors

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### Clear Creek



### Camp George West





## CCPA Executive Committee

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### **President 2025–2026**

Chris Johnston

### **Past President 2025–2026**

Becca Simon

### **President Elect / Vice President 2025–2026**

Jasmine Saxon

### **Secretary 2025–2026**

Jeremy Omvig

### **Treasurer 2025–2026**

Katy Schneider

### **Treasurer Elect 2025–2026**

Grace Bello

### **American Indian Board Member**

Chance Ward

### **At Large Board Member (First Year)**

Chris Kinner

### **At Large Board Member (First Year)**

Sarah Allaun

### **At Large Board Member (Second Year)**

Natalie Clark

### **At Large Board Member (Second Year)**

Brandon Turner

### **Student Board Member**

Andrew Milam

### **Student Board Member Elect**

Trey Cate

### **Newsletter**

Jeanne Mobley-Tanaka

### **Website**

Mary Sullivan

### **Ethics**

Marilyn Martorano

### **Membership**

Kim Kintz

### **Awards & Recognition**

Jacki Mullen

### **Education**

Jessica Ericson

### **Education**

R. Obi Oberdier

### **Financial Review**

Dante Knapp

### **Government Affairs**

Jon Hedlund

### **Listserv**

Greg Williams

### **Native American Initiatives**

Bridget Ambler

### **Publications**

Kelly Pool

### **Student Affairs**

Andrew Milam

### **Ward F. Weakly Scholarship**

Mark Mitchell

### **Archives**

Sarah Rothwell

### **State Archaeologist / SHPO**

Holly Norton

### **CAS Representative**

Karen Kinner

### **Social Media**

R. Obi Oberdier

### **Fort Carson Liaison**

Erwin Roemer (via CCPA President)



## CCPA Fellows List

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### Fellow

### Year Honored

Rand A. Greubel (b. 1959)	2025
Marilyn Armagast Martorano (b. 1953)	2020
Christian John Zier (b. 1950)	2018
Alan Dean Reed (b. 1954)	2017
Jonathon Carwill Horn (b.1956)	2017
Susan Marlias Chandler (b. 1953)	2017
Kevin Black (b. 1955)	2014
Richard Francis Carrillo (1945–2014)	2013
Michael Douglas Metcalf (b. 1948)	2013
James Bell Benedict (1938–2011)	2011
Susan Margaret Collins (b. 1948)	2011
Edward Stephen Cassells (b. 1945)	2010
Adrienne Barbara Anderson (b. 1944)	2003
Frank Warren Eddy (b.1930)	2000
Elizabeth Ann Morris (1932–2012)	1992
David Alan Breternitz (1929–2012)	1992
James Allen Lancaster (1894–1992)	1982
Omer Call Stewart (1908–1991)	1982
Joe Ben Wheat (1916–1997)	1982
Hannah Marie Wormington (1914–1994)	1982



## Acknowledgements

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We would like to thank the Jefferson County Fairgrounds for hosting the 48th Annual Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists Conference. We would also like to thank all 42 student and early career volunteers, conference sponsors, and the following individuals for their efforts in planning the conference.

### Conference Organizers

Marie Matsuda (ERO Resources)  
Kate Mayo (ERO Resources)  
Michelle Dinkel (ERO Resources)  
Tiana Duncan (ERO Resources)  
Alexis-Ann Kelley (ERO Resources)

### Sponsorship and Marketing Coordinator

Alexis-Ann Kelley (ERO Resources)

### Volunteer Coordinator

Michelle Dinkel (ERO Resources)

### Presentation Moderator and AV Support

Tiana Duncan (ERO Resources)  
Justin Batista (ERO Resources)

### Banquet and Cocktail Social Hour

Tocabe: An American Indian Eatery  
Denver Distillery

### Field Trip Coordinators and Hosts

Kate Mayo (ERO Resources)  
Katy Schneider (National Laboratory of the Rockies-Camp George West Historic District)  
Leslie Moore (ERO Resources-Camp George West Historic District)  
Cydal Groskopf (University of Denver-Industrial School for Boys)  
Jeannie Mobley-Tanaka (Front Range Community College, Emeritus-Ken Caryl South Valley Archaeological District)  
Talle Hogrefe (Jefferson County Parks and Open Space- Ken Caryl South Valley Archaeological District)  
Tiana Duncan (ERO Resources-Buffalo Bill Museum)  
Jacqui Ainlay-Conley (Buffalo Bill Museum)  
Rebecca Jacobs (Buffalo Bill Museum)  
Golden History Museum  
Hiwan Heritage Park

### Student Meet-Up and Networking Event

Jessica Ericson (Community Connections LLC)  
Obi Oberdier (AK Pioneer Consulting)

### Public Archaeology Event Coordinators

Jessica Ericson (Community Connections LLC)  
Jasmine Saxon (Community Connections LLC)



## Acknowledgements

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### Student Competition Poster Judges

Jon Hedlund (ERO Resources)  
Sarah Allaun (History Colorado | OAHP)  
Natalie Clark (BLM)

### Student Competition Presentation Judges

Kimberly Bailey (AK Pioneer Consulting)  
Dan Snyder (USFS)  
Nicole Herzog (University of Denver)

### Zeffy

Katy Schneider (National Laboratory of the Rockies)

### Panel Coordinators

Marcus Espinosa (ERO Resources)  
Erin Bornemann (History Colorado | OAHP)

### Silent Auction & Donations

1874 Distilling  
ERO Resources  
Denver Museum of Nature and Science  
Rocky Talkie  
Bridget Ambler  
Mona Charles  
Kevin Gilmore  
Kevin Black  
Jonathan Hedlund  
Kiki Lathrop  
Emily Long  
Kate Mayo  
Marilyn Martorano  
Jeannette Moble-Tanaka  
Natalie Clark  
Meg Van Ness





## Conference Schedule & Events

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### Thursday, March 26

#### Afternoon: Tours

Golden History Museum – self-guided tours throughout the day

- 2:00–4:30 pm – Camp George West group tour
- 3:00–4:30 pm – Industrial School for Boys group tour

#### Evening: Early Bird at Rock Rest Lodge

- 5:00–9:00 pm – Early Bird Welcome Reception at Rock Rest Lodge

### Friday, March 27

#### Morning: Registration, Business Meeting, and Book Sale – Jefferson County Fairgrounds

- 7:45 am–12:00 pm – Registration and merchandise sales
- 8:30–10:50 am – CCPA business meeting (students welcome)
- 10:50–11:45 am – Agency and partner organization reports
- 11:00 am–12:00 pm – Book sale

#### Lunch: 11:45 am – 2:00 pm

- Executive Committee lunch – by invitation only – Green Mountain Conference Room A

#### Afternoon: Paper Presentations – Jefferson County Fairgrounds

- 12:00–5:00 pm – Book sale
- 1:00–9:00 pm – Silent auction
- 2:00–5:00 pm – Registration and merchandise sales
- 2:00–5:00 pm – Paper session

#### Evening: Dinner, Poster Session, and Student Poster Competition– Jefferson County Fairgrounds

- 5:15–7:00 pm – Poster session and student poster competition
- 5:15–8:00 pm – Cash bar
- 6:00–9:00 pm – Dinner



## Conference Schedule & Events

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### Saturday, March 28

#### Morning: Papers Presentations – Jefferson County Fairgrounds

- 8:00–11:00 am – Book sale
- 8:00 am–12:00 pm – Registration and merchandise sales
- 8:00 am–12:00 pm – Silent auction
- 8:30–11:30 am – Paper session
- 11:30 am – Student presentation and poster awards announcement

#### Lunch: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

- 11:00 am–2:00 pm – [Konjo Ethiopian](#) and [Farm to Truck Colorado](#) food trucks on site
- 12:00–1:30 pm – Student Meetup and Network Hangout (No RSVP required) – Exhibit Hall 1

#### Afternoon: Papers, and Posters – Jefferson County Fairgrounds

- 1:00–3:00 pm – Silent auction
- 1:30–2:30 pm – Panel discussion
- 1:30–5:00 pm – Merchandise sales
- 2:30–5:00 pm – Paper session
- 5:00 pm – Conference closing announcements and silent auction winners

### Sunday, March 29

#### Morning: Tours

- 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Ken-Caryl South Valley Archaeological District walking tour
- 9:30 am–12:00 pm – Buffalo Bill Museum group tour

#### Afternoon: Tours and Public Event

- 12:00–4:30 pm – Hiwan Heritage Park
- 1:00–4:00 pm – Public archaeology event hosted by CCPA and Community Connections at the Astor House in Golden



## Tours and Special Events

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### Thursday, March 26

#### Golden History Museum – self-guided tours throughout the day

**10:00 am – 4:30 pm**

Explore exhibits on Golden’s cultural and archaeological history at your own pace. The museum is located at [923 10th Street](#) in downtown Golden and is open to the public throughout the day.

#### Camp George West Historic District Group Tour

**2:00–4:30 pm**

Join a guided walking tour of Camp George West Historic District, Colorado’s only permanent Army National Guard training facility, established in 1903. The tour will be led by Katy Schneider of the National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR) and Leslie Moore of ERO Resources Corporation. Meet at the [NLR East Gate public parking lot](#) at 2:00 pm.

Advance registration is required, and a valid ID must be submitted prior to the tour for site access.

#### Industrial School for Boys Group Tour

**3:00–4:30 pm**

Join Cyndal Groskopf for a guided tour of the historic Industrial School for Boys site, established in 1881. This tour highlights recent archaeological investigations and discoveries related to the former military-style school aimed to “re-educate” boys convicted of crimes. Meet at the parking lot outside the [Lookout Mountain Youth Services Center](#) at 3:00 pm.

Advance registration is required.

#### Early Bird Welcome Reception at Rock Rest Lodge

**5:00–9:00 pm**

Kick off the conference at the historic [Rock Rest Lodge](#). Appetizers and drink tickets will be provided for early registrants, and additional food and beverages will be available for purchase. Conference registration and merchandise sales will be available on site.



## **Tours and Special Events**

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### **Friday, March 27**

#### **Poster Session and Student Poster Competition**

**5:15–7:00 pm**

View and meet with student and professional researchers presenting their work. All students who are entered into the poster competition are encouraged to be present during this time.

#### **Dinner and Cocktail Social**

**5:15–9:00 pm**

Join fellow attendees for an evening dinner and cocktail social hour featuring a dinner catered by Tocabe and a cash bar hosted by Denver Distillery. Tocabe is an American Indian Eatery owned and operated by the members of the Osage Nation and specializes in Native cuisine. Denver Distillery is locally owned and operated in Denver's historic Baker neighborhood. Their distillery and pub are closing their doors in mid-March, let's give them a warm goodbye!

The cash bar will be available beginning at 5:15 pm and attendees are encouraged to visit the poster session during this time. Food will be served buffet style beginning at 6:00 pm. General announcements and selected awards presentations will begin at 7:00 pm, followed by a cocktail social open to all conference attendees. Alcohol will be served until 8:00 pm.

### **Saturday, March 28**

#### **Student Paper and Poster Awards Announcement**

**11:35 am**

Student paper presentations and posters awards will be announced at this time.

#### **Food Trucks**

**11:00 am–2:00 pm**

Konjo Ethiopian and Farm to Truck Colorado Food Trucks will be on site during this time.

#### **Student Meet-up and Network Hangout (No RSVP required) – Exhibit Hall**

**12:00–1:30 pm**



## Tours and Special Events

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Enjoy your lunch while connecting with other students and professionals in the field. Everyone is welcome to come and greet the next generation of archaeologists.

**Conference Closing Announcements and Silent Auction Winners**  
**5:00 pm**

### **Sunday, March 29**

#### **Buffalo Bill Museum Group Tour**

**9:30 am – 12:00 pm**

Visit the [Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave](#) on Lookout Mountain overlooking Golden, including a special behind-the-scenes experience led by the museum curator. Attendees will learn about William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody and his influence on American history. This will include a guided tour of the Pahaska building, a contributing feature of Lookout Mountain Park, which is listed on the National Register.

Advance registration is required.

#### **Ken-Caryl South Valley Archaeological District walking tour**

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

Explore Ken-Caryl’s South Valley Archaeological District, where thousands of years of human history—spanning the Late Paleo-Indian to Early Ceramic periods—come together in one extraordinary archaeological landscape. The tour will be led by Jeannie Mobley-Tanaka (Front Range Community College, Emeritus) and Talle Hogrefe (Jefferson County Parks & Open Space). ERO Resources is sponsoring this tour and will provide transportation from the [Lakewood/Denver West ERO Office](#) leaving at 9:00 am and returning at 1:00 pm. If you plan to meet there on your own, please arrive at the [Swallow Trail Parking Lot](#) before 9:30 am.

Advance registration is required.



## Tours and Special Events

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### Hiwan Heritage Park

**12:00–4:30 pm**

Jefferson County Parks and Open Space will be holding tours at the Hiwan Heritage Park. The property was developed by one of Colorado's first female doctors, circa 1983, and remains an architectural interest that is open to the public. The park and museum are located at [28473 Meadow Drive in Evergreen, CO](#).

### Public Archaeology Event

**1:00–4:00 pm**

Join Community Connections for a public archaeology event celebrating Golden's role as host of the 48th Annual CCPA Conference. The event will be held at the historical [Astor House](#) and will feature a presentation on Astor House excavations and interactive educational stations exploring archaeology and local history. Conference attendees, students, and members of the public are encouraged to attend.



# 48th CCPA Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden, Colorado

## Friday, March 27 2026

### 8:30 am – Call to Order

- Call to order and approval of the agenda – Chris Johnston (2 minutes)
- Welcome – Marie Matsuda (5 minutes)
- Reading and approval of the 2025 Business Meeting Minutes – Jeremy Omvig (3 minutes)

### 8:40 am – Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

- State of the Organization – Chris Johnston (10 minutes)
- Treasurer’s Report – Katy Schneider (10 minutes)
- Secretary’s Report –Jeremy Omvig (2 minutes)

### Standing Committee Reports

- Financial Review – Dante Knapp (5minutes)
- Membership – Kim Klintz (5 minutes)
- Ethics – Marilyn Martorano (1 minute)
- Education – Obi Oberdier and Jessica Ericson (5 minutes)
- Government Review – Jon Hedlund (2 minutes)
- Ward Weakly Memorial Scholarship – Mark Mitchell (5 minutes)
- Student Affairs – Chris Johnston for Andrew Millam (1 minutes)
- Native American Initiatives – Bridget Ambler (5 minutes)
- Awards and Recognition – Chris Johnston for Jacki Mullen (1 minute)
- Publications – Kelly Pool (5 minutes)
- Communications Teams
  - o Webmaster – Mary Sullivan (5 minutes)
  - o Listserv – Greg Williams (1 minute)
  - o Newsletter – Jeannie Mobley-Tanaka (5 minutes)
  - o Facebook/Social Media – Obi Oberdier (2 minutes)

### Ad Hoc Committees

- Archives – Sarah Rothwell (5minutes)
- Fort Carson Liaison – Chris Johnston for Erwin Roemer (5 minutes)

### 10:00–10:15 am – Break



# Annual Business Meeting Agenda

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## 10:15 am – New Business

- Bylaws Updates
  - Native American membership dues – Chris Johnston (5 minutes)
  - Archives – Chris Johnston (5 minutes)
- 2027 Annual Meeting update (3 minutes)
- 2028 (50th Anniversary) Meeting update (2 minutes)
- Recognition of outgoing EC members – Chris Johnston (5 minutes)
- Election Results – Rebecca Simon (5 minutes)
- Incoming President – Jasmine Saxon (10 minutes)

## 10:50 am – Business Meeting Adjourns

## 10:50 am – Agency and Tribal Reports

- Bureau of Land Management, State Office – Natalie Clark (5 minutes)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – Kate Arntzen (5 minutes)
- Western Area Power Administration – Craig Dengel (5 minutes)
- Southern Ute THPO – Audrey Andrews (5 minutes)
- Colorado Archaeological Society – Larry Beidle (5 minutes)
- History Colorado OAHP and SHF – Holly Norton (10 minutes)
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife – Kati Fay (5 minutes)
- Colorado Department of Transportation – Lisa Schoch (15 minutes)
- Colorado Department of Transportation – Greg Wolff (5 minutes)

## 11:45 am – Morning Meeting Concludes



# Paper Presentation Schedule

## Friday, March 27

### General Afternoon Paper Session

<b>2:00 pm</b>	Introductions
<b>2:05–2:25 pm</b>	<b>Growing together: Students, Practitioners, and Managers in the Denver Mountain Parks</b> Bonnie Clark (University of Denver), Jasmine Saxon (Community Connections LLC), Danielle Matthews (University of Denver), Jessica Ericson (Community Connections LLC), Shannon Dennison (Denver Mountain Parks)
<b>2:25–2:45 pm</b>	<b>Collaborative and Community-Engaged Archaeology: A Case Study of an Unexpected and Lengthy, but Rewarding Professional Commitment</b> Charles Bello (Retired, Federal Archaeologist)
<b>2:45–3:05 pm</b>	<b>NAGPRA Duty of Care: Tribal Collaboration and Collections Research</b> Bridget Ambler (BLM, Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center & Museum)
<b>3:05–3:25 pm</b>	<b>Around and Around We Go: Concentric Circles of Western Colorado Astroarchaeological Sites</b> Nicole Lathrop (Dominquez Archaeological Research Group)
<b>Break</b>	
<b>3:35 pm</b>	Introductions
<b>3:40–4:00 pm</b>	<b>Running with Sherds: How the Ancestral Jicarilla Apache Redefined Mobility on the Palmer Divide</b> Jonathan Hedlund (ERO Resources Corporation), Marcus Espinosa (ERO Resources Corporation), Justin Batista (ERO Resources)
<b>4:00–4:20 pm</b>	<b>Tuff Love or Second-Rate Rhyolite? Using “Resource Naivete” to Explain Immigrant Proto-Apache Appreciation for Primarily Meh Wall Mountain Tuff at Franktown Cave</b> Kevin Gilmore (HDR)
<b>4:20–4:40 pm</b>	<b>A Diachronic View of the Early Archaic as Seen from the Swallow Site, Jefferson County, Colorado</b> Jeannette Mobley-Tanaka (Front Range Community College, Emeritus)
<b>4:40–5:00 pm</b>	<b>The Transition from Corner- to Side-Notched Arrow Points at Cedar Shelter, Las Animas County</b> Mark D. Mitchell (Paleocultural Research Group)



## Paper Presentation Schedule

### Saturday, March 28

#### General Morning Paper Session

<b>8:30 am</b>	Introductions
<b>8:35–8:55 am</b>	<b>A Quantitative Framework for Evaluating Folsom Reoccupation and Behavioral Variability at Hell Gap: Probabilistic Modeling of Stratified Deposits (Graduate Paper)</b> Clifford White (Colorado State University)
<b>8:55–9:15 am</b>	<b>Where Are the Campsites? Locating Habitation Areas at the Flattop Butte Lithic Quarry in Logan County, Colorado (Graduate Paper)</b> Robert Madden (Colorado State University)
<b>9:15–9:35 am</b>	<b>The Pattern in the Piles: Understanding High Volume Quarry Deposits at Obsidian Cliffs (35LA172) (Graduate Paper)</b> Natalie Bryant (Continental Divide Archaeological Center, University of Wyoming)
<b>9:35–9:55 am</b>	<b>Detection Dog Trained Final Response Distance from Burial: A GIS Assessment of Archaeological Human Remains Detection Dogs' Trained Final Responses in Relation to Geophysical Evidence of Burials in Four Historic Cemetery Sites (Undergraduate Paper)</b> Melissa Kindt (Colorado Mesa University)
<b>Break</b>	
<b>10:05 am</b>	Introductions
<b>10:10–10:30 am</b>	<b>This Town Ain't Big Enough for the 7,000 of Us: An Example of Historic Population Modeling From Julesburg III (Graduate Paper)</b> Riley Limbaugh (Center for Mountain and Plains Archaeology, Colorado State University)
<b>10:30–10:50 am</b>	<b>Farming under the Colorado Mount Fuji: The Japanese American Agricultural Landscape in Northern Colorado</b> Marie Matsuda (ERO Resources Corporation)
<b>10:50–11:10 am</b>	<b>Après-Ski: Archaeology of Colorado's Early Ski Industry</b> Paul Buckner (HDR), Leslie Moore (ERO Resources Corporation)
<b>11:10–11:30 am</b>	<b>7000 years of Dinner: Landscape, Climate, and Plant use across the Ridges and Rivers in NW Colorado</b> Linda Scott Cummings (PaleoResearch Institute), R.A. Varney (PaleoResearch Institute)



# Paper Presentation Schedule

## General Afternoon Paper Session

<b>1:30–2:30 pm</b>	<b>Panel on “AI in Colorado Archaeology”</b> Marcus Espinosa (ERO Resources, Digital Information Specialist), Erin Bornemann (History Colorado   Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation)
<b>Break</b>	
<b>2:40 pm</b>	Introductions
<b>2:45–3:05 pm</b>	<b>Just a Stone’s Throw Away: A Regional Analysis of Stone Circle Sites in Boulder, Douglas, and Jefferson Counties</b> Kate Mayo (ERO Resources Corporation)
<b>3:05–3:25 pm</b>	<b>Historical Sites and Stratification</b> Dudley Gardner (WAARI)
<b>3:25–3:45 pm</b>	<b>Geophysical Surveys at the Valles Caldera National Preserve, Northern New Mexico</b> Andrew Rogers, MA, RPA (SWCA Environmental Consultants), Maeve Herrick, MA, RPA (SWCA Environmental Consultants), Jennie Sturm, Ph.D., RPA (SWCA Environmental Consultants)
<b>Break</b>	
<b>3:55 pm</b>	Introductions
<b>4:00–4:20 pm</b>	<b>Synthesizing the Hogback Valley: Entanglement Theory and the Untapped Potential of CRM Data</b> R. Obi Oberdier (AK Pioneer Consulting)
<b>4:20–4:40 pm</b>	<b>An Update on the Conjoined and Refitted Lithic Artifacts from the La Prele Mammoth Site (48CO1401), Wyoming</b> Paul Sanders (University of Wyoming, Department of Anthropology), Todd Surovell PhD (University of Wyoming, Department of Anthropology)
<b>4:40–5:00 pm</b>	<b>A Continuation of Technology Advancements: How Drone use in Archaeology Provides Additional Information of Landscape Concepts</b> Nicole Lathrop (Indiana Drones Archaeology)



## Paper Abstracts

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\*indicates that the abstract is submitted for the student paper competition

### **Growing Together: Students, Practitioners, and Managers in the Denver Mountain Parks**

Bonnie Clark (University of Denver), Jasmine Saxon (Community Connections LLC), Danielle Matthews (University of Denver), Jessica Ericson (Community Connections LLC), and Shannon Dennison (Denver Mountain Parks)

Archaeological field methods courses embedded within a traditional academic term are an increasingly important way to train the next generation of archaeologists. Field experience is essential for careers in cultural resource management, yet traditional field schools can be difficult to come by, expensive, or incompatible with student responsibilities. The ongoing partnership among the University of Denver, Community Connections LLC, and Denver Mountain Parks provides students with meaningful, local field opportunities. Students gain hands-on experience in "their own backyards" and contribute valuable data that allows Denver Mountain Parks to make better management decisions. Community Connections serves as critical connective tissue, helping overstretched faculty and staff meet reporting and outreach needs while expanding students' field experience, professional networks, and community engagement. The Florence Martin Garden Project in Daniels Park demonstrates how local collaborative partnerships can creatively and effectively address the industry's need for future practitioners in archaeology.

### **Collaborative and Community-Engaged Archaeology: A Case Study of an Unexpected and Lengthy, but Rewarding Professional Commitment**

Charles Bello (Retired, Federal Archaeologist)

This short report outlines how a chance encounter nearly fourteen years ago evolved into multiple academic symposia and ultimately a recently published volume on "public" archaeology. I present a unique example of how simply agreeing to help a colleague led to years of advocating for authentic community partnerships, promoting innovative strategies, and presenting diverse perspectives from community engaged archaeology - including Colorado projects such as San Luis Valley, Magic Mountain, Federal Indian Schools, Ludlow Tent Colony, Non-Traditional Community Connections, Red Rocks International Archaeology Day, Fire Mitigation, and the Garden of the Gods.

### **NAGPRA Duty of Care; Tribal Collaboration and Collections Research**

Bridget Ambler (BLM, Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center & Museum)

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act was promulgated on November 16, 1990. Thirty-four years later, regulations were revised to streamline the repatriation process and added new language for "duty of care" (43 CFR 10.1(b)) which requires free, prior, and informed consent from lineal descendants and Tribes prior to allowing any exhibition of, access to, or research on human remains or cultural items. We will discuss how the new regulations have affected research access to collections at the BLM Canyons



## Paper Abstracts

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of the Ancients Visitor Center & Museum and how the updated regulations reinforce the need for archaeologists to collaborate with Tribes for research.

### **Around and Around We Go: Concentric Circles of Western Colorado Astroarchaeological Sites**

Nicole Lathrop (Dominquez Archaeological Research Group)

In sites across Northwestern Colorado the presence of concentric circles have been associated with sites of astronomical observances. Using examples of the Canyon Pintado region, there is an apparent method of locality that may contribute to how these figures play into the significance of petroglyph panels.

### **Running with Sherds: How the Ancestral Jicarilla Apache Redefined Mobility on the Palmer Divide**

Jonathan Hedlund (ERO Resources), Marcus Espinosa (ERO Resources), and Justin Batista (ERO Resources)

Indigenous activity on the divide between the Arkansas and Platte river basins has always fluctuated. Rapid increases in activity reflected in hearth firings is sometimes accompanied by variations in technology and subsistence, but the cultural transition from the Early to Middle Ceramic periods is distinct. Following continuous decline in hearth activity, well-constructed and lightweight Western Dismal River ceramics appear around 650 cal BP. These Apachean Dismal River ceramics occur in large numbers alongside well-made arrow points, large bifaces, chi-thos, and formal stone tools. Unanchored by complex hearth architecture and ground stone processing, the sum of the assemblages combined with the presence of obsidian, corn, and Northern Rio Grande ceramics points to a group of people who were technologically oriented around movement. This skill enabled the ancestral Apache to traverse across the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains, and influence spheres on the High Plains, and northern Rio Grande River valley.

### **Tuff Love or Second-Rate Rhyolite? Using “Resource Naivete” to Explain Immigrant Proto-Apache Appreciation for Primarily Meh Wall Mountain Tuff at Franktown Cave**

Kevin Gilmore (HDR)

Analysis of perishable material culture, primarily diagnostic Subarctic style moccasins from the Promontory Culture component at Franktown Cave, establishes the late-twelfth to early-thirteenth century entry of the Proto-Apache into eastern Colorado. However, without chronometric dates and culturally diagnostic artifacts, discerning undated Proto-Apache artifact scatters from the structurally similar sites of culturally distinct mobile foragers is challenging. “Resource naivete” refers to a disproportionate reliance on immediately available materials not because they’re ideal, but because recent immigrants had limited knowledge of resource distribution and quality. The pattern of lithic material procurement and tool production in the Promontory component at Franktown Cave fits the definition of “resource naivete” in



## Paper Abstracts

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the disproportionate use of Wall Mountain tuff (WMT), a locally ubiquitous volcanic rock with highly variable knapping characteristics. The use of WMT predominantly for expedient hide processing tools could indicate that hide workers, historically women, were limited to particularly small lithic resource catchment areas.

### **A Diachronic View of the Early Archaic as Seen from the Swallow Site, Jefferson County, Colorado**

Jeannette Mobley-Tanaka (Front Range Community College, Emeritus)

Early Archaic sites are rare in the South Platte watershed, and mostly located in the mountains. Swallow, a rockshelter in the Hogback valley west of Denver has both the earliest Early Archaic dates in the area, and deeply stratified levels that reveal at least four consecutive spans of time during the Early Archaic (7500-5000 BP). This unique dataset offers valuable insights relevant to models of subsistence and population movement during the hot, dry years of the Altithermal.

### **The Transition from Corner- to Side-Notched Arrow Points at Cedar Shelter, Las Animas County**

Mark D. Mitchell (Paleocultural Research Group)

During the twelfth century, people living in eastern Colorado stopped making corner-notched arrow points—a form they had relied on for some 900 years—and began making side-notched arrow points. We use that transition in part to mark the beginning of the Middle Ceramic period in the Platte River basin and the Diversification period in the Arkansas River basin. But the transition to triangular, side-notched arrows in eastern Colorado was merely a local manifestation of a process that was occurring at roughly the same time throughout much of western North America, from the Great Basin to the Southern Plains. Persuasive explanations are lacking for the nearly simultaneous appearance of morphologically similar forms in so many different archaeological contexts. Developing testable hypotheses to explain that shift will require data on the specific contexts in which it took place. Cedar Shelter in Las Animas County offers one such data point.

### **\*A Quantitative Framework for Evaluating Folsom Reoccupation and Behavioral Variability at Hell Gap: Probabilistic Modeling of Stratified Deposits**

Clifford White (Colorado State University)

Identifying discrete human occupations is often complicated by depositional and post-depositional processes that obscure artifact distributions. Recognizing isolated occupational events within archaeological deposits is necessary to evaluate behavioral differences among individual occupations. By separating multiple occupational episodes at Hell Gap (48GO305) we can refine our interpretation of Folsom occupational history and provide a higher-resolution understanding of past behavioral patterns. This study analyzes vertical Folsom artifact distributions to define the stratigraphic sequence and identify evidence



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of reoccupation. Vertical artifact distributions are analyzed using the elbow method, silhouette method, and gap statistic, with k-means clustering defining artifact groupings. Vertical kernel density estimates and Gaussian mixture modeling identify discrete occupational lenses. Statistical tests demonstrate significant differences in artifact class distributions among vertically distinct lenses. These results support multiple Folsom occupations at Hell Gap and provide a reproducible approach for isolating occupational events and clarifying distinct behavioral patterns in complex stratified deposits.

### **Where Are the Campsites? Locating Habitation Areas at the Flattop Butte Lithic Quarry in Logan County, Colorado**

Robert Madden (Colorado State University)

Flattop Butte was one of the most widely used lithic sources in the Central Plains throughout the prehistoric period. For at least 13,000 years it functioned as a crossroads for human groups who repeatedly visited the butte to quarry Flattop chaledony from its limestone caprock and likely established nearby camps while provisioning. A recent survey of the butte documented extensive evidence of quarrying and secondary reduction areas but revealed little evidence of campsites or habitation areas. This raises an important question: where are the campsites associated with this quarrying activity? The author's PhD dissertation project investigates this question. This presentation provides a preliminary report on results from the first field season.

### **\*The Pattern in the Piles: Understanding High Volume Quarry Deposits at Obsidian Cliffs (35LA172)**

Natalie Bryant (Continental Divide Archaeological Center, University of Wyoming)

Obsidian Cliffs (35LA172) is a major lithic source of volcanic glass in the Pacific Northwest. It is located within the Willamette National Forest in Oregon. The site is comparable to other lithic quarries in North America, measuring 2.5km and containing copious amounts of lithic debris. There are about 63 localities known on the cliffs, including primary and secondary lithic reduction zones adjacent to the main outcrop. Diagnostic projectile points, spanning from Clovis to the Late Prehistoric era, suggest foragers visited Obsidian Cliffs for at least 13,000 years. This long-term use has influenced the spatial arrangement of reduction localities, including onsite and off-site zones. In this presentation, I compare Obsidian Cliffs to well-known quarries in Colorado (Windy Ridge and Flattop Butte) and develop spatial methods to characterize overlapping reduction areas. This research considers high volume quarry deposits as an analytical advantage, allowing for dynamic interpretations of long-term quarry activities.



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### **\*Detection Dog Trained Final Response Distance from Burial: A GIS Assessment of Archaeological Human Remains Detection Dogs' Trained Final Responses in Relation to Geophysical Evidence of Burials in Four Historic Cemetery Sites**

Melissa Kindt (Colorado Mesa University)

Archaeological Human Remains Detection Dogs (AHRDD) are increasingly used to locate historic and pre-contact burials, yet little peer-reviewed research quantifies how closely a dog's trained final response (TFR) corresponds to an actual burial. One previous study recommended treating a TFR as the center of a 4–5 m search radius, though many handlers report closer proximity. This study evaluates the typical distance between TFRs and burial edges in cemetery contexts. Spatial datasets from multiple historic cemetery projects were analyzed in ArcGIS Pro, using near analysis to measure distances between TFR points and burial polygons derived from geophysical survey, remote sensing, and cemetery records. Statistical results indicate the population mean distance lies below 2 m and likely below 1 m, suggesting AHRDD responses occur substantially closer to burials than previously assumed.

### **\*This Town Ain't Big Enough for the 7,000 of Us: An Example of Historic Population Modeling From Julesburg III**

Riley Limbaugh (Center for Mountain and Plains Archaeology, Colorado State University)

Julesburg III (Sedgwick County) began as a section camp for the Transcontinental Railroad and soon exploded into a large plains town— but just how large? Having been established in 1867, nine years before Colorado became a state, researchers have not been able to find trustworthy historical accounts of its peak population. Several sources suggest a range of 200 to 7,000 people, leading me to wonder just how big of a footprint 7,000 residents would leave? Through the use of GIS, I measured the aerial footprint of several similar railroad towns dating to the late 19th century and compared their size to populations recorded in US Census records, hoping to find a predictive relationship between a town's size and its population. I used these data to “work backwards” at Julesburg III to make projections as to how much space 200 vs 7,000 people might have occupied. Ultimately this modeling can help inform my archaeological survey of Julesburg III, helping me better interpret the spatial parameters of the town's archaeological footprint.

### **Farming under the Colorado Mount Fuji: The Japanese American Agricultural Landscape in Northern Colorado**

Marie Matsuda (ERO Resources)

The Japanese American agricultural landscape has been diminishing since the 1960s. Historical farms have been abandoned and are under various threats of land costs, development, and the influx of industrial agriculture at an increasingly rapid rate. Documenting lesser-known agricultural spaces is paramount to preserving the stories of marginalized groups of people that



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were part of the fabric of agricultural history as agriculture is a large part of the historical and present Colorado landscape. Through the stories of several Japanese families who farmed in Boulder County, this presentation will highlight aspects of cultural resilience and practice through archaeological and landscape analysis, oral history, and archival research. This presentation aims to set the stage for a future regional archaeological survey and historical context of Japanese American farms in northern Colorado.

### **Après-Ski: Archaeology of Colorado's Early Ski Industry**

Paul Buckner (HDR) and Leslie Moore (ERO Resources)

Colorado's ski industry attracts about 12 million visitors annually and generates billions in revenue. While historians have examined the ski industry for decades, the topic's themes of human interaction with landscape and technology are also particularly well suited to an archaeological perspective. Using a historical "skiscape" from Allenspark as our case study, we present an archaeological approach to the origins of the modern ski industry. Our paper combines field archaeology and archival research to understand the transformation of skiing from a utilitarian means of transportation to a recreational powerhouse. Like the mining, logging, and grazing industries, skiing underwent regular boom and bust cycles that left hundreds of abandoned ski areas throughout the state. While these other mountain industries have received considerable attention from archaeologists, the ski industry has not, and it represents an area of significant potential in the historical archaeology of Colorado's mountain regions.

### **7000 years of Dinner: Landscape, Climate, and Plant use across the Ridges and Rivers in NW Colorado**

Linda Scott Cummings (PaleoResearch Institute) and R.A. Varney (PaleoResearch Institute)

Grinding stones record what the excavation unit cannot: the cumulative plant-processing history of the hand that used it. Paleobotanical analysis of four manos from the Yampa River terrace and 43 features from 11 ridge-top sites in Moffat County, Colorado reveals a plant-use record spanning 7,000 years — and a landscape that was anything but static. Around 5,700 years ago, the vegetation shifted. Sagebrush retreated; goosefoot family plants expanded. The people noticed. Goosefoot seed processing signatures appear on groundstone at sites separated by miles of rugged terrain, persisting across millennia as a regional subsistence tradition that tracked the changing land. Where people camped mattered too — ridge-tops with broad views yielded the most diverse plant assemblages, suggesting deliberate positioning within a multi-resource landscape. The data are not a list. They are a strategy.



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### **Just a Stone's Throw Away: A Regional Analysis of Stone Circle Sites in Boulder, Douglas, and Jefferson Counties**

Kate Mayo (ERO Resources Corporation)

This presentation is a comparative analysis of stone circle sites situated in the Palmer Divide and the Front Range Hogbacks of Colorado; with a focus on examining regional variation in stone circle construction including stone circle morphology, landscape positioning, cultural and temporal affiliation, inter-site patterning, seasonality, and functionality. While this study is limited to Boulder, Douglas, and Jefferson Counties, research can help us gain a better understanding of the broad regional patterns of stone circles across the Plains and has implications for methodologies of documenting stone architectural features.

#### **Historical Sites and Stratification**

A. Dudley Gardner (WAARI)

Historic sites provide unique opportunities to record and analyze tightly dated stratigraphic horizons. This presentation will focus on three major sites where subsequent occupations often create challenges in reading the chronological sequence in Wyoming at Fort Bridger (1843-1890), the Evanston Chinatown (1868-1890), and Rock Springs Chinatown (1875-1925). Looking at these sites with known depositional sequences will provide set forward some suggestions on how to separate out occupational sequences in sites with identifiable intrusions and clear cut occupation horizons.

#### **Geophysical Surveys at the Valles Caldera National Preserve, Northern New Mexico**

Andrew Rogers, MA, RPA (SWCA Environmental Consultants), Maeve Herrick, MA, RPA (SWCA Environmental Consultants), and Jennie Sturm, Ph.D., RPA (SWCA Environmental Consultants)

The Valles Caldera National Preserve in northern New Mexico is a rich geological and archaeological landscape, due largely to its high-quality obsidian sources, which have been used for thousands of years by people living in New Mexico, Colorado, and beyond. As part of ongoing park management, the Preserve planned to install temporary parking lots within the boundaries of a multicomponent archaeological site. To assess the impact to the subsurface that may result from using this area as parking lots, SWCA Environmental Consultants conducted geophysical surveys, including ground-penetrating radar (GPR) and magnetometry, to create a baseline data set that can be compared to future geophysical surveys after the parking lots have been removed. Here, results of these baseline surveys are presented, which include information about stratigraphic layers, depths, alluvial channels, and potential archaeological features. Overall, this project highlights the importance and potential of rigorous geophysical survey for proactive cultural resources management.



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### **Synthesizing the Hogback Valley: Entanglement Theory and the Untapped Potential of CRM Data**

R. Obi Oberdier (AK Pioneer Consulting)

The Greater Hogback Valley contains a rich concentration of precontact archaeological resources, including well-known sites such as Magic Mountain, Lena Gulch, and the Hall-Woodland Cave. Yet most documented resources in this region have been recorded not through academic research but through Cultural Resource Management (38.6%) and government agency projects (28%). As a result, the COMPASS database and its associated gray literature present a significant but under-utilized corpus for regional synthesis. This project applies Entanglement Theory as an interpretive framework to integrate this dataset and examine the heterogeneous assemblage of human–thing entanglements in the Greater Hogback Valley. By demonstrating the analytical potential of CRM-generated records, this study highlights how academic archaeologists can more effectively engage with existing state-managed data repositories and leverage gray literature to advance broader research goals.

### **An Update on the Conjoined and Refitted Lithic Artifacts from the La Prele Mammoth Site (48CO1401), Wyoming**

Paul Sanders (University of Wyoming, Department of Anthropology), and Todd Surovell PhD (University of Wyoming, Department of Anthropology)

A systematic bucket augering program was initiated in 2022 and 2023 in an attempt to establish the spatial extent of the La Prele Mammoth site near Douglas, Wyoming. The results of the auger probes revealed scattered deeply buried cultural materials over a wide area in addition to some distinctive artifact concentrations. Two of these concentrations were excavated in 2024; one of which, designated as Block E, revealed the probable remains of a lodge structure, similar to the dense artifact distributions uncovered in the earlier 2021 and 2022 Block D excavations. This paper presents the results of a study aimed at refitting and conjoining lithic artifacts from Blocks D and E to aid in discerning potential lithic reduction patterns, use of site space, and activity areas.

### **A Continuation of Technology Advancements: How Drone use in Archaeology Provides Additional Information of Landscape Concepts**

Nicole Lathrop (Indiana Drones Archaeology)

Use of drones in recent archaeological assessment has provided many benefits in the recording of sites. Drone photogrammetry and LiDAR in GIS to provide more accurate topographical maps, ongoing monitoring of at risk sites, and the ability to recreate astronomical observances with drone assisted lighting are just a few practical and experimental ways that are coming to the forefront of drone use in archaeology.



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\*indicates that the abstract is submitted for the student poster competition

### **\*Parasites at the Garden: Identifying potential intestinal infections from an 1890s latrine in the Rocky Mountain West**

Ava Neuharth (UCCS), Dr. Karin Larkin (UCCS), and Dr. Tara J. Cepon-Robins (UCCS)

Parasitic infections were historically common in many parts of the United States, with most research focused in the southeastern region. Yet, limited data exists regarding the historic rates of parasitic infection in the Rocky Mountain regions where the climate and soil quality do not mirror tropical regions where parasitic infections are frequently found. We present a parasitological analysis of soil from an excavated latrine from a historic oddities shop and trading post dating to 1892 at the entrance of Garden of the Gods park in Colorado Springs. This site was excavated by UCCS in collaboration with the City of Colorado Springs in May-June 2025. These results indicate that tapeworm infection and roundworm infections were supported by the dry Colorado Springs environment and may have been common infections in the area during the early 1900s.

### **Making the Case with Linears: Weighing Court Cases in National Register of Historic Places Evaluation of Linear Resources on the Front Range of Colorado**

Meghan Dudley (SWCA Environmental Consultants) and Mindy Burkitt (SWCA Environmental Consultants)

Linear resources – and ditches and canals in particular – weave across much of the Front Range in Colorado, making them common resources recorded on cultural resource management (CRM) projects. These resources are often evaluated with respect to general historic events in the region (Criterion A), historically important individuals who built and (or) owned them (Criterion B), or their unique construction and (or) features (Criterion C). But how should we evaluate these resources when a historic court case is involved? Does every Supreme Court case make a linear resource significant under Criterion A – or should we approach these assessments in a more nuanced way? In this poster, we present two case studies of historic canals and challenge you to anonymously cast your vote for your eligibility recommendation when court cases are involved.

### **Argentine Basin: Rediscovering Colorado's First Silver Mining Camp**

Daniel Snyder (USFS)

The Argentine Basin, southwest of Georgetown, has been an important cross-roads for humans since Argentine Pass was used as a travel corridor by Paleoindians. More recently, it was home to the first significant silver strike in Colorado. In 1864, Robert Layton, James Huff, and Former Colorado Territorial Governor, Robert W. Steele, discovered the Belmont Lode on Mt. McClellan, sparking a silver rush and leading to the development of Georgetown and



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Silver Plume. They organized a mining camp in the high mountain valley that was called East Argentine, after the mining district, which hosted over a dozen cabins and several hundred inhabitants. It existed for ten to fifteen years, was never depicted on a map, then was abandoned and lost to time and subsequent endeavors in the basin, including the town of Waldorf and the Argentine Central Railroad. Fieldwork in 2025 has brought us closer to rediscovering this significant place.

### **\*The Mount Albion Complex at the Flattop Mountain Game Drive (5LR6) in Rocky Mountain National Park**

Heather McKee (Continental Divide Archaeological Center, University of Wyoming)

Communal hunting features like drive lines, cairns, and blinds are located throughout the Rocky Mountains. Archaeologists have argued that people used these features since the Paleoindian period, although recent research calls this into question. James Benedict argued that the Mount Albion Complex was familiar with these structures and used them for communal hunting during the Early Archaic (5800-5350 BP), but this has never been formally tested. This research aims to explore the Mount Albion component at the Flattop Mountain Game Drive (5LR6) and its association with game drive features. If Mount Albion groups were using the drivelines, then I would expect a toolkit designed specifically for this goal. In this poster, I am introducing a research design to address this problem. The implications of this research will aid in identifying the relationship between game drive features and the Mount Albion Complex at the Flattop Mountain Game Drive, and elsewhere.

### **\*Yes We Can: A Tin Can Typology of a World War II Japanese American Incarceration Site**

Charles Fugate (University of Denver)

From 1942 to 1945, 120,000 Japanese Americans were forcibly relocated from their homes and into incarceration camps around the United States, including the Amache National Historic Site on the eastern plains of Colorado. Housing and feeding over 10,000 people there presented considerable logistical, cultural, and social issues for the US government. Eight field seasons of archaeological research have revealed the location, markings, and shape of 1000s of used and modified tin cans. This data, in conjunction with archival documents and oral histories, has been used to create a tin can typology for Amache. This typology has yielded important data into food flows into the camp, landscape-based analysis of differences in can depositions, and insight into how different foodstuffs were utilized in the camp itself, by individuals, communities, and the US government. This typology will be useful to any researchers working on mid-twentieth century sites, especially government and institutional facilities.



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### **\*What's the Cache? Exploring Standardization and Morphological Variation in Two Colorado Lithic Caches**

Dalton Pierce (Colorado State University)

Lithic caches represent a distinctive form of prehistoric technological behavior, yet these assemblages remain comparatively understudied. This study examines biface assemblages from two lithic caches in Colorado to evaluate patterns of morphological standardization and reduction within cached toolkits. Using metric measurements of size, shape, and thinning, the analysis investigates how variation is structured both within and between caches. Particular attention is given to whether observed patterning is consistent with production by a single individual, multiple producers, or differences associated with reduction processes. By examining these patterns in a comparative context, this research contributes to broader discussions of technological organization, craft skill, and mobility and logistical strategies in Plains archaeology. More broadly, the study highlights both the interpretive potential and limitations of quantitative approaches for understanding variability within cached lithic assemblages.

### **Analyzing Access to Archaeological Repositories in Colorado**

Faith Ruck (History Colorado) and Colton Snyder (History Colorado)

Approximately 95 facilities have historically held archaeological and/or paleontological collections in Colorado. Currently, the Office of the State Archaeologist of Colorado (OSAC) recognizes 26 repositories which are approved to accept archaeological collections from within a defined service area. Of these, only 18 accept collections from non-affiliated individuals or off-site locations. Due to this, OSAC has undertaken digitizing current facilities in a geographic information system to analyze the efficacy of the network on a statewide scale. Goals of spatial analysis include assessing the extent of existing service areas, identifying gaps and limitations in the current network, and modeling alternative coverage scenarios based on current repository infrastructure. This analysis showed significant gaps in Colorado's existing service areas and high travel time to repositories, while modeled catchment areas created from current repository locations show improvement in both categories.

### **\*Evaluating sUAS (drone) LiDAR, Thermal, and Multispectral Remote Sensing for Non-Invasive Detection of Potential Unmarked Burial Features in Semi-Arid Western Colorado**

Melissa Kindt (Colorado Mesa University)

Non-invasive survey methods are being requested with increasing frequency to locate unmarked burials in archaeological and forensic contexts. Small unmanned aerial systems (sUAS) equipped with remote sensors can collect high-resolution data to aid burial detection, though performance varies by sensor and environmental conditions. This study evaluates thermal, multispectral imagery (MSI), and LiDAR collected by sUAS at Cedar Hill Cemetery near Ridgway, Colorado (established 1876), using marked burials as controls to assess detection effectiveness. The site's semi-arid environment



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includes periodic flash flooding and maintained sparse vegetation, with mature trees along the margins. Data were processed in Agisoft Metashape and analyzed in ArcGIS Pro to compare sensor outputs and identify burial-related anomalies. Multispectral imagery was affected by shadows from trees and grave markers and will require recollection under improved lighting. LiDAR identified the greatest number of potential grave indicators, followed by thermal data, suggesting its comparative utility for burial detection in similar landscapes.

### **\*Local or Passing Through? Raw Material Sourcing at Fossil Creek Site, Larimer County, Colorado**

Abigail McFadden (Colorado State University and Center for Mountain and Plains Archaeology)

The Fossil Creek site (5LR13041) is a large, pre-contact Native American campsite with artifacts spanning from the Folsom to the Early Ceramic era. It is located in southwestern Fort Collins along Fossil Creek, a minor tributary of the Poudre River. Archaeology field schools from Colorado State University conducted extensive surveys, shovel testing, and excavation between 2011 and 2018. The work recovered a large, chipped stone and ground stone assemblage, a sizeable quantity of pottery, as well as over twenty radiocarbon dated hearth features. As part of the final report, this poster examines the macrodebitage (generally greater than 2cm in size) recovered via piece plotting in excavation. I focus on the size and raw material sources associated the debitage. By exploring these attributes, this poster aims to refine the understanding of what raw material sources can inform us about past residents' mobility within the local area and greater region.

### **No Name: Excavation of a Late Prehistoric Hunting Blind on the Continental Divide**

Garrett Williams (Metcalf Archaeological Consultants) and Elena Haverluk (Metcalf Archaeological Consultants)

In 2024, Metcalf Archaeological Consultants excavated hunting blind B1 on site 5CF427/5GN1932 as part of the No Name Basin projects. The site is part of a complex of adjacent sites associated with alpine communal hunting on Monarch Pass. Excavation of Feature B1 was productive, revealing a well-defined, prehistorically-excavated pit with a small, charcoal-rich interior hearth. Excavation also revealed evidence of the piling of spoil removed from the pit and the stacking of rocks around the blind for further concealment. Three diagnostic Late Prehistoric projectile points were recovered from excavation, the most common artifact type in the modest artifact assemblage. Consistent with the projectile points, radiocarbon estimations of charcoal from the blind yielded dates suggesting site use about 500 years BP. The blind represents one small but important component of an elaborate complex of interrelated sites with rock features including drive lines, blinds, and cairns, all associated with the proposed Monarch Pass Archaeological District.



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### **Where the Wind Blows: Revisiting the James Allen Site (48AB4) in the Laramie Basin, Wyoming**

Kelton Meyer (Continental Divide Archaeological Center, University of Wyoming), Heather Mckee (Continental Divide Archaeological Center, University of Wyoming), Zach Downey (Continental Divide Archaeological Center, University of Wyoming), Michelle Dinkel (ERO Resources Corporation)

William T. Mulloy excavated the James Allen site in 1951 with the University of Wyoming Archaeological Field School. The team documented a modest bonebed (~50 sq ft) within a natural trap at the base of a shale ridge in the southern Laramie Basin. The excavations uncovered articulated bison remains (MNI ~15) and approximately 30 projectile points of the Late Paleoindian Allen complex. Mulloy (1959) introduced the site as a short-term kill-butchery event, but several questions remain. The presence of scrapers, gravers, miniature points, and burned bison bone suggest Allen complex groups may have camped near the bonebed. In addition, a reported 100-yard refit indicates complex patterns of intra-site mobility. Here we outline a research design to reevaluate the James Allen site using integrated faunal and lithic analyses, targeted fieldwork, and new radiocarbon dating.

### **From the Pocket to the Point Cloud: An Evaluation of On-the-Fly 3D Modeling**

Nick Simpson (SWCA Environmental Consultants), Stephanie Slaughter (SWCA Environmental Consultants), and Mindy Burkitt (SWCA Environmental Consultants)

The increased ubiquity of smart devices in archaeology is expanding opportunities for exploring new methodologies in field data collection. This poster presents a workflow for on-the-fly 3D scanning of archaeological features using smartphones and open-source software. Freely available mobile applications such as RealityScan allow archaeologists to quickly generate photogrammetric models that can be processed and refined with open-source tools such as CloudCompare. In this poster, we evaluate the practical advantages of these methods including rapid documentation, minimal equipment costs, and improved digital curation; alongside their limitations, such as variable accuracy, data management challenges, and field conditions that can affect scan quality. Particular attention is given to ethical considerations surrounding cloud-based data storage, including risks associated with open-source platforms and implications for resource confidentiality and Tribal data sovereignty. This approach demonstrates how accessible digital tools can enhance documentation and preservation while highlighting the need for thoughtful data security for archaeological resources.



# Sunday Funday at the Astor House

A FREE Community Archaeology Event

- Hands-on activity tables
- 3:00 PM - Talk on Astor House excavations and local Golden history

Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> | 1 - 4 pm

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More Info: [CommunityConnections.biz](https://CommunityConnections.biz)

Hosted in Partnership with Community Connections   
and the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists 

CCPA Education Committee presents...



# Student Meet-Up and Networking Hangout



Enjoy your lunch while connecting with other students and professionals in the field. Everyone is welcome to come and greet the next generation of Archaeologists!

**Date**

Saturday, March 28, 2026 at  
Lunch time

**Location**

At the food trucks!

Wear your tags you receive at registration, so everyone knows who is who!





## **CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

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### **Wi-Fi Information**

Network: Howdy Folks! CCPA 2023 Golden

Password: Wherethewestlives

### **Location**

Jeffco Fairgrounds

15200 W 6th Ave,

Golden, CO 80401

### **Ride Share**

CCPA encourages folks to enjoy the conference responsibly and never drink and drive. Use this link to accept two \$5 discounts per person on Uber rides. It is encouraged to carpool and not use the link before you plan to redeem it, so there is availability for everyone! As long as you are being picked up or dropped off at the following locations, you may use the discount code:

- Jeffco Fairground Exhibit Halls (conference location)
- Rock Rest Lodge (early bird location)
- Downtown Golden

<https://r.uber.com/RKWBQCYPLB>

