

# UTAH COUNTY CHAPTER

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**Utah Statewide Archaeological Society  
Utah County Chapter**

**March Regular Meeting  
March 12, 2015 7:00 PM**

**Museum of Peoples and Cultures  
2201 North Canyon Road (University)  
Provo, Utah**

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<http://www.utaharchaeology.org/> -And- <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/USAS-group/>

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**MARCH 2015**

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**March Regular Meeting at Museum of Peoples and Cultures  
2201 North Canyon Road (University Ave) Provo, Utah**

For our March Regular meeting we will be visiting the New Museum of Peoples and Cultures

Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00 pm

Come out and join us in a tour of the New Museum of Peoples and Culture, "the Teaching Museum," and inspect the recently moved USAS archives.

Nate Horton and Ren Thomas successfully moved the archives to the new MPC Museum on March 3, in a blizzard. Paul Stavast, the Museum Director, has proposed an overall plan for cataloging and rehousing the collection, with the museum serving as a reference point but to have most of the actual work done by USAS members (aside from scanning which would probably be easiest to have the museum do).

The work will initially need to break the materials down into broad categories then proceed in smaller distinct steps. Once establishing the core groupings, then we can break it out for people to scan through and do a first sort, and a second sort just to make sure everything ended up in the right place. Then we can begin to write up the descriptions, having different people do different parts to help reduce errors since multiple people will be looking at it multiple times. This will likely be the future of our regular meetings for the remainder of the season with an open invitation to Statewide members to join in.

**Utah Archaeology Journal Update:** The 2014 issue of Utah Archaeology Journal is out and will be available at the upcoming meeting.

### **Two Great Events to Celebrate Our New Location!**

The Museum of Peoples and Cultures recently held two events to celebrate their new location. The first was an *Opening Family Night*, Monday, 23 February, 7-9 PM. It was titled, *Second Stories*, to get behind-the-scenes to learn more about and look at the collections and work, and to enjoy hands-on activities and refreshments.

The second was *Night At The Museums* held Friday, 27 February, 7-10 PM. On this night all the BYU museums were open late with special activities and refreshments. A shuttle service ran between the MPC, the Museum of Paleontology, and a central spot on campus to access the Museum of Art, the Bean Museum, and the Education in Zion gallery.

Note: Beginning Tuesday, 24 February, the Museum resumed regular operating hours of M/W/F 9-5 and T/Th 9-7. The address of the new location is 2201 North Canyon Road in Provo, with a great parking lot! Hope to see you at the new MPC soon!

### **USAS Archives Find a New Home**

The archives of the Utah Statewide Archaeological Society have a long and interesting history in search of a permanent home. In *Utah Archaeology: A Newsletter*, Volume 13, No. 2, June 1967, Norma Dalton, then Secretary-Treasurer of USAS, compiled and an *Index to "Utah Archaeology" 1955-1966*. In her introduction to the index she gives a brief summary of the establishment of "*Utah Archaeology*" as well as the Utah Statewide Archaeological Society, and a call for missing issues from the membership was made. The Society began a file for the Editor and an arrangement was made with Dr. Jesse D. Jennings to keep a file of the USAS Volume of Newsletters in the library of the Anthropology Department at the University of Utah.

In these pages are articles, reports and descriptions that define early *modern* archaeology in Utah as a practice and a profession. While many are from works published elsewhere, many are of presentations delivered to national and regional conferences and reports of work done by *giants* in Utah Archaeology, which can be found nowhere else. In addition to this are reports, field notes and photos documenting the work done by the amateur (avocational) archaeologists of our society in those early years.

This history also includes breaks, one break from June of 1972 to June of 1974 and another from July or December of 1976 to December 1984 represent times of trouble when USAS as a Society seems to have disappeared for a time. Finally *Utah Archaeology: Utah's Journal of Archaeological Research*, in book format, and as an annual publication of the Utah Statewide Archaeological Society (USAS), the Utah Professional Archaeological Council (UPAC), and the Utah Division of State History was begun in 1988.

At that time our archives were held by a number of individuals around the state and in spite of efforts to collect, document and digitize the records, it became an issue of concern and contention. Jeff Roberts, then USAS Statewide President, collected and deposited them with the Office of the State Archaeologist at State History in Salt Lake City. Fittingly, on March 3, 2015, with the direction of Jeff Roberts now again as President, Nate Horton and Ren Thomas successfully moved the archives to the new MPC Museum on the BYU campus in Provo, Utah. It is hoped that through these efforts the archives can become organized, stored and made available for reference and research, becoming a valuable contribution to Utah Archaeology.