

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1973

NUMBER 70

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I ENJOYED SEEING MANY OF YOU AT THE CHEROKEE SEWER SITE IN JULY. THE MEETING REPRESENTS THE FIRST ATTEMPT TO INJECT MORE IN THE WAY OF SUMMER ACTIVITY INTO THE SOCIETY. THIS YEAR THINGS CAME UP ALL AT ONCE; HOPEFULLY NEXT YEAR WE WILL BE ABLE TO PLAN AHEAD AND GIVE EVERYONE A LITTLE MORE NOTICE.

IN A FEW SHORT WEEKS VOL. 20 OF THE JOURNAL WILL BE MAILED OUT. I AM SURE EVERYONE WILL BE AMAZED THAT ON THE COVER IT CLEARLY SAYS AUGUST 1973. THIS MEANS THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SIX YEARS OUR SOCIETY WILL BE UP TO DATE ON ITS PUBLICATIONS. BELIEVE ME, THIS IS NO SMALL ACCOMPLISHMENT. DR. HENNING HAS WORKED VERY LONG AND VERY HARD AS OUR EDITOR AND WE SHOULD ALL BE GRATEFUL TO HIM. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY DIFFICULTY KEEPING CURRENT FROM NOW ON.

IN OTHER NEWS, IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION BY AN INSTRUCTOR AT BRIAR CLIFF COLLEGE THAT INDIAN(?) BURIALS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN DESTROYED BY LOOTERS AND MOTORCYCLISTS IN AN AREA NEAR SIOUX CITY. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE THESE HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO ME.

UNFORTUNATELY, AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE IS NO WAY THAT THE SALVAGE OF BURIALS CAN BE CONDUCTED LEGALLY. EVEN THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST OF IOWA CANNOT DIG A BURIAL WITHOUT A COURT ORDER. WHAT THIS MEANS IS THAT THE ONLY BURIALS BEING EXCAVATED ARE DUG ILLEGALLY, IN SECRET, AND BY PERSONS NOT QUALIFIED TO WORK WITH THE REMAINS - PHYSICALLY OR CULTURALLY.

IN THE INTEREST OF SCIENCE AND COMMON SENSE LET US HOPE THAT FUTURE ATTORNEY GENERAL RULINGS AND/OR LEGISLATIVE ACTION WILL ALLOW FOR THE PROPER AND RESPECTFUL TREATMENT OF UNMARKED GRAVES REGARDLESS OF RACE OR ANTIQUITY. A PROCEDURE OF AUTOPSY SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED INCLUDING THE DETERMINATION OF SEX, AGE, STATURE, CULTURAL AFFILIATION, ANOMALIES AND PATHOLOGIES AND DETAILS OF INTERMENT AND RECOVERY. FOLLOWING THE AUTOPSY, A REPORT SHOULD BE ISSUED AND THE REMAINS REBURIED IN A LOCALITY DESIGNATED BY THE STATE OR STORED IN A STATE REPOSITORY. THE LATTER CHOICE IS RECOMMENDED IN VIEW OF FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION AND TO FACILITATE FUTURE RESEARCH.

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT "LITTLE CAN BE LEARNED FROM THE ANALYSIS OF HUMAN BONES." ON THE CONTRARY, WE MUST CONSIDER THAT MOST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE PAST PRESENTLY COMES FROM THE STUDY OF ARTIFACTS FROM TRASH DUMPS, LIVING AREAS, ROCK SHELTERS AND THE LIKE. VERY LITTLE IS KNOWN OF MAN AS A BIOLOGICAL ORGANISM. OFTEN IMPORTANT TELL-TAIL TRAITS OF RELATIONSHIP ARE RECOGNIZABLE IN BREEDING POPULATIONS IF ENOUGH MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE FOR STUDY. WE MIGHT ASK WHAT THE MEAN STATISTICS FOR A PREHISTORIC OR EARLY HISTORIC POPULATION WERE IN TERMS OF HEIGHT, OR AGE AT DEATH. WE MIGHT WANT



TO WORK WITH SPECIFIC PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN DISEASES OR PERHAPS RELATE DIET TO TOOTH WARE. THERE ARE MANY POSSIBLE LINES OF EVIDENCE THAT ARE UNAVAILABLE DUE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF LOOTERS, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, UNINFORMED PERSONS AND THE PRESENT LEGAL SITUATION IN IOWA.

TO PUT THE ENTIRE MATTER INTO ANOTHER CONTEXT, LET ME SAY THAT WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE STRONG LAWS TO PREVENT VANDALISM OF GRAVES IN IOWA (FEW STATES DO), IT IS CERTAINLY UNFORTUNATE, HOWEVER, THAT NO ONE CAN TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SEEING TO IT THAT BURIALS ARE RESPECTUALLY TREATED AND PROPERLY REPORTED.

I BELIEVE THE SOLUTION TO THIS PRESERVATION PROBLEM MUST REST ON PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS, PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGISTS AND HISTORIANS. THEY MUST PROVIDE LEADERSHIP, MEET, FORMULATE A WORKABLE SOLUTION, PREPARE A STATEMENT AND SEND THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PROPER PARTIES IN STATE GOVERNMENT. THE PLACE OF THE AMATEUR WILL BE TO SUPPORT THE POSITION ADOPTED AND SERVE AS WATCH DOG TO INSURE THAT FINDS ARE REPORTED AND EXCESSIVE WASTE PREVENTED. RIGHT NOW, THINGS ARE REALLY IN A MESS.

DUANE ANDERSON
PRESIDENT, IAS

EDITOR'S NOTE

IT IS GRATIFYING AT NEWSLETTER TIME TO FIND THERE IS ENOUGH MATERIAL FOR ANOTHER ISSUE. THE COOPERATION OF SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY EASES THE TASK OF THE EDITORS AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE QUALITY OF THE NEWSLETTER. WE ARE FRUSTRATED, HOWEVER, BY THE LACK OF INFORMATION ABOUT MANY OF YOUR ACTIVITIES, COLLECTIONS, AND/OR OPINIONS. IT WOULD APPEAR FROM OUR PUBLICATION, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY HAVE FOUND NOTHING OF SIGNIFICANCE THIS PAST YEAR. A PHOTOGRAPH OR SKETCH WITH A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF YOUR PRIZE ARTIFACTS WOULD BE A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE NEWSLETTER. WE ALSO SOLICIT YOUR OPINIONS ON ANY SUBJECT RELATED TO THE SOCIETY AND ITS GOALS. PRESIDENT DUANE ANDERSON HAS TAKEN AN IMPORTANT STAND IN HIS MESSAGE FOR THIS ISSUE. ARE WE GOING TO SUPPORT HIM OR SHOULD HE MODERATE HIS VIEWS ON HUMAN REMAINS? THE ONLY WAY WE WILL EVER KNOW YOUR OPINION IS IF YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF. NEWSLETTER EDITORS HAVE MADE THE SAME PLEA SINCE THE FOUNDING OF THE SOCIETY IN 1950. **LET US HEAR FROM YOU !!**

DEATHS

GLEN W. (CAPPY) DOUD DIED FOLLOWING HEART SURGERY. GLEN WAS A MEMBER OF THE SITES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE LIVED IN OSKALOOSA.

H.T. LAMBERT.....LONGTIME MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY FORMERLY OF SIOUX CITY AND RECENTLY OF SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA. MR. LAMBERT JOINED THE SOCIETY ON OCTOBER 12, 1951.

THE IOWA ARCHEOLOGY SOCIETY EXTENDS SYMPATHY TO THE GLEN DOUD AND H.T. LAMBERT FAMILIES.

MEDICINE AND THE AMERICAN INDIAN

by
Ruth Thornton

The miracle drugs of modern medicine do much to shelter our lives today. Since pioneer days life expectancy has lengthened a great deal. Because the pioneers lived close to the soil it made them much more conscious of the medicinal value of wild herbs and plants. But we must give first credit to the American Indian for much of this know-how in caring for illnesses, wounds, fractures, and diseases. The medicine man also contributed his share. The surrounding land and forest supplied the simple medicines and drugs, plants and herbs that are still growing in our Plains area. Many of these are our Iowa wildflowers. Trees also contributed many remedies to the medicine chest of the Indian and pioneer. The Indian added 59 drugs to our modern pharmacopeia.

The first published remarks on drugs used by Indians and those of Capt. John Smith of Virginia in 1629. Another work was published in 1672, namely the Physical and Chyrurgical Remedies wherewith the natives constantly used to cure their distempers, wounds and sores.

The first wild flower the Plains Indian looked for in the spring was probably the Skunk Cabbage, an odd shaped spike, mottled bronze and green, strong onion and garlic scented growing in wet bogs in February and March. Indians boiled the young shoots and roasted the roots for food. Leaves were boiled for respiratory troubles and roots were used to control spasms.

On the dry, barren, windswept hills the pale bluish-purple silky hairy flowers appeared. Indians called it Prairie Smoke. This, the state flower of South Dakota, is the wild crocus or Pasque flower. Dakota and Omaha Indians had a very effective procedure of combating rheumatism. They applied the crushed leaf of this flower to the skin over involved joints, which was a sufficiently strong counterirritant to produce a large blister.

The decoction of the hepatica was used in respiratory troubles.

The blood red juice of the Bloodroot served the Indian as war paint and a decoction of the plant was used to cause vomiting. Roots were also used in love charms. A bachelor would rub some of the root on his palm, would contrive to shake hands with the girl he desired. If successful, after 5 or 6 days she would be found willing to marry him.

Indians and early colonists used roots of the Wild Ginger for flavoring and as a substitute for ginger. It was also used as a strong stomach stimulant. The pounded root and leaves of wild ginger was applied to "much swelled and inflamed leg" of one of the men on the Lewis and Clark Expedition and from this he found great relief. The little flower of the wild ginger is called "Pig in a Poke" or "little brown jug."

In the middle ages Marsh Marigold was used as a remedy for toothache. Indians sought the youngest shoots of this plant to boil and leaves were cooked and eaten as greens.

Jack-in-the-Pulpit was called Indian turnip. The root was pounded up and used as a poultice for sore eyes. White man used the corn for asthma and rheumatism. The bulb was boiled or baked before eating. The red berries were used as a flavoring with venison. The root also was used as a stimulant and irritant.

The leaves of the Columbine were used in lotions for sore throats. The seeds were mashed, moistened and rubbed in the hair to discourage head lice. The plant was also used for aching joints and dizziness.

Wild Geranium was used medicinally.

Indians used the root of the Yellow Lady's Slipper to get rid of intestinal worms. Tea made from Yellow Indian Paint Brush flowers was used for love medicine.

The blossoms of the Milkweed were used as a sweetening. They are full of nectar and on cool nights it is mixed with dew. Very early in the morning before the sun had a chance to dry the moisture, the flower was shaken over a pot where nectar and

dew mixture was caught. Sioux and Zuni consider fried milkweed pods a treat. Roots are edible when roasted. Delaware cultivated the Butterfly weed called Pleurisy-root. All milkweeds, because of the milky juice have a certain association with medicine in Europe and America. This milky juice believed useful in illness so the whole family is named after the Greek god of healing, Asclepias. Decoction of Butterfly Weed was used to cause vomiting by the Winnebago and Dakota.

Fire Weed was used as a pot herb by the voyageurs.

The flower of the purple cone flower was chewed and applied for snake bite and the juice was used for burns and a toothache remedy.

Early Spanish made a medicine from the roots of Cow Parsnip for rheumatism. Roots also were used for toothache, sore throat and indigestion.

Indians used tea made from roots of the wild rose for colds and the seeds were cooked for muscular pains. The petals were said to help dissolve gallstones.

Tea from the seeds of the Lupine were used medicinally.

Infusion of the Yarrow was used by the Winnebago to bathe sellings. For earache a wad of leaves was crushed and put into the ear. The plant was also used in treatment of fever, colds and tonic. Its botanical name is for Achilles who used it to heal the wounds of his soldiers at the battle of Troy.

Cardinal flower was used with other plants in preparation of love charms; also used medicinally.

Indians boiled the leaves of Goldenrod to wash wounds and ulcers, and Spanish Americans used the fresh plant mixed with soap to bind sore throats.

For relief of abdominal pain the Indians used massage, hot stones or moxas (burning of cottony material for counter irritation). Any punk wood or various plants with silky seeds were used as moxas. Some tribes used puff balls to stop the flow of blood or packed oozing wounds with eagles' down or spiders' web. For broken bones splints were made of fresh rawhide and molded around the limb. When dry, the hide became an immovable cast.

If any reader has additional information on this subject please write to Mrs. Phil Thornton, 326 Otsego Street, Storm Lake, Iowa

ON KILLING ARTIFACTS

by

Duane Anderson

Reprinted from the NWIAS Newsletter, Vol. XXI, No. 5 September 1973, p. 3, 4.

Ask Yourself... What would you think of a person who killed a rare bird for the fun of it? What would you think of a man who hunted endangered species for the purpose of selling, trading or displaying the colorful plumage? If you have a drop of conservation blood in your veins, you would be on your feet in a moment to put a stop to this insanity if it exists. There is no excuse for it you would say, we must protect our natural beauty and wildlife. That's what conservation is all about.

What is all this ado about birds anyway? Are there individuals or groups like this? The answer is no, fortunately. But there are people who do every bit as much harm to another aspect of our natural and cultural heritage. The parallel is a close one.

The Culprits Today we are threatened by people who through ignorance or thoughtlessness are killing artifacts deader than dodos and in numbers equal to yesterday's great flocks of passenger pigeons. They are the looters of archaeological sites. Allow me to describe how artifacts are killed and by whom and then to suggest a remedy based on good sportsmanship and common sense.

First, what is a dead artifact? Very simply, it is an historic or prehistoric object without data. Just like birds, artifacts are killed by people-both accidentally and on purpose. Through education we should be able to cut down the death rate in

both categories.

One way an artifact can be killed is for a person to find it out on the farm, keep it, give it away, lose it, or forget where he got it. In short, nothing is learned from the find and its data and potential contribution to science is lost forever.

All too often artifacts are killed by individuals or groups of so-called "amateur archaeologists" who might better be called "anti-archaeologists"! These individuals visit historic or prehistoric habitation areas and cemeteries and loot the sites either by collecting from the surface, or worse yet, by digging. They extract from the site artifacts which they proudly display, eagerly trade or sell, thus creating a market for "relics" and fostering further destruction of antiquities.

Here is the real problem. The untrained "anti-archaeologist" with his "finders keepers" philosophy has no concern for data concerning his specimen (what, where, when, why how, who) and one more unique bit of evidence bearing on our cultural heritage goes by the board.

To find an arrowhead and not report it properly is like killing a banded mallard and not sending in the wing. How can reserachers with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife hope to predict next year's season if no one sends in their wings? How can archaeologists learn about our unique cultural heritage if the source of this knowledge is sold for a dollar bill? How can anything come from a nicely mounted set of dead spear points hanging on a wall? It's a waste we can't afford. Fortunately, some looters now realize how worthless their material is without data. Unfortunately, this situation is often remedied by the simple fabrication of data! That only makes things worse.

I mentioned our "natural heritage" as well as our cultural heritage. How come? It is easy to see how looters contribute to the outright loss of cultural information, but what about our natural heritage? It happens that there is an abundance of evidence bearing on plants and animals that accompanies the artifacts in a site. These materials are not spectacular or marketable and escape the attention of looters. I am referring to such things as snail shells, clam shells, pollen grains, fish bones, rodent bones, insect remains, reptile and amphibian bones, carbonized seeds, wood samples, etc. which require the attention of specialists in many fields to properly study and interpret the past. What was the climate like 10,000 years ago in Iowa? How do plant and animal species of today compare with 5000 B.C.? Snails, pollen grains, animal bones and the like can provide answers to these and other questions.

Where is the best place to find deposits containing this kind of information? In the trash middens of aboriginal man! So you see the loss is considerable: history, prehistory, paleozoology, paleoclimatology, paleobotany and paleoecology to name but a few fields affected. Environmental information is obtainable only through controlled and carefully planned professional excavation. The responsibility is considerable; the expense great.

The Real Amateur Archaeologist There are collectors and there are collectors. Amateur archaeologists do exist in the real sense of the word: over 300 right here in Iowa! These individuals enjoy surface collecting as much if not more than the looter. Yet they oppose traffic in artifacts for fear of data loss and they proudly keep maps and records with their numbered specimens and make their material available to professional archaeologists trying to unravel 10-12 thousand years of prehistory on the meager and incomplete record that remains in the ground.

In this age of concern for the environment we should do all we can to shame (if not legislate) the looter out of existence for he is the lowest class of "sportsman". He belongs with the ones who shoot ducks in the park or fish in a barrel!

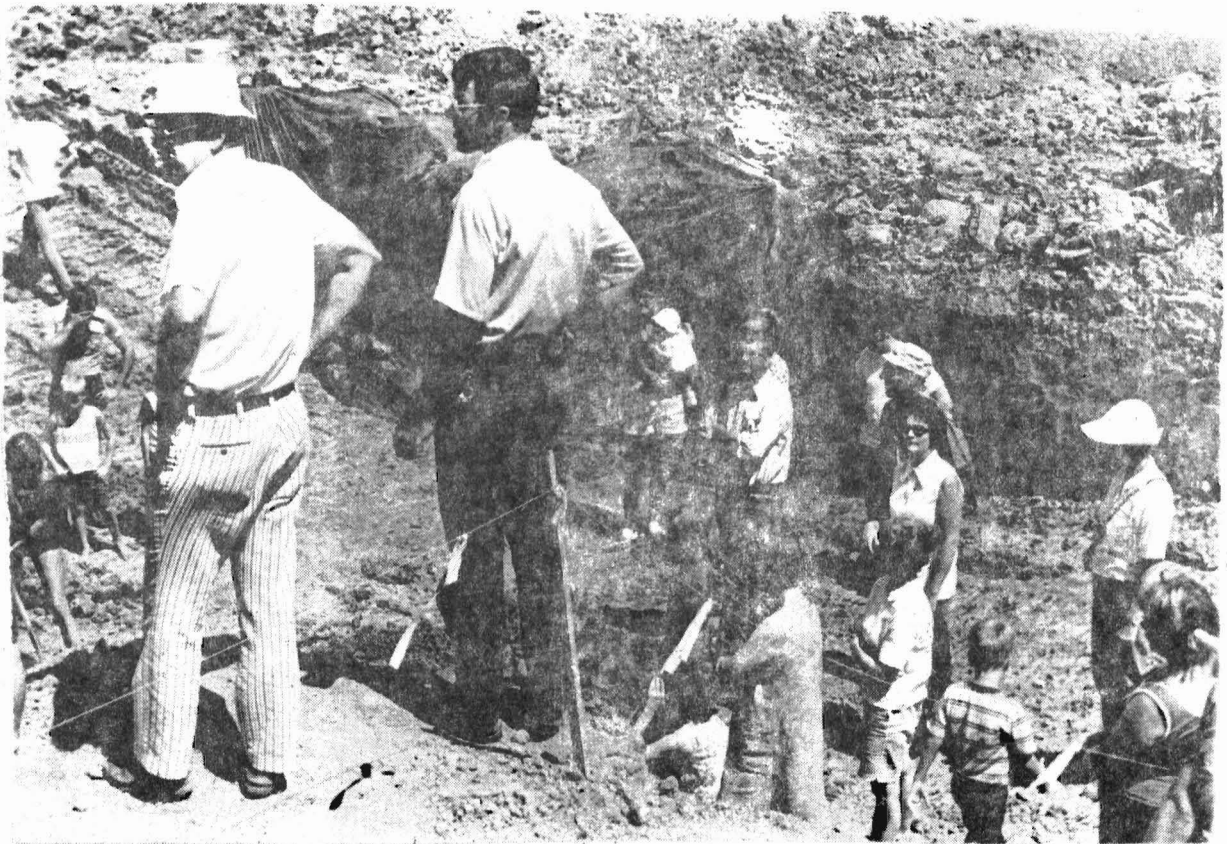
What do you do from here? It depends on your interest. I would say if your find something or if you want to get involved in archaeology, contact the Sanford Museum (117 East Willow Street, Cherokee, Iowa 51012), the State Liaison Officer for Historic Preservation (129 South Capital, Iowa City, Iowa 52242) or Mr. Don G. Spears, Chairman, Preservation Committee, Iowa Archaeological Society (536 South Davis, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501).

Carefully avoid societies and collectors whose purposes are not in the best interests of preservation. Any organization that exists for the purpose of buying, selling and trading artifacts contributes to the loss of our natural and cultural heritage.

IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIP

CHEROKEE SEWER SITE (13CK405)

ABOUT 75 MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY ATTENDED THE FIELD TRIP AT THE CHEROKEE SEWER SITE (13CK405) ON AUGUST 12. MATERIAL FROM THE SITE IS NOW IN THE MIDDLE OF ANALYSIS. A FUTURE ARTICLE WILL REVEAL THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SEWER SITE TO IOWA ARCHEOLOGY. BRIEFLY, 13CK405 IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ARCHEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES EVER MADE IN IOWA. IT CONTAINS THE BONES OF BIG GAME ANIMALS ASSOCIATED WITH PREHISTORIC CAMPSITES IN THE APPROXIMATE TIME RANGE 6000 TO 10,000 YEARS AGO. THE SITE WAS DISCOVERED ON JUNE 23, 1973 BY CONSTRUCTION WORKERS AT THE CHEROKEE SEWER PROJECT. DUANE ANDERSON OF THE SANFORD MUSEUM INVESTIGATED THE SITE AND CONTACTED ADRIAN ANDERSON, STATE LIAISON OFFICER FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RICHARD SHUTLER, CHAIRMAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY. A \$5,000 GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SUPPORTED A TWO MONTH DIG LED BY SHUTLER AND DUANE ANDERSON. A CREW FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA EXCAVATED THE SITE WITH THE HELP OF MANY VOLUNTEERS INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.



DR. RICHARD SHUTLER (LEFT) AND DUANE ANDERSON (RIGHT) DISCUSS EXCAVATIONS AT THE SEWER SITE WITH MEMBERS OF THE IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. SHUTLER AND ANDERSON ARE STANDING ON THE 6000 YEAR OLD LEVEL. PEOPLE IN THE TRENCH BELOW ARE STANDING ON THE LEVEL DATE CA. 7400 YEARS OLD. LEVEL 3 LIES SIX FEET BELOW LEVEL 2 AND HAS NOT BEEN DATED AS YET. (PHOTO COURTESY OF CHEROKEE DAILY TIMES)

SUMMER PROJECTS
OF THE
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
ADRIAN D. ANDERSON
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM FUNDED SEVERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS THIS SUMMER.

WORKING WITH PRESERVATION PROGRAM FUNDS, DAVE GRADWOHL, NANCY OSBORN, BOB TIMBERLAKE AND FIELD PARTY CONDUCTED AN INTENSIVE 30 DAY SURVEY OF A SMALL PORTION OF SAYLORVILLE IN JUNE. THEY LOCATED 26 NEW SITES IN THE RESERVOIR AREA, DEMONSTRATING THE NEED FOR MORE INTENSIVE SURVEY AND SALVAGE BEFORE THE WATERS RISE.

CLARK MALLAM, LUTHER COLLEGE, WAS ASSISTED IN A SURVEY OF ALL EFFIGY MOUNDS IN HIS AREA. HIS REPORT DETAILS AN ASTOUNDING ATTRITION RATE AND POINTS OUT THE NEED TO SAVE THE REMAINING MOUNDS.

MIKE WEICHMAN, DAVE COOK, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA, CONDUCTED A VERY BROAD SURVEY BETWEEN MARSHALLTOWN AND THE AMANAS ON THE IOWA RIVER. WITH THE HELP OF LOCAL COLLECTORS THEY WERE ABLE TO LOCATE 185 PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED SITES. THIS IS A PART OF OUR STATEWIDE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY PROGRAM.

MEMBERS OF THE IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ARE ENCOURAGED TO REPORT ANY SITES— HISTORIC AND PREHISTORIC— WHICH MIGHT BE IN THE PATH OF HIGHWAY PROJECTS, LANDFILL PROJECTS, SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROJECTS OR ANY OTHER PROJECT WHICH MIGHT DESTROY A SITE. IF WE KNOW ABOUT THEM WE CAN TRY TO PROTECT THEM, OR PERHAPS TO SALVAGE INFORMATION. WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING IF WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE.

WRITE TO: STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
B-13 MACLEAN HALL
IOWA CITY, IOWA 52242

FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EMERGENCY CALL: (319) 353 6949 (OFFICE)
(319) 338 4344 (HOME)

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

A SURVEY OF PREHISTORIC MAN MADE MOUNDS ALONG THE DES MOINES RIVER FROM KALO TO LEHIGH

PREPARED BY: "PREHISTORIC MAN IN IOWA"
A CLASS IN EXPLORATIVE ANTHROPOLOGY, CEDAR FALLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS,
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA

EDITOR'S NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS THE PREFACE FROM THE REPORT ISSUED BY THE FIELD STUDY CLASS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TOM MARTIN, FIELD STUDIES DIRECTOR OF THE J.H. PEET JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OF CEDAR RAPIDS. IT IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF HOW THE STATE PRESERVATION PROGRAM CAN BE AIDED WITH THE HELP OF INDIVIDUAL GROUPS.

IN AUGUST 1972, A GROUP OF 5 STUDENTS FROM PEET JUNIOR HIGH AND MALCOLM PRICE LAB SCHOOL PLOTTED AND STUDIED GROUPS OF INDIAN MOUNDS ALONG THE DES MOINES RIVER FROM KALO, IOWA TO LEHIGH, IOWA— A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 3 MILES.

THE STUDENTS BEGAN BY LOCATING THE MOUNDS THAT WERE ALREADY KNOWN AND FROM THERE SEARCHED FOR OTHER MOUNDS. INFORMATION WAS ACQUIRED MOSTLY FROM FARMERS IN THE AREA ABOUT MOUNDS ON THEIR OWN AND ON NEIGHBORS'S LAND. AFTER RECEIVING PERMISSION TO EXPLORE ON THE PROPERTY, SYSTEMATIC SEARCHES WERE UNDERTAKEN AND MANY ADDITIONAL MOUNDS WERE FOUND. MUCH FOOTWORK WAS REQUIRED AND MANY MILES WERE COVERED IN TRACKING DOWN CLUES WHICH WERE GIVEN BY THE PEOPLE IN THE AREA.

THE PURPOSE OF THE EXPEDITION WAS TO PLOT EVERY MOUND FOUND AND TO SEND THE MAP WHICH SHOWED THESE MOUNDS TO THE STATE ARCHEOLOGIST AND TO ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS. THE MOUNDS ON THIS PARTICULAR STRETCH OF RIVER HAD NEVER BEFORE BEEN PLOTTED, SO THE STUDENTS HAD THE EXPERIENCE OF PIONEERING IN AN UNKNOWN TERRITORY—A RARE EXPERIENCE.

MUCH RESEARCH WAS DONE BEFORE THE ACTUAL FIELD WORK WAS BEGUN AND RESEARCH WAS ALSO REQUIRED DURING THE ACTUAL TRIP. SO, NOT ONLY DID THE STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO PLOT MOUNDS AND HOW TO GO ABOUT FINDING THEM, BUT THEY ALSO READ OF MANY OF THE CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS OF THESE ANCIENT PEOPLE. ALSO, ONCE A MOUND OR A GROUP OF MOUNDS WAS FOUND THE STUDENTS HAD TO MEASURE THE HEIGHT, CIRCUMFERENCE AND DIAMETER OF THE MOUND IN ADDITION TO TAKING SOIL SAMPLES TO VERIFY FOR SURE THAT IT TRULY WAS A MOUND.

MATHEMATICAL COMPUTATION AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE INDIANS WERE NOT THE ONLY ASSETS OF THE TRIP. THE STUDENTS ALSO GAINED SOCIALLY. NOT ONLY WERE NEW FRIENDS MADE, BUT THERE WAS A CLOSE COMPANIONSHIP AND A MUTUAL RESPECT AMONG ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP INCLUDING THE STAFF. AFTER LIVING TOGETHER, WORKING, EATING, PLAYING AND BEING FRUSTRATED WHEN A DAY CAME AND NO NEW MOUNDS WERE DISCOVERED AND BEING ELATED WHEN NEW MOUNDS WERE FOUND, THE PEOPLE IN THE GROUP BECAME CLOSE AND FORMED A COMMUNITY OF THEIR OWN— A VERY VALUABLE EXPERIENCE.

A FLUTED POINT FIND IN SOUTHERN IOWA

By Don G. Spears

This aberrant form of a CLOVIS point was found by the owner while preparing a field for Spring planting in 1963. The site is an alluvial fan deposited by the outwash from an erosional stream coming down from a large glacial ridge. The base of a "DALTON" or MESERVE was found nearby at an earlier date.

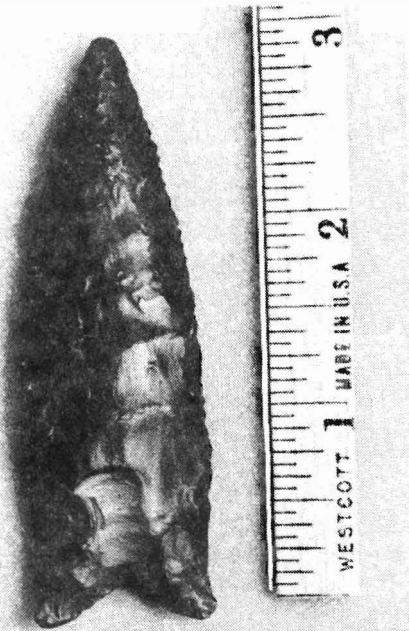
Point has been made from a black, waxy "Exotic" material usually called Jasper by some people. The writer feels this is a misnomer and the term black flint best describes this material. KLIPPEL (1972) notes two point fragments made from a black "Exotic" material found on the Collins Site (23 MN 223) in Northeast Missouri.

Base and sides have been ground five eighths of an inch up the sides from the "EARS". Greatest thickness is 5 mm. A 45 degree alternate bevel begins five eighths of an inch from the proximal end and continues to the distal end. Minute pressure flaking from bottom edge of bevel has produced a sharp serrated edge the length of the bevel.

The reverse side shows the removal of several channel flakes for a partial flute. Several longitudinal flakes have been flaked off on each side of fluting, probably the result of the basal notching and thinning operations by the "FLINTNAPPER". Flute on side shown in photo was made by the removal of two or more flakes.

This point fits somewhat within the description of a "CUMBERLAND" or the so-called OHIO points. WORMINGTON, 1964. Fig. 29, No. 3. KNEBERG, 1956.

CLOVIS type points are showing up regularly in a wide area in this part of Iowa. A few fragments of the "Classic" CLOVIS, which are so fragile, are also found here. A Fluted Point Survey should show some sort of an occupational pattern for most of Iowa.



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CHAPTER REPORTS

QUAD-CITY AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE QUAD-CITY CHAPTER CONDUCTED THREE WEEKENDS OF EXCAVATION AT THE HOKINSON SITE NEAR CAMBRIDGE IN JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER. THE NEXT MEETING IS PLANNED FOR OCTOBER 30. THE DAVENPORT MUSEUM IS HOLDING FALL CLASSES IN GENALOGY, ORNITHOLOGY, 35 MM. SLIDE PHOTOGRAPHY AND ADVANCED CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY. THE MUSEUM IS SPONSORING A WORLD ADVENTURE SERIES FEATURING 6 LECTURE AND SLIDE PRESENTATIONS OF FOREIGN LANDS. INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE DAVENPORT MUSEUM, 1717 WEST 12TH STREET, DAVENPORT, IOWA 52804.

CENTRAL IOWA CHAPTER

SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL IOWA CHAPTER ATTENDED THE FIELD TRIP AT THE CHEROKEE SEWER SITE AND VISITED THE SITE DURING THE EXCAVATION. DURING SEPTEMBER THE CHAPTER HELD A PICNIC AND WORK SESSION AT SOUTH TWIN LAKE IN CALHOUN COUNTY. THE PAST TWO SUMMERS THE CHAPTER HAS TRIED TO DETERMINE THE OCCUPATION DEPTH OF A VILLAGE AREA AT 13CN2. SO FAR THEY HAVE DISCOVERED THREE DISTINCT OCCUPATION LAYERS. THE WORK HAS BEEN HAMPERED BY RAIN. (SOUND FAMILIAR)

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

THE JULY MEETING WAS A FIELD TRIP TO THE CHEROKEE SEWER SITE. OVERBURDEN HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM HORIZON 1 ON THE 14TH AND MEMBERS SPENT THE DAY CLEARING THE NEWLY STRIPPED AREA SO THAT EXCAVATIONS COULD BEGIN. WORK WAS HARD, TURN OUT WAS GOOD AND EVERYONE HAD A GOOD TIME. SEVEAL GUESTS STOPPED BY, AND WE SIGNED UP A FEW NEW MEMBERS. THE AUGUST MEETING WAS COMBINED WITH THE IOWA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIP TO THE CHEROKEE SEWER SITE. THE GROUP MET AT THE PARK AT NOON AND WERE AT THE SEWER BY 1:30. DR. RICHARD SHUTLER AND DUANE ANDERSON DISCUSSED WORK IN PROGRESS AND CONDUCTED A TOUR OF THE EXCAVATIONS. APPROXIMATELY 75 IAS AND NWIAS MEMBERS ATTENDED. THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WAS A SLIDE TOUR OF WORK AT THE SEWER. THE REPORT INCLUDED "CURRENT THEORIES" AND A DISCUSSION OF WORK THAT IS CONTINUING ON THE PART OF THE MUSEUM AND THE UNIVERSITIES OF IOWA AND WISCONSIN.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER ALSO ATTENDED THE IAS FIELD TRIP TO CHEROKEE. THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WAS A PICNIC AT THE WAPELLO COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS. MEMBERS BROUGHT THEIR LATEST FINDS FOR A "SHOW AND TELL" PROGRAM. OTTUMWA HEIGHTS COLLEGE IS OFFERING A COMMUNITY SERVICE COURSE AGAIN THIS FALL ENTITLED: INTRODUCTION TO AMATEUR ARCHEOLOGY. THE INSTRUCTORS ARE GARY VALEN AND DON SPEARS.

DEBRIS

OUR THANKS TO LENORE VAUGHAN OF FORT DODGE FOR HER CONTRIBUTION TO THE "RETURNED NEWSLETTER FUND." NEWSLETTERS ARE RETURNED TO ADVISE THE SOCIETY WHEN MEMBERS HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS. THIS EXPENSE COULD BE AVOIDED IF YOU NOTIFY MRS. THORNTON OR THE EDITORS OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGE IN ADVANCE.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER THAT THE 1973-74 DUES SHOULD HAVE BEEN PAID TO MRS. THORNTON BY NOW. I.A.S. MEMBERSHIPS ALSO MAKE EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS GIFTS. THE DUES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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WE HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO USE THE SLIDE-TAPE PROGRAM ENTITLED "IOWA'S INDIAN HERITAGE: THEN AND NOW" WHICH WAS DEVELOPED AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY. THE PROGRAM KIT IS AVAILABLE AT ANY COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE. WE URGE YOU TO MAKE USE OF THIS SERVICE FOR SCHOOLS, CLUBS, ETC. THE PROGRAM GIVES YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE SOCIETY AND ITS PRESERVATION GOALS FOR THE STATE OF IOWA. IF YOU NEED A SPEAKER FOR A CLUB MEETING OR SCHOOL PROGRAM, CONTACT US AT THE ADDRESS BELOW. WE WILL BE HAPPY TO SUPPLY THE NAMES OF POSSIBLE PARTICIPANTS.

THE IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT, SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY LEGALLY ORGANIZED UNDER THE CORPORATE LAWS OF IOWA.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY ARE AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS WITH A SERIOUS INTEREST IN THE ARCHEOLOGY OF IOWA AND THE MIDWEST.

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