



The Phoenix Chapter of the
Arizona Archaeological Society
invites you to join us in the
Pueblo Grande Museum
Community Room

Tuesday, Nov. 12th, at 7 pm

Attendance is free & the public is welcome.



**Recent Excavations in the Eastern Papaguería
by John Langan, Aztec Engineering, Phoenix**



Excavation of 25 sites in advance of highway widening along Arizona State Route 86 since 2010 has yielded some of the only data pertaining to small sites in the area between the Tucson Basin and the western Papaguería. Prior archaeological interpretations were based on work at only 4 sites (Ventana Cave, Jackrabbit Ruin, Valshni Village, and Gu Achi) which were thought to be rare sedentary/semi-sedentary outposts in a sparsely populated region. Other than Ventana Cave, which was almost continuously occupied from the Archaic through the historic periods, no evidence for occupation between ca. AD 150 and 750 had been found. The SR 86 projects provide evidence for more settled populations continuously occupying the Baboquivari Valley and the foothills of the Quinlan Mountains from the Late Archaic/Early Agricultural period through at least the protohistoric period. Formalized pithouses, maize agriculture, and a complex and distinctive mortuary pattern indicate a greater degree of permanence than previously recognized. These populations may have practiced a somewhat mobile subsistence strategy, similar to the “two-village” approach common to historic Tohono O’odham groups. Nearly all sites from which reliable dates were obtained included more than one temporal component, suggesting repeated occupations.

John Langan is a project director archaeologist with the AZTEC Engineering Group, Inc., Phoenix. He has a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Arizona, and has worked in Cultural Resources Management since 2001, when he began working for the National Park Service. He joined AZTEC’s cultural resources program in 2007 and has since participated in hundreds of archaeological and environmental projects in support of transportation and infrastructure development. He has become particularly interested in the archaeology of the Papaguería from working on the SR 86 projects. He is keenly interested in mobilizing the information gathered by CRM projects to further public and academic understanding of prehistory and history.

The **Pueblo Grande Museum** is located at
4619 E. Washington Street, Phoenix

Southeast of the 44th & Washington Street Light Rail Stop

Contact Ellie Large at 480-461-0563 or elarge@cox.net or

call the Pueblo Grande Museum at 602-495-0901 for more information.

Join us at 7 pm for Snacks & Refreshments. Talk will begin about 7:30 pm.