

# Set in Stone but Not in Meaning: Southwestern Indian Rock Art

A FREE PRESENTATION  
Funded by the Arizona Humanities Council

Friday March 5, 2010, 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at  
Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center & Museum

Ancient Indian pictographs (rock paintings) and petroglyphs (symbols carved or pecked on rocks) are claimed by some to be forms of writing for which meanings are known. But are such claims supported by archaeology, or by Native Americans themselves?



In this presentation archaeologist Allen Dart illustrates southwestern petroglyphs and pictographs, and discusses how even the same rock art symbol may be interpreted differently from popular, scientific, and modern Native American perspectives.

Through the Arizona Humanities Council's support for programs like this one, the people of Arizona benefit from federal funds allocated through the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Mr. Allen Dart has worked and volunteered as a professional archaeologist in New Mexico and Arizona since 1975, for government, private companies, and nonprofit organizations. He is employed full-time as a principal investigator in the Tucson office of EcoPlan Associates, Inc., an environmental and cultural resources consulting firm. He also works part-time as the Executive Director of Tucson's nonprofit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, which he founded in 1993 to provide educational and scientific programs in archaeology and culture. A Registered Professional Archaeologist, he has been a recipient of the Arizona Governor's Award in Public Archaeology for his efforts to bring archaeology and history to the public.

**Directions to Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center & Museum from Interstate 19 and Ajo Way (State Route 86) in Tucson (about a 1½-hour drive):** Go west on Ajo Way (State Route 86) about 60 miles to Sells. Once you arrive in Sells go past Baboquivari Intermediate School to midtown Sells, then turn south onto the Business District loop road opposite Milepost 114. After you turn there go past the Tohono O'odham Police Department to the end of the street. Turn right and go past the Indian Oasis Elementary School (on your left) and government offices (on your right). When the loop road begins curving to the right, turn south onto Federal Route 19, the paved highway to Topawa/San Miguel. Nearly one mile beyond milepost 18 you will see a sign pointing leftward to the graded dirt road that goes 1/4 mile to the Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center & Museum.

No reservations needed. For meeting details contact Allison Francisco in Topawa at 520-383-0201 ext. 115 or [Allison.Francisco@tonation-nsn.gov](mailto:Allison.Francisco@tonation-nsn.gov).