

Iowa Archeology News



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The President's Report

by Douglas W. Jones

Greetings all! It has been an Iowa Archeological Society tradition that the yearly President's report would present a summary of events, achievements, and activities of the Society from the previous year while also providing a preview of Society events and activities for the current year. While I strongly believe in traditions, I am finding it very difficult to accomplish this task within my allotted space for two reasons 1) there were so many noteworthy Society events, activities, and accomplishments last year, and 2) the Society will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year and a very special celebration has been planned. With so much to discuss about the forthcoming celebration, I am going to keep the recap from last year as brief as possible. (If I don't, can I already ask for a pardon?)

I am glad to report that the Iowa Archeological Society had another productive, successful year in 2000. The Society finished with approximately 500 members. This marks the fourth year in a row where the Society has finished with around 500 members. The Society continues to have a healthy bank account as we finished with \$29,000 in the bank for 2000. The healthy bank account has helped support archaeological research and educational opportunities throughout the state including field schools and Iowa Archaeology Month. With increased numbers of field schools planned for the future, Iowa Archaeology Month, and an increased demand for public outreach and education programs, it will be important to maintain a healthy bank account to continue supporting these activities, particularly through the new IAS Research and Education Fund. The Board will be examining the IAS Certification Programs and the IAS public outreach and education programs this year in order to identify additional needs that our current programs are not meeting.

The 2000 Spring and Fall meetings held at the Calkins Nature Center in Hardin County and at Luther College in Decorah, respectively, were both well attended. Many thanks are extended to the event organizers, speakers, and tour leaders for all of their efforts in making these meetings so enjoyable and successful. Special appreciation is extended to the Hardin County Conservation Board, the Black Hawk Chapter, Luther College, Effigy Mounds National Monument, and the newly formed Orr Chapter for hosting these events last year. The Fall meeting was held for the first time during Iowa Archeology Month. While the event was well attended, we did note that a significant number of IAS members could not attend the Fall meeting due to other obligations during Iowa Archeology Month. We heard from a number of members who were not pleased about this circumstance. Due to these comments, the 2001 Fall meeting will be held in October after Iowa Archeology Month.

Of special note, the Society and the Hardin County Conservation Board received the Loren Horton Community History Award for best use of volunteers on a project during the National Preservation Week Ceremonies at the Iowa Historical Building on May 16, 2000. Also, the Central Iowa Chapter of the IAS received a

IAS Announcements

Iowa Archaeology Month 2001

The Office of the State Archaeologist has begun planning for this year's Iowa Archaeology Month (IAM). Events will be held in September 2001 and this year's theme is "Hunting and Gathering for Iowa's Past." A poster design has been suggested to compliment this theme. We are hoping to reach a number of Iowa counties that have never participated in IAM over the past eight years. Our records indicate that the following counties have yet to host an IAM event: Osceola, Dickinson, Kossuth, Mitchell, Howard, Palo Alto, Sac, Calhoun, Delaware, Monona, Crawford, Carroll, Greene, Shelby, Guthrie, Jasper, Cass, Adair, Madison, Warren, Marion, Keokuk, Union, Clarke, Monroe, Jefferson, Taylor, Ringgold, and Decatur. Since archaeological sites have now been recorded in all of Iowa's 99 counties, we know that each of these counties has an archaeological story to tell and we'd all like to learn more.

The OSA hopes to offer several specific programs and speakers contingent upon outside funding. However, we encourage all participating organizations to design programs and invite speakers that suit their own interests and the interest of their local communities. IAM hosts are requested to make a concerted effort at local promotion and to take photographs of their events. This year following IAM 2001, we hope to prepare a traveling poster illustrating the variety of events held statewide. IAM 2000 reached an estimated audience of 20,000 people.

For additional information and for help in planning contact: Lynn M. Alex, Public Archaeology Coordinator, Office of the State Archaeologist, University of Iowa, 700 Clinton Street Building, Iowa City, IA 52242, (319) 384-0561 or (319) 384-0768, email: lynn-alex@uiowa.edu

Correction: *In issue 176, pg. 9, the second sentence in the article Iowa Archaeology Month should have read "Sixty events scheduled in thirty communities..."*

REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year the Iowa Archeological Society selects a candidate for the Keyes-Orr Award for outstanding service to the Iowa Archeological Society in the areas of research, reporting and preservation of Iowa's prehistoric and historic heritage. The major criteria for the receiving the award is that the recipient exemplify those qualities characteristic of the relationship between Keyes and Orr. Specifically, those are: 1) involvement in the Iowa Archeological Society in support of research and service undertaken in furthering its goals; 2) the learning and employment of accepted and standard archeological procedures for the acquisition of knowledge; 3) the use of this knowledge to further public educational programs concerning Iowa's. Keyes-Orr nominations and officer nominations for IAS should be sent to: Bill Green, IAS Nominations Committee, OSA, 700 Clinton St., U of I, Iowa City, IA 52242, Ph-(319) 384-0725.

President's Report *Cont. from page 1*

Governor's Volunteer's Award last Fall for its work on the Lithic Tool Project with the State Historical Society of Iowa in Des Moines. The IAS was designated as a steward member of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation last Fall for our donation to the Effigy Mounds Acquisition Fund for the purchase and addition of the Ferguson tract to the National Monument.

Historical Society of Iowa in Des Moines. The IAS was designated as a steward member of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation last Fall for our donation to the Effigy Mounds Acquisition Fund for the purchase and addition of the Ferguson tract to the National Monument.

As mentioned above, this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Iowa Archeological Society. It is the time to celebrate the achievements and accomplishments of the Society. It is the time to examine what we know about past human activities and occupations throughout Iowa during the past 14,000 years. It is also the time to reflect and reminisce on the individuals who have contributed so much to the Society and to the understanding of Iowa's archaeological record.

The Board has been very busy during the past two years

planning for the celebration of our anniversary year. The Board decided that the 2001 Spring meeting will be held at Cherokee, Iowa, which is where the IAS began. Ironically enough, the Sanford Museum and Planetarium located in Cherokee is also celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year as well. The Sanford Museum, many of its former directors, and its current director (Linda Burkhart, a current IAS Board Member) have been integrally involved in the IAS and in supporting archaeological research in northwestern Iowa. It was mutually decided by our Board and the Sanford Museum to have a joint celebration at Cherokee during late April. Details of the event are still being planned. There will be a reception on Friday evening (April 27) for the former directors and staff of the Sanford Museum and Planetarium. The IAS Spring meeting will be Saturday, April 28 and there will be an evening banquet. The banquet speaker will be Dr. Stephen Lensink from the Office of the State Archaeologist. Steve will also lead a field trip to several local archaeological sites on Sunday. Further information on the Spring 2001 meeting and anniversary celebration will be mailed to the membership in the near future. Please mark your calendars for the weekend of April 27, 28, and 29 for this event. I hope to see you there.

History of the Quad Cities Chapter

by Ferrel Anderson

The inception of the Quad Cities Archaeological Society (QCAS) dates to 1969 when an organizational meeting of the Society was held at the Putnam Museum in Davenport. Its formal establishment dates to the subsequent meeting at which the constitution and by-laws were approved.

Initially, the QCAS was conceived as a chapter of the Illinois Association for the Advancement of Archaeology (IAAA), which had just formed in the summer of 1969. The IAAA was formed out of a need to preserve the archaeological heritage of "Illinois and the contiguous regions" and to restore a constructive relationship between the professional and amateur archaeological communities in that State. Included in the organizational body of the IAAA were yours truly and a Richard Slattery who some of you probably know. Dick was active in the Iowa Archaeological Society (IAS) at that time and was instrumental in aligning the QCAS with the IAS.

One of the issues the organizational committee of the QCAS had to resolve was the relationship of the QCAS with the IAAA and the IAS. This was necessary since the Society would serve archaeologists and the public in the cities located on both sides on the Mississippi River in Iowa and Illinois. In view of the fact that both state organizations shared the same purposes, goals and ethics, we decided to form as a chapter of both the IAAA and the IAS, and were accepted as such by these organizations. Our By-laws require that society members have to join one of the state organizations. This has engendered a positive and synergistic relationship for the QCAS members and for the three organizations. Many members join both of the state organizations. Another issue that we learned about at the organizational meeting was that a Quad City Archaeological Society already existed! It was active in the 1950s. Since at the time of our deliberations it was defunct, had accrued no debt, and had a good reputation, we used the same name. We even gained some of the surviving members!

From its initiation, the Society has dedicated itself to the education of the public and members, to the preservation of archaeological sites and artifacts, and to support professional archaeological organizations and archaeologists. Not neglected, of course, has been the enjoyment of archaeology.

To accomplish our educational purpose, the Society established a tradition of monthly meetings to host presentations by archaeologists and experts from supporting disciplines. We have always met on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM from September to November and from January to May. We have met at the Putnam Museum in Davenport, at Augustana College in Rock Island, IL and most recently at Black Hawk State Historic Site in Rock Island, IL. We enjoy a healthy relationship with these

institutions, and on occasion co-sponsor mutually beneficial programs and events. Presentations that are typical, and in many cases notable for the quality of their content and presenters, are: "The Davenport Conspiracy" by Marshall McKusick; "University of Illinois Excavations at the Crawford Farm Site" by Dr. Elaine Bluhm Herold; "The Archaeology and History of the Ioway" by Dr. William Green; "Eisele's Hill Excavations" by Joe Thompson; "Smithsonian Institution Expeditions in the Great Depression" by Dick Slattery; "U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Sponsored Archaeological Surveys of the Mississippi River Pools" by Dr. David Benn; "The Koster Site" by Dr. Stuart Struever; "The Clovis and Dalton Cultures" by Drs. Brad Kolderhof and John Walthal; "Early Quad Cities Archaeology and Adventures" by Budd Hansen; "River Evolution in the Quad City Area" by Dr. Richard Anderson; "Dickson Mounds" by Alan Harn; "Chinese Archaeology and Artifacts" by Bernie Peeters; "Quad City Area Archaeology" by Ferrel Anderson; and bull sessions and show-and-tells by anyone and everyone.

Events of note were several demonstrations of lithic technology by Toby Morrow, and field trips to the Koster Site during its glory days, to Cahokia, and to local sites such as Albany Mounds, the Young Linear Mound Group, the Toolesboro Mound Group, Eisele's Hill excavations, and local Moline Chert quarry sites. The unwavering support of the QCAS by members of the professional community has been outstanding and much appreciated, and has contributed greatly to our success and the education and entertainment of the public who attend our meetings. In addition to regularly scheduled meetings and planned events, several of our members present slide programs to various organizations and schools. We also man a QCAS booth at the annual Spirits of the Oaks Campground Pow Wow at Geneseo, IL.

To accomplish our preservation goal, the Society has actively notified professional archaeologists of endangered sites. In several instances, the endangered sites were excavated before impending destruction, or the danger was mitigated. Notable cases were the phase 1 and 2 projects at the Christensen Dalton site in Rock Island county, IL; the preservation of endangered bluff top sites that were threatened by earth borrowing associated with the replacement of the bridge over the Mississippi river at Muscatine; and the phase 1 and 2 surveys and Phase 3 excavations at the Deere Run Touring Professional Golfers Association Golf Course at Friendship Farm in Rock Island Co, IL. Our most ambitious and successful effort to date has been to preserve the Albany Mounds Hopewell site in Whiteside County, IL. We have been successful in our efforts to convince the Illinois Department of Conservation to acquire the site. An initial acquisition was made, and

that preserved 90% of the mounds and a significant part of the associated village at the site. Subsequent acquisitions by the State and the Archaeological Conservancy have preserved other archaeological features at the site. Once land acquisition is completed, the site will be developed as one of the premier State Historical sites in Illinois. The other archaeological State Historic sites are Dickson Mounds and Cahokia Mounds. In addition to assisting in the acquisition efforts, the Society also detected and aided in the mitigation of certain and major damage to the site threatened by a large-scale road and levee construction project. In addition to active preservation efforts, we are also monitoring other important sites to anticipate any potential threats to their existence. Although it appears that the society has been concentrating its attention on Illinois, this has not been the result of a conscious decision. It is predicated on the fact that the most important sites in terms of preservation and development potential located in the immediate Quad City area are in Illinois. Sites of this potential in Iowa are concentrated in the Toolesboro area, and the State Archaeologist Office and the University of Iowa are actively involved there. But we are eternally vigilant to the preservation and development of sites in both Illinois and Iowa, and have some future actions in mind.

To support professional archaeological organizations and archaeologists in their important work, we have assisted in several surveys of the Mississippi and Rock River valleys, and have assisted on several excavations. Many of the archaeological sites recorded on these surveys were reported by Society members. The members also provided access to their artifact collections made from these sites that was critical in determining their cultural assignment and relative importance. Some of the surveys in which we participated were those conducted by David Benn and Larry Conrad in the Mississippi river pools (sponsored by the US Army Corp of Engineers), and one conducted by the Illinois DOT for a highway project in the Rock River Valley, IL.

The Society also conducted several small-scale salvage and exploratory excavations. These include excavations at the HY 23 DeNeve multi-component site near Geneseo, IL, the Ri 103 late Archaic and Early Woodland site on the

Rock River in Moline, IL, the Ri 30 Luckens site on the Rock River in Rock Island, IL, and a salvage excavation at the Historic Indian and American Gannon Shell Station Site in Rock Island that was no doubt located within Saukenauk. We also participated in an excavation of a weaver village site, the Hokinson Site, near Cambridge, IL that was initiated by one of our members. Analysis of the results and reporting on them are in various stages of completion, but progress has been “slowwww.” Our plan is to publish the report on the DeNeve excavation this fall, and to follow that with reports on the other excavations in the order in which they were excavated.

Our Society has averaged about 35 to 40 memberships a year. We are governed with a Board that consists of seven Directors. Our Officers consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, librarian, and advisor. The presidents serve terms of one year, and the other officers serve terms of two years. The Directors serve terms of three years, and are elected on a staggered basis to provide continuity. Several of our members have served as officers in the parent state organizations. Dick Slattery and Ferrel Anderson have served as president and as directors of the IAS. Ferrel Anderson has served as the founding president and as a director of the IAAA. Gene Gray served as the first Editor and as a director of the IAAA. Bernie Peeters and Randy Baldrige have also served as the editor and treasurer, respectively, of the IAAA. The Society also supports the efforts of the Citizens to Preserve Black Hawk Park Foundation and the Friends of the Albany Indian Mound Foundation by advising on archaeological matters and by leading archaeological tours at these sites.

Our existence has been copacetic. We think that this condition will continue. Our primary goal for the future is to continue our preservation efforts. There are several key archaeological sites in the Quad city area that should be preserved under protected status, and achieving this will be our number one priority. We will also emphasize as our second level priorities the reporting of our excavations, and the encouragement of our members to submit articles to the IAS and the IAAA newsletters and journals.

The future of the past looks promising!

❖❖❖❖ “F Y I” ❖❖❖❖

What are some public benefits of archaeology?

- 1) **Teachers and students** find it helps teach the principles of math, science, geography, logic, history and human diversity.
- 2) **Community leaders** find that archaeology can build community links in the present as well as the past.
- 3) **Avocational archaeologists** find the opportunity to make a direct contribution to research about the past.

Visit the IAS Web Page at
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/index.html>
Organizations and Meetings

Ultra-High Resolution Topographic Mapping of a Briefly Occupied Initial Variant Site in Northwest Iowa

Stephen C. Lensink and Lynn M. Alex
Office of the State Archaeologist
University of Iowa

The Double Ditch site (13OB8) is a fortified village of the Mill Creek culture, part of the Initial variant of the Middle Missouri tradition in northwest Iowa. The site occupies a high terrace .25 km east of Waterman Creek, a tributary of the Little Sioux River, and represents the northernmost Mill Creek site. A double set of ditches and large, circular depressions are visible on the surface and from low-altitude aerial photographs. The outer ditch is set back 5–15 m from the terrace edge. Because most of Double Ditch has never been plowed or excavated, its fortification ditches and house depressions are still clearly visible through the short grass covering the site. Plowing of approximately 10 percent of the eastern portion of the site has obscured surface features.

Context

The site is one of at least 28 Mill Creek sites in the Little Sioux locality which includes the Little Sioux River and three tributaries: Mill Creek, Brooke Creek, and Waterman Creek. These sites have been placed in the Little Sioux phase, Initial variant, Middle Missouri tradition, and date to A.D. 1100–1250 (calendric). Other Mill Creek sites with fortifications include Wittrock, Lange, Bultman, and Jones. The defensive system at the Wittrock site on the east bank of Waterman Creek south of Double Ditch consisted of a single ditch and wooden palisade of posts set in individual holes. Post molds averaged 33 cm in diameter and were spaced 65–80 cm apart. The layout of house depressions at Wittrock appeared fairly regular.

Previous Research

13OB8 was first reported in the 1940s and recorded by Northwest Chapter Iowa Archeological Society members in 1954. Duane Anderson and Joe Beals dug two auger holes at the site in 1985 confirming a Mill Creek occupation. Limited test excavations conducted by Stephen C. Lensink and Lynn M. Alex in 1994 verified two 4-m wide ditches, each excavated to a meter's depth and remnants of storage pits and postholes inside the circular depressions suggestive of a lodge. The double set of ditches appears to merge into a single ditch on the south side of the site. Testing failed to confirm the presence of a palisade between the ditches. Recovered artifact density from both the ditches and depressions was very low suggesting a short term occupation by Mill Creek residents—possibly only a few months.

Mapping Procedures

As part of the kickoff event for Iowa Archaeology Month 2000, “Laboring over Labor Day,” over 20 volunteers converged on the Double Ditch site to assist with the first-ever

detailed topographic map (Figure 1). The goal of mapping the site was to recover all usable topographic information attributable to prehistoric cultural activities. All but two Initial variant village sites in Iowa have had their surface manifestations destroyed by modern cultivation, road building, and erosion. Therefore, we wanted to obtain the best record of the site's topography before it too was lost.

Topographic mapping at Double Ditch proceeded by using a Topcon GDS-211D total station. The station's 5" angular and sub-centimeter radial accuracy guaranteed that the Cartesian coordinates had errors of less than 1 cm over the distances involved in mapping the site (less than 100 m). Shots were taken at 1-m intervals over the portion of the site with cultural features and at 2-m intervals over the surrounding terrain. The use of three 50-m nylon ropes with 1-m markers to quickly establish an approximate grid ensured that we achieved the desired point density.

Throughout the mapping, volunteers were trained to read the total station and use the prism pole. The job of collecting the over 3,000 data values was greatly facilitated by their participation. The total station data was logged onto an HP 48X in the field and downloaded to a laptop computer back at field headquarters. Each evening maps were produced using Surfer 6.01 to chart the day's progress. Five days were required to complete the data collection.

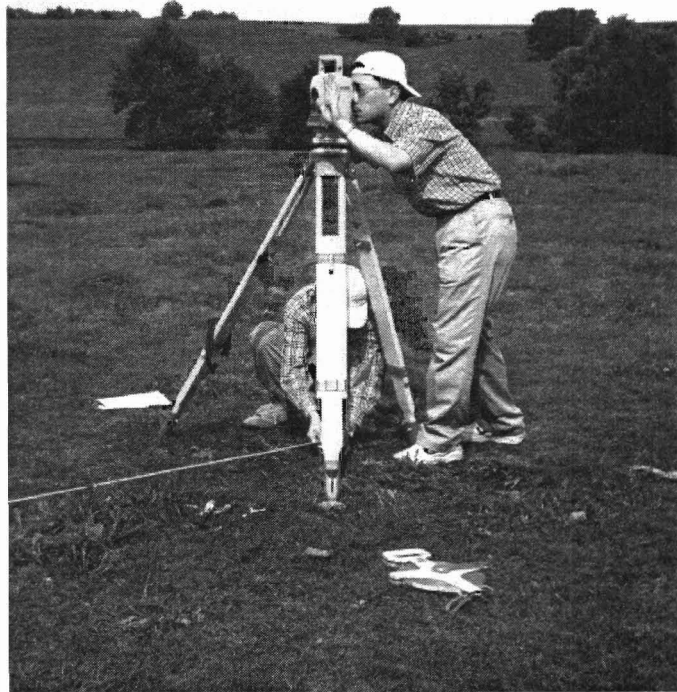


Figure 1. Visiting Korean science teachers mapping with the Topcon total station.

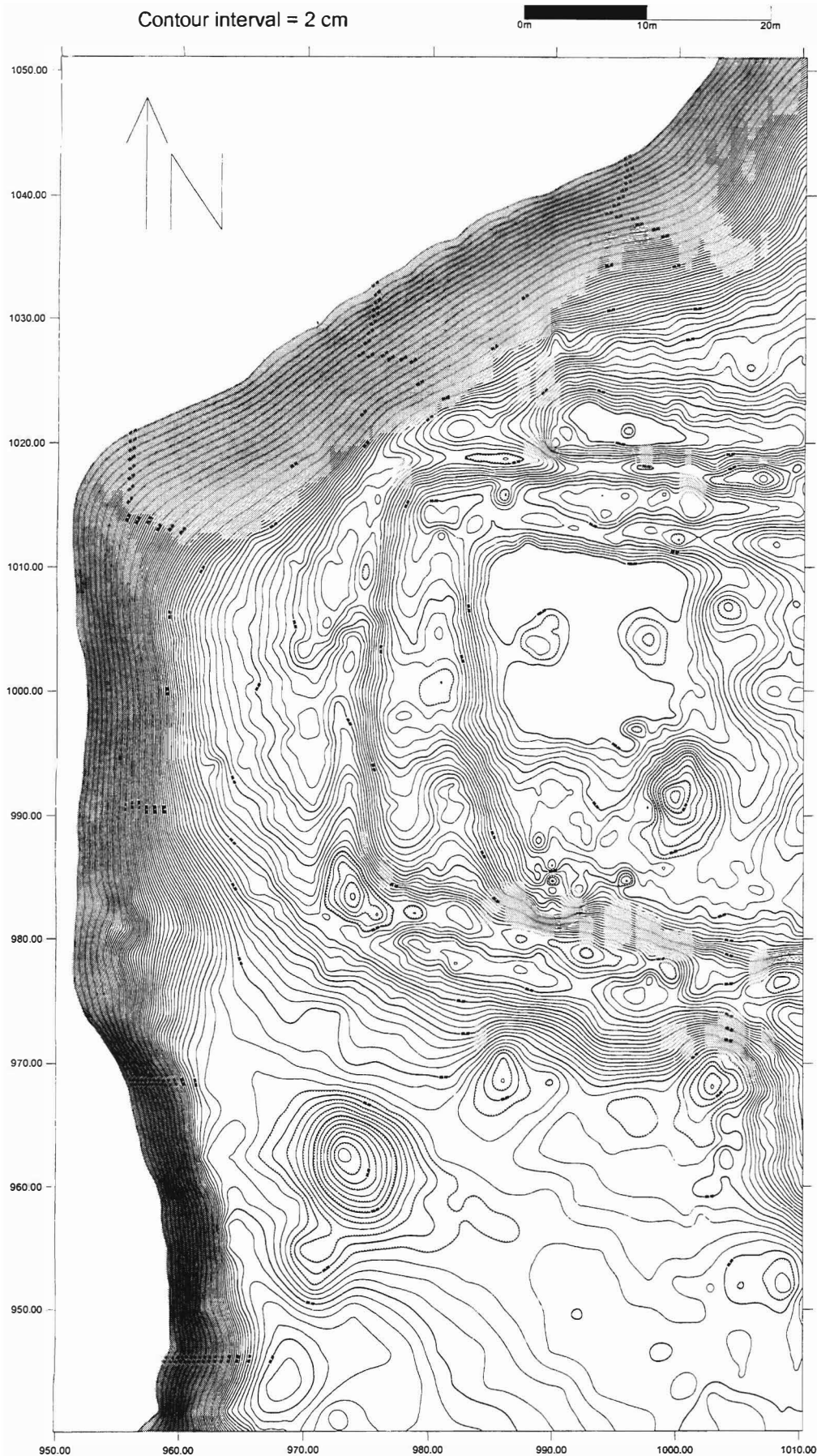


Figure 2. Contour map of the Double Ditch site with a 2-cm contour interval.

The Map

The resulting set of graphic displays produced by Surfer—a conventional 2-cm contour map (Figure 2), a shaded-relief map (Figure 3), and a surface map (Figure 4)—reveal rich detail about the site's topography previously obscured by ground cover. It had been known that there were a number of lodge depressions within the fortification, but the mapping revealed at least six and possibly seven lodges in the unplowed portion of the site. Three depressions are also visible outside of the fortification, and test excavations completed in September of 2000 strongly suggest that at least the largest of these is also a lodge.

The ditches are clearly visible on all graphic versions of the data, and these features are also evident at the site. However, a previously unrecognized feature associated with the presumed fortification system can be discerned on both the shaded-relief and surface maps of the site. This may be a causeway entrance similar to the two proposed by Marshall McKusick for the Wittrock site. To date no test excavations have been conducted on this feature at Double Ditch. Finally, the high resolution capability of this mapping technique is revealed in the recording of minute features such as *badger burrows*.

Duration of Occupation

Excavations at Double Ditch, both in 1994 and 2000, shed light on the length of occupation at the site. Artifact densities were very low in units located in house depressions and ditches. For example, one 1-x-1-m unit excavated to a depth of 50 cm in the

large house depression to the southwest of the fortified area yielded a body sherd, a flake, and a ground stone implement. Such a scant artifact assemblage indicates that the duration of occupation at the site could not have exceeded a few months to a year at most. Thus, the site provides a unique opportunity to examine architectural features as revealed by surface topography and unblemished by an extended occupation. Quite literally, Double Ditch represents a moment in time—a village built and then abandoned.

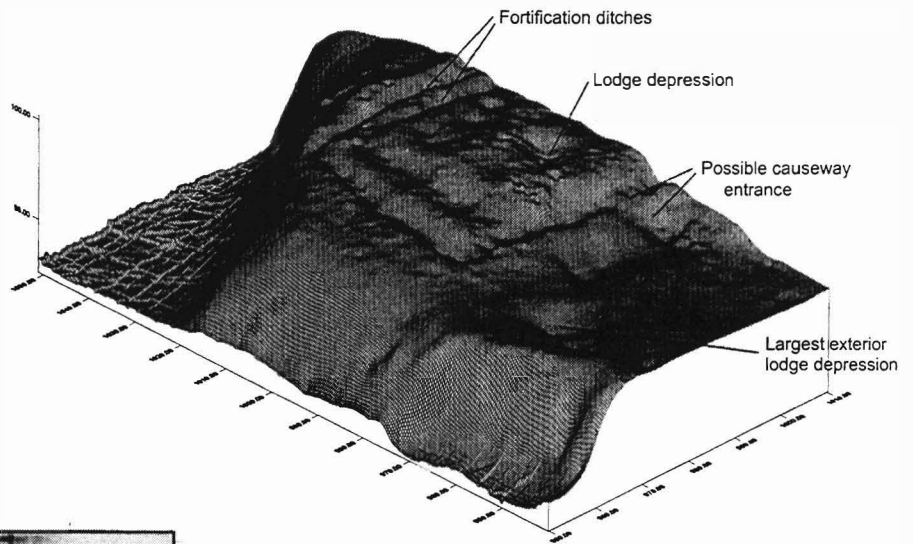


Figure 4. Surface map of the site.

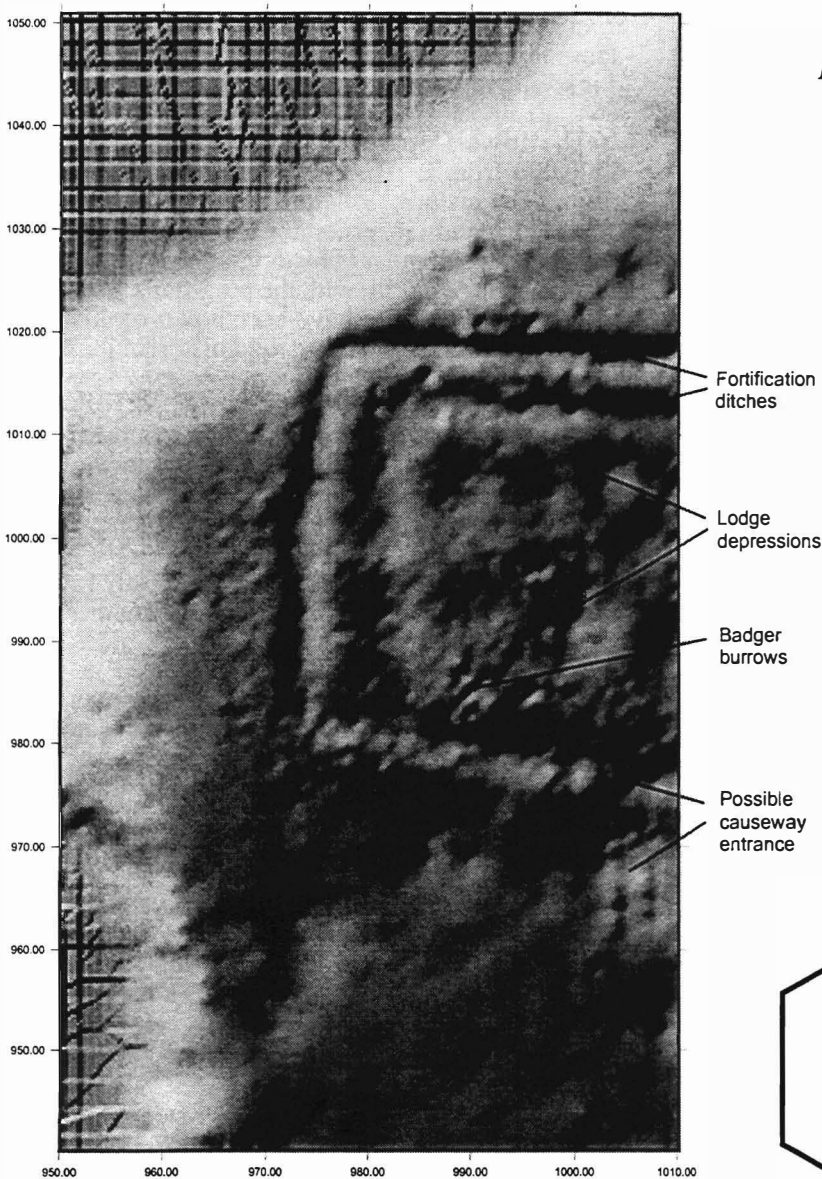


Figure 3. Shaded-relief map of the site with the “sun” 15° above the horizon in the northwest. North is up on the map.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Arnold Litka and his family for permission to research the Double Ditch site and for their hospitality while we were in northwest Iowa. The project would not have been possible without the concerted efforts of the following volunteers: Bill Beazley, Don-Yeung Kim, Lisa Beltz, Barb MacDougal, Daniel Berntson, Brandon MacDougal, San-Eun Chung, Briana MacDougal, Mike Erpelding, Nathan MacDougal, Alecia Gibson, Amy Marquardt, Jennifer Gibson, Marcia Marquardt, Josh Gibson, Andy Neary.

CELEBRATE
 The
IAS 50TH ANNIVERSARY
APRIL 27 - 29, 2001
SANFORD MUSEUM
CHEROKEE, IA
Mark your calendars now for this event!

Heritage Addition Officially Added to Effigy Mounds National Monument

The 1,045-acre Heritage Addition officially became part of Effigy Mounds National Monument (EFMO) Friday, Dec. 15, well ahead of project organizers' most optimistic predictions.

"These are the kinds of surprises we like to have," said Mark Ackelson, president of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF). "We finalized the purchase from Charles and Dorothy Kistler of Arizona only a few hours before transferring the deed to Effigy Mounds National Monument. Everyone told us it would take a year to move from federal funding approval to actual deed transfer, but it's only taken a couple months. We are especially grateful for the hard work of the National Park Service in helping the process move quickly."

Ackelson officially transferred the deed to the National Park Service at a Friday ceremony at Effigy Mounds Visitors Center. INHF, a member-supported, nonprofit organization, spearheaded the landowner negotiations, fundraising and other logistics to make the Heritage Addition a reality.

The 1,045-acre addition expands the existing EFMO by 60 percent. More significantly, it connects EFMO and a unit of the Yellow River State Forest, putting more than 4,000 contiguous acres under public protection.

The Heritage Addition contains several streams and 2.5 miles of the Yellow River, which many claim is one of Iowa's best rivers for canoeing and small mouth bass fishing. Together, the Yellow River State Forest Unit, Heritage Addition and Effigy Mounds National Monument protect 7.8 miles of this river, along with critical migratory bird habitat along the Upper Mississippi River flyway.

Several state-endangered species have been found on the addition, including the jeweled shooting star, red-shouldered hawk and pileated woodpecker. Thirteen archaeological sites have been located scattered throughout the property. These include two bear effigies, linear mounds and habitation sites.

The National Park Service and EFMO are still working out details on how the property will be managed for its natural and cultural resources and the public. Like the rest of EFMO, the Heritage Addition will not be open to hunting or any type of vehicles.

EFMO is planning to host a public hike and dedication sometime this summer. "Effigy Mounds National Monument is honored to be entrusted with the care of these wonderful natural and cultural resources that convey our past history so well," said Phyllis Ewing, EFMO superintendent.

Various agencies, organizations and individuals have sought this key addition almost since the National Monument

was created in 1949 as a gift from the state of Iowa to the National Park Service. INHF has been working to develop a mutually acceptable arrangement with local landowners and other partners almost since the group's founding in 1979.

The entire project, including land acquisition and related fees, interest, initial management costs and other expenses was more than \$1.5 million. Funds came from a variety of federal, state and private sources.

Iowa's Congressional delegation, including Rep. Jim Nussle, Sen. Charles Grassley and Sen. Tom Harkin, worked together to secure federal funding of \$750,000 toward the project.

The Iowa Department of Transportation granted \$330,000 from its Statewide Transportation Enhancement Funds. The addition is located along the Great River Road, adding to this scenic highway's natural beauty.

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs granted \$200,000 from its Historic Site Preservation Grant Program. "The historic site grant program was created by the Legislature and Governor for the 'restoration, preservation, and development of historical sites.' The purchase of this tract fits perfectly with the program's goals. Our Department is thrilled to have been a part of this important effort," said Kathy Gourley, field historian for the department.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources provided a no-interest loan for a portion of the costs from the Blufflands Revolving Loan Fund, which was created by the Iowa legislature to help secure important bluffland areas.

More than 1,000 individual donors, mostly Iowans from the area and throughout the state, gave another \$265,000 toward the Heritage Addition.

David Bolger, a New Jersey businessman who was visiting the area when federal funds were in doubt, offered to carry the interest on the federal funds for up to a year. Though federal funding arrived sooner than expected, Bolger is still covering interest costs until all pledge and grant payments are in.

"This project literally took a half century, a willing landowner, an act of Congress, support from state agencies, a team of dedicated professionals and volunteers from INHF and hundreds of individual Iowans—a partnership in the truest sense," said Ackelson. "But the Heritage Addition's wildlife, cultural and scenic values make it more than worth the effort."

Taken from press release by Cathy Engstrom, INHF.

Public Archaeological Fieldwork Opportunity

Dallas County, Iowa

July 3-July 13, 2001

The Dallas County Conservation Department is sponsoring a volunteer excavation at the 1000 year old Maxwell site, a Great Oasis village on the Raccoon River, Dallas County, Iowa. The site represents one of a cluster of Great Oasis sites in the central Iowa region inhabited 1100 to 900 years ago. Other Great Oasis sites occur in extreme northwestern Iowa. Previous archaeology at the site has suggested the presence of in tact houses, storage pits, intensive corn farming, and typical Great Oasis pottery, stone artifacts, bone and shell tools, faunal and floral remains.

The 2001 volunteer fieldwork is being held in conjunction with an Iowa State University academic field school in archaeological field methods. An area of the village currently endangered by erosion from the Raccoon River will be studied. Research goals include delineation of house features, poorly known from central Iowa Great Oasis sites, and further documentation of corn farming by Great Oasis peoples. Participants will be introduced to the full range of standard excavation methods and have an opportunity to take part in laboratory analysis.

The public field school will be held July 3-13, 2001. Adults and children over ten years of age are invited to participate (children under age 15 must be accompanied by adults) at a cost of \$5.00 per person per day. This fee will be waived for certified IAS members. Attendance at one of two orientation sessions is mandatory for participants who are not IAS certified. Participation in the field school may be utilized towards IAS Certification. The Dallas County Conservation Department will offer complementary programs including an archaeological canoe trip. Volunteers are responsible for travel to and from the project, meals, lodging, and need to have their own insurance.

Final arrangements for the field school, notice of local lodging, and registration materials are forthcoming. For more information contact:

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IAS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & SPRING MEETING, April 27-29 Sanford Museum, Cherokee, IA

The event kicks off Friday night with a welcoming reception for IAS members as well as past directors, and other Sanford staff. The Sanford has invited the IAS to share their special exhibits and programs in honor of their 50th Anniversary. On Saturday and Sunday the IAS will have Regional Summaries of the history of archaeology in Iowa, chapter reports, a business meeting, reports on the latest field work around the state, field trips and a banquet featuring Steve Lensink, Associate Director, OSA as guest speaker.

A detailed agenda, hotel, dining and registration information will be mailed directly to members.

IAS Chapter News

Black Hawk Regional Chapter

Dr. Michael Shott presented *Prehistoric Oneota in Western Iowa: Recent Work at the Jillett Grove Site* at the December meeting. Dr. Strickert spoke on the topic *The Cave of Letters: 1999-2000 Expeditions near the Dead Sea of Israel* for the meeting in January.

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Central Iowa Chapter

In January the chapter had its yearly business meeting, election of officers, and viewed the video *The Battle of Bad Ax - a look at the final events of Blackhawk's War and defeat in Wisconsin*. In February, members began washing more than 3000 artifacts from the last two years of field survey work at Living History Farms.

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(712) 525-1007
Farming99@aol.com

Southeast Iowa Archaeology Chapter

The Southeast Iowa Chapter held a planning meeting February 19th at the Bennett Regional Training Center. Dave Parker and Mark Dillon were elected as chapter co-presidents and plans were made for the second Archaeological Awareness Day on March 24th and 25th at Pioneer Ridge, south of Ottumwa.

Contact Anton Till

16388 Second St., Hedrick, IA 52563
(515) 684-6551

Northwest Chapter

The Northwest Chapter continued to work on the Van Voorhis Collection at the Sanford Museum. Along with the Sanford Museum, the Chapter is looking forward to hosting the IAS 50th Anniversary Spring Meeting in April.

Contact Linda Burkhart

Sanford Museum
117 E. Willow, Cherokee, IA 51012
(712) 225-3922
sanford@cherokee.k12.ia.us

Quad City Archaeological Society

In February Larry Conrad, Director of the Western Illinois University Archaeological Research lab, presented a slide program on the recent excavations at a prehistoric Indian town known as the Hildemeyer Site. The site is located north of Peoria, Illinois.

Contact Ferrel Anderson

1923 East 13th St., Davenport, IA 52803
(319) 324-025

Ellison Orr Chapter

The Ellison Orr Chapter, formerly the Northeast Chapter, held its first meeting in nearly 30 years on Sunday, December 10 in Waukon. Fifteen people from around northeast Iowa attended the organizational meeting. The group discussed topics for future meetings and shared ideas for field trips and special events. Several people brought artifacts to show and printed resources to share. The second meeting of the Orr Chapter was held in Postville on Sunday, January 21. Joe B. Thompson of Bear Creek Archeology, Inc., gave a presentation on archaeological site types.

Contact Lori Stanley, (319) 387-1283

or Joe B. Thompson, (319) 387-0092

Orr Chapter, PO Box 511, Decorah, IA 52101
iasorrchapter@hotmail.com



ELLISON ORR CHAPTER MEETING

Photo by Lori Stanley. Back row: Joe B. Thompson (Decorah), Mike Quillin (Waterville), Diane Quillin (Waterville), Jim Magner (Waukon), Maury Gallagher (Postville), Les Orr (Waukon), Tom Waters (New Albin), Lorraine Gallagher (Postville), Colin Betts (Decorah) Front row: Ian Burroughs (New Albin), Chad Burroughs (New Albin), Paula Hitchcock (Waukon), Gregg Klein (Waukon), Or Ehrie (Glenwood Twp, Allamakee Co.)



TIME CAPSULES TO PROVIDE RESOURCES

Do you need resources for a presentation or mini-exhibit on archaeology for your classroom, your library, or your meeting? Under an initial grant from Humanities Iowa, the OSA is preparing four resource kits "Time Capsules from the Past" which will be available on loan to help.

Each time capsule will contain a variety of resources to aid in teaching about life in Iowa during a specific millenium. including artifacts and artifact replicas, visuals (pictures and maps), lesson plans, videos, lists of additional references. Also, each will contain background information on the time period as well as on the actual contents of the capsules.

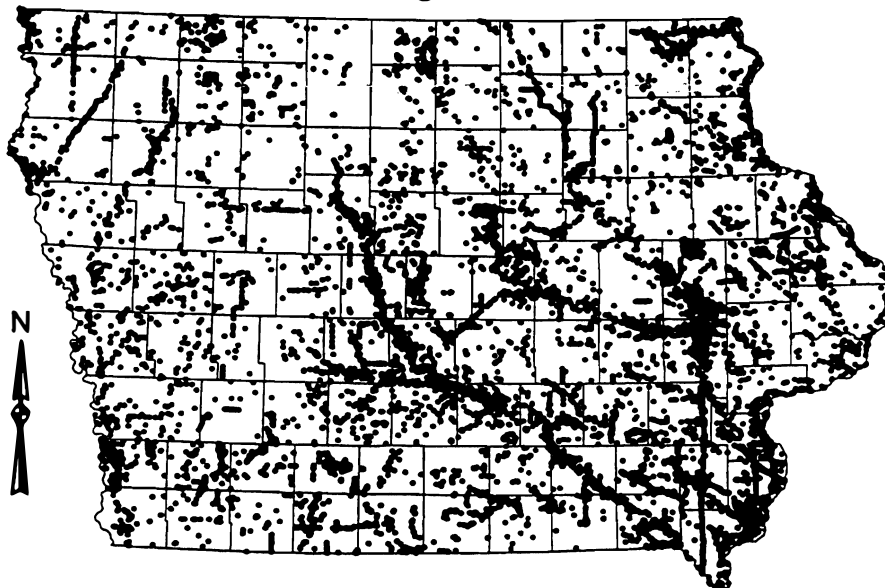
The first of these capsules, depicting Iowa life 12,000 years ago (Paleo-Indian), will be available this spring, with capsules from 3,000, 2,000, and 1,000 years ago to be completed in the near future. Two copies of each are planned. These may be borrowed from OSA for a modest fee to cover mailing and replacement costs.

OSA INVESTIGATES DUBUQUE SHIPYARD

Phase III data recovery excavations were conducted at site 13DB571 during October-November, 2000. This site was once the location of the Dubuque Boat and Boiler Works, Iowa's largest shipyard. In use from 1885 until its demolition in 1973, the shipyard is considered eligible to the National Register of Historic Places.

Archival research, which includes company records and oral history interviews with former employees, is ongoing and the artifact analysis has begun.

Recorded Archaeological Sites in Iowa



DIGITIZING PROJECT COMPLETE

In December, 2000, Joe Artz and Heidi Lack completed a 21-month project to digitize Iowa's archaeological sites into a Geographic Information System (GIS). Funding for the digitizing project was provided by the Federal Highway Administration under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA) through a grant to the State Historical Society of Iowa and OSA. The figure above plots the locations of some 19,700 sites that were digitized into the system. Using the GIS, maps were also created that display the Public Land Survey grid for each county, with each 1x1 mile section coded for the number of sites it contains. To view the section maps, visit the [GIS@OSA](http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/GISatOSA) website (www.uiowa.edu/~osa/GISatOSA).

Since March, 2000, GIS has been fully integrated into OSA's management of the Iowa Site File, the master record of archaeological sites in the state. As new site forms are received, the locations are first digitized into the GIS. In addition, Site Records

Manager Colleen Eck routinely uses the GIS to process site search requests, 465 of which crossed her desk in the past year. Prior to the GIS, site searches required pulling multiple

paper maps from their cabinet, wrestling them onto a photocopy machine, then refileing the maps. With the GIS, the entire process can be completed at a desktop workstation. Beyond the obvious gain in efficiency, customer satisfaction is at an all-time high, not only because of rapid turn around, but because of the attractive end product - a printed, color map with neatly labeled sites.

Increasingly, GIS-savvy archaeologists are submitting site locations in shapefile format that can be merged into the existing county shapefiles with only minimal processing by OSA staff.

The future for GIS applications in Iowa archaeology is promising. The State Historical Society is making steady progress in its task of creating a statewide GIS of archaeological survey locations, with funding from ISTEA. GIS@OSA is presently partnering with the Iowa Information Technology Department and the University of Missouri's Center for Agriculture, Resource and Environmental Science to create a web-based application, "I-Sites", that will link the archaeological sites GIS and the Iowa Site File database, and deliver content from both via the Internet.

Archaeology Items of Interest

Upcoming Events

May 19-20-The Living History Farms Field Survey of agricultural fields will be completed. The Central Iowa Chapter and the Living History Farms have jointly sponsored this project and welcome volunteers. For information, please contact Mike Heimbaugh, CIC, Ph. (515)-255-4909 or by e-mail at paleomike@msn.com.

June 17-23-Ft. Atkinson, Iowa, Cultural Resources Field School: Integrating History and Archaeology. Participants will be exposed to northeast Iowa geology, botany, history, culture, Winnebago tribal history, and architecture. For information about the field school activities, cost and registration form, contact: Diane Ford-Shivvers, Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Bldg., 900 East Grand Ave., Des Moines, 50319-0034. Phone (515) 281-0878 or contact by e-mail: Diane.Ford-Shivvers@dnr.state.ia.us.

Missing Artifact

A Catlinite tablet was stolen from Pipestone County Museum, Pipestone, Minnesota. The missing object is tabular, about 3/4" thick, is irregularly shaped with dimensions at the widest points 7 1/8 inches by 5 1/8 inches. It is red in color and darkened where it has been exposed to heat. A number of figures are incised on both surfaces; the most easily-recognized are human-like figures with round heads and arms bent, and raised to head level. A snake-like figure is incised on the other side along with many other superimposed figures. The tablet was found on the Blood Run site, northwest Iowa, and donated to the Pipestone County Museum by the landowner. Contact Rebecca Ostrom, Assistant Director Pipestone County Museum, 113 S. Hiawatha Ave., Pipestone, MN 56164., Ph (507) 825-2563, or piptctymu@rconnect.com.

Book

The Little Ice Age, The Prelude to Global Warming, 1300-1850 by Brian Fagan, 256 pages, 27 illustrations. Published by Basic books in 2001. Fagan writes of the world between 1300 and 1850 when dramatic weather changes collectively dubbed "the Little Ice Age" affected northern European societies in ways ranging from famine and political revolution to the settling of North America.

Web Sites

Iowa State University Anthropology Laboratory's Web site has been updated. Check it out at the following: www.public.iastate.edu/~anthr/info/isual/homepage.html.

State Historical Society of Iowa's Web site is also one of interest. Review it at: www.iowahistory.org/

Membership Information

Contact Membership Secretary, Iowa Archeological Society, University of Iowa, 700 Clinton Street Building, Iowa City, IA 52242-1030.

Membership Dues

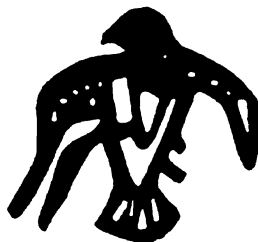
Voting:		Non-Voting:	
Active	\$15	Student (under 18)	\$7
Household	\$18	Institution	\$20
Sustaining	\$25		

Newsletter Information

The Iowa Archeological Society is a non-profit, scientific society legally organized under the corporate laws of Iowa. Members of the Society share a serious interest in the archaeology of Iowa and the Midwest. *Iowa Archeology News* is published four times a year.

All materials for publication should be sent to the Editor: Michael Heimbaugh, 3923 29th St., Des Moines, IA 50310. Phone (515) 255-4909. E-mail: paleomike@msn.com

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