

In Memoriam

Donna C. Roper (1947-2015)

By Mary Adair and John R. Bozell

Gayle F. Carlson (1935-2015)

By John R. Bozell

The Forrest Site, 14PA303: A Keith Phase Component in Pawnee County, Kansas

Robert J. Hoard and John R. Bozell

Abstract

The Forrest site, 14PA303, was excavated by amateur archaeologist Earl Monger between 1957 and 1967. Monger received advice and assistance from professionals, kept records of his excavations, and published a short summary of what he had learned from his efforts. This paper is a re-analysis of the material recovered from the site. The material culture of the site is consistent with the Keith phase, a Late Plains Woodland archaeological manifestation on the High Plains of Kansas and Nebraska. After assessing the data from the site, it is considered in its temporal, environmental, and social contexts. Several conclusions are drawn from this analysis. A significant increase in Keith phase sites is correlated with increased precipitation, and Keith phase sites are occupied longer than sites from previous time periods. Diverse fauna are exploited from local aquatic, riparian, and upland resource areas, but stone resources come from a larger area, most likely a result of trade relationships. No direct evidence for horticulture is found, but a case is made that targeted analysis is needed to determine if this is an accurate assessment of the Forrest site and other sites on the High Plains 500-1000 CE.

“Chili” Scoggin and the Early Exploration of the Barn Butte Site (25GD1), Western Nebraska

Jason M. LaBelle and William E. Scoggin

Abstract

The Barn Butte site (25GD1) is unknown to most archaeologists in the Great Plains, despite being extensively tested by Charles Scoggin and Perry Newell in the late 1930s. Scoggin led a small University of Colorado field party to the site in 1939, excavating at Barn Butte for a week. He completed a short report on this work, but the manuscript remained unpublished prior to this volume of Central Plains Archaeology. This article reviews Scoggin’s short archaeological career, publishes the Scoggin manuscript on Barn Butte, describes additional work conducted at the site from the 1930s-1970s, and summarizes several of Scoggin’s key points. Renewed investigation at the site collections is advocated, to place the site within the broader context of butte top archaeology in western Nebraska and beyond.

A History of the Kansa People Through 1873 *and* The Search for American Chief's Village

Tricia J. Waggoner

Abstract

The clash of cultures that represents the Historic Indian period in North America is a story of resilience on the part of the tribes and incompetent, indifferent, or exploitive actions by government and elected officials. A deeper understanding of this story can be discovered through historical research and archaeological investigations. While doing background research for a report on the excavation of Fool Chief's Village (14SH305), the author found a more complete history of the Kansa than had been previously published. The first article on the history of the tribe chronicles the time from first European contact with the tribe until the tribe was removed from the state that bares its name. The second article describes the search for American Chief's Village using systematic metal detector survey of suspected village locations. Locating this village is important because American Chief, though the smallest of the three Kansa villages of the time, had both a Mission and a Chouteaus trading post located in or next to it, indicating a closer relationship with Euro-Americans than the other villages. Archaeological investigations of this village will allow a comparison of villages with greater and less Euro-American influence.