



**Colorado Desert Archaeology Society** (CDAS) members are committed to preserving and protecting the cultural history of the eastern San Diego County mountains and desert.

They recognize the Kumeyaay, Cahuilla, Cupeño, and Payómkawichum/Luiseño are the original Peoples of the Anza-Borrego Desert, Palomar Mountain and Cuyamaca Rancho State Parks.

These traditional homelands in the Colorado Desert District (CDD) are rich in heritage and cultural traditions. CDAS members acknowledge these places as the Peoples' homelands and offer gratitude for their stewardship of these lands from time immemorial through the present and into the future.

CDAS volunteers assist the State Park District archaeologist with conservation, preservation, documentation and management of cultural resources in three state parks.

This large area contains both prehistoric evidence of Native American



occupation, and historical evidence, up to and beyond WWII.

Special training and certification programs for **archaeology technicians** and **site stewards** are the backbone of the cadre that helps protect and preserve cultural resources.

Continuing education through required field classes, lectures, and workshops build necessary skills and documentation techniques for reports, analysis, field surveys, and other tasks.

# THANK YOU

With your help, we can protect and preserve our important — and irreplaceable — archaeological resources.

## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Please contact the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society and find out how you can help.  
[info@anzaborregoarchaeo.org](mailto:info@anzaborregoarchaeo.org)

## COLORADO DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

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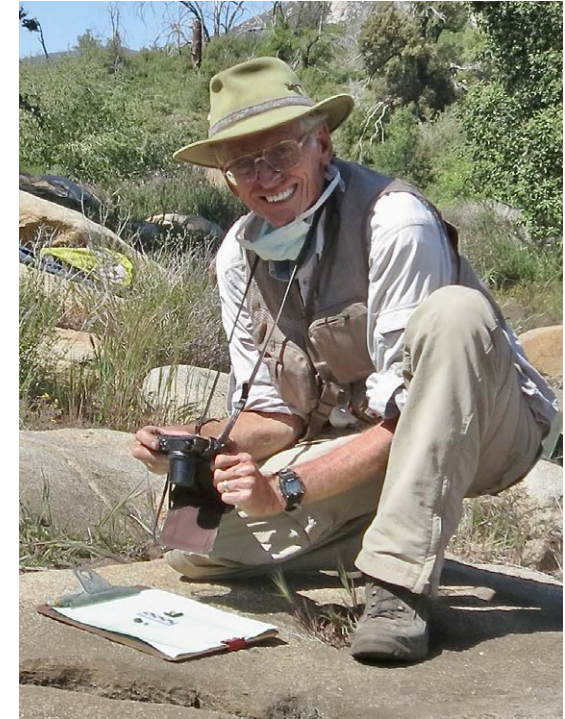
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### MISSION STATEMENT

The CDAS mission is to assist park staff with the documentation, preservation, and protection of the district's prehistoric and historic cultural resources.

SPRING 2022



## COLORADO DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY



Protecting and Preserving the Colorado Desert District

- Anza-Borrego Desert State Park
- Cuyamaca Rancho State Park
- Palomar Mountain State Park







## BEGOLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER

The Begole Archaeological Research Center (BARC) is an essential facility created to house a priceless collection of artifacts, to foster research and documentation — and to be a gathering place for the archaeological community, including Colorado Desert Archaeology Society members.

### THE BARC LAB

The Lab houses a multitude of cultural artifacts — objects that reveal thousands of years of occupation in the Colorado Desert District. The majority of these artifacts were collected in the Parks by early archaeologists, researchers, and trained members of CDAS under the direction of state park archaeologists during field surveys.



Following contemporary archaeological practice and direction from local Native American tribes, artifacts are no longer routinely collected in the park, but rather studied and documented *in situ*.

### THE BARC LIBRARY

CDAS members assist the district archaeologist in many capacities by keeping the library open and cataloging the books, periodicals, manuscripts, and research materials for in-house reading or borrowing by archaeological professionals and students.



CDAS members also conduct tours of the BARC for visitors and school classes, while continuing to learn, themselves, through presentations by noted archaeologists, and experiences in the field.

Members actively promote the importance of preserving and protecting the Parks' vast cultural resources through weekend events, public programs, and impromptu talks at archaeological sites. Sites are special places that need to be enjoyed responsibly and appreciated.

CDAS members promote stewardship and conservation through education, action, and advocacy.



### SITE STEWARDS

“The Guardians”

Site stewards visit specific areas at least twice each year and submit their findings via formatted reports. Included are descriptions and photographs of the assigned areas. All changes, natural or through vandalism, are recorded. If necessary, careful and appropriate restoration is conducted as directed by the district archaeologist.

Unknowing visitors often build campfires and move rocks that could be significant artifacts. They also move and pile up small items, which not only changes location, but can damage fragile surfaces. Driving on unauthorized routes can create further site damage, leading to a loss of integrity.

CDAS Site stewards may be thought of as guardians of their area. Their vigilant observations and reports are a key tool for maintaining the continuity of CDD cultural resources. They are a vital component in the preservation and conservation of our collective history.

### ARCHAEOLOGY TECHNICIANS

“The Recorders”

Archaeology technicians learn valuable skills that are used in field surveys: identifying and documenting findings to create official reports and site records. “Arch techs” with special training may monitor construction projects to prevent damage to designated sites, as well as during post-fire recovery work.

Fieldwork is determined by the needs of the district archaeologist. An example would be observing and documenting findings for a proposed location of a water line in a campground.

Some archaeology technician work is done in the BARC. There, “arch techs” enter data into The Museum System, the State Park collection-management program, and into local district data sets. Work may also include transcribing oral and written material, logging and cataloging photographs.

“Arch techs” learn to recognize the characteristic remains of various prehistoric and historic eras, being sure to validate and verify findings for accuracy.

