

OCTOBER
2018

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

50
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years

OCTOBER LECTURE

Wednesday, October 17th, 2018

University of Calgary

Tom Oliver Room, ES 162, 7:30pm

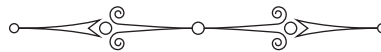
Ancient Beringians and the Colonization of the Americas

Dr. Ben Potter, University of Alaska - Fairbanks

ABSTRACT - Recent genetic analyses of two buried infants from Alaska reveal a previously unknown group of people, called Ancient Beringians, that play an important role in illuminating the early prehistory of Native Americans. These and other recent genetic analyses have transformed our understanding of the peopling of the Americas. This presentation explores this new genetic framework, rigorously connected to archaeology and



paleoecology of Siberia, Beringia and Northwestern North America. The timing of migrations, the routes used, including the interior Ice-Free-Corridor and coastal route (or both), and the later genetic diversification of Native Americans are discussed. The integration of these sciences provides for novel models of this first colonization of the Americas.



BIOGRAPHY - Ben Potter has worked in Alaskan archaeology since 1995, receiving his Ph.D. in 2005 at University of Alaska Fairbanks. He has extensive field and laboratory experience in both CRM and academic archaeology and has worked for federal agencies (1997), private industry (1998-2006), and UAF (2005-present). His geographic interests include Subarctic and Arctic regions, particularly Interior Alaska. His research interests include intersite variability, site structure and organization, with a research program focusing broadly on the relationships among site structure, settlement, economy and technology among high latitude prehistoric hunter-gatherers. He has considerable applied experience in field survey and excavation, spatial analysis, lithic and faunal analysis, intrasite and intersite modeling, and cultural resource management.

SEPTEMBER LECTURE REVIEWS

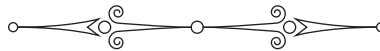
Archaeological Survey, and a UNESCO World Heritage Nomination, for Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park

Jack Brink, Curator Emeritus, Royal Alberta Museum

This year's lectures series started off strong with the renowned Jack Brink of the Royal Alberta Museum. Before beginning his talk, he gave a personal congratulations to this year's Forbis award winner, Terry Quinn. From there Jack throws some light jabs at the audience about the Calgary – Edmonton rivalry and gives a short plug about the upcoming opening of the Royal Alberta Museum in Edmonton. If you do find yourself in Edmonton, he suggests investing the annual Mammoth pass.

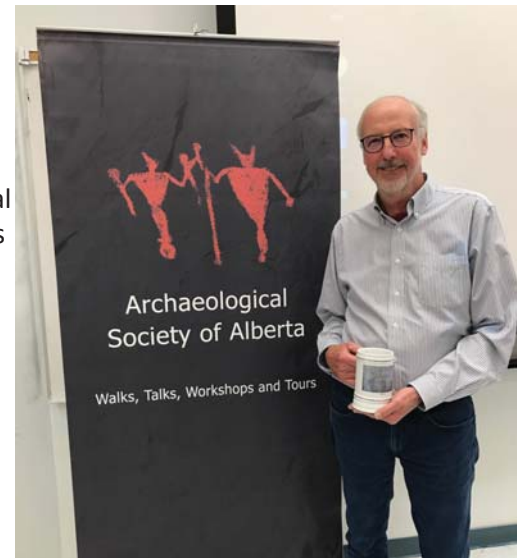
Writing-on-Stone is located along the Milk River in southern Alberta. Not only is it a provincial park, but a historical one as well. The site includes both pictographs and petroglyphs. Most have been interpreted to the dreams, hopes, fears and beliefs of the Blackfoot and other Indigenous peoples that might have been in the area. Jack talked about the two recent expansion areas of the park; Poverty Rock Component and Haffner Coulee Component. Poverty Rock is within an oxbow lake and is located kitty-corner to Haffner or 'Heffner' Coulee. Both sites are a few kilometers north-west off the main Áísínai'pi Component. Jack's second part to the lecture was the journey he had taken to get Writing-on-Stone nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. For over an hour, Jack is able to keep the audience's attention with his charisma and charm. He goes over the most recent finds during the 2011 and 2012 seasons. Rock art, tipi rings, hearths, and cairns are found on the surface level. Things like red ochre is found on rock shelter walls and random cobbles of green and yellow argillite have been found scattered around the upland prairie.

It has taken Jack and his colleagues thirteen years to get Writing-on-Stone nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. He was worked endlessly to provide UNESCO with enough evidence and paperwork that this site is both culturally and naturally significant for preservation. In early 2018, they were able to submit their nomination and a site inspection was scheduled for late September. Although Writing-on-Stone could be written off as just an archaeological site we must remember it is a sacred site and should be represented as so. With the initiation of the local Blackfoot people and the guidance of Jack Brink and other archaeologists, this site may have a chance to be immortalized as the cultural landscape it truly is. -Tia McCurdy



The lecture by Jack Brink was insightful and interesting and gave an excellent overview of the current state of and the future plans for Writing on Stone National Park. He spoke about the history of the park and its meaning to the Blackfoot peoples as well as its significance and uniqueness in Western Canada. He presented two new areas that were acquired by the government: Poverty Rock and Haffner Coulee. His clear attachment to the site and his dedication to the archaeological preservation of the site as well as its potential as a national park was extremely poignant. He spoke about current surveys on the site which have led to the recording of 77 new sites and what had been observed including several interesting shelters, one of which was a new rock art site with what he has interpreted to be a bear claw pictured inside. He also touched on the technologies that were being used in order to enhance the carvings that have begun to fade over time.

The overarching conclusion to the lecture was the nomination for Writing on Stone to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site. He spoke about the 13 year process for the nomination to come into fruition and what it means for those that have been involved in the endeavour. This nomination holds particular significance for the Blackfoot peoples and he stressed the nomination of the park as a "Cultural Landscape" rather than an "Archaeological Site." He also mentioned plans to allow the Blackfoot nation to begin adding their own art to sections of the park which would be an excellent way to continue the traditions for generations to come. One of the most memorable points made by Jack was his statement "we owe it to them to find this stuff and record it." As archaeologists I think it is always important to remember this responsibility in our work that is so clearly exemplified in the efforts at Writing on Stone. - Lulu Petrosyan



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

You can renew (or purchase a new membership) for the Archaeological Society of Alberta - Calgary Centre either at one of our lectures in person (cash, cheque, or credit) or online at www.arkycalgary.com.

FORBIS AWARD PRESENTATION

The Archaeological Society of Alberta - Calgary Centre's *Forbis Award* was presented to Terry Quinn at our September lecture. Congratulations Terry!! Below is an abbreviated version of the nomination for the award that was prepared for Terry by Joanne Braaten and Brian Vivian.

Criteria for the Forbis Award includes any individual or organization in Calgary or southern Alberta who has displayed exceptional service to public archaeology, raised public awareness of archaeological studies in Alberta or made archaeology more visible in the media. In this regard Terry Quinn has excelled and is worthy of consideration for the Forbis Award and we are pleased to formally nominate Terry for this honour.



Terry's interest in archaeological studies are expressed through his active participation in the Archaeological Society of Alberta - Calgary and Lethbridge Centres. As a member in good standing Terry regularly attends lectures and has shown great interest in participating in and learning more about the archaeology of the province. Where opportunities have been open to public participation Terry has frequently volunteered for excavations.

Beyond the scope of these field studies, Terry has exemplified a commitment to raising public awareness of archaeological studies and supporting public initiatives the Archaeological Society of Alberta has brought forward. Terry has become an amazing asset in his home community of High River. Irene Kerr, director of the Museum of the Highwood, acknowledges Terry's dedication having catalogued their entire collection of archaeology material, not once but twice due to the 2013 flood. In addition, he has organized and given greater prominence to several display cases, including, the Unfair Trade exhibit, and Old Women's Buffalo Jump exhibit with the assistance of Dr. Dale Walde (University of Calgary). Terry assisted with was the Stone and Bones workshop at the Museum of the Highwood held in conjunction with the Calgary Centre in March 2017, engaging over 500 members of the public. Terry has also fashioned displays on Alberta archaeology and assisted in manning information booths for the Calgary Centre at the Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club's Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show.

Beyond the reach of these public contributions, Terry has taken it on himself to serve as a steward for cultural resources around the High River area, where he continues to visit, monitor and report on the condition of well-documented sites, such as Old Women's Buffalo Jump, the Nanton erratic and others. In this capacity Terry assisted with organized tours of nearby archaeological sites for local school groups, members of the Archaeological Society of Alberta and First Nations participants from Heritage Park. Since joining the Calgary Centre Terry has taken a vested interest in flint knapping activities, advancing from a participant in the 'Learning to make Stone Tools' weekends that the Calgary Centre has organized, to assisting with the entry level instruction at these same events in more recent years. Working behind the scenes, Terry has generously donated stone tools he produced in his own time to the Archaeological Society of Alberta for use in their display and educational kits, as well as for the educational kit of the Calgary Centre. In recent years Terry has donated knapping kits or reproduced an artifact for the Calgary Centre to use as a fund raiser, always initiating a bidding war.

His ready willingness to assist with the Calgary Centre casino events has further served in increasing the funding support accessible to the Centre for expanding their public programming.

That Terry has very quietly made these many contributions to the Calgary Centre with little fanfare or acknowledgement of his efforts is a testament to his genuine modesty and his greater strength of character. In short Terry's interest in the archaeology of Alberta and his passion and commitment to the Archaeological Society of Alberta has been very real. All have benefitted from the willingness Terry has contributed toward raising public awareness of these topics wherever and whenever he can.

UPCOMING EVENTS, LECTURES, and CONFERENCES



Alberta Palaeontological Society

Highlights from the Middle Cambrian Stephen Formation (main lecture)
Chad Morgan, Ph. D. Candidate, Department of Geoscience, University of Calgary
and

Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historic Park & National Natural Landmark, Nebraska
(10 minute presentation)

Pete Truch

Friday, October 19th, 7:30pm

Mount Royal University, Room B108

Using modern bird claws to investigate the lifestyles of extinct birds (main lecture)

Annie P. McIntosh, Ph.D. Student, University of Alberta

and

The Burgess Shale: A guide's perspective (10 minute presentation)

David Moore, Burgess Shale Guide, M.Sc., The University of Calgary

Friday, November 16th, 7:30pm

Mount Royal University, Room B108

please check their website for further information <http://www.albertapaleo.org/>

Chinook Country Historical Society

Alberta's Fossil Record: Natural History Through Deep Time

Ben Borkovic, Royal Tyrrell Paleontological Technician

Tuesday October 23, 2018, 7:00pm

The Military Museums, 4520 Crowchild Trail SW

Little Moccasins: a Short Film and its Filmmaker

Laurie Sommerville, Filmmaker

Tuesday, November 27 2017, 7:00pm

New Central Library, 802, 3 St SE

please check their website for further information <http://www.chinookcountry.org/>

Upcoming Conference (November 2018), U of Calgary

Chacmool 2018 - "Chacmool as Community"

For more than 50 years the Chacmool conference has been the center of archaeological research in western Canada, providing an opportunity to present original research, innovative interpretations, and for professionals and students to network with some of the leading scholars in the discipline. The 2018 conference will focus on building an ever stronger sense of community for local archaeologists, integrating professionals from the consulting industry with academics from across disciplines and from local universities. This is also a critical juncture for the conference, and discussion will also revolve around new directions for the continued success of the program.

Please contact Dr. Geoffrey McCafferty for more information:

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