

CLEMENTS CENTER FOR
SOUTHWEST STUDIES
SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

You are invited to the Brown Bag Lecture Series

Wednesday, November 10, 2010
12 noon to 1 pm
Texana Room, DeGolyer Library
6404 Hyer (formerly Hilltop) Lane & McFarlin Blvd.

**Burning Discontent:
Charcoal Making and Indigenous Anxiety in Nineteenth-Century New Mexico**

Albert González

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Only a handful of archaeologists have directed their attention at the charcoal production sites of the nineteenth-century American West and the few who have done so have completely ignored the production of charcoal in New Mexico. Moreover, the studies that do exist make no attempt to connect charcoal-making by the agents of American expansion with the development of indigenous discontent. This study aims to address both deficiencies by linking the ills of timber harvesting and fuelwood processing to the indigenous New Mexican uprising of 1847. More specifically, it will ask whether the environmental, economic, and social stresses associated with charcoal production played any role in attracting the 1847 insurgents to the Taos-based milling,

distilling, and charcoal-making operation of the American entrepreneur Simeon Turley.

Albert González received his BA and MA, both in history, from the University of Dallas in 2004 and 2007 respectively. He was a professional software developer between 1997 and 2006, earning MCSD and MCDBA certifications. He began the PhD program in Archeology at SMU in 2007. González is an historical archeologist working primarily on 18th and 19th century sites in northern New Mexico. His theoretical interests include memory and materiality studies, a brand of inquiry that informs his applied work, community-based archaeology.

Image: Photographer unknown, Turley's Mill, ca. 1920. Courtesy of Jeff Boyer, Taos.

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



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