



# *In-Situ*



Newsletter of the Nevada Archaeological Association

Vol. 11, No. 4

Winter 2007

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

Greg Seymour, NAA President

Well, it has been an eventful year and next year promises to be the same. The next quarterly board meeting is being held in Caliente on January 26<sup>th</sup>. All members are welcome. For all of you who are Site Stewards, there will be a ceramics workshop on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> before the board meeting. The annual conference is being held in Minden at the Carson Valley Inn on April 11, 12, and 13<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more details. Look for the membership renewal further back in this newsletter. The Board undertook the first of a series of strategic planning exercises at the last board meeting. The meeting was held at Pine Creek in Nye County north of the historic Town of Belmont. Pine Creek flows from the eastern side of the Toiyabe Range in the Toiyabe National Forest. This small campground is just one of the beautiful places in our state.

Feel like you want to contribute something more to archaeology in Nevada? There will be a board position open this spring. Family responsibilities require that I step down. My last responsibilities will be at the meeting in April. I

have had great time and have really liked working with everyone.

Round 1 and Round 2 of the Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative. The approved Round 1 nominations should be advertised in Grants.gov by mid-January. Round 2 nominations should open shortly after that. You will be able to get current information and the nomination materials at the BLM Ely Field Office website [www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elyfield\\_office.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elyfield_office.html) or you can call Colleen Beck or email her at [Colleen.Beck@dri.edu](mailto:Colleen.Beck@dri.edu) or 702-862-5323

The NAA received two grants this year from the State Historic Preservation Office. One is for the design, production and distribution of the annual poster and pamphlets for the Nevada Archaeology and Historic preservation month. The Nevada SHPO and the NAA have teamed up on this important project for a number of years. The theme for the poster will be recognition of New Deal programs in Nevada. The other grant continues support of the Nevada Site Steward Program.

## Dues Are Due

Although it might feel like you just wrote out your last membership dues check, it is that time of the year again. Attached to this issue of *In-Situ* is the 2008 membership form. Please fill it out and send it in with the appropriated amount of dues money: Filling out the membership form is an important part of paying your dues, since the form is used to keep track of who has paid and everyone's current addresses.

### **Quarterly NAA Board of Directors Meeting**

The next quarterly board meeting is being held in Caliente at 3:00 p.m. on January 26<sup>th</sup> at the Art League room in the Depot. All members are welcome. For all of you who are Site Stewards, there will be a ceramics workshop on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 3 pm. For further information contact Liz Russell at [ednev@lcturbonet.com](mailto:ednev@lcturbonet.com). A field trip to "The Gathering" (or as the locals call it, "The Gallery of the Ancients" is being planned for Saturday morning before the board meeting.

### **NEWS FROM AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **Archaeo-Nevada Society**

Dr. Kevin Rafferty

The Archaeo-Nevada Society has had a busy fall season. Three very informative programs were put on for the membership by members of the southern Nevada archaeological community. In September Robert Leavitt of Knight & Leavitt Associates (KLA) talked about the work being done by KLA in the Coyote Springs valley in Clark and Lincoln counties. October saw Dr. Frederick Conquest of the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) speaking about water manipulation and irrigation in desert environments both prehistorically and in modern-day Las Vegas. In November Mark Boatwright of the Bureau of Land Management and Dr. Elizabeth Warren, local historian and preservation activist, made a presentation about the Old Spanish Trail in southern Nevada. This was followed by a field trip to portions of the trail located in the Goodsprings area the Saturday following the talk.

Future talks will include Dr. Kevin Rafferty of CSN talking about the preliminary results of the

2007 CSN Survey field school in Valley of Fire State Park; Dr. David Weide speaking about the cave paintings of Lascaux, France; Gregory Haynes of DRI speaking about recent work at the Virgin Anasazi site of Main Ridge; and other topics of interest.

Archaeo-Nevada is trying to establish a scholarship fund to help archaeology and anthropology students at CSN, UNLV, and Nevada State College (NSC) defray some of their educational expenses. If anyone wishes to assist in this endeavor please contact the ANS President Dr. Kevin Rafferty at [kevin.rafferty@csn.edu](mailto:kevin.rafferty@csn.edu)

Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at the West Charleston campus of CSN, in Room B-203. All are welcome. If you are traveling in the southern Nevada area please come see us. In January the meeting room will change, so contact the number below for the new room location. You can contact ANS President Dr. Kevin Rafferty at the above e-mail address or at 702-651-5715.

#### **Lincoln County Chapter**

Liz Russell

We have been meeting bi-monthly. In September we took a field trip through Rainbow Canyon visiting petroglyph sites and rock shelters. We had a picnic lunch at the Rainbow's End Ranch, and some of the members purchased and picked apples. There are some fantastic rock art sites in the canyon. On Nov. 28, Greg Haynes gave a presentation to the group. He talked About the excavations at Pueblo Grande de Nevada. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and there was quite a bit of discussion about his findings. This coming January, in conjunction with the quarterly NAA Board meeting, there will be a pottery workshop presented by Eva Jensen.



### **Elko County Chapter (ECCNAA)**

Meetings will be held on the first Friday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. in a variety of locations. Please check each month as times may change. Everyone interested in archaeology is welcome to attend. For further information contact Donna Murphy at 738-6269 or [murphys@citlink.net](mailto:murphys@citlink.net).

### **Nevada Rock Art Foundation**

For information regarding upcoming events, contact [info@nevadarockart.org](mailto:info@nevadarockart.org) or call 775-323-6723 (northern Nevada) or 702-804-6723 (in southern Nevada) to reserve a place and see the Calendar of Events below for dates of upcoming Training Workshops. Visit the NRAF website at <http://www.nevadarockart.org>.

### **Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Report**

By Sali A. Underwood

After being involved in the program now for almost two years, the main focus has now turned to getting the word out to stewards, agencies and other participants in the program. Training has been a main focus since I began as the site stewardship coordinator. Classes have been held, training materials have been digitized, manuals and forms have been updated and many new stewards have joined the program. Now it is time to get a newsletter going, a website designed and more interaction among the army of volunteers involved in this great program. I am excited to move into this next phase and welcome any and all comments from stewards, partners and agencies. I would like to post your stories in the next *Nevada Pastwatch* newsletter. Tell me what it is like to be a steward, agency rep or partner. Tell funny stories or special moments such as being eye to eye with an antelope, etc. I will post as many as I can either on the SHPO web site or in the newsletter, which will eventually become part of the SHPO web. The plan is to have the reporting stewardship forms submitted directly from the web site; so stay tuned! In the meantime check out [nevadasitestewards.org](http://nevadasitestewards.org) which is run by Penny and Bob Clabaugh. They have done a great job posting events and materials for the program!

### **Site Stewardship Training**

The Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Program is pleased to announce a Stewardship Basic Training class to be held on February 16, 2008 at the Pahrump Valley Museum from 9 am to 3:30 pm. This class is free of charge and open to all those individuals who are interested in volunteering to help preserve Nevada's heritage through checking the condition of sites on Public Lands.

The class covers historic preservation and archaeological laws, site etiquette, reporting and safety and will allow volunteers to steward sites throughout Nevada. After certification an additional 4-hours of field training is required before volunteers are assigned to monitor the condition of an archaeological site. The stewards visit their sites at least four times a year and report their findings to the archaeologist for the responsible land agency. This information is then used to help manage the archaeological and paleontological resources located on Public Lands.

Please contact Sali A. Underwood at [saunderw@clain.lib.nv.us](mailto:saunderw@clain.lib.nv.us) or (702) 486-5011 to sign up. The class is limited to 20 people. Active stewards are also welcome to refresh their skills and knowledge with this course.

## SOLICITATIONS, EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pottery Workshop for Site Stewards and NAA Members

On Friday before the next NAA Board meeting the NAA will host a pottery identification workshop. The workshop will be held in Caliente on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Location will be at the BLM office or the Council Room at the Depot. The workshop is open to site stewards and NAA members. Space will be limited. Contact Eva Jensen at: [eajensen@comnett.net](mailto:eajensen@comnett.net) if you would like to attend. Lincoln County folks can contact Liz Russell. This will be a repeat of the previous workshops. If you attended last December or January, you should consider letting others have a turn. We will repeat the workshop at a later date if there is interest.

### Mt. Trumbull Prehistory Project, Field School

Nevada State College ([www.nsc.nevada.edu](http://www.nsc.nevada.edu)) is offering a three-week archaeological field school in northwestern Arizona at Mt. Trumbull, just north of the Grand Canyon. Two sessions are offered: Session 1 June 16-July 4 and Session 2 July 7-July 25. Students may take one or both sessions. This years field sessions will focus on archaeological survey and site recording--there will be no excavation. The session includes instruction in basic laboratory procedures as well.

Dr. Paul Buck (NSC and Desert Research Institute, [www.dri.edu/People/paul](http://www.dri.edu/People/paul)) and Ms. Sachiko Sakai (Univ. California Santa Barbara) are the course instructors. This course is an excellent opportunity to learn the basics of

archaeological survey, site mapping, and laboratory analyses, including artifact recognition, recording procedures, and analytic methods. Lectures, discussions, and field trips will help participants learn about the prehistoric Southwest, especially the Virgin Anasazi of NW Arizona and SW Utah. Application Deadline: May 01, 2008

#### Contact information

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### Pueblo Pottery Conference

Dr. Margaret Lyneis, Flagstaff, Arizona

The Museum of Northern Arizona and the Kaibab-Vermilion Cliff Alliance co-sponsored the conference, "Prehistoric Pueblo Pottery North and West of the Colorado River" on November 9-10, 2007, at the Museum of Northern Arizona. Its purpose was to review Harold S. Colton's *Pottery Types of the Arizona Strip and Adjacent Areas in Utah and Arizona* (1952). Colton has been the standard reference for pottery systematics across the region for more than a half-century.

Margaret Lyneis and Kelley Hayes-Gilpin convened the conference in Pearson Hall, with more than forty archaeologists attending. Folks from Nevada included Sharlyn Anderson, Paul Buck, Nancy Grey, Karen Harry, Eva Jensen, and Laurie Perry.

The conference is just the beginning of a group effort to produce a new, current classification, and new descriptions. Preliminary write-ups will appear in *Pottery Southwest*, beginning with its next issue. *Pottery Southwest* is a free, on-line journal, which can be accessed at: [www.unm.edu/~psw](http://www.unm.edu/~psw).



**2008 CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on Nevada History: *Alphabet Soup: The New Deal in Nevada***  
**May 20-21, 2008, Nevada Historical Society**

March 2008 represents the seventy-fifth anniversary of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's inauguration and the start of his New Deal program to fight the effects of the Great Depression. The Nevada Historical Society will present the Eighth Biennial Conference on Nevada History May 20-21, 2008 in the NHS Library in Reno. *Alphabet Soup: The New Deal in Nevada* will take a look at the era of the Great Depression and FDR's legacy in the Silver State.

All interested persons are invited to submit proposals for papers to be presented at the conference. While we encourage papers relating to this era, we welcome papers pertaining to the history and culture of Nevada, the Great Basin, and the West. Students, consider sharing your latest research by giving a short talk on your "works-in-progress." Slides, PowerPoint, posters, and other visuals are encouraged.

Please submit a one-page proposal and a short biographical sketch to the Director of the Nevada Historical Society by March 15, 2008. Each proposal must include a mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee and a program will be composed by early April. Outstanding presentations will be considered for inclusion in the *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly*. Please call or email if you have any questions.

**Submission Deadline: March 15, 2008**

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**NAA Website**

Check out [www.nvarch.org](http://www.nvarch.org), NAA's official website, constructed and maintained by Web Master, Hal Rager. Feel free to stop by for a visit on your next trip on the cyber highway. The website has lots of useful information, such as how to order your very own NAA mug or back issues of *Nevada Archaeologist*. It also contains links to other related web sites.

**Job Announcement**

ASM Affiliates, Inc., an archaeological firm with offices in California, Nevada, and Wyoming, is seeking a Senior Archaeologist for its Reno, Nevada office. A Ph.D. or Master's degree in Anthropology with five or more years of professional experience, excellent writing skills, and prior field supervision experience is required. Specialization in Nevada/Great Basin archaeology is mandatory, with experience in the California desert preferred. Skills in artifact analysis is a plus. Candidate will work closely with other ASM staff members and under the direction of ASM's Principals.

The position will remain open until filled. Send cover letter, resume, salary requirements, and references to Catherine Wright at [cawright@asmaffiliates.com](mailto:cawright@asmaffiliates.com)

ASM provides archaeological services to federal, state, and local government agencies and private clients throughout the West. We offer a competitive salary, generous benefit package, and are an Equal Opportunity Employer. For more information, visit: [www.asmaffiliates.com](http://www.asmaffiliates.com)



## PROJECTS, ARTICLES, MINI REPORTS

### A Biconically Drilled Cobble from Paiute Meadows

David Valentine

Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area

Paiute Meadows is a ranch on the east side of the Black Rock Range near the north end. There is a large meadow watered by Paiute Creek where the ranch is based. Parts of the meadow are wet year round, and willows, tules, cattails, and other marsh resources are abundant in the area. A few Section 106 inventories have been conducted in the area, but otherwise it is largely unexplored archaeologically. Elephant Mountain Cave, which was looted by the infamous Jack Harelson, is nearby. The cave, if properly excavated, would have yielded significant information on the last 10,000 plus years of Native American use of the area (Barker *et al.* 2008).

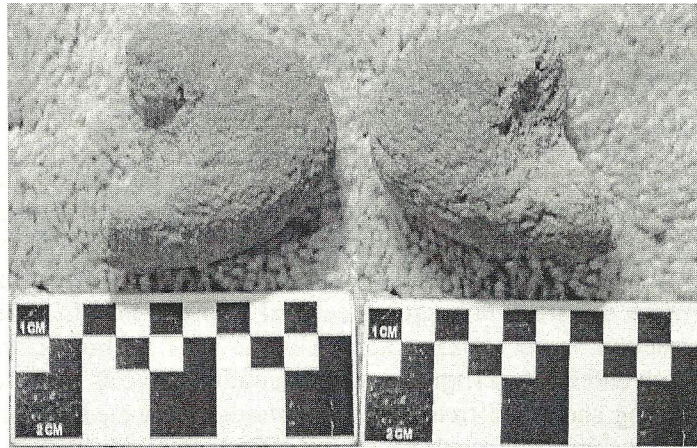
A number of years ago, the owner of the Paiute Meadows Ranch closed public access through her property. This access, however, was the best way to get to the east side of the north Black Rock Range. Numerous complaints from the public about lack of access prompted Nevada law makers to appropriate money for the Bureau of Land Management to construct a road around the ranch. As part of the environmental assessment process for the proposed road, a cultural resources inventory was conducted. Numerous prehistoric sites were located during this inventory (no surprise from an area called Paiute Meadows!).

On one of the sites, a rather unusual artifact was found. A biconically drilled cobble that broke during manufacture (Figures 1 and 2). The cobble is a stream rolled cobble of frothy rhyolite tuff with inclusions of pumice and quartz crystals. The northern Black Rock range is covered with a wide variety of Tertiary volcanic rocks (Willden 1964), and the cobble was most likely locally acquired. Maximum dimensions are currently 6.6 cm long by 7.5 cm wide by 5.2 cm thick. Its estimated pre-break length was 11.4 cm. The drill hole on one side is 2.3 cm deep, and roughly 3.9 cm diameter tapering down to about 0.5 cm. The drill hole on the other side is 1.9 cm deep, approximately 4.3 mm diameter tapering to 0.9 cm. There is 1.0 cm of undrilled rock separating the two holes (Figure 3).

Drilled rocks like this are not unheard of in the Great Basin. They are often referred as centrally perforated stone discs, or drilled stone discs. They have been found in open air, rockshelter, and cave sites throughout the Great Basin. Tuohy (1986:226-227) summarizes the known occurrences of these artifacts and proposes some possible uses. Tuohy surmised that these types of artifacts were most likely spindle whorls in the eastern Great Basin, but he was unwilling to choose one function over another elsewhere in the region. Proposed functions include: wand heads, top fragments, pendants, a transit, or flywheels for pump drills. Stone discs recovered from the Humboldt Sink area are elaborately decorated (Heizer 1974), but most are merely shaped into rather thin discs or ovals. There does not seem to be any preference for stone type.

The Paiute Meadows' example broke during manufacture, but does seem to fit into the larger end of the size range of this type of artifact, although if it had survived the manufacturing process, it could have been much smaller. The stone type chosen is abrasive, and it is possible that the intended function was a shaft straightener or smoother. Naturally, more research into this type of artifact is needed!





Figures 1 and 2. Both sides of the biconically drilled stone disc.



Figure 3. End view showing undrilled section.

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## Halfway House Stage Station Data Recovery

William White, Statistical Research

A two-week-long data recovery project involving a portion of the mid-nineteenth century Halfway House site, 26OR308, was completed in December. Located at the junction of the California Emigrant and American Flat Toll Roads east of Carson City on Highway 50, the project was jointly directed by Mike Drews, Gnomon, Inc. and William White, Statistical Research, Inc. in cooperation with Zeier & Associates. The work is part of an ongoing cultural resource treatment plan for the Virginia & Truckee Railroad Reconstruction. Project work is funded by the V&T Railroad Commission. The Nevada Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration serve as the lead agencies.

Crewmembers, braving snow and freezing temperatures, conducted surface scrapes of 134 one-by-one-meter units, a few reaching the depth of 40 cm. Work focused on two areas of high artifact density. In addition, two linear trenches were dug to expose the buried profile of the emigrant road, later used as an early segment of the Lincoln Highway. The investigation resulted in the identifications of 16 features and the recovery of 23 cubic feet of highly fragmented artifacts. Identified features include a soft-lead-pipe gas or water line, a portion of a suspected boardwalk, fence posts associated with a fence line, rock wall or chimney collapse, intentional trash pits, and relic-collector excavation pits.

Preliminary analysis indicates a variation in the artifact assemblages recovered from the two separate concentrations. The most northern assemblage reflects domestic activities along with the presence of a female child, while the southern concentration is indicative of a saloon operation with a high percentage of wine and champagne bottles. Three Desert Side-notched projectile points were also recovered. Artifact cataloging, analysis, and joint report writing has just begun on this interesting project.



Snowstorm excavation at the Halfway House



## **CSN Valley of Fire Survey Field School**

The third session of the CSN Valley of Fire Survey Field School entered the field in late October of 2007. Ten students under the supervision of Dr. Kevin Rafferty are learning proper archaeological survey techniques while inventorying two 320 acre parcels of land within the state park. Several sites have been encountered including a small campsite, three rockshelters, and a number of isolated historic artifacts. It is anticipated that more sites will be located and recorded in the following weeks

### **An Archaeological Survey of a Land Exchange Project in Sandy (Mesquite) Valley, San Bernardino and Inyo Counties, California**

Dr. Kevin Rafferty, RPA  
College of Southern Nevada

In August of 2002 Knight & Leavitt Associates of Las Vegas, Nevada conducted a Class III cultural resources inventory of a 3,747 acre Federal land sale in Sandy (Mesquite) Valley in San Bernardino and Inyo County, California (KLA 2003). The acreage was concentrated into seven non-contiguous parcels. The project area is in the Mesquite Valley, within the northeastern Mojave Desert. The climate in Mesquite Valley is typical of the Mojave Desert. Natural sources of water in the area were limited, historically and prehistorically. Only a single spring is known historically (Rogers n.d. In Lerch 1983:5). Historic accounts note that the aboriginal inhabitants could find water at a depth of two feet in pits they dug at the bases of sand ridges (Waring 1920:78, In Lerch 1983:5). In the late Pleistocene, nearby Mesquite Lake Playa would have contained sufficient water to create a lake that would have attracted populations of megafauna and thus human populations.

#### **Prehistoric Data Questions and Expectations**

A series of questions were developed for the project. Due to the limited data base from the area the most obvious initial questions were chronological: were there archaeological resources from any or every time period of southern Great Basin prehistory within the project area? Then test expectations of data sets that would be recoverable were established for each chronological period.

A series of questions and test expectations were developed regarding local prehistoric settlement and subsistence patterns. Binford's (1980) modeling regarding a *Forager-Collector* subsistence strategy continuum formed the underpinning of a series of basic questions, including; 1) Where are sites located on the landscape?; 2) Are site locations related to specific geographic, topographic, geological, or environmental factors?; 3) Do the site locations change through time? If so do cultural or environmental factors account for these changes?; and 4) On what did the inhabitants of the project area subsist? What specific faunal and floral resources exist in the area that afford clues to prehistoric subsistence?

#### **Historic Questions and Expectations**

Mining settlements in the area began in the 1860s and 1870s. Various settlements were founded, abandoned, and resettled. In the 1870s miners occupied Ivanpah to the north of the project area and mines were operated to the south near Teutonia Peak. Consequently the Mesquite Valley was primarily a travel route to resource areas exploited during the historic period. The basic question was, is there evidence of Euro-American use of the project area and what form would such evidence take (historic roads, artifacts, sites, etc.)?



## Survey Results

A total of 14 prehistoric isolates and seven prehistoric sites were recorded. Based on the surface artifacts most dated to late in the southern Great Basin chronological sequence, being Virgin Anasazi (Saratoga Springs Period ca. 1500-800 B.P.) and Paiute/Patayan (ca. 850-100 B.P.). One may have been mid-to-late Archaic (ca. 5000-1500 B.P.) in age. Eleven historic isolates and nine historic sites were also recorded. These foundations, dumps, and debris scatters appear to mainly be related to early 20th century homesteading activities in the area, mostly post-WWI.

## Prehistoric Sites

All but one of the prehistoric sites appears to have been involved in the processing of floral resources, particularly mesquite. All were adjacent to or near mesquite covered dune fields while catclaw and other flora were often nearby in small washes and rills. The sites ranged in size from relatively small (4.5m by 3 m) to quite large (533.5 m by 45.7 m). In general each contained a variety of tool categories: flakes, other lithics, fire cracked rock, ground stone fragments, and ceramics. Each site's artifact assemblage contained a significant ground stone component, including tabular sandstone fragments, and mano and metate fragments of vesicular basalt, granite, slate, and other locally available materials. The fire cracked rock ranged from being scattered across the general site surfaces to being contained in distinct concentrations.

Several of these sites can be placed in chronological context based on their artifact assemblages. The earliest possible date comes from a small (15 m by 28 m) processing site containing the base of a Humboldt point, dating it to the Mid-to-Late Archaic Gypsum period (ca. 5000-1500 B.P.). One site contained a large quantity (200+ sherds) of Virgin Anasazi grey and black-on-grey ceramics, placing it solidly within the Saratoga Springs period (1500-800 B.P.). One site contained a few sherds (3) of Lower Colorado buffware/Tizon brownware (ca. 850-100 B.P.). The largest site consisted of six concentrations of ceramics containing Lower Colorado buffware ceramics, including Parker Buff and a red-on-buff variety.

Based on the survey results, occupation or use of the Mesquite Valley area appears to begun in the Late Archaic, continued through the Saratoga Springs period, and was heaviest during the Paiute/Numic period. The main focus of the settlement was the exploitation of natural resources, probably especially mesquite, based on the significant percentage of ground stone and fire cracked rock at all the prehistoric sites.

## Historic Sites

Nine historic sites were recorded in the project area. Several contained no structural debris. These included a hand-bored water well; a small historic garbage dump; and two were irrigation ditches or water pipe loci with associated early twentieth century historic debris. There was also a small concentration of debris and features consisting of a well head, two concentrations of historic debris, and a grave site with a marker that had been broken off so as to remove the identification of the deceased. Further research has failed to reveal the identity of the individual interred here.

There also was an historic road, the *Hay Road* that ran through the Mesquite Valley. It is located on the 1906 and 1931 USGS topographic maps of the area. This road ran from Fenner to Pahrump Valley via Colton Wells, Round Valley, Cima, Valley Wells, and Kingston to the east of the APE. It was constructed in the 1880s as an alternative transportation route for hay shipments destined for wagon rather than rail. The road served both as a way to supply the outlying railroad construction projects, while



providing access to stage coaches and supply wagons servicing the regions mining camps and cattle ranches.

Three of the sites are homesteads dating from the period between 1915-1942. All contain structural debris including rock-walled structures. Two have privies, and all contain significant concentrations of historic artifacts dating to the period in question. They are associated with the development of the town site of Kingston, which was settled in the early 1920s. They were part of a second influx of settlers into the valley. The first was in 1908, a population blip that only lasted two years. In 1922 the town site of Kingston was developed by E.M. Funk. A significant number of the settlers were veterans of WWI trying their hand at dry farming. When the growing season proved to be too short to be economically viable, bootlegging became a lucrative economic pursuit during prohibition. With a peak population of about 50, the community consisted of a post office, grocery store, community hall, and a branch of the San Bernardino Library. The settlement persisted through most of the Great Depression, but eventually failed and the post office was closed in 1938 (Paher 1970; Burnau 1976: 234).

Upon examining the homesteading records extant in the National Archives, it became obvious that the recorded sites were never occupied to a point where the regulations for the patenting of the homesteads were met. These are homesteads that failed and reverted back to government ownership.

## Conclusions

Based on their size, location, and the limited archaeological knowledge available for the Mesquite Valley area, all of the prehistoric sites were determined to be eligible for nomination to the NRHP under Criteria 'd'. The culture history, settlement/subsistence patterns, and other aspects of the prehistoric settlement of the region are poorly known at best. The three historic homesteads were determined to be NRHP eligible under criteria 'a' and 'd'. Criteria 'a' applies due the association of the sites with the settlement of the desert west during the post-World War I and Depression Eras. Criteria 'd' also applies because the sites contain sufficient scale, scope, and integrity of deposits to address time sensitive issues particular to regional and local history including occupation dates, development patterns of the sites, standard of living, and socioeconomic status of the residents.

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### IN MEMORIAM

Richard Shutler, Jr.  
1921 – 2007

The SAA Archaeological Record recently reported the death of Richard Shutler, Jr. in June of 2007. Shutler's contributions to Nevada archaeology have served as a guide to research for over 40 years. He served as curator of Anthropology at Nevada State Museum 1959 to 1965. In 1961 he earned his PhD. D from University of Arizona under Emil Haury, for his study of the Lost City, Pueblo Grande de Nevada. Other work in Nevada included directing the ground-breaking interdisciplinary archaeological research at Tule Springs in Clark County. The team of scientists working the "Big Dig" at Tule Springs employed bulldozers to expose deep stratigraphy. The extensive collection of radiocarbon samples processed at Willard F. Libby's UCLA laboratory provided invaluable information to researchers during the project. After leaving Nevada, Shutler's long career added significant contributions in Pacific archaeology including his insistence of the importance of "robust" radiocarbon chronology for island sites.