

'09 Spring Dig: Fort Gibson Re-Revisited

By Lee Bement

The Oklahoma Anthropological Society's Spring Dig returned to Fort Gibson in 2009 to continue exploratory excavations along the foundations of the fort's original 1824 stockade.

Like last year, this year provided insight into the construction of the original stockade, post-fort era land use, and, as usual, yielded a wide variety of 19th and 20th century artifacts.

Excavations centered on the portion of the original stockade across the railroad tracks from the modern stockade replica. This area contains the corner of the fort where the enlisted men's quarters joined the two-story-high officer's barracks and offices. Portions of the foundations for both these sides of the fort were uncovered in 2008. The goal this year was to explore how these two sides joined to create a corner.

Key questions to be addressed included: Did these walls join at the corner, or was there a gap between the room blocks as seen in the modern replica and as depicted in the 1835 map of the fort? We also wanted to locate the picket line outside the stockade as well as any hint of the covered porch or walkway along the buildings on the parade ground side.

As with all excavations, planned goals must be adjusted to the reality of what's in the

(See Gibson Page 5)



Artist's depiction of a dispersed Caddo settlement (Courtesy Arkansas Archeological Survey).

Arkansas, Red River areas

OAS Fall Meeting contrasts Caddo in river basins

A fresh look at the native Caddoan people of southeast Oklahoma will highlight an autumn Oklahoma Anthropological Society meeting.

Recently discovered archeological evidence as well as historic viewpoints will be presented at the 2009 Fall OAS meeting. The session follows an 8 a.m. OAS Board meeting Saturday, Oct. 3 at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History, Norman.

The public is welcome, said OAS president Charles Cheatham. A small admission fee will be charged at the door.

Coordinating the program will be Don Wyckoff, the museum's Curator of Archaeology and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma, and

(See Caddo Page 16)

Fall Dig reprises Bryson-Paddock Indian village site

By Richard Drass

The 2009 OAS Fall Dig will return to the historic Bryson-Paddock site on the Oklahoma-Kansas border.

This early 18th century Wichita village has been the site of the 2004 Spring Dig, the 2007 Fall Dig, and several University of Oklahoma/Oklahoma State University field schools.

There are still plenty of questions about this very large village. We have recently been focusing on fortification ditches and one particular feature, a trench with post molds.

Since 2006, excavations have revealed the trench feature. It is about 3.5 meters wide and over 7.5 meters long. What makes this ditch unusual is the presence of post molds. They were dug from the flat bottom of the feature and extended over 70 centimeters below the bottom.

This would place the bottoms of the posts over 140 cm beneath the current surface.

The post molds are scattered across the flat floor, along the edges as well as in the center of the ditch.

(See Bryson-Paddock Page 4)

What's Inside

Events of Interest	2
Trowel Marks	3
Big Skin Bayou survey	6
Limping through Petra	8
A Tale of Two Museums	10
Survey examines Illinois River sites	12
Archival crew busy at OAS storage	15

The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

Trowel Marks

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Membership

An application to join the Society or renew your membership for the year, and information about OAS activities, publications and its contribution to Oklahoma archeology, can be found in this OAS Newsletter and on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

OAS offers varied memberships. All members receive the Society's annual Journal, Oklahoma Archeology, and the quarterly Oklahoma Archeology Trowel Marks News. Contributing, Sustaining, Life, and Institutional members receive all memoirs. For more information, contact Curt Hendricks, Membership.

Publications

Order handbooks, point guides, memoirs, and other publications of The Society from Mary McHard, OAS Publications, 812 NW 42, Oklahoma City, OK 73118 or by contacting her via email at dmmchard@flash.net. Publications are listed on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

Contact the OAS News?

Questions are welcomed by the Editor, Jon Denton, 11550 Bartons Butte, Mustang, OK 73064 or at jonrdenton@aol.com. Opinions, unless otherwise identified, are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Society.

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~ Events of Interest ~

September

12 "Rock Mary and the California Road through Oklahoma," 10 a.m., Sod House Museum, Aline. Art Peters, Hinton Historical Museum.

24-29 OAS Fall Dig, Bryson-Paddock Site near Newkirk and Ponca City. Excavation hours 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

25-26 Fort Washita Civil War Weekend, Fort Washita, Durant, 9 a.m. Civil War reenactments. Call (580) 924-6502.

25-27 Annual Meeting, Arkansas Archeological Society, Best Western Inn, Eureka Springs, Ark.

29-Oct. 3 Fall Encampment with the American Mountain Man Association, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Coffee's Station, Great Plains Museum, Lawton.

October

2 Robert Lindley Vann, University of Maryland, 7:30 p.m. "Excavations in the Peristyle Garden of the Villa Arianna in Stabiae", OU, Norman. Contact Farland Stanley (405) 325-7667.

2 Candlelight Tour of Fort Towson, 6:30 p.m. Reenactors depict town's colorful past. Early reservations recommended at (580) 873-2634.

3 OAS Fall Meeting, "The Caddo of Southeastern Oklahoma," 8 a.m., Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman.

14-17 Plains Anthropological Conference, hosted by Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Embassy Suites, Norman.

23 Annual Meeting, Texas Archeological Society, Del Rio, Texas.

29-30 Oklahoma Historical Society Indian Archives 75th Anniversary. 1 p.m. Oklahoma History Center, NE 23 and Lincoln, Oklahoma City.

Why Oklahoma Anthropological Society?

Why is it Anthropological Society and not Archeological Society? In order to practice archeology, we need to understand the relationship between anthropology and archeology. Anthropology is the broad study of people, past and present. Archeology is a branch of anthropology often focused on the distant past. To interpret what is found at archeological sites, we need to know how people organized themselves long ago. Knowledge of cultures yesterday can be derived from studying cultures today. Anthropology gives us that bridge to understanding.

Trowel Marks

Charles Cheatham
OAS President

Thanks to all who participated in the OAS Spring Dig at Fort Gibson, May 23-31. We excavated more of the original fort's stone foundations, close to the northeast corner, which was part of the officers' quarters.

The most exceptional find this time was a privy, perhaps dating to the late 1820's! Like most privies, this one was used also to discard broken or unwanted items. It was chock full of really interesting . . . stuff!

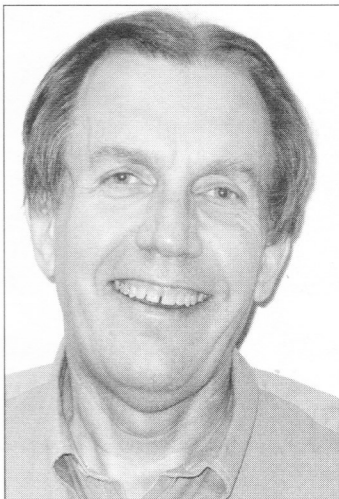
It will take a while to process and interpret artifacts from the digs, but what OAS has done at Fort Gibson will eventually be turned into historical displays at the fort.

There's a nice museum at the fort, including period military uniforms. The historical interpreters really care about the job they are doing.

Unfortunately, before the OAS digs, the Oklahoma Historical Society had almost no artifacts that could be directly tied to the site. To tell the story of life at the fort, they just had to assume it was similar to other forts of the same era, about which more is known.

However, because of three digs carried out with OAS assistance, the Historical Society now has more authentic artifacts from this fort than any other in Oklahoma.

That is a big star in the state's history crown. It also attests to the important work OAS does. We are fortunate in having archeologists who invite us to help – more than that – they depend on us.



Charles Cheatham

The Historical Society puts a very high priority on the Fort Gibson excavation. It has the potential for explaining many different threads of Oklahoma history — including early transportation at the convergence of three rivers, the Arkansas, Grand and Verdigris – and the Native Americans, traders, military posts on the frontier, Civil War, and early Indian Territory events that shaped our state culture.

* * *

Looking ahead, the OAS plans a 2009 Fall Dig at the Bryson-Paddock site (near Newkirk) under direction of Oklahoma Archeological Survey archeologist Richard Drass.

This dig starts Sept. 24, timed to follow the harvest of a crop in the field. Excavation efforts will include a student crew from Oklahoma State University.

OAS has assisted Dr. Drass several times at the Bryson-Paddock site. Discovery has turned up thousands of artifacts. They indicate a French-Wichita trade center along the Arkansas River, a principal 18th century corridor.

Hotels, RV and tent camping is available in the nearby Ponca City area. See this newsletter for details. Also keep an eye on the OAS Website, www.okarcheology.org.

* * *

Finally, you do not want to miss the OAS Fall Meeting Saturday, Oct. 3. Once again we return to the Sam Noble Museum in Norman, thanks to the generosity of Don Wyckoff and the museum.

The all-day meeting will have a Caddoan theme, with Dr. Wyckoff and former OAS Board Member Jim Cox in charge of planning.

They were responsible for planning last year's Fall Meeting, focused on shaped stone tools of Indian Oklahoma, one of the most successful programs in recent OAS history.

We look forward to a special guest speaker, Ann Early, the State Archeologist of Arkansas. Dr. Early has extensive knowledge of Caddo sites in the region. Her specialty is Caddoan pottery.

For more details, consult the OAS webpage as the meeting date nears.



HOT OFF THE RACK and ready to roll, newly-designed caps and shirts tout the Oklahoma Anthropological Society logo. Jockey cotton caps are silver-gray. Fruit of the Loom T-shirts are bright green. For prices, see the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

Bryson-Paddock

(Continued from Page 1)

Throughout the excavations, there is evidence that a structure in this feature burned. Charcoal and pieces of charred posts occur near the floor area, and concentrations of ash and burned soil are found at floor level.

Several magnetic surveys of the wheat field at Bryson-Paddock indicate the presence of concentric linear features or ditches.

Excavations have confirmed the presence of three fortification ditches that appear to be outside – they are larger in diameter – the burned subterranean structure.

The 2009 Fall Dig will concentrate on finding and exposing the north-west end of the structure.

Our current theory is that this feature is not a fortification ditch. Instead, it is a subterranean structure similar to those described in historic reports about the Longest Site on the Red River in south central Oklahoma. The Longest was occupied by the same people who lived at Bryson-Paddock and nearby Deer Creek.

These Wichita groups moved to the Red River in the mid-to-late 1750s. Visitors reported that within the fortification at Longest, subterranean structures held supplies and protected noncombatants during attacks.

The burned feature at Bryson-Paddock contains fill with artifacts. They include materials from contact with the French. Items such as flint lock gun parts, kettle fragments, knives, glass beads, and other trade goods have been found. Many Indian artifacts are also present.

Thus far, we have not found a hearth or other feature to indicate activity areas within the structure.

Also, no entryway has been identified, although a subterranean structure might have a roof access.

Hopefully, the OAS Fall Dig will help better define this structure and give us more clues to its use.

Dr. Richard Drass is an archeologist with the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Norman.



Archeologist Richard Drass, standing at center, records data during the fall 2007 excavation at the Bryson-Paddock site near Newkirk. Assisting him are Oklahoma State University students and volunteers from the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

OKLAHOMA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Getting there

The 2009 OAS Fall Dig is Thursday, Sept. 24 through Tuesday, Sept. 29. Excavation hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Archeologist Richard Drass will be at the site earlier in the week to set up the grid and prepare excavation units. Anyone interested in helping grid the site is welcome to come early.

Dr. Drass also may try to run a magnetic survey in the field before excavations begin.

Camping is available at the Corps of Engineers campgrounds on Kaw Lake. Numerous hotels/motels can be found in nearby Ponca City. An older motel is also available in Newkirk.

Dr. Drass' cell phone number is (405) 640-1067.

Reaching the site

Go to Newkirk. At the stoplight on Highway 77, go north on Hwy 77 four miles and turn right (east) on the section road (Gate Road). Take this road 5.25 miles and turn south on the section road. Go a half-mile south and turn east on the first gravel driveway. This road goes across the site to the landowner's house.

The drive is gated and will not be unlocked before the dig.

Taking a break, the crew pauses for a group shot at the 2009 Spring OAS Dig at Fort Gibson. (For more photos, go to the OAS Web-site www.okarcheology.org)



Fort Gibson

(Continued from Page 1)

ground. And this piece of ground contains an extensive history of disturbance. We knew going in that a house occupied this lot in the early-to-mid-1900s.

The rest of the story can be described as a history of waste management. Old and not-so-old water and gas lines only added to the complexity of pipes, trenches, and disturbances. Did I mention that the excavation was about the old fort? Oh well, we'll get back to that in a minute.

In all, we found a water line with an elbow leading to the house that no longer exists; a large natural gas line with smaller take-off line; two septic lines, including a holding tank; two modern sewer lines; and yes, an outhouse of sorts.

Laying down these lines required a variety of approaches. They ranged from simply following the stacked rock foundations of the original fort to making a minor disturbance of the foundations by removing short portions or only the upper few courses of stone, or to extensive trenching through and along the old foundations.

But even with these disturbances, we were able to identify the extent of the original 1824 stockade foundations, chimney foundations, the joining of the room blocks and, to our surprise, a latrine attached to the end of the enlisted men's barracks.

The exact age of the old crapper is yet to be determined. It is not on the 1835 map, perhaps indicating it was already full and not in use by the time the map was drawn. Or perhaps it post-

dates the map. Only by analysis of its contents (yes, we know) will its age be determined.

As for reaching the goals of the excavation, well, we found no evidence of an upright post picket line. That portion of the fort is overlain by dirt brought in to level the lot prior to moving in the house.

Nor did we find much indication of the walkway inside the parade grounds. We did, however, determine that the enlisted men and officer barracks abutted each other to form a solid corner. We found no gap or walkway between the two, as

suggested on the 1835 map.

And while the 1824 stockade was the earliest habitation sought by our excavations, we did find evidence for a late Paleoindian/early Archaic occupation of the area. One broken Dalton or San Patrice point was found, along with dozens of flakes and cores.

This cultural material originates from buried soil that was trenched into and dispersed first by the construction of the original 1824 stockade foundations,

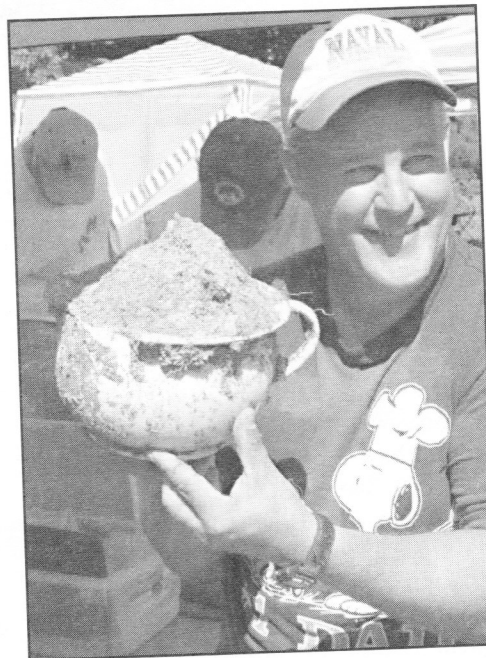
and later by trenching associated with the various lines of post-fort construction. Even the latrine penetrated this early occupation.

What's next for the Fort Gibson investigation? A lot of analysis awaits completion. Fortunately, we have Mike McKay to conduct the analysis of all materials recovered this year and in previous excavations.

Will there be more excavation at Fort Gibson? The areas along the original stockade are now fairly well documented. The portion of the stockade nearest the river appears to be totally destroyed. Buildings and other activity areas outside the stockade, however, may require future excavations.

Decisions about additional excavation depend on the goals of the Historical Society and, for now, I believe we have given them plenty to ponder.

Dr. Lee Bement is an archeologist with the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Norman.



OU graduate student Mike McKay holds a fine latrine specimen unearthed at the 2009 OAS Dig at Fort Gibson. (Guy Folger Photo)

Archaeological survey probes Big Skin Bayou near Spiro

By **Scott W. Hammerstedt**

During spring 2009, Scott Hammerstedt and Matthew Galloway of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey conducted a survey of 4.84 square miles along Big Skin Bayou, a tributary of the Arkansas River in Sequoyah County north of Spiro Mounds.

The project was funded by the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office. The goal of the survey was to identify and record late prehistoric sites related to the well-known Spiro site to better understand the settlement system of Spiro era people.

Despite the presence of Spiro just to the south of the Arkansas River and the project area, little is known about the prehistoric settlement of this part of Sequoyah County. At the time of this writing, just over 400 sites were recorded for Sequoyah County as opposed to over 1,300 for Le Flore County to the south.

It is likely that this rather large disparity in number of sites is due to a lack of professional surveys, and burial of sites by alluvium, rather than a lack of prehistoric habitation.

During the survey, cultivated fields, eroded areas, creek banks, and other exposed areas were closely inspected for cultural material. Shovel tests and hand auger tests were excavated in pastures and forested land adjacent to Big Skin Bayou.

Shovel tests were about 30 centimeter (cm) in diameter to a maximum depth of 1 meter (m). Augurs were then used to extend the testing depth. Testing revealed at least 2 m of alluvium were present.

After excavation of nearly 40 shovel tests and 100 auger tests, it was clear that we would not be able to get through these alluvial deposits without deep trenching and coring.

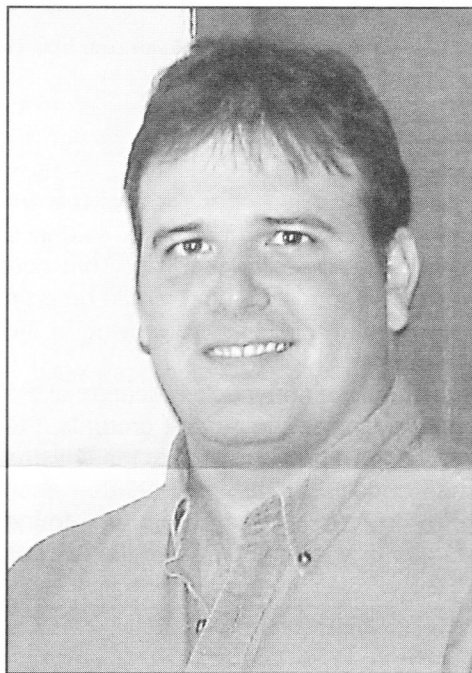
As both of these methods were outside the scope of the project, work in these areas was abandoned in favor of surface collection of plowed fields to the east of the creek.

It is possible that prehistoric

sites may have existed on higher ground along the creek, but modern construction in these areas has likely destroyed them.

Eight sites were recorded during the survey: three historic and five prehistoric. Two were reported by local informants. The rest were found during the project.

Two of the historic sites consisted of small scatters of artifacts, primarily



Scott Hammerstedt

small pieces of undecorated whiteware and clear glass. One historic cemetery (34SQ425) containing at least 30 graves was recorded. Two headstones have dates of 1883 and 1897.

One of the prehistoric sites consisted only of a scatter of daub. The other four had extensive artifact scatters.

Site 34SQ424 is on a terrace above Big Skin Bayou. It has been used as a pasture since the 1940s. It is high enough that it escaped inundation during the 1943 flood in which the Arkansas River rose 39 feet above flood stage. It is minimally 300 x 200 m, but is likely larger. Hand auger tests indicate an intact surface is present 30 cm below surface.

Many pieces of debitage and small quantities of historic artifacts were

noted on the surface, but none were collected. The landowner retains a collection of artifacts the family has recovered over the past 65 years.

These include Gary, leaf-shaped, and stemmed projectile point, agricultural and cutting implements such as axes and hoes, and historic artifacts.

Site 34SQ429 is in a cultivated field. A local source reported the area not as subject to flooding as fields to the east. This may account for the site's artifact richness.

The site is roughly 150 m x 150 m, though it appears to be truncated by a road. It is not known if the site continues on the north edge of the road, since landowner permission was not granted to survey the area.

Roughly 90 flakes were noted within the site boundaries, most of them a blue-grey chert, although there were some black and tan flakes.

A few flakes showed signs of retouching and/or heat treatment. Also discovered were a celt and celt fragment, historic ceramic sherds, and glass. All artifacts except the celts were left in situ.

Site 34SQ430 is in the same field as 34SQ429. Lithic debitage and a single core were found within a 150 m x 100 m area.

The lithics were primarily of a blue-grey or white chert, although one quartzite flake was discovered. All artifacts were left in place.

Site 34SQ431 is also in the same field as 34SQ429. The area of the site is about 350 m x 200 m, spanning the southern two-thirds of the cultivated field. The area is bordered by a gravel road and the Mud Slough tree line.

Most of the artifacts noted at the site were chert flakes. They ranged from white to a deep blue-grey, though there were a few quartzite flakes. Some flakes were also heat treated and/or retouched.

In total, there were more than one hundred flakes at Site 34SQ431. All were left in place. Other prehistoric artifacts included a Gary point and a Gary point base, two plain shell tempered sherds, a core, and a heat treated cobble.

Historic artifacts at the site include glass (predominantly amethyst-colored and clear), stoneware and whiteware sherds, and a flow blue sherd. No

(See *Big Skin Bayou* Page 7)

Big Skin Bayou

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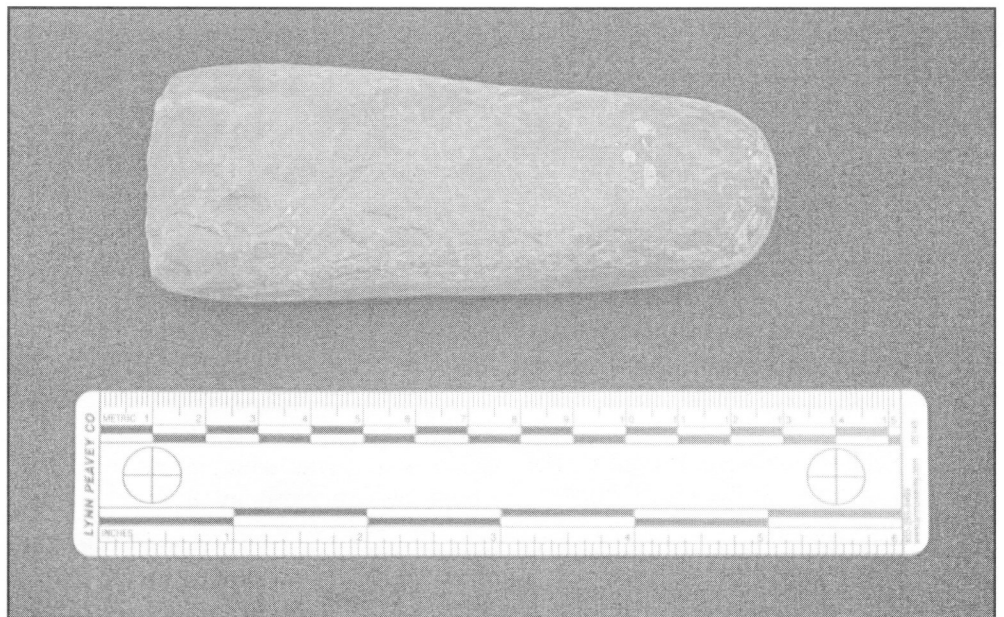
artifacts other than the point and flow
the sherd were retained.

Because of the deep alluvium present, this survey found fewer sites than expected. Therefore, there is little we can add to existing knowledge of the Spiro settlement system.

It is likely that intact deposits exist below the alluvium. Sites in other flood-prone areas often have deeply buried deposits.

Any potential buried sites in the floodplain are likely to be well preserved. The land is in cultivation and modern development is unlikely, given the high risk of flooding.

Scott Hammerstedt is an archeologist at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Norman.



Big Skin Bayou Site 34SQ429 yielded a celt, above, among numerous flakes.

OAS Chapter Reports

July 11, 2009

Chapter representatives are encouraged to report at each quarterly meeting of the Oklahoma Anthropological meeting. Reports at the July 11 meeting included:

Central Chapter (Ed Mayfield for Bruce Sanderson) In June, chapter members Jon and Diana Denton presented a new PowerPoint show on "The Alibates: Rainbow Rocks of Texas."

The annual 4th of July Picnic was held at Will Rogers Park, with good participation.

Future speakers:

Dr. Joe Watkins, Choctaw archeologist, author, and director of the Native American Studies Program at OU, speaks on Kennewick Man.

Richard Drass of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey office will update the Bryson-Paddock Wichita Village site.

In October, OAS Board Member Kathy Gibbs presents a PowerPoint Show on her trip to Peru.

November's speaker is John Davis, Fort Towson, who manages the Steamboat Heroine recovery project for the Oklahoma Historical Society.

December's program is the annual Central Chapter Christmas Party.

Tahlequah Archaeological Society (Tom Purdin).

Attendance has been good and the chapter has gained new members. The Tahlequah Daily Press has published articles on several of our meetings this year, which has been good for the chapter.

The June speaker was Kenneth Shingleton of the Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, on archeological sites the Corps has helped to preserve, and future projects they've received funding for.

Purdin and Connie Masters were asked to give a brief program on the basics of archeology to a Girl Scouts summer camp, K-8. They did four, 45 minute presentations, two in the morning and two in the afternoon.

McAlester Archeological Society (Connie Masters).

The Chapter has gained a few new members in 2009. Attendance has been good.

Tom Purdin and Connie Masters joined a week of classes in human osteology offered by the Arkansas Archeological Society in mid-June. They became acquainted with other archeologists to recruit for programs for both the McAlester and Tahlequah chapters.

Members have helped Purdin and Masters place OAS flyers in libraries in the eastern area of the state in hopes of building membership.

Both MAS and TAS are selling tickets on a king size quilt for a fund raiser in the event of another Echoes of the Past Festival, even though it hasn't been decided whether the chapter will host the festival in 2010.

Kay County Chapter (Denton for George Hanggi) The chapter does not meet during the summer months. Meetings resume in September.

Greater Southwest Chapter (Francie Sisson) Recently heard archeologist Aaron Brummitt, who has moved to Lawton to help maintain compliance with federal cultural resources at the Fort Sill Army installation.

Cleveland Co. Chapter (Wyckoff) The chapter takes off in the summer months. Chapter membership has risen to 45.

Tulsa Archeological Society (Denton for Charles Surber) The Tulsa organization is in a transitional period.

Limping through Petra

Story and Photos by Guy Folger
OAS Correspondent
Part 2

After hobbling through Egypt and its countless temples and endless steps, I knew my twisted knee was getting worse. It was swelling and painful. It was not going to take much more abuse.

Yet here we were, in Jordan, not far from our hotel, in time for recuperation. Ah, this was going to work out just fine – getting some much-needed rest before tackling the ancient city of Petra in the morning.

Some of you may remember Petra from the movie “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.”

Even though I was a fan of Petra long before the movie, I still remember Indy and me traversing the winding, curving canyon, until just around the corner, there it was: A mass of red stone carved into free-standing temples and hundreds of tombs.

Petra lies in a great valley in Jordan, about 50 miles south of the Dead Sea. In about 300 BC, regarded as the principal city of ancient Nabataea, Petra became wealthy. It was an important stop on the Silk Road, a major player in the spice trade.

The Silk Road extended from Arabia to Aqaba, from Gaza to Damascus, and on to the Syrian Desert. Yet more astonishing than its fame as a center of trade, Petra was a marvel of desert engineering. The most remarkable Nabatean accomplishments were the hydraulic systems and dams used to control and conserve winter water.

Little is known of Petra before the once-nomadic Nabateans settled there. They became enormously rich. Of course, as it was in those days and now, if you were small and prosperous, there was always someone bigger who was envious.

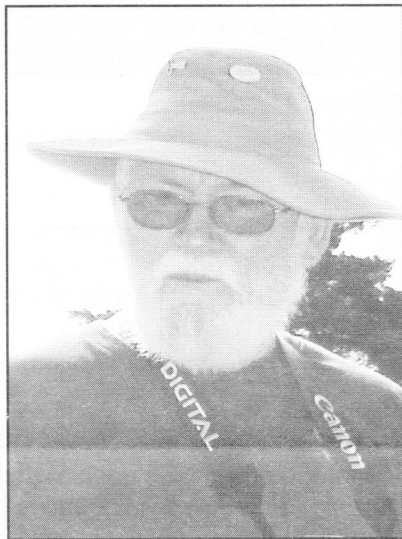
And, even though conquered by the Romans in about 100 AD, Petra continued to flourish for another century, until the Romans developed alternate trade routes.

An earthquake in 363 AD demolished half of the city

and destroyed its waterworks. Petra lay in ruins until the 12th century, when the Crusaders moved in.

After their departure, Petra was mostly abandoned, inhabited only by its native Nabateans.

It was another earthquake, in about 550 AD, that finished the job. It reduced the city to ruins. Petra stayed that way until it was allegedly rediscovered by a Swiss explorer in 1812.



Guy Folger

According to Arab tradition, Petra is the place where Moses struck rock with his staff and water flowed forth. It also is the burial place of Moses' brother, Aaron.

Now back to the future, where I was rested, bright-eyed and anxious to explore this mysterious and magical city. All that energy and anxiety began to wane, however, by the time I walked from the hotel to the start of the trek through the Siq.

It is a winding, curving canyon, almost a mile-long natural crack in the rocks. The Nabateans developed it as the city's formal entryway.

One of my fellow travelers suggested that another person and I should hire a horse-drawn carriage to quickly take us through the Siq.

That other person was actually worse off, since he had surgery just prior to the trip.

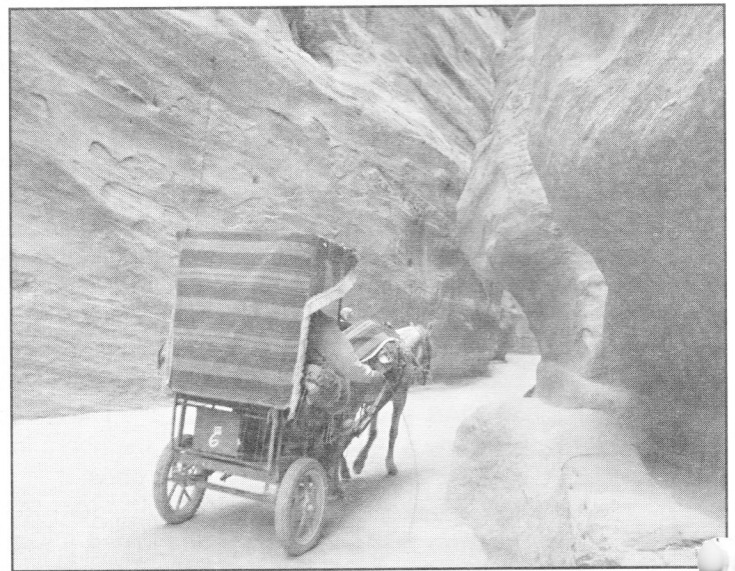
We climbed in the cab. It quickly became clear that hiring a carriage was an error. In its haste, our poor horse kept slipping and sliding on the rocks. After asking and finally ordering our driver to slow down, the horse and his ailing passengers had a less perilous ride.

If you remember the scene in “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade,” as you turn that last corner, swinging the Treasury suddenly into view, you have a jaw-dropping experience.

To add to our elation, because of our early rising and our hair-raising carriage ride, we were the first people, except for vendors, to arrive. This means that I was able to take photographs without the usual crush of people.

The Treasury, Al Khazneh, is called such because later inhabitants wrongly believed the Nabateans stored treasure within the carved structure. In reality, it was just a facade carved out of the sandstone cliff, and was probably used as a temple or a tomb.

As I limped here and there to
(See Petra Page 9)



A wild carriage ride winds its way through the siq, a narrow pass between towering walls of rock, to reach the ancient city of Petra.

Petra

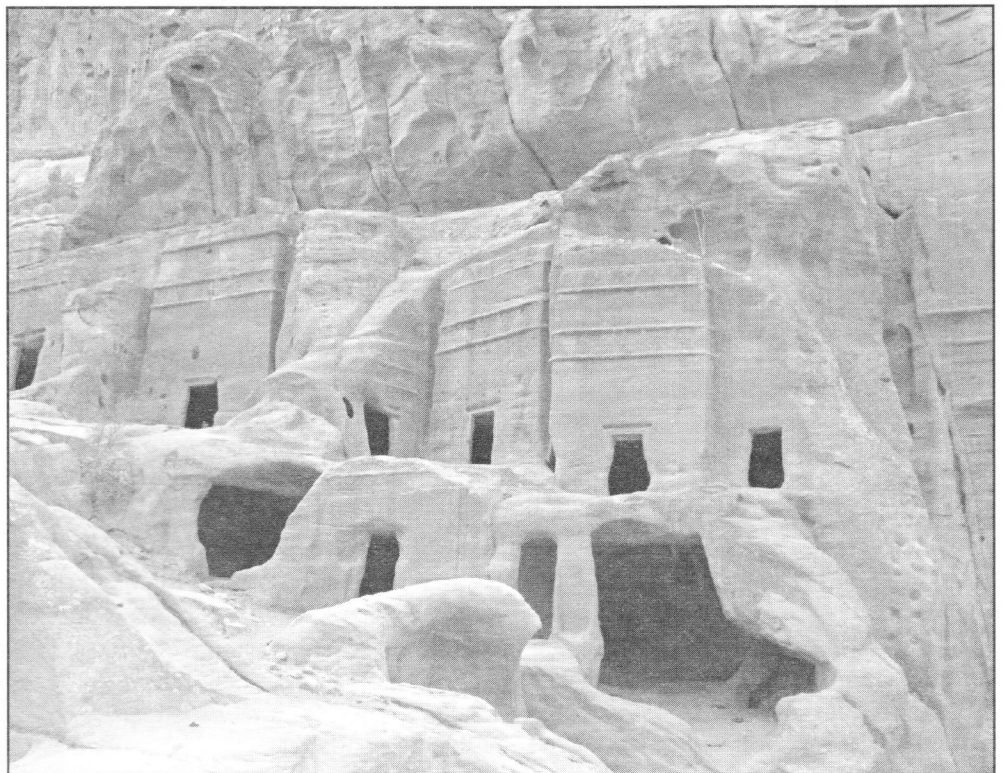
(Continued from Page 8)

Explore the site, my recuperating friend perked on a bench to, in his words, "absorb the ambience." Crippled or not, I was not going to waste the drama of that day.

As I wandered along, I knew I was moving toward the center of Petra and the Monastery. Regrettably, I was not planning on venturing that far, as our carriage driver forewarned us about the declines, inclines and the many steps to reach that sight.

As I hobbled along I could see, on either side, many tombs carved into the sandstone, surrounded by beautiful, swirling patterns and colors. These were known as the Royal Tombs, not because of the final resting place of royalty, but because of their sheer grandeur.

After about a mile, I came upon



The city of Petra is marked by hundreds of tombs. Much work went into their cutting and shaping, yet today they stand empty.



Nabatean Guards appear as they did at the height of Petra's glory.

the Roman Theater. The 7,000-seat coliseum was originally carved by the Nabateans, then later enlarged by their conquerors.

With seating for thousands, you can imagine the size of the coliseum and the voice needed to reach the people in the back row. Yet the theater's marvelous design, and its use of natural acoustics, enabled those at the top to fully enjoy the spectacles.

Deciding that I had walked far enough, I headed back to the Treasury. There I discovered my friend the carriage driver was nowhere to be seen. I knew I was in trouble.

But just as men never ask directions, and I refused to seek medical attention for my knees, I decided the walk out of Petra could not be that difficult.

The Siq is said to be about a mile in length, but as it turned out, I endured almost two miles of gradual incline and an uneven pathway before I reached my hotel and a bed to stretch on.

As such things go, there was a positive side to all this. Walking and frequently stopping, I was able to photograph all that I had missed on the harrowing carriage trip into Petra. My many rest stops were therefore cleverly disguised as photo opportunities.

Limping through Petra had paid off.

(Guy Folger is an OAS Lifetime Member, a member of the OAS Board from the McAlester Chapter, and an inveterate excavator).



The Khazneh, once thought to be a temple or tomb, is now called the Treasury.

A tale of two museums

Stories and Photos
By Jon Denton

The National Museum of the American Indian, the Smithsonian's latest jewel on the Washington D.C. mall, is as advertised. That's not altogether pleasing.

A recent business trip took us to Washington and with it, an opportunity to see the Indian showcase. Since our return to Oklahoma led through Missouri, we could compare the NMAI to another world class Indian museum, the Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center near St. Louis.

What a contrast! Despite a warning that "Comparisons are tricky, as well as odious" from my wife, I yielded to the temptation. I sized up both institutions, and Washington come up short.

Whereas the Smithsonian is an Indian-participant platform focused on "We are still here," Cahokia is a brilliant example of what archeologists call "provenance."

One encourages you to admire the Indians for their sheer grit. The other is a rewarding, enriching, interactive experience.

The NMAI media kit tips you off. According to the packet, "The museum, which was 15 years in the making, is the first national museum in the country dedicated exclusively to Native Americans. It also is the first to present all exhibitions from a Native viewpoint, and the first constructed on the National Mall since 1987."

Native Americans are emerging from the humiliation Europeans dealt them 150 years ago. For millennia before that, they prospered, only to fall under the boot of European weapons, disease and genocidal policies.

They achieved much, although perhaps not by European standards. They ranked among the world's great landscape architects, survived frequent drought and episodic warfare, created beautiful tools and household utensils, built large cities, and engineered elaborate canals for agriculture.

Their history intrigues us. Archeology allows us to find out how they rose to greatness, flowered into civilization, and fell to ruin.

NMAI has so much to draw on. It boasts 825,000 items representing 12,000 years of history (and probably a great deal longer), and more than 1,200 indigenous cultures throughout the Americas. That's a lot of stuff. It's also a big challenge, deciding what to show and how to display it.

NMAI makes a noble effort. It has no doubt the best of the best, given the Smithsonian's immense storehouse. The museum offers films, exhibits, clothing, tools, artifacts, and Native American objects of art.

Everything is tastefully packaged --- gorgeous Indian dress work, varied pre-Columbian pottery, admirable statuary (ancient and modern), galleries on cosmology and the Indian view of the European land grab, and a contemporary perspective of Native American life and identity.

The displays unfold in a stunning, five-story, 250,000-square-foot building next door to the U.S. Capitol, attended outside by plantings of corn, beans and squash, grandfather rocks and tumbling waters.

But when it's all been seen, NMAI seems mostly flash and dazzle, a showpiece of slivers and slices. It overwhelms with content. What it lacks, at least from someone interested in archeology, is that single element vital to appreciation: context.

We expected more "why" with the "what." Other museums, also loaded with material, do a better job of it.

Take the Cahokia Center as an example. In fairness, we have to remember what a curator there told us when we mentioned the Smithsonian: "Fortunately, we only have one culture to consider," he said.

Yes, but what a culture! The largest prehistoric site north of Mexico, Cahokia covered about 4,000 acres. It

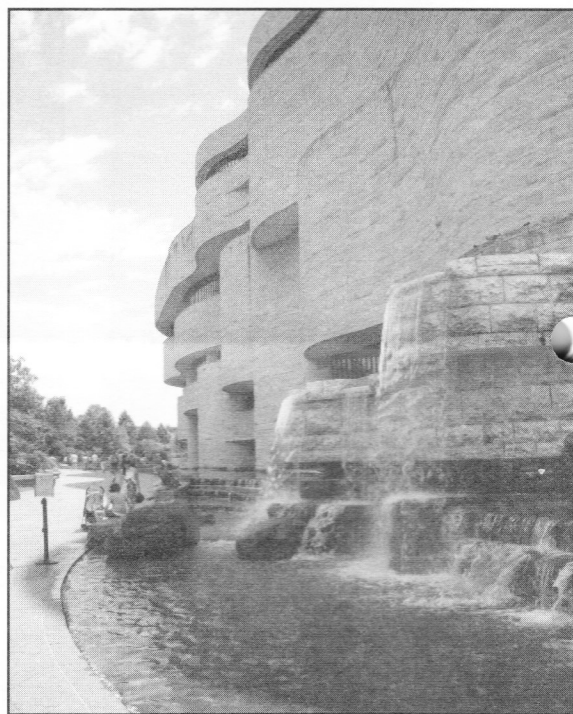
grew to 120 mounds.

Today its remnants comprise a National Historic Landmark and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Volunteers helped the State of Illinois build the 33,000-square-foot center at a cost of \$8.2 million. It opened in 1989.

We learn Cahokia started as a simple, creekside Woodland village in 700 AD. From its modest beginnings rose the Mississippian culture, a complex, ranked social and political system.

By 1100 AD, it ruled as a regional center. In the next century, the city sprawled over six square miles and supported a population of 10,000 to 20,000.

The culture's signature feature -- man-made hills culminating in the 100-foot-high Monks Mound -- held leaders'



Washington's National Museum of the American Indian uses falling water in an appealing, natural landscape.

homes and some burials.

On the flats, wood post assemblies -- five distinct circles -- combined science and engineering to signal the spring and fall equinoxes, and the winter and summer solstices.

Between 1200 AD and 1400 AD, Cahokia was abandoned. Wood, stone, and game had been tapped out. Where the people went, and what tribes they became, is still debated.

Significant to Oklahoma is Cahokia
(See Indian Museums Page 11)

Indian museums

(Continued from Page 10)

hokia's tie to Spiro Mounds. Located in far eastern Oklahoma, Spiro is considered the major western extension of the Mississippian culture, a Caddo outpost with its own mounds, suburban villages, central plaza and religious elite.

Spiro lasted until about 1250 AD, although burials continued there for 200 more years.

Cahokia is Spiro Mounds writ large. Here's what you get at the Cahokia Center: An orientation movie, a not-to-miss 15 minute introduction to the museum, life-size dioramas recreating Cahokia in 1200 AD, and expansive murals that depict Cahokia at its peak.

Five wells, or sunken displays, recreate the archeological process and evidence. Colorful panels give more details as revealed by the archeologist and the storyteller. Another exhibit shows how archeologists gather and interpret evidence about the past.

Exhibit islands offer context through a time line, a cultural island, de-

scription of the cityscape, and construction of buildings, walls and mounds.

A life exhibit shows seasonal activities – preparing food, growing crops, social classes, games and beliefs. A products exhibit shows stone tools, use of wood, making pots and crafting shells, and fiber used in clothing.

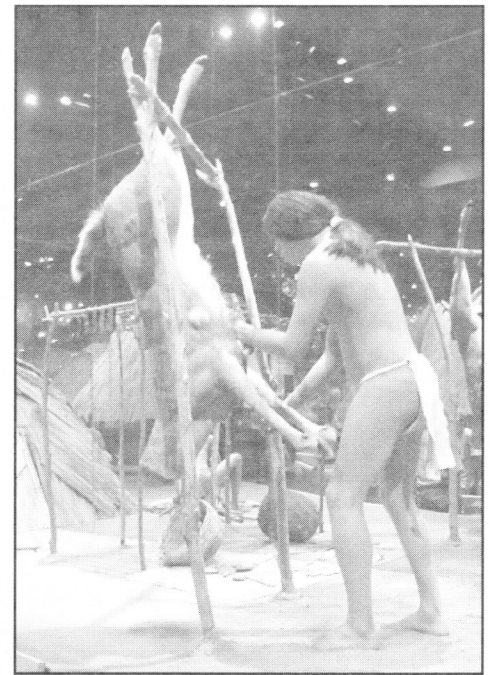
For those able and willing, rented recordings guide them outdoors to the mounds, outer security stockade and Woodhenge.

The National Museum in Washington is an entertaining way to spend an afternoon, seeing what Native Americans prefer you to see.

Cahokia is all about context. It is the best time most people will ever spend in pursuit of museum archeology. Sights there will linger in memory for years to come.

If you only visit one of the two museums, make it Cahokia. You will find the context most rewarding.

Jon Denton, a retired journalist, is Editor of Trowel Marks, the Oklahoma Anthropological Society Newsletter.



Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center near St. Louis, Mo., employs realistic, full-size dioramas to depict prehistoric life in the Mississippian city.

OKLAHOMA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Membership Application Form

Would you like to become a member of the OAS? Then simply fill out this form and send it with payment (check or money order) to Curt Hendricks, Membership, Oklahoma Anthropological Society, 6424 Sudbury Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73162-1725

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY DESIRED

- Active** \$20 Receive issues annually of Oklahoma Archeology, Journal of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, and the OAS Newsletter Trowel Marks.
- Student** \$10 Same as Active, but limited to full-time students (any age). Enclose copy of Student ID.
- Contributing** \$30 Receive issues annually of Oklahoma Archeology, Journal of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, the quarterly OAS Newsletter, and memoirs published by the Society.
- Sustaining** \$40 Receive issues annually of Oklahoma Archeology, Journal of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, the quarterly Newsletter Trowel Notes, and memoirs published by the Society.
- Associate** \$5 For one additional member of your immediate family, \$10 for two or more.
- Life** \$500 Provides all benefits of a Sustaining membership throughout the lifetime of member.
- Institutional** Domestic \$30 () Institutional Canada/Mexico \$35 () Institutional Other Foreign \$40
- OAS New Member Handbook** \$6. Recommended for new members. Everything you need to know about the Society: its history, meetings, field activities, publication series, and more.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Home Phone () _____ Cell () _____ Email address _____

Tahlequah site survey qualifies for certification

By Thomas A. Purdin
OAS McAlester Chapter

On June 7, 2005, I met Connie Masters in Tahlequah to conduct our first archeological survey for the OAS Certification Program.

Although skies were overcast, we decided to continue while we had time. We left Tahlequah and drove toward Camp Fred Darby and Welling until we could see the Illinois River on the left side of the road.

We had arranged permission to survey the area.

Underwater

We noticed that most of this and a nearby second site was under water, flooded by recent rains. Of course, this is

good and bad. Bad, because we can't see what's hidden under muddy water. But good, since artifacts are often washed up and easier to spot, lying in the gravel and silt.

We continued toward the river's edge. We immediately noticed a lot of lithic debitage and percussion flakes. After taking photographs, we walked farther along the river. Soon we saw and photographed a mano that showed a lot of wear on one side.

We photographed what appeared to be a graver and some bifaces. The next items were what appeared to be the base of a broken spear point and

another broken tool.

We soon found and photographed a tool worked on both sides. It looked like it was a broken blade, and appeared to have been longer at one time. It measured 4 cm across and 6 cm long.

Along the water's edge, we sighted a scraper. It measured 9 cm by

4 cm, was rectangular and about 1 cm thick. One side was flat, the other curved on both ends.

We found a hard hammer that showed a lot of work around the edges.

The second site was on clay banks of the river. It was under water, so we couldn't reach it.

I remembered that in the '70s

and 1980's, this site had a lot of debitage coming to the surface due to water erosion. Perhaps we can get back there in the future.

More water

We decided to move beyond these first two sites and check the north end of the river banks.

We drove to a landing north of Lake Tenkiller. We noticed the water was high. I remember a variety of artifacts coming to the surface there in the 1970s and 1980s.

Our Site No. 3 is on the south side of

the Landing, along the Illinois River and close to a spring. However, the road was overgrown with weeds, and it was inaccessible.

Site No. 4 is a low island. It surfaces sometimes when the water level is low. At this time, the island was loaded with artifacts and lithic debitage.

Site No. 5 is on the west side of the river. It appears a lot of daub is coming to the surface. I did notice a lot of daub when I was there a quarter century ago.

Site No. 6 is an island on the west side of the river, going north to Carter's Landing. In the past, there have been many artifacts such as manos and metates showing up on the island.

Site No. 7, the last area we were checking on Caney Creek, was under water. When I was there in the 80s, I spotted four house sites on the north side of the creek. In our survey, we found several small mounds at these house sites. The mounds were only about 20 feet across and a foot high. There we found an Alba point along with other debitage on one of the mounds.

Conclusion

While we were doing the survey, we spotted a lot of past and possibly current vandalism. We saw one person on the island we surveyed who was digging. We told him he wasn't supposed to take artifacts from the area.

He seemed to think it was all right for him to dig, saying he was a science teacher. We informed him that

(See *Tahlequah Page 13*)



A broken tool appeared amid a clutter of debitage.



A mano found along the banks of the Illinois River shows much wear on one side.

Tahlequah survey finds artifacts, vandalism

(Continued from Page 12)

didn't make it right, and we left to look over the other sites. At around the bend in the river we met a park ranger and reported the event to him.

We also reported seeing a pickup across the river from Carter's Landing with people who appeared to be digging and placing items in the bed of the pickup.

The rangers did check out both people, although we were never notified of action against them.

We finally called it a day and returned to Tahlequah. Over the next few weeks, we filled out site reports and turned them in to Lois Albert, OAS Certification Chairman, for recording.

She looked over our reports and made notations for corrections, asking us to re-write them until we had everything as it should be, so she could assign site numbers.

She noted three of our seven sites were already recorded with the state, leaving four sites for our new recording. We were given permanent numbers for those four sites, thus completing the Survey No. 1 level of our certification.

From correcting these forms and reading them several times, along with artifact collections I have and know of from the 70s and 80s, and from my personal observation from monitoring these sites, I believe we can suggest occupation by four cultures from late Paleo through Mississippian.



Once perhaps a blade, this stone tool shows work on both sides.

These observations enforce my belief that one definition of archeology is "Archeology isn't what you find, but what you find out."

July 11, 2009

OAS Board Minutes

The OAS Board has recommended printing abbreviated minutes in Trowel Marks. For the full version, members are referred to the OAS Website, www.okarcheology.org.

A summary of the July 11, 2009 OAS Board meeting follows, with emphasis on items voted upon. The Board will consider approval of the full minutes at the Fall 2009 OAS Board Meeting.

President Charles Cheatham called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey office, Norman. Other officers attending were Treasurer Cathy Compton and Assistant Secretary-Assistant Treasurer Curt Hendricks.

Finances (Cathy Compton) Account statements show the General Fund \$2,528; Dig Fund \$3,077; Memoir Fund \$11,536, and investments \$51,783.

Compton proposed and the board approved a maximum of \$1,000 for shelves for OAS storage publications

and records. She assists Mary McHard, publications contact, in conducting an inventory with the help of volunteers.

Membership (Curt Hendricks) Primary memberships are down 12 percent for the year, with 341 in July 2009 compared to 386 in July 2008. Primary plus Associate Members bring the 2009 total to 401, not counting Institutional members. Full-time student membership is 12.

Quarterly News (Jon Denton) Costs were lowered on the second newsletter by aligning printed copies closer to the mailing number. The first issue cost \$1,043, the second \$977. Each was 12 pages.

Dig Committee (Cheatham) OAS still needs a Dig Committee chair.

The Board approved a Fall 2009 dig at the Bryson-Paddock Wichita village site near Ponca City under direction of archeologist Richard Drass. Date TBA for late September or October. OSU stu-

dents are to participate in field school.

(Compton) Sales of OAS caps with insignias, donated by Guy Folger, earned \$72 at the Spring Dig. Also now selling green T-shirts with OAS logo, also prepared by Folger.

Awards (Cheatham) Guy Folger proposed and the board approved an annual Buck Wade Award, perhaps to be known as the "Bucky," to recognize service to the Society. Wade, who died in December 2008, was an exceptional OAS member in the McAlester Chapter. Folger donated \$100 to help fund the award.

(Don Wyckoff) The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History in Norman is preparing a large stone memorial to honor Dr. Robert Bell, OU professor of anthropology and an OAS founder.

Girl Scouts want to be archeologists, too

By **Connie Masters
and Thomas Purdin**
OAS McAlester

and Tahlequah Chapters

Katy Felts, a volunteer supervisor for the Girl Scouts of America, called Thomas Purdin and asked if he would give a presentation at a summer camp in northeast Oklahoma.

She requested four archeology presentations, each 45 minutes, for scouts age groups K-8.

As a safety precaution, she asked us not to disclose the name of the camp or the location. With this in mind, we refrained from taking photographs as well.

We didn't have a lot of time to prepare, but we found the Alabama Archaeological Society website had a model for a program. It was excellent.

We decided to explain what archeology was and show the tools used in excavations. We took a few artifacts and our tool box and journals for a show-and-tell program. We wanted to prove there is more than just digging involved.

Thomas explained that archeology is the study of people who often leave no written history for us to understand. He reviewed how we discover how Indians and American pioneers lived, what they ate, what their tools were and how they were made.

He explained that archeologists only did a salvage excavation if a site was in danger of being lost. Otherwise,

we could spend several seasons at a dig site, as we have done around the state.

We used archeology terms along with familiar words meaning the same thing, so they could remember.

Picture and word games were given to each of the girls. We hoped we could make learning the terms and names of the tools fun.

There was a word scramble for the two oldest groups. The girls looked the papers over and their expressions were something like "Oh no -- we're going to have a test."

I explained that there were scrambled words, with a cheat sheet printed on the back showing what the words were and their definitions. After hearing they weren't going to be tested, they seemed to relax and take new interest in everything.

They asked questions -- such as what kind of items we found, if we'd been to other countries, how we knew where to dig, what we did with artifacts, and if we'd dug any bones or burials.

We explained that we hadn't excavated human burials, nor did we



Connie Masters and Thomas Purdin

keep artifacts. We used a penny as an example of something that could be lost, found, and tell a story.

We explained that the artifacts go to a lab for cleaning, identifying, dating, and cataloging before display in museums.

The two youngest groups were given picture games of tools used by archeologists, along with the name of the tools and how they were used. We showed them the tools we have and explained how they were used. We let them handle the tools, with the warning to be very careful.

The girls asked what each item was and what it was used for. This proved of more interest to them than the explanation of the science of archeology.

The girls seemed to understand that it is important to save, preserve and protect prehistoric and historic sites for present and future generations

At the end of the day, the girls thanked us for the program. They also asked us to take part in their flag closing ceremony, which we were honored to do.

Katy Felts said she will check with Boy Scout officials about their archeological merit badge program. She also is interested in a similar program for the Girl Scouts.

We told them we were glad to help. It was as much fun for us as it was for them. Maybe more fun for us, seeing curiosity blossom in such bright young minds.

Pioneer encampment at Lawton museum

A day of pioneer era entertainment highlights the annual Fall Encampment at the Museum of the Great Plains, Lawton.

Tim Poteete, the museum's living history interpreter, is notifying members of the American Mountain Man Association who have participated in the past. He also is inviting the general public.

The 1830s Fall Encampment is Sept. 29-Oct. 3. Held in Coffee's Station on the museum grounds, the camp is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., said Lawton

OAS spokesman Jana Brown.

Last year, an impromptu silent auction raised money for log replacement at the Station. Poteete asks each member of the Red River Brigade to make and donate a fur trade item for the auction.

"To date, we have purchased \$4,800 worth of logs -- enough to replace the southeast and northwest walls," he said.

Tentative plans also call for an Oct. 3 concert by a group billed as itinerant musicians, The Folderol String Band.

For more information, contact Poteete or Jana Brown at (580) 581-3460.

Busy archival crew organizing materials at OAS storage unit

An inventory is under way at the OAS storage unit in Bethany.

Shelves will soon be assembled to lift the most valuable material above the concrete floor, publications contact Mary McHard said.

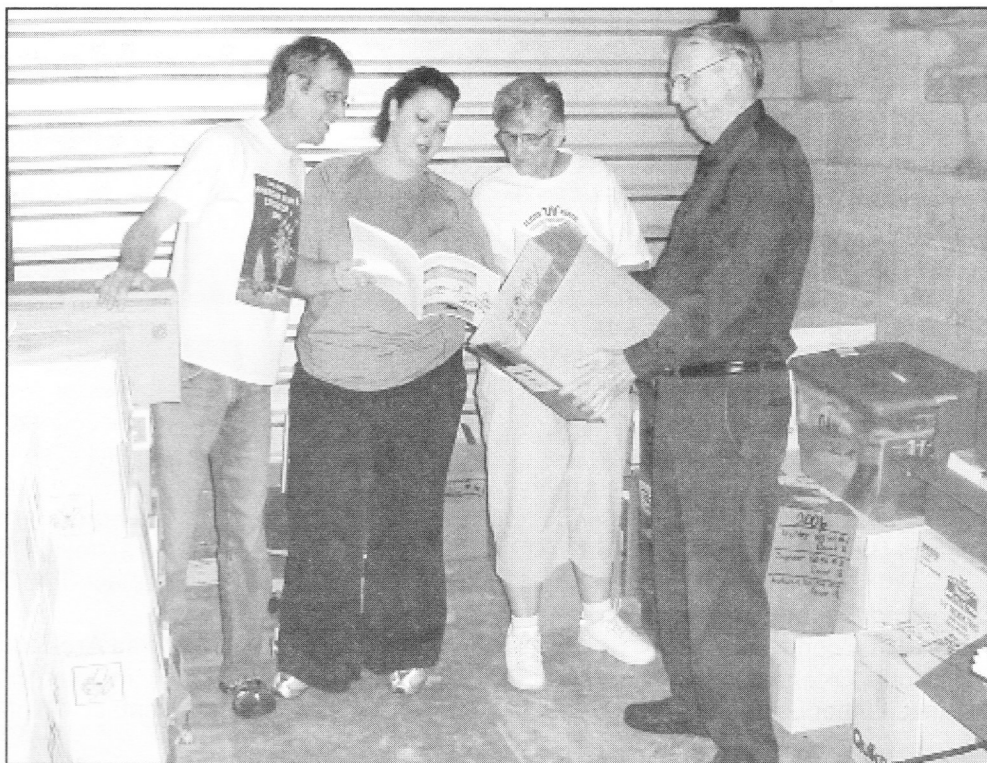
OAS Treasurer Cathy Compton is working with Mary and Dale McHard on the update. Also assisting in the inventory are William and Trina Menzie. Trina is OAS Secretary.

Several boxes of OAS materials recently were moved from storage at the Oklahoma Archeology Survey office in Norman. The materials are expected to fill out missing spots in the collection.

Back copies of OAS publications are always valuable. They help cover gaps in the OAS archives.

Archive materials can be donated by contacting Mary at dmmchard@flash.net or calling her at (405) 525-7824.

She will arrange to have the materials picked up and delivered to storage.



Recently working on an inventory of OAS materials were, from left, William and Trina Menzie and Mary and Dale McHard. The OAS storage unit in Bethany is being reorganized. Shelves will soon be added.

New Anthropological Society members include federal archeologist at Fort Sill

New members are joining the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, membership contact Curt Hendricks said.

From January through July, 28 joined the Society. They include an archeologist from Lawton, Aaron Brummitt.

Brummitt assists in maintaining compliance with federal cultural resources regulations at the Fort Sill Army installation.

A native of Kingston, Tenn, he received his Baccalaureate Degree from the University of Tennessee and his Master's Degree from the University of South Carolina.

His primary research interests are cultural change and transition. It is a topic he pursued in his thesis on the Mississippian emergence in the Atlantic coastal plain, and later on the contact and early colonial periods in the British colonies.

He has worked on numerous



Aaron Brummitt

archeological investigations with local, state, and federal agencies, as well as private-sector developers. He has fo-

cused on the Atlantic coastal plain and piedmont of Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia.

Other new OAS members include:

Sustaining: Martha Blessington-Padilla, Sunland, Calif.

Contributing: Carolyn Boyd, Eldorado; John Davis, Fort Towson; Eva Kimble, Purcell; Mike Taylor, Norman.

Active members: Brandon Apala, Wilburton; Robert Cast, Mustang; Phil Floyd, Lexington; Don Folger, Ada; Gwen Howland, Edmond; Stacy Lovins, Newalla; John Taylor, Broken Arrow.

Associates: Rick, Haley, Chase & Kaci Howland, Edmond; Robert, LaDonna, Elizabeth & Alexandria Apala, Wilburton.

Full time students: Christian Deleon, Duncanville, Texas; Kara Underwood, Tulsa; Cari Foster, Oklahoma City; Jennifer Lee, Cleveland; and Chris Morgan, Shohei Shimokawa and Sarah Dumas, all of Norman.



OAS Chapter Meetings



Ark-Homa Chapter, Fort Smith, Ark.
 7 p.m. third Thursday
 Echols Building, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith, Ark.
 Contact: Tim Mulvihill (479) 788-7812 or Lexie Rue-Harris
 (479) 675-3233

Byrds Mill Springs Chapter, Ada
 7:30 p.m. second Tuesday, Valley View Hospital, Ada
 Contact: Carl Gilley (580) 332-3812

Central Chapter, Oklahoma City
 7 p.m. first Thursday
 Will Rogers Park Garden Center, 3400 NW 16, OKC
 Contact: Bruce Sanderson (405) 722-2331

Cleveland County Chapter, Norman
 7 p.m. first Monday
 Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman
 Contact: Luther Leith (405) 321-3558

Kay County Chapter, Ponca City
 6:30 p.m. third Thursday, Ponca City Library
 Contact: Richard Sherrod (580) 765-9661

Greater Southwest Chapter, Lawton
 2 p.m. fourth Saturday, Museum of the Great Plains,
 Contact: Debra Baker (580) 581-3460

McAlester Archeological Society, Krebs
 7 p.m. second Thursday, Krebs City Hall, Krebs
 Contact: Connie Masters (918) 470-3781

Tahlequah Archeological Society, Tahlequah
 7 p.m. fourth Thursday, Tahlequah Public Library
 Contact: Tom Purdin (918) 284-2410

Tulsa Archeological Society, Tulsa
 7 p.m. fourth Monday, Central Library, Tulsa
 Contact: Charles Surber (918) 743-2307

Fall meeting: the Caddo

(Continued from Page 1)

Jim Cox of Norman, a former OAS board member with a strong interest in Oklahoma's major prehistoric archeological center, Spiro Mounds.

Dr. Wyckoff plans to contrast Caddo activities in two areas of importance to Oklahoma – the Arkansas and Red River Basins.

Among the guest speakers is Ann Early, State Archaeologist of Arkansas. Dr. Early will speak on the Arkansas perspective and explore questions on

the Caddo people's prehistory.

Bob Brooks will contrast Caddo-an landscapes in the Arkansas and Red River Basins. Dr. Brooks is the Oklahoma State Archeologist.

Author Larry Merriam will present Spiro Mounds findings, drawing on Robert E. Bell's documentation of 1934-1936 pot hunting at the site. Merriam is co-author of "The Spiro Mound: A Photo Essay."

The late Dr. Bell was an OU anthropology professor. He also played a

principal role in founding and nourishing the OAS.

OU graduate student Simone Rowe will discuss the physical anthropology of 230 burials at the Akers site, a WPA excavation in the Fourche Maline Valley now flooded by Lake Wister.

It is hoped that Caddo Nation representatives will speak, Dr. Wyckoff said. Displays of Caddo materials also may be on view.

More details on the meeting will appear on www.okarcheology.org.

Trowel Marks News

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