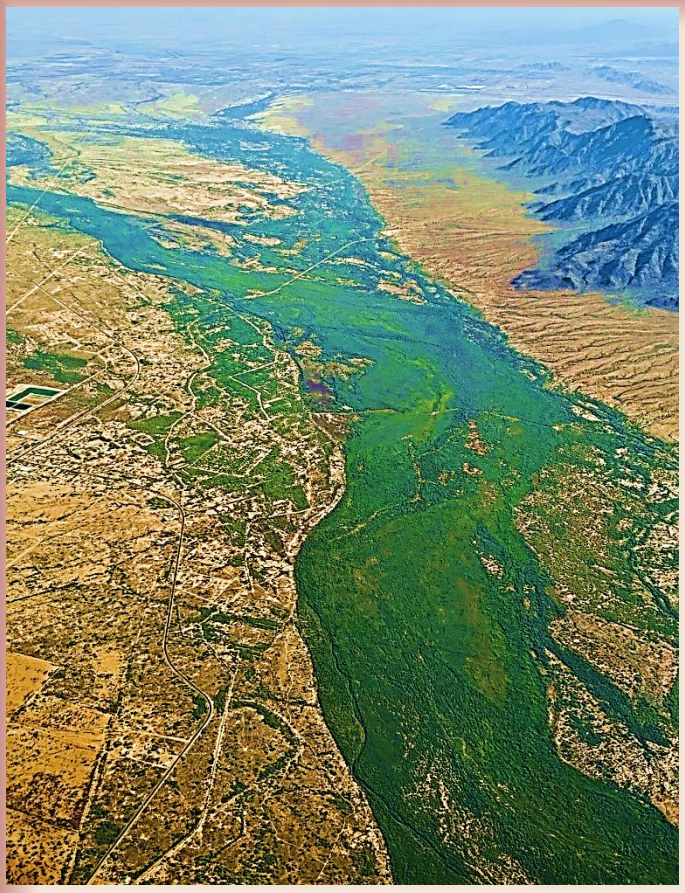
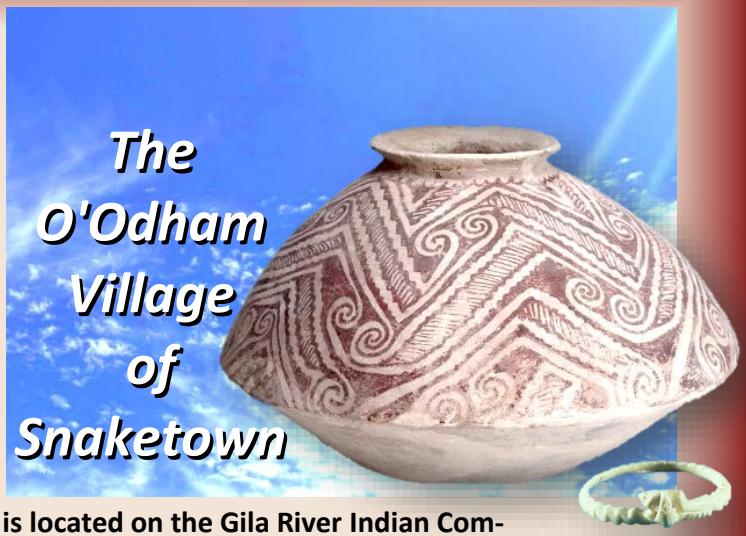
Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's "Third Thursday Food for Thought" Series

Crossing the Akimel to Snaketown: The Ancestral Connection to Modern Day O'Odham

A Zoom Presentation by Akimel O'Odham Archaeologist Reylynne Williams



Above: The Gila River green belt at Komatke on the Gila River Indian Community south of Phoenix (Photo by Diklyon, commons.wikimedia.org)



Right: Ancestral O'Odham pottery jar & shell bracelet (Helga Teiwes, photographer, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona)

is located on the Gila River Indian Community and situated north of the Gila River within the respective District Four Stotonic Community. When Akimel O'Odham archaeologist Reylynne Williams accepted Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's invitation to give this presentation, she wrote, "Snaketown was infamous for the archaeology conducted in 1934-35 and 1964-65 expeditions but not for its connection with the Akimel O'Odham of the Gila River Indian Community. Let's go on a journey together experiencing the life, sounds and culture of the Akimel O'Odham at Snaketown."

The 1930s and 1960s archaeological excavations at Snaketown that defined the "Hohokam archaeological culture" were conducted with little input from Indigenous Akimel O'Odham (the River People) of the Gila River valley who count Snaketown's ancient residents as their ancestors. In this presentation Ms. Williams, the Gila River Indian Community's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, will discuss what Snaketown means to the O'odham.

Thursday March 20, 2025 **7 pm ARIZONA/Mountain Standard Time**

(Same as Pacific Daylight Time)

To register for the Zoom program click on this link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nrvhg5O2SAWtZm0M7bx1

For more information contact Old Pueblo at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201.

Crossing the Akimel to Snaketown . . .

Old Pueblo's Third Thursday presenter this month is Ms. Reylynne Williams, an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community residing in Co-op Village in the western part of the GRIC.

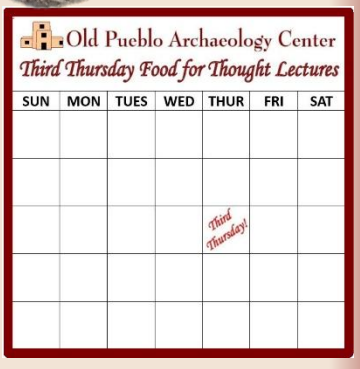
Reylynne was appointed as the Gila River Indian Community's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer this year after having worked for the GRIC for 19 years in the area of cultural resources and historic preservation. She has a Master's degree in Indigenous Peoples Law and a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology.

Reylynne says she enjoys attending Akimel O'odham language classes, cross stitching to calm her mind and recently started taking basket weaving classes.

Great Seal of the Gila River Indian Community

The Third Thursday Series

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's Third Thursday Food for Thought Zoom webinars, on the Third Thursday evening of each month, feature presentations on archaeological, historical, and cultural topics.



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For more information about this month's program or other activities, contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201.

Pottery jar photos by Helga Teiwes (Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona)