

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

The Journal of the Iowa Archeological Society will come to you in combination, next January. The double issue will present an article covering a great deal of material which you'll not want to miss...the excavation of the Spike Hollow Rock Shelter near Waterville, in Allamakee County. In addition to these finds, material from several other rock shelters in this region will be presented in what should be a very worthwhile edition. The President and his editor conferred on this departure from plan, and hope their decision to issue a combined October-January Journal meets with your approval.

THE FALL MEETING

The annual Fall meeting of the Iowa Archeological Society was held in Davenport on October 5, 1952 with the John Bailey Chapter as hosts. Lowell Miller, director of the Davenport Public Museum, and his assistants had prepared some very interesting exhibits especially for the occasion and members browsed through the Museum while registration was completed. Some had brought finds to be identified and others shared their collections with us during the meeting which followed. Mr. Miller was the perfect host, making all who came welcome with surprising energy, considering the amount of work he'd had in making arrangements for the sessions.

9:00-10:00 Registration and Museum Tour

10:00-12:00 Business meeting and short talks from the floor

At this point we were escorted to the Chamber of Commerce building at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets, where a delicious luncheon was served. Those members who drove from home that morning especially enjoyed it! The program proceeded while we were there as follows:

12:00-12:30 Luncheon.

While we were all seated and comfortable, following luncheon, Dr. David Baerreis, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin presented a lecture and film on the Archeology of Aztalan. Showing actual working practices of archeologists from the start of an excavation and carrying the audience right along in the work being done by means of clear, personal running comments, Dr. Baerreis made an outstanding contribution to our fund of knowledge. Many non-professional members have expressed a need for just such an experience, so we owe Dr. Baerreis a vote of thanks for bringing it to us.

2:30 till dark Field trip to several mounds and campsites near Davenport.

(The site on which the film was made while excavation was in progress is in south central Wisconsin, and Lowell Miller writes that he has visited it since our meeting, finding a great satisfaction in seeing it while the material given by Dr. Baerreis was fresh in his mind.)

In addition to the lecture and film, Mr. Lowell Miller, Director of the Davenport Public Museum, summarized the excavation of a mound by the John Bailey Chapter of the Iowa Archeological Society. Mr. Parsons of Wapello described a huge stone axe which he found in his locality. This axe, Mr. Parsons says, is so huge that he has not yet moved it from the spot where he discovered it! It must weigh some 350 pounds. Why such a huge stone object should have been made by the Indians is a mystery, altho' Mr. Parsons suggested his own idea that it was made in fun, since it obviously could not have been used as an axe!

One of the most interesting points visited on the field trip was a huge shell midden. This shell midden is located on "The Friendship Farm", a well-known historical spot near Davenport. Mr. Miller has supplied us with the following information regarding it:

"The story of "Friendship Farm" begins in 1838 when Erskine Wilson bought a section of land from the government for \$1.00 an acre. This land was located near the Rock River, and Mr. Wilson's first enterprise was to start a ferry business. This ferry was the first to cross the Rock, and for ten years was the only safe way to cross. When George Davenport was murdered on July 4th, 1845, the bandits used this ferry to cross the river, and it has been said that they also stayed in Wilson's barn overnite. Although the house was built by Mr. Wilson he died before its completion 100 years ago this year. The stone of which it is built was ferried from a quarry up river from the site. The house has 10 rooms, measures 33 feet by 39 feet, and cost \$8,400. The walls are $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick and there is a winding stairway of native walnut. In 1866 Nels Christensen rented the farm with the big house, and in 1907 he purchased it. Mr. Butterworth bought the property in 1928. It is now administered by the Friendship Farm Estate, with Mr. Carroll Johns as custodian. Coal was found on the property, and a spur railroad once operated there. Indian relics have always been common to this area. Campsites and mounds are evident in many places."

This was the site visited on the field trip. Attending were the following members and guests:

Mr. George Miller, Mr. John Hauberg, Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Slack, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Doering, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Hurlbut, Mr. and Miss Whittlesey, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Makey, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Miller, Mr. Fred Gluck, Mrs. Edward K. Putnam....all members of the John Bailey Chapter.

Mr. Wayne Sanders, Ottumwa; Mark B. Ford, Cedar Falls; George Kjome, Decorah; Prof. and Mrs. David Baerreis, Madison, Wisco.; Mr. and Mrs. Gale Singleton, Wapello; Dr. H. P. Field, Decorah; Mr. and Mrs. Parsons, Wapello; Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Mason, Cedar Rapids; Dr. J. Harold Ennis, Mt. Vernon; Tom Wright, Decorah; Mr. and Mrs. Glen Spaight, West Branch; Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Frymeyer, Wilton Junction; and Dr. A. K. Fisher, Iowa City.

Everybody plan to attend the next meeting in the spring...probably in Ames or Des Moines. We will notify you as to time and place. In the meantime, get together with members in your neighborhood and plan to come in a party. Sometimes that makes the difference whether a member goes or not. If he can join someone he knows he'll be more apt to make the effort, and we don't want any of you to miss the fine meeting we'll have planned for you, come Spring!

JOINT MEETING

OF THE NORTHEAST IOWA CHAPTER AND

THE IOWA SOCIETY OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

On Saturday, October 4, the members of the Northeast Iowa chapter of the Iowa Archeological Society and the staff of the Effigy Mounds National Monument were hosts to members of the Iowa Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. The meeting began with a delicious dinner at the McGregor Heights Hotel in McGregor, Iowa, following which, Dr. Gerald F. Else, the president of the Iowa Society introduced our own president, Dr. H. P. Field of Decorah. Dr. Field welcomed the members of the Society to Northeast Iowa which was at the height of its beauty just then, and after speaking briefly on the relationship of classical archaeology to American Indian archaeology, he introduced W. J. (Joe) Kennedy, Superintendent of the Effigy Mounds National Monument. (Joe is one of our five vice-presidents now, after having been our first president, as you know.) Mr. Kennedy gave a short talk on Archeology in the National Park Service and told of the development, both accomplished and proposed, at Effigy Mounds National Monument, Iowa's only National Park.

Mr. Wilfred D. Logan gave a slide-illustrated talk on the recent excavations at the Monument before the group were taken on a tour through the mound group north of the mouth of the Yellow River. Everyone had a most enjoyable time at this very interesting meeting.

THIRD BIRTHDAY OF
EFFIGY MOUNDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Saturday, October 25, marked the third birthday of Iowa's National Park Service area - one of three in the United States that preserve prehistoric Indian mounds. When the President of the United States signed the proclamation establishing the area on October 25, 1949, the people of the middle west began visiting the Monument which has grown constantly in attraction and interest.

When the area was first established, it was nothing more than a wilderness tract. It is the hope of the staff of the Monument that it will always retain something of its wilderness character, but certain developments have been made to make the mounds accessible to the visitors who come there in increasing numbers every year. On the limited funds available, an ample parking area and a comfortable foot-trail have been built to give access to the mound groups. In addition, two field seasons have been devoted to archaeological investigation of the mounds to furnish information to the visitors, and to provide artifacts for exhibits in the museum planned for that area. Although developments are far from complete, the staff of Effigy Mounds National Monument take pride in mentioning this third birthday to the members of this society to which we belong, and in inviting you all to visit us whenever you can. We hope to have a meeting of the Society here soon. The Society was established here in the Fall of 1950.

REMEMBER LAST SPRING'S MEETING?

Those of you who attended the meeting in Cherokee last spring will remember the field trip we took. You will be interested to know that the members in that area, the Northwest Chapter, are doing the work of excavating on that site which is called the Phipps site. (Being on Mill Creek, no one should be surprised that it is a "Mill Creek" site.) That's the sort of thing we hope more of the chapters will do.

ONEOTA SKELETONS

DISCOVERED IN MOLINE, ILLINOIS

Water department employees discovered several Indian skeletons while digging a ditch in Moline, Illinois, during October. Fortunately, they called the director of the Davenport Public Museum, Lowell Miller, to salvage the finds. Two skeletons were assembled from the bones unearthed. Oneota culture is the one of the people immediately ancestral to our historic Indian tribes in this part of the middle west. Among the tribes who had a culture of the Oneota type were the Iowa Indians, the Winnebago, the Missouri Indians and several tribes farther west. This culture flourished from about 1300 A.D. to historic times when the first explorers entered the Mississippi Valley.

NEW MEMBERS

We are very happy to welcome the following new members who have joined this past month: Douglas Adams, Los Angeles, Calif.; Burton Hansen, East Moline, Ill.; W. E. Whittlesey, Davenport; Prof. R. W. Breckenridge, Ames; Pottawattamie County Historical Society, Council Bluffs, and the Library of the University of Kansas at Lawrence, Kansas; Mr. L. W. Gralapp, Iowa City; Mr. P. H. Wiegand,

Wauwatosa, Wisc.; Mr. Robert W. Turner, Council Bluffs; and Prof. Charles S. Gwynne, Dept. of Geology at Iowa State College, Ames.

All these new members should be evidence enough for anyone that this Society is growing, and in a way that makes for permanence and stability. Our thanks to all of you who have sent names of prospective members to our secretary. Keep up the good work!

To all of you new people - WELCOME TO THE SOCIETY. We hope you'll enjoy your association with our group. Plan to attend the next meeting so we can become acquainted.

ARCHEOLOGICAL FINDS

Mr. John Burmeister, of Preston, Iowa, sends us a series of tracings of projectile points with the locations given as well. Several of these are quite interesting, and are reproduced below. Fig. 1-a is one which has been demonstrated to be of considerable age in the Plains area. Others similar to it have been found at the famous Lime Creek sites in Nebraska. Points of this type have also been found at the Dalton site near Jefferson City, Missouri. We do not know how old the point is at the Dalton site.

The other points illustrated are Woodland types common throughout eastern Iowa. They should be related to the various mound-building Indians living there. They might date anywhere from 2000 years ago up to about 900 A.D.

If any other members have material they'd like to know more about, send tracings of them to the Editor, and he'll be glad to tell you what he can about them. If anyone has points similar to Fig. 1-a let Mr. Burmeister know, and let your editor in on it, too. Such information is very helpful, particularly if the location of the find is known.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The editor has received a copy of "Report on the Investigation of the Scalp Creek site, 39 Gr1, and the Ellis Creek site 39 Gr2, Gregory County, South Dakota, Archeological Studies, Circular No. 4" from the South Dakota Archeological Commission, Pierre, S. Dakota. Its author is Dr. Wesley R. Hurt, Jr.

Those of you who attended the field trip and meeting in Cherokee last spring will recall Dr. Hurt's talk, and the slides he showed on the Scalp creek site. His written report is equally interesting. Members of the Society throughout Iowa are likely to see strong resemblances between the pottery Dr. Hurt illustrates and that in their own localities. Copies of the report can be obtained at a reasonable price by addressing:

Dr. Wesley R. Hurt, Jr., Director,
Over Museum
University of South Dakota,
Vermillion, South Dakota

ABSENCE OF THE EDITOR

Beginning October 27 and continuing through November 28, your editor will be on vacation. Any correspondence addressed to him in McGregor will be forwarded, but it is suggested that anything intended for the NEWSLETTER be sent instead to the Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. A. I. Mason whose address is
2307 B Ave. N.E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

During this vacation the editor intends to visit Mr. Carl H. Chapman, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Missouri; and to attend the Plains Archeological Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, November 26, 27, and 28. On his return, he will report to the members of the society on anything important that he learns there. He also hopes to carry on a limited archeological survey in Kay County, Oklahoma, weather conditions permitting.

MIMEOGRAPHING JOB

Most of you do not know that the Society now owns its own A. B. Dick Mimeograph, purchased this summer to facilitate the job of getting out material to you and to prospective members. This issue is the first to be turned out on it, and any short-comings are not the machine's fault. Rather, the typist, who is using her portable typewriter and finds it a bit light for the job, and her husband-assistant who is as inexperienced as she is in operating the critter are to be blamed. We hope to do better as we go along! The machine, which is in Cedar Rapids, should be able to take some of the work off the editor, who is in McGregor, as you all know. In all fairness, you should also know that this last item is written without his knowledge

EVERYONE GET A NEW MEMBER!