

ALEX

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1976

NUMBER 82

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This past summer has been an active one not only for the I.A.S., but for Iowa archaeology in general. A summary in chronological order is indeed impressive. First, the successful I.A.S. field school in May and June at the Helen Smith Farm Site, Toolesboro, Iowa. The Director, Lynn Alex, now residing in Spearfish, South Dakota with her state archaeologist husband, Bob, has all the artifacts, site notes and photographs. She is spending her spare time on data analysis and preparation of a report for the I.A.S. Newsletter. This is a large order, especially with none of us around to help. We commend her for her dedication.



A second landmark for the Society was the archaeological exhibit, expertly prepared by W. Paul Ferryman of Solon, Iowa and set up in a booth at the Iowa State Fair. This, too, required a great deal of planning, coordination and just plain work, first setting up and then operating the booth every day during the open hours of the Fair. Those who deserve special recognition for this task are Duane Anderson, Don Spears, Pat Williams and Larry Ryan. The Fair exhibit was a success. Hopefully our efforts will considerably increase the membership of the I.A.S.

While others were planning and working so hard on the Fair exhibit, yourstruly spent the entire six weeks working at the Cherokee Sewer Site (13CK405). There has been a great deal of publicity on our work there through all avenues of the media. Further, on August 15th, some forty I.A.S. members visited the site. One therefore hesitates to say more, however, the importance of the site to Iowa archaeology and the absolute success of the dig warrent special mention. First, the dig was designed as a University of Iowa field school. Some thirty-five students from the University attended. These were supplemented by approximately twenty others from different colleges, the Cherokee High School and I.A.S. members. The excavation was directed by Dr. Richard Shutler, Jr., Director of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Iowa. The actual field work was expertly supervised by Ph.D. candidate, Lisa Latum. Other specialists were in the fields of soil geology, bison bones, small mammal bones and snails. These specialists supplemented the archaeological knowledge brought to the site by Dick Shutler, Duane Anderson and others. Therefore, we had a rare interdisciplinary project which worked

remarkably well and probably increased our knowledge of the excavation by some fifty per cent. As mentioned, the excavation was as near a total success as one could expect. There are truck loads of material exhumed from the three occupation layers dating circa 6000 B.P., 7400 B.P., 9000 B.P. No analysis has yet begun, but it appears that we had three distinct, rather heavily occupied camp sites located strategically for the primary purpose of cooking and consuming buffalo meat. Some ninety-nine per cent of the large mammal bones, over the size of squirrel, were buffalo. Indications were that the kill site must have been close by, but not on the camp sites. Very small fetal bones recovered now suggest the sites were occupied in the winter. The projectile points ranged from Archaic in the two most recent levels, to Late Paleo on horizon III. It should be noted that each horizon was covered and preserved by erosive wash from the hills to the west forming an alluvial fan and separating each horizon by seven to nine feet of archaeologically unproductive soils. As one last note, during the six week season we hosted some four hundred visitors to the site. People from fifteen states and from as far away as France and Japan toured the area.

A special Fall meeting will be held in Iowa City, November 6th (one day only). Please try to attend. Dr. Shutler will be the principal speaker with an illustrated slide talk on the Cherokee Site. Other talks will be presented. Details of the programs and place of meeting will be mailed separately.

Don't forget the Plains Conference. This year it is rumored to be especially good. It will be held October 20-22 at Minneapolis, Minnesota. If you don't receive notice of further details write or phone the State Archaeologist's Office, Eastlawn Building, Iowa City, Iowa 52242. The telephone number is 319-353-5177.

Dick Slattery
I.A.S., President



1976 I.A.S. Field School
at the Helen Smith Site,
13LA71, in Louisa County

The preliminary report
follows on page 3.

Thanks to Lynn Alex for the
report and photographs.

1976 I.A.S. Archaeological Field School

Lynn Marie Alex

This is a preliminary report on the 1976 I.A.S. archaeological field school which was recently conducted at the Helen Smith Site, 13LA71, on the Iowa River in Louisa County. A complete site report will be available in the spring of 1977.

The idea of an amateur field school resulted from the considerable interest expressed by I.A.S. members and others for an opportunity to participate in an archaeological excavation. Since "private" excavations carried out without professional supervision are strongly discouraged, and as most non-students are unable to enroll in university field schools, the interested person rarely has an opportunity to take part in archaeological excavation.

During the past year, Dr. Duane Anderson and I discussed the possibility of organizing a field school in which members of the I.A.S. might participate. We felt that such a project should be conducted within a time framework agreeable to the participants, and that it should be coordinated by the Office of the State Archaeologist keeping in mind the recently established certification program.

At the same time, we believed it was necessary to insure that the site chosen was excavated in a professional manner, and that all due measures were taken to recover the maximum amount of information given the time and resources available. We also felt that it would be most beneficial to Iowa archaeology if the site was one threatened by some imminent human or natural danger. In this way, perfectly safe archaeological sites would be left in tact for the future. To accomodate a field school, such a site needed to possess additional features. It should be accessible to participants, provide the possibility of lodging within reasonable proximity, and be available for excavation.

By appealing to I.A.S. officers and chapter leaders we were able to arrive at the Helen Smith Site as an appropriate choice for this year's field school. Ferrel Anderson first brought the site to our attention and Dick Slattery subsequently confirmed its suitability. A short field trip to the site in April by staff members from the offices of State Archaeologist and Historic Preservation showed us that here we had a site which met most adequately all of our criteria. The many and diverse projectile point types, potsherds and Historic (Anglo) items found in the sands of the Iowa River adjacent to the site suggested the presence of a multi-component site which was presently being eroded by the Iowa River. Although, as we were later to discover, the road to the site was not always the best, it was indeed possible to drive directly to the excavation. The immediate surroundings, the domain of a herd of bovids, was, with a few safeguards, an ideal and beautiful location for camping. And, most importantly, the owners of the property, Mr. and Mrs. William Smith, very kindly consented to allow both the excavation and our residence at the site. We were also assured by Gene Gray, that we would find sufficient support by Quad City Chapter members to justify a project in their area this year.

A decision was made on my part to name the site in honor of Mr. Smith's mother, Helen. In a year when the project director was to be female it seemed appropriate that the site name should likewise carry that connotation.

We decided to conduct the field school over four long weekends from May 14 to June 7. In a more typical situation one might expect that 16 days of excavation with a crew which varied from 20-30 individuals would be sufficient time to excavate an 800 square foot area to subsoil. However, I felt it imperative

that participants of a field school where supervisors were at a minimum should be able to work at their own pace, in a careful manner, with time for individual assistance, and the opportunity to ask frequent questions. I did not want anyone to feel pressured into digging faster. I hoped that everyone might become familiar with some basic techniques of excavation, and leave with a little more respect for the careful and often tedious though necessary measures which are a vital part of archaeology. For these reasons we decided to have, in effect, two crews working at 13LA71. On weekends the field school would be conducted, while throughout the week four (and for a while five) very fine crew members would be responsible to continue the work at a more deliberate pace. These five people, Julie Hoyer, Gina Rabinovich, Dirk Marcucci, Dick Slattery and Dean Thompson, were invaluable to the project, and I am grateful to have had them for my permanent crew.

Because the project was, in part, a salvage excavation, we were very fortunate to have received a generous grant from the Historic Preservation Office to offset the cost of supplies, field headquarters, transportation, and permanent crew. Although field school participants were asked to pay \$10, without the help of Historic Preservation the project would not have been possible. I thank the Office and its director Adrian Anderson for this assistance.

By the time the field school began, I.A.S. members, true to form, had shown enthusiastic support. In all, 33 people were registered. While on any one weekend the average number of official participants remained about twenty, with the added assistance of family and friends this number was always expanded.

Throughout the duration of the project, we were favored with a most congenial, enthusiastic and eager group of participants. Even in the face of unmerciful

buffalo gnats and constantly inclement rains which turned our accessible road into a muddy moat, overcame tents, and transformed our excavation pits into bird baths, the crew was ever constant. All of you are to be commended. It is also a pleasure to report that we had no unpleasant incidents nor serious accidents. Everyone seemed to enjoy the experience and one another.

Before the first day of excavation I had proposed a series of goals towards which the project might be directed. These were:

1. To salvage a portion of the site being eroded by the Iowa River
2. To test and identify subsurface features indicated by infra-red photographs kindly supplied by Mr. Bernard Hoyer and the Remote Sensing Lab in Iowa City
3. To test the feasibility of conducting an amateur field school, and if possible, to define some of the problems facing directors of future projects
4. To establish the relationship between the site and others in the vicinity
5. To define more precisely the nature of the local Middle Woodland occupation
6. To identify the late Woodland and Historic (aboriginal and Anglo) occupations at the site
7. To compare the archaeological manifestation of the Historic (Anglo) occupation at the site with that reconstructed from historical documentation
8. To reconstruct the subsistence economy of the site's residents with particular emphasis on seasonal occupation, and the relative degree of dependence on riverine, forest and prairie resources

Initially, a grid of 18 ten foot squares (A-R), alligned on a N-S axis, was established at the site. The location of this grid resulted from our desire to salvage a portion of the site being eroded, and because subsurface

probing and surface survey suggested the presence of aboriginal features in this area. Excavation of eight of the squares (B-F, M-O) proceeded in arbitrary levels of .4 ft. until sterile subsoil was encountered. As the site lay on an eastward trending slope, once the sterile horizon was reached it was followed as a natural level across the square.

In addition to the original eight units, three additional, smaller squares were excavated. One of these, Square XX, a five-foot square west of the main excavation, was designed to test a linear ridge visible in aerial infra-red photographs. The other two squares (F₁ and G) were opened to retrieve the entire contents of a trash pit (Feature 3) located in the northeast corner of the excavation.

By the third week of the project we had decided to abandon three of our squares (M-O). As it was, at the conclusion of the field school only two of our ten foot squares and the three smaller ones had been excavated to sterile subsoil. While some archaeologists may be critical of our failure to complete the entire excavation, we found it impossible to do so. With the large number of participants present on weekends, it was essential that initially a large area be exposed for excavation. I also believed from the stratigraphy visible in the eroding river bank that the site was a relatively shallow one, and that our strategy should be one emphasizing horizontal excavation. For these reasons I decided to open a large area.

However, we were not favored with good weather on weekends when we had our sizeable crews, and as I have stated, it was important to work slowly at these times. This placed a considerable burden on my permanent crew and made it impossible for us to complete all squares. We did make careful notation of our closing elevations, probed the squares to see at what point the sterile horizon began, and left large plastic sheets over our final levels.

Until the analysis of 13LA71 is completed, I can only summarize our findings to date. It is confirmed that the site is a multi-component one with occupations representative of the Historic (Anglo) and Prehistoric (Woodland) periods present. I find no good reason to believe that Oneota peoples lived at the site although it is likely that they utilized the area. The McKinney village is about a mile from the site and several small triangular projectile points were found along the river in the vicinity. Our Anglo occupation apparently represents a settlement of the early to mid 1800's, very likely the community of Blackhawk which was first located there. It would appear that the Woodland material is primarily of the Early and Late Woodland variety. I can be no more specific at this point, however we were surprised to find so little indication of Middle Woodland occupation present at the site. It seems that we have not yet located the residence of the people buried at Toolesboro. In general, the ceramics from the site are not typical of any well defined Woodland complex. This will be one of the intriguing aspects of the analysis. I should have more to say regarding goals 4-7 next spring.

We found unfortunately, that soil conditions were quite poor for bone preservation. Our best bone sample came from Feature 3, a Late Woodland trash pit, and this appears to represent primarily fish. I do expect to have better results with our other environmental data, particularly seeds. Our soil samples should provide some answers.

With regard to goals 1-3 I can be more conclusive. We did salvage a portion of the site which most likely would be gone in the near future. It is my belief that much of the site has already been eroded. There is however, a substantial portion remaining if future researchers should decide to return.

We were able to check the identity of the linear ridge west of the site through the excavation of Square XX. It would appear that no artificial (specifically human) agents were responsible for its creation. Our visiting soil scientist, Bernie Hoyer, suggested that the soil development in the square appeared normal, and that the ridge might have formed as a result of flooding. While cultural remains were encountered in the square, no unusual banking, ditches or post molds indicative of a stockade or structure were found.

I conclude that by and large the field school was a success. Everyone seemed to appreciate the experience and learned some of the rudiments of excavation. Several individuals were exceptionally clever and I hope, if they have not already done so, will participate in the certification program. I appreciate the support and good will displayed by all.

There were however, some definite problems which became apparent as the session proceeded. I mention these, not in criticism of anyone who participated, but to warn future field school directors.

The number of people who attended on any one weekend was far too many for one individual and a saintly husband-assistant to supervise properly. In the future it would be advantageous to increase the supervisory personnel or to schedule a smaller number of participants over a longer period of time. In this way, it would also be less necessary to open a large excavation in order to accommodate everyone. We were also hampered by the small number of available screens. Had we been able to have more people screening we could have reduced the number digging.

I might suggest that if large field schools become the rule, it might be possible to have some participants doing lab work. This would be especially welcome to those wishing to certify as lab technicians. Although we did not have the facilities for this at 13LA71, it would have been another means of reducing the number excavating.

We used the transit and stadia rod to take our elevations. I wanted everyone to become familiar with the use of these instruments, and most people grasped their principle quite readily. However, it might also be helpful if a line level were also employed. Those who had used this previously felt it was easier in estimating how much further their level needed to be reduced.

Since most of our equipment was in feet and inches, I decided to excavate in tenths of feet. I had hoped that since our stadia rod was divided into tenths it might facilitate elevation reading. Unfortunately, most people found it difficult to conceptualize tenths of a foot. I am personally in favor of American archaeology switching to the metric system. I do not feel however, that it will be any easier for people to visualize metric units.

All of these problems should be considered before the next I.A.S. field school. I hope that such an event may become a regular one in Iowa.

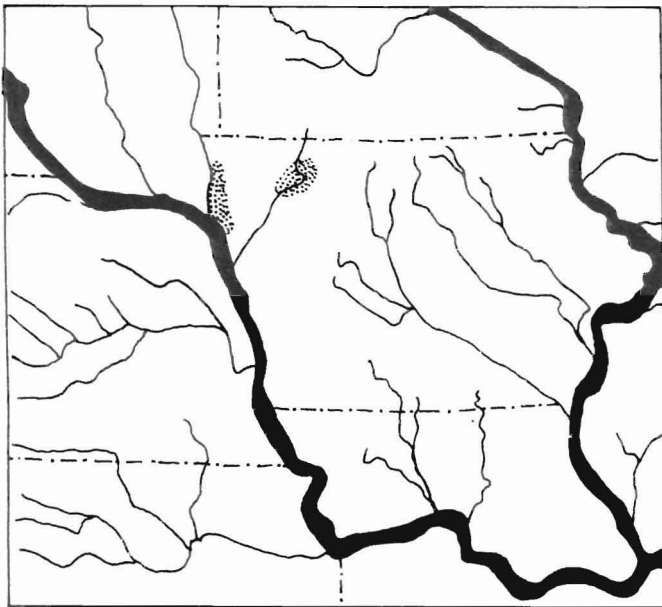
I would personally like to thank the following individuals for their cooperation during this year's project: Duane Anderson, Adrian Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. William Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Perryman, Dean McKinney, Bernard Hoyer, Ferrel Anderson, Richard Slattery, Louise Zipp and Robert Alex.



Our youngest participant, the Pidcock's granddaughter, Chrissy.

Mill Creek

In northwestern Iowa and along the tributaries of the Missouri River in South and North Dakota, a series of archaeological cultures occur which represent the remains of compact villages of sedentary horticulturists. As with contemporary cultures of the Central Plains Tradition, these cultures have been grouped by archaeologists into what is called the Middle Missouri Tradition. In Iowa, this tradition is represented by the Mill Creek Culture. Mill Creek sites occur in northwestern Iowa on terraces above the Big Sioux River and its tributary Broken Kettle Creek in Plymouth County, and along the Little Sioux River and its tributaries Mill Creek and Waterman Creek in Cherokee, O'Brien, and Buena Vista counties.

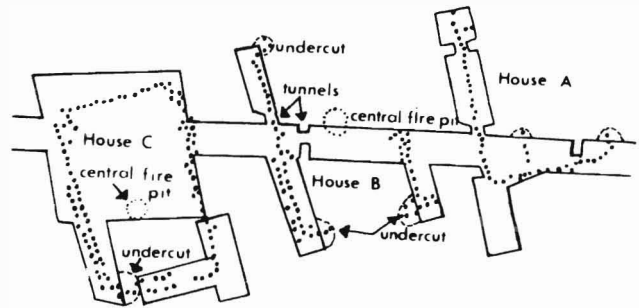


Distribution of Mill Creek sites in northwest Iowa.

Mill Creek sites consist of large mounds, sometimes 10 to 12 feet deep, which may extend for as much as an acre. These mounds have formed as a result of the accumulation of village refuse perhaps over a considerable period of time. In some cases, the remains of as many as three houses have been found superimposed over each other.

Evidence from the Kimball site in Plymouth County suggests that some Mill Creek houses were arranged in an orderly row. At other sites, such as Chan-ya-ta in Buena Vista County, a more haphazard arrangement is indicated. Each house was a semi-subterranean earthlodge with an entryway at one end. Vertical timber posts were connected with a lattice work (wattle) of small branches and plastered with grass-tempered

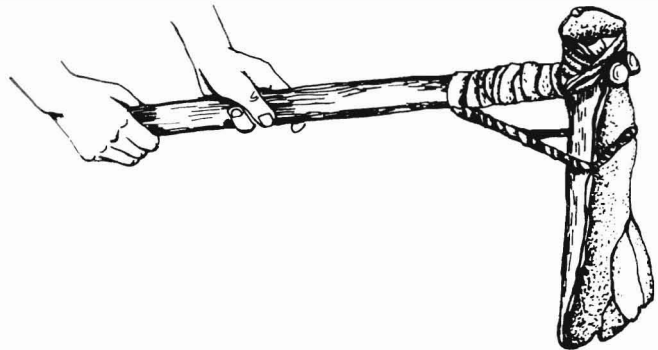
mud (daub) to form the walls. We are not sure of the arrangement of the timber posts which supported the roof, but it would not appear to have been the four central roof supports found in houses of the Central Plains Tradition.



Mill Creek house plans recovered at the Kimball site.

As in other Plains village houses, the floors of Mill Creek structures were dotted with large basin and bell-shaped storage pits (cache pits). Cache pits also occur outside of the house and evidently were constructed to store surplus food and other items. We know from historical records of people like the Mandan and Hidatsa that rodents would sometimes disturb these pits, or their contents would rot, and then they would be emptied. Since it was dangerous to have a large open pit on the house floor, the inhabitants would quickly fill the pits with rubbish—broken pottery, tools, and garbage—and cover them. These are the kinds of remains the archaeologist finds in the pits when they are excavated.

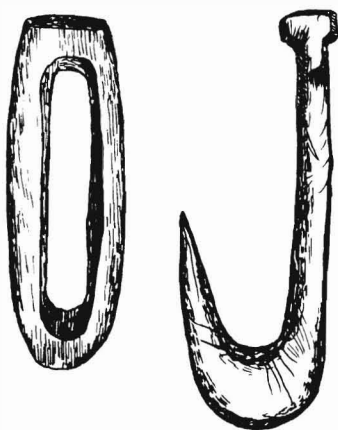
The prolific number of bone tools, pottery, and charred plant remains found at Mill Creek sites suggests that these people were successful horticulturists who maintained garden plots of corn, beans, squash, pumpkin, and sunflower. The prairie sod of the Midwest is characterized by grasses which have a tough, thick root system which is almost impossible to cultivate without the use of the modern steel plow. Thus, prior to the European settlement, Native American horticulturists farmed the loose, rich, river bottomland



Scapula hoes may have been hafted to a forked shaft in a manner similar to those of the Hidatsa.

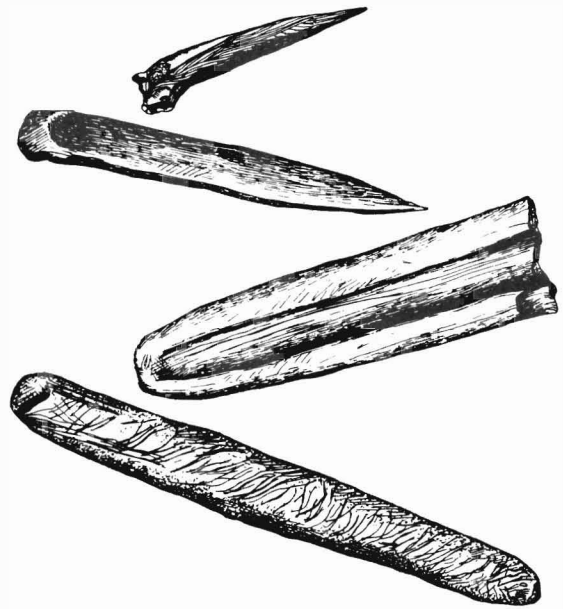
using bone hoes made from the scapula (shoulder blade) or skull of large mammals and bone or wooden digging sticks. These hoes are a common item in Mill Creek sites and were most frequently manufactured from the scapula of a bison. The scapula was also used to make a blunt-ended knife which had a straight edge on one side and a convexo-concave edge on the other. This was probably used in the processing of garden produce as were similar knives in historic times.

The presence of this abundant bone industry points to hunting as another important activity in the Mill Creek economy. According to the evidence at some sites, Mill Creek people probably abandoned their village at certain times of the year to hunt. While smaller game, fish, and birds may well have been caught throughout the year by individual hunters, bison were most likely hunted communally at certain specific times. For instance, once crops were planted in the early summer, a communal bison hunt could take place with most of the able-bodied population participating. Some members would probably stay home to take care of the crops, the aged, and the very young children, but most would be out on the hunt. Animals would be killed with bow and small, side-notched projectile points. Butchering probably occurred at the kill site, and certain chunks of meat were brought back to the village to be dried and stored for the winter ahead. We infer this practice from the fact that we find a higher percentage of certain specific parts of the bison in the village sites while other parts are consistently absent. These missing parts were probably eaten immediately after the kill or left at the butchering spot. A second bison hunt may have taken place later on in the year.



Fishhooks are believed to have been manufactured from bone "blanks."

While we assume that many of the animal bones found at an archaeological site reflect the diet of prehistoric people, others were utilized for additional purposes. The bones of mammals, fish, and birds were



Mill Creek sites are characterized by a wide variety of bone implements including (from top): a fish spine awl, split mammal bone awl, groover, and quill flattener.

made into a wide variety of items. Hide grainers, shaft straighteners, hoes, knives, sickles, and flaking tools were all utilitarian implements manufactured from the bone of bison, elk, and deer. Large catfish were caught by Mill Creek peoples using bone fishhooks. These hooks had a bulbous end on their shaft which probably made it easier to attach them to a line. Fine bone needles and pointed awls of bison or bird bone or the dorsal spine of drum fish allowed Mill Creek people to sew skins and work basket fibers. Often these skins and baskets were decorated with flattened porcupine quills which had been worked with spatulate pieces of bone. *Anculosa* and conch shell beads, shell pendants, carved bone pins, and a variety of teeth including those of bear, dog, and beaver were other items used in decoration which Mill Creek people acquired as by-products of hunting.

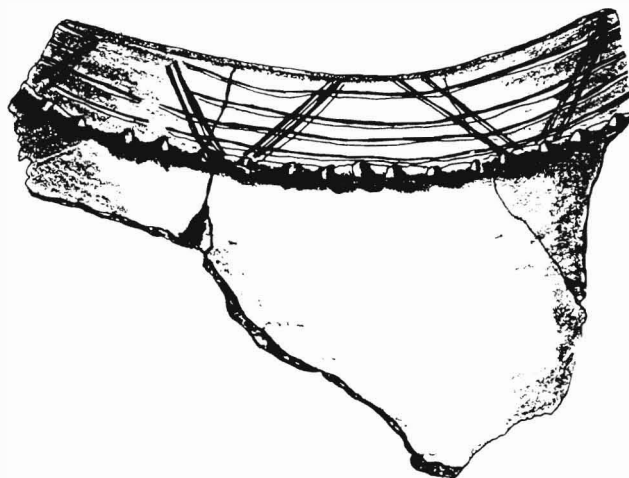


A bear tooth pendant.

In addition to bone tools and decorative ornaments, the skins and feathers of animals were incorporated in ceremonial items. The case of birds is a particularly interesting one. We know from ethnographic accounts of historic Plains groups, such as the Osage, Omaha, and Arikara, that medicine bundles composed of bird skin wrappings filled with sacred objects were used on ceremonial occasions. Stuffed bird skins also served as personal fetishes believed to bring good luck to their owners. In order to give some form to the bundle, the skull and bones of the wing and feet would be left attached to the skin. Although we are not certain of the existence of these bird bundles in prehistoric times, the occurrence of bones from the feet, wing, and skull of a bird found together in an archaeological site strongly suggests their existence.

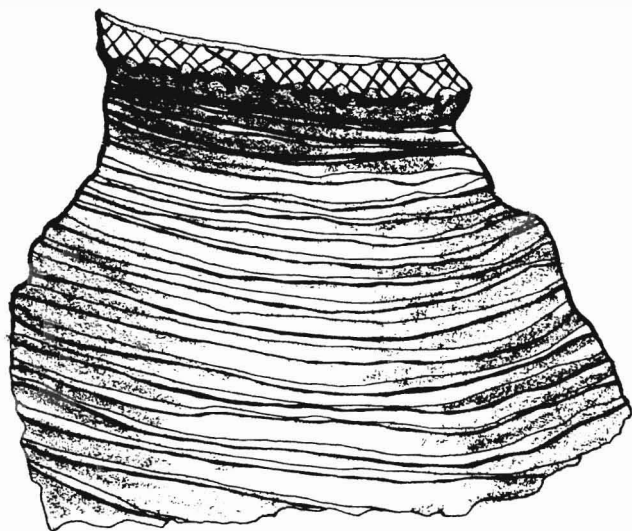
Other ceremonial or decorative items manufactured from birds, such as bird headdresses, claws, and wing or tail fans, are also indicated by archaeological findings. At the Brewster site in Cherokee County, the lower wing and foot bones of raptorial birds (hawks, eagles, falcons) were particularly abundant. This suggests that Mill Creek people were hunting or trapping such birds not necessarily for food but to be used in the manufacture of decorative and ceremonial objects.

The bones of animals utilized by Mill Creek people in Iowa in some cases represent species, like the passenger pigeon, which have since become extinct or are no longer native to northwestern Iowa. At the Brewster site and the Broken Kettle site in Plymouth County, the remains of the river redhorse, a type of sucker, were recovered. As this fish has not been reported in Iowa since the turn of the century, and as it is a species which prefers clear stream conditions, we assume that the siltier nature of some of our modern streams has resulted in its disappearance from the state.



Foreman Incised pottery.

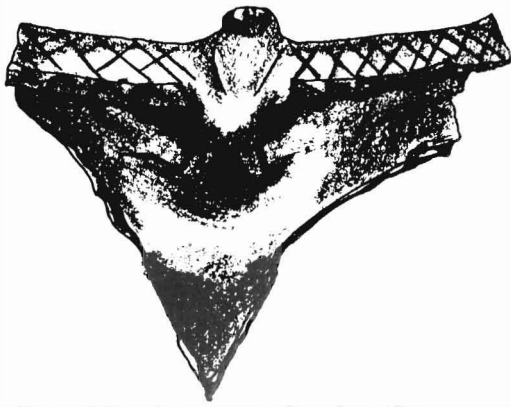
Mill Creek potters were equally skillful, manufacturing a wide variety of vessels including bowls, flat bottom rectangular pans, seed jars, wide-necked bottles, hooded water bottles, jars, and ollas (wide-mouthed water jars). The majority of the pottery has been tempered with crushed granite or sand, although pulverized clam shell occasionally occurs in pieces of trade ware. The surface of the pot almost always has been smoothed, and decoration is found on the lip, rim, or shoulder area. Decoration includes incised or excised patterns, modeling, red slipping (where a liquid mixture of water and colored clay is applied to the pot before firing), and black paint. Design motifs are usually geometric patterns like triangles or diamonds. More distinct motifs include the so-called running deer and weeping eye. Some of the pots have loop handles or effigy handles representing small animals or birds.



Mitchell Modified Lip.



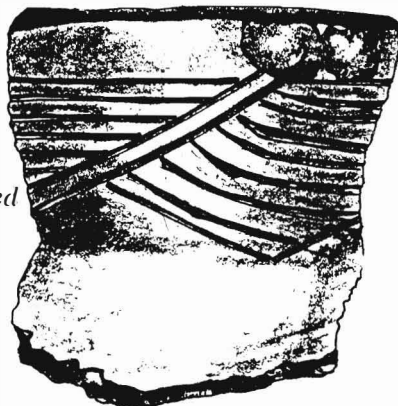
Ceramic effigy heads of human and animal form often decorate the rims of Mill Creek pottery.



Mitchell Modified Lip with effigy handle.

The origin of Mill Creek has been a puzzle to archaeologists for some time. It used to be thought that Mississippian people from the large urban center of Cahokia in Illinois had migrated to Iowa and became the ancestors of Mill Creek. There are a number of items found at Mill Creek sites which suggest connections with Cahokia. Features such as earspools (pulley-shaped stone or bone earrings), chunky stones (discoidal stones probably used in athletic games), elbow-shaped pipes, shell pendants, scalloped-edge shell gorgets, carved-bone pins, the use of shell temper, *Anculosa* shell beads from the southern U.S., and marine shell traded from the Gulf of Mexico are common to Mill Creek sites and to those in and around Cahokia. However, all of these items could have been acquired as a result of trade or the diffusion of ideas. Long distance contact along major rivers such as the Missouri, Des Moines, and Mississippi could explain the introduction of these items to Iowa.

There is thus no conclusive evidence for the origin of Mill Creek in a migration of people from Cahokia. The lower levels (and presumably the oldest) at sites such as Phipps and Kimball indicate that Mill Creek was established by A.D. 900 and before the appearance of most of the Cahokia-related items. Most archaeologists today believe that Mill Creek represents a local development which was influenced by other cultures in Iowa and neighboring states, such as late Woodland, Great Oasis, the Over Focus of South Dakota, and Cahokia.



Chamberlain Incised Triangle pottery.



Evidence of contact between Mill Creek and Mississippian cultures is found in a series of items including (clockwise): stone and bone earspools, Ramey Incised pottery, and hooded water bottles.

While Mill Creek people may have traded peacefully with other groups, there is reason to believe that not all of their contacts were friendly. At least three of the Mill Creek sites, Chan-ya-ta, the Double Ditch site in O'Brien County, and Wittrock in O'Brien County, were fortified with ditches on three sides. The fourth side faced the nearby stream so that these sites were protected on all four sides. At Wittrock, a log stockade had been constructed inside the ditch, and this may have been standard at other sites as well. One of the possible reasons for the disappearance of Mill Creek culture from Iowa prior to the arrival of Europeans was pressure from hostile groups, particularly Oneota. Oneota sites are contemporary with the later Mill Creek sites, and yet we find no Oneota items in Mill Creek contexts to suggest friendly trade or interaction.

Another important factor in the disappearance of Mill Creek was probably the climate. We know that about A.D. 1200-1250 the climate became drier and conditions for horticulture deteriorated. This probably also put a strain on available timber resources so important for fuel and house construction. Faced with these conditions, Mill Creek people seem to have abandoned their villages and moved elsewhere.

It has been suggested that Mill Creek people moved gradually up the Missouri River and were incorporated in the late Over Focus of the Dakotas. Archaeologists believe that from such a tradition Siouan speaking groups such as the Mandan and Hidatsa developed. These people were living in large, permanent, earth-lodge villages at the time of historic contact.

*Lynn Marie Alex
Illustrations by
Mary Slattery*

REPORT FROM THE A.I.A. MEETING

The Association of Iowa Archaeologists meet on June 19, 1976 at Luther College. The discussions were lengthy and subject matter varied, however, two topics of general interest should be noted. A. Specific guidelines for performing contract archaeology including terminology should be followed. Dr. David Baerreis, University of Wisconsin, moved that the A.I.A. endorse the guidelines for survey set out by Bob Alex on August 5, 1975. This motion was approved. Specific guidelines for contract survey work are now published by the Office of State Archaeologist. B. David Baerreis also presented the following which was passed unanimously:

The proposed economic development of Iowa produced by strip mining creates a crisis in cultural resource preservation of unparalleled dimension. The A.I.A. believes it is imperative to immediately initiate planning to mitigate this deplorable impact on Iowa's non-renewable and unique cultural resources. Given the magnitude of the potential losses, it is imperative that the state, the concerned citizens of the state and the involved economic interests all cooperate to preserve the resources. The officers and members of the A.I.A. pledge themselves to move more vigorously in developing an appropriate remedial program to meet this crises.

C. Since the Certification Program will soon be in full operation, an effort should be made on the part of professional archaeologists to involve certified lay persons in on-going archaeological projects. D. A call for support of the re-authorization of the all important Moss-Bennett Bill (the bill which authorizes Federal funds for the recovery of historical and archaeological data from areas to be altered by an Federally funded construction projects.

Report submitted by Richard Slattery

Several of the I.A.S. membership have inquired about the progress of the archaeological correspondence course to be offered through the University of Iowa for college credit. Those who have been in contact with the University of Iowa Correspondence Center have also questioned the seemingly untimely delay. The prospectus for the course was submitted by the Office of State Archaeologist last spring. No positive results have been realized at the time of the writing. Rest assured, however, that the opportunity to enroll in the course will be vigorously pursued.

CORRECTION: The last issue of the Newsletter was numbered 80 when in fact it should have been 81. We would fire the typist who made the error, but that would eliminate one of the editors. ALSO--- The same issue carried a report about Clovis Points in S/E Iowa. The following corrections should be made. Fig. 1, fluting is 4 centimeters from distal end. Fig. 2, ripple scars end 2.3 centimeters from distal end; ground edges extend 3 centimeters from distal end.

LAST MINUTE INFORMATION: You should have received the notice about the I.A.S. Fall Meeting at Iowa City. The meeting will be held in the lecture hall of the Chemistry-Biology Building on the Univ. of Iowa campus on November 6, 1976 from 12:30 - 4:30. Also: The Plains Conference will be held at the Leamington Hotel in Minneapolis. There will be an informal gathering at the hotel on the evening of October 19th.

EDITORS' NOTE: Our thanks to Lynn Alex, Dick Slattery, and Don Spears for their contribution to the Newsletter. The format is changed somewhat this issue due to the length of the field school report. We had to leave out some material that was submitted for this issue, but we will run those items next time.

Dues reminder: You should have paid your dues for this year by now, but there is still time if you have not. Active Membership--- \$5.00, Sustaining Membership--- \$15.00, Jr. Membership---\$4.00. Send your dues to: Mrs. Phil Thornton, 326 Otsego Street, Storm Lake, Iowa 50588 (130 of the membership have not yet paid!)

The Newsletter of the Iowa Archaeological Society is published four times a year. Back issues are available for \$1:00 from Don G. Spears, 536 S. Davis, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501. The reprinting or use of any material in the Newsletter is forbidden without the consent of the Society.

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Editor: Don G. Spears, 536 S. Davis, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501 (In charge of circulation) Please send address changes to Don Spears.

New Members: The list of new members is impressive again for this issue. Unfortunately, we do not have the space to run the entire list. We will include the names in the January Newsletter.

We hope to see you all at the fall meeting on November 6 in Iowa City.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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