Public Presentation on
The Prehistory of New Mexico

The Merchant Site:
Old and New Discoveries
at a Prehistoric Village in
Lea County

Archaeological investigations at the Merchant site have revealed – or “re-revealed” – one of the more unusual and important prehistoric settlements in southeastern New Mexico. First excavated by Robert Leslie and the Lea County Archaeological Society 50 years ago to rescue the site from looters, the site has been a somewhat legendary yet mostly unpublished mystery of southern New Mexico prehistory. This public lecture will present the new and old discoveries from the site and discuss how the combined research efforts from the 1960s and the present time have significantly changed our perspective on 14th century settlements in southeastern New Mexico. The Merchant site was a fascinating mix of Southwestern pueblo lifeways and Plains hunting lifeways that merged to form a new way of living on the southern plains of New Mexico during the 14th century.

7:00 pm
Monday, September 12, 2016

Artesia Public Library
205 West Quay
Artesia, NM

Sponsored by
Permian Basin Programmatic Agreement
Carlsbad Field Office, Bureau of Land Management
Artesia Public Library
Versar, Inc.