



SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL ASTRONOMY  
IN THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST, INC.



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SCAAS 2017 Spatial Technologies for Cultural Astronomy Workshop  
Arizona State University – Tempe Main Campus  
**November 10 – 12, 2017**

Let us offer an early welcome to Tempe and Arizona State University for the Spatial Technologies workshop. Below are many of the housekeeping things that will be helpful as you make your final travel plans. We will try to keep these in a logical order.

Most of the workshop activity will be in Room 296 in the Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building 4 (ISTB4) on the Tempe Main Campus of ASU. The facility address is 781 E. Terrace Mall, Tempe, AZ 85287. Our room is on the second floor adjacent to the Meteorite Gallery.

Parking is available in the Rural Road parking structure east of ISTB4. Enter off of Terrace Mall for the closest parking. Friday is a no class day at ASU however there will still be parking fees; \$3.00 per hour capped at a daily rate of \$15.00. Saturday and Sunday parking will be free. The workshop hotel, the Moxy (1333 South Rural Road, Tempe AZ 85281), is only a couple blocks away. This might be a good parking option for Friday at least.

Some of us will be getting together Thursday night at the Moxy from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. This is an informal reception and optional. We think this is a good time to meet some of your workshop colleagues and maybe seek some technical support if you are having trouble with all those downloads we asked you to do.

We have listed the software that we will be using during the workshop with a link on the webpage at <http://www.scaas.org/Workshop-Software>. We recommend downloading and installing the software before the conference. If you have any issues getting set up please contact us. We will do our best to have everyone up and running before the workshop. Note: Agisoft Photoscan has a 30 day trial that you can use, there is a simple request form that can take 24 hours to process.

Our first official workshop activity will be a site visit to South Mountain Park. This field outing will take most of Friday morning. We plan to meet in the lobby of the Moxy Hotel at 8:45 am on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>. We will be organizing into cars to travel to South Mountain Park for a site visit. The park is about 6 miles and 20 minutes travel time from the hotel.

At South Mountain Park there is a convenient parking area at a popular public trailhead (Beverly Canyon Trailhead; 7800 S. 46<sup>th</sup> St). We will be hiking to an archaeological rock art site generically called 'Bird Rock'. The hike is about 1/3 of a mile with a 130 foot elevation gain. It is a well-worn trail with patches of gravel and uneven granitic rocks. We will have plenty of time, no worry about taking it slow. At the site we will hear from local archaeologists about the significance of the area, we will take compass readings and we will take many images of the rock site and the horizon to use in the workshop classroom setting. We expect to be in the park for about 90 minutes. There are no facilities. While we can find a rock to lean against or to sit on, we need to be very aware that there are many very subtle and fragile petroglyphs in the area. We will need to be good stewards. Even in November it can be warm in Arizona. Please remember to bring plenty of water.

We ask that you bring any type of digital camera, yes, even smart phones and low tech. camera equipment. A theme of this workshop is that we do not need expensive professional gear to accomplish fundamental analytical spatial goals. Also, if you have a hand compass and/or a GPS, bring it. We wish to do an exercise about compass accuracy.

When we return participants will have time for lunch on their own and then meet at the workshop room at 1pm. The South Mountain site visit is optional. Participants are welcome to skip the site visit and meet at the workshop venue for the start of the hands on workshop sessions. Back at campus we will work the afternoon on a process called photogrammetry. Morning 'Bird Rock' site images will be turned into 3D digital models.

Day 2, Saturday, will be almost entirely about GIS technology. The day is scheduled in our workshop room 296 at ISTB4.

Day 3, Sunday, is about astronomy software and working with processed site imagery in an astronomical context.

### **About food and fun**

Thursday night is a gathering at the Moxy. The workshop is not providing dinner this evening but maybe we can find the people that would like to find food together. Ric will be there to provide ideas.

Friday morning is on your own. We will make sure there is a coffee station at the Moxy while we organize transport to the field site.

Friday lunch, also on your own.

Friday night we are thinking about all going to a local patio bar for social fun. Sorry this also non-hosted by the organizer.

Saturday and Sunday morning we provide coffee and snacks.

Saturday and Sunday lunch is provided by the workshop.

Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday all day snacks and soft drinks are provided.

Saturday night we wish to organize a dinner for all. It will be a catered buffet with dietary options. To attend this dinner participants need to register and there is an additional fee of \$35.00. A survey will be distributed very soon for you to RSVP for the onsite activities and advise us of any dietary restriction.

### **Weather**

Except for the field visit on Friday AM., all activity is indoors. For those coming from out of town, early November is a great time to visit. Please check the weather by your own resources the week of the event.

### **Survey**

We are organizing an event survey to help us better understand your needs and expectations. Please be diligent about responding when you see it come to your email.

### **Contacts**

For any thing about the schedule and site logistics contact:

Ric Alling                      [ricalling@gmail.com](mailto:ricalling@gmail.com)

For software support as you download in advance of the workshop contact:

Chris Dombrowski    [dombrows@gmail.com](mailto:dombrows@gmail.com)

For questions about registration and payment contact:

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