



Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

# “San Pedro Valley Paleoindians, Petroglyphs, and Prospectors” Archaeology and History Tour

with Archaeologist Vance T. Holliday and  
Friends of the San Pedro River Host Merle Kilpatrick

Join Old Pueblo Archaeology Center in a visit to significant precontact and historic period sites in southeastern Arizona’s San Pedro Valley with archaeologist Vance T. Holliday, Friends of the San Pedro River host Merle Kilpatrick, and Old Pueblo’s tour coordinator Allen Dart. We will visit the Murray Springs archaeological site, the Millville historic ore-processing mill ruins and prehistoric petroglyphs, and the Fairbank Townsite ghost town.



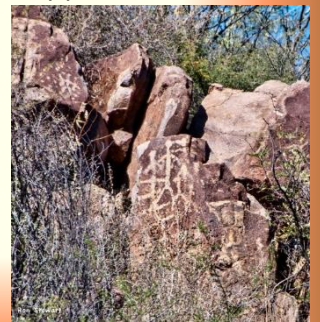
From the tour meeting place in Sierra Vista, Arizona (see address, page 3), we will drive in a caravan to Murray Springs, where early nomadic hunters known as the Clovis people butchered mammoths, large bison, and other now-extinct large mammals, and set up camp during the Paleoindian era between 9500 and 11,000 BCE. Dr. Holliday will lead us on a short hike to this site’s animal-kill and campsite locations, which together make up one of the most important and well documented early human sites in North America. Murray Springs has yielded the most evidence of Clovis stone tool manufacture and large mammal butchering in the entire southwestern US during the late Pleistocene epoch, and exhibits the “black mat” stratigraphic horizon, above which no Clovis-type artifacts have yet been found. While there, Dr. Holliday also will discuss the Lehner, Naco Mammoth, and other San Pedro Valley Paleoindian sites.



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After a bring-your-own picnic lunch at Murray Springs, Mr. Kilpatrick will guide us on a 1.8-mile-roundtrip walk to the archaeological remnants of Millville’s historic mill that processed silver ore from the nearby Charleston and Tombstone districts, and to nearby precontact petroglyphs. The Millville area is in “The Narrows” where hills pinch in on both sides of the San Pedro River, forcing underground water up into the surface river channel. In addition to the petroglyphs we’ll see, there are more on either side of the river, along with archaeological hillside-terrace and habitation sites. These glyphs and features may be associated with ancient Archaic, Hohokam, Mogollon, and possibly Pueblo/Salado cultures that occupied the area.



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(See next page)

Photos: Upper left – Mammoth remains excavated at the Naco Mammoth archaeological site in 1952 ( Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona photo courtesy of Vance Holliday); upper right: Murray Springs National Historic Landmark plaque (Allen Dart); lower left: massive mill ruins at Millville (Allen Dart); lower right: some precontact petroglyphs near Millville (Ron Stewart)

Saturday January 11, 2025, 9 am to 5 pm or later  
(starting in Sierra Vista, Arizona)

Reservations and donation prepayments required by 5 pm Tuesday January 7  
(see page 3)

## San Pedro Valley Paleoindians, Petroglyphs, and Prospectors . . .



**Fairbank Historic Townsite** is a ghost town situated about a mile east of the San Pedro River on Arizona Highway 82. It sprang up with construction of a railroad in 1881 and soon became an important depot as well as the closest railroad stop to Tombstone, then one of the largest western cities (15,000 in 1882). Built on the old San Juan de las Boquillas y Nogales Mexican land grant, Fairbank was bought in 1901 by the Boquillas Land and Cattle Company, which evicted all



potential landowners but continued to lease the mercantile building and a few residences well into the 1970s. The Bureau of Land Management acquired the former Mexican land grant lands in 1986 as part of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. Today one can still visit the Fairbank Mercantile, schoolhouse, other buildings, and cemetery.

**Dinner possibilities:** The tour will end near Tombstone so participants might consider having dinner at one of that historic Wild West city's fine dining establishments on Allen Street, or at one of its fast-food restaurants.

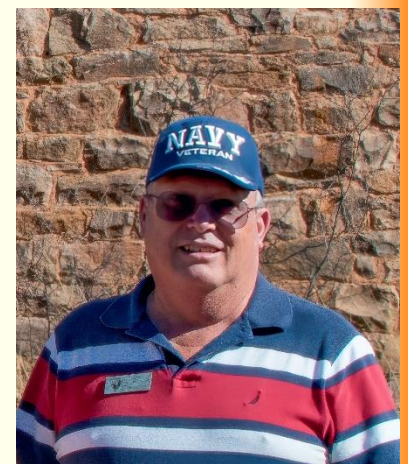
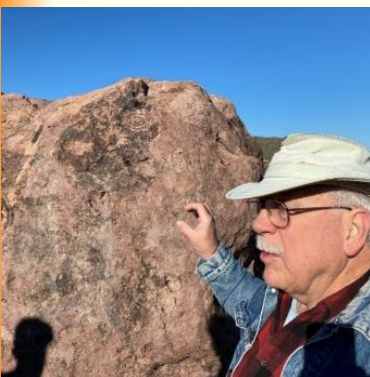
*Photos: Upper left: Fairbank Mercantile building, constructed in 1882 (Ron Stewart); upper right: Fairbank, Arizona circa 1890 (photographer unknown; en.wikipedia.org); below: Vance Holliday (University of Arizona); Merle Kilpatrick (Ron Stewart); Allen Dart (Rabia Altaf)*

### Our Tour Guides and Coordinator



**Archaeologist Vance T. Holliday, PhD**, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and Geosciences at the University of Arizona, Tucson, is an expert on the earliest humans in the Americas. His research interests include Paleoindian populations, soils, landscapes, and geology, and his professional career has been largely devoted to reconstructing and interpreting the landscapes and environments in which Paleoindians lived and how these conditions evolved. Dr. Holliday has authored *Paleoindian Geoarchaeology of the Southern High Plains* and other books, has co-edited others including the *Encyclopedia of Geoarchaeology*, and has published numerous journal articles and book chapters on Pleistocene and Holocene geology and soils, geoarchaeology, and Paleoindian archaeology.

**Merle Kilpatrick** received his Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from West Texas State University (Canyon TX) in 1974, focusing on teaching fields of history and physical education. He taught and coached for six years before being commissioned in the US Navy and serving 11 years on active duty. After active duty ended he returned to teaching/coaching and served in the US Navy Reserves. He retired as a Commander (05) after 23 years of naval service and from teaching after 23 years. Merle now volunteers weekly at the Coronado National Memorial Visitors Center, and as a Friends of the San Pedro River member and a docent at the Fairbank School House Museum he leads guided history walks to the Grand Central Mill site at Fairbank and assists with the history walk to the Millville/Charleston Mill and petroglyph sites.



**Allen Dart, MA**, Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's co-founder, is a Registered Professional Archaeologist. He volunteers as Old Pueblo's executive director and tour coordinator.

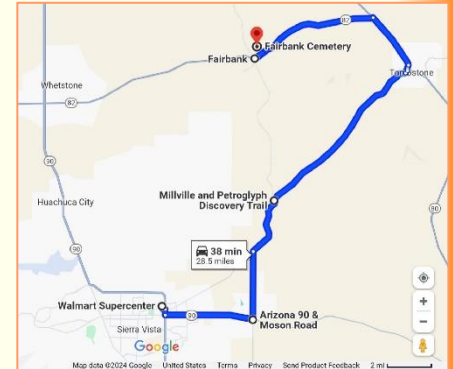
## IMPORTANT TOUR INFORMATION

**DONATION:** A \$55 donation per participant (\$45 for members of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center (Old Pueblo) or of the S'edav Va'aki Museum Foundation) helps cover tour expenses and supports Old Pueblo's archaeology and traditional culture education programs. **To register or for more information contact Old Pueblo at [info@oldpueblo.org](mailto:info@oldpueblo.org) or 520-798-1201.**

**COST AND PAYMENT POLICY:** Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis. Full payment is due within 10 days of tour registration or by tour reservation deadline, whichever is earlier. A portion of the payment will be a tax-deductible contribution to Old Pueblo in an amount to be determined based on tour expenses compared to revenues after all expenses have been paid. Any entrance fee savings from passes, permits, memberships, etc., become part of the donation to Old Pueblo. We welcome singles, couples, and groups.

**DEPARTURE PLACE AND TOUR TIMES:** The tour will meet at 9 am at the Walmart Supercenter, 500 N. Highway 90, Sierra Vista, Arizona, and will proceed in a vehicle caravan to Murray Springs, Millville, and Fairbank. The "5 pm or later" tour end-time at Fairbank is an estimate; travel and end times may be later than estimated considering how fast people can walk and regroup at the various stops and the possibility that vehicle problems can occur.

**WEAR APPROPRIATE CLOTHING, PROVIDE YOUR OWN PICNIC LUNCH AND AT LEAST 2 LITERS OF DRINKING WATER PER PERSON.** Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes. At some places we'll need to walk through some brushy areas so wear adequate clothing. Long sleeves, long pants, and hats are highly recommended. Bring your own lunch and water.



**CANCELLATIONS** made 30 days or more before departure will not be charged. Cancellations 8 to 30 days before departure will be refundable at 50% of the fee paid unless the cancelled space can be filled. Cancellations 0 to 7 days prior to departure date are not refundable. Cancellation notice must be received in writing or via email and will be effective as of the date received. Cancellations after final payment date/time will result in forfeiture of all money paid. No refund will be made for leaving a program in progress. Trip insurance is highly recommended. Old Pueblo reserves the right to cancel programs while in progress and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis, when in Old Pueblo's sole opinion the health, safety, or well-being of participants requires such action. The tour itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Old Pueblo, but participants will be notified of significant changes in advance if the change is under the control of Old Pueblo.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Registrants are responsible for their own transportation. Carpooling is not very practical for this tour unless you already have arranged to ride with someone else because the tour is a one-way trip that starts in Sierra Vista and ends in Fairbank. Old Pueblo is not responsible for arranging carpools.

**ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS:** No lodging or meals are included in the tour cost. Each participant needs to bring a lunch, at least two liters of water, and other beverages as desired. Snack foods are recommended. Please do not consume alcoholic beverages during the tour.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Some rock-scrambling, bending, and twisting may be required to see some of the petroglyphs. Tour leaders will allow plenty of time for those who cannot walk quickly. Participants can walk/hike as much or as little as they wish.

**HEALTH ADVISORIES:** Bring and wear a hat that protects the back of your neck and your ears. Bring and wear sunscreen lotion. You must be in good physical and mental health to do this tour. We are concerned about your health and safety, and our tour coordinator has had first-aid and CPR training, but medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during all or part of the tour. You are responsible for selecting events appropriate to your abilities and limitations. If you have any doubts about your ability to participate, please contact us prior to registering. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported when the reservation is made, and a follow-up explanatory letter may be required.

**PARTICIPANTS MUST ABIDE** by all federal, state, and tribal regulations pertaining to visitation to historic sites, antiquities, and artifact sites. Please read about archaeological site etiquette at <https://azstateparks.com/archaeological-site-etiquette> and <http://www.oldpueblo.org/artifact-collecting/>. Collecting of artifacts, plants, animals, and minerals is prohibited.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Becoming a member of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center opens a world of new discoveries. A \$25, 1-year "Friend" membership provides the *Old Pueblo Archaeology* bulletin and discounts on some of our tours, courses, and publications. Higher levels of membership may provide a member with opportunities to participate in archaeological excavation and other research projects if desired.

For more information visit [www.oldpueblo.org](http://www.oldpueblo.org) or contact Old Pueblo at [info@oldpueblo.org](mailto:info@oldpueblo.org) or 520-798-1201.