

ARCHAEOLOGY SESSION II

THE INTERPRETATION OF FAUNAL REMAINS FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES
IN THE GREAT BASIN

by Richard and Sheilagh Brooks, and Alan C. Ziegler

A sufficient number of archaeological sites have been investigated in the Great Basin area so that a preliminary compilation can be made of the identified faunal remains recovered in these excavations. The Carlo Site, Deer Creek Site, Falcon Hill Site, Humbolt Cave, and Tule Springs Site are examples of Great Basin archaeological sites from which faunal remains have been collected and subsequently identified by the authors, and John Mawby, Paleontology Department, University of California, Berkeley. Supplementing this data with published faunal descriptions, as from Gypsum Cave, Lovelock Cave, or Corn Creek Sites, this paper proposes a correlation of these faunal lists, interpreting them on the basis of ecological and archaeological factors.

The current distributions, as well as the historical backgrounds, have been derived from the zoological literature for the mammalian populations of the Great Basin area; and, the archaeological data allows a projection backward and extension of these distributions over time and space. The archaeological interpretation of the use of this bone, aided by ethnographic accounts, has established the parameters of the environmental relationship between man and the fauna of the region.

PALEOLIMNOLOGY AND PREHISTORY IN THE DESERT WEST

by J. J. De Costa and C.N. Warren

Usually archaeologists have not used all the data that could be available to them as evidence of climatic change and other environmental factors. Paleolimnology can be helpful in elucidating some of these problems. Such studies have already demonstrated the advent of agricultural man in Austria and an absence of climatic change has been shown in pre-Columbia time in the area of the Mayan Culture. Pollen from terrestrial plants has traditionally been used as an indicator of climatic change, however, aquatic micro-organisms seem to respond more quickly even to subtle climatic changes. Situations are discussed in which paleolimnological data in the Great Basin would be of great value at the present time.

TREE-RING CHRONOLOGY BUILDING IN BRISTLECONE PINE

by C. W. Ferguson

A framework has been established for a 4,600-year tree-ring chronology for bristlecone pine, Pinus aristata, in the White Mountains of east-central California. Current studies are adding weight, in terms of the number of included specimens, and refinement to the chronology. Computer programs have been established for the processing of dated and measured ring series. The study is supplemented by radiocarbon analysis.

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CONCEPT OF CONTEXTUALISM APPLIED TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ANALYSIS OF FAUNAL MIGRATORY TRAILS IN GREAT BASIN
PREHISTORY

by Zenon Pohorecky

Isolated bits of information, whether they be in a situation of social interaction or in encyclopedic catalogs of specimens gathered from archaeological sites, gain significance only in some context. An idea so fundamental can be easily overlooked, when scholars concentrate on the most directly relevant technical aspects of some precise study. The lack of archaeological wealth in the Great Basin sites, which produce little of intrinsic value, is itself an item that calls for extension of analytic modes to encompass such "territorial features" as faunal migratory trails, so that the available data (from particular sites) might be most meaningful. It is not a distribution type of analysis, although this does tend to cast certain sites into a continental perspective. Our approach simply recognizes what was probably very important to aborigines-- food. Original substantive data here are drawn from work done in the Plains, but are relevant to the Basin. Also, zoological studies in the Great Basin in the past few years are cited as a guide to such study.

UCLA's ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN SOUTHERN UTAH IN 1964

by Jay Ruby and Wayne Alexander

This will be a progress report of the archaeological work carried on by the University of California, Los Angeles Summer Field School in Southwestern Utah. Two Pueblid Mounds, one near Summit and one near Parawan, Utah were excavated. The results of this work broadens our knowledge of the settlement patterns as well as the general material culture of the Pueblids.

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

by Ruth Dee Simpson

On February 1, 1964, the San Bernardino County Museum, in a cooperative undertaking with the Archeological Survey Association of Southern California, dedicated a new Archeological Research Center. Emphasis of projects undertaken at this Center will be on evidence of human occupation more than 5000 years old.

The San Bernardino County Museum is beginning a program calling for an archeological survey of the entire county, which is an integral element of the Great Basin. This program is vast in scope and must necessarily be activated one unit at a time. It is anticipated that, following upon Dr. Gerald Smith's preliminary survey of the Mohave River drainage, the first project will be a detailed coverage of this region.

It is also apparent that several salvage operations must be undertaken in the near future and that the recording of petroglyph and pictograph sites should be accelerated. Completion of the Manix Basin Survey, which the writer began several years ago, is at hand and will be followed by publication.

The Bureau of Land Management is undertaking the establishment of a natural resources reserve in the south-central Mohave Desert, a project with which the San Bernardino County Museum is closely associated.

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