



## Introduction

Seth Mallios

The name *Anteus* refers today to a variety of items, including a fancy French perfume, an obscure species of rhinoceros beetle, and a powerful super-mutant from Marvel Universe's *X-Men* comic books; but it is the original Greek mythological figure that serves as an important parable for archaeologists. According to Greek legend, Anteus was the son of the Earth. He renewed his redoubtable strength every time he touched the ground. Even Hercules struggled to defeat Anteus until he raised the son of the Earth into the air and away from the terrestrial source of his power (Figure 1.1). As archaeologists, we too are strongest when we stay in touch with the dirt and the items we recover from it. The further we venture from layers of loam, sand, and clay, the more vulnerable we and our interpretations become. Every archaeologist should be familiar with Anteus because every archaeologist is Anteus; what lies beneath our feet is our source of power, our insight.

This second volume of the *San Diego State University Occasional Archaeology Papers*—colloquially known as “the SOAP”—endeavors to offer this sort of earth-based insight about the human past through a series of articles on the practice, performance, and people of archaeology. It consists of four parts. Starting with “Voices of the Archaeologist,” the volume presents a series of three articles with first-person reflections by active professionals. The recent farewell address by legendary historical archaeologist Ivor Noël Hume begins the *SOAP*. Few individuals have had a greater impact on the discipline than Noël Hume, and I am honored that he agreed to publish this memorable speech in the *SOAP*. His list of awards and accomplishments is long, yet his legend so transcends the field that it is often difficult to discern accurate accounts about Noël Hume from liberal exaggerations and outright fabrications. In light of these many tall tales, I delight in the existential apotheosis that Noël Hume once appeared on the television game show “To Tell the Truth,” which ultimately asked, “Will the real Ivor Noël Hume please stand up?” (Noël Hume, personal communication, 2005). Of course, in using the phrase “existential apotheosis,” I have deliberately invoked and validated another famed Noël Hume story—he allegedly once declared that “anthropologists use jargon the way South American generals wear epaulets.” Due to the importance of Noël Hume’s career and the weight of his comments in his address, I asked Alison Bell, an anthropology professor at Washington and Lee University, to write a follow-up article contextualizing the significance of the farewell speech that many of us heard together at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual meetings in Williamsburg last January. I believe she captured the moment and legacy of Noel Hume’s address. The third and final article in Part I of the *SOAP* is a two-part interview I conducted with U.C. Berkeley archaeologist Kent Lightfoot in 2004 and again in 2005 regarding his career and the current state of anthropological archaeology. These interviews occurred before a recent series of awards came his way, including the 2007 American Anthropological Association Award for Outstanding Teaching and the 2007 Society for Historical Archaeology James Deetz Book Award for his

recent text, *Indians, Merchants, and Missionaries* (2005). Only time will tell if these accolades will cause Lightfoot to abandon his “I get no respect” mantra as the self-proclaimed Rodney Dangerfield of archaeology.

The second part of the *SOAP* consists of four articles united by the theme, “SDSU Archaeology.” It begins with an account of the recent conservation of a hidden, damaged, and forgotten on-campus WPA-era mural and describes the arduous process of removing, restoring, and re-installing this university treasure for public display in the main library. The mural article, written by myself and Donna Byczkiewicz, is followed by a detailed methodology that three SDSU Anthropology graduate students employed in winning the Society for American Archaeology’s 2006 Ethics Bowl. Cyndi Eischen, Elaine Michaels, and Matt Tennyson offer an overview of the competition, and they critique the case studies they faced on their way to earning this archaeological national championship. In the third article of this section, I give an account of the initial geophysical survey and preliminary archaeological excavation of the original well at the Whaley House in Old Town San Diego. Part II ends with another recent archaeological discovery at SDSU. Months ago, two department graduate students uncovered a box of 70-year-old grade books while cleaning out a storage closet. I assert that these ledgers are academic artifacts that offer insight into daily life at San Diego State College during its early years at Montezuma Mesa.

The four articles that focus on SDSU archaeology build and draw upon the inaugural 2006 volume of the *SOAP*. The art-conservation article is a follow-up to the original discovery of the lost murals that was detailed in Volume I. Cyndi Eischen, one of SDSU’s victorious graduate students at the 2006 Ethics Bowl, authored the overview of the archaeologists in the Anthropology Department from 1915-1975 that ran in this journal’s first publication. Furthermore, Eischen’s article on the founders of the department detailed the legacy of Professor Spencer Rogers. The recently discovered historical grade books that are the focus of the last article in this section originally belonged to Professor Rogers and trace nearly four decades of his work at San Diego State and beyond.

Part III of this volume highlights San Diego archaeology outside of SDSU and endeavors to strengthen further the bonds between local professionals, university-based archaeologists, and the community. It starts with Patrick Geyer, Kristie Anderson, Anna DeYoung, and Jason Richards’ analysis of colonial agricultural enterprises in Old Town San Diego. Their work unites archaeological investigations that were undertaken three decades apart and by two different local universities. Stephen Van Wormer and Susan Walter are the authors of the next article, a detailed and insightful structural analysis of the historical ranch house at Warner’s Ranch, also known as the Warner-Carrillo Ranch House. The last article in this third section of the *SOAP* summarizes a geophysical survey that was conducted at site CA-SDI-16798, the original U.S.-Mexico border crossing at Tecate. Billy Silva’s synthesis, like the Whaley-House article in the previous section, clearly demonstrates the utility of geophysical technologies in identifying a range of archaeological features.

Part IV of the *SOAP* is dedicated to archaeology and memorialization. It begins with Ron May’s tribute to C. Fred Buchanan. Buchanan was a tireless volunteer on numerous local archaeological projects, an established engineer, and a war veteran. The first volume of this

journal included Buchanan's detailed architectural analysis of Fort Guijarros that drew upon his unique combined expertise in military architecture, engineering, and history. The final two articles in this section also concern people who have passed, but they focus on current archaeological research in local cemeteries. David Lewis details his recent discovery of the Wolf boy in Julian's "Haven of Rest" pioneer cemetery, which is part of his ongoing quest to locate seventy lost graves. And lastly, David Caterino and I present new findings regarding the identity of those individuals originally buried at San Diego's Scripps Cemetery, which today is under Highway 15.

Remarkable items are being excavated from the local landscape on a daily basis in San Diego, yet these important artifacts and the insights that they contain do not always reach public audiences and other important stakeholders in local history. As a result, we formed the *SOAP* to "disseminate insight from archaeological investigations with a tie to San Diego County ... by providing both in-depth rigorous analyses and broad interpretive investigations into research issues of the region" (2006 *San Diego State University Occasional Archaeology Papers* Mission Statement). While these lofty words have produced tremendous results in the first two volumes of this journal, the *SOAP*'s continued success relies on the efforts of local archaeologists. We rely on all of you who embody Anteus and draw powerful insight from the Earth, and ask for additional submissions regarding your archaeology of, by, and for San Diego.



*Figure 1.1. Limestone statue of Hercules (left) wrestling Anteus (right and raised in the air), located on the West side of the Canal at Studley Royal, North Yorkshire, England. The statue was made circa 1730 for John Aislaby. Courtesy of Les Waby.*