

Caddo Conference updates format, bids for recognition

Formal organization of the Caddo Conference Organization is under way, Oklahoma representative Scott Hammerstedt said.

Designed to provide more structure, the updated multistate conference offers several advantages, he said. Since 1946, the Conference has sponsored an annual meeting of archeologists and Caddo leaders. They have published an annual journal since 1989.

"The idea is to make annual meetings easier to coordinate, and provide the Journal with more recognition," said Hammerstedt, a member of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in Norman.

The Caddo Conference Organization goal is to develop, promote, and enhance interest in the archeology, history and ethnology of the Caddo people. The conference encompasses the four-state area of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas.

The 2012 Caddo Conference is March 16-17 at Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches, La. The preregistration fee is \$20 and is due by Feb. 1.

During the conference a silent auction will support the Caddo Conference and Caddo Nation participation. Donations are sought

(See Caddo Page 3)



Oklahoma Historical Society plans to make Honey Springs battlefield, a nationally known Civil War site southwest of Fort Gibson, a major attraction (Jim Argo Photo courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society).

Important but dull

As with other organizations, most activities at The Oklahoma Anthropological Society can be divided into two types: Mostly fun, or important but dull.

Our digs are mostly fun. So are our meetings. But in the other category comes the OAS annual Membership renewal.

That time is now. It's dull, but membership is very important. It allows us to keep

digging, actually, and keep meeting.

You can find a Membership Application on Page 3. Please send it along with your renewal. It's important.

On Your OAS Calendar

Jan 28 OAS Winter
Board Meeting
Norman

May 25 - June 3
OAS Spring Dig
Bryson-Paddock

Major museum due

Expansion due at Honey Springs Battlefield site

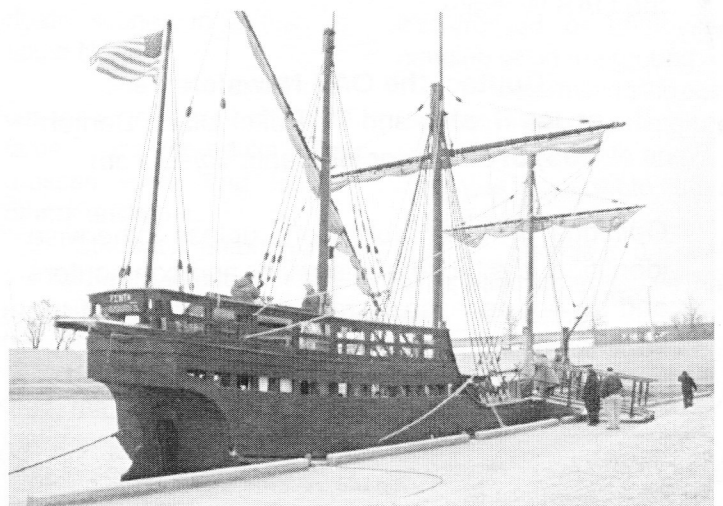
Working with several partners, the Oklahoma Historical Society is coordinating a 5-year business plan to make a major tourist destination of Honey Springs Battlefield.

OHS will begin site preparation in January. Of special interest for archeology, a \$1 million museum will house artifacts found at the historic Civil War memorial.

The Historical Society will provide the building contents. The non-profit Friends of Honey Springs Battlefield will pay for the building. Another group, America's Great Outdoors, will be tapped to develop the battlefield trails.

Located about 45 miles southwest of Fort Gibson, the Honey Springs Battlefield is a nationally known Civil War site. Battle reenactments have been presented there by the Historical Society since 1988.

In 2011, the sanctioned event
(See Honey Springs Page 4)



DOCKED at Three Forks Harbor in Muskogee, a replica of the Columbus ship Pinta invited visitors aboard. Story Page 12.



Trowel Marks Newsletter

A quarterly publication
of The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

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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, is in this OAS Newsletter and on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

OAS offers varied memberships. All members receive the Society's annual *Bulletin of Oklahoma Archeology* and quarterly *Trowel Marks Newsletter*. Contributing, Sustaining, Life, and Institutional members also receive OAS Memoirs. For more information, contact Cathy Compton, Membership (405) 308-2829.

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.

Contact the OAS Newsletter

Editor Jon Denton and Co-Editor Diana Denton
(405) 376-0074 or jonrdenton@aol.com.

Opinions in this publication, unless otherwise identified, are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

~ Events of Interest ~

Standing Exhibits

The Bison: An American Icon interactive buffalo game in conjunction with national traveling exhibit. Appears through Jan. 7 at Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center, Lawton. Call (580) 353-0404.

January

8 Wolf to Woof last day. Interactive exhibit on the nature and history of dogs, Sam Noble Museum, Norman. Contact www.snomnh.ou.edu.

28 OAS Winter Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma South Campus, Norman. Call (405) 325-7211.

February

11 Annual East Texas Archeological Conference with demonstration of TAS-Method Flotation, a macrobotanical analysis by Dr. Leslie Bush, Ornelas Activity Center, Tyler, Texas. Contact Dr. Thomas Guderjan at guderjan@yahoo.com.

23 Historic Fort Towson Time Line, 9 a.m. Stations depict times and events associated with the fort's military occupation. Childrens' yard games. Period clothing, demonstration trades of blacksmithing, candle making; trade items of the 1840's including silver, beads, furs; artillery demonstration using a 12 pound cannon. Fort Towson. Call (580) 873-2634.

26 Science in Action & Object I.D. Day, 1-5 p.m. with demonstrations and hands-on activities. Admission free. Sam Noble Museum, Norman. Contact www.snomnh.ou.edu.

28 "Mosaics and Beyond: The Villa of Piazza Armerina, Sicily, and its Environment," 7:30 p.m. lecture by Kimberly Bowes, sponsored by Archaeological Institute of America. Location TBA, Oklahoma City. Call (405) 325-7667.

March

16-17 Caddo Conference, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, La.

20-21 Vernal Equinox Walks, 11 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m. guided tours at Oklahoma's only prehistoric Native American archaeological site open to the public. Archaeologist Dennis Peterson conducts tours of Spiro Mounds, east of Spiro. www.okhistory.org/outreach/museums/spiromounds

26-30 Archaic Art and Archeology of the Lower Pecos, a comparative study of scratched and incised imagery in the rock art of the Lower Pecos canyon lands and the Columbia Plateau, with Dr. James Keyser, Carolyn Boyd, Elton Prewitt. Shumla School, Comstock, Texas. <http://www.Shumla.org/>

Trowel Marks

OAS President Debra Baker

This year has left us with many ups and many downs.

Among the positive changes are two excellent dig seasons at Rose Hill Plantation and strong spring and fall membership meetings.

However, we have lost two legendary OAS members within a matter of months, Dr. George Odell and Dave Morgan.

Dr. Odell's Memoriam appeared in the fall issue of the OAS *Trowel Marks*. Since then, Dave passed on.

He served as the OAS Dig Chairman for many years as well as a volunteer at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey. His service and devotion to both entities has been remarkable. Both gentlemen will be greatly missed.

* * *

Those of you who missed the fall issue of the OAS *Trowel Marks* might not have heard about an important OAS email. It helps OAS rapidly communicate information to members.

For example, we are now able to



send updated notices on chapter meetings being held throughout the state. If you are a Chapter Representative, please send us timely information about your meetings and we will forward it to members.

If you are a member and have not received OAS emails, and want to be added to the notice list,

let us know. Our new email address is okla.anthro.society@gmail.com

* * *

The year ahead will present changes in the way OAS does business. Voting on bylaws will take place at the Spring Meeting April 14 at the museum of the Great Plains in Lawton.

It has come to my attention that as of last April's election, some hold dual positions on the Board. I am among them, serving as not only OAS President but as a Director-at-Large.

Not only do I need to focus on the position of President, I want to be able to give my Director position to someone who may have fresh ideas. The other two who have followed in my footsteps are Ed Mayfield, Vice President, and Mary McHard, Publication Chair. Each of us agrees to the suggested change.

In April 2012 we also will vote other bylaw adjustments, including changing the date of the Fall OAS meetings to read "mid-September to Mid-November" as opposed to just "October" because there are numerous conflicts.

For the full story, see Page 6.

* * *

I want to take this moment to let you know that I do love hearing from each and everyone, and if I do not always answer immediately, I am always considering what you want me to hear.

Caddo

from contributors.

Norman has frequently stepped up as a Conference site, initiating the series in 1946 and serving as host as recently as 2009.

Arkansas Archeological Survey's Mary Beth Trubitt is President of the CCO board.

The Center for Regional Heritage Research at Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas is the institutional host.

Members receive the annual Caddo Archeology Journal (CAJ).

Annual membership ranges from \$30 for individuals to \$70 for institutional subscribers.

More information is available on the CCO website www.caddoconference.org.

OAS Membership Subscription Form

I would like my copy of OAS *Trowel Marks* emailed to me at: _____

- () **Active** \$20 Receive the annual OAS Bulletin and quarterly OAS Newsletter *Trowel Marks*.
- () **Student** \$10 Same as Active, but limited to full-time students. Enclose copy of Student ID.
- () **Contributing** \$35 Receive issues annually of the *OAS Bulletin*, the quarterly OAS Newsletter *Trowel Notes*, and all Memoirs published by the Society during the subscription period.
- () **Sustaining** \$45 Receive issues the annual OAS Bulletin, the quarterly Newsletter *Trowel Notes*, and all Memoirs published by the Society during the subscription period.
- () **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** \$35 () Institutional Canada/Mexico \$40 () Institutional Other \$45
- () **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 _____

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

To become a member or renew membership in the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, fill out this form and send it with a check or money order to Cathy Compton, OAS Membership, 401 NW 46 Terrace, Oklahoma City, OK 73118.

Honey Springs

(Continued from Page 1)

observed the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Civil War. The new development builds on that, said Kathy Dickson, Museums and Historic Sites Director for the Historical Society.

"We want to be finished by July 2013, the 150th anniversary of the Honey Springs battle," she said. "That's our goal."

At present, the state park has three employees: John Davis, manager; Tony Steger, maintenance; and Andy Slaucitajs.

Familiar to OAS members as Chairman of the Dig

Honey Springs Battlefield

The Visitors Center is 3.6 miles north of Checotah on SH-69, east 2 miles through Rentiesville, and north 2 miles on Honey Springs Battlefield Road.

The 1,300-acre site includes six walking trails with 55 interpretive signs. The trails are located at the Union bivouac area, the Union line of battle, the Texas regiments' line of battle, the battle of the bridge over Elk Creek, the final action, and the Confederate depot at Honey Springs.

Visitor's Center Hours vary

Tuesday – Saturday

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday

1 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Battlefield

Tuesday – Saturday

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday

1 to 5 p.m.

Committee, Slaucitajs will wear several hats at the Historical Society. He has joined the Honey Springs Park part time. As short handed as the parks are, he will assist in maintenance. However, his primary job will be finding, filming, restoring and photographing artifacts, then helping catalog them.

Recently, he joined Davis in searching for evidence of the Texas Road, a main route for north-south travel at the time of the battle.

A professional videographer with extensive archeological experience, Slaucitajs plans to document the 5-year park development.

"It's an opportunity to see a major historic site take shape," he said.

The staff will soon expand. After the first of the year, Dickson will post a job opening for park director.

"Hopefully we will find somebody who has an interest in both military history as well as archeology," she said.

In an April story in *The Oklahoman*, just before the 2011 enactment, Historical Society director Bob Blackburn emphasized the site's importance.



A rusty rifle part is among artifacts found on the Honey Springs Battlefield (OHS Photo Courtesy Andy Slaucitajs).



Expansion will replace the cramped Honey Springs Visitor Center, above, with a museum (OHS Photo Courtesy Jim Argo).

Oklahoma Historical Society Military Parks

The Oklahoma Historical Society operates five historic military parks:

In 1824, Fort Gibson was established to keep peace in frontier Indian Territory.

Later in 1824, Fort Towson, near the Red River, guarded the boundary between U.S. territory and Mexico.

Fort Washita, built in 1842, protected the Choctaw and Chickasaw from marauding Plains tribes and non-Indian intruders.

Indian Territory's most important battle of the Civil War was fought between Union and Confederate forces on July 17, 1863, at Honey Springs near today's Checotah.

In 1868, Fort Supply was built as a depot for the winter campaign against the Southern Plains tribes.

"The Civil War and its immediate aftermath marks the most significant turning point in Oklahoma his-

tory, and the Battle of Honey Springs marks the most significant turning point of the war in the Indian Territory," he said

Honey Springs is the largest battlefield owned by the Historical Society. Unique today, its development will make it even more so, Davis said.

"It will be the premier military museum of the state. It is the only battlefield where Indians, blacks and whites fought in Oklahoma. The First Kansas Colored Squad first battled there," Davis said.

For the initial display, Davis will have about 1,800 battlefield artifacts to work with.

They range from military buckles, knives and buttons to the soldiers' personal accoutrements.

Honey Springs battle a Civil War turning point

The Battle of Honey Springs was the largest of over 100 Civil War hostile encounters in Indian Territory.

The Confederates called it the Affair at Elk Creek. The engagement occurred on a rainy Friday, July 17, 1863, between the 1st Division, Army of the Frontier, commanded by Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt and the Confederate Indian Brigade led by Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper.

The 9,000 combatants included American Indians, veteran Texas regiments, and the 1st Kansas Colored Volunteers (the first black regiment in the Union Army). Cherokee and Creek regiments fought on both sides.

The battle was part of the North's strategy as the war evolved toward Union victory. The forces met near Elk Creek, and the Union's victory was decisive. It opened the way for the capture of Fort Smith, much of Arkansas and control of the Red River Valley.

The battle was unique. The First Kansas Volunteers were one of the first Union regiments of black soldiers. They fought near the center of the Union line, valiantly capturing a four-gun Confederate artillery battery that supported the 20th and 29th Texas Cavalry Regiments.

Before the battle, Union and Confederate troops frequently skirmished in the area. The Confederates set up a supply depot 20 miles southwest of Fort Gibson at Honey Springs. Indeed, they planned to drive Union troops from the area.

The Fort Gibson commander, Union Gen. Blunt, suspected Confederate forces were about to attack. He decided to take the initiative before reinforcements joined the Honey Springs Confederates.

Blunt began crossing the swollen Arkansas River on July 15. On the morning of July 17, he skirmished with Rebel troops. By mid-afternoon, full-scale fighting ensued.

The Confederate soldiers were caught unprepared. Most of



Artifacts found at the Honey Springs Battlefield include a spur and belt buckle. (OHS Photo Courtesy Andy Slaucitajs).

were Native American troops under the command of Gen. Cooper. They had wet powder, causing misfires. The problem grew worse when rain began.

After repulsing one attack, Gen. Cooper pulled his forces back to get new ammunition. When he learned Gen. Blunt was about to turn his left flank, the Confederate retreat began.

Although Gen. Cooper fought a rear guard action, many of his troops counterattacked, failed, and fled. Estimated casualties totaled 716, with the Union losing 79 men, the Confederates 637.

The battle meant taking Fort Gibson was out of the question for the Confederates. Union forces soon moved on to occupy Fort Smith and claim Union victories in the Red River Valley.

Bryson-Paddock site of OAS Spring Dig 2012

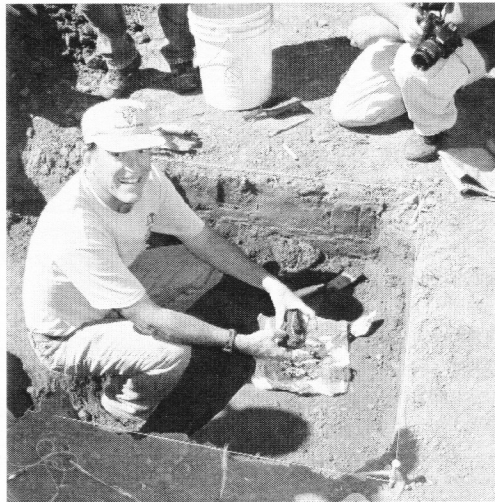
More evidence of an early 18th century Wichita Indian river village will be sought at the 2012 OAS Spring Dig.

Volunteers will join Richard Drass in his research at the Bryson-Paddock site near Ponca City. The annual dig is tentatively set May 25-June 3 over the Memorial Day holiday.

Dr. Drass is based at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in Norman. Joining him are Susan Vehik of the University of Oklahoma and Cohen Perkins of Oklahoma State University.

Since 2003, they have pieced together evidence that Europeans canoed up the Arkansas River to get meat for New Orleans

and bison hides for Europe. Among their stops was the Indian village near Kansas on the Arkansas River.



Archeologist Richard Drass examines pieces of large mussel shell unearthed in the 2009 OAS Spring Dig.

OAS volunteers worked at Bryson-Paddock in 2004, 2007 and 2009.

Magnetic surveys show several concentric linear features. Some of them may have been fortification ditches surrounding ramparts topped by stockades.

Other ditches contained underground structures lining the interior of the fortification. They were made of wood poles placed in the flat floor of

the trenches.

As in the past, Dr. Drass will be at the site earlier in the week to set up the grid and excavation units.

Anyone interested in helping prepare the site is welcome to come early, he said.

Andy Slaucitajs is OAS Dig Committee Chairman. Cathy Compton is program coordinator. Tentative evening plans include the popular Chuckwagon Dinner.

Camping is available at the Corps of Engineers campgrounds on Kaw Lake. Motels can be found in nearby Ponca City and Newkirk.

Dr. Drass can be reached at rdrass@ou.edu.

Dave Morgan: In Memoriam

David F. Morgan, a stalwart OAS member and accomplished avocational archeologist, died Dec. 4.

He was a long-time OAS Dig Chairman, an enthusiastic Central Chapter member, a dependable resource for professionals and volunteers alike. Coffee cup in hand, he was a friend to everybody he met.

Dave, 81, is survived by his wife of 58 years, Rosemary, and three children, Rebecca Ann Shelton and husband Kirby, David F. Morgan II, and Mary Ellen Stockett and husband Don.

A native of Ada, Dave served in the Army during the Korean War. He earned BS and MBA degrees at Central State College and attended the General Motors Institute in Flint, Mich.

After retirement from a career at the Postal Training Center in Norman, he devoted much of his time and expertise to OAS and

the Oklahoma Archeology Survey. He made significant contributions to the Native American exhibit at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History.

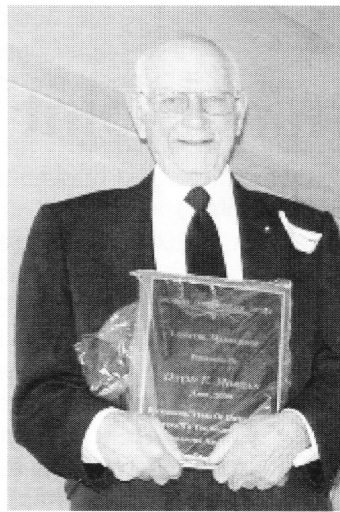
He is the only person who completed the OAS training course, achieving an avocational archeologist ranking in the Certification Program.

Past OAS President Kathy Gibbs gives him the highest praise.

"You could always count on him. When he was in charge of the dig, everything went like clockwork.

"He made it very easy to work with him, and made me want to do my best. He just brought that out in everybody," Kathy said.

Another Past OAS President, Gene Hellstern, presented Dave with a Lifetime Membership Award at the 2008 OAS Spring Meeting. Morgan contributed an immense amount of time,



Dave Morgan received an OAS Lifetime Membership Award in 2008.

knowledge and expertise, he said.

"Dave Morgan participated in and became proficient in almost every phase of archeological activity. Morgan became a skilled field excavator and laboratory analyst," Hellstern said in his introduction.

Morgan examined materials and prepared a written report on the 1980 Carpenter

dig site. He authored several chapters of the Calf Creek Dig report. He directed several surveys. After an examination of the Lexington Wildlife Refuge, he followed a written report in the OAS *Annual Bulletin*.

Hellstern said he was personally indebted to Dave Morgan. He helped Hellstern organize several dig opportunities and assembled a crew of OAS supervisors to assist and instruct students in Prof. Hellstern's Introduction to Archeology classes at the University of Central Oklahoma.

"To sum up, Dave Morgan is a fine example of what the avocational archeologist can be and do, and how such a person can contribute to archeological investigation and the useful knowledge gained there," Hellstern said at the presentation.

A Memorial Service was held Dec. 7 at the Lynlee Mae Chapel in Moore. In lieu of flowers, donations were directed to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation Alzheimer's Research.

OAS to consider bylaws update

Several changes to the OAS bylaws have been discussed at recent meetings. Immediate Past President Charles Cheatham, at the request of President Debra Baker, has made the following suggestions:

Limit election

Currently, OAS bylaws permit board members to serve in multiple capacities at the same time.

A person serving as an OAS At-Large-Director can also serve as an OAS officer. As proposed, the bylaw change prevents that. The bylaw change would encourage more people to partici-

pate on the board.

As proposed, if an At-Large-Director is elected an officer, the At-Large-Director position held by that person would automatically become vacant. It could then be filled by election for the rest of the At-Large-Director term.

Fill Director positions

At-Large-Directors serve three years. Currently, the bylaws only allow a vacant director position to be filled by a vote of the OAS members at a spring of fall meeting. This results in a position becoming vacant long before someone else can fill the position.

The bylaws change addresses that issue. If a Director position becomes vacant before the term ends, the board could elect some-

one to fill the position for the balance of the term.

Expand Meeting period

Currently, the bylaws require the OAS fall meeting to be held in October. In recent years, the fixed period frequently conflicted with a fall dig or survey, archeological conferences, football games or dates available for a meeting space.

The proposed change would allow the fall meeting to be held from mid-September to mid-November, as approved by the board each year.

Add email notice

The change would add another way OAS members are given official notice of a fall or spring meeting. Currently, that is done by a mailed notice or the newsletter. The change allows email notice (if the member has an

e-mail address). Printed notices would continue.

Some members have asked to be notified by email instead of U.S. Mail.

Other changes: Minor cleanup to the by-laws may also be proposed.

Adoption

The actual language of bylaw changes (not just the summary above) must be presented to the Board for approval. That is on the agenda for the Jan. 28, 2012 Winter Board meeting in Norman.

Bylaw changes approved by the Board must then be submitted to the OAS members for final approval. Members will receive notice of the changes in an OAS newsletter. A member vote on the changes is expected at the April 2012 general meeting.

New OU archeologist greated by earthquake

Archeologist Ada Randall was just getting his feet on the ground when the earth started shaking.

A new assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma anthropology department, Dr. Randall arrived on campus in August. He was settling in when a succession of earthquakes rumbled through the landscape.

A 5.6 magnitude earthquake centered near Sparks in Lincoln County shook Oklahoma Nov. 5. It damaged about 300 homes, buckled a highway and caused the collapse of a tower at St. Gregory's University in Shawnee.

The Nov. 5 quake and its aftershocks centered in the Prague, Sparks and Meeker area. But they were felt as far east as Missouri.

"I was just getting my feet underneath me. The recent earthquakes have helped me figure out the geography around here," Dr. Randall said. "I keep telling my students I'm more used to hurricanes."

Randall arrives at OU from University of Florida. There he has 2010 doctorate and 2002 masters degrees in anthropology. His bachelor's degree is in archaeological studies at Boston University.

At OU he teaches Great Discoveries in Archaeology and Southeastern Archaeology.

His early research centered on the technology and mobility practices of Paleoindian and Early Archaic societies (12,000-9000 years ago) along Alabama's middle Tennessee River Valley.

He describes his shell mound and midden research as "two very long term projects."

They focus on communities along the middle St. Johns River Valley in northeast Florida. The research area is best known for scores of shell mounds constructed by hunter-gatherers.

A midden is an old dump for domestic waste. It may contain animal bone, human excrement, botanical material, vermin, shells, sherds, lithics and other artifacts of past human occupation.

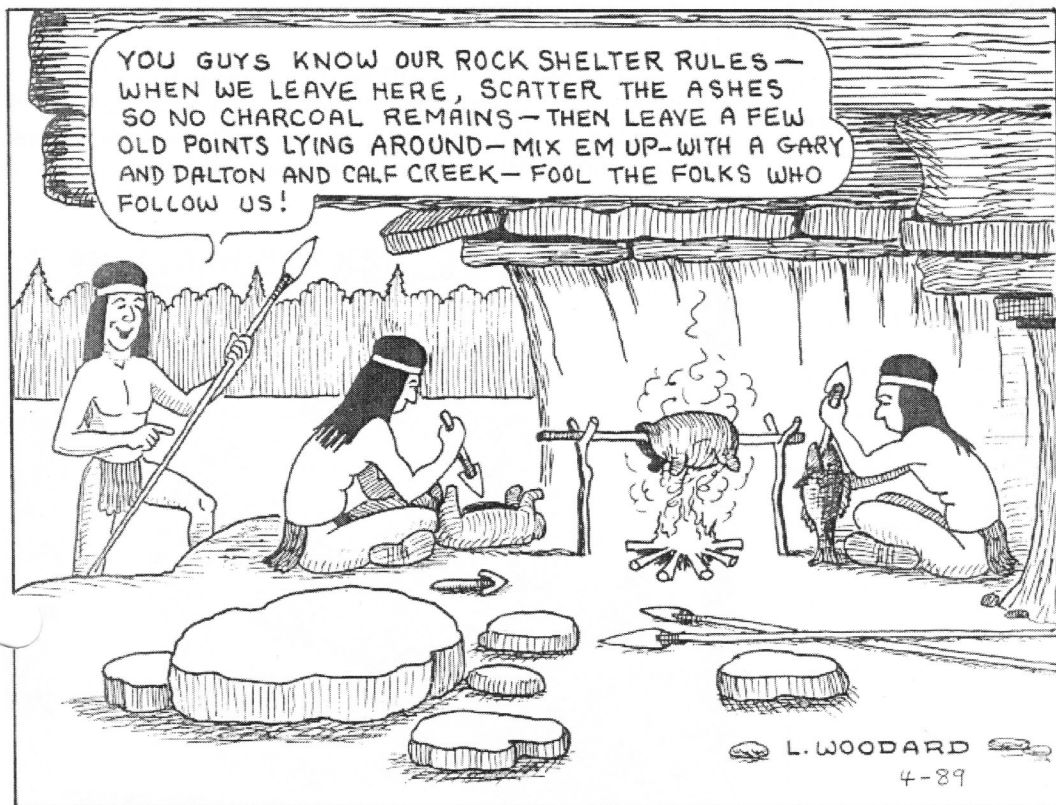
Dr. Randall's goal is to document the histories of Archaic shell mounds, ranging from habitation spaces to monumental shell and earthworks, and place them in their environmental and social contexts.



New OU archeologist Ada Randall in the field.

He is also developing a regional geodatabase of Archaic mounds using historic observations, excavation results and contemporary geospatial data.

Recently he spoke to the OAS Cleveland County Chapter on shell middens, his specialty. "They had some very insightful questions," he said. He is available to speak to other chapters on archeological research outside their usual range.



OAS seeks archival materials

Back copies of OAS publications are valuable. They help fill gaps in the OAS archives, an important resource. Archive materials can be donated by contacting Mary McHard, Publications Chair. If necessary, she can have the materials picked up.

Contact Mary at dmmchard@flash.net (405) 525-7824.

OAS Fall Meeting explores Gilcrease

An enthusiastic group attended the OAS Fall Meeting in Tulsa for a focus on an outstanding museum, Gilcrease.

President Debra Baker moderated the Oct. 29 session at the museum northeast of downtown Tulsa.

The program drew on the talents of the museum's senior curator, Bob Pickering, and Tulsa author and university professor Michael Whalen.

OAS Dig Chairman Andy Slaucitajs, assisted by the Tulsa Archeological Society, arranged the program.

Pickering conducted a tour of the museum's storage area and workshop, showing choice items from the anthropology collections.

The Gilcrease has 300,000 artifacts on prehistoric and historic archaeology and ethnographic materials. The focus is on the cultural history of North, Central, and South America. Special attention is given items from the Illinois and Arkansas regions of the Mississippi valley ranging from Colorado to New Mexico and Arizona in the American Southwest. Also present are items from ancient Mexico.

Pickering led the group to the museum's research center. It contains sliding glass display shelves for artifacts and a computer database to help find various pieces.

Its collections of pre-Columbian projective points (arrow and spear heads) are regularly consulted by archeologists,



Tulsa's Gilcrease is among the nation's most noted museums for ethnographic materials and prehistoric and historic archeology.

Pickering said.

Whalen, a professor at the University of Tulsa Anthropology Department, discussed Casas Grandes, Spanish for "Great Houses," also known as Paquimé. Located in the northern Mexican state of Chihuahua, it is among the region's largest and most complex sites.

His slides ranged in topic from the culture's exquisite pottery designs to the sturdy walls of the compound. Not only were they thick, the walls reached 40-to-50 feet high.

There is evidence Paquimé had a complex water control system of underground drains, reservoirs, channels taking water to homes, and a sewage system.

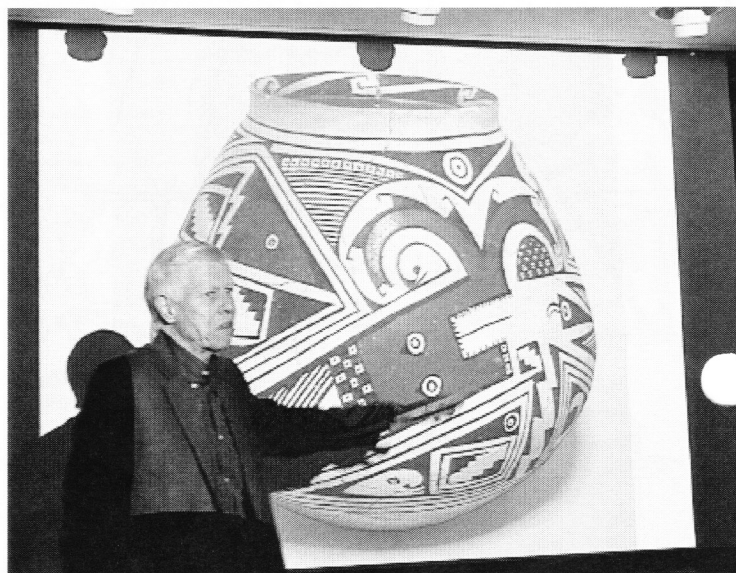
Excavations produced eggshell fragments, bird skeletons and traces of wooden perches. The perches suggest the community raised scarlet macaws, important in Mesoamerican rituals.

Prof. Whalen and University of Oklahoma archaeologist Paul Minnis present their research on the prehistory of Casas Grandes in a new University of Arizona Press book, "Casas Grandes and Its Hinterlands: Prehistoric Regional Organization in Northwest Mexico."



Gilcrease Curator Bob Pickering, left, led OAS visitors on a tour of the museum's storage and workshop area.

At right, Michael Whalen discusses pottery typical of the Casas Grandes complex in northern Mexico.



My big fat Greek Odyssey, or a Delphic prediction: You'll love Kalambaka

By Guy Folger

Editor's Note: This second of a series on archeology travel in Greece continues the story of a recent journey by veteran adventurer and OAS member Guy Folger, McAlester.

As written earlier, I spent the month of June in Greece. To be able to travel in Greece, or anywhere for that matter, it helps to have friends living there. My friends were from my Navy days of some 40 years ago, so it was high time for a reunion.

The most demanding part of my odyssey was the travel to and from Europa. It started out under a cloudy sky. Good old "thunderstorms in the area" delayed my departure from Dulles D.C. by two hours. Of course, my arrival in my first stop, Germany, also was late.

Since my Munich to Athens flight decided not to wait for me, I spent a lovely four hours in the Munich "hospitality" room. Luckily, I was able to get standby on the next available flight.

On my eventual arrival in Athens, for some odd reason I found my friends nowhere in sight. Only six hours late, I decided to wander and wonder around the airport in search of them. In addition to having to pull my luggage everywhere, all the signs were Greek to me. Even the ones in English.

And, as you may suspect from past reports, I was limping. What happened in Egypt did not stay in Egypt. I was gimpy there and gimpy elsewhere. So I walked like an Egyptian in Greece, determined to make the best of it.

Finally deciding to venture forth in a taxi that confused luxury with expense, I arrived at a spot just a block from my hotel. The driver went down the wrong street, or took a bad turn, or just was plain lost. We ended up at a pedestrian-only avenue.

So it was lug my baggage once again, this time down a tiny cobblestone street with an even narrower sidewalk. I got



A roadside Ekla Sakis memorial in Greece.



Guy Folger, at left, waves hello from Delphi's Apollo Temple

to the hotel just in time to hear my friend say, in a higher than normal pitch, "He decided to take a cab?"

We hadn't lost our sense of humor, had we. After catching up a bit, we adjourned to dinner. The pleasant comfort of an outdoor Greek restaurant brought more reminiscing, catching up, a sip or two of ouzo, and a final nightcap of tsipouro, I think.

* * *

Next morning, with heavy heads and high hopes, our archeological travel began in earnest. After taking some photos of the back of the Parthenon, my friend and I began a short walking tour.

On our way to the Boy Scout shop, we visited Hadrian's Arch, the ruins of the Temple of Olympian Zeus, and Athens' newest landmark, the Olympic Stadium. The stadium was undergoing some repair, so we were only able to see it from the sidewalk.

The next sunrise found us on our way to Delphi. Located about 110 miles northwest of Athens, it is the holiest site in Greece. After checking into our hotel, we did a little bit of leisurely shopping at a friend's store. And, as is the Greek way, my friend's shop owner is now a friend of mine.

Delphi is the home of Pythia, the ancient world's most famous oracles. They were usually women over 50 years of age. They were considered to have been given their powers by the god Apollo. They dispensed advice, prophecies and guidance to travelers from far and wide. The Delphi site and its magnificent Delphi Archaeological Museum are definite must-see Greek attractions.

After exploring Delphi as much as I physically could, we headed about 220 miles northwest of Athens to the small town of Kalambaka. It is best known for its dramatic backdrop of steep Meteora rocks that frame the northern skyline.

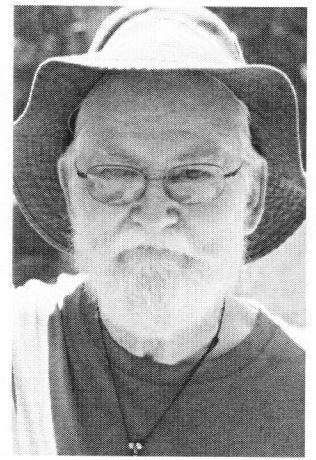
We did some more shopping and settled down for our night's stay, following the traveler's dictum of early to bed and early to rise.

One curious note, to me at least, is a roadside custom. You know how Americans have crosses beside roads to denote highway deaths, usually of family and friends? In Greece they have miniatures of churches, some plain, some quite elaborate, as memorials.

The models are called "ekla sakis," which, I am told, translates to "small churches." Go figure.

After a few days of visiting, a few excursions to Nikopolis (Octavian's "victory city") and Prevaza, I recover from a bout of stomach virus. Travel as widely as we might, Americans seem to spend at least part of their vacations with Mexico's Montezuma's Revenge.

Next issue: A revived Guido goes in search of the ancient Kassope ruins and evidence of the area's paleolithic inhabitants.



Guy Folger in Greece

Reviews

Jon Denton
Reviews Editor

Ceramic Makers' Marks
By Erica Gibson
Left Coast Press, Walnut
Creek, Calif., 2011
147 pages, \$25 paperback,
\$89 hardback
ISBN 978-1-59874-189-6
ISBN 978-1-59874-188-9

Review By Charles Wallis

This is the third reference by the publisher of the series "Guides to Historical Artifacts."

Previous titles in the series are Vol. 1, *Chinese Export Porcelains* by Andrew D. Madsen, and Vol. 2, *Material Culture of Breweries* by Herman W. Ronnenberg.

The series provides comprehensive guides to classes of historical artifacts commonly found in excavations, archives, museums and private collections in North America.

"Ceramic Makers' Marks" has a brief acknowledgement and four pages of introduction, followed by the bulk of the report.

It consists of photographs and line drawings of nearly 350 clearly defined, well illustrated maker's marks. They are from 112 different manufacturers, dating from the mid-19th through early 20th century.

The report ends with two pages of references along with five pages of very useful indexes. The index quickly allows the researcher to search by city, county, element, mark type, word and



maker.

The latter is especially helpful. It allows one to quickly determine if a particular mark, or even small fragment of such (if with the particular element being searched is present) is even covered in the report without having to go through the report, page by page.

It appears the author has concentrated her research on archeological collections from excavations in California, and in particular work conducted at Old Sacramento. This will pose no problem when comparing these collections with those obtained in Oklahoma.

By the 1820s through early 1890s, most ceramics found at Removal Period and early Land Run farmsteads were produced in England. From the 20th century on, they came from the East Liverpool, Ohio potteries.

The author acknowledges the importance of two references that I have also heavily relied on in the past: Geoffrey Godden's *Encyclopedia of British Pottery and Porcelain Marks* (1991) and William C. Gates and Dana E. Ormerod's *The East Liv-*

erpool, Ohio, Pottery District: Identification of Manufacturers and Marks (1982).

A note in the introduction is particularly interesting and involves an area that I have struggled with attempting to narrow possible times of occupations for sites in Oklahoma.

Her comment concerns British marks wherein she correctly points out "Contrary to common belief, the use of the word 'England' in a mark does not necessarily mean a date after 1891, when the U.S. McKinley Tariff Act was enacted ... More precisely, it is the absence of the word 'England' that denotes a pre-1891 date."

Gibson's book will not identify many of the maker's marks that you might encounter, but will still serve as a useful reference for those that do appear.

-- Charles Wallis, Norman archeologist, is an avid student of Indian, American and European ceramics.

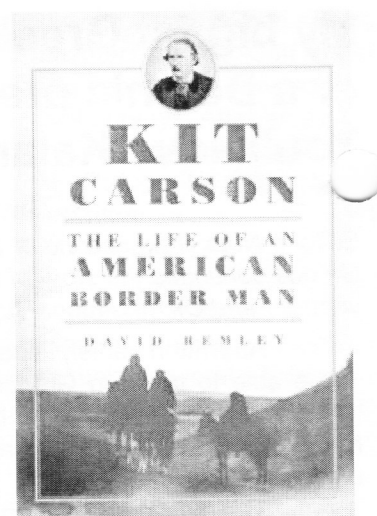
Kit Carson: The Life of an American Border Man
By David Remley
University of Oklahoma Press \$24.95
320 Pages, illustrations and maps
ISBN 978-0-8061-4172-5

Review By Ed Mayfield

Kit Carson is among the most notable and colorful pioneers of America's 18th century frontier.

Author David Remley sees him as a master at the rules of living on America's borders. Those unstable regions are where people of different races, cultures, and languages met and mixed. They often quarreled, sometimes with each other, sometimes together.

They fought for possession of land, home, and hunting rights as well as for honor and rank within their group.



Remley navigates the reader through Carson's entire life, doing it with a journalistic style rare for a historical subject. It makes for a most engaging read.

In past years some historians have intimated Carson displayed homicidal behavior. They said he liked killing, probably too much. Remley refutes these assertions, given the times.

Carson was known for a myriad of trades. He was a mountain man, trapper, tracker, buffalo hunter, scout, soldier, and government Indian agent. Yet there was one way he managed to link it all together: He was a celebrity.

Thanks to the pen of dime novelist Charles Averill, Carson wasn't just of the West, he was the West. The irony is that Carson never learned to read or write, although he could somewhat scratch out his name.

Remley devotes much detail to a time in Carson's life that greatly damages his "Icon of the American West" image. It was Carson's part in what came to be called "the long walk."

The people walking in this case were the Navajo. Their ordeal of death and confinement continued from the summer of 1863 until 1868. They were forcibly moved to the infamous Bosque Redon-

(Continued next page)

do, a government sanctioned reservation.

This "entire sorry episode" came to be the blackest mark in Carson's life, since he was in charge of the removal from beginning to end.

Even so, Remley strikes a balance in his portrayal. While hardly an icon, Carson appears as dependable, ethical, and for his time, somewhat tolerant.

He lived happily amid the Utes and Jicarilla Apaches, serving them as a U.S. government agent. He was happily married to an Arapaho woman, Waa-Nibe. He had a lasting friendship with their daughter, Adaline.

Out of the 19th century great American West came men whose lives and exploits were much larger than life. In a nod to novelistic fame, Christopher Kit Carson became one such icon. Good or bad, his life and times have endured.

Remleys' book effectively has seen to that.

-- Ed Mayfield, *Oklahoma City, is Vice President of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society and an avid collector of Western lore.*

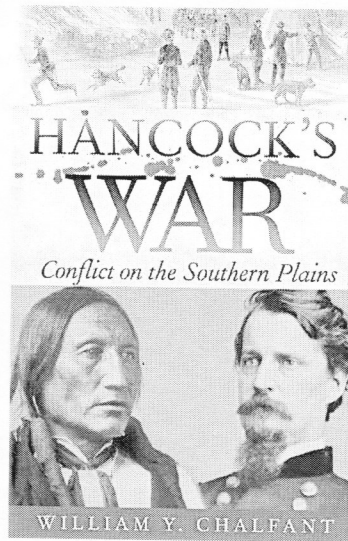
Hancock's War: Conflict on the Southern Plains
By William Chalfont
Arthur H. Clark Co. 2010
University of Oklahoma Press, \$55
540 pages B&W illustrations, maps
ISBN 978-0-87062-374-5

Review By Neil Garrison

In the years immediately following America's Civil War, western Kansas was a wild and violent place. The Indian inhabitants were in increased conflict with both frontiersmen and the U.S. Army.

This book provides a detailed account of this tumultuous place and era.

Army Col. John Chivington's massacre of peaceful Cheyennes at Sand



Creek made the Indians very apprehensive. On the other side of the coin, the Capt. William Fetterman massacre, where an entire military outfit was destroyed by the Sioux, left a festering wound the Army was not inclined to forgive.

Enter Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, a field commander of a U.S. Army expedition that sallied forth into western Kansas in 1867. His intent was to bully and intimidate the Indians into submission.

Fresh from his Civil War battles, Gen. Hancock was soon frustrated at his failed attempts to cow the native peoples. The Indians did not conduct battles anything like his experience in the eastern theater of war.

In the end, Hancock fumbled his attempts to subdue the natives with military muscle and bluster. Instead, he precipitated a series of retaliatory raids and reprisals by the infuriated Indians.

The book's author, the late William Chalfont, is to be commended for his refusal to accept historical accounts at face value. Instead, he critically evaluates them. In many instances, he finds newspaper articles and military dispatches were blatant fabrications.

He corrects them with precision and conviction.

The book's flashy dust jacket hints at lurid ac-

counts of cowboy and Indian skirmishes ... with the U.S. Cavalry rushing in for the rescue. The excitement never happens. Unfortunately, the author has a pedantic writing style not only cumbersome but a times, outright boring. I found it difficult to read.

The book's real value is in a reference library.

-- Neil Garrison, an OAS member from Yukon, is a naturalist, outdoorsman and avid student of history.

Stories of Old-Time Oklahoma
By David Dary
University of Oklahoma Press \$24.95
288 Pages
ISBN-13: 9780806141817

Review by Jon Denton

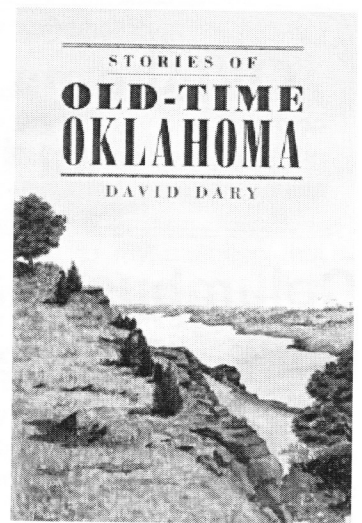
David Dary has written a wonderful book if you're 14 years old, in need of a gift for Christmas or your birthday, and easily believe everything said by a journalist or historian.

Dary is both. Journalist and historian, that is. Former head of journalism studies at the University of Oklahoma, he has penned 18 other books and a multitude of articles on the old West. In other words, he writes well and he writes often.

But he stretches his credibility in "Stores of Old-Time Oklahoma." You can almost see the glee in his eyes when he claims, in his introduction, that Oklahomans started out feeling inferior for good reason, lacked education, favored athletic achievement in schools over academics, and condoned corruption.

How about today?

"Oklahoma's resulting culture is not moralistic," he says. "It does not reject corruption and often lacks a real sense of what's right and wrong." Finally, he intones, "At the same time, Oklahomans seek to project an im-



age of their state that often does not match reality."

The fact that you could say the same thing about most other states (including his beloved Kansas) is beside the point. Try that line about "not moralistic" at a Baptist State Convention and see where it leads you.

Dary wields a journalistic tar brush that does the state a disservice and makes his writing suspicious. The French would call him a provocateur. It's the old journalistic ploy of "Why don't you and him fight, and I'll watch."

As for his stories? Anybody who took Oklahoma history in school will find the tales are old hat. Most appeared as newspaper articles during the state centennial in 2007. Dary has revised, expanded and added some new ones. Not much new, though.

Dary is a good cowboy story teller. But as his critics might say around the campfire, when he insults Oklahoma without good reason, them's fightin' words.

Read them, enjoy them, but do so with discretion.

-- Jon Denton is Editor of Trowel Marks.

Trowel Marks
Winter 2011

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Oklahoma archeology in the news

Columbus caravel replicas dock at Three Forks Harbor

Muskogee -- Replicas of two 15th century ships sailed up the Arkansas River in late November to dock at Three Forks Harbor.

Archaeology Magazine has described the caravel Nina as "the most historically correct Columbus replica ever built."

Also docked was a replica of the Pinta, built in Brazil and at 105 feet long, a little larger than the original ship.

The Nina is the same size as the original ship sailed by Christopher Columbus from Spain to the West Indies in 1492.

The replica was built by hand without the use of power tools.

The original ships were designed by the Portuguese as small trading vessels.

According to a Nov. 23 story in *The Tulsa World*, the ships docked two weeks before leaving Dec. 7. Prior to that they stopped at Fort Smith, Ark., for a day and a half, and stayed overnight at Webbers Falls' lock and dam.

They visit hundreds of ports on the East and West Coasts and sail the Gulf of Mexico. They dock in the Great Lakes and navigate the Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Illinois, Mississippi and Arkansas rivers.

While the sailors slept

on the decks in the 15th century, today's crew sleeps below, as does the captain. They still have chores, scrubbing the deck each day to swell the wood and keep it watertight.

The ships sport diesel engines. It would be impossible to navigate entirely by sail, especially in the canals and rivers. Sailing by the stars also is rare, since lights illuminate the night sky near land.

* * *

State seeks funds to rebuild barracks

Durant -- Efforts to rebuild burned Fort Washita barracks are starting to show promise, according to a Nov. 26 story in *The Oklahoman*.

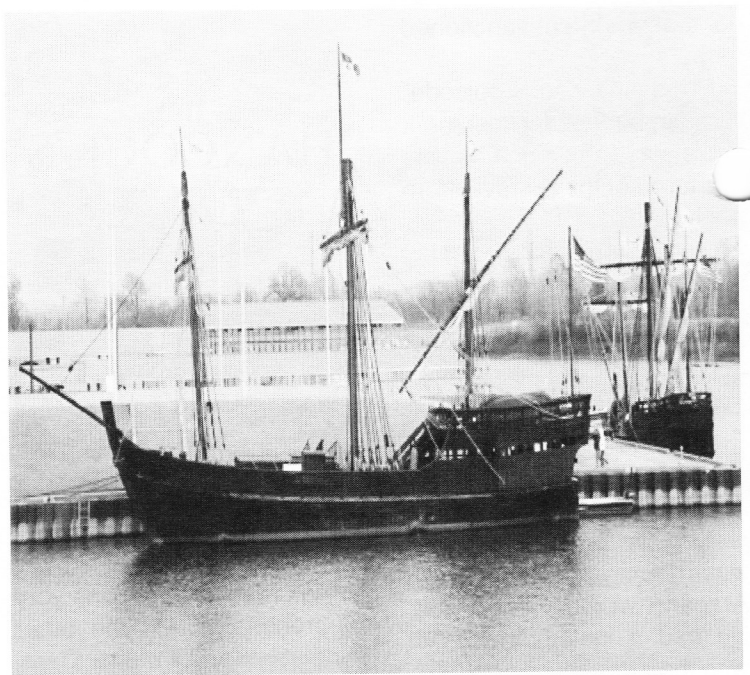
A September 2010 arson left the barracks in ashes.

The building was covered by the state's self-insurance, said Bob Blackburn, executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society. OHS owns and manages the site.

However, the insurance policy is limited. Rebuilding the popular two-story Civil War era replica will cost as much as \$1.5 million.

Blackburn said he hopes to leverage a \$250,000 challenge grant from a foundation. He also will solicit other donors. Edmond architect Thomas Small has drawn up plans for the two-story, 126-by-51-foot replacement.

While raising funds, OHS is protecting the burned



Columbus' ships Pinta and Nina, in their reincarnated state, docked recently at Muskogee's Three Forks Harbor.

barracks site from rain and cold weather -- elements that can damage the mortar in place since the original fort was built in 1842.

The fort's initial role was to protect relocated Chickasaws from Plains Indians raiding from the west. Replica barracks were erected in the 1970s.

Fort Washita State Park, it's frontier buildings and 150-year-old ruins are a popular place for teachers, students and historians. The park frequently plays a part in Mexican, Indian and Civil War reenactments.

The park is about 15 miles northwest of Durant.

* * *

Bison bone dig excites school

Norman -- Once again Lee Bement's archeological field school has exposed students to the thrill of seeking cultural artifacts among ancient bison bones.

Dr. Bement stepped from his office at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Norman, to run field research at the Badger Hole Paleoindian site near Woodward.

He finds time to re-

veal to students the lure of the science. Bement runs a summer field school for OU students and others interested in archeology.

Last summer they spent about five weeks excavating seven bison, uncovering things no person has seen in over 10,000 years.

First the Clovis, then the Folsom people used the site, according to an Oct. 14 story in the University of Oklahoma campus newspaper, *The Oklahoma Daily*.

Ancient people corralled American bison, an animal about 20 percent larger than the modern buffalo. Dr. Bement teaches students how early people in Oklahoma hunted animals, how they designed hunts and kill sites, and the time of year they hunted.

* * *

Forensic students examine dead pigs

Norman -- A forensic entomology class at the University of Oklahoma was offered in September for the first time through the school's College of Liberal Studies.

"Bones and Bugs:

(Continued next page)

Indians found a multitude of uses for America's native black walnuts

By Neil Garrison

There is not a grocery store 'round hereabouts that lacks walnuts for sale. They are available either in the shell, or not. Who among us is not already familiar with this delectable treat?

But they hold a secret. Our in-store versions are English walnuts, a domestic variety of the grocery store staple.

In marked contrast, the topic which I'd like to address in this article is the wild, endemic variety, the black walnut. The tree is found in many places in Oklahoma where it seeks deep, fertile, well-watered stream side soils.

Ancient people had a multitude of uses for this resourceful plant. They prized the nuts of the black walnut tree as an important food.

Black walnut has a very distinctive taste – a marked contrast to the English walnut. Yet another distinction is the strength of the nut shell itself.

Pioneer plants

The English walnut can easily be broken with a pair of pliers. That is why it is such a marketable item in today's grocery shelves. It would do you little good to tackle the black walnut with a tool as pip-squeak as a pair of pliers. To succeed, you first have to bash through the thick, outer husk.

Indians did this with a simple but efficient tool, a large hammer stone. You may have to use a sledge. Yet even with that, you are confronted with a Herculean task: gaining access to the fortress-like shell of the nut itself.

As you might imagine, it is very difficult to accomplish all of this without smashing the nut to smithereens. But that's what you do. Then you must rescue the small fragments of nuts from the bits and pieces of shattered shells.

American Indians ate the nuts raw or pounded into a butter. They tapped the trunk for sap to make syrup. They crushed the nuts with vegetables and meat to make pemmican.

And there's more. When the outer husk of the black walnut seed is crushed, a dark liquid is released. This sticky substance is



American black walnuts are a tough nut to crack, yet yield abundant uses from food to dyes, fishing and medicine.

a wonderful dye. The Indians used it to paint designs on teepee covers and color buckskin and other clothing. The stain was very persistent and withstood repeated exposure to rain.

Yet another fascinating use for this dark liquid was in small prairie streams. The crushed nut husks were dumped into pools. The substance caused the gills of the fish to quit functioning. It was a simple matter, then, to scoop up that evening's dinner.

There is also a lot of anthropological research showing ancient people used potions of the black walnut tree as an effective medicine for the eradication of intestinal parasites. I am not exactly sure, however, as to the formula and dosage rates for this traditional medical practice. I'd be a little bit leery, myself, before experimenting with this way to combat an illness.

Food. Medicine. Art supplies. Is there no end to the useful purposes to which this native plant can be applied? It is truly remarkable how the Indians found ways to solve everyday problems confronting them.

Neil Garrison, Yukon, is a nationally-known naturalist and the retired director of Martin Park Nature Center, Oklahoma City.

Archeology in the news

(Continued from Page 12)

An Introduction to Forensic Archaeology and Forensic Entomology" drew students from across the state. Many were police officers, according to an Oct. 10 story in *The Oklahoman*.

Forensic entomology has become popular as a tool for investigators in human deaths. It also is applied in researching child or elderly neglect or abuse, and even cases involving sick animals. Kent Buehler, lab

manager with the Oklahoma Archeological Survey and an OU instructor, got students ready for the field. He taught them how to preserve a crime scene. He also showed them how to collect evidence without contaminating it.

For the field study, donated pig carcasses are used since pigs decompose at much the same rate as humans.

Heather Ketchum teaches the class. Ahead of the students' arrival, she places the pigs in simulated

death scenes in a field in south Norman.

She uses small carcasses to represent children, larger ones for adults. She dresses some and leaves others unclothed.

Students venturing into the field were armed with face masks, magnifying glasses, test tubes and baggies. They searched for the carcasses, then the insects and bugs that provided clues on how long the carcasses had been there.

Everything has to be observed -- the weather, the size of the corpse, whether

it's dressed or undressed, hanging or on the ground.

Determining the post-mortem interval, or length of time between death and discovery, is important to finding the cause of death.

"So this is definitely an applied course. I've had law enforcement students tell me they learned more in this class than anywhere," Ketchum said.

Trowel Marks
Winter 2011

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Meetings 7 p.m. 3rd Thursdays
Echols Building, University of Arkansas, Ft. Smith
Contact Tim Mulvihill (479) 788-7812

BYRDS MILL CHAPTER, Ada

Meetings 7:30 p.m. 2nd Tuesdays
Valley View Hospital Conference Room, Ada.
Contact Carl D. Gilley (580) 332-3812

CENTRAL CHAPTER, Oklahoma City

Meetings 7 p.m. first Thursdays
Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 NW 36
Contact Ed Mayfield (405) 808-8324

CLEVELAND COUNTY CHAPTER, Norman

Meetings 7 p.m. 1st Tuesdays
Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman
Contact Tom Thompson at Thomas.J.Thompson-1@ou.edu

GREATER SOUTHWEST CHAPTER, Lawton

Meetings 2 p.m. 4th Saturdays
Museum of the Great Plains, 601 NW Ferris Avenue, Lawton
Contact Francie Sisson franciesisson@tds
See WebSite at Greater Southwest Chapter OAS

KAY COUNTY CHAPTER, Ponca City

Meetings 6:30 p.m. 3rd Thursdays
(no meetings June, July and August)
Public Library 5th and Grand, Ponca City
Contact Gary Bracken arkriverguy78@sbcglobal.net

MCALESTER ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Krebs

Meetings 7 p.m. 2nd Thursdays
Krebs City Hall, Krebs
Contact Connie Masters samok56@yahoo.com
See the McAlester and Tahlequah Chapters Website

TAHLEQUAH ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Tahlequah

Meetings 7 p.m. 4th Thursdays
Tahlequah Public Library, Tahlequah
Contact Thomas Purdin (918) 284-2410
See the McAlester and Tahlequah Chapters Website

TULSA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Tulsa

Meetings 7 p.m. 4th Mondays
Aaronson Auditorium, Central Library, 400 Civic Center, Tulsa
Gather before meetings at 5 p.m. at Baxters Interurban,
727 S Houston
Contact Andy Slaucitajs (918) 237-6501 or email at
slostus1@cox.net