Iowa Archeology News

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Summer 2002 Excavations at 13CY2, the Gillett Grove Site
by John F. Doershuk, Ph.D.

Once again, the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory Archaeological Field School has excavated at the Gillett Grove site (13CY2) (Figure 1). During Summer 2002, seven students participated including Brennan Dolan and Crystal Meyer (University of Iowa); Bryan Camacho, Bryan Kendall, Shanley Jacobs, and Kim Smith (University of Northern Iowa); and Sherri Schillinger (Iowa Lakes Community College). Excavation work was focused on an area of intensive artifact deposition on the western side of the site.

Continuation of archaeological work at the site has been made possible through the cooperation and interest of the landowner, Gross Farms of Greenville, Inc., and especially Mr. Tom Gross. Tom is once again to be commended for his on-going protection of the site and for his enthusiastic participation in furthering the archaeological study of this resource.

As previously reported in this newsletter, the Gillett Grove site is located in Clay County, Iowa approximately three miles southwest of the town of Gillett Grove (population ca. 55) and just north of the Little Sioux River valley. The site is large, covering minimally 10 acres and perhaps as much as 20 acres or more. Most of the site is cultivated; the southern and western margins are in pasture. The pasture to the south has not been actively tilled for some time; it appears the western pasture may never have been plowed. The eastern margin of the site is delimited by an adjacent county gravel road. To the north the site boundary is less obvious, but

Figure 1. Excavations in progress.

multiple controlled surface collections (as reported by Michael Shott, Joseph Tiffany, John Doershuk, and Jason Titcomb in a recent *Plains Anthropologist* article [2002 47-181] entitled, "The Reliability of Surface Assemblages: Recent Results from the Gillett Grove Site, Clay County, Iowa"), suggest the site extends perhaps 275 m north of the fence that separates the Gross Farms property from the area of the site in the untilled southern pasture.

Formal excavations have now taken place during seven of the past eight summers: Michael Shott of the University of Northern Iowa directed the 1995, 1999, and 2001 Lakeside Lab field schools at 13CY2; John Doershuk of the Office of the State Archaeologist at The University of Iowa directed the Lakeside Lab field schools in 1996, 1997, and 2002; and Joseph Tiffany, formerly of Iowa State University and now of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse directed the 13CY2 Lakeside Lab field school in 1998.

Each year, the focus of the Lakeside Lab field school has been the training of students in archaeological excavation techniques and related documentation and interpretation skills. Topics including northwest Iowa culture history; archaeological surveying techniques; stratigraphic interpretation; excavation and lab methods for the recovery, processing, and organizing of artifacts; and identification and interpretation of artifact types and assemblages have been taught. Despite the instructional orientation of the field schools the co-directors share a commitment to substantive research and are working towards combining the data collected by their students into a synthetic work on the site.

As noted, portions of the Gillett Grove site have never been subject to agricultural plowing. These areas are on the western margin of the site; it was unclear what the archaeological potential might be prior to the Lakeside Lab investigations at the site. Thus, these areas became the focus of the 1995 and 1996 field schools, and a similar location was the focus for 2002. Three adjacent westward projecting lobes have now been investigated at the site by the Lakeside Lab field school students; all of these areas have consistently yielded high densities of lithic, faunal, and ceramic material as well as a few examples of catlinite (pipestone) artifacts, copper or brass folded wire and tinkler cones, and glass trade beads such as had been found during previous surface collecting at the site.

In 2002, the opportunity arose to excavate on the most southerly of the westward projecting lobes on the Gross Farms-owned portion of 13CY2. Tom Gross was kind enough to once again permit disruption of a portion of his pasture; with the aid of electric fencing we were able to convince his cattle herd to avoid our open excavation units. The field school students worked very hard and completed 16 of 17 planned units arranged in an "L"-shaped distribution. The "hub" of this collection of 1-x-1-m units was a partially excavated and backfilled unit started in 2001 by Michael Shott's students. In 2002, we initially excavated five units to the west and four units to the south of this 2001 unit; then we placed a second set of 1-x-1-m units adjacent to and immediately south of our east-west transect and adjacent to and immediately west of our north-south transect resulting in a 2-x-3-m excavation area butted up to a 2-x-6-m excavation area. Only the northeastern-most unit and southwestern-most units in this latter block were left unexcavated. The soils were relatively consistent in the units we dug and although rodent runs of various sizes were detected throughout it was clear that the artifact-bearing matrix was generally a 30–60 cm thick layer that tended to be a very dark gray to very dark grayish brown silty clay loam (Figure 2). Under this layer was found the typical subsoil across all areas of the site excavated to date, a blocky dark brown to yellowish brown silty clay loam mostly devoid of artifacts.

The 2002 excavations explored an area that appears to represent intensive deposition of artifacts generated during periodic clean-up activities of household activity areas. It can be reasonably hypothesized that these household areas were probably located closer to the geographical center of the site, namely in the plowed field portion such as where Doershuk excavated in 1997, Tiffany in 1998, and Shott in 1999 and 2001. Although we are still in the process of generating the artifact catalog and counts and weights of the various recovered material types for the 2002 collection, the impressions gained in the field during our excavations were that much of the bone and pottery were thoroughly broken up as if heavily processed and discarded during meal preparation, then later intentionally cleaned up (probably in the process getting further broken up), and transported to the periphery of the site to be thrown out.

Figure 2. Bryan Kendall (UNI) defining the stratigraphic profile.

Several of the larger pieces of bone recovered, probably bison, were extensively gnawed (Figure 3). Although numerous small whole triangular projectile points were recovered in this hypothesized dump area, these points are rather ubiquitous in distribution across the site and may have been considered less interesting by the site occupants than by today's archaeologists. The Gillett Grove site people may not have deemed retrieval of the occasional lost bead or point from the midden refuse they cleaned up and transported to the western margin of the site as a priority—fortunately for us!

The success of the Lakeside lab field school activities over the past eight years and the continued willingness of the landowner to cooperate with archaeologists investigating Oneota lifeways in northwest Iowa suggest a great deal more can be learned at the Gillett Grove site. Use of remote sensing technology at the site, perhaps ground penetrating radar, may prove possible in the next year or so and will be very useful in targeting the location of future field school excavations at this important site.

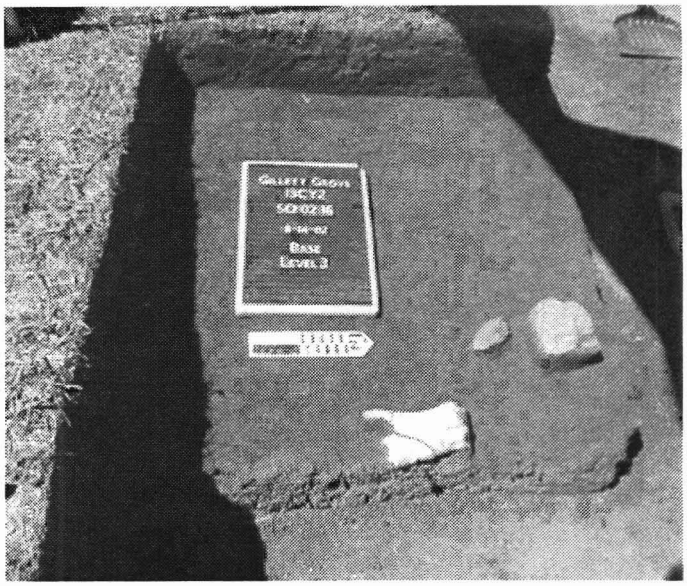


Figure 3. Square 16, base of Level 3, bison bone and fire-cracked rock.

FYI
Traditional Euro-American Garden Herbs
by Tim Weitzel

People have grown plants for thousands of years. It is thought the first intentional gardening developed out of cultures that used hunting, gathering, and foraging to get the things needed for every day life. Eventually, people found they had to stay in one place rather than move about the countryside as they wanted or needed. Living in one place ties people to that spot on the earth and it gives them the opportunity to develop more elaborate plant growing methods. Knowledge about what plants were good for various uses was passed from one generation to the next.

Herbs are a special kind of plant in that they are not grown just for food. Herbs are used for seasonings, medicine, and ceremonial practices. Before the Renaissance, the study of science, religion, medicine, and food seasonings were intertwined. Herbs were important for reasons that we may call superstitions or folk magic today. Herbs were important to ward-off bad sprits and, invoke luck and maintain good health. For example, a milk pail had to have certain herbs laid in the bottom to keeps bad spirits out of it that would cause milk to go sour and a piece of food dropped on the floor was sprinkled with seasonings to cleanse it. But don't be too convinced that the people of the past were not smart. People remain superstitious about many things. But if the reasoning used is not accurate, superstitions have served as aids to help recall the use of each plant from ancient myths through virtues and humors to incipient medical science. Many herbal remedies actually do work and are still used in modern medical treatments. Only with the advent of modern science have we begun to fully understand why certain herbal remedies worked while others did not. Ancient herbals and the stories of how plants were used also provide a somewhat unique window into the past.

The earliest recorded evidence of herb gardens is in China about 5,000 years ago. Herbs and the knowledge of how to use and grow them spread with trade to the west. Sumerians and Egyptians made records of the herbs they used by about 4,000 years ago. By 2,400 years ago, the Greeks were making their own records of herbal remedies and the plants to grow to make them. The Romans used herbs for culinary or food uses as well as for medicine. They brought to Europe many of the plants and gardening techniques later used in the medieval period. The local Germanic and Celtic peoples also had their own traditions for growing herbs and the two traditions were combined over the generations with scientific study from the near east, a center of science in the 6th through 9th centuries. European physicians recorded, copied, and rewrote these stories into medieval herbals, a form of early medical and pharmaceutical text. The knowledge of the uses of herbs were brought to North America along with samples of seeds and plants by immigrants to North America. These plants were incorporated into gardens throughout the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries.

The following is a list of many of the herbs common to medieval and early historic American gardens.

Leaf herbs	Latin name	Date
Lady's mantle	*Alchemilla mollis*	1800
Basil, Sweet basil	*Ocimum basilicum*	1750
Borage	*Borago officianalis*	1627
Cabbage	*Brassica oleracea var. capitata*	1627
Dandelion	*Taraxacum officinale*	1700
Dill	*Anethum graveolens*	1750
English ivy	*Hedera helix*	1750
Goose-grass, bedstraw, or gallium	*Galium verum*	1750
Ground ivy	*Glechoma hederacea*	1750
Lavender	*Lavendula spp.*	1800
Lettuce	*Lactuca sativa var. cos, L. sativa var. romaine*	1627
Lovage	*Levisticum officianale*	1750
Marjoram	*Origanum spp.*	1750
Mint, Spearmint	*Mentha spicata*	1750
Lemon balm	*Melissa officinalis*	1750
Catmint	*Nepta cataria*	1750
Nettle	*Urtica dioica*	1750
Parsley	*Petroselinum crispum*	1627
Plantain	*Plantago major*	1750
Rosemary	*Rosmarinus officinalis*	1750
Sage, Common	*Salvia officinalis*	1627
Tansy	*Tanacetum vulgare*	1627
Tarragon	*Artemisia dracunculus*	1750
Thyme, common	*Thymus vulgaris*	1627
Thyme, Mother-of-thyme	*Thymus serpyllum*	1750
Root herbs		
Beets	*Beta vulgaris*	1627
Chicory	*Cichorium intylus*	1759
Dandelion	*Taraxacum officinale*	1700
Garlic	*Allium sativum*	1700
Onion	*Allium cepa*	1627
Flower herbs		
Apple		early1800s
Borage	*Borago officianalis*	1627
Calendula, Pot marigold	*Calendula officinalis*	1627
Chamomile	*Chamaemelum nobile*	1750
Cottage or	*Dianthus spp.*	before 1700
Clove pinks	*Alcea spp.*	1750-
Hollyhock		1800s
Rose, Briar and Apothecary	*Rosa spp.*	1800s
Quince	*Cydonia oblanga*	1850
Tansy	*Tanacetum vulgare*	1627
Fruit and Seed herbs		
Coriander	*Coriandrum sativum*	1750
Dill	*Anethum graveolens*	1750
Fennel	*Foeniculum vulgare*	1750
Hops	*Humulus lupulus*	1600s
Medlar	*Mespilus germanica*	1800
Plantain	*Plantago major*	1750
Rose hips	*Rosa spp.*	1800s
Tree bark		
Birch, European white	*Betula pendula*	1750
Birch, native	*B. nigra, B. occidnetalis, B. papyrifera, B. populifolia*	about 1800

Ten Traditional Herbs That Can Be Grown in Iowa

Lavender, Common or English (*Lavandula augustifilolia* or *L. officianalis*)

Lavender is an aromatic herb. Its scent is said to be calming. It is a known to be strongly antiseptic and antibacterial. It was used in as a wound dressing in many wars, even as late as World War II when substitute for more typical sterilization products where unavailable. In the Middle Ages, it was used to make cooking oil, vinegar, preserves, and the flowers were crystallized in sugar. It was added to potpourri mixtures, sachets, and aromatic oils. Lavender was used in Tudor knot gardens and perfume. Its name is derived from the Latin verb *lavare* meaning, to wash, and refers to its use in scented oils added to baths in the Roman period. Lavender and sage, like olive trees, are xerophytes meaning they are adapted to dry conditions and their leave hold moisture longer than other plants, which is why they appear somewhat gray in color.

Mint—Spearmint, Lemon balm, Catnip (*Mentha sp.*)

Mints are an aromatic herb. It is a known to have antiseptic, antibacterial, antispasmodic, and anti-inflammatory properties. It is named for the Greek nymph *Minthe*, who was transformed into a plant. The plant originated in east Asia, and was traded and passed along through the middle east, or western Asia, to north Africa and from there to Europe. It has been used since ancient times to treat stomach disorders and was used to flavor sauces and beverages including a middle eastern drink called sakanjaben, a sort of odd mixture of sugar, vinegar and mint leaves that was a sort of medieval "sports drink" in hot climates. It is good here, too. Lemon Balm *(Melissa officinalis*) is a lemon-smelling relative of mint that was rubbed on new bee hives to attract a swarm of bees to inhabit it.

Parsley, curled, wild, and garden (*Petroselinum crispum*)

Parsley was prescribed in Medieval Europe for many ailments ranging from gout to asthma. It was supposed to help nursing mothers as well. The Ancient Greeks regarded the herb highly and crowned victors of the Isthmian Games with it. The Greeks and Romans decorated graves with the herb. Parsley was planted with rue along the edges of herb beds. It was also added to fish ponds if the fish were doing poorly. Romans used it for food and thought it would discourage intoxication at feasts. Medieval food uses for

parsley include sauces, salads, soups and potages, and pickles. Parsley is extremely difficult to plant and many superstitions arouse around the meaning of being able to grow it or not being able to grow it. A Welsh border proverb suggested the devil took nine of ten sowings of the herb, and it was also suggested that the garden in which it grew belonged to a woman who was the dominant partner of a marriage. The garden and wild parsleys have flat leaves and taste a little different from the curled variety.

Onion, common (*A. cepa*) and **Garlic** *(A. sativa*). Onions are one of earliest plants to be planted and was cultivated throughout Asia and the Mediterranean. **Shallots** (A. ascalonium) were brought to England by soldiers returning from the crusades in the Middle East. Another allium, chives (*Allium scheonoprasium*) were not introduced to Europe until the Renaissance. Onions were valued for their antiseptic properties. The bulbs were eaten whole and raw, or chopped and added to a wide variety of foods. Pickled oninons were also made as a type of preserve. Garlic was thought to be good for problems with phlegm, one of the "humors" of the body. It was thought to cure leprosy and it was also used as an embalming herb for the dead. Ancient, medieval people, and some modern peoples feel the herb is a protection against evil, which is why you see it used in so many vampire movies.

Sage, common (*Salvia officinalis*)

Sage was considered a sacred plant by the Greeks and Romans who thought the plant possessed strong powers for well being. Their lore stated the plant should not be cut with iron. In actuality, the juice of the plant does react with iron and it is known to contain strong antiseptic, astringent, and antifungal properties. Medieval lore held that the herb promoted longevity and prosperity. In foods, sage was used in salads, stuffing, soups and potages, flavored vinegar, beverages, and meat dishes.

Basil or Sweet Basil (*Ocimum basilicum)*

Basil is a known stimulant. It was used in Medieval Europe to as a decongestant and stomach tonic. It was also used to flavor sauces, soups, and drinks. Romans brought it to Europe from its native region of Indian and Iran where it was and still is a ritual plant of Hindu peoples. East Indians also used it to treat snake bite. The plant is not winter-hardy in Iowa but does well if planted after frost. Shredded basil and olive oil with piñon nuts are used to make pesto sauce.

Tansy (*Tanacetum sp.)*

This herb appears in the 1,100 year old plan of the St. Gall Monastery, now in Switzerland. Charlemagne, or Charles the Great, emperor of most of Europe around 850, liked this garden so well he ordered all of the plants in it be grown in the royal gardens throughout his empire. Small cakes made with this herb were eaten during Lent and Tansy pudding eaten at Easter. The strong scent of the plant was used to deter insects. In ancient times the herb was used as a preparation for the dead.

Thyme, Common or Garden Thyme *(Thymus vulgaris or Thymus preacox)*

Thyme possesses antiseptic and disinfectant properties. It is an ancient herb that was planted since ancient times and used for food and medicine and was especially recommended to be planted near bee hives because of the quality of honey it made. Medieval uses included remedies for indigestion, mouth and throat disorders, and it was thought to be invigorating to mind and spirit. Thyme was used as a flavoring in a wide assortment of foods.

Borage or Star Flower (*Borago officinalis*)

Borage was thought to be a cheerful plant and as such it was able to make you happy, too. The plant boasts bright blue and pink star-shaped flowers. Women in the middle ages would embroider it on scarves they would give to a knight they favored to win a tournament. French King Louis XIV planted it as an ornamental in his gardens at Versailles. Borage withstands even moderate frosts and will bloom for much of the summer if the flowers are regularly picked. Gerard, a late medieval physician, recommended a syrup of the flower to calm those with frantic nerves and to comfort the heart and drive away sorrow. The leaves add a cucumber flavor to salads and cool drinks. It has long been grown in kitchen gardens and the pollen makes an excellent honey.

Common Yard Weeds are sometimes herbs, too...

Although these plants probably were originally cultivated in medieval gardens they escaped cultivation The plants were spread intentionally or accidentally to North America in the Renaissance and are readily found as a weed in Iowa.

Plantain (Plantago major)

One of nine sacred herbs of the Anglo-Saxons. It warded-away bad spirits. It was used in poultices to treat cuts, blisters, and bites. The herb was carried to European colonies around the world. One native axiom states where ever the Europeans take possession of the soil, the plant springs up.

Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*)

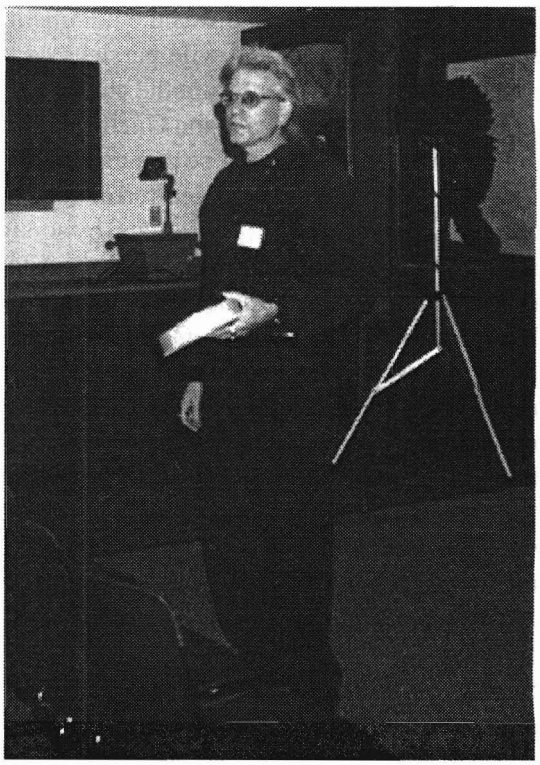
This common weed was thought to remove obstructions in the internal bile organs. It actually does have beneficial effects for internal organs. As with many leafy herbs, the young and tender spring leaves were eaten in salad.

Cat's Paw, Ale-hoof, or Ground-ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*)

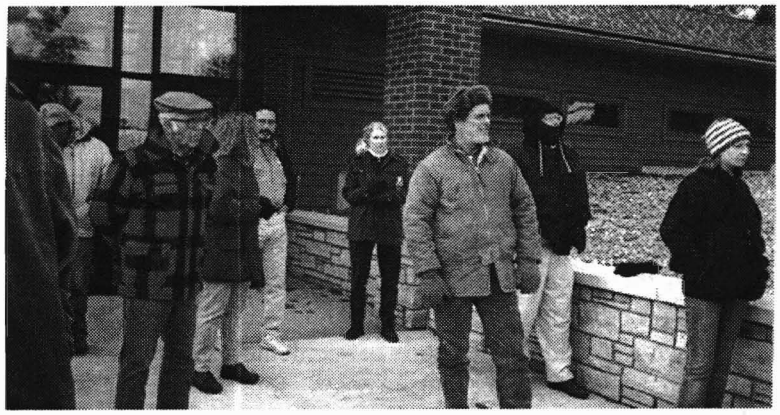
This herb was used to preserve and clarify fermented beverages and its name derives from the French verb guiller, which means, to brew. The herb was used in North America by painters to prevent lead colic. It is a mint relative.

IAS in Pictures

S. E. Iowa Chapter members at Pikes Peak, October 2002. Left toright: Jim Polo, Mark Dillon, Joyce Polo, Dave Parker, Carol Henning, Doug Dumont and Angela Hopkins

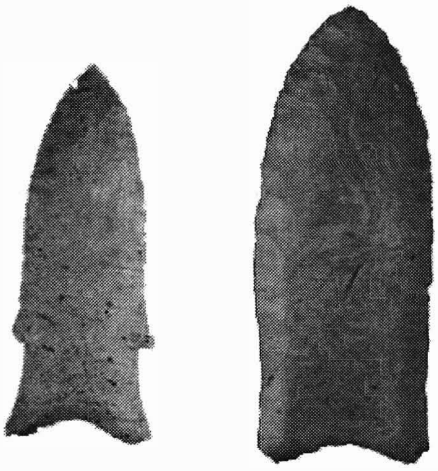


Dave Benn presenting at IAS Fall Meeting



IAS Members bundled up for the tour of Wickiup Hill at Fall IAS Meeting

Visit the*OSA-IAS Web site:*
http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/ias/iashome.htm



Norm Dille personal finds: Hardin 2 & 3/4 inches long and Clovis 3 & 3/4 inches long

WELCOME, NEW IAS MEMBERS, 2002

David C. Anderson	Waukon
Gail Barels	Marion
Monica Brewster	Ames
Dolores J. Carlson	Storm Lake
Mike Daly	Ottumwa
Kathy Dice	Wapello
Betsy Dilla	Ames
Matthew J. Donovan	Boone
Wayne Duvel	Waukon
Jim & Stacie Foradas	Cedar Rapids
Fred R. Gee	Des Moines
Doug & Sherri Geistkemper	Iowa City
David W. Godby	Centerville
Michael M. Gregory & Jane D. Peterson	Milwaukee, WI
Aaron Greiner	Pleasant Hill
Groundwater Service & Supply, Inc	Ankeny
Nick Harken	Ames
Tom & Gwen Harvey	Waukee
Kenny Hipskind	East Moline, IL
Shirley J. Johnson	Milan, IL
Robert R. Leonard	Martelle
Loren Lown	Pleasant Hill
Amanda Mason	North English
Adam Meseke	Ames
John & Lydia Mitchell	Fort Madison
James Mooney	White Hall, Il
Elizabeth P. Pauls	Iowa City
Sarah Pitzen	Iowa City
Janelle Rettig	Iowa City
Kay Risser	Murray
Marilyn Roberts	Bettendorf
Jack and Roma Schlief	Dayton
Matthew Schmitz	Coralville
Alison Werner Smith	Des Moines
Calvin Spinka	Central City
Gary and Kay Stam	Estherville
David Stephenson	Iowa City
Sarah Studenmund	Rockford
Jeff Sulzberger	Ames
George & Dottie Toyne	Humboldt
Alicia M. Trimble	Ames
Pamela Voetberg	Dubuque

Congratulations on achieving 30-year honorary membership status go to:
Duane Anderson, of Santa Fe, NM and
Bob Moats, Estherville, IA.

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		

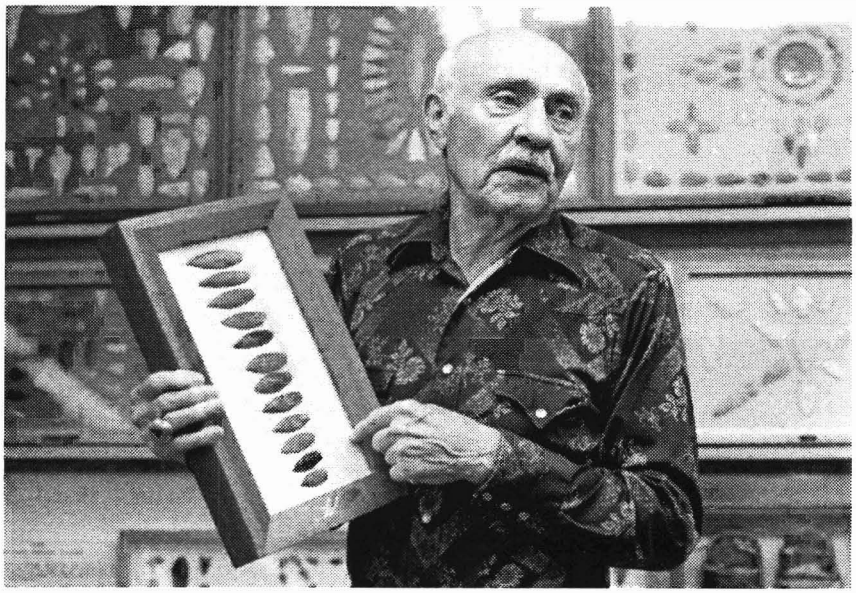
Newsletter Information

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

In Memorial,
George Zalesky

by Mike Perry,
Membership Secretary



George Zalesky in his museum. Reprinted with permission. ©2002, The Gazette, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Sadly we note the passing of George Zalesky, 77, of Swisher, Iowa, in September of this year. George was an IAS member for 24 years and renowned for his tremendous collection of Native American artifacts housed at his Curtis Hill Museum in northern Johnson County. George was born in Chicago in 1925. During his early years in the Windy City, George's parents would take him to Cedar Rapids during summer vacations to visit his uncle, who owned a farm on the southeast edge of town. These trips gave George his first taste of artifact hunting in his uncle's fields. Soon the Zalesky family moved to the Shueyville/Swisher area, and as a teenager George hunted for artifacts in the farm fields north of the Iowa River. After completing his high school education, George entered the military, serving as a radio operator in the Army Air Corps. His tour of duty flying "over the hump" in the Burmese theatre during World War II earned him several medals including the Bronze Star. His military honors were displayed as prominently as the artifacts in his museum.

After the service George returned to the Shueyville/Swisher area and after a brief career as a tavern operator in Cedar Rapids, he took a position at Iowa Manufacturing Company. George spent the next 40 years in various positions at the plant. George used a lot of his free time hunting for artifacts. He reportedly found his first projectile point in 1948 and soon had enough to build his first display, a framed board to which his specimens were wired. About this time, George set for himself the lofty goal of building a collection of artifacts from every state in the union. Toward that end, George traveled throughout the country surface hunting for personal finds and purchasing artifacts from dealers and auctions. George never advocated excavating for artifacts, especially into mounds.

For many years George's collection was displayed in a small bedroom of his home, but eventually the collection outgrew its available space, so George built a separate building to hold it. A 1999 Iowa City Press-Citizen article reported that over 20,000 specimens were housed in the Curtis Hill museum. Thirty thousand might be more accurate. Specimens from every state except Hawaii are present. There is also material from Canada, Belize, Mexico, and Peru. Every kind of collectible Native American handwork, old and new, is represented in the collection. A guest register at the museum lists the names and addresses of visitors from around the nation and as far away as Japan. Former state archaeologist Bill Green considered the collection exceptional and included the Curtis Hill Museum in all of the annual Iowa Archaeology Month event calendars.

George introduced his four children to artifact hunting and the feelings of satisfaction and enjoyment he received from finding a nice projectile point. The seeds of archaeological inquiry took root and grew in his son James. George took young Jim to many sites along the Iowa River in Johnson and Iowa counties and the Cedar River in Linn County. Jim later majored in anthropology at Iowa State University, and documenting George's eastern Iowa sites and the artifacts they collected became the subject of Jim's senior thesis. After graduation, Jim worked for several years at the Office of the State Archaeologist, and maintains his archaeological interest through his own IAS membership.

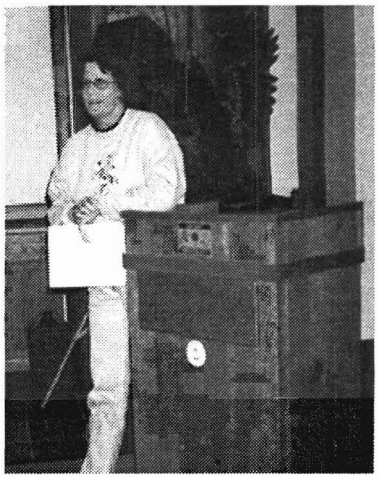
The IAS, and especially those members who knew George personally, extend condolences to Jim and the rest of the Zalesky family.

Iowa Archeological Society
Fall 2002 Meeting

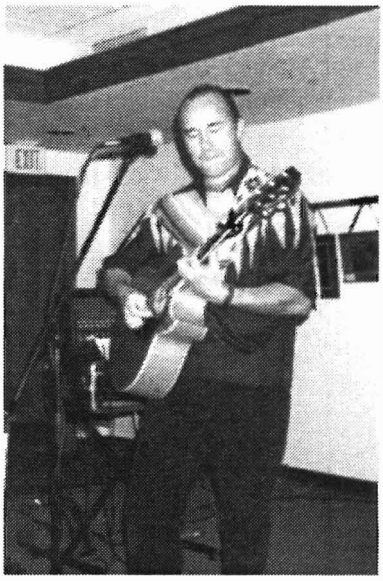
Saturday, November 2, the Iowa Archeological Society Fall meeting was co-sponsored by Linn County Conservation and held at their new Wickiup Hill Natural Area. Located northwest of Cedar Rapids in the Cedar River Greenbelt, Wickiup Hill was surrounded by beautiful woodlands and lots of trails for hiking.

Registration began at 9:00 am, and over 60 people registered, looked at various displays and posters, enjoyed pastries, coffee and visiting before beginning the day's activities. The environmentally friendly facility, funded by Reap Grants and the Linn Co. Conservation Board, was just completed this year. To begin the program, Linn County Naturalist Gail Barels welcomed the audience to the new facility and gave the members highlights of the building's construction.

Maria Schroeder, Office of the State Archaeologist, gave the presentation ***Preliminary Results of the 2002 IAS excavation of the Bonaparte Pottery Works***. The project, located in Van Buren County has both archaeological and architectural components from the period 1866-1895. Kathy Gourley, State Historical Society of Iowa presented ***Fort Des Moines 2: An Update.*** Located in a 12-block area of downtown Des Moines, much of the project had been covered until recent road construction and the beginning of a New Science Center. Volunteers were requested to help with the project before winter prevents work. ***Looking Back 24 Years to Pleasant Creek Archaeology*** was the topic presented by Dave Benn, Bear Creek Archaeology, Inc. He reported that numerous artifacts had been found on the surface and in the plow zone of the project and that consideration was being given to using new technology for cultural reconstructions. ***The Archaeology of Wickiup Hill,*** presented by Leah Rogers of Tallgrass Historians, Ltd., gave an overview of the area's numerous sites, including the 11 mounds that have been found. George Horton rounded out the morning session with an update on his latest research.



Leah Rogers

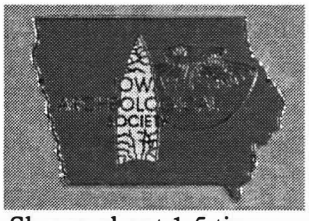


Jack Gladstone

IAS members were treated to a tasty sandwich and salad luncheon and a chance to visit or enjoy the beauty of the facility. The afternoon program featured a very informative and entertaining performance by Jack Gladstone. Leah Rogers led a tour of the archaeological sites at Wickiup Hill completing the very enjoyable day.

New! IAS Logo Pins

Designed by Jerry Baker with gold lettering, white Clovis point, and a brown Oneota pot on a green background. Much more attractive than this image suggests! Available at meetings, through local chapters, and directly from OSA. Proceeds will go to the IAS Research and Education Fund.



Shown about 1.5 times actual size.

Only $5.00 each.

Available in tack or pin styles.

Send check or money order to:

Iowa Archeological Society, 700 S. Clinton St. Bldg.
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242

IAS President Bill Anderson recently fell and broke his hip. Members may wish him a swift recovery at his home address:

Bill Anderson
Box 51
Richland, IA 52585

IAS Chapter News

Black Hawk Regional Chapter

In September the Black Hawk Regional Chapter viewed two videos on mound builders on Wednesday the 4th and then hiked and had a picnic lunch at Effigy Mounds on the following Saturday. Dr. Michael Shott, UNI, presented ***Is the Sphinx 12,000 Years Old?*** for the October 2nd meeting. In November State Archaeologist, Dr. Elizabeth Pauls, gave a talk on the future activities of the OSA.

Contact Lisa Beltz
1804 W. Ridgewood Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 268-0865
Lisa.Beltz@uni.edu

Central Iowa Chapter

For Archaeology Month in September, CIC members held flintknapping and atlatl demonstrations in cooperation with Living History Farms. September 29th CIC member Don Raker and George Goeldner, SHSI, gave presentations on Prehistoric and Historic Pottery to round out the months activities. Matthew Hill who recently joined ISU presented ***Paleoindian Bison Hunters of the Northwestern Great Plains*** for the October 13th meeting. Several CIC members attended the Fall IAS meeting November 2nd.

Contact Michael Heimbaugh
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paleomike@msn.com

Southeast Iowa Archaeology Chapter

Contact Angela Hopkins
1149 145th Street, Pella, IA 50219
(641) 626-4170
ash@kdsi.net

Quad City Archaeological Society

Contact Ferrel Anderson
1923 East 13th St., Davenport, IA 52803
(563)324-0257
andersonfe@msn.com

Northwest Chapter

In August the chapter visited the Gillette Grove site where John Doershuk was directing students in their fourth week of excavating. The group got to see some of the excavation findings such as pot sherds, animal bones and a few arrow points. September 14th the NW Chapter celebrated Archaeology Month by demonstrating corn grinding and drilling holes. Paul Williams demonstrated flintknapping, artifact displays were featured and the public was invited to bring in their collections for identification. October 15th the group traveled to the Univesity of South Dakota in Vermilion. There they were given a tour of archaeology lab and visited the W.H. Over Museum. Work continued on the Van Voorhis collection at the Sanford Museum at the November meeting.

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

Paul Rowe Chapter

Contact Dennis Miller
31126 Applewood Rd., Silver City, IA 51571
(712) 525-1007
Farming99@aol.com

Ellison Orr Chapter

Archaeology of New Zealand and the South Pacific was presented September 26th by Bob Palmer as an Iowa Archaeology Month event sponsored by the Ellison Orr Chapter, Luther College Anthropology Program and Effiy Mounds National Monument. November 17th the chapter took a field trip led by Bob Palmer to selected archeological sites in southern Allamakee County.

Contact Lori Stanley, (563) 387-1283
or Joe B. Thompson, (563) 387-0092
Orr Chapter, PO Box 511, Decorah, IA 52101
jiaseditor@hotmail.com

Keyes Chapter

Contact Keith Young
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(319) 465-6393 or e-mail:
pekoyoung@n-connect.net.

OSA NEWS

A SPECIAL SECTION OF THE IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

PLAINS CONFERENCE PAPERS BASED ON U.S. 20 WORK

Mark Anderson, HAP project archaeologist, presented two papers at the 60th Plains Conference in Oklahoma City in October, based on archaeological surveys done on the U.S. 20-realignment corridor in Sac County.

Prehistoric Lithic Reduction in the North Raccoon River Valley: Archaeological Investigations in Sac County, Iowa.

While conducting a 1997 archaeological survey of the U.S. 20-realignment corridor, a multicomponent site was discovered along the east valley wall of the North Raccoon River. Site 13SA47 contained historic component affiliated with the county's pioneer settlement. The uncultivated prehistoric component was of unknown function and cultural affiliation. Waste flakes and shatter were recovered, primarily from the subsurface, and a possible Pelican Lake projectile point was recovered from the eastern margin of the component. During the fall of 2000, Phase II archaeological testing was undertaken. Results of this work indicated that the component represents lithic reduction site of likely Early Woodland cultural affiliation. The excavation provides an interesting view of a little encountered prehistoric period in northwest Iowa.

Sod Dugouts and Pioneer Settlements in the North Raccoon River Valley: Archaeological Investigations in Sac County, Iowa.

While conducting a 1998 archaeological survey of the U.S. 20-realignment corridor, a pair of sites was discovered along the east valley wall of the North Raccoon River. Sites 13SA46 and 14SA47 yielded mid to late nineteenth century artifact assemblages and numerous interesting surface features. 13SA46 contains a single depression while the artifacts indicate a domestic occupation. Remote sensing data reveal crop marks indicating an activity area associated with the depression. 13SA47 yielded a similar artifact assemblage along with nine surface features: five depressions, two lanes, and two pathways. While two of the depressions appeared questionable, three were interpreted to be the remains of sod dugout structures. Tree canopy thwarted remote sensing efforts. During the fall of 2000, Phase II archaeological testing of both sites was undertaken. Results of this work confirmed the sod dugout hypothesis and mind nineteenth century date, as well as posing many new questions. The excavations provide an engaging vista on early Euro-American settlement in north west Iowa.

OSA STAFF NOTES

Bill Whittaker Joins GCP

A familiar face has joined the General Contracts Program as its new Project Archaeologist. **Bill Whittaker** first came to Iowa City and the University in 1995 as a graduate student in anthropology. Much of his graduate work was with UI professor Jim Enloe on the analysis of bones from archaeological sites. Bill did his MA work on a reanalysis of the bison bones from the Cherokee Sewer Site (13CK405), a Paleo-Indian/Archaic site in Cherokee County, which was originally excavated in 1974-76.

Bill also worked for the summers of 1996-2001 as the teaching assistant for the UI field school at Plum Grove in Iowa City. Plum Grove was the home of Robert Lucas, first governor of the territory of Iowa.

Originally from Plymouth, Wisconsin, Bill attended the University of Wisconsin, graduating in 1993 with a degree in anthropology and journalism. He was editor of the university paper, *The Daily Cardinal,* and worked as a reporter for Madison's *Capitol Times.* In the summer of 1993 he attended Dr. James Stoltman's field school excavating a Hopewell burial in Prairie du Chien and his career in archaeology began.

He worked on archaeological projects for the Wisconsin State Archaeologist, moved to Boston for a time, was a field supervisor at the Fort McCoy Army Post east of LaCrosse before his graduate studies in archaeology.

After his MA work on the Cherokee bison, he continued his interest in faunal analysis of archaeological sites, this time ranging much farther afield. His PhD. work took him to the Netherlands where he investigated Roman Era sites. He investigated changes in production, particularly the use of animals, when the Romans came into power, obtaining his PhD. in September.

His current personal research interests are Roman archaeology and using bison teeth to determine the age and season of kills.

Bill is married to Susan Oliver, a UI graduate in cultural anthropology, who now attends veterinary medicine school at the University of Illinois.

New Lab Weekends

Archaeology laboratory weekends for this season are about to begin. We will have our first session at the Office of the State Archaeologist, 700 South Clinton, Iowa City, from 9-3 on Saturday and Sunday, December 7 and 8. The first weekend we will learn about cataloguing and analyzing stone tools with Mark Anderson. In January we will begin to process the materials from the Bonaparte Pottery site in Van Buren County, recovered during Iowa Archaeology Month. Anyone who would like to participate please contact Lynn M. Alex via e-mail or phone (319) 384-0561. You don't have to have previous experience to help out! You may bring a lunch or there are a number of restaurants close by if you'd rather go out.

Archeology Items of Interest

Collection Grows

In the Winter 2002 issue of the ***Iowa Historian*** it was reported that the collection of items at The State Historical Building is still growing. Jodi Evans, Registrar for the museum, reported that 238 objects were acquired in 2001. That number will grow much higher when three archaeological donations have been processed. During a typical year the museum may acquire over 1,000 objects.

Potential donors should keep in mind there is particular interest on the part of the Historical Society in collecting materials that "reflect how Iowans have lived." Documentation is "critical" and should include information on how, when, where and by whom the item was used.

Anyone who believes they might have something to donate should call 515-281-6412 obtain more information or consult a curator at the museum.

Oetzi the Iceman Update

The **BBC News** reports that scientists who have spent a decade investigating the remains of Oetzi the Iceman now believe they have more information as to how he was killed. In 1991 the body of the prehistoric man was found in an Alpine glacier where he had been frozen for more than 5000 years. At first it was thought that Oetzi died as a result of hypothermia and became buried in the ice. Last year scientists discovered a flint arrowhead lodged in the ancient man's back, leading to speculation that he may have fled his attacker before bleeding to death and being encased in ice. Further analysis of the arrowhead by Prof. Annaluisa Pedrotti, Trento University in Italy suggests that "the Iceman" may have been killed by one of his own people. The "tanged" shape of the arrowhead occurs in the SouthernAlps where Oetzi is believed to have lived.

"Cahokia Outpost"

The Grossmann site, a prehistoric Mississippian farming village in southwest Illinois, is being called a "Cahokia outpost" because of the structures and artifacts being found.The village was found by archaeologists with the Illinois Transportation Archaeological Research Program in 1997. The next year they found 20 Mississippian houses. In the last 2 years University of Illinois archaeologists led by Tim Pauketat have found four large buildings thought to have been used as "temples" or for administrative purposes, as they were much larger than house structures found at other Cahokian villages. Pauketat believes that Cahokians "didn't restrict themselves to the floodplain ....but managed the settlement and farming practices of people all over the Cahokian region."(Stewart, Tamara, "Temples Discovered at Farming Village near Cahokia."**American Archaeolgy** Fall 2002:10.)

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