BEYOND THE ROAD
TxDOT

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

# Tribal Collaboration, Sovereignty, and Methodology: An Ndee (Apache) Perspective

**Welcome!**

**The webinar will begin at 2:00 p.m. CT.**

**While you wait:**

1. Download PDFs of the webinar slides under the “Handouts” tab of your control bar.

2. Confirm that your speakers are turned on and your audio is working by doing a sound check in the “Audio” tab of the control bar. Having problems? Exit and restart the webinar or switch to “phone call” for a phone number and access code to hear the audio through your telephone.

**Live Captioning available at: https://tcc.1capapp.com/event/tcc/**

*Viewpoints shared and information developed and distributed by other organizations and presenters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Texas Historical Commission and its staff.*

# Museum Services

The Museum Services Program provides support, resources, and training to museums in Texas.

- Consultations
- Webinars and workshops
- Resources

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# Museum Services

www.thc.texas.gov/museum-services

On our webpage:

- Webinars
- Workshops
- Grants and Fundraising
- Helpful Resources
- Connect and Learn

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# Consultation and Collaboration: A Starting Point for Museums and Indigenous Tribes

www.thc.texas.gov/museums-and-tribes

- Workshop materials
- TxDOT resources
- Glossary and resource list
- Archeology resources
- Tribal information sheets

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# Museum Services


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# Upcoming Free Webinars

www.thc.texas.gov/museumwebinars

- Active Shooter Preparedness
  - Wednesday, July 12, 10:00 a.m. CT
- What is this stuff…? Navigating Education Standards Alignment
  - Wednesday, July 19, 10:00 a.m. CT

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# Upcoming Free Webinars from Other Orgs

www.thc.texas.gov/museumconnections

- *Challenging Inequities through Inclusive Leadership*, July 5, 2:00 p.m. CT, BCMA
- *Social Media 101 for Nonprofits*, July 11, 2:00 p.m. CT, Firespring
- *Ask the Conservators*, July 12, 11:00 a.m. CT, New England Museum Association
- *How to Build Donor Trust*, July 12, 1:00 p.m. CT, Blackbaud
- *Getting Ready for Preservation Grant Season*, July 13, 11:30 a.m. CT, Northeast Document Conservation Center
- *The Challenges and Innovations of Museums in Times of Conflict*, July 17, 10:00 a.m. CT, MuseumExpert.org
- *Care of Tin-Mercury Amalgam Mirrors*, July 19, 12:00 p.m. CT, Connecting to Collections Care
- *Storytelling for Impact*, July 25, 2:00 p.m. CT, Firespring
- *Sponsors: How to Find Them and Create a Win-Win*, July 26, 12:00 p.m. CT, Productive Fundraising
- *Cash is Not King: Maximize Gift Revenue through Gifts of Non-Cash Assets*, July 26, 1:00 p.m. CT Blackbaud

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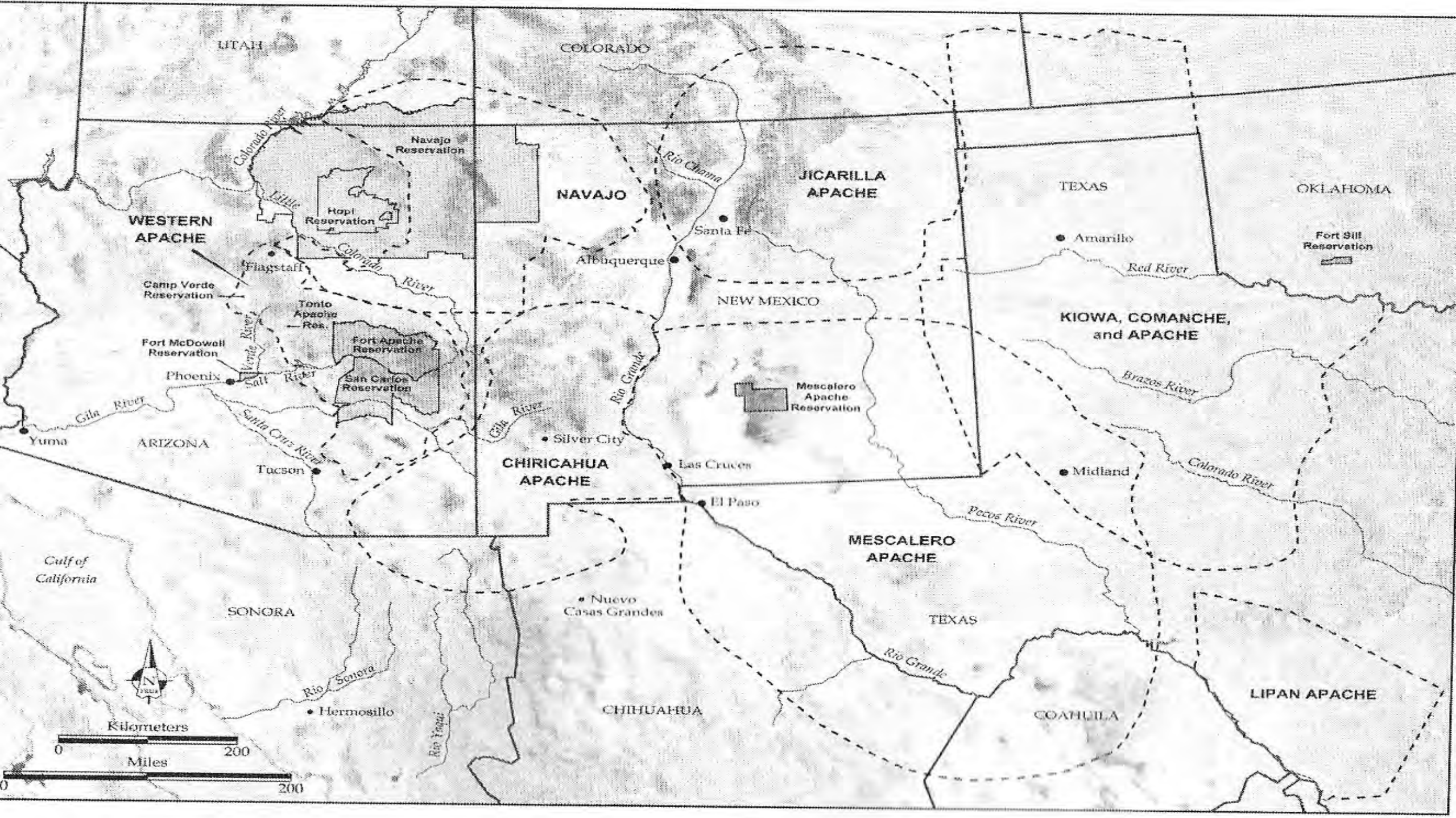
# Dr. Nicholas Laluk

# Tribal Collaboration, Sovereignty, and Methodology: An Ndee (Apache) Perspective

Nicholas Laluk
White Mountain Apache Tribe
University of California Berkeley

Bullock Museum
June 29, 2023


UTAH
COLORADO
Navajo Reservation
Colorado River
Little Colorado River
Hopi Reservation
WESTERN APACHE
NAVAJO
Río Chama
JICARILLA APACHE
TEXAS
OKLAHOMA
Santa Fe
Amarillo
Fort Sill Reservation
Flagstaff
Albuquerque
Red River
Camp Verde Reservation
Colorado River
NEW MEXICO
Tonto Apache Res.
KIOWA, COMANCHE, and APACHE
Verde River
Fort McDowell Reservation
Fort Apache Reservation
Río Grande
Phoenix
Salt River
San Carlos Reservation
Mescalero Apache Reservation
Brazos River
Gila River
Yuma
ARIZONA
Santa Cruz River
Gila River
Silver City
CHIRICAHUA APACHE
Las Cruces
Tucson
Midland
Colorado River
El Paso
Pecos River
Gulf of California
MESCALERO APACHE
Nuevo Casas Grandes
SONORA
TEXAS
Río Grande
Río Sonora
Hermosillo
CHIHUAHUA
COAHUILA
LIPAN APACHE
Río Yaqui
Kilometers
0
200
Miles
0
200

# Tribal Sovereignty

- Native Natives excited ling before arrival of Europeans
- Federal Indian Law
- “Reservation Indians to make their own laws and be ruled by them”
- Tribes retain aspects of “sovereign immunity”
- Not distinguished by Congress or negotiated away in treaties
- Legal means was useful to dispossess Natives of lands
- Doctrine of Discovery and Trust Doctrine

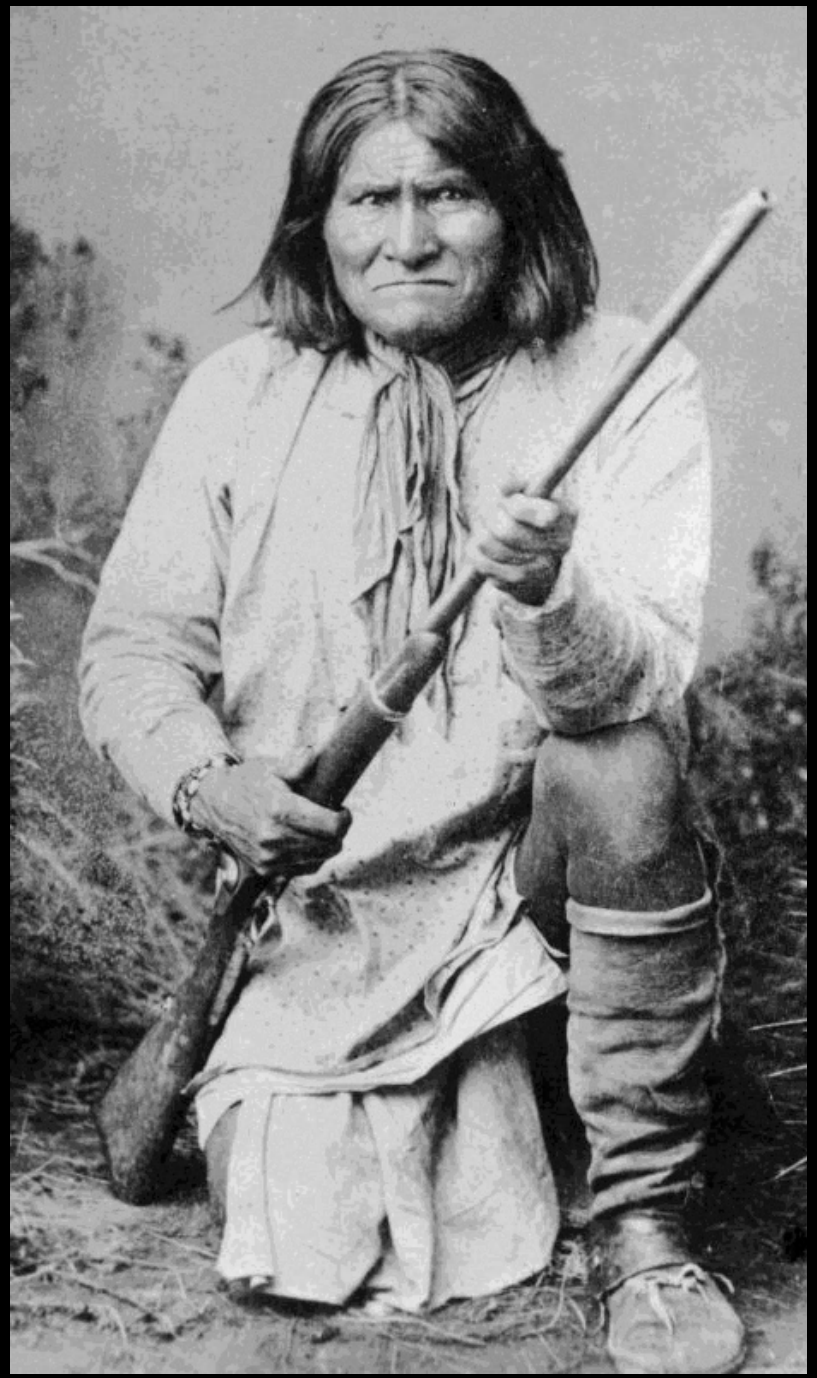
Native American Art

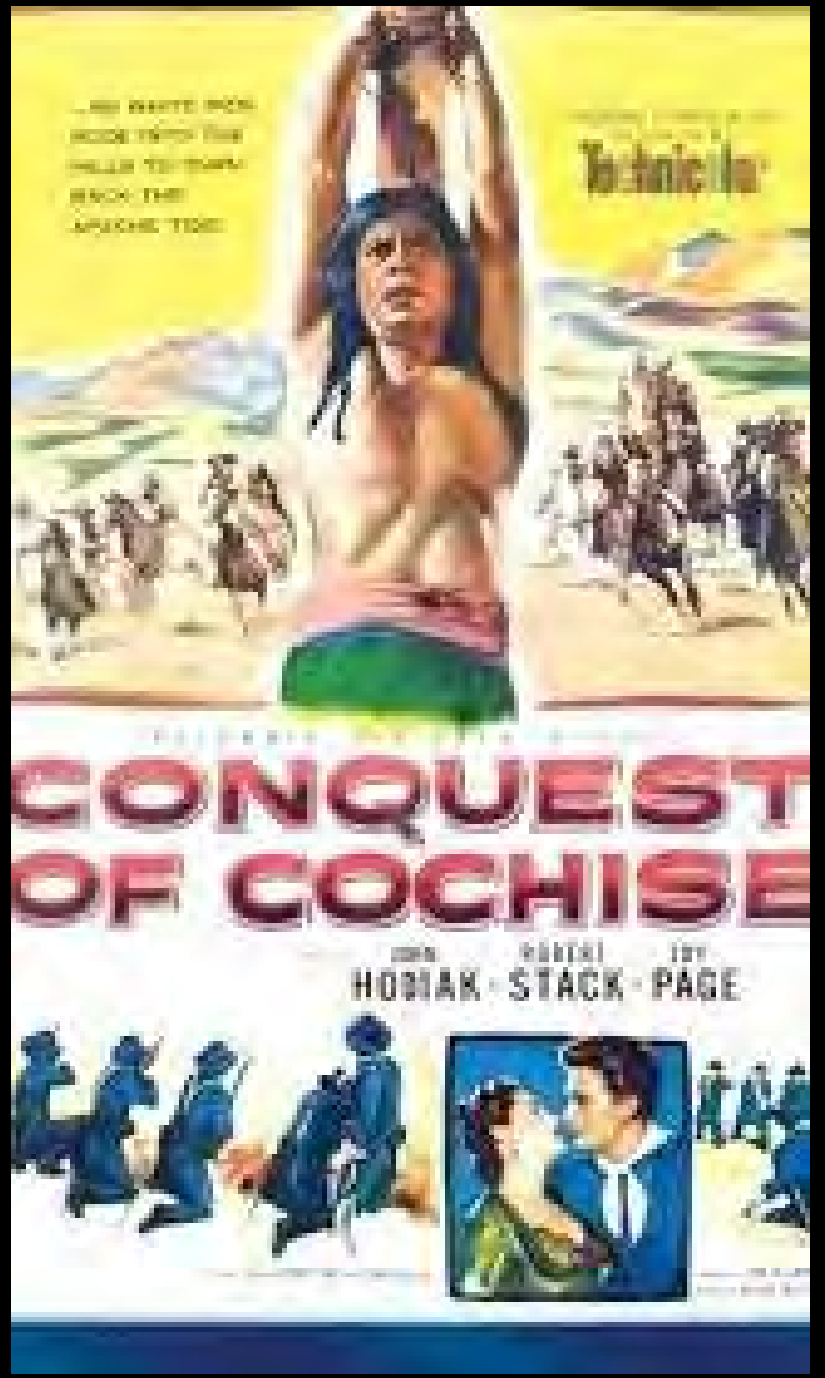
# GOOGLE IMAGE SEARCH: APACHE

*The 2021 TVS Apache RTR 160 4V employs the 159.7cc, single-cylinder, 4-stroke, oil-cooled engine that delivers 17.63PS of maximum power and 14.73Nm of peak torque!*

# Google Image Search: Ndee

## Chinaza Ndee – Pitt Women’s Volleyball

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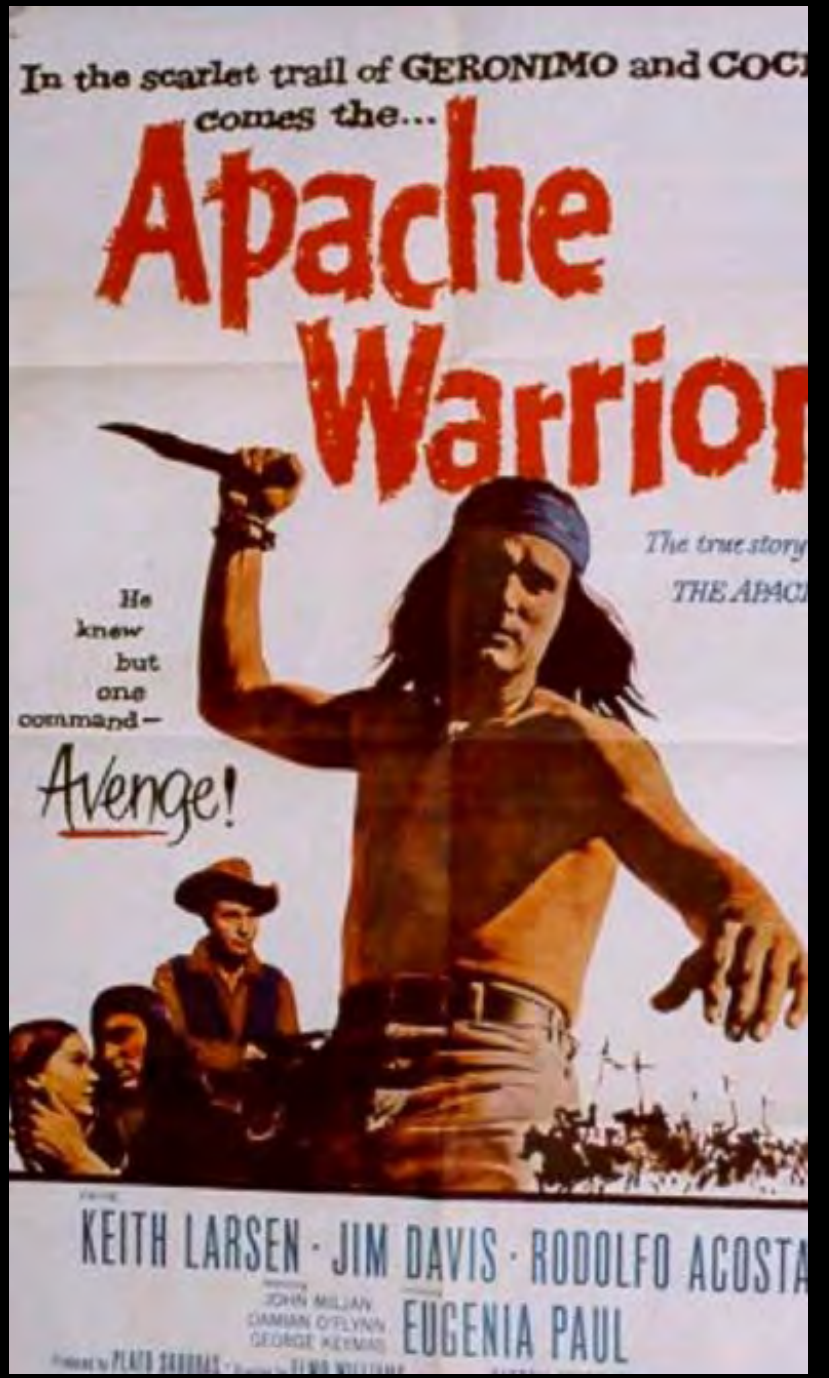

In the scarlet trail of GERONIMO and COC
comes the...
Apache
Warrior
He knew but one command—
Avenge!
KEITH LARSEN · JIM DAVIS · RODOLFO ACOSTA
EUGENIA PAUL

*JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE OF THE FRONTIER!*

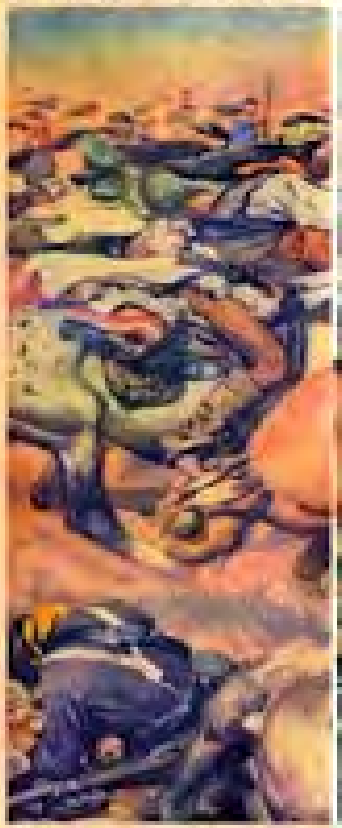
JOHN FORD and MERIAN C. COOPER
present

JOHN WAYNE
HENRY FONDA
SHIRLEY TEMPLE
PEDRO ARMENDARIZ

# FORT APACHE

Directed by
JOHN FORD

Screen play by Frank Nugent
as suggested by The Saturday Evening Post
story - "Massacre" - by James Warner Bellah
AN ARGOSY PICTURE
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.



A real picture and a great one
cavalrymen . . . their women . .

It's got sweep and scope, human scores straight from the shoulder. There are long, lean
. fighting . . . humor. You can smell the heat and the dust. In other words, this is motion picture!

JOHN WAYNE — HENRY FONDA — SHIRLEY TEMPLE — PEDRO ARMENDARIZ — WARD BOND — GEORGE O'BRIEN — VICTOR McLAGLEN

ANNA LEE — IRENE RICH — DICK FORAN — GUY KIBBEE — GRANT WITHERS — MAE MARSH — JOHN AGAR

# Myth of the "Apache"

- Geronimo, Raiders, bloodthirsty, savage, part of the past, impediments to civilization, nomadic, ephemeral, warfare, helicopters
- Has created misrepresentations, stereotypes and essentialisms
- Perpetuates non-community based understandings of heritage, identity and culture

# Asserting Sovereignty

- How are Tribes asserting their own sovereignty within cultural resource management, preservation and museum studies?
- To me. Even little acts as modifying terminology to or referring to Tribes by traditional names can be acts of sovereignty
- Ndee “Sovereignty driven research”

# Learning and Cultivating

- For me, as an Indigenous archaeologist I continue to cultivate, utilize and call upon learned knowledge from *Ndee* family and friends in my own research and everyday life practices
- Have written about the deeper components of relationality and archaeological practice centered around reciprocity and community well-being though the use of yellow cattail pollen as archaeological methodology (Laluk and Burnette 2021)

# Tools

- For example, how often do we think about how destructive a simple tool of metal and wood has been to Indigenous communities worldwide?
- The trowel has been a powerful instrument of settler colonialism for years
- Through the use of such a tool that such desecration and extraction have occurred within many communities worldwide
- In my own *Ndee* language we do not even have a term for trowel. The closest term I could come up with is the phrase for a small shovel—*be'okaaha asts'isehi*

- Point is whether we talk about **tools, methods, practice or theory** there remains ongoing **structures of power** that prevent the consideration of the ways Indigenous people themselves “Indigenize” their own ways of knowing or <u>exert sovereignty</u>

# Knowledge

- **Empirical knowledge** handed down by creator and is just plain **reality** for many people growing up in Indigenous communities.
- How then can we empower Indigenous toolsets not only as archaeological method and theory, but as distinctive form of **knowledge**, recognized at the same level of **equality** and usefulness as non-Indigenous forms of knowledge, and capable of contributing to the challenges of the modern world?

# *Ndee* Field Tools

| Ndee Cultural Resource Specialist/Archaeologist (White Mountain) | Non-Ndee Archaeologist (Western Methods) |
|---|---|
| hádńdín (yellow cattail pollen) | trowel |
| iłch ii (ash) | pencil |
| ishjį (salt rock) | note/graph paper |
| ha'chigé (snake root) | compass |
| gad (cedar) | scale |
| chi (hematite) | measuring tape |
| yoo (beads) | GPS |
| sǫ' (crystal) | site form |
| bésh dist'og (arrowhead) | small broom/brush |
| Reasons Needed: Balance, Respect, Protection, Healing, Well-being (Individual, Family, Community) | Reasons Needed: Digging, Recording, Measuring, Finding, Interpreting |

# Grasshopper Reburial Project: NAGPRA

- In collaborations with Arizona State Museum, BIA Regional Office, University of Arizona, Hopi/ Zuni tribes, and local help from Cibecue individuals

# Ndee Conception of Place

- Ongoing connections to land base since time immemorial
- “when places are actively sensed, the physical landscape becomes wedded to the landscape of the mind” (Basso 1996:55)
- Topography and

Environment = Moral and

Social well-being

- ***Ni*** – Inseparability of

Land and Mind

- ***Gozho*** – Southern

Athabaskan precept – Beauty,

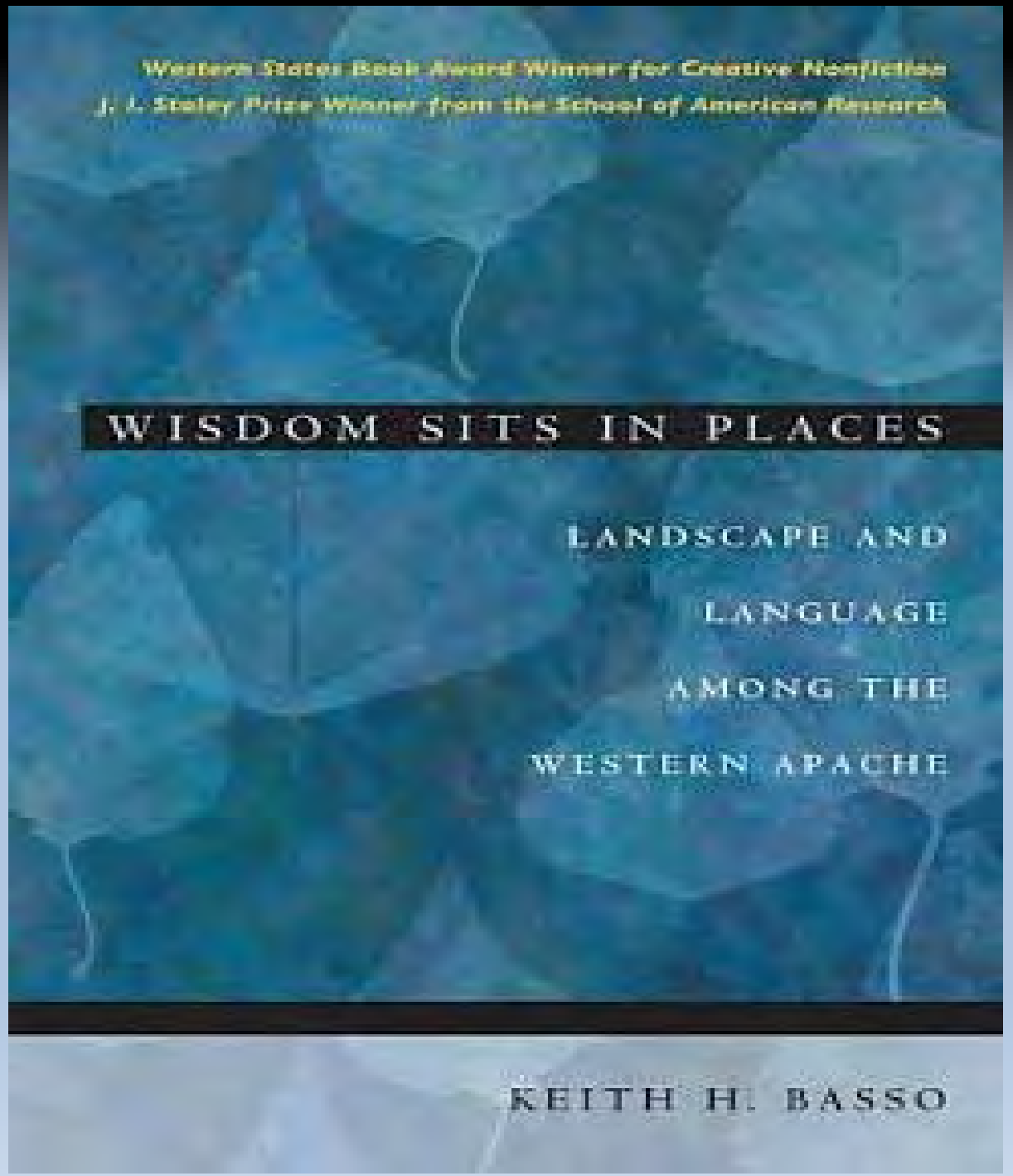
Balance, Harmony

# RESPECT?

## Grasshopper Reburial

# Ethics and “Smoothness of Mind”

- ***Ndee*** **informal theory of the mind underscoring “wisdom” might assist archaeological researchers**
- **(Smoothness of Mind) = cleared-space or area free of obstructions**
- **A quality which permits one to observe and reason with penetrating clarity**


Western States Book Award Winner for Creative Nonfiction
J. I. Staley Prize Winner from the School of American Research
WISDOM SITS IN PLACES
LANDSCAPE AND
LANGUAGE
AMONG THE
WESTERN APACHE
KEITH H. BASSO

# Ethics and “Smoothness of Mind”

- “Skeptical of outward appearances, smooth minds are able to look through them and beyond them to detect obscured realities and hidden possibilities” (Dudley Patterson, as used by Basso 1996:131)

# Ethics and “Smoothness of Mind”

- *Ndee* folks continue to learn and are guided by topographical placenames
- “Trail Goes Down Between Two Hills”
- Moral issues of Old Man Owl
- Talbert Paxson
- “So! You’ve returned from Trail Goes Down Between Two Hills.”
- Alter behavior and life actions accordingly

# *Ndee* Language - Teach

- **Place-Based Reasoning – Folks Love!!! Basso**
- **Use *Ndee* Language to help create “Smoothness of Mind”**
- **Grasshopper – “Place where trash was disrespectfully left” – Translate in *Ndee* –**
- ***“Kude doo whaa dagonłsįh dahgo ch’ínágodéhé adagozlaa lę”***
- **Reminds – Repetition - Learn**
- ***Ndee* Place-based Indigenized methodology**

# Boarding School Research

- TR School
- Military post until 1920
- Modify dominant narratives
- Work with museum staff to co-create

# TR Boarding School Project

- Stories of abuse and trauma
- Telling the Ndee Boarding School Experience
- Many earlier attendees have passed
- COVID 19 pandemic
- Personal
- Museum burnt down in 1980s

# Survivance

- Term developed by Anishinaabe scholar Gerald Vizenor
- Beyond endurance or survival
- But in what ways were Ndee children intentionally persisting their own culture in the face of assimilationist curriculum at TR School and ongoing “kill the Indian, save the man mentalities?

# Survivance

- Silliman also discusses what is embedded in the concept of survivance is the ability “to change in order to stay the same” (2014:60).
- Certainly, exposure to Western foodways, being disciplined for speaking their language, and attending church contributed to dynamic changes within everyday life on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation
- But in what ways were Ndee youth selectively and forcibly made to change but still allowing their own learned cultural knowledge to persist?
- Foregrounding such experiences speak to Tribal Sovereignty

# Survivance: Nah Eh Es

- For example, one of the most powerful ceremonies practiced since the time of creation is the *Nah Eh Es* (Sunrise Dance) or girls coming-of-age ceremony
- The ceremony recognizes the Ndee White Painted Woman and during the puberty ceremony young girls become White Painted Women with the abilities to bless and heal
- More importantly, women also possessed a sacred connection to the earth around them, uniting their families and band to the land through ritual, ceremonies, and spiritual power
- Place – Museum, Fort Apache work together

# Deliverables

- Community Pamphlet – direct quotes
- Children’s book
- Community artist, stories in Ndee
- Book

# Collaboration and Sovereignty

- Effective Collaboration need to respect Tribal understandings of its own sovereignty
- Powerful ways Tribes are promoting sovereignty-driven research
- *“As pottery continues to be made for utility, ceremony and sale, it must be understood that pottery can be produced only by obtaining the resource, the Clay Mother, with prayer and Indigenous knowledge of the maker. Pottery must be acknowledged as alive, as a symbol of this sacred gift of the Creator.”*

  (Aguilar et al. 2023:17)