

## San Diego Rock Art Association Virtual Meeting Sunday, February 21, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

**"GlyphMo!" Petroglyphs and More  
Along the Gila River — Sherry Mitchell**



Petroglyphs at Quail Point

**Art of the Moche and Chimu  
of Coastal Northern Peru — Sandy Zahn**



Moche Temple of the Moon painted relief



Palimpsest at Hummingbird Point



The Chimu carved adobe city, Chan Chan

The Gila River in southwestern Arizona has been a trade and travel route for thousands of years. The ancient river flowed through the Sentinel-Arlington Volcanic Field where thousands of petroglyphs have been incised. Native American hunters, gatherers, and farmers used the river valley and many notable historic travel trails followed the river route: Father Kino from Spain in 1699, the Anza Expedition in 1775; the San Antonio to San Diego Mail in 1857; and the Butterfield Overland Mail in 1858. Historic signatures of some of these travelers are found near the ancient glyphs in the lava flows. The primary focus of this presentation is five major rock art sites along the Gila River in Maricopa County. Rock art here is believed to be Archaic (6,000 to 1,000 B.C.), Patayan (A.D. 700 to 1550), and Hohokam (A.D. 200 to 1400). This segment of the Gila River is part of the proposed 84,000-acre Great Bend of the Gila National Monument.

Sherry Eberwein Mitchell and Sandy Longo Zahn are two retired educators who are passionate about rock art. They are among the founders of SDRAA and currently are SDRAA Historians. Sandy is presenting two pre-Inca civilizations in Northern Peru and Sherry is presenting a few rock art sites along the Gila River Trail in Arizona.

For more than a thousand years before the arrival of the Inca, the people of Peru's northern coast flourished on the dry arid plain. They built large pyramids and citadels of mud bricks and created an extensive network of irrigation canals for farming. The Moche, from 1 to 800 A.D., are known for their distinctive pottery and their expressive mural art. More than 100,000 pots have been found. The pots, mostly stirrup spouted, represent naturalistic individuals, animals, birds, war scenes, sacrificial rituals, and sexual practices. The Chimu civilization, starting around 900 A.D. with its capital at Chan Chan, developed in this region after the collapse of the Moche. Chan Chan is a World Heritage Site, the largest city in pre-Columbian America. Its large adobe labyrinth shows the incredible engineering skills of the Chimu. They were conquered by the Inca in 1470, and their engineers and craftsmen were sent away to be incorporated into the Inca Empire.

**This meeting will be held via Zoom  
February 21, 2021, Starting at 4:00 p.m. (PST)  
Meeting room will open shortly after 3:30 p.m.  
Free Registration Required, limit 100 participants  
Visit [www.sdraa.org](http://www.sdraa.org) to Register**