NAPA Members Elect New Officers

NAPA welcomes three newly elected officers. They began their duties on September 1, 2014, & will serve until August 31, 2016.

Laura Bender (South Dakota State Archeological Research Center) was elected president, Ashley Barnett (NPS/MWAC) was elected vice-president, and Nolan Johnson (Highway Archeology Program/NSHS) was re-elected secretary/treasurer.

Shortly after the election Laura received a job in South Dakota and voluntarily resigned from her NAPA presidency. Under current bylaws, Ashley became president. The board appointed Laura as vice-president.

Thank you to outgoing president Cynthia Wiley (NPS/MWAC) and vice-president Brad Logan (Kansas State University). They served from September 2012 through August 2014.

2014-2015 Board Members

President: Ashley Barnett (archeologist, NPS/MWAC); Vice President: Laura Bender (archeologist, South Dakota Archeological Research Center; Secretary/Treasurer: Nolan Johnson (archeologist, Highway Archeology Program/NSHS); At-Large Members: Erin Dempsey (archeologist, NPS/MWAC), Dennis Kuhnel (USDA/National Forest Service), Jay Sturdevant (archeologist, NPS/MWAC), & Courtney Ziska (archeologist, Highway Archeology Program/NSHS).

2015 Board Election & Annual Meeting Agenda

At the annual meeting, we will put together a slate of candidates for the 2015 election of four at-large board members. Please bring nominations to the meeting, including self nominations. According to our bylaws, the election must occur within 30 days of our annual meeting.

We will explain the recent Central Plains Archeology journal merger with Professional Archaeologists of Kansas’s (PAK) journal Current Archaeology in Kansas and a new joint membership option. See page 8 for more information.

We will also discuss NAPA’s role in the Celebrate Nebraska Archaeology month happening in September. See page 6 for more information.

Do you have any items you would like brought up at NAPA’s annual meeting? Please email them to NAPA or call 402-437-5392 x125.

Dues Reminder

Membership fees for 2015 are now due! Dues increased to $25 for Regular, Dual, and Institutional members. Dues remain at $10 for Student, Subscribing, and Affiliated members. A new membership category, Joint membership with PAK, are $40. Use PayPal or make checks payable to NAPA & mail to: NAPA, PO Box 82554, Lincoln NE 68501-2554.

Don’t remember if you’ve paid your dues? Email NAPA or call 402-471-4766.
Letter from the President

The past year has been an exciting one for NAPA. For the first time in years, Nebraska Archaeology Month took place, and many NAPA members took leading roles in organizing the celebrations. A great amount of planning went into the festivities, including the development and execution of events, the creation of a poster, and a social media campaign to raise awareness about the many associated events. Most of the events took place in September, and included everything from children’s events, such as Sunday With a Scientist at UNL’s Morrill Hall, to more adult-focused events like the Archaeology Happy Hour at Ploughshare Brewing. The celebration was such a rousing success that NAPA members are already actively planning for the 2015 Nebraska Archaeology Month. I look forward to seeing this new tradition continue to grow, reaching more Nebraskans every year.

NAPA is also participating in the Making Archaeology Public Project, which will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act in 2016. Representatives from each state are creating presentations which highlight Section 106 compliance projects in their respective states. The end product of the Making Archaeology Public Project will be a series of 15-minute videos, one for each state, all presented as links on an interactive map of the United States. The overarching theme of all of the videos is “…and we might never have known this had it not been for the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act!” The project is being overseen by the Society for American Archaeology, the Society for Historical Archaeology, and the Register of Professional Archaeologists in partnership with the American Cultural Resources Association and the Archaeological Legacy Institute. NAPA is currently gathering ideas for the Nebraska video; if you have an idea of a site to consider for this project, you are invited to contact NAPA and share your ideas.

We are currently awaiting the results of the vote to determine whether or not our journal, Central Plains Archaeology, will merge with Current Archaeology in Kansas. As you have heard, if this occurs, the peer-reviewed journal will be named Central Plains Archaeology and will contain both long and short articles. The Board of Directors of both NAPA and the Professional Archaeologists of Kansas (PAK) began independently discussing the possibility of a merger last year and, in October 2014, representatives of each board met to discuss the idea. Both organizations have since put the decision to a vote by the membership, and we hope to have the results shortly.

I appreciate all of the assistance I have received as I have made the unexpected transition from a newly-elected Vice President to the President of NAPA over just a few short months. Though we have experienced some slight upheaval in the board as Laura Bender took a new job at the South Dakota State Archaeological Research Center (Congratulations, Laura!), my fellow board members have been extremely helpful in helping to bring me up to date on my new duties. I am very appreciative of everyone’s assistance (and patience!) as I navigate this unanticipated transition. I look forward to meeting those of you whom I have not previously met, and I encourage you to contact me and introduce yourselves when time permits. I look forward to working with all of you as we watch NAPA continue to grow and as we approach NAPA’s 30th anniversary.

Sincerely,
Ashley Barnett

Photos from public programming at Hudson-Meng Education & Research Center. Photos courtesy of Dennis Kuhnel.
Membership Statistics

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<th>Membership Types</th>
<th>New Members in 2014-2015</th>
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<td>Regular 79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affiliated 2</td>
<td>Phil R. Geib regular SHPO/NSHS Lincoln, NE</td>
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<td>Dual 4</td>
<td>Nora Greiman student UNL/MWAC Lincoln, NE</td>
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<td>Institutional 3</td>
<td>Amanda Renner regular MWAC Lincoln, NE</td>
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<td>South Dakota 8</td>
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Upcoming Conferences

- **Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists**
  March 12-15; Estes Park, CO
- **Flint Hills Archaeological Conference**
  March 20-21; White Cloud, KS
- **Annual Caddo Conference**
  March 27-28; Arkadelphia, AR
- **Computer Applications & Quantitative Methods in Archaeology**
  March 30-April 2; University of Siena, Italy
- **Society for American Archaeology**
  Apr. 15-19; San Francisco, CA
- **Society for Industrial Archaeology**
  May 28-31; Albany, NY
- **American Cultural Resources Association**
  Oct 1-4; Denver, CO
- **Plains Anthropological Conference**
  Oct.14-17; Iowa City, IA
- **Midwest Archaeological Conference**
  Nov 5-8; Milwaukee, WI
- **Society for Historical Archaeology**
  Jan. 6-9, 2016; Washington, DC

Training Opportunities

**National Preservation Institute**
The National Preservation Institute holds seminars on a variety of cultural resource topics in locations throughout the country regarding traditional cultural places, Section 106, conflict resolution, cultural and natural resources, GIS, sacred lands, NAGPRA, cultural property law, curation and collections management, photography. Visit the website for dates, locations, & information about these & other courses.

**Northern States Conservation Center**
The Northern State Conservation Center holds on-line courses on a variety of museum topics. Visit the website for more information. Classes include, but are not limited to:

MS215: Care of Archaeological Artifacts from the Field to the Lab
Archaeology in the Classroom
Fort Osage National Historic Landmark, Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, and Atkins-Johnson Farm & Museum
June 22-26, 2015
Workshop for Teachers, Interpreters, Museum Docents

Jackson County Parks + Rec, the Truman Library, and the Atkins-Johnson Farm & Museum invite you to take an exciting trip back in time!

Practice the basics of scientific inquiry using archaeological data. Learn how archaeologists investigate and interpret past cultures and peoples. Finally, learn how to incorporate all of this into your classrooms or other settings. Archaeology is an excellent tool for engaging youth in science education.

Participants will receive full instruction in archaeological science for the classroom and complete curriculum guide and materials.

During this workshop, participants will investigate an historic farmstead that was founded in southwest Montana in 1869. Using data from an actual excavation at the Tinsley Farmhouse, students will learn how archaeologists study the past. Studies of such farmsteads and farm residences are appropriate in Missouri since many similar sites are found throughout the state. Indeed, the Tinsley family ended up in Montana because they fled the bloodshed in Missouri during the Civil War. The workshop will also participate in activities at the Truman Library and engage in archaeological fieldwork (optional) at the Atkins-Johnson Farm & Museum.

***Optional: up to 2 graduate credit hours can be taken from Lindenwood University. Tuition is $60 per hour.***

LINDENWOOD

Schedule:

June 22-23 (8:30-4:00):
Fort Osage Education Center
Fort Osage National Historic Landmark
107 Osage Street
Sibley, MO 64088

June 24 (8:30-4:00):
Truman Library
500 W US Hwy 24
Independence, MO 64050

June 25-26 (8:30-4:00) [optional]:
Atkins-Johnson Farm & Museum
6607 NE Antioch Road
Gladstone, MO 64119

Instructors:
Gail Lundeen, Missouri Project Archaeology Coordinator
John Peterson, Curator and Archaeologist, Historic Sites, Jackson County Parks + Rec
Mark Adams, Truman Library Education Director
Sally Bell, Missouri Project Archaeology Facilitator
Kate Wayfield, Fort Osage Site Administrator, Jackson County Parks + Rec
Erica White, Museum Manager, Atkins-Johnson Farm & Museum

For more information, contact:
John Peterson
816-650-3452 x3
jpeterson@jacksongov.org

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Jackson County Parks + Rec

Send to:
Kay Norris
Historic Sites Division
Jackson County Parks + Rec
22807 Woods Chapel Road
Blue Springs, MO 64015

Contact:
John Peterson
Phone: 816-650-3452 x3
E-mail: jpeterson@jacksongov.org

Sign up for:

☐ Workshop, Curriculum Guide and other materials $45.00
☐ Special Student Rate (must be full-time student) $30.00

Method of Payment
☐ Credit card A
☐ Check

Credit Card # ___________________________ Exp. date ___________________________

Signature ___________________________

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGY
Preserve the past, shape the future

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National Park Service’s 2015 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

The National Park Service’s 2015 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques entitled Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century will be held May 25-29, 2015, at the Tobias-Thompson Complex sites in Rice County, Kansas. Lodging will be at the Lyons Inn and the Celebration Center in Lyons, Kansas. The lectures will be at the Community Room at the Lyons State Bank in Lyons, Kansas. The field exercises will take place at the Tobias-Thompson Complex sites in Rice County, Kansas. Eight sites showcase the Little River Focus of the Great Bend Aspect dating from 1500-1700 AD. The sites have been related to the historic Wichita and may have been among the villages visited by Coronado in Quivira in 1542. Co-sponsors for the workshop include the National Park Service’s Midwest Archeological Center and the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, the Department of Anthropology at Wichita State University, and the Archaeological Division of the Kansas State Historical Society. This will be the twenty-fifth year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods as they apply to the identification, evaluation, conservation, and protection of archaeological resources across this Nation. The workshop will present lectures on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, and interpretation with on-hands use of the equipment in the field. There is a registration charge of $475.00. Application forms are available on the Midwest Archeological Center’s web page at <http://www.nps.gov/mwac/>. Payment may be made by credit card through the Friends of NCPTT for non-government employees. Federal employees may pay by check, through a training form (SF-182) or by credit card through the Friends of NCPTT. For further information, please contact Steven L. DeVore, Archeologist, National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Federal Building, Room 474, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3873: tel: (402) 437-5392, ext. 141; fax: (402) 437-5098; email: <steve_de_vore@nps.gov>.

2014 Kansas Archeology Training Program Field School

People, Technology, and Environment in Transition

June 5-20; Ellis County, KS

Led by Kansas State Archeologist Bob Hoard, this year’s field school will focus on a High Plains prehistoric site, the Kraus site (14EL313).

The KATP field school headquarters will be at Hays Middle School, 323 E. 29th St., Hays. Additional accommodations for lodging, programs, etc. currently are being sought in Ellis and Hays. Further details will be posted here, and the registration packet will be available about March 1.

Job Postings

www.archaeologyfieldwork.com

Wyoming Assistant State Archaeologist

The Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources invites applications for the position of Assistant State Archaeologist to be submitted before February 28th, 2015. This position implements the program goals listed in Wyoming Statute 36-4-106(d)(i-vii) by investigating the archaeological record pertinent to the State of Wyoming, publishing results, seeking grant opportunities, cooperating with communities and agencies and assisting them in the interpretation and preservation of archaeological resources. Applicants must have earned a Master’s degree in Anthropology/Archeology at the time of appointment, although a PhD in Anthropology/Archaeology is preferred. Familiarity with the archaeological record of the North American Plains, Rocky Mountains, Intermountain Basins or a combination thereof is expected, along with demonstrated field experience relevant to the region. Knowledge of applicable laws and regulations...
regarding archaeology, permitting, and cultural resource management is necessary. A successful Assistant State Archaeologist will have experience designing and conducting research projects; organizing and supervising volunteers; working with and coordinating a diverse range of agents including state and federal agencies, local communities, avocational archaeologists, and members of the interested public; and disseminating research results in the form of public or professional presentations and published articles or technical reports.

To view the complete announcement, minimum qualifications, salary information and to apply online, please go to http://agency.governmentjobs.com/wyoming/default.cfm. Search for keyword 'CRAR11' then click CRAR11-02270-Assistant State Archaeologist at the bottom of the screen. The State of Wyoming is an EEO/ADA employer.

Augustana College

Augustana College invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in the Department of Anthropology beginning in September 2015.

Qualifications: PhD in Anthropology; evidence of effective college/university teaching; an active scholarly agenda; and a commitment to serving the campus and broader professional community. Anthropology at Augustana College has a strong emphasis in the areas of cultural anthropology and archeology with a particular focus on the Northern Plains. The program also includes classes in Museum Studies. The anthropology program is enhanced by a close association with the Augustana College Archeology Laboratory and ongoing research activities at the Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village site in Mitchell, South Dakota. The successful applicant will teach a range of classes such as: Introduction to Anthropology; Introduction to Cultural Anthropology; Introduction to Archeology; Introduction to Archeological Field Methods; and Introduction to Biological & Forensic Anthropology. Additional classes will be assigned based on the candidate’s expertise. It is also expected that the applicant will assist in codirecting a summer archeological field school at the Mitchell site. Applicants should have an interest in four-field American anthropology. Positive tenure and promotion decisions require excellent teaching and excellent research, including publication in peer-reviewed outlets relevant to anthropology; careful advising of students; and participation in service to the broader academic community.

Application Procedure: Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Please submit a letter of application addressing the above qualifications, current vita, copies of graduate transcripts, and names and contact information for three professional references electronically to: humanresources@augie.edu. Website: www.augie.edu. Dr. L. Adrien Hannus is the Search Committee Chair (adrien.hannus@augie.edu), 2032 South Grange Avenue – Sioux Falls, SD 57105. Augustana College, a College of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, is committed to excellence through diversity, and strongly encourages applications and nominations of persons of color, women, and members of other underrepresented groups. Augustana is a selective, residential, undergraduate institution of over 1650 full-time students recognized for the excellence of its graduates and for its experienced, creative faculty. The community of Sioux Falls (metro area of 223,000) is growing, vibrant and reflects an increasing diverse demographic along with a healthy business community.

Announcements

Celebrate Nebraska Archaeology Month

The Celebrate Nebraska Archeology Month (CNA) committee held a successful inaugural celebration in September 2014. Activities kicked off with a governor’s proclamation in August followed by NAPA’s poster unveiling at the Nebraska Archeological Society’s artifact show in Seward. Events happened across the state from Hudson-Meng Education & Research Center near Crawford to South Sioux City Public Library to the Cass County Historical Museum in Plattsmouth. Activities included lectures, exhibits, artifact identifications, & children’s activities.

The 2015 committee has formed with many NAPA members attending. Former NAPA President Cynthia Wiley is returning as chair. Committee members are discussing ideas & events. We may be contacting you in the coming months asking for volunteers.

Visit the CNA website at nebraskaarchaeology-month.blogspot.com or the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/nebraskaarchaeologymonth to learn about upcoming activities.
**“Like” NAPA on Facebook**

NAPA has a Facebook page. Right now, we use it to post meeting announcements, job opportunities, & archeology related articles. “Like” us to get information not included in our newsletter or in emails. We hope to get more participation from our membership & friends as our group grows. If you would like to submit something to the page, email NAPA at nebraska.archeologists@gmail.com.

**Plains Anthropological Society Conference Coming to Lincoln**

In 2016, the Plains Anthropological Society will be holding its annual conference in Lincoln, NE, at the Holiday Inn downtown from Oct. 12-16. The last time the conference was in Lincoln was in 2001. Organizers include staff from the Nebraska State Historical Society, Midwest Archeological Center, and the University of Nebraska Department of Anthropology. Look for upcoming volunteer opportunities and visit the website at plainsanthropologicalsociety.org.

**SHPO Archeologist Terry Steinacher Retires**

On Dec. 31, 2014, after 28 years of service, Terry Steinacher retired as Preservation Archeologist in the State Historic Preservation Office at the Nebraska State Historical Society. Before working at NSHS, he worked at the Division of Archaeological Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. While in SHPO, he reviewed Section 106 projects and established and oversaw the archeological survey program. Under that program, archeologists have surveyed 180,824 acres, discovered 2,188 new sites, and resurveyed 171 previously documented sites since 1992.

Phil Geib replaced Terry as SHPO archeologist on Jan. 12. You can reach him at phil.geib@nebraska.gov or 402-471-2609.

**Leadership Changes at Hudson-Meng Education & Research Center**

The 10,000 year old mystery of why up to 600 ancient bison died at the Hudson-Meng Education & Research Center (30 minutes north of Fort Robinson State Park) will continue to be explored by visitors, researchers and staff alike during the upcoming summer; however, behind the scenes, a few changes are occurring. Dennis Kuhnel, who served as the Hudson-Meng Education and Research Center (HMERC) Director for the past four years, has moved on and up to his new role as Director of the National Grasslands Visitor Center in Wall, South Dakota.

HMERC has not been abandoned, however; Jackie Dumin has been brought on as a temporary Director until the position is permanently filled. Jackie has spent the last seven years overseeing the Tallac Historic Site in South Lake Tahoe, California. She will continue off-season planning, and look to carry on maintaining and expanding partnerships, tours and opportunities for HMERC. Additionally, Kristina Hill, the Forest Archeologist and Heritage Program Manager, will also provide guidance while helping HMERC through this transitional period.

Even with these changes in leadership, the 2015 HMERC season looks to be another successful one. Many of last year’s seasonal staff are returning, new exhibit opportunities are being explored, and the same dedication to outstanding public service will be present. If you have an idea for an exhibit, would like to volunteer, or have an idea for how to partner with Hudson-Meng, please contact Jackie Dumin at jdumin@fs.fed.us or Kristina Hill at khill@fs.fed.us.
NAPA and Professional Archaeologists of Kansas (PAK) members recently voted to combine their respective Central Plains Archeology and Current Archaeology in Kansas (CAK) journals. The new journal will be called Central Plains Archaeology. It will combine features of both journals: the longer articles of the NAPA journal and the shorter articles of the PAK journal. The new journal will be peer reviewed just as the NAPA journal has been.

Both organizations have faced increased publishing costs and small numbers of submittals. The cost of the new journal will be shared between the two organizations.

The first volume of the combined journal is underway. It will include an article by Bob Hoard & Rob Bozell on the Forrest site in Pawnee County, KS, a Keith phase Woodland site; an article on the Barn Butte site; an article on the pottery of the Bogan site, a Pawnee site in Kansas; and possibly a couple shorter articles. We hope to have the volume out this year.

Submissions for future volumes of the CPA are welcome. Please send them to one of our co-editors: Amy Koch, amy.koch@nebraska.gov, Fort Robinson Museum, PO Box 304, 3200 W Hwy 20, Crawford NE 69339 / 308-665-2920; or Donna Roper, droper@ksu.edu, Dept. of SASW, 204 Waters Hall, Manhattan KS 66506 / 785-532-6865.

Because of the journal merger, NAPA and PAK are offering a Joint membership with the two organizations. A Regular (professional) membership in each organization is now $25, but for $40 you can join both. That means if you want a membership to both organizations this new program can save you $10 a year. You will receive all the benefits of both organizations, but will receive one copy of the journal mailed to you from your primary organization. If you have any questions email Kelli Bacon, membership coordinator, at kelli.bacon@nebraska.gov.

The 11th Annual Nebraska Artifact Show hosted by the Nebraska Archeological Society will be held in Harvest Hall at the Seward County Fairgrounds in Seward, NE, on Saturday, Aug.15, from 9am to 5pm. Along with artifact displays, there will be several speakers & activities. Admission for adults is $3. Children 12 and under are free.

For more information, email Kevin Hammond, NAS president, or visit their website at https://sites.google.com/site/webnas.

The Nebraska Archaeological Society is offering two $250 scholarships to an undergraduate or graduate student studying archaeology. The eligibility Requirements are:

- Be a full-time graduate or undergraduate student enrolled in a post-secondary institution of higher learning and majoring in archaeology with a minimum cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent) and have completed at least 12 credit hours of archaeology related course work.
- Be a graduate of a Nebraska high school and be enrolled in a post-secondary institution of higher learning during the semester for which the scholarship is awarded or, if not a graduate of a Nebraska high school, be enrolled in a Nebraska domiciled post-secondary institution of higher learning during the semester for which the scholarship is awarded.

Applications are due on July 15. For more information and an application, go to the Nebraska Archaeological Society’s website http://web.nas.googlepages.com or mail your application to NAS Scholarship Chairman, 47081 N 400 Ave, Genoa NE 68640.

Mythic Beings in the Earth - Recent Revelations in Good Earth State Park at Blood Run, South Dakota
by Dale Henning

This past fall, I worked as a consultant to the South Dakota Department of Fisheries and State Parks on their newest State Park, Good Earth. The Park comprehends most of the known Blood Run Oneota site that is found on both sides of the Big Sioux River a short distance east of Sioux Falls, SD. Blood Run was the ancestral home of the Omaha/Ponca and Ioway/Oto tribes, ca. AD 1500-1700.

Archaeological investigations on the 3.5 acre site of the proposed visitors center at Good Earth State Park at Blood Run have revealed a series of deep (originally 12-18"), narrow trenches that depict outlines of prehistoric mythic figures. Initial investigations suggested that the site is directly comparable to two prehistoric ceremonial sites found in western Iowa in the fall of 2013. The three sites have been visited by members of the Ioway, Ponca, Omaha and Sioux tribes; all agreed that they are very important sacred places where various rituals had been held.

All three sites are located on high hill slopes overlooking a body of free-flowing water (the Little Sioux in Iowa and the Sioux River in Iowa/South Dakota). The Iowa sites had never been cultivated; the one on Good Earth State Park was under cultivation until recently. Large-scale excavation on the Iowa sites directed by David Benn of Bear Creek Archaeology in late 2013 revealed outlines of large figures 15 to 30 feet on a side that he identified as turtles, bison, humans and mythic creatures. Small structures, posts, fired areas, three graves (not excavated) other features and diagnostic artifacts were also found on the Iowa sites.

Following the plow zone stripping on the Good Earth visitors center site, a team experienced with such phenomena from Bear Creek Archaeology and directed by David Benn and Brendan Scott, worked for a week to map and record a sample of the figures called geomorphs (Figure 1). Very few artifacts, none of which was diagnostic of time or culture, and no burials were found on the Good Earth location. Radiocarbon assays from all three sites suggest that the figures were outlined between 2,000 and 1,500 years ago.

The two sites in Iowa had been slated for destruction for Highway 20 widening and borrow and the South Dakota visitors center site was, of course, destined to be altered significantly by construction and landscaping. However, the Iowa DOT has set those two sites aside for preservation and will redesign the highway accordingly; the South Dakota Department of Game Fish and Parks will relocate the visitors center, replace the stripped soil and plant the site in prairie grasses.

These are obviously unique and important class of sites that until 2013 had not been discovered. There are good reasons for this: First, we didn’t know they existed at all - they are beneath the surface and hidden and, if cultivated, disappear into the disturbed soil. Second, the usual means for testing a location for archaeological remains is to do a series of soil borings, often supplemented by small shovel test units and, if nothing is seen, declare the place a non-site and move on. This could have happened at any of the three geomorph sites if those methods had been used. But, the Bear Creek crew normally opens up large units so one can really 'see' what features are beneath the surface. And I readily admit that I would not have recommended even checking the visitors site had I not seen the figures and other features at the two Iowa sites. My purpose in sending this note is to alert others about these and suggest awareness so they might be found. Those we know of have been located in similar locations - high hilltops overlooking flowing water, but they could occur in other locations as well.

Figure 1 “Bison” geoglyph, visitors center site - Wa Sha’ Be - 39LN180.

Kansas Archaeological Field School-2014 Prehistoric Sites of Wildcat Creek, Riley County, Kansas
by Brad Logan and Lauren W. Ritterbush

In June 2014 the Kansas Archaeological Field School (KAFS), an educational and research program of Kansas State University (KSU), investigated two prehistoric sites in Wildcat Creek valley, Manhattan, Kansas, and an adjacent upland lithic scatter (Logan 2015). These are located within the community’s planning district and surrounded by residential, commercial, or recreational development. Recognizing the loss of information from a number of sites in the
immediate area, we conducted test excavations at two previously identified sites in the valley, Young Buck (14RY402) and Dreiling (14RY403), that have experienced relatively little impact. Both are located on a terrace along the south side of Wildcat Creek, a tributary of the Kansas River. The former is in a wooded area, though the northern one-third had been cultivated previously and the latter in grass and brush. Both had been surveyed in 1964-1965 by Michael Stanislawski, the first professional archaeologist on the KSU faculty. No work had been done at either site since his reconnaissance, which recovered a small assemblage of chipped stone tools and pottery indicative of Woodland and Late Prehistoric (Central Plains tradition) activities. Our work follows reconnaissance, shovel testing, and at Young Buck test excavation, that had been supported since 2012 by grants from the Historic Preservation Fund, Kansas Historical Society (Logan and Ritterbush 2013; Logan 2014). A major goal of these investigations was to determine their eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The KAFS provided matching funds for the NRHP evaluation of Dreiling and additional test excavations at Young Buck.

The locations of both sites correspond closely to those of putative “lodge sites” indicated on a map published by Jacob V. Brower (1898) that was based on information provided by William Griffing, a local amateur archaeologist. In 1937 Waldo Wedel (1959:178-187) used a similar correspondence to explore the Griffing site (14RY21) located 500m downstream from Young Buck and Dreiling. Wedel exposed the floor of a subrectangular lodge and associated features and recovered a varied sample of prehistoric artifacts. Among these were potsherds representing a distinctive ware he called Riley Cord-roughened. In part on the basis of the remains from this site, he defined the Smoky Hill Aspect (phase) of the Central Plains tradition (a taxonomic designation now of largely geographic utility). The Griffing site was subsequently destroyed by highway construction and development of an adjacent strip mall. Evidence of Middle Woodland occupation of this stretch of Wildcat Creek valley has also been found including at the Don Wells site (14RY404). This site, located 220m west of Dreiling, was initially surveyed by Stanislawski and later tested by O’Brien (1972). Twenty years after that investigation the site was severely impacted by development of Wildcat Creek Golf Course.

The Dreiling site is located on a low knoll or rise along the right bank of Wildcat Creek. Griffing and Brower believed any elevated land in the valley associated with prehistoric artifacts was the location of a house. Excavation of eight 1x1m test units there, however, found no evidence of such, but revealed a shallow, small stone and ceramic assemblage over an area of ~1.1ha. Thirteen small sherds are diagnostic of the Central Plains tradition; the only chipped stone tools recovered are three scrapers made on blades of the locally available Permian chert. Of 1,917 pieces of chipped stone debris (excluding a few blades) with a mass of 1,333g, 89.5% by count and 92% by mass were in the upper 20cm (only one unit was dug below 30cm as significant artifact decline was noted in all third levels). With regard to mass, 95.5% of all material was within the upper 20cm. Our findings suggest more variability in Cpt site function in Wildcat Creek valley than previously assumed by Griffing and Brower, as well as Wedel. Some apparently were small camps where activities were brief, more limited, and included stone tool production and maintenance, hide preparation, and pottery use that resulted in minor breakage.

Young Buck covers as much area as Dreiling (~1.0ha) but yielded a greater number and variety of artifacts to greater depth (~50cm). Moreover, we found chipped stone tools and pottery indicative of two ceramic-age occupations, one of Middle Woodland age comparable to that at Don Wells and another of the Central Plains tradition, like that at Griffing although no house remains were identified. Despite evidence of bioturbation (tree growth-and-fall, animal burrowing, etc.), the site retains relatively thick A and AB horizons with some stratigraphic integrity. In general, the Cpt component is within the upper 20-30cm and the Middle Woodland component below. The KAFS excavated eight 1x1m units, four of them contiguous, adding to five dug during previous NRHP testing (Logan 2014). Excavation of the small block of units on the highest part of the terrace recovered an expanding stemmed projectile point and sherds of plain ware suggested to date to the latter period at 40-50cm. Other units consistently yielded sherds of Riley Cord-roughened ware, arrow points, scrapers, and blades that point to Cpt activity. At 30-4cm we also found two concentrations of limestone, assumed to be hearth debris (though not intact hearths as no charcoal, ash or other evidence of in situ burning was found). These are assumed to belong to the Middle Woodland component. On the basis of the KAFS findings and our earlier work at Young Buck, we nominated the site for placement on the National Register of Historic Places. At present, the nomination has been endorsed by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review and forwarded to the National Park Service.

The richness of prehistoric archaeological sites in Wildcat Creek valley (unfortunately many already destroyed or heavily damaged) indicates long term use of this rich watershed attractive for its arable lands and varied riparian habitats rich in game and diverse plants. The tall grass prairies of the adjacent uplands provided additional resources, including quality chert suitable for chipped stone tools. As part of the KAFS, we initiated investigation of a third site, Harms-Rolley Ridge (14RY656) overlooking Wildcat Creek valley near Dreiling and Young Buck. It contains an extensive surface scatter of chipped stone debris that reflects prehistoric lithic collection activities. Much of the top of this narrow ridge is formed by the Three Mile member of the Permian-age Wreford formation. Natural
erosion of this chert-bearing member of the Wreford limestone exposed angular nodules of chert that would have been readily accessible without any quarrying activities on the upper portion of the grassy slope of the ridge. As a follow-up to initial discovery of this site by the second author as part of the Manhattan Archaeological Survey in 2009 (Ritterbush 2009), the KAFS initiated surface survey and GPS mapping of clearly defined debitage along both slopes of this ridge. Given the abundance of natural chert at the site, differentiating culturally modified pieces from naturally fractured chert is a challenge and does not allow checking of every piece of chert. Our protocol involved pedestrian survey with an interval of roughly 3m between surveyors and checking as many pieces as possible that appear to be flakes or cores. Only clearly defined cultural debris was mapped. Flakes had to exhibit a smooth ventral surface and clear bulb of percussion below an identifiable striking platform. Cores were defined as pieces of chert with at least three clearly defined flake scars (reflecting the negative bulb of percussion below a striking platform). Although not yet complete, this intensive survey has mapped more than 330 flakes, as well as 32 cores and 3 bifaces. These were found over a distance of ~420m on the east side of the ridge and 180m on the west side. The vast majority is on the former where they form a band up to 20m wide across the chert-bearing outcrop and downslope, where wash and other disturbance has moved them. These numbers underestimate the density of artifacts at the site, but provide general distributional clues to chert collection and testing activities on this ridge. Our present hypothesis is that the relative scarcity of this debris on the west side of the ridge may reflect very minor variation in the chert. This seems surprising given that the same geologic member is exposed on both sides of the narrow ridge. Intensive survey will continue to collect further data from this site.

References

Brower, Jacob V.
1898 Quivera: Memoir of Explorations in the Basin of the

**Late Prehistoric Sites of Lovewell Reservoir, Jewell County, Kansas: A Multiple Property National Register of Historic Places Nomination by Brad Logan**

Since 1990 I have directed investigations at Lovewell Reservoir, a Bureau of Reclamation property on White Rock Creek, a tributary of the Republican River in Jewell County, Kansas (see table). Of 72 sites recorded, I had recommended seven for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. In 2014 I submitted nominations for them to the Nebraska-Kansas Area Office under a Multiple Property NRHP (MPN) nomination that focuses on Late Prehistoric sites at the reservoir. The MPN recognizes four site types: house, camp, mortuary, and kill-butcher-processing. Those nominated represent all but the mortuary category (of three recorded prehistoric mortuary sites, one [Russell Mound, excavated by the Smithsonian Institution in 1956] is now on private land).

Six sites represent two prehistoric cultures that reflect different adaptations to the region during the late thirteenth and fourteenth centuries AD. These are the Central Plains and Oneota traditions, generally identified as Northern Caddoan and Siouan respectively with regard to their probable linguistic affiliation. Three are house sites of the Central Plains tradition- Phil (14JW48), Windmill Creek (14JW49), and Bergstrom (14JW17). A complete house floor and adjacent midden was uncovered at Phil in 2004; survey and test excava-
tions at the others in 2006 and 2009 revealed house evidence in the form of daub, postmolds, and associated pit features. All attest CPt occupation ~1117-1328 (highest probability of the two sigma ranges of six calibrated radiocarbon dates) (Logan 2010b). Three others are camps of the Oneota tradition (White Rock phase)- White Rock (14JW1) and Warne (14JW8 and 14JW24, among a series of six sites at Warne). All have hearths, pit features, and rich artifact assemblages and cover extensive upland areas along the north side of the reservoir. They were occupied by at least 1256-1293 (highest probability of the two sigma ranges of five calibrated radiocarbon dates) and perhaps into the fourteenth century (Logan 2010b). The seventh site, Montana Creek East (14JW46), is an extensive bone marrow processing camp along the north-bank tributary of White Rock Creek for which it is named. In addition to 875 identified bison bones, most upper appendicular elements fractured to access marrow, it yielded a variety of lithic and ceramic artifacts (including a restored vessel) different in many ways from those at CPt and Oneota sites, suggesting affiliation with an as yet unidentified Late Prehistoric culture (Ritterbush and Logan 2006, 2009). It was occupied ~1276-1311 (highest probability of two sigma range of two calibrated radiocarbon dates) (Logan 2010b).

The information that these sites have yielded and yet contain will increase our understanding of cultural adaptation and interaction at a critical time of social and environmental change with regard to migration, ethnicity, exchange, subsistence, settlement, technology, and ideology. Each nomination includes a series of research questions that can be addressed about these topics. The bibliography of publications and technical reports given below provide much of the data that made the nominations possible. Here I want to again express my gratitude to the Nebraska-Kansas Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation for making this research possible, with special thanks to Bob Blasing and Bill Chada, Area Archaeologists, who supported it over the years.

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<td>Survey of the reservoir; test excavation at White Rock- KU</td>
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<td>Test excavation at Windmill Creek (14JW49)- KSU</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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Investigations at Lovewell Reservoir 1990-2010 by the University of Kansas (KU), Kansas State University (KSU), and the Kansas Archaeological Field School (KAFS)

Bibliography

Logan, Brad


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The Nebraska State Historical Society, Archeology Division, 2014 by Rob Bozell

The NSHS Archeology Division has relocated our office & lab to a temporary facility at 4851 S 16th St. in south Lincoln. We hope to move again this summer to a more permanent facility on the north side of Lincoln. All emails & phone numbers remain the same. The only staff changes include the departure of Shaun Lynch who accepted a job in the private sector in the Kansas City area & the addition of archeological technician Nic Fogerty. Other staff include: Rob Bozell, Amy Koch (stationed at the NSHS Fort Robinson Museum), John Ludwickson, Karen Steinauer, Courtney Ziska, Katie Paitz, Nolan Johnson, Megan Hilger, & Diane Laffin. Archeology Collections Curator Trisha Nelson is also housed at the facility along with all the records, files, & reports that had been at the Nebraska History Museum. Various staff attended professional conferences, volunteer excavations, & resource management training in Lincoln, Fayetteville AR, Republic KS, & Atlanta GA.

Over the past year, our Highway Archeology Program completed Section 106 investigations & prepared compliance documents on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) & the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) for over 175 proposed transportation projects statewide. The investigations resulted in the identification of dozens of standing structures & archeological sites. Most projects were small scale re-surfacing jobs, borrow pits, & bike/pedestrian trails but we also examined several larger viaducts, bridges & expressway segments. Several sites became the focus of test excavations in Burt & Cass counties but no large scale excavations were required. We also re-negotiated a five-year agreement with NDOR for continued work. Staff conducted non-transportation cultural resource surveys for a couple of other several other state agencies & consulting firms.

In 2014, the Archeology Division continued efforts on excavation reports of the Early Archaic Logan Creek site, the Palmer Johnson site (a Central Plains tradition hamlet), & Engineer Cantonment. Staff had two publications. John Ludwickson published a short article in *Nebraska History* to correct the historical record as to the true date of death (September, 1848, not 1846) of the famous Omaha chief "Big Elk." Rob Bozell contributed a chapter on faunal remains to a report on excavations at the Akata Site in North Dakota (Dennis Toom, editor, University of North Dakota.

The office is also the clearinghouse for the inadvertent discovery of human remains & funerary objects. We repatriated six sets of human remains to the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma & the Nebraska Indian Commission. Eight new cases are presently under study including one unaffiliated Native American individual discovered by a crew from Augustana College & excavated by NSHS staff. The other cases were submitted by various law enforcement agencies or private individuals.

Finally, NSHS Archeology staff was regularly involved in various NAPA activities including board membership & *Central Plains Archeology* editing. Our staff was very engaged in Nebraska Archeology Month including planning, outreach, & giving public presentations. Staff made presentations in association with Archeology Month & other outreach efforts in Omaha, Lincoln, Alliance, Hemingford, Fort Atkinson, Nebraska City, Homestead National Monument, Seward, Gering, South Sioux City, Homestead National Monument, & Ashfall State Park.
News Information from Southeastern Wyoming by George Zeimens

Research commenced at the Powars II Paleoindian red ochre mine last summer. Since discovery the site had languished for almost thirty years due to the reluctant attitude of a disenchanted landowner. During that time the site suffered from continued erosion and minor looting. The property changed hands and the new proprietor is cooperating with investigations in a wholehearted and enthusiastic manner. The site is situated on a steep hillside and fieldwork so far has been limited to salvaging deposits that have eroded from intact deposits above. A large amount of Paleoindian artifacts have been recovered and salvage operations will likely need to be continued for at least another year before work can begin on the intact deposits. Winter projects include cataloguing the large collection and searching old mining records in an attempt to learn more about when and how the site was affected by copper and iron mining, railroad construction and mine reclamation by the state Department of Environmental Quality.

Investigations are conducted under the auspices of the Western Plains Historic Preservation Association directed by George Frison, George Zeimens and Dennis Stanford. Funding is provided by a consortium of avocational archaeologists and several interested local parties.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Anthropology by LuAnn Wandsnider

Personnel in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have been involved in a number of projects of interest to the last year:

Civil War Battlefields: Wrapping up a project that started some years back, Dr. Peter Bleed, Dr. Doug Scott, and Amanda Renner are aiming to have a completed volume for the Oxbow Archaeological Landscapes series by the summer of 2015. The volume - called Battlespace! - uses established battlefield research techniques and GIS terrain assessment to expose the fighting that took place in early 1865 between Cheyenne and Allied fighters and Union Volunteers at Mud Spring and Rush Creek in Nebraska’s North Platte valley.

Homesteading: Dr. LuAnn Wandsnider is partnering with NSHS historian John Carter, NSHS architectural historian David Murphy, grassland ecologist Dr. David Wedin (UNL School of Natural Resources) and others to systematically disassemble a portion of the Christmas-Estes sodhouse from NE Custer County. Murphy is documenting how the house was constructed from sod bricks, noting its coursing. Wedin is coordinating analyses of the grass root system and soil to understand the grassland from which the sod was harvested. Wandsnider is working with student Nicole Taylor (with support from the UNL Center for Grassland Studies) to screen the sod from the residual sodblocks to capture and analyze artifacts from the pre-settlement sod. Of note, we have recovered a ceramic sherd, consistent with Plains Woodland ceramics) and bullet with a late 19th century manufacture date (as determined by Dr. Doug Scott).

In addition, geophysical documentation of several sod structures constructed on homesteads in Custer County has been completed by MA student Erin Carr, with assistance from the NPS Midwest Archeological Center. Comprising Carr’s thesis work, this investigation focuses on how to detect and document the footprints of sod structures, which were largely constructed without a foundation.

Human Response to the Medieval Climatic Anomaly in the Sand Hills: Work continues on the topic of how people, likely ancestors to Pawnee people, dealt with the Medieval Climatic Anomaly in the Sand Hills. Building on the senior thesis of Tiffany Napier, which involved dating cultural deposits at Sand Hills sites using OSL, Nora Greiman’s thesis explores the potential for dating individual sherds using OSL dating. She has just won an award from the University of Missouri Research Reactor Center to perform neutron activation analysis of ceramic sherds, helping to establish the homogeneity (or not) of the pastes utilized in making these ceramics at Sand Hills sites. Other analytic potential is being explored by Zachary Day as part of his MA thesis, using XRD at Wake Forest to complementarily characterize ceramic sherd paste. Napier, Greiman and Day are supervised by Dr. Matt Douglass and Dr. LuAnn Wandsnider; dating expertise is provided by Dr. Ron Goble (UNL Earth and Atmospheric Sciences).

Innovative Public Outreach: Partnering with the Nebraska National Forest, Michael Chodoronek, Dr. Matt Douglass and Luke Hittner have engaged in innovative public outreach. Land owners in the Pine Ridge have been invited to bring their projectile point collections to “Artifact Roadshows” sponsored by the Nebraska National Forest. Owners learn more about their collection while land managers learn more about the archaeology of the forest. Chodoronek is experimenting with capturing 3D scans of these artifacts.
NAPA

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