

ARCH/PHYS LUNCH TALK

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SOC SCI 1, 261

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PATHWAY ANALYSIS: TOWARDS AN INTENSIVE METHODOLOGY IN LANDSCAPE ARCHAEOLOGY

As of late the term landscape in archaeology swings widely between biophysical processes and the valences of social and cultural life. In Cultural Anthropology landscapes are the coproduction of place and space. While in Social Anthropology, land mediated social relations define how people think about, take and claim land. For archaeology, however, landscape replaced keywords such as "environment", "region" or "ecology." But this terminological ambiguity has provided be be useful for the development of the sub-discipline of landscape archaeology. Here I define landscape studies in archaeology into three styles including Scalar Landscape Archaeology, Applied Landscape Archaeology and Intensive Landscape Archaeology. Each style contributes to archaeological understandings of landscapes, but I suggest that the loosely defined methodology in intensive landscape archaeology offers the best opportunity towards knowing what landscapes do and by implication the best opportunity to engage in transdisciplinary scholarship about how people relate to their lands.

Mario Alberto Castillo is a second year graduate student in anthropological archaeology at the University of California, Berkeley. He received his B.A. in Anthropology at Cal State Dominguez Hills where he was a Ronald E. McNair Scholar and a Sally Casanova Pre-doctoral Scholar. His work has been supported by UC-Mexus, the UC-Berkeley Archaeological Research Facility, the UC-Berkeley Center for Latin American Studies, and the National Academies of Science. His expects to focus his dissertation work on the issue of rural land tenure in Mexico from the late 19th century and onwards.