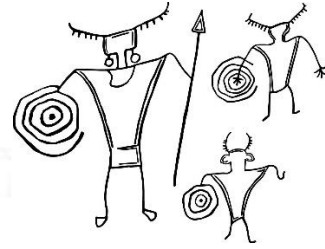


VESTIGES



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Monthly Newsletter of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association

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From the Prez

Kent Williams

Hello URARA,

I'm pretty sure we are all looking forward to getting out and enjoying each other's company at the many activities we are planning this season, including organized field trips, a summer picnic in 9 Mile Canyon, and a live symposium in Vernal with presentations, workshops, and yes, more field trips. Getting together with like-minded friends and experiencing rock art in the field is a big part of what URARA is about.

With all that to look forward to, COVID may be the last thing we want to talk or think about right now. However, after more than two years of a global pandemic that has impacted so many aspects of our lives, the pandemic has not disappeared and we have had to carefully consider how to handle COVID safety with regard to the events we have planned this year.

The URARA Board of Directors has arrived at the following policy: We strongly urge full vaccination for COVID, including boosters, for all participants of events organized and sponsored by URARA. We stopped short of requiring vaccinations for participants because there is little desire for the enforcement needed to make requirements meaningful, and because we believe that URARA members will do the right thing and think not only of our own individual health and safety, but also the health and safety of our fellow members. Given the demographics of URARA, many of us are in vulnerable categories for COVID according to the Utah Board of Health and the Center for Disease Control. If you are not fully vaccinated, please consider doing so before registering and attending URARA events. If you are having symptoms, please do not attend URARA events. There may be additional guidance forthcoming regarding specific events and we will be asking that attendees respect that guidance. - Kent

April 2022

URARA On-line Presentation April 14

Werner Duecker

Tina Hart will give this months presentation via Zoom on Thursday, April 14th at 7:00 PM MDT. Tina is a Principal, and Director of Cultural Resources, at Logan Simpson.

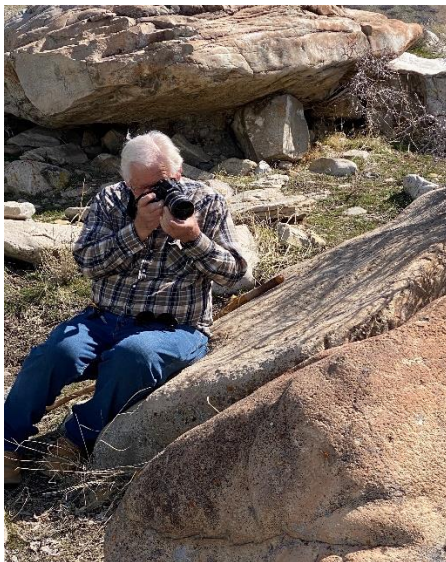
Title: A Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for the Soldiers Pass Road Land Sale Project in the Lake Mountains, Utah County

Abstract: Logan Simpson recently conducted a Class III cultural resources inventory for the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) in support of a proposed land sale in the Lake Mountains in Utah County. The area is known to contain rock imagery, and SITLA specifically requested that Logan Simpson coordinate with the Utah Rock Art Research Association to obtain all relevant data prior to the fieldwork. The inventory resulted in the documentation of 13 archaeological sites, including Indigenous rock imagery and lithic scatters, and non-Indigenous mining features, inscriptions, and the Soldiers Pass Road. This presentation explores the results of the survey with specific emphasis on rock imagery and the military history of the area.

Call for On-line Presentations

Werner Duecker

URARA's series of monthly online lectures is now into its 3rd year. These popular talks have included presentations from a wide range of speakers from our own membership to well-known rock art researchers and specialists. To support this series, we are looking for people interested in presenting topics related to prehistoric and historic rock imagery and related topics. Speaker presentations are 45 minutes to an hour long with time for questions, and can cover related topics from anywhere in the world. If you would like to make a presentation, suggest a speaker or otherwise help with this lecture series, please contact me at wdeck.wd@gmail.com.



Oscar Olson on a recent outing to the Yates Spring Petroglyph Site in Tooele County

Field Trip Committee Update

Wanda Gayle

URARA is jump-starting the field trip program the weekend of April 30/May 1, and two more later in May. I hope you all get to register for the trip you select, from Tooele and Beaver counties to southern Utah and even California. Please thank your field trip leaders for their spirit of volunteerism when you see them.

Please follow the URARA policy that strongly urges URARA participants to be vaccinated with a full course of COVID shots and boosters. This is important for field trips because you may need to carpool or may not always be able to maintain social distance from another participant. Field trip leaders may sometimes use their own discretion regarding exposure if they are concerned about their trip (e.g., they may ask you wear a mask while carpooling).

If you have a URARA family membership, check that each person you want to include is linked to you. Someone in your family that you want to go on a field trip with must register for that field trip separately. Also make sure your membership is current. And, PLEASE, figure out if you are having surgery or going out of town or whatever, BEFORE YOU REGISTER. It's a lot of work for people who make field trips possible to deal with cancellations.

Appreciate and respect the landscape and the rock art wherever you go this spring. It is a gift from the past. Think about what you see and what you can do to protect it for the future.

See you on the trail! Wanda Gayle, field trip coordinator

URARA Summer Picnic

Wanda Gayle

A URARA tradition is a summer picnic. It's back! Join other URARA members at the Nine Mile Ranch in Nine Mile Canyon for a picnic and campout Friday, August 26 thru Sunday, August 28.

The campsites are \$15 per day per couple. URARA has two locations reserved at the ranch that have multiple campsites.

If you prefer to stay in a cabin or a room in the ranch house, go the web page and make your reservation: 9mileranch.com. Cabins are \$80 to \$130 per night and are different sizes so you might want to share with friends or family.

Field trips into the canyon are scheduled for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The ranch is doing a barbecue on Saturday night for \$20 per person. It will be summer before you know it and URARA members are welcome to gather this summer in this lovely canyon.

Range Creek Field Trip Announcement

Wanda Gayle

Have you ever wanted a guided tour of a relatively undisturbed and isolated canyon where there is a lot of evidence of an ancient culture? If yes, you have a chance to visit Range Creek, a canyon in the Book Cliffs of eastern Utah, on a two-day field trip July 16 and 17.

The Waldo Wilcox family owned a ranch in Range Creek for 60 years and did not talk about what was in the canyon. They sold the property to the state of Utah twenty years ago. Archeologists now know that it was the Fremont people who hunted, farmed, and made beautiful art and cunning structures there. It's also where, in 1950, Clarence Pilling rediscovered 11 remarkable treasures – hand-sized clay figurines – in a Range Creek cave. The figurines currently reside in the Prehistoric Museum in Price, UT.

Steve Acerson and Layne Miller have arranged this trip for URARA through Carbon County Recreation. The cost of the trip is \$200 per person and includes a van ride to the location; a guide; two lunches, a dinner, and a breakfast; and a camping spot for the night. Registration will open in May on the URARA website.



Protect the Past

Responding to the recent increase in vandalism, Governor Cox has weighed in on the issue of archaeological preservation, with a campaign to “Pledge to Protect the Past”

<https://governor.utah.gov/issues/pledge-to-protect-the-past/>

Smith Preserve Documentation Update

Rick Mathews

The Adelbert Doyle Smith Family Archaeological Preserve (SFAP) and the Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) have recently been working to record the petroglyphs on SFAP for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Volunteers received training from SHPO and have been working to document sites on the South Knoll located within the preserve. The documentation of petroglyphs on the North Knoll has been completed.

Information being recorded includes:

- Imagery dimensions
- Compass direction the image faces
- Patination
- Degree of exposure, vegetation encroachment, lichen growth, and rock erosion
- Human modification to the image like super imposition and vandalism
- Use of natural rock features in the image
- GPS coordinates
- Overview and close-up photos of the image(s)

Elizabeth Hora, Public Archeologist at SHPO, and Savanna Agardy, Compliance Archaeologist for SHPO, have been leading the fieldwork.

The SFAP offers tours on most Saturdays during April and May and most Saturdays during September and October. You can sign up for a tour on their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/smith.family.archaeological.preserve> or through Eventbrite
https://www.eventbrite.com/o/smith-family-archaeological-preserve-26270651245?fbclid=IwAR1OR7Dw_TB1h6t_0bl-L95VoUkqqnTGbEzfXOWoHtCyclLXySKbpYvmS9Q

About the SFAP:

The Adelbert Doyle Smith Family Archaeological Preserve (SFAP) was established in 2013 as the result of a generous land donation by the Adelbert Smith Family Trust. The 196 acre preserve protects more than 200 prehistoric petroglyphs and multiple features in an effort to educate and inspire the local community and others through preserving the region's prehistoric past. The SFAP is owned by The Archaeological Conservancy and staffed by local volunteers.



Student Investigates Potential Equinox Alignment

John McHugh

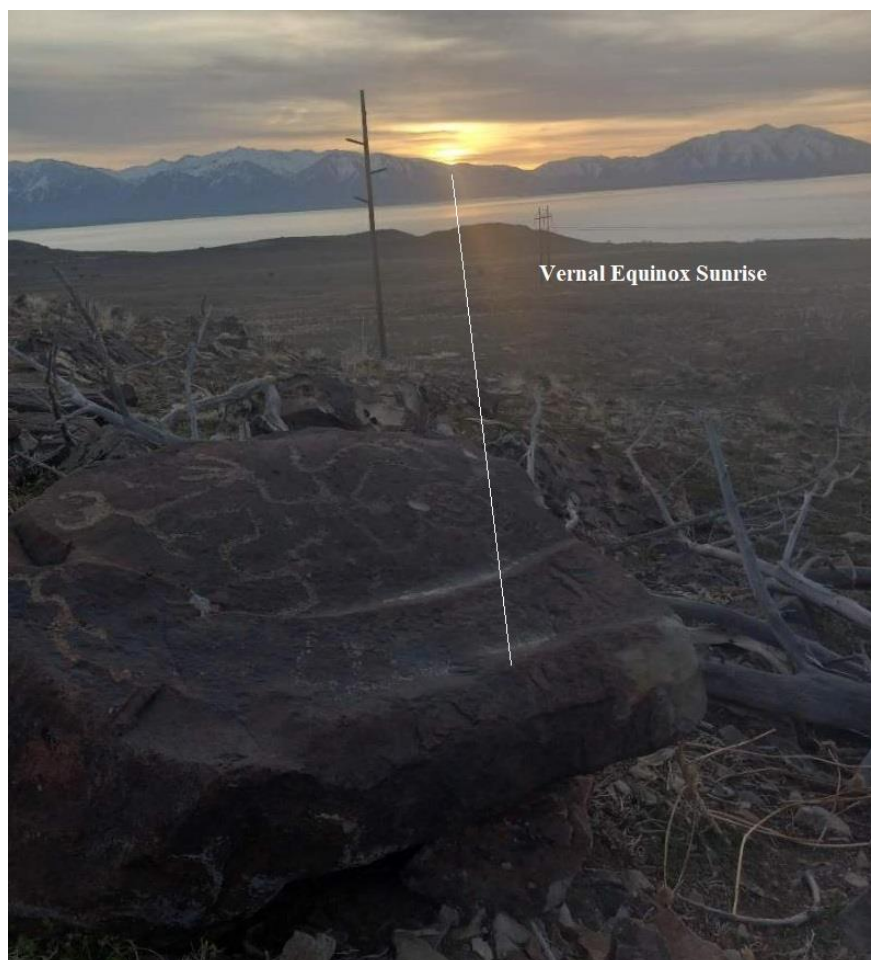
A small petroglyph panel near Saratoga Springs informally known as “Table Rock” is intriguing in several ways. It has a concentric circle figure, which, according to Puebloan ethnography, represents the sun. Extending out of the concentric circle “Sun” figure are two lines, each terminating with a pecked dot. When viewing the panel in 2019, URARA member John McHugh noticed that the two dots make an almost perfect alignment with the vernal equinox sunset. So he suggested that Brook Wilson, one of his 6th grade Shovel Bums, photograph the site at the equinox as the basis for her Middle School Science Fair project at Blessed Sacrament School.



6th grade Shovel Bum, Brook Wilson (left), stands with her 9th grade sister, Jade Wilson, at the Table Rock petroglyph panel. (photo John McHugh)

Brook agreed, and was joined by her sister, Jade, a former Shovel Bum. Since the Table Rock petroglyph panel is about 30-miles from the girls’ house, transportation was necessary. Fortunately Brook has two super supportive grandparents who were willing to make the long, predawn drive and have the girls in photographing position long before the 7:31 AM sunrise.

The lost sleep certainly was worth it. Brook’s photographs indicate that the Table Rock sunrise and sunset is only 2 degrees away from a perfect alignment with the vernal equinox sunrise and sunset. She has since written up her data and will present it at her school’s Science Fair on March 31st. And with Archaeology Club starting up on April 5th, Brook can only wonder what other rock art marvels the ancient indigenes of Utah will reveal to her.



The spring equinox sunrise and sunset make an almost perfect alignment with two dots that extend below a “Sun” icon on the Table Rock petroglyph. (photo Brook Wilson)

Rock Art in the News

Protecting a Broken Window: Vandalism and Security at Rural Rock Art Sites, The Professional Geographer, 22 September 2021. [Protecting a Broken Window: Vandalism and Security at Rural Rock Art Sites](#)

Rare Stone With Pictish Symbols Discovered in Scotland, Smithsonian, 10 March 2022
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/rare-stone-with-pictish-symbols-discovered-in-scotland-180979709/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220310-daily-responsive&spMailingID=46524656&spUserID=NzQwNDU0OTIyMTES1&spJobID=2201209947&spReportId=MjIwMTIwOTk0NwS2

Murujuga rock art has been found to be highly sensitive to industrial emissions: *Environment Minister to investigate urea plant concerns*, Mining Weekly, 11 March 2022.
<https://www.miningweekly.com/article/environment-minister-to-investigate-urea-plant-concerns-2022-03-11>

Calendar and URARA Events

April 19	URARA Board Meeting on line, 18:00 MDT
April 29	URARA field trip Beaver, UT Participants must attend pre-trip orientation on April 28
April 30	URARA field trip Beaver, UT Participants will help document images
May 1	URARA field trip Beaver, UT
April 30	URARA field trip Nine Mile Canyon
April 30	URARA field trip Horseshoe Canyon
Apr30 & May1	URARA field trip Escalante
May 7& 8	URARA field trip Bishop area, California
June 17-20	ARARA Conference, Virtual only https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conf-Call-For-Papers-2022 .
July 12	URARA Board Meeting on line, 18:00 MDT
July 16-17	Range Creek Field Trip (registration opens in May)
August 11-14	Pecos Conference (tentative) Rowe Mesa, New Mexico https://www.pecosconference.org/
August 26-28	URARA Summer Picnic, Nine-Mile Ranch
October 1-2	URARA Symposium and membership meeting, Vernal

URARA field trips are available to members only. Vaccination is strongly encouraged. All members receive an email notification when a field trip opens for registration. Notifications go out between 45 and 14 days before a trip. You can register for a field trip when you get the notification. If a trip is full when you try to register, your name is added to a wait list. You will get another notification if and when someone drops out and you can be added to the trip.

Dixie Archaeological Society (DAS), St George, meets on the second Wednesday of the month, Saturday field trips once a month. <http://www.dixierockart.com/>

Southern Nevada Rock Art Association (SNRAA), Las Vegas, meets on the 4th Monday of the month. <http://snraa.org/snraa.org/EVENTS.html>

San Diego Rock Art Association (SDRAA) meets at the Kumeyaay Center in Poway every other month, sometimes on the first Sunday, sometimes not. <https://sandiegorockart.org/meetings>
Now on-line.

American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) is hosting on-line events. Free access is granted to URARA members. Registration at: <https://arara.wildapricot.org/Lectures>

Utah Public Archaeology Network (UPAN). Calendar of events and monthly newsletter. <https://history.utah.gov/antiquities/upan>

URARA Board and Officers

Utah Rock Art Research Association: Box 511324, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-1324.

www.utahrockart.org . Contact information - utahrockartresearchassoc@gmail.com

2022 URARA Board and Officers

Kent Williams, President
 Darlene Koerner, Vice President
 Carol Duecker, Treasurer
 Roger Cook, Secretary
 Diana Acerson, Conservation
 Wanda Gayle
 John McHugh
 Rick Matthews
 Nina Bowen

Committee Chairs and Appointees

Tribal Liaison	Carol Patterson
Historian/ Archives	Keith Fessenden
Website/Membership	Troy Scotter
Conservation/Preservation	Diana Acerson
Documentation	
Education	John McHugh
Research	Darlene Koerner
Field Trips	Wanda Gayle
Symposium Chair	Darlene Koerner
Publications Editor	Dennis DeVore
Vestiges Editor	Ben Everitt
Board Nominations	Werner Duecker

URARA Conservation Coordinators

<u>BLM District</u>	<u>Field Office</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Coordinator Lead		Diana Acerson
Canyon Country	Moab	Pam & Quent Baker
Canyon Country	Monticello	Werner Duecker, Carol Duecker
Paria River	Kanab	Jeff Frey
Color Country	Cedar City	Gina Hupka
Color Country	St. George	Nina Bowen
Color Country	Richfield	Jeff Roberts
Green River	Vernal	Tim Sweeney, Darlene Koerner
Green River	Price	Layne Miller
West Desert	Fillmore	Steve Acerson
West Desert	Salt Lake	Don & Adele Leavitt