February Program

Your Guess Is as Good as Any: Authority, Ownership, and Ethics in the Public Interpretation of Rock Art

Date & Time: Thursday, February 27, 6:55 – 8:00 pm MST
Location: Click on http://zoom.us/j/6136944443 any time after 6:45 pm. Program will start at 7 pm.

Presenter: Dr. Richard Rogers, Professor of Communication Studies and Associate Faculty in Women’s and Gender Studies, Northern Arizona University

Description: Interpretive signs at rock art sites, pamphlets available at trailheads, and displays in visitor centers and museums have substantial potential to shape people’s understandings of rock art and indigenous peoples. The U.S. rock art literature, however, offers little in the way of systematic analysis or guidelines for “best practices” in the public interpretation of rock art. The public wants to know, above all, what it means. However, sometimes that knowledge does not exist, sometimes the public dissemination of that knowledge is constrained, sometimes meanings may be fundamentally contested, and sometimes “meaning” is not the only or most relevant information to share. The public interpretation of rock art involves issues of representation, ownership, and authority that complicate any simple sense of interpretation as “Here’s what we know. How can we best communicate that to the

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2019-20 Colorado Rock Art Chapter Officers and Board

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Notes from the CRAA Board  compiled by Lucy Burris

- No new information.

Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events  compiled by Lucy Burris

Locations are in Colorado unless noted. Times are local times at the event location. "Livestream" in the location information means the event can be streamed. See the event web site for information.

On-going
https://maxwellmuseum.unm.edu/exhibits/temporary
- Michener Library, 1st Floor Gallery, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. Exhibit of Pueblo pottery from the Department of Anthropology collection. https://www.unco.edu/hss/anthropology/

Throughout 2020
- Free Entry to National Parks Days in 2020—April 18, August 25, September 26, and November 11.  
https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/fee-free-parks.htm

February
- February 4, 6-7pm—Archaeology Southwest, Tucson, AZ and livestream. Kyle Woodson presents "Why You Should Experience Casa Grande Ruins National Monument".  
https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/event/why-you-should-experience-casa-grande-ruins-national-monument/

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public?” The tensions involved in developing interpretive materials are shaped by available knowledge about rock art, the role of affiliated indigenous communities, ownership claims, institutional and regulatory practices, and the informational desires of visitors. By examining examples of public interpretation, common problems and some central tensions are identified, hopefully serving as a foundation for future discussions of “best” and “worst” practices in the public interpretation of rock art.

**Presenter Background:** Dr. Richard Rogers is a Professor of Communication Studies and Associate Faculty in Women’s and Gender Studies at Northern Arizona University. A rock art enthusiast, avocational archaeologist, and cultural critic, he has explored the rock art and archaeology of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin for more than 25 years. He monitors, surveys, and assists with recording archaeological sites as a volunteer for the Coconino National Forest, and has taught the Archaeology of Rock Art for NAU’s Department of Anthropology. His research, focusing on intercultural communication, cultural appropriation, and gender, race, and ethnicity, has appeared in a variety of academic journals, *American Indian Rock Art*, and his 2018 book, *Petroglyphs, Pictographs, and Projections: Native American Rock Art in the Contemporary Cultural Landscape*.”

**How do you join our web lecture?**

Join from your PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android, includes tablets and smart phones. Starting at 6:45 pm on the webinar date you can join our web lecture using the information below.

1. Go to zoom.us and click "Join a Meeting" at top right and then enter our meeting number 613-694-4443. Follow the zoom application instructions. If you have used zoom before you will likely go straight to the lecture page. If you have problems, please call the help line below and a monitor will help you get online.
2. Click on this link [http://zoom.us/j/6136944443](http://zoom.us/j/6136944443) Follow the zoom application instructions. If you have used zoom before you will likely go straight to the lecture page. If you have problems, please email the help line below and Joel Hurmence will help you get online.
3. If you haven’t used zoom in recent months, be sure to update to the latest software version.

**Help line.** If you do have issues email coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com with a description of the issue you are experiencing. We will have someone monitoring the email account from 6:45pm until 7:15pm.

**Missed a past webinar?**

Some of our past webinars are available to CRAA members in the "Members" section of the Colorado Rock Art Association web site.
1. BIGHORN SHEEP HEAD-DRESSES AND HORNED ANTHROPOMORPHS, PART 1 - ARCHAIC PEOPLES

Here in the west images of anthropomorphs with horned headdresses are found from the beginning. From Archaic rock art to present Puebloan kachina, headdresses with two bighorn sheep horns can be found. In an April 18, 2019, webinar titled Southwestern Rock Art and the Mesoamerican Connection presented to the Colorado Rock Art Association, Dr. James Farmer suggested that southern images such as Tlaloc were influenced by northern Barrier Canyon Style rock art (2019 Farmer, and 2019 Farmer, personal communication).

This may have also been the case with influences transmitted down through time, as well as from north to south, from Archaic cultures to the historic and modern Native American tribes of the Southwest. One theme which is common in Barrier Canyon Style rock art as well as rock art of the Fremont people is an anthropomorph wearing a horned headdress. Some of these headdresses are recognizable as pronghorn antelope horns, or deer antlers, but many appear to feature bighorn sheep horns. This is also the case with present day Puebloan peoples whose Aalosaka and Muyingwa kachinas wear bighorn sheep headdresses. Many of the Puebloan peoples also have Two-Horn Societies whose members wear two-horned headdresses. Indeed, a photo of such a headdress was included in the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1893-94, Government Printing Office, Washington D.C., 1897.

"An amazing artifact, a prehistoric bighorn sheep headdress, is part of the Tommy Morris collection exhibited at the College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum in Price, Utah. The artifact was apparently found on the eastern edge of the San Rafael Swell near the Colorado or Green River. This region is home to both Desert Archaic and Fremont peoples, both regularly hunted bighorn sheep and created rock art galleries featuring horned anthropomorphs and bighorn sheep imagery. The San Rafael Swell is also the core area for the distribution of Barrier Canyon Style pictographs, and all major river canyons in this area include painted rock art.
Perhaps the most remarkable manifestations of the creativity of Archaic peoples are the Barrier Canyon style rock art panels mentioned above.

"The bighorn sheep headdress, as it appears in the display case in the Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum today, is tied together with cordage and is decorated with fifteen Olivella shell beads. This present configuration is partially a reconstruction of what Tommy Morris and previous museum curators thought the headdress might have look like when it was in use. It does not appear to be representative of how the artifact was originally found in the 1960s. Notes at the museum document that the headdress was found in two pieces with drilled holes in the cranium with six Olivella shell beads scattered around it." (Garfinkel 2014:2)

The Archaic culture in the American West is represented by the pre-agricultural hunting and gathering lifestyle.

One place that exhibits Archaic horned figures in great abundance is the Coso Rock Art District in California. These figures are presumed to date to many thousands of years BC, and represent one of the greatest concentrations of Archaic rock art in North America. Indeed, the early people who inhabited the Coso area also produced huge numbers of images of desert bighorn sheep, indicating a very early significant correlation between the sheep and horned anthropomorphs.

In Utah and western Colorado this lifestyle culminated in the people who produced the distinctive Barrier Canyon Style rock art. "Barrier Canyon Style (BCS) describes a distinctive style of rock art which appears mostly in Utah, with the largest concentration of sites in and around the San Rafael Swell and Canyonlands.
National Park, but the full range extend(s) into much of the state and western Colorado. - These panels are believed to have been created during the archaic period (probably late archaic) and are estimated (from direct and indirect carbon 14 dates) to be somewhere in the range of 1500 to 4000 years old, possibly older - clay figurines of a similar style found in Cowboy Cave (in a tributary canyon to Horseshoe Canyon) have been dated to over 7000 years old." (Wikipedia)

"Given the need for more accurate dating of the headdress discussions ensued with the analysts at Beta Radiocarbon Laboratories. It was decided that the most accurate dates would not be on bone or shell but on the textile materials - that is the milkweed cordage that served to attach the beads directly to the bighorn sheep cranium. The radiocarbon age for this material provided a measured determination of 720 plus or minus 30 before present (BP) with a conventional age of 950 plus or minus 30 BP. With a 2 sigma calibration that radiocarbon date converts to a calendar age of AD 1020 to 1160 (cal 930 to 790)." (Garfinkel 2014:8) While this date is later than the Barrier Canyon Style art presented here, the fact that so many BCS figures possess horns suggests that earlier examples of the bighorn sheep headdress existed, but may not now survive.

NOTE: I wish to thank Dr. Tim Riley, Curator of Archaeology of the Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum, in Price, Utah for providing the photograph of the Bighorn Sheep headdress and accompanying information.

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REFERENCES:
Farmer, James, Dr. 2019 Southwestern Rock Art and the Mesoamerican Connection, April 18, 2019, online webinar presented to Colorado Rock Art Association.

2. BIGHORN SHEEP HEADDRESSES AND HORNED ANTHROPOMORPHS,
PART 2 - FREMONT AND LATER
On January 4 (see previous pages), I presented Part 1 of this look at Bighorn Sheep Headdresses and Horned Anthropomorphs in rock art of Archaic peoples. This continuation looks at examples from the Fremont and later Ancestral Pueblo and Navajo cultures.
"An amazing artifact, a prehistoric bighorn sheep headdress, is part of the Tommy Morris collection exhibited at the College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum in Price, Utah. The artifact was apparently found on the eastern

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edge of the San Rafael Swell near the Colorado or Green River. This region is home to both Desert Archaic and Fremont peoples, both regularly hunted bighorn sheep and created rock art galleries featuring horned anthropomorphs and bighorn sheep imagery." (Garfinkel 2014:2)

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"The Fremont culture or Fremont people is a pre-Columbian archaeological culture which received its name from the Fremont River in the U.S. state of Utah, where the culture's sites were discovered by local indigenous peoples like the Navajo and Ute. - It inhabited sites in what is now Utah and parts of Nevada, Idaho and Colorado from AD1 to 1301 (2,000 - 700 years ago). It was adjacent to, roughly contemporaneous with, but distinctly different from the Ancestral Pueblo peoples located to their south." (Wikipedia)

Many of the anthropomorphs portrayed in Fremont rock art are shown wearing horned headdresses. A few of these can be identified as pronghorn antelope horns or deer antlers by branching shapes but most are unbranched projections upward from a headdress - often curved - and are assumed to represent bighorn sheep headdresses.

The tradition of horned headdresses can be followed down to the present day with the example of the Pueblo loan people’s Two-Horn Kachinas Aalosaka and Muyingwa, and the Two-Horn society members, all of whom wear two-horned headdresses.

"Aalosaka is a supreme being, a deity of the Two-Horn society. He is revered by the society members as supremely wholesome and spiritually powerful. He is one of the Mongkatsinam, appearing singly with the
mixed katsina group. Muyingwa is a Germination god possessing the great knowledge and duties related to agriculture. He ritually insures that the processes for plant life will properly develop and the plants sprout for eventual life sustenance. He is one of the Mongkatsinam, appearing singly with the mixed katsina group." (Secakuku 1995:25)

Members of the Two-Horn Society seem to act as security for some Hopi ceremonials. On the fourth night of the Wuwuchim "the One Horn and Two Horn Societies close all the roads that lead to our villages. They do that so as to clear the spiritual highway that leads from there to the rising sun." (Tyler 1964:16) And on other occasions - "another fertility god, Germinator, who may be called either Muimgwu or Alosaka. Germinator is highly specialized as a fertility god, and his underworld aspects are closely confined to the subject, although the Two Horn Society members represent him on the night of the dead." (Tyler 1964:19)

The Navajo equivalent of Muyingwa is Ganaskidi (meaning humpback), the "God of harvests, plenty and of mists. He is said to live at Depehahatil, a canyon with many ruined cliff dwellings north of San Juan. According to tradition he is the apotheosis of a bighorn sheep. His priest wears a blue mask with no hair fringe but with a spruce crown and collar." (godfinder.org)

NOTE: For further information you should read the original reports at the sites listed with each blog post.

I wish to thank Dr. Tim Riley, Curator of Archaeology of the Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum, in Price, Utah for providing the photograph of the Bighorn Sheep headdress and accompanying information.

REFERENCES:
godfinder.org/index.html?q=Navaho


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Tyler, Hamilton A. 1964 Pueblo Gods and Myths, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman


Note to both blog posts: Some images in these postings were retrieved from the internet with a search for public domain photographs. If any of these images are not intended to be public domain, I apologize, and will happily provide the picture credits if the owner will contact me with them. For further information on content in either of the reports you should read the original reports at the sites listed.

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Spring Program for Avocational Archaeology Classes

Spring PAAC Classes are offered through History Colorado and hosted by local archaeological societies. Fees vary by class and location, see [https://www.historycolorado.org/paac-event-schedule](https://www.historycolorado.org/paac-event-schedule) for registration details.

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<tr>
<td>Archaeological Practice in Colorado</td>
<td>May 5, 12, 19, 26</td>
<td>History Colorado-OAHP</td>
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<td>Basic Site Surveying Techniques</td>
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<td>June 5-7</td>
<td>CAS-Pike's Peak Chapter</td>
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<td>May 15-18</td>
<td>San Juan Basin Archaeological Society</td>
<td>Fort Lewis College (Durango)</td>
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Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events (cont.)

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- February 8, 2pm—El Paso Museum of Archaeology, El Paso, TX. Carol Chamberland presents "Eleven Years in the High Desert: Rock Art Recording in Central New Mexico".  
- February 10, 6:30—Colorado Archaeological Society, Grand Junction Chapter. Fred Blackburn presents "Inscriptions on Walls at Aztec, New Mexico". https://www.meetup.com/CAS-GJ/events/266009772/
- February 12, 6:30-7:30pm—Colorado Archaeological Society, Northern Colorado Chapter, Fort Collins. Monthly general meeting. http://casncc.org/events
- February 12, 7-9pm—University of Denver, Center for Art Collection Ethics. Dr. Angela Parker moderates a panel discussion on "Ethical Stewardship of Contemporary Native Art". Open to the public. https://www.du.edu/events/ethical-stewardship-contemporary-native-art
- February 13, 6:30pm—School for Advanced Research, Linda S. Cordell Lecture, Santa Fe, NM. Ruth Van Dyke presents "Chaco Landscapes: Sensory and Political Engagements with Place". Free for SAR members, $10 for others. Preregistration required. https://sarweb.org/public-lectures/
- February 13, 7pm—University of Colorado, Boulder. Samantha Fladd moderates a panel discussion on "Mesa Verde: Current Questions and Debates in the Discipline of Southwest Archaeology". https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/mesa_verde_current_questions_and_debates_in_the_discipline_of_southwest_archaeology#.Xi3fNmhKiHs
- February 20-23—Utah Professional Archaeological Council Spring Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT. https://www.upaconline.org/upcoming-current-meeting

March

- March 3-6—Friends of Cedar Mesa, Bluff, UT. Celebrate Cedar Mesa 2020. https://www.friendsofcedarmesa.org/events/ (note that there is a space after the last "/" in this link)
- March 5-8—Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists Annual Meeting and Conference, Pueblo. http://coloradoarchaeologists.org/meetings-events/annual-meeting/

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Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events (cont.)

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- March 10, 7 pm—Wyoming Archaeological Society, June Frison Chapter, Laramie, WY. Sue and Terry Green give a presentation on rock art. https://www.facebook.com/JuneFrisonChapterWAS

- March 11, 7pm—Archaeology Institute of America Lecture, Boulder. Stephen Nash presents "Tree-ring Dating and the History of Archaeology in the American Southwest". https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/an_embarrassment_of_riches_tree-ring_dating_and_the_history_of_archaeology_in_the_american_southwest#.XgkJGlVKjmg

- March 14, 10am-3pm—Arizona State Museum, Tucson, AZ. Benefit sale of Native American Art. https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/events/benefit-sale-native-american-art


April and May


- April 7, 6-7pm—Archaeology Southwest, Tucson, AZ and livestream. Dr. Paul Reed presents "Why You Should Experience Aztec and Salmon". https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/event/why-you-should-experience-aztec-and-salmon/


- April 16-19—Montana Archaeological Society 62nd Annual Meeting, Polson, MT. http://mtarchaeologicalsociety.org/mas-meeting/

- April 18—San Juan Basin Archaeological Society, Durango. Rock art field trip to Bluff, UT. Registration required, limited to 10 participants, limited to SIBAS members. http://www.sjbas.org/Trips.htm

- April 18, 4pm & April 19, 2pm—Tesoro Lecture Series, Littleton (18th) and Denver Public Library (19th – livestream). Dr. Catherine Franklin presents "Much Ado About Custer: Rethinking the Indian Wars". https://www.tesoroculturalcenter.org/historic-lecture-series/


- April 22-26—Society for American Archaeology, 85th Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.

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Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events (cont.)

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- April 25, 4pm & April 26, 2-3pm—Tesoro Lecture Series, Littleton (25th) and Denver Public Library (26th – livestream). John Steinle presents "The Great America Desert: Major Stephen Long’s Colorado Expedition of 1820". [https://www.tesoroculturalcenter.org/historic-lecture-series/](https://www.tesoroculturalcenter.org/historic-lecture-series/)
- May 1-3—Wyoming Archaeological Society Spring Meeting, Sheridan, WY. [http://www.wyomingarchaeology.org/2019-was-spring-meeting.html](http://www.wyomingarchaeology.org/2019-was-spring-meeting.html)
- May 6, 7pm—Archaeology Institute of America Lecture, Boulder. Dr. Samantha Fladd presents "Trash: Examining Depositional Patterns within Ancestral Pueblo Villages". [https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/aia_lecture_accumulating_identities_in_trash_examining_depositional_patterns_within_ancestral_pueblo_villages#Xi3fumhKiHs](https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/aia_lecture_accumulating_identities_in_trash_examining_depositonal_patterns_within_ancestral_pueblo_villages#Xi3fumhKiHs)
- May 8-10—Archaeological Society of New Mexico Annual Meeting, Taos, NM. [https://taosarch.wildapricot.org/ASNM2020](https://taosarch.wildapricot.org/ASNM2020)

Later in 2020

- June 5-8—American Rock Art Research Association Conference, Great Falls, MT. [https://orara.wildapricot.org](https://orara.wildapricot.org)
- August 6-9—Pecos Conference, Mancos, CO. [https://www.pecosconference.org/](https://www.pecosconference.org/)
- October 14-17—37th Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Las Vegas, NV. [https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org/](https://greatbasinanthropologicalassociation.org/)
- October 22-25—Texas Archaeological Society 91st Annual Meeting, Houston, TX. [https://www.txarch.org/tas-annual-meeting](https://www.txarch.org/tas-annual-meeting)
- November 4-7—78th Plains Anthropological Conference, Boulder, CO. [https://plainsanthropologicalsociety.org/annual-meeting/future](https://plainsanthropologicalsociety.org/annual-meeting/future)

Information is accurate at the time of preparation but check the listed web sites for specific details and any changes. Check the listed web sites for any fees, membership, and advance registration requirements. Listing does not imply endorsement by the Colorado Rock Art Association.