



# NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 24

IOWA CITY, IOWA

JANUARY-MARCH 1958

We have received the second allocation of money from the Old Gold Development Fund and our cup runneth over. The second and final allocation for 1957 amounted to \$872.00 and is sufficient for our needs. The money will be used for some new equipment, but is primarily for defraying the cost of travel over the state to view sites and collections and to test excavate if need be. The funds are a godsend since this is the first money we have had to travel. We owe the Old Gold Development Fund a great vote of thanks.

## ARCHAEOLOGY AT SUI

Aside from the constant lab work not much archaeology has been accomplished this winter at SUI. Winter is the time to do the analysis of the material collected in the milder weather and we have managed to keep busy. Several field trips have been conducted but due to the frozen ground it was impossible to do any more than inspect sites. We visited Mr. Don Parsons of Wapello, Iowa to view his extensive collection and make notes on it. Mr. Parsons has been a collector all his life and has an important collection of Hopewell artifacts, some of them from the famous Toolesboro Mound Group. Mr. Parsons' father and uncle were involved in the excavation (by the Davenport Academy of Science) of the Toolesboro Mounds in the 1870's.

Mr. Parsons took us to several sites in Louisa County and has promised to show us many more. Louisa County boasts a very large number of sites of Early Man, Archaic, Woodland, Hopewell, Oneota and historic Sauk, Fox and Ioway provenience. One site attracted us so much that we decided to excavate it during the summer. It is a village site, most likely Hopewell, and has never been plowed. There is only nine inches of soil over the living surface of the village and the excavation should move rapidly. This will be quite a change from the eight feet of fill we encountered at the Phipps Site in northwestern Iowa. More about this in the next Newsletter.

The sketches on page three are of artifacts from the collection of Mr. Parsons. The upper three points are from Toolesboro and are Hopewell points. a. is a pink quartzite, b. and c. are dark gray chert, d. also a Hopewell blade is white chert (the so-called Burlington Flint) and e. is a Meserve point made of neutral-colored quartzite. The Meserve point is one of several Early Man types found along the shores of Lake Odessa.

Mr. Paul Kline of Vinton, a State Conservation Officer, has stopped in to see us on several occasions and kindly left a collection of early projectile points for us to study. Most of the points were found along Wabonsie and Chabanoug Creeks in Mills County. A surprising number of them are Meserve points. The sketches on page 7 are of Mr. Kline's artifacts.

Meserve points occur in considerable numbers in Iowa. We have seen them from Mills, Callamakee, Louisa, Henry and Polk Counties. We would appreciate hearing from members who have points in their collections shaped like figure e. on page 8.

#### STATE NEWS

We recently received a letter from Mrs. Cleoma Rigg of Greenfield describing a large collection willed to Adair County by a collector, Mr. George Ball. Mrs. Rigg has installed the artifacts as a display in the county courthouse. She states that there are about 1500 pieces in cases. It is a very large collection and we plan a visit to Greenfield this spring to inspect the collection. Members from that area will probably enjoy visiting the exhibit. We will describe the collection in some detail when we have had a chance to study and assess it.

## HIGHWAY SALVAGE ARCHAEOLOGY

A number of members have asked for information about the Federal Highway Archaeological Salvage Program. This is a program of considerable magnitude. It entails an enormous amount of time and money and promises to advance considerably our knowledge of prehistory in Iowa and the United States. The Federal Highway Act provides 1/2 of 1% of the 56 billion dollar budget for archaeological salvage; a tidy 230 million dollars. It is obvious that archaeologists can never use more than a small fraction of that sum but it is comforting to know that it is present.

The rationale for the government's concern with archaeological, paleontological and historical sites stems from the Antiquities Act. of 1906 and the Historic Sites Act of 1935. It is recognized by Congress that such sites are unique and can never be retrieved when destroyed.

One of the major problems stemming from the wording of the Highway Act is the fact that preliminary reconnaissance to find sites must be done by local archaeological authorities. It means that we must somehow find the time and money to do the surveys. Once a site is found, excavation will be financed 90% by federal funds and 10% by state funds. The contractor will hire an archaeologist to direct the excavation of sites in the highway right of way and in areas from which fill or other materials will be removed.

For the information of members we are reproducing below a copy of the Bureau of Public Roads "Policy and Procedure Memorandum 20-7" issued March 30, 1956.

### PROGRAM AND PROJECT PROCEDURES

Subject: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SALVAGE

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to set forth the policy and procedures applicable to the use of Federal highway funds in archaeological salvage in Federal and Federal-aid highway construction.

#### 2. Policy

It is the national policy to have preserved for public use historical and prehistorical sites, buildings, and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States. Indian

ruins come within this policy. It is a Federal crime to injure or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or any object of antiquity on Government lands without permission of the head of the department having jurisdiction over such lands. (16 USC 433). Several of the States have somewhat similar statutes.

### 3. Direct Federal Contract Construction

a. Ruins having historical value should not be needlessly destroyed or if such destruction cannot be avoided, reasonable action should be taken to obtain all historical information concerning such ruins prior to destruction. When a road location or improvement is in an area where it is anticipated that ruins of archaeological value may be encountered, the appropriate archaeological authority in the State should be advised as early as possible of the exact location of the road to enable such archaeologists to determine the likelihood of the highway destroying historical ruins. If it should appear that the proposed road construction will result in the destruction of historical ruins and it is determined by the archaeological authorities that such ruins cannot reasonably be removed or otherwise preserved, consideration should be given to possible alternate locations of the highway.

b. If, during the course of construction, historical ruins or objects are encountered, the proper archaeological authorities should be notified immediately and steps taken to excavate and preserve the objects if practicable, or if preservation is impracticable, to permit the archaeological authorities to obtain and record historical data relative thereto.

c. Agreements may be entered into with archaeological authorities to pay from Federal highway funds the reasonable costs of archaeological salvage work. Extra work orders may be issued to contractors in this connection, provided that the specifications have not required the contractor to cover such work in his unit bid prices. Extra work orders may also be issued in cases within the meaning of "subsurface or latent conditions" or "unknown physical conditions" where such terms are used in the standard contract forms. Payment for archaeological salvage work will be limited to that performed within the roadway prism and any location designated by the Government as a source of material. If a contractor's operations are delayed because of archaeological salvage work such contractor would be entitled to an appropriate extension of the contract time. If practicable, the operations should be rescheduled to avoid the section until the removal of the artifacts or the gathering of the historical data has been accomplished by the archaeological authorities.

#### 4. Limitation on Expenditures

Costs of exploratory archaeological salvage work prior to the start of construction shall be borne by the archaeological authorities. Costs of excavation of historical ruins or recordation of historical data therefrom, whether performed prior to or during construction, may be paid from Federal highway funds. Excavation may include costs of protecting and preservation during removal at the site but shall not include the expense of shipping artifacts or other objects from the site.

#### 5. Federal-Aid Construction

Federal-aid funds may be used to reimburse the States on the usual prorata basis for the cost of archaeological salvage work on Federal-aid projects performed within the general limitations set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4.

A great deal of the preliminary work involved in establishing the Highway Salvage program was done by the Committee for the Recovery of Archaeological Remains (CRAR) of which your editor is now a member. The CRAR is a four-man national advisory commission to the various government agencies involved in construction as well as the National Park Service and Smithsonian Institution. It was through the efforts of the CRAR that the principal of governmental responsibility for the destruction of archaeological sites was established in Congress. The Missouri Basin Survey program as well as other river basin salvage programs are a direct result.

#### RIVER BASINS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SALVAGE

Your Editor attended a CRAR meeting in Washington in January. The topics covered were far-reaching and we were gratified by the acceptance (by the Budget Bureau) of the proposed budget. If both House and Senate pass the appropriations bills the River Basin Salvage programs will continue.

#### BOOK REVIEW

Cornwall, I. W., 1956

Bones for the Archaeologist. The Macmillan Company, New York, 255 pp. Reviewed by John C. Ives, Harvard University

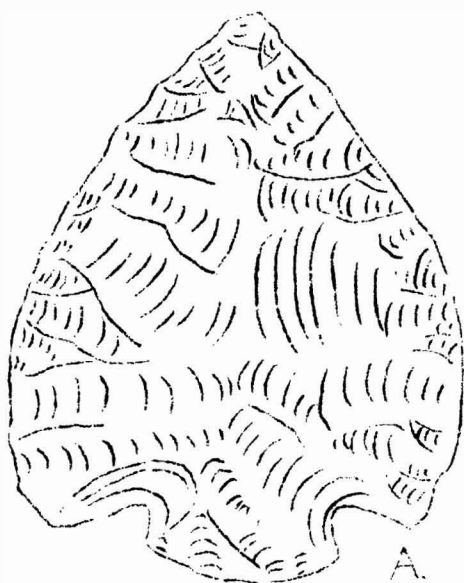
Dr. Cornwall, a Lecturer in the Department of Environmental Archaeology, London University, Institute of Archaeology, has

done archaeology a service with the publication of the book under review. "Bones for the Archaeologist" opens with a general discussion of The Animal Kingdom and the Vertebrate and Mammalian Skeleton. The chapters that follow then give relevant and concise information on the Skull, Dentition, The Axial Skeleton, Shoulder- and Hip-girdles, The Fore-limb, The Fore-extremity, The Hind-limb, The Hind-extremity, Determination of Species from Bones and Fragmentary Bones. The chapter on Bones in the Field and in the Laboratory provides information on the handling of osteological material from the time it is encountered in the excavation through processing in the laboratory. The latter chapter should prove of considerable value to the active amateur and a good review for all professionals. The concluding chapters on Estimation of Age, Sex and Stature from Bones, and Study and Interpretation are equally of value to amateur and professional alike.

Most mammals, particularly the larger forms, that would be encountered in archaeological remains is treated comparatively and with adequate illustrations. The skeletal particulars of such animals as the rhinoceros and hippopotamus will be of little more than curiosity value to most American archaeologists but the bison, elk, deer, elephant, sheep, goats and other forms which occur with man in the New World are considered. The South Americanist will find the book of somewhat less value inasmuch as many of the mammals peculiar to that continent are not discussed. The treatment of the dog is excellent and should be of use to all. Also of great utility is the inclusion of small mammals such as the rodents and insectivores. The bear (*Ursus*) receives little or no consideration in most chapters, presumably due to a lack of knowledge of the osteology of the genus. All minor defects aside, "Bones for the Archaeologist" will be a handy reference in the library of any professional or amateur archaeologist.

MESERVE POINTS FROM MILLS COUNTY  
Collection of Paul Kline, Vinton, Iowa





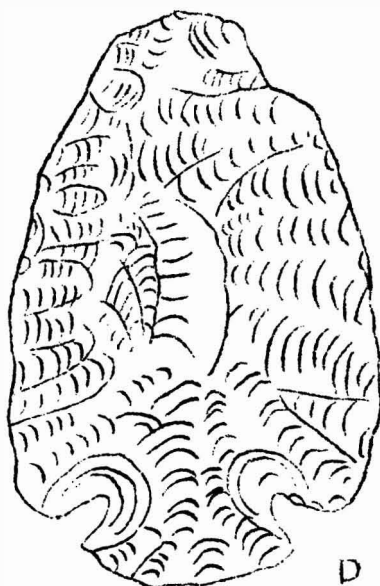
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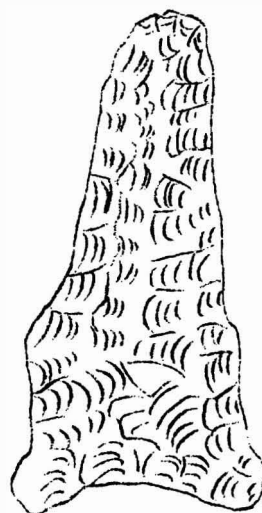
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PROJECTILE POINTS FROM LOUISA COUNTY  
Collection of Don Parsons, Wapello, Iowa