

# NEWSLETTER

JULY 1974

NUMBER 73

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE DAVENPORT MEETING WENT OFF BEAUTIFULLY! WE HAD VERY FINE COOPERATION FROM BOTH THE QUAD CITIES CHAPTER AND THE DAVENPORT MUSEUM. EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH THE LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS IS TO BE CONGRATULATED. NEXT YEAR WE WILL LOOK FORWARD TO BEING IN AMES.

I MENTIONED AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING THAT WE ARE PLANNING TO GIVE THE SOCIETY A CHECK UP IN ORDER TO ASSESS OUR ON-GOING GOALS AND HOW THEY MIGHT BEST BE ACHIEVED. FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS THE OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES HAVE OPERATED THE IAS FROM THE "FATHER KNOWS BEST" STANDPOINT.

NOW, WITH THE MEMBERSHIP STABLE AND MOST ASPECTS OF THE SOCIETY IN GOOD OPERATING ORDER (I.E., NEWSLETTER, JOURNAL AND VARIOUS COMMITTEES), WE FEEL IT IS TIME TO LISTEN TO THE MEMBERSHIP.

THE HISTORY-PREHISTORY SCENE IN IOWA IS RAPIDLY CHANGING NOW AND WE MUST FIND WAYS TO KEEP ABREAST OF THESE CHANGES OR BECOME OBSOLETE. WE NEED TO CONTINUALLY ASK OURSELVES WHERE WE ARE GOING, WHY AND HOW WE CAN GET THERE BEST. GOAL ANALYSIS IS BASIC TO THE SUCCESS OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION. IF WE DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE GOING, HOW WILL WE KNOW WHEN WE GET THERE?

ARCHAEOLOGY IS AN EXCITING AND INTERESTING PURSUIT. YET OUR RESOURCES ARE BEING CONSUMED DAILY BY OUR MODERN WAY OF LIFE. THE BY-LAWS OF OUR SOCIETY LAY OUT GENERAL PRESERVATION GOALS FOR US, BUT ONE MIGHT ARGUE THAT IT IS TIME TO TRANSLATE THESE GENERAL GOALS INTO MORE SPECIFIC PERFORMANCES. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER IS DESIGNED TO GIVE ALL IAS MEMBERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE US WITH INPUT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD FILL THEM OUT AS COMPLETELY AS POSSIBLE AND RETURN THEM BY AUGUST 31, 1974. DON'T SIGN THEM, JUST GIVE US A BLAST OF WHAT IS ON YOUR MIND. IF THE FORMAT IS NOT OPEN-ENDED ENOUGH, ADD A PAGE OR TWO OF YOUR OWN THOUGHTS.

WE WILL BE MOVING IN THE DIRECTION(S) SUPPORTED BY THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERSHIP. WE THINK WE HAVE A GOOD SOCIETY. NOW WE WOULD LIKE TO FIND WAYS TO MAKE IT BETTER. YOUR HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED.

HAVE A NICE SUMMER.

DUANE ANDERSON  
PRESIDENT



## Editor's Note:

The July Newsletter departs from our normal format in that we have devoted most of the issue to a report on the Aulwes Site prepared by Arnold D. Roggman of Garnavillo, Iowa. Mr. Roggman, an active member of the Iowa Archeological Society, has acquired the skills necessary for proper archeological technique and interpretation. His work on the Aulwes Site is an excellent example of how an amateur can contribute to the field of archeology. We hope the publication of this report will stimulate others to complete their archeological projects with a formal statement which can be understood and used by the professional and amateur alike.

We are delighted to publish such material. Our special thanks to Arnold Roggman for the report and his contribution to the Iowa Archeological Society. Due to the length of the Aulwes Site report, we have excluded the minutes of the annual meeting, chapter reports, and book reviews. These will be included in the October issue. We invite and encourage comments and suggestions on any issue of the Newsletter.

The following statement prepared by Mr. Roggman indicates the location and nature of the Aulwes Site.

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AULWES SITE:       13 acre bench on the Lower Buck Creek  
                  Sec. 31-93-2   Jefferson Twp.

In scenic northeastern Iowa and specifically in Clayton County, coursing a meandering trail, is the Buck Creek. In its fifteen mile length from rolling prairie north of Garnavillo to the Mississippi River it flows rapidly and generally through a heavily timbered area.

Cultural material and other evidence of early man has been noted on overlooking hilltops along most of its entire length. It is most heavy about midway due no doubt to the fact that the upper reaches offered little protection and fuel, and the lower several miles, with high steep bluffs, made water procurement difficult.

The "Aulwes Site" on the lower Buck Creek is a bench of considerable elevation above the flood plane. It is within several hundred feet of the Mississippi valley and is located on the farm owned by John Aulwes. It has been held by the Aulwes family since the original government purchase. This site lies south of the farm buildings and on the opposite side of Buck Creek and is visible from the highway.

Most of the bench area has been cleared and farmed, but it has been in pasture for the past few years. Finger ridges to the east have not been disturbed by plow and are sparsely timbered. Trees now common there are oaks, basswood, elm, aspen, walnut, and butternut.

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Mr. Roggman feels that specimen #30 (see page 6) is a Kramer Point and the key to cultural identification. General information about the Kramer Point is found in Special Bulletin No. 3 Oklahoma Anthropological Society by Gregory Perino. (See page 44, and plate 22) The average age for most Kramer points is probably between 500 and 1000 B.C.

## A U L W E S   S I T E

1972

Trench "G"

Excavation sponsored by the Garnavillo Historical Society

It had been planned that this year we would again excavate, but at another site. We did not want to overdo our presence on the John Aulwes farm. While making a reconnaissance check of another Buck Creek Bench, I encountered John Aulwes and he suggested that if we found this site unproductive, that we were welcome to return to his farm, reminding me that we had not yet found the housekeeping area.

It, of course, was not difficult to persuade us so we returned to the Aulwes Bench site, choosing a location more easterly on the same finger ridge holding plot "C" and trench "F". Starting work on August 15, 1972, we were positive there would be cultural material anywhere on this ridge. At a 90 degree temperature, we drove our stakes in the only shady spot available. Stakes and strings were placed to surround two adjacent 5' X 5' plots forming a 5' X 10' unit directional northeast and southwest, designated as plots "G" and "G N1".

The crew consisted of Sandra Fiete and Barbara Stewart, instructors in Phoenix, Arizona schools, Lynn Hall, author of Garnavillo, Iowa and myself. Previous experience dictated that skimming begin with sod removal, although the area had never been plowed. At a 1 1/2 inch depth, a Madison point was recovered. At a 3 inch level, a small shapeless bit was encountered that appeared ceramic. A short time later in plot "G", sizeable potsherds were uncovered. This was something new for the Aulwes Site as the only other sherds found were the very thin Late Woodland fragments taken from the 1971 excavated rock feature. Here was broken pottery in the hard packed yellow clay that was very thick, with a dark sandy core plastered over with a reddish brown layer and then a dark outer coating.

At the 4" level, where most of the sherds rested, Sandra Fiete uncovered a perfect point identical to specimen "F", plate 22 as shown in the Oklahoma Anthropological Bulletin, #3 by Gregory Perino. Apparently we have a "Kramer" point and by association Marion or Fayette thick pottery. If our conclusion is correct, we therefor determine this to be a Red Ochre Culture Site. We are under the impression that such a site is not common

in Iowa and especially not in the northern part of the state.

Both plots "G" and "G N1" carried many flint chips and small introduced creek pebbles along with flint points. However, sherds were present only in the southwest corner of plot "G", so certainly the ceramics would carry over into the area adjacent to this corner. The unit was enlarged to form a 6 plot trench, 10' X 15'. Excavation proceeded and over 200 potsherds of the same type were finally recovered in 4 of the 6 trench plots. The poll of a broken stone axe was also found with the broken pottery. In addition to the sherds, during final count, the 10' X 15' trench yielded 345 flint chips, 296 pebbles and rock fragments, 8 whole and 10 broken flint points.

Cultural material was most heavily concentrated in the 3" to 5" level, with very little noted at 6" and entirely clear at 8" levels. No significant soil pattern was present in any of the trench plots. Oddly, no river shells or fish bones were recovered and the site is only a short walk to the Mississippi River. As Madison points and other types were taken at upper levels of the trench, it is concluded that cultures other than the Red Ochre occupied the location. As no other kitchen artifacts were found, or fireplace evidence noted, we must assume that we have still not located a housekeeping area. It is our opinion that this gumbo clay soil was built-up very slowly over the years as it is as hard and compacted as a road bed. Strips of plastic were placed along the trench walls before back-filling so that future excavators will be alerted to our earlier work.

Arnold Roggman  
Project Director



Left: Aulwes Site  
Photo showing creek bottom, east end of bench and timbered bluff

## Aulwes Site

## Trench "G" Projectiles and Blades

Specimen  
number

## Plot "G N1"

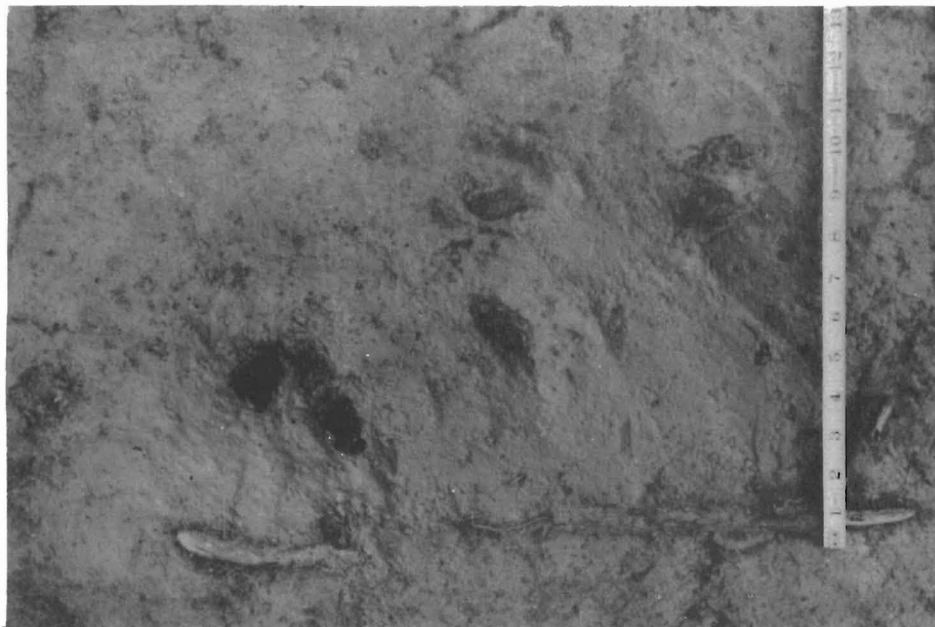
- #27 Madison Point. Depth 1 1/2". 3 1/2 mm. thick. Glossy
- #28 Depth 2". Rather crude, dull surface. Thickness 9 mm.
- #29 Fragment, butt missing. Two color spotted. Thickness 9mm. Depth 4".
- #41 Tip fragment. Crude workmanship. Thickness 9 mm. Depth 4".
- #36 Butt fragment. Thickness 9mm. Depth 5".

## Plot "G"

- #39 Butt fragment. Smooth workmanship. Thickness 8 mm. Depth 5 1/2".
- #30 Kramer Point. Fine workmanship. Glossy. Two color. Depth 4". Thickness 10 mm. Located with pottery.
- #31 Spearpoint with tip missing. Depth 4". Thickness 10 mm.

## Plot "G S1"

- #99 Glendo type. Nicely made of quality material. Thin - 5 mm. 1 1/2 " deep.
- #100 Madison Point. Good workmanship. 3 mm. thick. Depth 2 1/2".
- #98 Midsection fragment. 10 mm. thick. Depth 4 3/4".



Left: scattered  
sherds. Plot GW1-S1

AULWES SITE 1972

Plot "G N1"

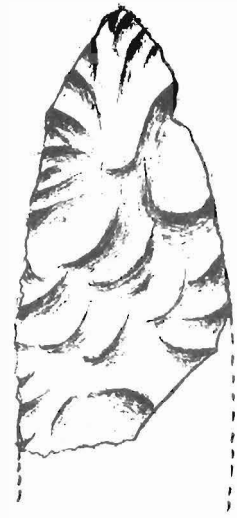
(actual size)



# 27



# 28



# 29

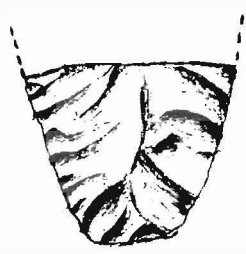


# 41



# 36

Plot "G N2"



# 39

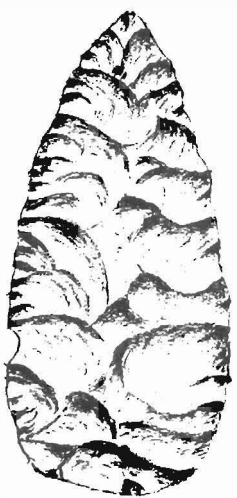


# 30

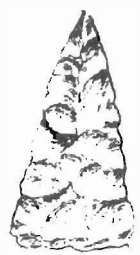


# 31

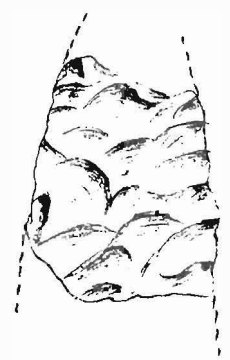
Plot "G S1"



# 99



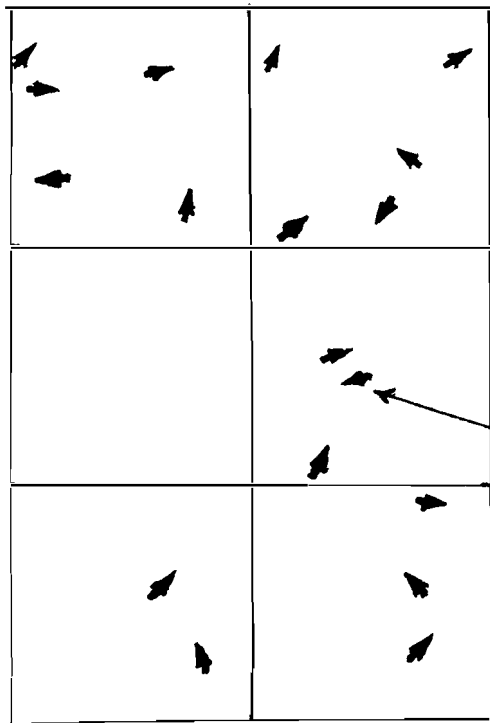
# 100



# 98

# Aulwes Site

NE.  
↑



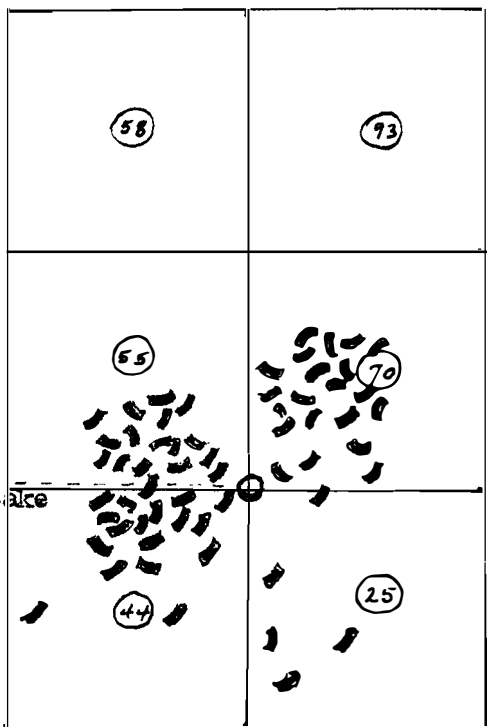
## Artifact Locations

- ▀ - Potsherds
- - Flint Points or Fragments.
- - Flint Chips Count.

### Arrowhead Locations

← Location of Kramer Point.

Apparently a  
RED OCHRE CULTURE SITE.



### Potsherd Locations.

(Does not show the many small fragments)  
(Sherds are generally from 3/8" to 5/8" in thickness)

120' NW.  
to fence stake

## Aulwes Site 1972

## Trench "G" Projectiles and Blades

## Plot "GW1 - N1"

(Actual Size)



# 109



# 111



# 112



# 113



# 114

## Plot "GW1-S1"



# 66



# 77

Specimen  
number.

- # 66. Drill or Point ? Depth 2".  
Thickness 9mm. Crude. Thick.
- # 77 Scrapper or Blunt Point?.  
Worked both sides. Thickness 7 mm.  
Depth 4".

## Plot "GW1 N1"

- # 109 Point fragment. Butt Glossy.  
Good workmanship. Depth 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 5mm thick.
- # 111 Butt fragment. Thickness 5mm. Depth 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- # 112 Butt fragment. Thickness 7mm. Glossy. Depth 5".
- # 113 Midsection fragment. 9mm thick. Depth 6"
- # 114 Arrowhead. 17mm long. 3mm thick. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Site material and records at the Garnavillo Historical  
Museum

Records prepared by Arnold D. Rogeman



## Q U E S T I O N N A I R E

## IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Please answer YES or NO to the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you feel you have a voice in the Society?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you support the present cooperation of the IAS with the Historic Preservation Officer in recording sites and related information?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you agree with the IAS's stand on prohibition of artifact traffic? (The IAS condemns buying, selling and trading of artifacts.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Would you object to a raise in dues sufficient to keep our Society in good financial condition? What would you consider a reasonable membership fee? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Would you like to see the IAS establish awards for amateurs and professionals issued periodically for outstanding service?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Should the IAS cooperate with other agencies to offer correspondence courses and/or fieldwork leading to certification of IAS members as qualified "field technicians" or other such title?
- \_\_\_\_\_ In some states archaeology and history are handled under the same state agency. Would you like to see the IAS seek closer alignment with the State Historical Society?

Please answer the following questions with a sentence or two:

1. Does the IAS provide enough activities for its membership? What would you like to see the IAS do in the future?
  
2. Are you happy with the Annual Meeting structure? What changes would you suggest?
  
3. How can the IAS involve more people in Iowa Archaeology?
  
4. The *Journal of the Iowa Archeological Society* is the Society's contribution to the professional literature. Does it meet your expectations as such? How might it be changed?

5. Should professionals do more "popular" archaeology publication? What kinds of articles would be most helpful? (short articles in the Newsletter, popular guides, artifact identification, field methods, etc.)

6. Are IAS activities well enough publicized? (Annual meeting, field school, preservation efforts, etc.) How could we improve in this department?

7. How would you characterize amateur-professional relations in Iowa? (circle one)

EXCELLENT

GOOD

POOR

HORRIBLE

Do you have any comments in this regard?

8. The goals of the IAS as stated in the articles of incorporation are as follows: 1. Create and promulgate greater public interest in Iowa archaeology; 2. Conduct research to discover, mark, preserve and record archaeological materials.

A. To what extent are we achieving goal number one? (circle one)

VERY WELL

OK

NOT VERY WELL

B. To what extent are we achieving goal number two? (circle one)

VERY WELL

OK

NOT VERY WELL

C. Do you have any suggestions related to our goals or how we might better achieve them?

Return this questionnaire by August 31, 1974 to:

IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
117 East Willow  
Cherokee, Iowa 51012

A U L W E S     S I T E  
1972

## Trench "Q"

Plots -	GW1 N1	Q W1	GW1 S1	Q N1	Q	Q S1	Totals
Flint Chips & Spalls	58	55	44	93	70	25	345
Pebbles & Rock Fragments.	85	45	31	55	32	47	296
Potsherds		76	77		30	19	202
Rimsherds			(not positively identifiable)				:
Unbroken projectiles or blades	1		2	2	1	2	8
Projectile or blade frag.	4			3	2	1	10
Worked Granite		Axe poll	Fragment				2
Flint Cores			1				1
Fossilized Bone	1		1				2
Soil Samples		1	2				3

No bone or river shells.

N E W M E M B E R S

Jean Heibult	Ruthven	Loren N. Horton	Iowa City
Ralph E. Huston	Newton	Milton L. Kapp	Dubuque
Jeffrey C. Marck	Iowa City	Alisa Marck	Iowa City
Sonja Marck	Des Moines	Margie Staab	Iowa City
Earl A. Stickfort	Garnavillo	Michael Wilson	Indianola
Dr. Bruce McMillan	Springfield, Ill.		

R E N E W A L

Dr. Robert L. Hall Libertyville, Illinois

I N S T I T U T I O N A L

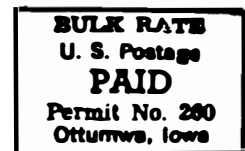
Fellows School Inc. Ames Library, State Historical Society Iowa City

ONE FINAL NOTE. JOE TIFFANY IS ANXIOUS TO HEAR FROM ANY IAS MEMBER WHO WOULD STILL LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN THE FIELD SCHOOL AT CHAN-YA-TA. IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER AND GET IN ON SOME OF THE ACTION. WE SUGGEST THAT YOU WRITE OR CALL SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS FOR INFORMATION AS THE FIELDWORK WILL BE IN PROGRESS BY THE TIME THIS NEWSLETTER IS DELIVERED (117 EAST WILLOW, CHEROKEE 51012 OR CALL 712-225-3922).

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization



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