



NEWSLETTER

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ANNUAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIP

Members of the Iowa Archeological Society are invited to a field trip meeting of the Northwest Chapter of the IAS on Sunday July 15 at the Phipps Site near Cherokee, Iowa. Members who plan to attend should meet at Sanford Museum, Cherokee at 1:30 P.M. The 1955 meeting was extremely successful and over 100 people came from all over the state. We will be available to answer questions about the dig and a talk will be given about the progress of the dig. We hope, if time permits, to have an exhibit of artifacts from the site set up. There will be some gaps in the collection as many of the artifacts from last year are in Iowa City but our collection from this summer is increasing rapidly and we should have a representative showing of most types of tools and implements. A sherd board has been prepared for Sanford Museum and it will be set up at the site so visitors can see the Mill Creek ceramic types.

The dig is again under the joint auspices of the State University and Sanford Museum and has been operating for three weeks. One of the deep trenches excavated last year has been cleaned out and we are tracing a post mold outline of a house 5'6" below datum that was found last year. We will have more of this house cleared by the time of the meeting. We have also started a new trench to find out what another portion of the mound is like.

The results of the 1955 excavation indicate several interesting facts about the people who lived at the village. They had widespread trade contacts for we have found potsherds and a projectile point from the lower Arkansas River. Another interesting fact is that in the later period of occupation there are many influences from the northern part of the Missouri River valley. The people who lived at the Phipps Site were basically Mississippian but there are some Woodland influences at the site that we have not yet been able to analyze. As is so often the case, we have raised more problems than we have solved.

1956 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Iowa Archeological Society was held April 15, 1956 at Sanford Museum in Cherokee, Iowa. As was promised in the Newsletter the Northwest Chapter gave us a splendid meeting. We were highly pleased by the fact that over 100 people attended the meeting; the largest attendance in our history. A high spot on the program was the smorgasbord dinner which everyone enjoyed. The tables were decorated with colored corn raised by Mrs. George A. Hoikens of Spencer and the place cards at the tables were trowels on which the emblem of the Society and the words "5th Annual Meeting, Cherokee, Iowa were etched by Joo Beals, Cherokee. Members of the committee on local arrangements were Mr. and Mrs. Joo Beals, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. D. Smith. All of these people deserve our thanks for a wonderful time.

The following members were elected to office; President, Mr. Wilfred Logan, McGrogor; Vice President, Mr. Paul Rowe, Glenwood; Trustees for one year, Mr. Logan and Mr. Lang Baily, Davenport; Trustees for two years, Dr. H. P. Field, Decorah and Mr. Paul Rowe; Trustees for three years, Mr. W. D. Frankforter, Cherokee and Dr. R. J. Rupp, Iowa City. In addition, Frankforter and Rupp were renamed Secretary-Treasurer and Editor respectively as this was the first meeting under the new Articles of Incorporation.

A number of reports by people engaged in archaeological research were given and the number was impressive. In fact the meeting lasted longer than planned and it is gratifying, if tiresome, that there was so much archaeological activity to be discussed. I cannot recall another meeting where so many different areas of the discipline were discussed. The topics and people were; Activities of the Davenport Public Museum, Lang Bailey; archaeology in southwest Iowa, Paul Rowe; Activities of the newly formed Central Chapter, Ralph Luobben, Amos (Dr. Luobben received a Masters degree in archaeology and we are happy to welcome him to the Iowa fold); Northwest Chapter activities, Chuck Smith and Joo Beals; Operation 66, the new program of the National Park Service, Wil Logan; Pipestone National Monument, Harvey B. Reynolds; A discussion of the Turin finds, Frankforter and Ruppe; Mill Creek ceramics, John C. Ives; Mill Creek stone tools, Eugene Fuglo; Summary of work done at the SUI Archaeology Laboratory, Adrian D. Anderson; and a report on the chemical analysis of bone for dating, Frank Magid.

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

The next issue of the Journal has been sent to the printer and will be in the mail shortly. We have enough manuscripts now on hand to bring the Journal up to date but are hampered by a lack of time to prepare the copy. The photo-offset method of printing requires perfect copy and we simply do not have the time to do it ourselves. At the same time our finances will not stand the added cost of having the copy prepared by a commercial printer so we are in a quandary. Mrs. Frankforter has volunteered to type some of the future issues on an electric typewriter borrowed from a business in Cherokee but such a makeshift arrangement cannot continue indefinitely. Any suggestions or practical assistance from the members would be appreciated.