

[5/2009]

## HANDOUT 1 — Colorado Archaeology

### Annotated Bibliography & Glossary

Ahler, Stanley A., and Marvin Kay (editors)

- 2007 **Plains Village Archaeology: Bison-Hunting Farmers in the Central and Northern Plains.** University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Beck, Charlotte, and George T. Jones

- 1997 The Terminal Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology of the Great Basin. **Journal of World Prehistory** 11(2):161–236. [includes discussion of the Western Stemmed Tradition]

Benedict, James B., and Byron L. Olson

- 1978 **The Mount Albion Complex.** Center for Mountain Archaeology, Research Report #1, Ward, CO. [possible effects of the Altithermal]

Benedict, James B.

- 1985 **Arapaho Pass.** Center for Mountain Archaeology, Research Report #3, Ward, CO. [summarizes Front Range glacial & cultural history]

Black, Kevin D.

- 1991 Archaic Continuity in the Colorado Rockies: The Mountain Tradition. **Plains Anthropologist** 36(133):1–29. [mountain prehistory]

Bonnichsen, Robson, Bradley T. Lepper, Dennis Stanford, and Michael R. Waters (editors)

- 2006 **Paleoamerican Origins: Beyond Clovis.** Center for the Study of the First Americans. Texas A & M University Press, College Station. [papers on the pre-Clovis controversy]

Breternitz, David A., Christine K. Robinson, and G. Timothy Gross (compilers)

- 1986 **Dolores Archaeological Program: Final Synthetic Report.** Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, CO. [Anasazi prehistory north of Mesa Verde]

Brunswick, Robert H., and Bonnie L. Pitblado (editors)

- 2007 **Frontiers in Colorado Paleoindian Archaeology: From the Dent Site to the Rocky Mountains.** University Press of Colorado, Boulder. [eight papers on the early archaeology of Colorado, with a focus on Dent]

Cameron, Catherine M., and Andrew I. Duff

- 2008 History and Process in Village Formation: Context and Contrasts from the Northern Southwest. **American Antiquity** 73(1):29–57. [a Mesa Verde region summary]

Cassells, E. Steve

- 1997 **The Archaeology of Colorado.** 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Johnson Books, Boulder, CO. [written for the non-professional, substantially updated]

- Condie, Carol J., and Don D. Fowler (editors)  
1993 **Anthropology of the Desert West.** Reprint ed. Anthropological Papers No. 110. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. [papers on the Great Basin, relevant to western Colorado]
- Cordell, Linda S.  
1997 **Archaeology of the Southwest.** 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Academic Press, San Diego, CA. [easy-to-read summary of southwestern cultures, including the Ancestral Pueblo (Anasazi)]
- Cordell, Linda S., and Don D. Fowler (editors)  
2005 **Southwest Archaeology in the Twentieth Century.** University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. [history of archaeological research]
- Crum, Sally  
1996 **People of the Red Earth.** Ancient City Press, Santa Fe, NM. [non-technical summary of Colorado archaeology and Historic period tribes]
- D'Azevedo, Warren L. (editor)  
1986 Great Basin. **Handbook of North American Indians**, vol. 11. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. [encyclopedic coverage on prehistoric and historic cultures, including the Utes]
- DeMallie, Raymond J. (editor)  
2001 Plains. **Handbook of North American Indians**, vol. 13, 2 parts. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. [see part 1 for archaeology]
- Eighmy, Jeffrey L., and Jason M. LaBelle  
1996 Radiocarbon Dating of Twenty-seven Plains Complexes and Phases. **Plains Anthropologist** 41(155):53–69. [refines chronology to calendric time for the Paleo-Indian through Ceramic periods]
- Fagan, Brian M.  
2005 **Ancient North America: The Archaeology of a Continent.** 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Thames and Hudson, New York. [readable summary, arranged by region and time period]
- Frison, George C.  
1991 **Prehistoric Hunters of the High Plains.** 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Academic Press, New York. [summary of northwestern plains including northern Colorado]
- Gilmore, Kevin P., Marcia Tate, Mark L. Chenault, Bonnie Clark, Terri McBride, and Margaret Wood  
1999 **Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Platte River Basin.** Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, Denver. [detailed summary for northeastern Colorado, the Front Range, North Park, and South Park]

Gunnerson, James H.

- 1987 **Archaeology of the High Plains.** Bureau of Land Management–Colorado, Cultural Resources Series #19, Denver. [culture history of the central plains, including an appendix on projectile points]

Hoard, Robert J., and William E. Banks (editors)

- 2006 **Kansas Archaeology.** University Press of Kansas, Lawrence. [first comprehensive overview of Kansas archaeology in nearly fifty years]

Huckell, Bruce B.

- 1996 The Archaic Prehistory of the North American Southwest. **Journal of World Prehistory** 10(3):305–373. [on the Oshara Tradition and others]

Huckell, Bruce B., and J. David Kilby (compilers)

- 2004 **Readings in Late Pleistocene North America and Early Paleoindians: Selections from *American Antiquity*.** SAA Press, Washington, D.C. [a compendium of articles on the peopling of the New World]

Hughes, J. Donald

- 1987 **American Indians in Colorado.** 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Pruett Press, Boulder, CO. [emphasizes Historic period tribes in the state]

Kantner, John

- 2004 **Ancient Puebloan Southwest.** Case Studies in Early Societies No. 5. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.

Larson, Mary Lou

- 1997 Housepits and Mobile Hunter-Gatherers: A Consideration of the Wyoming Evidence. **Plains Anthropologist** 42(161):353–369. [summary of architectural sites, mainly in the Wyoming Basin]

Larson, Mary Lou, Marcel Kornfeld, and George C. Frison (editors)

- 2009 **Hell Gap: A Stratified Paleoindian Campsite at the Edge of the Rockies.** University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. [report on a premier Paleoindian site in SE Wyoming]

Lekson, Stephen H. (editor)

- 2006 **The Archaeology of Chaco Canyon: An Eleventh Century Pueblo Regional Center.** School of American Research Press, Santa Fe, NM. [summarizes the latest thinking about this important cultural center]

Lipe, William D., Mark D. Varien, and Richard H. Wilshusen (editors)

- 1999 **Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Southern Colorado River Basin.** Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, Denver. [detailed summary for southwestern Colorado including the Anasazi]

Madsen, David B.

- 1989 **Exploring the Fremont.** Utah Museum of Natural History, Salt Lake City, UT. [well-illustrated summary of Anasazi neighbors]

- Madsen, David B., and Steven R. Simms  
1998 The Fremont Complex: A Behavioral Perspective. **Journal of World Prehistory** 12(3):255–336. [a more technical treatment of Fremont]
- Martorano, Marilyn A., Ted Hoefer III, Margaret (Pegi) A. Jodry, Vince Spero, and Melissa L. Taylor  
1999 **Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Rio Grande Basin.** Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, Denver, CO. [detailed summary for the San Luis Valley and surrounding mountains]
- Metcalf, Michael D., and Kevin D. Black  
1991 **Archaeological Excavations at the Yarmony Pit House Site, Eagle County, Colorado.** Bureau of Land Management-COLORADO, Cultural Resource Series #31, Denver. [important Archaic site]
- Neusius, Sarah W., and G. Timothy Gross  
2007 **Seeking Our Past: An Introduction to North American Archaeology.** Oxford University Press, New York.
- Noble, David Grant  
2000 **Ancient Colorado: An Archaeological Perspective.** Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, Denver. [your Handout 2]
- 2006 editor. **The Mesa Verde World: Explorations in Ancestral Pueblo Archaeology.** SAR Press, Santa Fe, NM. [experts on Southwestern archaeology summarize recent research in the Four Corners area]
- Ortiz, Alfonso (editor)  
1979– Southwest. **Handbook of North American Indians**, vols. 9–10. Smithsonian  
1983 Institution Press, Washington, D.C. [vol. 9 covers Puebloan groups & vol. 10 the non-Puebloan groups, incl. Apache]
- Pauketat, Timothy R., and Diana DiPaolo Loren (editors)  
2005 **North American Archaeology.** Blackwell Studies in Global Archaeology. Blackwell Publishing, Malden, MA.
- Plog, Stephen  
2008 **Ancient Peoples of the American Southwest.** 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Thames and Hudson, New York. [includes early first-person accounts]
- Reed, Alan D., and Michael D. Metcalf  
1999 **Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Northern Colorado River Basin.** Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, Denver. [summary for Colorado's Western Slope north of Anasazi territory]
- Shaw, Ian, and Robert Jameson (editors)  
1999 **A Dictionary of Archaeology.** Blackwell Publishers Ltd., Oxford, UK.

Simms, Steven R.

1990 Fremont Transitions. **Utah Archaeology** 3(1):1–18. [examines the way archaeologists study the past using Fremont “culture” as an example]

2008 **Ancient Peoples of the Great Basin and Colorado Plateau.** Left Coast Press, Walnut Creek, CA. [broad overview, including a chapter on the Fremont]

Stiger, Mark

2001 **Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology of the Colorado High Country.** University Press of Colorado, Boulder. [focuses on work at the Tenderfoot site]

Stone, Tammy

1999 **The Prehistory of Colorado and Adjacent Areas.** University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. [more concise summary than Cassells’ book]

Wedel, Waldo R.

1961 **Prehistoric Man on the Great Plains.** University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK. [still a classic, Canada-to-Texas coverage]

1986 **Central Plains Prehistory.** University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln. [focuses on the Republican River basin, incl. northeastern Colorado]

Willey, Gordon R., and Phillip Phillips

1958 **Method and Theory in American Archaeology.** University of Chicago Press, Chicago. [defines common terms and stage sequence]

Wood, W. Raymond (editor)

1998 **Archaeology on the Great Plains.** University Press of Kansas, Lawrence. [14 chapters, many directly relevant to Colorado]

Wormington, H. Marie

1957 **Ancient Man in North America.** Denver Museum of Natural History Popular Series #4, Denver. [classic on Paleoindians, esp. artifacts]

1961 **Prehistoric Indians of the Southwest.** Denver Museum of Natural History Popular Series #7, Denver, CO. [better description of Ancestral Puebloan artifacts than in most modern texts]

Zier, Christian J., and Stephen M. Kalasz

1999 **Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Arkansas River Basin.** Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, Denver. [detailed summary for southeastern Colorado and the mountainous Upper Arkansas Valley]

## GLOSSARY

### **A. Basic Archaeological Units:**

- 1) Artifact – Any portable object manufactured and/or used, or simply present indirectly, from the presence of people in the past (bone bead, stone waste flakes, etc.).
- 2) Assemblage – Grouping of artifacts normally occurring in a single site or cultural level, consisting of a single artifact class or all classes (lithic assemblage at Cliff Palace, total artifact assemblage from Lindenmeier, etc.).
- 3) Class – A group of artifacts believed to have been used for a similar purpose (awl, scraper, projectile point, mano, etc.).
- 4) Component – Manifestation of a given archaeological focus or phase at a specific site. May include one or more individual occupations (Basketmaker II component, etc.).
- 5) Feature – Any non-portable human construction, either architectural or non-architectural (hearth, midden, stone circle, rock art panel, rubble mound, etc.).
- 6) Industry – Cluster of artifact types believed to represent the remains of a prehistoric society; a group of assemblages in one region (Oldowan industry, etc.).
- 7) Phase – Collection of traits limited in space to a locality or region, and chronologically limited to a relatively brief interval of time (Sopris phase, Ackmen phase, etc.).
- 8) Trait – Elements of a culture that are mutually exclusive within a culture, but are not limited to that culture (e.g., incest taboo, painted pottery, etc.).
- 9) Type – A group of artifacts sharing similarities in shape that are interpreted by archaeologists as having cultural significance (Utah metate, Cody knife, etc.).

### **B. Spatial Units:**

- 1) Activity Area – Portion of a site or component of a site where related functions were carried out (obsidian workshop, etc.).
- 2) Area – Cultural area, often conforms to physiographic limits; can include contiguous regions sharing roughly similar culture histories (Southwest culture area, Plains culture area, etc.).
- 3) Locality – Spatial unit larger than site, smaller than region, and small enough to permit the working assumption of complete cultural homogeneity at any given time (Canyon Pintado, etc.).

- 4) Locus – Several spatially confined activity areas within a site or component of a site; often used on survey, rarely used in final reports/analyses (5GN402-locus A, etc.) [*from Latin locus, place*].
- 5) Region – A geographical space in which, at a given time, a high degree of cultural homogeneity may be expected, but not counted on (Mesa Verde region, etc.).
- 6) Site – Three-dimensional, single- or multiple-activity area of past human use; may be buried or exposed at surface (Vail Pass site, Dent site, etc.).

### C. Temporal Units:

- 1) Period – Refers solely to chronology; denotes when a specific developmental stage was represented in a given area (Late Prehistoric period, etc.).
- 2) Regional Sequence – Chronological series of phases or subphases within geographical limits of a region (Northern Colorado Plateau sequence, etc.).

### D. Integrative Units:

- 1) Complex – A group of artifact assemblages represented at several contemporaneous components within geographical limits of a cultural area (Cody complex, etc.).
- 2) Culture – Group of people sharing similar technologies, economy, social & religious views, style of dress, etc., and who recognize each other as belonging to their “group” (Ute culture, etc.).
- 3) Stage – Segment of an historical sequence in a given area, characterized by a dominating pattern of economic existence (Archaic stage, etc.).
- 4) Tradition – A group of complexes having primarily temporal continuity, represented by persistent configurations in single technologies or other systems of related forms (Plano tradition, etc.).

### E. Other Terms

- 1) Atlatl – “Spear thrower”; a tool usually made of wood and used for at least 8000 years, designed as a kind of lever to enhance the range and power of throwing spears [*an Aztec term (Nahuatl language)*].
- 2) Debitage – Debris from flintknapping; unused stone flakes or “chips.”
- 3) Kiva – Subterranean ceremonial chamber—usually circular—found in Ancestral Pueblo sites of the Pueblo II-III era (AD 900–1300) [*a Hopi term*].

- 4) Lithic – Of or pertaining to stone, describes any category of flaked stone, pecked & ground stone, or carved stone artifacts [*from Greek lithos, stone*].
- 5) Manuport – An artifact with no evidence of use or modification by people, but found “out of place” and assumed to have been carried there sometime in the past (crystal, fossil, river cobble, etc.).
- 6) Megafauna – Large bodied animals of the Pleistocene (Ice Age) epoch adapted to the cold climates of that era, extinct by 10,000 BP; some herbivores among the group were commonly hunted by Paleoindians (mammoth, bison, American camel, etc.).
- 7) Metate – Aztec word [*metlatl*] for a seed-grinding slab, as for milling corn; the stationary lower rock slab used as a set with the hand-held mano for grinding seeds, pigments, clay for pottery, etc.
- 8) Ossuary – Type of burial site containing multiple human remains [*from Latin ossuārius, of bones*].
- 9) Petroglyph – Type of rock art made by pecking, incising, carving, abrading or other means *not* involving painting [*from Latin petra, rock + Greek gluphein, to carve*].
- 10) Taphonomy – Study of the cultural and natural processes that contribute to the preservation or destruction of an archaeological site [*from Greek taphos, grave, + nomos, law*].
- 11) Wickiup – Preserved log frame of a tipi or hut [*from Fox wikiyapi, house*].