You are invited to the Brown Bag Lecture Series

TUESDAY, October 5, 2010
12:30 noon to 1:30 p.m.
Texana Room, DeGolyer Library
6404 Hyer (formerly Hilltop) Lane & McFarlin Blvd.

“How the God of the Spaniards is Dead”:
The Archaeology of Native Independence after
the Pueblo Revolt of 1680

Matthew Liebmann
Clements Center Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America

In 1680 the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico banded together to rise up against their colonizers in one of the most successful indigenous uprisings in the history of Native North America. For twelve years the Pueblos lived free from Spanish oppression, and although this period of Native independence was brief, it proved instrumental in shaping modern Pueblo culture and society. This talk presents the results of a 10-year collaborative research project conducted with the Pueblo of Jemez, which documents the archaeology of the tumultuous period between the revolt and reconquest in the Pueblo world. Through the examination of the architecture, ceramics, and rock art of four Pueblo villages constructed between 1680 and 1694, it will examine the ways in which the peoples of the northern Rio Grande attempted to purge their world of European influences and return to traditional, pre-Hispanic ways of life. The results allow a unique window into the transformations in Native leadership strategies, attempts to revitalize Pueblo culture, and shifting inter-Pueblo alliances and hostilities that occurred in the wake of the Pueblo Revolt of 1680.

Liebmann received his PhD at the University of Pennsylvania and is currently assistant professor anthropology in the archaeology program at Harvard University. He is spending the academic year as a Clements Center fellow completing his manuscript for publication.

For more information or if you need special accommodations, email swcenter@smu.edu or call 214-768-3684.