

Atomic Pasts: Preserving the Legacy of Nuclear Testing in the Southwest and it will be a broad overview of cultural resources directly related to nuclear testing and uranium mining.

Throughout the past century, nuclear testing and uranium mining have drastically changed the landscapes of the American Southwest. For some, this meant opportunity; for others, environmental disaster. This talk will look at how the legacy of nuclear testing has been preserved in this region. How do we remember and memorialize nuclear heritage? How have people interacted with and reacted to the development of nuclear energy? In particular, what does this mean for future archaeological investigation?

Emily Jonsson is a Master's student in the Applied Archaeology program at the University of Arizona, where she focuses on Indigenous archaeology, colonialism, and landscapes in the Southwest. She is currently working as a conservation intern in the Arizona State Museum and completing a certificate in Archival Studies, both of which have allowed her to study the effects of radioactive contamination on cultural resource objects and sites. Her previous work in northern Arizona has focused on Virgin Branch Puebloan trade and migration patterns, in addition to heritage resources along the Mogollon Rim and the greater Colorado Plateau. This summer she will be working at Bandelier National Monument and completing thesis research on the Pajarito Plateau. She received her undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and has worked on sites in Portugal, Italy, and throughout the American West.

Emily is a recipient of the Dr. David R. Wilcox Archaeology Grant, which she has used to support her conservation internship in the Arizona State Museum during her studies.

To find out more about Emily's work and background here is the link:
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