

New Stillwater OAS Chapter under way

Fall Meeting in Stillwater links archeology, Civil War

Speakers will pair archeology and America's War Between the States in an Oklahoma Anthropological Society Fall Meeting in Stillwater.

Topics will range from battlefield archeology in Oklahoma to an African American perspective on the conflict. Keynote speaker is Steven Dasovich of Missouri's Lindenwood University (see Page 7).

Program coordinator is Stephen Perkins, Assistant Professor and social anthropologist at Oklahoma State University. The meeting begins at 8 a.m. Nov. 3 in the Murray Building, OSU campus.

After a brief OAS board session led by President Debra Baker, the agenda turns to the Civil War theme, recognized as a sesquicentennial event in Oklahoma.

Among speakers:

-- Steven Dasovich, Keynote. His topic is "Searching Forgotten Battles: Recent Archeological Surveys of Missouri's Civil War Battlefields."

-- Bob Rea, Historic Sites Director at the Oklahoma Historical Society. Dr. Rea will discuss "Battlefield Archeology in Oklahoma."

-- Bruce Fisher, curator for development of the new African American Exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center. His topic will be "The African American Perspective in Civil War Oklahoma."

-- Bill Corbett, professor of history at Northeastern State University, speaking on "Courting Disaster. The Five Civilized Tribes and the Civil War."

The all-day program includes an invitation to be a charter member of the new OAS Stillwater Chapter. Dr. Perkins has agreed to serve as an advisor.

The program is open to the public as well as OAS members and costs \$10.



The Spiro Mounds area is subject of an OAS Memoir, an Archeological Survey, and a historical perspective. (See Page 8)

University fills first Bell Chair in anthropological archeology

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma recently selected Bonnie Pitblado to fill the Robert E. and Virginia Bell Endowed Professorship in anthropological archeology.

The position is funded by a \$2 million dollar endowment from Arnold and Wanda Coldiron. The Coldirons are long time supporters of Oklahoma archeology and the Oklahoma Anthropological Society. (See related story Page 5).

"They were very active in the Ponca City chapter before moving to Cleveland, Ohio," said Prof. Susan Vehik, chairman of the OU Anthropology Department.

"In addition to teaching archeology classes at OU, Bonnie will also be working with avocational archaeologists, much like Bob Bell and Don Wyckoff have done in years past."

This fall Dr. Pitblado begins teaching a course in North American Archeology.

Most recently she was Associate Professor of (See Bell Chair Page 4)

On Your OAS Calendar

Sept. 19-23
OAS Fall Dig
Hugo

Nov. 3
Fall Meeting
Stillwater

OAS Autumn Dig back to Rose Hill cotton plantation

Volunteers return to Rose Hill Plantation in September for the OAS Fall Dig.

This time they will work on the northwest corner of the 18th century site, said Amanda Regnier, dig coordinator. Past probes indicate a separate kitchen building existed there.

Dr. Regnier is counting on some good luck – rain to soften the ground for digging. Excavation dates are Wednesday through Sunday, Sept. 19-23.

"We're kind of hoping the kitchen will have some associated trash pits. They would have garbage in everyday life during the antebellum period, and we'd like to find out what they were using," she said. "We found horse skulls and antebellum ceramics in that area last fall."

Dr. Regnier is a member of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in Norman. Her colleagues conducting the Rose Hill excavation are Scott Hammerstedt, also of the Survey, and John Davis of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

OAS is approaching its fourth excavation at Rose Hill, southeast of Hugo. So far, most of the material recovered is from the mid-20th century. Much of it is metal – mostly nails – and glass, brick and stone.

Stone foundations have gradually emerged. They reveal a two-story home with numerous interior walls. Clearly identified are porches, steps, stairwells and room extensions.

The once-luxurious abode of prominent Choctaw merchant and farmer Robert Jones, the house was abandoned not long after the Civil

(See Plantation Page 6)



Trowel Marks Newsletter

A quarterly publication
of The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

Executive Officers

Debra Baker, Lawton, President (580) 678-1416
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Membership

You can find an application to join the Society or renew your membership, and information about OAS activities, publications and its contribution to Oklahoma archeology 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 the OAS *Memoirs*. For more information contact Cathy Compton (405) 308-2829

Publications

Order handbooks, point guides, memoirs, and other publications and material of The Society from the interim Publications Director at jonrdenton@aol.com. OAS publications and materials are listed on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org

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.

OAS Website www.okarcheology.org

Events of Interest

September

Sept. 1 Caddo Leadership and Community, OneOK Gallery, an Interpretive History of Caddo Nation with Spiro pot, village chert points, shell gorget replica from Texas. Oklahoma History Center, State Capitol Complex. Call (405) 522-5248.

Sept. 6–Nov 25 A Gathering of Traditions: A Centennial Celebration of Dr. Charles Marius Barbeau. In 1911-12 the Canadian ethnographer visited the Wyandotte and Seneca-Cayuga communities in Oklahoma. Sam Noble History Museum, University of Oklahoma, Norman. Call (405) 325-4712.

Sept. 19–23 Annual Fall Dig, Oklahoma Anthropological Society, Rose Hill Plantation, Hugo. OAS volunteers return to the archeological site of Oklahoma's major antebellum cotton plantation, family home of wealthy Choctaw merchant Robert Jones. Call (405) 376-0074.

Sept. 22–23 Autumnal Equinox Walks, guided tours 11 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m. Museum Director Dennis Peterson leads two hour walks at Oklahoma's only prehistoric Native American archeology site open to the public. Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro. Call (918) 962-2062.

October

Oct. 2 "Ramesses II: the Ultimate Pharaoh" 7:30 p.m. lecture on University of Oklahoma campus, lecture by Peter J. Brand, University of Michigan, sponsored by Oklahoma Branch, Archaeological Institute of America. Admission free. Call (405) 325-7667.

Oct. 3-6 Annual Plains Anthropological Conference. Passport is recommended. Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Contact marg.kennedy@usask.ca

Oct. 19 Doaksville Candlelight Tour, 6:30-9 p.m. Walking candlelight tour of Doaksville, first capitol of the Choctaw Nation, including regional events associated with the Civil War and depictions of other events during the 1860s. Fort Towson Historic Site. Call (580) 873-2634.

November

Nov. 3 OAS Fall Meeting, "Digging the Civil War: Sesquicentennial Archeology," 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hosted by Stephen Perkins with keynote speaker Steven Dasovich. Murray Building, OSU Campus, Stillwater. Open to the public. Admission \$10. Call (405) 375-0074.

Nov. 17 Carved in Stone: the Meaning of Gravestone Graphics, 1-3 p.m. class explores meaning of historic gravestones rich in a language of symbols. Oklahoma History Center near State Capitol Complex. Class admission free. Contact (405) 522-5248.

Trowel Marks

OAS President Debra Baker

The OAS is currently looking for a Publications Chairperson.

It is a very vital position for the OAS because they handle the circulation of all our published material. Christi Madden had to regretfully resign; however she has still been assisting us until we are able to find a replacement.

I want to give a big thank you to Christi for assisting us for this past year, in addition to helping us until we do find a replacement to fill her shoes.

If you are interested, or know someone that is interested, please let me know at baker1994@sbcglobal.net.

* * *

While we are on the subject of the OAS published material, I thought it would be nice information for the membership to know that we have moved into overdrive in trying to get the published material into electronic format.

Our lives seem to have entered into a world in which we order books digitally rather than bound. Therefore in order not to seem to old fashioned, we have decided to go digital.

This will not eliminate our bound publishings, but will enable the OAS to offer copies of publishings that we no longer have in print.

This project will not happen overnight and will take some time, but accessibility of our past publishings will be easier to obtain.

* * *

I want to give a special thank you to the Greater Southwest Chapter of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society in Lawton for stepping up to the plate in scanning



ning the publishing materials. The first set of publishings that will be integrated into digital format will be the OAS *Bulletins*. Others will follow as our scanning progresses.

* * *

The OAS will be having the Fall Dig dig Wednesday, Sept 19 through Sunday, Sept. 23 at Rose Hill Planta-

tion in Hugo.

Thank you again Amanda Regnier from the Oklahoma Archeological Survey and John Davis from the Oklahoma Historical Society for setting this up and allowing us to participate in this exciting excavation.

* * *

The OAS fall meeting has also been set for Saturday, Nov. 3 on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater.

The topic of the meeting will be "Digging the Civil War: Sesquicentennial Archeology." OSU will be flying in our keynote speaker, Dr. Steven Dasovich, from Missouri. I want to thank not only OSU, but Dr. Stephen Perkins in assisting the OAS in planning this exciting

event.

* * *

The OAS currently does not have a chapter in Stillwater and one of the major reasons we decided to hold a state meeting there was in the hopes that not only we get a chapter started, but we introduce the society to OSU and its surrounding community.

* * *

We have many exciting events planned for the remainder of this year and I am hoping that everyone will be able to participate in at least one of them.

I would also like to remind you that we do try to keep our OAS members informed by email about OAS chapter meetings and events that are going on in the state.

If you are a Chapter Representative please send us the information about your meetings in order to inform a member that could possibly be in the area at the time of that particular meeting.

OAS Membership Form

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

Note: For 2013 Memberships add \$5 if you want mailed copies of the quarterly OAS Newsletter Trowel Marks. All other newsletters will be emailed.

- () **Active** \$20 Includes the annual OAS Bulletin and quarterly Newsletter OAS Trowel Marks.
- () **Student** \$10 Same as Active, but limited to full-time students. Enclose copy of Student ID.
- () **Contributing** \$35 Includes annual OAS Bulletin, the quarterly OAS Newsletter Trowel Marks, and all *Memoirs* published by the Society during the subscription period.
- () **Sustaining** \$45 Includes the annual OAS Bulletin, the quarterly Newsletter Trowel Marks, 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.

OU's Bell Chair filled by Utah archeologist

(Continued from Page 1)

Anthropology at Utah State University in Logan, Utah. She also was director of both the anthropology program and the Museum of Anthropology.

At the University of Arizona she received her Ph.D. in 1999 and her M.A. in 1993. Her Bachelor's degree is from Carleton College, Northfield, MIN.

Her main research interests are high altitude foragers, especially Paleoindians of the Rocky Mountain area, and sourcing of stone tool materials.

She will be expanding her forager and Paleoindian research to include Oklahoma, Dr. Vehik said.

Dr. Pitblado's publications include two books, *Frontiers in Colorado Paleoindian Archaeology* and *Late Paleoindian Occupation of the Southern Rocky Mountains*. She has published extensively in *Current Research in the Pleistocene* and has articles in many other professional journals.

The most recent issue of *Archaeology* magazine has an interesting story on how she and others verified the authenticity of a ceramic figurine belonging to a Fremont culture figurine group in the Utah State University Museum of Anthropology, Dr. Vehik said.

Dr. Pitblado is passionate about involving both her students and community members in all of her archeological endeavors. Most of the Paleoindian sites she has documented she has learned about through "prehistoric road shows" that invited the public to share their artifact finds and their locations.

She also produces an annual color newsletter reporting her research expressly for members of the communities in which she works. She distributes 1,000 copies through direct mailings and by delivering stacks to libraries throughout her study areas, where people may pick up a copy to take home.

"She also strives to include talented avocational arche-



The Department of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma recently hired Bonnie Pitblado to fill the Robert E. and Virginia Bell Endowed Professorship in anthropological archeology.

ologists in all aspects of her fieldwork, often asking them to serve as mentors for the university students who are learning (often for the first time) how to survey and excavate," Dr. Vehik said.

When not excavating or searching for Paleoindian sites, she can either be found high above sea level climbing mountains or below sea level, scuba diving with sharks and eels.

Noble Museum names Mark Levine Assistant Curator

The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma have named Marc Levine Assistant Curator of Archaeology.

Dr. Levine will follow in the position formerly held by Don Wyckoff. Dr. Wyckoff retired from the museum and anthropology department a year ago.

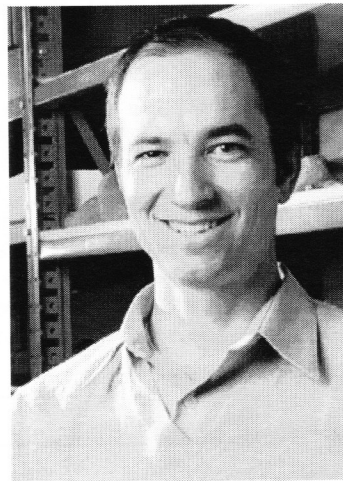
"Dr. Levine comes to us from the Department of Anthropology at the Denver

Museum of Nature and Science where he is an Assistant Curator of Mesoamerican Archaeology," said Prof. Susan Vehik, chairman of the OU anthropology department.

Because of an ongoing commitment to an exhibition, he will not assume his duties in Oklahoma until January 2013, she said.

Dr. Levine received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Colorado at Boulder. His Bachelor's degree is from the University of Michigan.

His research interests are in Mesoamerican and Southwest archeology, political economy, urbanism, household and community archeology, and museum an-



Mark Levine

thropology. Much of his research focuses on the Mixtec people of Oaxaca, Mexico.

His dissertation research focuses on the Late

Postclassic Mixtec capital of Tututepec, located on the coast of Oaxaca. There he directed archeological excavations of residences to examine household activities and how these articulate with aspects of the ancient center's political economy and lifeways.

His dissertation title is *Linking Household and Polity at Late Postclassic Yucu Dzaa (Tututepec), A Mixtec Capital on the Coast of Oaxaca, Mexico*.

His publications include articles in the journal *Ancient Mesoamerica* and *American Anthropologist*. He also has chapters in the book *Polity and Ecology in Formative Period Coastal Oaxaca*.

Ohio couple gives \$2 million to create endowed chair at OU

An Ohio couple with a longtime interest in Oklahoma's prehistory have made history themselves with the largest gift to the Department of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma.

In March Arnold and Wanda Coldiron of Aurora, Ohio, gave \$2 million to OU. Their contribution set up the first endowed faculty chair in the Department of Anthropology at the Norman school.

At the Coldiron's request, the Robert E. and Virginia Bell Endowed Chair in Anthropological Archaeology honors the memory and achieve-



Don Wyckoff

ments of the late eminent archeologist and anthropology professor and his wife.

Arnold Coldiron, a native of Blanchard and longtime member of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, traced the couple's interest in archeology to the Kay County Chapter.

As a young couple had just moved to Ponca City, the Coldirons became actively involved in the chapter and the Society. That provided a spark that ignited their lifelong interest in ar-

cheological field work in the state.

"We are happy to be able to make this gift to provide the recognition that Dr. Bell so richly deserved," Arnold Coldiron said in the announcement.

He earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering at OU in 1955 and master's degree in 1957. After military service, he began his professional career with Continental Oil Co. in Ponca City. Later he worked in Baltimore and various locations in Ohio. Today he owns Aurora Plastics Inc., an industrial plastics plant. Mrs. Coldiron is a former schoolteacher.

Susan Vehik, chairman of the OU Department of Anthropology, said the Coldirons' gift funds an additional faculty member who can focus on Southern Plains archeology.

"Archeology has the greatest number of undergraduate and graduate students in the department," Dr. Vehik said in the announcement. "This new position will help decrease the ratio of students to faculty, thus allowing faculty to help students more than is currently possible."

Through their work with OAS, the Coldirons began their friendship and association with Professor and Mrs. Bell and with OU archeologist Don Wyckoff.

Like his teacher and mentor, Dr. Wyckoff has long advocated positive working relationships and good communication between professional and avocational archeologists. Dr. Wyckoff recently retired as Curator of Archaeology at the



Arnold Coldiron

Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History on the OU campus. His 50-year career at OU started as a student. He became a colleague of Dr. Bell's and a David Ross Boyd Professor.

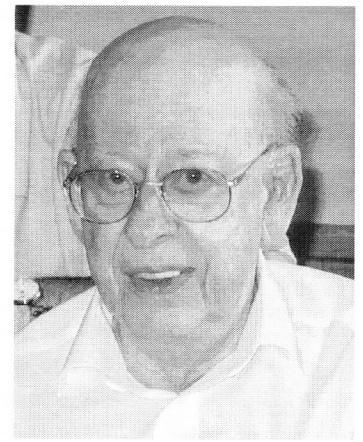
In addition



Wanda Coldiron

to their most recent contribution for the endowed chair and their work at various archaeological sites, the Coldirons are longtime supporters of Professor Wyckoff's research.

"They are wonderful supporters, providing both



Robert Bell

financial and moral support," Dr. Wyckoff said. "Arnold and Wanda have truly been a blessing to us."

Dr. Bell's career reaches back to undergraduate study at the University of New Mexico. He participated in archeological field work at Chaco Canyon, San Jon and Sandia Cave. He earned his doctorate from the University of Chicago. His doctoral research pioneered the technology of tree ring dating in the eastern United States.

After earning his doctoral degree in 1947, Dr. Bell joined the OU faculty. He spent his entire academic career there, retiring in 1980.

Prof. Bell played a key role in developing the OU Department of Anthropology and served for a time as its chairman. His interests spanned the prehistory of Wichita and Caddo people in Oklahoma, ancient hunter-gatherers in Ecuador, and the first archeological research in New Zealand.

He founded the Oklahoma Anthropological Society in 1952. In 1968 he helped establish the Oklahoma Archeological Survey housed at OU.

He died on Jan. 1, 2006, at the age of 91.

(Continued from Page 1)

War. It burned in 1911. After a brief occupation by squatters, the property was adopted by the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1941.

Touted as the state's only major cotton plantation of the antebellum period, the site has tourist potential. While there are no plans to

rebuild the two-story plantation house, what survives could help tell the story of a profitable enterprise maintained by over 100 slaves.

Jones offered his plantation as a refuge for the many displaced families of the Indian Nations during the Civil War. The two-story, fifteen-room mansion was finished in maple, walnut, and mahoga-

OAS Fall Dig

**Sept. 19-23,
2012**

**Site:
Antebellum
Rose Hill
Plantation
Hugo
Oklahoma**

**Information:
(405) 376-
0074**

ny woodwork, with furniture imported from Europe. The house also boasted imported crystal chandeliers in nearly every room. Excavators have made expected progress. The original goal was to find the outlines of the house, Dr. Regnier said.

"Now we want to focus on the outlying deposits that tell us about life on the plantation."

Volunteer excavators must be OAS members. Memberships are inexpensive and available at the dig site.

The event is open to the public.

Questions about the OAS Fall Dig can be directed to aregnier@ou.edu.



At a previous OAS dig, archeologist Scott Hammerstedt examines a corner foundation of the Jones plantation home. Behind him is the principal area of interest in 2012.

Places to stay during the OAS Fall Dig near Hugo

Motels

Holiday Motel
Hugo
580-326-6478

Hiway Inn Express
Hugo
580-326-5100

Old Johnson House B&B
Hugo
580-326-8111

Heritage Inn
Hugo
580-326-6437

Choctaw Casino and Resort
Grant
580-326-8500

RV Parks

Raymond Gary State Park:
RV sites, full hookups \$21
Seniors \$19
Tent sites with water and
electric \$14
580-873-2307

Frisco Depot RV park
Depot Museum, Hugo
30/50 amp sites full hookup
580-326-6630
or 580 743-6033

Hugo Lake State Park
Resort and primitive cabins
Hospitality House
Tent Camping
Marina & fishing
580-326-0303

New members

Oklahoma Anthropological Society
welcomes these new members in 2012:

Jerry and Shirley Barrett, Ada
Katie Brown, Oklahoma City
Sarah Brown, Norman
Diane Cargill, Louisville, CO
Mike Cupp, Colony, Texas
Bob Dalton, Sallisaw
David Denton, Mustang
Lisa Eisele, Ponca City
Marshall Gettys, Norman
Brent Greenwood, Edmond
Matthew Griffin, Indianoma
Linda Hayden, Sallisaw
Alisa Hines, Perkins
Ryan Howell, Tulsa
Susan Howell, Manitow

Institute of the Great Plains, Lawton
Mary Catherine Kluth, Norman
Ko Dongyeun, Stillwater
Kile Kuykendall, Moore
Mark Mann, Clinton
John McCaroll, Edmond
Louisa Nash, Tuttle
Emma Prophet, Fletcher
Lauren Riepl, Oklahoma City
Erick Robinson, Grove
Mary Arden Runyan, Tahlequah
John Samuelsen, Fayetteville, AR
Edna Solitario, Lawton
Alyxandra Stanco, Broken Arrow
Kevin Stump, Stillwater
Marlin Swofford, Shawnee
Bonnie Templin, Warr Acres
Vanay and Amanda Thottunkal, Norman
Charles Verspille, Van Buren, AR
Stewart Younger-Mertz, Lawton

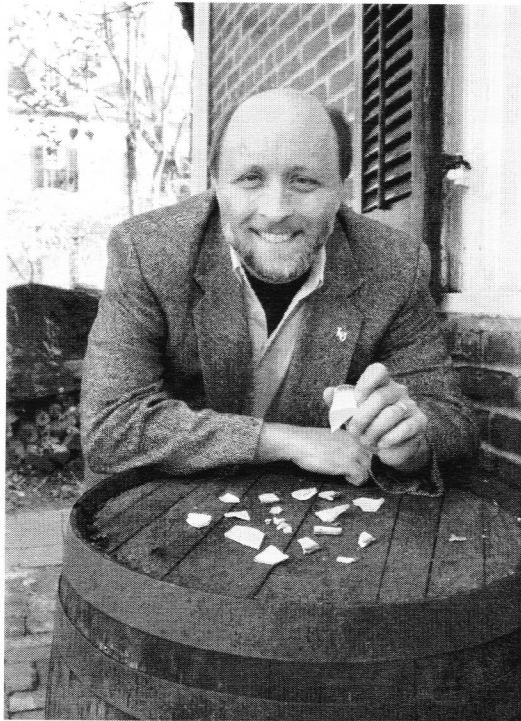
Keynote speaker to address archeology research methods tested on Civil War battlefields

Knowing what a landscape looks like today and what it looked like 150 years ago can make a big difference in battlefield archeology.

And there's a computer program for that, said Steve Dasovich, keynote speaker at the upcoming Oklahoma Anthropological Society Fall Meeting in Stillwater.

Dr. Dasovich will explore his use of evolving research methods at the Nov. 3 meeting. His talk is titled "Searching For Forgotten Battles: Recent Archeological Surveys of Missouri's Civil War Battlefields."

The Nov. 3 all-day session will introduce four speakers on the theme "Dig-



Missouri archeologist Steve Dasovich sees battlefields as the combatants saw them, a technology made available by computer.

ging the Civil War: Sesquicentennial Archeology."

Contacted at his office at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO, Dr. Daso-

vich said he turned to the Viewshed computer program to help him envision battlefields of 150 years ago.

By definition, viewsheds survey an area visible from a specific location. To that end Dr. Dasovich and archeologist Douglas Scott analyzed the Missouri Civil War battlefields of Boonville and Centralia.

"In both of those battles, it allowed us to link historical source material to archeological finds," Dr. Dasovich said. "It was an important aspect of our work."

The approach modifies visio-graphic features like trees, hills and buildings that might block the landscape as it once appeared.

In his talk Dr. Dasovich will link experimental archeology to a broader method-

ology in archeology in other situations, he said.

In the case of viewsheds, sometimes it's useful but not always.

"It depends on where you are. Certainly, towns are useful, but in rural areas away from town, things do not change that much," he said.

The keynote speak-

OAS Fall Meeting

Nov. 3
2012

Murray
Building
Oklahoma
State
University
Stillwater

Information:
(405) 376-
0074

Rose Hill Lab Dates

Friday Aug. 24

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Washing artifacts

Saturday Aug. 25

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Artifact analysis

Oklahoma Archeological Survey

OU South Campus
Norman

Excavation and lab work

provides credit toward
OAS historical
archeological
certification

For lab information
contact
Amanda Regnier
aregnier@ou.edu

Remains

A Poem by David Mason
First appeared in Light Quarterly
(With thanks to Connie Masters)

Nothing's perfect. The archeologist
who finds my bones cannot articulate
a poet out of ribs
uplifted like a broken apple crate.
How could he know (or she) these molars felt,
and are the sole remains of all my speech?
If reading them gives joy
to future students when I'm out of reach
and all my books lie under miles of landfill
at least some part of me is being read.
Poets can't be choosers,
after all, and I'll be safely dead.

er is an assistant professor and chair of the Anthropology and Sociology department at Lindenwood. He directs the archeological research program there.

He is a former director of a cultural resource management division of SCI Engineering Inc., a regional firm. In that capacity he directed projects in 13 states.

He is on the board of directors of Missouri's Civil War Heritage Foundation and the American Institute for Battlefield Archaeology.

OAS Memoir No. 16 republishes hard-to-find Spiro area research

Those interested in the pre-Columbian Fort Coffee-Spiro region now have access to hard-to-find research, archeologist Scott Hammerstedt said.

A joint effort by the Oklahoma Archeological Survey and Oklahoma Anthropological Society has reproduced Charles Rohrbaugh's 1982 doctoral thesis "Spiro and Fort Coffee Phases: Changing Cultural Complexes of the Caddoan Area."

"Although it is 30 years old, the original is hard to come by," said Dr. Hammerstedt. "It should be of value to researchers."

The Memoir is a standard 8.5 x 11 inches and contains 265 pages.

As usual, copies automatically go to OAS Contributing, Sustaining, Institutional and Life Members. Printed copies also are available at \$25 each plus \$5 S&H from Oklahoma Anthropological Society (OAS), 11550 Bartons Butte Road, Mustang OK 73064.

Dr. Hammerstedt, the OAS Memoir Editor, is a member of the research faculty at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma, Norman. The manuscript is a reprint of Dr. Rohrbaugh's dissertation at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Rohrbaugh, a Norman native, remains active today as an archeological consultant in Normal, Ill.

"While the dating and interpretations of the Spiro site itself have changed somewhat ... Dr. Rohrbaugh's work remains a definitive statement on the archeology of the Fort Coffee region in east-central Oklahoma," Dr. Hammerstedt said in his Editor's Note.

"In particular, the exhaustive site and artifact summaries presented in the appendices are an invaluable

resource. Despite its importance, the original volume is difficult to find, hence the decision to reissue it here."

According to Dr. Rohrbaugh's Abstract, the manuscript describes material from 15 Mississippi culture sites in the vicinity of the Spiro Mound Group. Most of the material, previously classified as representative of a Fort Coffee focus, is shown to be the result of the social system responsible for the elaborate burials of Craig Mound at Spiro.

Fourteen dates on wood show that a two-center-post rectangular house appeared at the beginning of the Spiro phase, about A.D. 1250, and lasted through the end of the phase at about A.D. 1450.

Eleven dates from the Edgar Moore Cemetery demonstrate that the burial ground and similar pre-Columbian

cemeteries in the area are contemporary with the Spiro phase at Spiro. Complex organization of the burials indicates social stratification.

A few components represent a post-Spiro occupation during the Fort Coffee phase, beginning at about A.D. 1450 and lasting until the abandonment of the Arkansas River region late in the 16th century A.D. The two-center-post rectangular house continued in use through the phase.

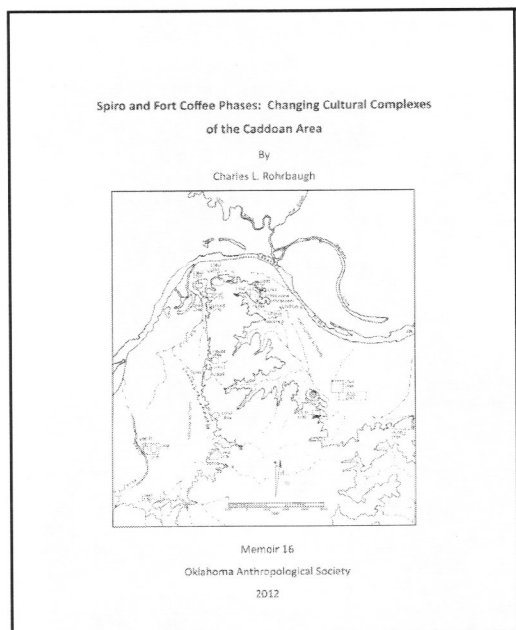
"The simple organization of Fort Coffee phase cemeteries demonstrates the trend of disintegration of Caddoan tradition social systems which eventually led to the abandonment of the area and the absorption of its peoples into reformulated traditions of the southern Prairie/Plains," Dr. Rohrbaugh said in his Abstract.

The analysis shows considerable change in proportions of various ceramic vessel forms through time.

"This is accompanied by the introduction of a number of new artifact categories which represent increased interaction with peoples of Red River Valley Caddoan traditions and by the loss of artifact categories which represent interaction with peoples of the Mississippi Valley."

Appendices present descriptions of the various contexts at the sites, houses, burials and refuse-filled pits, with their contents; descriptions of ceramics and other artifacts; a large faunal assemblage from Fort Coffee phase refuse-filled pits at the Moore site; and regional flora.

Dr. Hammerstedt can be reached at swh@ou.edu.



Although 30 years old, the original manuscript is hard to come by. It should be of value to researchers.

Time to renew

Soon it will be October and time to renew membership in the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

Many people think in terms of the New Year, or even spring, when it comes to renewal. The OAS founders chose autumn.

Fall is a great time for meetings and, of course, the OAS Digs and Surveys. Instead of reflection or resolutions, it's time to help discover and recover.

You can do that by filling out the Membership Form in this Newsletter. Send it along with your check and it's done for another year.

An OAS year at that.

An update on the geophysical survey at Spiro Mounds

By Scott W. Hammerstedt
Oklahoma Archeological Survey

Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is in Le Flore County just south of the Arkansas River, about 15 miles west of Fort Smith, Ark. Today the site, named for the nearby town, consists of a burial mound, two platform mounds, at least eight house mounds, and at least four small midden (or trash) mounds. Spiro was the largest, and probably most influential, mound site in the three-state Arkansas River drainage of Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri. It is best known for the spectacular artifacts found within the Great Mortuary in the Craig Mound (the burial mound). These include engraved marine shells, copper, textiles, pottery, shell beads, wooden masks, cedar litters, and effigy pipes. Some of these artifacts came from as far away as the Gulf Coast, Great Lakes, Mississippi Valley, and California. Spiro is also Oklahoma's only archeological park, encompassing 33 hectares (82 acres).

Thanks to the work of a number of scholars (particularly archeologist James Brown) over the past 70 years, we know quite a bit about the Great Mortuary despite considerable damage done by looters in the 1930s. Artifacts found within the burial mound continue to inform and refine our understanding of Southeastern ceremonial practices and iconography. However, even with limited excavations in off-mound areas by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) crews associated with the University of Oklahoma in the 1930s and by the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in the 1970s and early 1980s, we know very little about the nature and extent of non-mound habitation at Spiro.

Between October 2011 and May 2012, researchers from the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma Department of Anthropology, and Arkansas Archeological Survey conducted a near-surface geophysical survey at Spiro. They spent four weeks, the first stage of a collaborative, multi-disciplinary project aimed at understanding the internal organization of this important archeological park.

Geophysical surveys have become increasingly popular in North American archeology, in part because they allow for more thorough coverage of parcels of land. They let archeologists see beneath the soil, then plan excavations accordingly. The price of some of the equipment is occasionally within reach of our often meager budgets. To date we have surveyed 22 hectares (54 acres) at Spiro. That covers most of the site not blanketed in trees, steeply sloped mounds, or both. We

have also mapped much of Spiro to within 1 cm accuracy with a robotic total station.

All 22 hectares were surveyed with gradiometers (Bartington Grad-601 and Geoscan FM256). A gradiometer detects magnetic variations in soil that can indicate cultural features such as pits, structures, and the like. Gradiometers are often an ideal choice. They collect data relatively quickly. Unfortunately, they also are very sensitive to the presence of metal.

Since there were a number of historic structures at Spiro as recently as the 1940s, and fragments of farming equipment are strewn about the site, we experienced survey problems in some areas. Fortunately, most of the site is relatively metal-free.

A much smaller fraction of the site was surveyed with electrical resistance, ground-penetrating radar (GPR), conductivity, and magnetic susceptibility. For the most part, these methods were restricted to areas where the gradiometer data indicated probable cultural features. Resistance and GPR probes

are not sensitive to metal. Future work will make use of these machines to refine the gradiometer data in areas of historic disturbance. Conductivity and magnetic susceptibility measure slightly different soil properties and will be used to complement the gradiometer data.

Since the field work is incomplete at this early stage of the project, we cannot say much about our results. We can report with certainty that there are quite a few cultural features, including what appear to be numerous buildings. In several areas, we have also located what appear to be old excavation trenches. We can also say that while operating a gradiometer through calf-deep water in March may raise questions about our sanity, the results appear to be worth it. Stay tuned for more as the survey continues!

We would like to thank the Army Corps of Engineers-Tulsa District, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, and the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes for their ongoing support of our work.

Dr. Hammerstedt is a member of the research faculty at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma, Norman.



The Spiro Mounds survey crew in May 2012. From left, Scott Hammerstedt, Amanda Regnier, Patrick Livingood, Jami Lockhart, George Sabo, David Halperin, Erin Phillips and John Samuelson.

The rise and fall of Spiro Mounds

Spiro Mounds is a pre-Columbian Caddoan Mississippian archeological site. It has been a place of human activity for thousands of years.

In historic times it was the western-most known outpost of the Mississippians who spread along the lower Mississippi River and its tributaries between the 9th century and 16th century CE.

From June 1936 until October 1941, University of Oklahoma archeologists oversaw a Works Progress Administration (WPA) excavation of Spiro Mounds. The Oklahoma Historical Society established the Spiro Mounds Archeological Center in 1978.

While Spiro is no match for the large, powerful town of Cahokia near modern St. Louis, MO, it is famous for the wealth accumulated by, and buried with, its leaders. The treasure is credited to Spiro's strategic position as a trading center between the Mississippian world to the east and the Great Plains to the west. The mounds' ceremonial objects are said to be among the finest examples of pre-Columbian art in North America.

Whatever led to its eminence, Spiro is thought to have had enormous economic and ritual importance.

Other Mississippian centers also traded in prized resources. Using valued materials, Indian artists created finely crafted works reflecting their cultural identity and complex spiritual beliefs.



Spiro's Birdman Effigy

Craig Mound has been called "an American King Tut's Tomb." The principal feature was actually four connected mounds, a large cone-shaped one and three smaller ones. No other Mississippian mound has been found with a major hollow space inside it and with such spectacular preservation of artifacts. Grave 145 in Craig Mound had almost 14,000 beads made from dwarf olive shells from the Gulf of California.

One of the most prominent symbols at Spiro is the Birdman, a winged human figure representing a warrior or

chunkey player. Chunkey was a game played in the Mississippian period, but also in historic times by Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and other Southeastern tribes.

Men played chunkey by rolling a stone disk for a considerable distance and then hitting spears as close as they could to the point where the stone stopped. The players placed heavy bets on the game.

Archeologists found a conch shell cup from Craig Mound with a black residue in the bottom. The discovery suggests that Spiroans may have practiced the Black Drink Ceremony, a purification ritual performed in historic times by Southeastern tribes.

Participants drank Yaupon Holly tea from conch shell cups. The ceremony was performed only by men for spiritual cleansing and renewal. They often imbibed until they vomited the caffeine-rich brew.

After Spiro's demise in the mid-15th century, the residents may have migrated southeast into the nearby Ouachita Mountains. However, the ethnic/linguistic identity of the Spiroans is debated.

Most authorities agree that the people of Spiro were Caddoan, but in fact their descendants in historic times are difficult to identify. Four possibilities have been advanced: the Spiroans are ancestors of the Caddo, Wichita, Kitsai, and Tunica.

However, the cultures of all these peoples, encountered by the Spanish and French in the 16th and 17th centuries, were substantially different from that of Spiro.

The question of ethnic/linguistic identity remains unresolved.

-- From *Texas Beyond History, Oklahoma Archeological Survey, et al.*

OAS Board plans transition to digital publication

It's time to move toward all-electronic publications, Oklahoma Anthropological Society Board members agreed at the summer meeting.

More is involved than a global trend or saving trees and printing costs, said President Debra Baker at the July 21 session. Digital publication delivers information in seconds instead of the weeks it takes to print and mail.

As much as 80 percent of the public is digitally connected, said Bob Brooks,

Oklahoma State Archeologist and OAS Bulletin Editor.

About 50 OAS members already receive *Trowel Marks* Newsletter in a digital format, per their request. If they want a hard-copy version, they use computer printers.

The Board decided to approach an all-digital format in phases, starting with *Trowel Marks* newsletter.

As of July 1, 2012, new members receive a digital version of the newsletter.

As of Jan. 1, 2014, all members will receive a digital version of the newsletter. Basic membership sub-

scription remains \$20.

There will be two exceptions: OAS Institutional Members who continue to show a preference for printed versions and OAS members willing to pay an extra membership fee of \$5 a year for a hard copy version of the newsletter for a \$25 total.

In the future the annual *OAS Bulletin* may become digital, the Board said. However, there are no plans to change *OAS Memoirs* to a digital format.

Other topics at the 1:30 p.m. meeting at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey office in Norman:

-- Membership Chairman Dot Linn reported membership falling to 308, with 59 members non-renewing since January. Of those non-renewing, 5 are institutional.

-- A new Publications Chairman is needed as is a different storage place. The unit in Bethany no longer provides climate control and vermin-free conditions.

-- Immediate Past-President Charles Cheatham suggested a chapter approach to publications work. With the Lawton Chapter handling digital copying of OAS publications, the Cen-
(Continued next page)

Indians, pioneers alike prized Oklahoma's native grasses

By Neil Garrison

Oklahomans have always had a deep-seated fascination with plants.

In the distant past, plants were prized as a means of sustenance. However, even in our modern day of silicon computer chips and space travel, plants have not released the hold they have on people who love these ancient life forms.

Let's look deeper into Oklahoma's native grasses.

We've got an official state what?

Most everybody realizes that we've got a state tree, the redbud; a state bird, the scissor-tailed flycatcher; and a state grass.

Whoa! Did you say a state grass?

Yes! Indian grass is our official state grass. It is one of the dominant components of the prairie and a striking example of Oklahoma's natural assets.

The grass is a beautiful thing with a seed that resembles a feather plume that might well grace an Indian's headband.

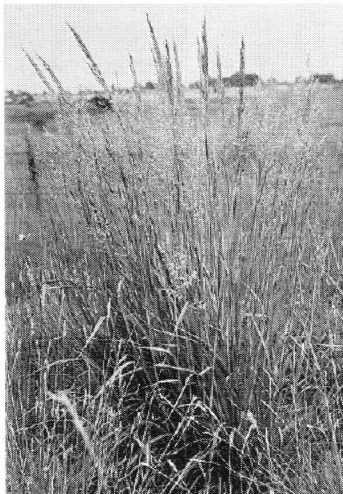
Having a legislatively-approved grass is a confirmation that even today, Oklahomans revere our state's native grasses.

Grass as a weapon

Just to the west of the Oklahoma-Texas line is a historical spot called Adobe Walls. Today reduced to rubble, it was long used as a post for commercial exchanges between the region's Indian and white traders.

It was not always so.

The Texas canyon country was an ideal spot for buffalo. In the early 1800s, the Comanche relocated to hunting grounds there. Frontiersman Kit Carson, leading



Indian grass is readily identified by its tall – more than 5 feet – stem and golden-plumed seed head. (Noble Foundation Photo)

Pioneer plants

a unit of the U.S. Army on a punitive mission, spotted the Indian camp. Thinking it was a small assemblage they could easily trounce, they made a very imprudent move. They charged.

Thus began the first battle of Adobe Walls.

The warriors didn't cotton to this threat to their small children, wives and elderly parents. Carson should have done better reconnaissance that day. One can only suppose that U.S. military arrogance was in full sway.

The soldiers rode hell-bent-for-leather toward the Native American camp. The calamitous result was that Kit Carson stirred up an angry hornets' nest.

When the soldiers realized their error and attempted to disengage, they had a very difficult time accomplishing that feat.

The Cavalry tried to form a defensive square. Then their canny adversaries set fire to the grasslands. The sheet of flames forced the Army into a hasty skedaddle. It's a small wonder that Kit Carson and his military buddies weren't annihilated.

print OAS Memoir No. 16.

-- Archeologist Amanda Regnier set the OAS Fall Dig for Wednesday-Sunday, Sept. 19-23, at Rose Hill Plantation near Hugo.

-- Archeologist Stephen Perkins and Program Chairman Jon Denton said plans for the OAS Fall Meet-

ing are going well. The Board allocated funds to support the Nov. 3 session on Civil War archeology in the region.

(For a full version of the July 21, 2012 minutes of the OAS Board Meeting, check the OAS Website. Minutes are posted after they are approved).

Red buffalo

The Indians were not passive inhabitants of the Great Plains. They used fire as a management tool. They purposely set fire to the landscape, instantly bringing a flush of life-giving nutrients to the grassland.

The blackened surface of the soil would capture more of the sun's energy and hasten the warming of the earth in the sunny days of early spring. This strongly influenced the movement of grass-chomping creatures such as bison.

The positive effects of scorching the native landscape led the Indians to refer to grassland fires as the "red buffalo."

All tied up in a knot

If you were an pioneer crossing the Great Plains, you'd be hard-pressed to find enough wood to feed an evening's campfire. But you would come across grass ... and lots of it.

Dried grass could be twisted and tied into a knot. These tufts burned fast, but they would suffice to heat an evening's meal.

Of course, dried bison dung would also serve handily as a campfire fuel, and bison poop is nothing much more than processed leaves of grass.

A skep

In the preceding issue of *Trowel Marks* Newsletter, mention was made of the archeological evidence found at the Bryson-Paddock dig site – the long-ago presence of large, grass-covered homes of the Wichita people.

These houses were described as "beehive-shaped." Yet another name for these dome-shaped beehives is a "skep."

The grass-covered dome houses of the Wichita may suggest an old adage: "If life hands you lemons ... make lemonade."

Native Americans in other parts of the country fashioned houses of stacked rocks where stone was abundant. Those Indians in forested areas made homes of wood.

The Indians who inhabited the Southern Plains had an abundance of grass ... so they used that to their advantage and made homes of the stuff.

Board plans transition

(Continued from Page 10) tral Chapter might handle the storage unit and its contents.

-- OAS lab dates are set for Aug. 24 and 25 at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey office in Norman.

-- President Baker said Memoir Editor Scott Hammerstedt is preparing to

Oklahoma archeology in the news

OU among dig sponsors of Galilean synagogue

The University of Oklahoma is among sponsors of excavations unearthing an ancient synagogue in Galilee, Israel.

The structure reveals monumental architecture and part of a finely crafted floor mosaic depicting a biblical scene, according to *Popular Archaeology*.

In a July 3 article, the publication dated the remains to the late Roman period of 4th-5th centuries CE. The synagogue has an artfully designed scene from the stories of Samson in the Book of Judges of the Hebrew Bible.

"This discovery is significant," said Jodi Magness, an archeologist from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "Only a small number of ancient Roman synagogue buildings are decorated with mosaics showing biblical scenes, and only two others have scenes with Samson."

Also listed as dig sponsors are the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Brigham Young University, Trinity University in Texas, and the University of Toronto in Canada.

The mosaic is composed of small colored stone cubes. It depicts a scene in Judges Chapter 15 where Samson attaches torches to the tails of foxes.

According to the Bible, Samson caught 300 wild foxes, tied burning torches to their tails and made them run through the corn fields of the Philistines.

The archeologists plan to return to the site next year to uncover more of the synagogue.

* * *

Historic state forts, battlefields honored

Programs honoring historic forts and battlefields are held each year in Oklahoma. Archeologists help document what happened in many of those sites.

In the June 24 edition of *The Oklahoman*, writer Max Nichols, summa-

rized memorials at several sites. The Oklahoma Historical Society columnist pointed out Fort Gibson, Fort Towson, Fort Washita and Fort Supply. They are maintained, along with Honey Springs and Cabin Creek Battlefields,



The University of Oklahoma is among sponsors of a Galilee excavation that found an unusual Samson mosaic in a synagogue.

by the Historical Society.

The writer quoted Executive Director Bob Blackburn: "Oklahoma in the first half of the 19th century was both a frontier and a crossroads, where cultures and countries often resorted to military actions to resolve their differences ... Visiting the historic forts of Oklahoma provides an opportunity to learn more about that frontier history."

Cabin Creek and Honey Springs battlefields are among 107 documented hostile encounters in Indian Territory during the Civil War.

Honey Springs was the largest battle in Indian Territory – a conflict involving about 9,000 soldiers. On July 17, 1863, Cherokee and Creek regiments fought on both sides along with soldiers from Texas, Wisconsin and Kansas. The 1st Kansas Colored Volunteers fought for the Union.

The Honey Springs Battlefield Historic Site holds a memorial service each July on the Saturday closest to the July 17 battle date, said Bob Rea, Historic Sites Department director for the Historical Society.

This year the July 14 service included a groundbreaking ceremony for a new visitors' center.

* * *

Rerouted pipeline to bypass Oklahoma archeological sites

Archeologists have cleared the way for the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline through Oklahoma on its way from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

In a March 26 story in *The Oklahoman*, the director of the Oklahoma Historical Society

disputed claims that the line will destroy dozens of the state's archeological sites and historical structures.

Historian Bob Blackburn said comments by Fannie Bates, a member of the Coalition Against Keystone XL Pipeline, were in error. She said the pipeline will damage or destroy nearly 100 historical buildings and sites in Oklahoma as well as countless tribal graveyards.

"There are no cemeteries being affected," Blackburn said in the story. "There are no archeological sites that are eligible for the National Register (of Historic Places)."

Bates said she got the information from the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, but Robert Brooks, state archeologist, said she is mistaken.

"I spoke with this lady, but I never conveyed any numbers to her whatsoever and certainly did not state anything about any sites being destroyed," Dr. Brooks said in the story.

"The important sites — the pipeline is routing around those," he said. "Nothing of significance is being lost nor any cemeteries being disturbed by this."

TransCanada wants to build a pipeline to carry tar sands oil from western Canada to refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Blackburn said inspection of the proposed route "... looked into every foot of it. We found seven sites that could have been affected by the original routing."

The pipeline company rerouted the line on six of the sites, Blackburn said. The seventh site was an Works Progress Administration drainage ditch, one of many in the state. The loss of the drainage ditch would not equal the cost of rerouting the pipeline, he said.

Odyssey takes Guido to Corinth where A postle Paul turned things upside down

Editor's Note: In this series on archeology travel, OAS member and veteran adventurer Guy Folger, McAlester, continues his story on an extended visit to Greece.

The next stop on our trek through Greece was the Archaeological Museum in Chora. It houses artifacts found in the nearby ruins of the 13th-century BC palace of Mycenaean King Nestor. Not a whole lot of the palace remains, but you can find ample tomb artifacts from royalty and commoners.

Back on the main road, we headed to Petrokhorion for a two-day stay at Hotel Navarone. After checking in, we found a local taverna for our evening meal. Since we'd had a bit of hiking and a lot of traveling ahead, we decided on getting early to bed.

The next day we set out for the awesome Methoni Castle. The fortress, built by the Venetians in the 13th century, juts into the Ionian Sea. Water laps on three sides, leaving a now-dry moat on the fourth side.

Inside the castle are the remains of houses, a Turkish bath, underground passages and St. Sophia, a Byzantine church.

We traveled on to Iklaina and a dig site I discovered on the Internet while planning this, my Greek Odyssey. Under direction of the University of Missouri, the site appears to be from the Late Bronze Age (about 1600-1100 BC), also known as the Mycenaean period.

But more on that later.

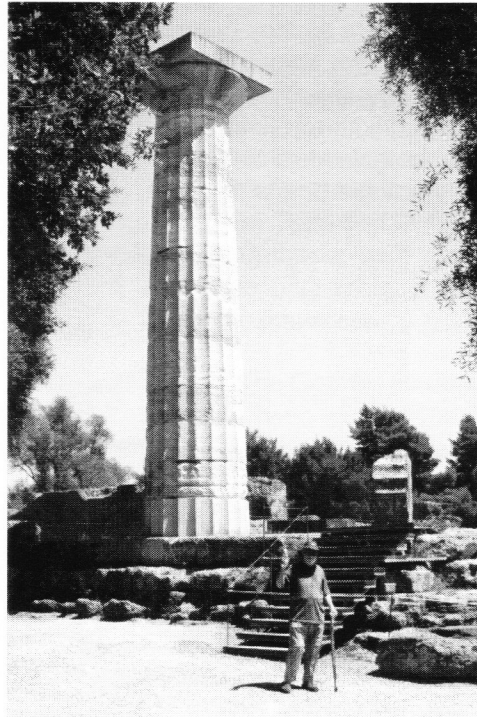
Leaving Iklaina, we headed for Argos which reached its zenith in the 7th century B.C. Unfortunately, modern Argos is built on top of the ancient city so not a lot remains to be seen of archeology.

Well, there is the rather steep, 20,000-seat theater. Remember my mention earlier of the Greek habit of a long afternoon break? In those circumstances we arrived to find locked gates, so we had to view the theater from the street. Win some, lose some. That's travel any place you go.

Our next stop was the enchanting city of Nafplio (or Nafplion) with its neoclassical buildings and imposing citadels. Two hilltop fortresses involved rather stiff climbs, with the Palaimidi boasting 999 steps: My new knee decided not to test them.

Another hilltop fortification, the Acronafplia, is supposedly a less-strenuous, 15-20 minute stroll, once again, my knee chose not to get involved. A third fortress, the Bourtzi, is smaller and more accessible, located on an island in Nafplio Harbor.

Noted English travel writer, novelist, poet, biographer and literary critic Robert Liddell once said, "Mycenae is one of the most ancient and



Guido, cane in hand, stands outside the Zeus Temple in Olympia.

fabulous places in Europe." Taking his hint, we next headed there. After all, the period of Greek history from about 1600-1100 B.C. is not called Mycenaean for nothing.

Mycenae, if you may recall, is not only where I walked in the footsteps of the greats, but also slept where greats have slept. It is where our hero, Heinrich Schliemann, on finding a human skull underneath a gold death mask, said, "I have gazed upon the face of Agamemnon."

The archeological site, its museum and, of course, the La Belle Helene Hotel, are all must-see attractions.

On the morrow, after our trompe-de-limp at Mycenae, we set our GPS for Epidaurus (or Epidavros). I had been looking forward to Epidaurus ever since not making the climb to the theater at Delphi and being locked out of the theater in Argos.

The theater at Epidaurus boasts a 14,000-seat capacity, perfect acoustics and is still used today. Built in the fourth century B.C., it has 55 rows of seats. The first 34 rows, which I clamored over, are

absolutely all original. Once again, I add to my list: I sit where the greats have sat.

Continuing in their footsteps, we next visited Corinth (or Korinthos) as did, in about 51-52 A.D., the Apostle Paul. According to one story, During Paul's time in Corinth the city was home to about 300,000 citizens and 500,000 slaves. Talk about being upside down ... and fertile ground for a spiritual revolution.

Ancient Corinth has a lot to see and explore – most notably the Temple of Apollo, the Agora or marketplace, the Fountain of Peirene, and the Bema or platform where Paul was accused of sacrilege.

From Corinth, we traveled to Athens for what was supposed to be my last few days in Greece. Upon reaching the ancient city, though, we were met with street blockade after street blockade. Finally, inquiring minds learned riots were shaking Athens. Indeed, we couldn't even get to our hotel.

We ended up backtracking from Athens. At one point I counted 75 motorcycle police headed into the heart of the city. From what we later saw on TV, it was a good thing that we did digress.

Eventually we chose Corinth for a parting look at Greece.

Our last day just happened to be some sort of St. Paul feast day. The city became inundated with Greek Orthodox priests including, I heard, the Archbishop.

Greece. What beauty, history and adventure. As with any great trip, there are many more places there I want to see.

Next issue: Guido visits digs in the land of the ancients.

The Spanish Entrada

By Seth Hawkins

(First of a two-part series on the early history of the area of the Longest archeological site on the Red River).

The sun, drenching the hazy, steel blue sky, shone down on the party of horse mounted travelers as they trudged across the barren plain, led by a lone captive known as "the Turk."

Now into the second month of their journey, leaving behind what little civilization there was in the New Mexican wilderness, the heat of that clear spring day brought beads of sweat trickling down bodies entombed in helmet and chain mail.

As the dust clouded their eyes, they gazed at the only vista to be seen in any direction: a featureless, unbroken horizon, punctuated by dagger-like spikes of yucca, festooned in pale white blossoms and pointed menacingly skyward.

The year was 1541, and the destination of this endlessly plodding party was the golden city of Gran Quivira, which lay, according to their guide, somewhere to the north and east. So onward they trekked, day after relentless day, their vision fixed on the horizon, hoping that on the next distant rise as they lifted themselves from their saddles, their necks craned, they would at last view that shimmering city of gold.

Thus a new era of history began. That area of the Southern Plains and the adjacent woodlands bordering its eastern fringe experienced an enormous amount of activity initiated by the empire-building monarchs of Europe.

The principle actors on this part of the continental stage were France and Spain, both dedicated to the expulsion of the other from this huge track of real estate.

Yet each had their own conflicting perception of the land they claimed in the name of their sovereign. Each dealt with the native inhabitants in radically different ways, leaving behind diverse legacies for their successors to build upon. Thus we inherit a land and history influenced by both conquistador and coureurs de bois.

The Caddoan-speaking people witnessed the arrival. The Spanish empire was at their borders in the guise of conquistadors. Coronado approached from the west, with Onate following in his wake half a century later. De Soto approached from the east. The Spanish legacy would remain intact for centuries in the Southwest.

Meanwhile, up and down the Mississippi River, a new empire builder appeared. France quickly cemented strong ties through trade and blood with the natives of the southern woodlands and plains.

In 1719, the official French vanguard, Claude Charles du Tisné, ventured down the "Father of Waters" to penetrate the Arkansas drainage from the northeast. Explorer

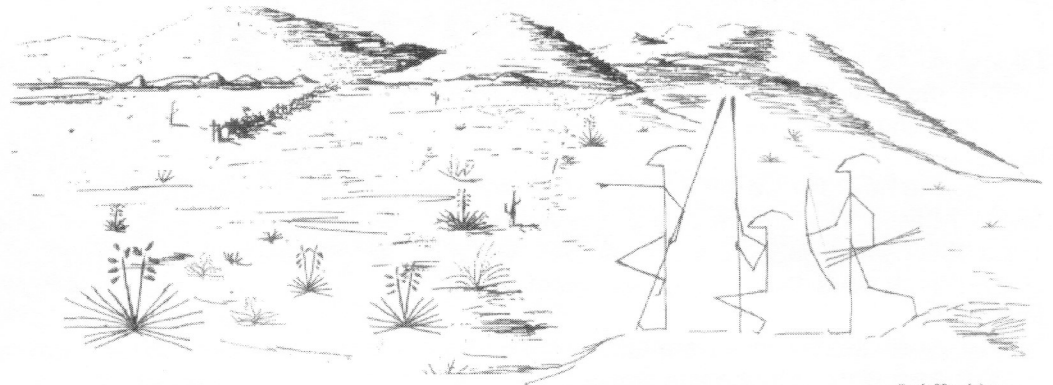
Jean Baptiste Bénard de La Harpe made his way up the Arkansas, reconnoitering the region. Each recorded the details of their contacts with the native Caddoan-speaking peoples.

From the time of the Great Bend Aspect sites and the early Quivirans, and their brief encounter with the Spanish Entrada, the life of these northern Caddoan-speakers would be an irreversible process of change.

With the long arm of French trade extending up the Arkansas River to deal with the Wichita at the Deer Creek site, the influence of European material culture would quickly take hold.

However, rising harassment of the expanding Osage during the first half of the 18th century drove the Wichita to the south, en masse.

The Indians took their French trading partners with



Seth Hawkins

them to more secure and convenient locations along the Red River. Two towns in particular became important in this French sphere of influence. They would become known as the twin villages of San Teodoro and San Bernardo.

San Bernardo, thought to be located on the north bank of the Red River and later identified as the Longest archeological site, was the scene of tumultuous events involving the Spanish. Those confrontations traced their genesis to the central plains of Texas.

Spain's tenuous, grasping fingers stubbornly clung to every parcel of sage, cactus, and buffalo grass on the distant frontier of New Spain. Yet Spanish control over her ephemeral northern borders existed more in theory than in fact.

A faint glimmer of the imperial presence flickered near the long series of cliffs of the Balcones Escarpment in Texas. In the year 1718, the Spanish established San Antonio de Bexar as a mission of Brown Robes to bring civilization to the Lipan Apache.

However, incessant warfare made the task impossible until a truce was arranged. Finally an agreement to build a presidio mission on the San Saba River, flowing eastward across the Central Texas plateau and emptying into the Colorado River, was concluded.

It arrived, but at a big price.

(Next issue: Spain dispatches more soldiers and missions to Apacheria).

-- OAS member Seth Hawkins, *Weatherford*, is a historian and illustrator with an avid interest in tribes of the Southwest.

Reviews

Jon Denton
Reviews Editor

**Life at the Kiowa, Comanche, and Wichita Agency:
The Photographs of Annette Ross Hume**
By Kristina L. Southwell and John R. Lovett
University of Oklahoma Press 2010
Notes, bibliography, index, 186 illus., 256 pages, \$34.95
ISBN 978-0-8061-4138-1

Review by Jim D. Feagins

As a young wife, Annette Ross Hume accompanied her husband, Dr. Charles Robinson Hume, to Indian Territory in 1890.

At that time, her husband became the physician for the Kiowa, Comanche and Wichita Agency. The clinic settled in the frontier village of Anadarko, soon to flourish as a major city in southwest Oklahoma.

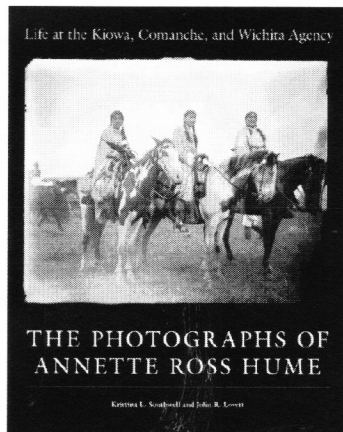
Annette quickly learned to use her newly obtained camera. She grew into a remarkable pioneer woman photographer, developing hundreds of glass photographic plates of the numerous sights she observed while at the agency.

In short order most of each reservation was divided and became available for non-Indians to purchase. Annette recorded with photographs the changing ways of the various tribes — Kiowa, Comanche, and Wichita — as they faced the onslaught of settlers.

From the first time she obtained a camera, she loved to take photographs. But she had to learn the art of photography and the science of developing the glass plates on her own.

Her skills improved with time. She was at the right place to record a prolific amount of black and white images that today are most useful to historians and anthropologists.

The core of her photographs was taken from 1898 to 1902. In 1927, University of Oklahoma historian



Edward Everett Dale, on behalf of the university, bought Hume's original glass plates for the school's new Western History Collections. Since then the Hume collection has been a research favorite.

In "Life of the Kiowa, Comanche and Wichita Agency," archeologists and others interested in material culture will find much of interest in the images of Native Americans.

Southwell and Lovett's book is a large format, slick-paged volume available at book retailers, the OU Press website presscs@ou.edu, or by calling 1 (800) 627-7377.

-- Long-time OAS member Jim Feagins is an Archaeological Consultant in Belton, Mo.

The Last Camel Charge: The Untold Story of America's Desert Military Experiment

By Forrest Bryant Johnson
Berkley Publishing Group/The Penguin Group 2012
Hardcover 365 pages w/maps/b&w photos, \$19
ISBN 978-0-425-24569-9

Review by Neil Garrison

This book primarily concerns the U.S. military's use of camels in the 1850s in west Texas and in California-Nevada.

The camels were headquartered in military installations near San Antonio, Texas (Camp Verde) and also at Fort Mojave/Tejon Ranch near present-day Bishop, CA.

I was surprised to learn wild camels still roam portions of west Texas. One convincing photo in the book documents a 2003 sighting of a wild herd.

Although the camels were not actually put to use in Indian Territory, many of the human characters in this real-life story made the trip through Oklahoma, traveling to and from Fort Smith, AR and Los Angeles, CA.

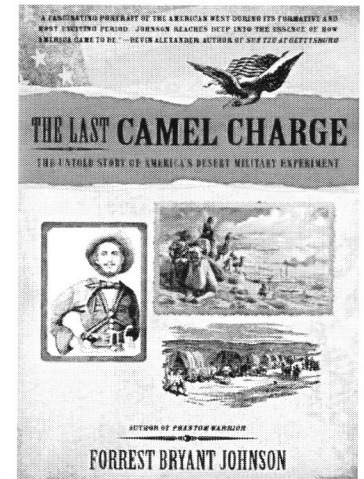
They came to call their route the California Road. It was a primary path for pioneers heading to the California gold fields in 1849 and thereafter. Today the modern highways I-40 and U.S. 66 traverse much of this old-time route.

Mention is made of the role that Jesse Chisholm and Black Beaver played in Indian Territory. Chisholm is famous for establishing a pioneer and cattle trail from Texas to Kansas through what is now Oklahoma.

Black Beaver was a Delaware trapper, scout, and interpreter who became a chief, and later a wealthy rancher, in present-day Anadarko.

The west Texas portion of the book was especially interesting. I often enjoy vacations there and know it well. This book explains how some of the area's place names came to be.

One of the chief hiking trails in Big Bend National Park ascends Emory Peak, the most prominent summit in Texas. I now know the mountain is named in honor of William H. Emory, chief surveyor of the U.S. Boundary Survey team of 1852.



It was somewhat unsettling to read about confrontations between the California-Nevada Mojave Indians and the U.S. military. The Mojave were all geared up for close-in combat (war clubs and arrow shafts tipped with hardwood points), but it did not take long for them to learn the futility of moving within range of the powerful military rifles.

The Mojave had to resort to long-range, arcing shots from their bow and arrows, and the killing power of this tactic was pretty inconsequential.

-- Neil Garrison, *Yukon*, is a naturalist, outdoorsman and avid student of history.

Trowel Marks
Fall 2012

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