

GAAC

The Governor's Archaeology Advisory Commission's (GAAC) Annual Report FY2013-14



Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park, Yuma, AZ



Fort Verde State Historic Park, Camp Verde, AZ



Homolovi State Park, Winslow, AZ

GOVERNOR'S ARCHAEOLOGY ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014

INTRODUCTION

The Governor's Archaeology Advisory Commission (GAAC) is a statutory body that advises the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on archaeological issues in Arizona. It includes up to 11 members with expertise in prehistoric or historic archaeology, anthropology, heritage tourism, public education, economic development, and Native American affairs.

The GAAC supports public outreach and involvement in archaeology. It has assisted the SHPO, a division of Arizona State Parks, in developing and implementing successful educational and volunteer programs, including Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month, the annual Archaeology Expo, and the Arizona Site Steward Program. Annually, the GAAC presents the Governor's Awards in Public Archaeology in recognition of successful efforts to preserve the traces of our shared past. Working with other entities, both public and private, the Commission supports local economic development through archaeological heritage tourism while fostering a stewardship ethic for the protection and preservation of irreplaceable archaeological resources.

The Commission meets quarterly to review information regarding archaeological issues in the state, to monitor educational programs jointly developed with the SHPO, and to develop recommendations for actions and programs that will protect the state's archaeological resources and museum collections. Standing committees focused respectively on Public Policy, Public Education, and Professional Competency work to identify emerging issues, gather relevant information, set priorities for action, and work with SHPO in developing solutions and preparing reports. Committees report to the full Commission at each meeting. All meetings of the GAAC and its committees are open to the public, with dates and related agendas announced in advance by Arizona State Parks.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP (Terms expire)

Chair

Dr. Connie Stone (1 September 2014) Archaeologist
Retired/ U.S. Bureau of Land Management

Vice Chair

Rick Karl (1 September 2016) Arizona State Museum Representative
Archaeologist/AZSITE Coordinator

Members

Thomas Jones (1 September 2014) Historical Archaeology Representative
Archaeological Consulting Services

Dr. Joshua Watts (1 September 2016) Archaeologist
Board Member, Arizona Archaeological Council

Dr. Thomas Wilson (1 September 2016) City Representative
Arizona Museum of Natural History, Mesa

Gerald "Shane" Anton (1 September 2015) Tribal Representative
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Dr. Ruth Greenspan (1 September 2014) State Agency Representative
 Arizona Department of Transportation

Dr. Charles Redman (1 September 2014) University Representative
 Professor, Arizona State University

Members who served, but whose terms ended or left the Commission during the period of this report, are Duane Hubbard, Donna Ruiz y Costello, Kristin McLean, and Dr. Chris Downum.

GENERAL PROGRAM DIRECTION

The Commission operates in accordance with the following directives.

- Inform and advise policy-makers on issues relating to stewardship of archaeological resources, public education, resource protection, professional standards, maintenance of data and collections, and other matters of public policy.
- Support educational programs carried out by the SHPO that promote public understanding and stewardship of archaeological resources, such as Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month and the annual Archaeology Expo.
- Promote professional competency by supporting training programs and workshops in historic preservation laws, the practice of archaeology, and the current state of knowledge of Arizona prehistory and history.
- Encourage preservation activities by presenting the annual Governor's Awards in Public Archaeology recognizing individuals, organizations, and programs that have significantly contributed to the preservation and knowledge of Arizona archaeology.
- Advise Arizona State Parks on management of its volunteer Site Steward Program.
- Encourage communication among those with an interest in protecting and celebrating Arizona's archaeological heritage, including Indian tribes, professional organizations, avocational organizations, and Arizona citizens.

HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

- Monitored and advised the activities of the Historic Archaeology Advisory Committee, which includes GAAC members and volunteers. The Committee is continuing to update components of the *Historical Archaeology in Arizona Research Guide*.
- Served as a co-sponsor of the annual Arizona Historic Preservation Conference held in Rio Rico in June 2014. As part of the conference, the GAAC considered nominations from the public in selecting the recipients of the annual Awards in Public Archaeology that were presented at a special ceremony.
- Supported training workshops at the Historic Preservation Conference, developed and presented by the Historic Archaeology Advisory Committee, on "Ranching in Arizona" and "Protohistoric Archaeology in Southern Arizona." These topics were selected in response to a public survey of training needs conducted by the GAAC.
- Continued to advise the Arizona State Museum on adding new layers of data to the AZSITE system, the statewide database of archaeological and historical sites.
- Participated at the annual Archaeology Expo in March 2014, with a new display describing the GAAC's role and activities.
- Drafted a report on "Archaeological Parks and the Great Recession: The Role of Partnerships in Saving, Revitalizing, and Sustaining State Parks for Arizona's Future." The report is based on research conducted by the Public Policy Committee, including interviews with State Parks staff and partners.

- Sent correspondence to U.S. Representatives Gosar and Kirkpatrick, expressing support for the Casa Grande Ruins Boundary Modification Act of 2013, which would expand the monument's boundaries to protect important prehistoric Hohokam sites.
- Coordinated with the SHPO and Arizona Attorney General staff to determine how the GAAC can make appropriate use of social media.
- Gave a presentation on the role of avocational archaeologists at the annual meeting of the Arizona Archaeological Society in November 2013. This is a topic of ongoing consideration for the Commission.

GOVERNOR'S AWARDS IN PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY

In an effort to bring more recognition to its honorees, GAAC presents its Awards in Public Archaeology at the Arizona Historic Preservation Conference, the same setting in which the Governor's Historic Preservation Honor Awards are presented by the Arizona Preservation Foundation and the State Historic Preservation Office.

The following recipients were honored in 2014.

- Jon Czaplicki, Professional Archaeologist.
- Chris Schrage, Professional Archaeologist.
- Everett Murphy, Avocational Archaeologist.
- Lee Dewester, Avocational Archaeologist.
- Chris Tetzloff, Site Steward.
- Four Southern Tribes Cultural Resources Working Group, Tribe.
- City of Phoenix Aviation Department, Government Agency.
- Verde Valley Archaeology Center, Private Non-Profit Entity.
- "Rock Art of the Grand Canyon Region," Special Achievement.
- James W. Garrison, Lifetime Achievement.

SUNSET REVIEW BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Legislative review of state advisory commissions is generally required by law every ten years. The purpose is to evaluate the need to continue the existence of a state agency, or to revise, consolidate, or terminate the agency. The State Legislature notified the GAAC of its sunset review in July 2013 and requested relevant information, which was provided by the Commission and the SHPO. On November 4, 2013, the GAAC Chair and SHPO staff provided testimony and answered questions at a hearing of the Senate Natural Resources and Rural Affairs Committee and House of Representatives Government Committee of Reference.

Senate Bill 1314, which became a continuation omnibus, gave a three-year continuation of the Commission. The bill passed and was signed by the Governor. GAAC will have another review in 2017.

THREE-YEAR PLAN

The Three-Year Plan presents GAAC's program direction and the priorities that will guide the work of its standing, task-based committees. The current plan covers the period from 2013-2015.

For additional information about GAAC and its activities, including its Tree-Year Plan, PDFs of its reports, and lists of past Awards in Public Archaeology winners, visit the GAAC web pages listed under the SHPO section of the Arizona State Parks website:

<http://azstateparks.com/committees/GAAC.html>

http://azstateparks.com/SHPO/gaac_awards_list.html