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**The Contact Period as Seen in Euro-American Accounts of the Upper
Mississippi Valley, Part 3. Early Contact (A.D. 900-1700)**
By Tim Weitzel

(Continued from IAN Winter, Vol. 53, No. 4, Issue 188)

In 1682, La Salle regrouped with De Tonty and Membéré at Michillimakinac. A Kickapoo evidently had killed Ribourde sometime in the previous year. They set out to locate the mouth of the Mississippi with a party that of thirty French and eighteen American Indians, ten of whom brought their wives. La Salle made his claim for France, naming the Mississippi drainage—the river itself and all its tributaries—Louisiana after King Louis XIV. French mapmaker Jean-Baptiste Louis Franquelin noted the distinction between “Canada ou Nouvell France” to the north of the Great Lakes and “Contreé de la Louisiana” to the south.

De Tonty rapidly returned to the Illinois River and constructed the fort they had planned at Le Rocher, located in present-day Starved Rock State Park, La Salle County Illinois. Situated on a 125 foot-tall tree-covered bluff, Fort St. Louis held a commanding view of the Illinois valley. Apparently La Salle was able to capitalize on the overwhelming defeat of the Illinois at the hands of the Iroquois to initiate a peace between the Miami, Kickapoo, and Illinois. Many members of these tribes established villages near to the new fort, which proved to be another key defense for the fort in 1683 when the surrounding tribes were able to raise a six day siege laid by the Iroquois.

In 1683, Nicholas Perrot, experienced in living with Algonkian tribes, was sent by the Governor General of Canada to the mission at Green Bay to obtain a peace among the displaced Algonkian tribes with whom he was already familiar. In particular, he was to stop the constant raiding conducted by the Meskwaki, eastern Dakota, Chippewa and Ottawa. At the same time, he was instructed to encourage these same tribes to unite against the Iroquois. Two years later, he was ordered to explore the rivers of the Dakota country and establish trade posts at advantageous locations. His first permanent post was Fort St. Antoine on the Wisconsin side of Lake Pepin, a natural pool in the Mississippi river between present-day Wabasha and Red Wing, Minnesota. It was constructed in 1686 having spent the winter of 1685–1686 at a temporary post he built at Trempealeau. Perrot built another post at the north end of Lake Pepin in 1687. Fort St. Nicholas, Perrot's third, is reported to have been sited on the north side of the mouth of the Wisconsin River. Prairie du Chein is in the general vicinity suggested for this fort. Extensive trading transactions with the Dakota and Ioway took place at these locations.

The next year, 1690, Perrot established a trading post near Galena, Illinois, at the prompting of the Miami tribe who were now living in that area. As part of their enticement, the Miami gave Perrot some galena crystals. He soon began mining and smelting lead in the area, on both sides of the Mississippi river, possibly being the first European to mine lead on the west side of the Mississippi. His excavations were located, along Catfish Creek, within present-day Dubuque, Iowa. It is possible that the Meskwaki or Miami had told him of the locations on the west side of the river as well as those on the east side of the River. Although sporadic mining had already taken place for more than 25 years in the area, and extensive mining had begun by others as early as 1682, his mines were by far the most ambitious.

In 1691 Pierre-Charles Le Sueur, an experienced coureur de bois who had also served a sentence for trading without a license, was ordered by the Governor General of Canada to re-establish the trade post at Chequamegon Bay on the south side of Lake Superior. His orders were essentially identical to that of Perrot

in 1683—he was to build trading posts and maintain the peace among the American Indian tribes so that exploration could be carried out in the Dakota country. La Sueur was a member of Perrot's expeditions on the upper Mississippi, west of Lake Superior and around its headwaters. La Sueur was present when Perrot claimed the upper Mississippi for France in 1692 and indeed he had explored the area previously, just as Jolliet had previously explored the middle Great Lakes before they were claimed for France. 1693 he built a trade post on Madeline Island, re-establishing trade at Chequemegon bay. La Sueur helped to build or rebuilt a Perrot trade post at the north end of Lake Pepin, which is called variously Ft. Bonsecours, Ft. Perrot, and Ft. Le Sueur. In 1695 or 1696 he built another fort on Prairie Island. From these posts he engaged the Dakota and Chippewa in trade and held a peace ceremony in 1695. La Sueur then returned to Montreal for five years while the Great Peace was being negotiated between the French allies and the Iroquois.

On paper, things looked good for the French and their North American fur trade. From 1686 to about 1700, the d'Iberville had won a series of naval conflicts at the mouth of and in Hudson Bay, keeping British traders at bay. The Dakota-Chippewa Peace suggested a period of economic prosperity was in the making, and there was increasing promise of the peace with the Iroquois that would be signed in a grand ceremony held by governor-general De Callière in 1701. By the early 1700s, The French had traversed and mapped the Great Lakes, Fox-Wisconsin waterway, Illinois, Mississippi, Minnesota, Blue Earth, Lower to Middle Missouri and the Des Moines rivers. Initial exploration was complete and trade alliances had been made with nearly all of the American Indian tribes in the Upper Midwest. An overland route from the mouth of the Wisconsin or St Croix rivers to the Ioway and Oto villages at the Spirit and Okoboji Lakes was well-enough known to label it on maps as the voyagers trail. Exploration of the Mississippi Valley had extended as far north as Mille Lac and the Gulf of Mexico to the south, where a settlement had been started the previous year and fortifications were being built at the mouth of the great river. The French now had permanent settlements, some with fortifications, throughout the Midwest including New Orleans, and Fort Ponchetrain du de Troit (Detroit). As of 1699 they had a permanent settlement at Kaskaskia—a frontier amalgam of Europe and Native America comprised of traders, some who spoke Algonkian and Siouian languages and had American Indian wives lived next to Jesuit priests. There was a church and a Windmill. They were now growing their own food and making their own salt. Soon they were exporting preserved meat, fruits, and grains and "extra" lead along with the usual shipments of furs. They were trading with all the tribes in the study area: Dakota, Chippewa, Ottawa, Huron, Miami, Potawatomi, Illinois, Mascoutin, Menominee, Ho-Chunk, Meskwaki, Sauk, Missouri, Osage, Kansa, Teton, Omaha, Pawnee, Oto, and Iowa. The cartography of the area was beginning to produce fairly accurate and usable maps—though numerous and significant problems would continue to manifest in map-making of the region until the first third of the 19th Century.

Still, a series of events were combining to take the French in a dramatic turn for the worse. Back on the continent, Louis XIV was soon to take his empire through the turmoil of an attempt at world domination. At the same time, devastating famines would sweep France, breaking its

economic backbone. Despite strong trade with American Indians, these tribes were becoming increasingly dependent on the Europeans for critical trade items. Chief among these were firearms, gunpowder, and ammunition—lead fusil ball and shot—for defense and to use in raids, and increasingly steel knives, mill-woven wool cloth for daily life. Molasses-cured tobacco and Whiskey, of course were also in demand, after that demand had been created. Despite the new peace and the impending treaty signed between the French, its American Indian allies, and the Iroquois in 1701, the demand for guns west of the Great Lakes was becoming increasingly sharp in the early 18th century.

Beaver had become scarce in present-day Michigan, Ohio, and Ontario. The Huron and Ottawa now were traveling up to 200 leagues into Chippewa and Dakota country to obtain furs. Bringing them increasingly into conflict with the Meskwaki. The Ioway, Oto, and Ho-Chunk had taken up residence further west some time after 1685. Possibly hosting a group of Miami that had sought refuge with the Iowa in 1681 had brought news that convinced them of the need to move. Sites from the time period around 1690 are found in southwest Minnesota and at the Spirit and Okoboji lakes in northwest present-day Iowa. This proved to be still too close to potential Algonkian enemies.

A group of Mascoutin, who were French allies, came to one of Perrot's posts where he was at the time. They asked him to help them establish a peace with the Dakota, with whom they were now at war. They also asked for guns and ammunition. Perrot is recorded as having given no answer, but he did extract promises that the Mascoutin would observe the laws of the French, and that they would not cause problems. Perrot then went to Montreal where he had been ordered to conduct a group of tribal representatives to see Governor General Frontenac who sought their assistance in attacking the Iroquois. While he was away and the Mascoutin were apparently beyond the reach of French order, they attacked an Ioway village, taking several prisoners. Upon his return, the Mascoutin came to Perrot and told him essentially that the guns that they had borrowed had fired upon the village. Their leader continued to state that he had not paid for the guns, but they would pay Perrot now for the "garment that dazzled the eyes of their enemies," with forty beaver robes. This somewhat cryptic statement seems to mean that the Mascoutin were not claiming to have bought guns, but only borrowed them, that the guns fired upon the village of their own will, and that victory had been achieved by the Mascoutin through a wondrous garment the magically blinded their enemies, and it was for this that the Mascoutin wanted to pay Perrot the equivalent of hundreds of beaver furs. Perrot stated the Mascoutin could make amends only if they attacked an Iroquois village. This "attack of penitence" likely is not what the Jesuits would have prescribed, but it essentially removed the Mascoutin, as well as himself, from any responsibility for the Mascoutin use of guns against French allies. It also worked into the plans of the governor-general who intended to maintain pressure on the Iroquois with the intent that they give up fighting the French.

Within a year, a combined force of 1,200 Dakota, Chippewa, Ioway, and Ottawa moved to seek revenge from any Meskwaki, Mascoutin, or Miami they could find, and if they found none, they would take their revenge on the French. Perrot's stock of furs was burnt, as he was nearly

himself, being rescued by at the last minute by French allies, or group of Meskwaki friendly to Perrot. The French response was understandable, but terribly shortsighted. The following year all licenses for trade were revoked. Officially, this revocation was made with the intent to reinvigorate the trade fairs in Montreal. The peace treaties were also part of this effort. However, given the increasing animosity among the tribes in the region, it was not possible for the western tribes to travel to Montreal to conduct trade. Without trade, there were no guns, no new blankets, and no more whiskey. Peace with the Native Americans, even among their allies in the West, could not last under these conditions.

In the year 1700, La Sueur was making his way up the Mississippi alternatively in three vessels and nineteen people, or eight people and one valet to build a fort in the heart of the Little Prairie, south of the Minnesota River. As the expedition made its way south they soon heard of a large battle that had resulted in defeat for the Chippewa at the hands of an alliance between the Dakota and Ioway. He also learned of the other hostilities that had taken place in the region and that there was the sense of an

impending war throughout the region. Next he met a crew of voyageurs who likely had been trading in Dakota Country, and had recently been robbed and brutalized by a combined group of Meskwaki, Sauk and Algonkian allies—enemies of the Sioux and any Frenchmen who might be trading guns with them.

Along the western border, the Ioway and Oto now had horses and were now fighting the Pawnee. Both sides being supplied guns, powder, and ammunition by French. The same was the case with the Dakota, Chippewa, Meskwaki, Mascoutin, and Ottawa who continued raids against each other, and with increasing frequency against the French. The French would soon need to seek alternative routes through the west country. At the same time, the British would soon begin to exert an increased presence along the frontier in the Ohio Valley and in the upper countries where they were now more frequently using Hudson Bay for access to the interior.

Whether the French knew it or not, the Iroquois Wars were at an end. The Europeans would no longer be able to simply fight by proxy. French and English soldiers would increasingly be drawn into conflict sparking the war for control of the East and Louisiana.

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A 1921 Survey of the Iowa Great Lakes Region Michael J. Perry

Prior to his 1922 appointment as director of the State Historical Society of Iowa's (SHSI) Iowa Archaeological Survey, Charles R. Keyes spent several years positioning himself for the job by conducting personal surveys of archaeological sites, documenting artifact collections, and publishing articles on Iowa archeology (e.g., Keyes 1920). Many of Keyes's early inquiries were recorded in a small notebook he entitled simply, but vaguely, "Book R" (Figure 1). The information recorded in the book was not included in the 1980–1981 Keyes Collection upgrade project (Tiffany 1981) or in the subsequent effort to record Keyes's site information in the official Iowa site records (Tiffany et al. 1990).

Much of Book R is a journal of his most extensive work during this pre-appointment period—a three-week trip to the Iowa Great Lakes region in the summer of 1921—a few months before he received the directorship (c.f. Schroder 1981:72). Many of the sites inspected during this trip were not resurveyed during his tenure as director of the survey, so Book R is important for its descriptions of sites that are not included in other Keyes Collection documents. During this trip, Keyes enjoyed both economical housing and the camaraderie of other leading natural scientists and students at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory on West Okoboji Lake (Zieglowsky 1985:62). Beginning midway through Book R under the heading "Spirit Lake Region," Keyes described his daily activities, including trips to Spirit Lake, Arnolds Park, Milford, and outlying areas in O'Brien and Clay Counties. Artifacts collected during the trip were cataloged in his artifact record book using a two-letter and number code followed by a K, indicating the specimens represented Keyes's donation to the SHSI collection. The cataloging code is similar to the present trinomial system but omits the initial 13: the letters represent an abbreviation for the county in which specimens were collected. The letter K in the catalog number distinguishes specimens acquired prior to Keyes's appointment from those collected under SHSI auspices.

During his stay at the Iowa Great Lakes, Keyes visited 33 individuals (Table 1) and inspected 18 sites or site complexes (Table 2). Of the sites visited, 13 correspond to recorded sites in the Iowa Site Record, and 5 represent previously unrecorded manifestations. Additions and refinements to the site records were aided by comparing Keyes descriptions to historical plat maps, 1939 aerial photographs, and modern topographic maps. The possible locations of new mound sites around West Okoboji Lake include one west of Iowa Lakeside Laboratory and one on the old Elmer O'Farrell property in Arnolds Park. Another new site is the possible find location of one specimen in the Keyes Collection, recovered during excavation of a cistern on the Elmer Inman property, also in Arnolds Park. Keyes's description of the Wiese/Ackley Garden site, 13DK43, permitted refinement of the location and extent of this previously unconfirmed occupational area in northern Arnolds Park.

On a July 24, 1921, trip with Jens Thompson to O'Brien and Clay Counties, Keyes inspected the well-known Gillett's Grove site (13CY2), Waterman's Siding site (13OB3), and the Clyde Martin Farm village, now known as the Wittrock site (13OB4). The inspections were brief, but at Wittrock, Keyes sketched the site (Figure 2), described the fortification

ditch as 10–12 feet across and 2½ feet deep, noted house depressions, and despite its uncultivated condition, collected a sample of the numerous artifacts exposed. He also identified mounds near the farmsteads of Clyde Martin, H. J. Robinson, and M. E. Hill. The H. J. Robinson mounds had been previously recorded, but the Hill and Clyde Martin mounds had not. The probable location of the M. E. Hill mounds was entered as an unconfirmed site; Keyes's description of the Clyde Martin mounds is too vague to permit a site record entry. Descriptive information in the Iowa Site Records for the Hill/Webb mounds (13OB22), and the Lewis Martin mounds (13OB24; cf. Tiffany 1981:113), suggests they are not the same as Keyes's M. E. Hill and Clyde Martin mound groups visited in 1921.

Several pages were devoted to the Milford Site, which contains previously recorded sites 13DK1, 13DK2, and 13DK109, also permitting refinement of the location, extent, and content of this very large and complex Oneota occupation. The Milford site discussions are worthy of consideration here, as previous investigations have only focused on part of the occupational area (Spargo 1984; Tiffany and Anderson 1993; Anderson 1994). Keyes's investigation of Milford spanned two days, July 14–15, 1921, during which he interviewed several local residents and inspected much of the site area to confirm his informants' descriptions.

Keyes first met with Clifford C. and William Calkins, whom Keyes reports are sons of pioneer settler Homer

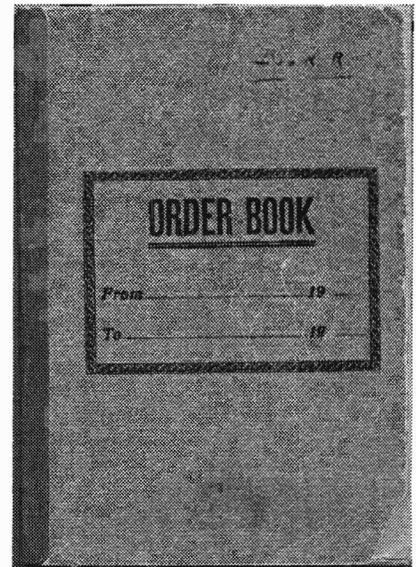


Figure 1. Cover of "Book R," Keyes's early notebook.

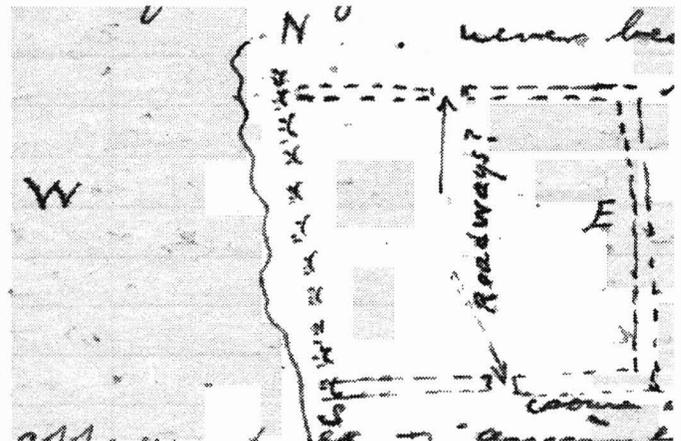


Figure 2. Keyes's 1921 sketch of the Clyde Martin Village or Wittrock Site.

Table 1. Summary of Keyes's Iowa Great Lakes Region Informants.

Date	Contact Person	Location	Type of Information
7/11/1921	Frank Harker		Summarize artifact collection & names of other collectors
7/11/1921	William Giep		Names of collectors at Gillett Grove & elsewhere
7/12/1921	Frank P. Hopkins	Spirit Lake Boat Landing	Summarize large collection of artifacts from the Narrows, East Okoboji, names of other collectors
7/12/1921	W. J. Loomis	Spirit Lake	Story of Indian dugout canoes at Prairie Lake
7/14/1921	Daughter of William Giep		Artifact Donation from Miller's Bay, West Okoboji
7/14-15/1921	Clifford C. & William Calkins	Milford	Survey of mounds, earthworks, village area at Big Bend of the Little Sioux R., Story of Chief Johnnie Green
7/14-15/1921	Otis McLaughlin	Milford	Summarize Big Bend area artifacts
7/14-15/1921	William Symington	Milford	Summarize Big Bend area artifacts
7/14-15/1921	Gus Hous	Milford	Summarize artifact collection from Hottes/Marble Lake
7/14-15/1921	W. G. Adkins	Milford	Summarize artifact collection from Nichols Jct. & elsewhere west of Milford, names of other informants
7/18/1921	Frank E. Henderson	Neck between Middle & Lower Gar Lakes	Survey of camp/village site
7/19/1921	Elmer Inman	Arnolds Park	Summarize artifacts from house cellar excavation
7/19/1921	Angus McDonald	Arnolds Park	Names of collectors in Spirit Lake & Wright County
7/19/1921	W. F. Carleton	Spirit Lake	Historical information
7/19/1921	Kate Smith	Spirit Lake	Historical information
7/21/1921	Milford L. Spencer	Milford	Artifact donation, probably non-local
7/21/1921	George W. Wheeler	Arnolds Park	Summarize artifact collection & site information near West Okoboji Lake
7/21/1921	Mark Wheeler	Arnolds Park	Summarize artifact collection
7/21/1921	Elmer E. O'Farrell	Arnolds Park	Mound site information
7/23/1921	William Mortz (Moritz?)	2 mi NW of Lakeside Lab	Story of Indian trail
7/24/1921	Jens Thompson	Spencer	Surveys of Clyde Martin Farm vallyage (Wittrock site), Waterman's Siding site, Gillett's Grove site
7/24/1921	M. E. Hill	Waterman's Siding area	Artifact donation from Gillett's Grove
7/24/1921	H. J. Robinson	Waterman's Siding area	Mound site information, summarize artifact collection
7/24/1921	Clyde Martin	Waterman Creek valley	Mound site information
7/27/1921	Benjamin Wiese (Weise?)	Arnolds Park	Vague mound site information
7/27/1921	James Ackley	Arnolds Park	Camp/village site exposed in garden
7/27/1921	Lafayette Ring	Arnolds Park	Camp/village site exposed in garden
7/27/1921	Elmer Inman	Arnolds Park	Short story of Indians camping at B. Wiese property & mounds at Big Bend of Little Sioux R.
7/27/1921	George D. Hazard	N. Gar Lake/Arnolds Park	Artifact donation
8/2/1921	Tom J. Marain (Morain?)	Spirit Lake	Camp/village site exposed in garden, summarize artifact collection, artifact donation
8/2/1921	A. F. Bergman	Spirit Lake	Brief information about Spirit Lake Mounds
8/2/1921	W. F. Carleton	Spirit Lake	Brief information about Spirit Lake Mounds
8/2/1921	B. B. Van Steenburg	Spirit Lake	Short story of Winnebago Indian visit near Claremont (Clermont), Fayette County
8/2/1921	Frank P. Hopkins	Spirit Lake	Names of possible informants re: Spirit Lake Mounds, vague location of mounds near West Okoboji Lake & village site south of Linn Grove, Buena Vista County
8/2/1921	Frank P. Hopkins	Spirit Lake	Names of local collectors

Calkins. Homer established his 160-acre homestead in the southwestern part of the Big Bend of the Little Sioux River, comprising the NW¼ of Section 16, T98N-R37W. Haynes's (1888) map of Dickinson County shows Homer Calkins's quarter section plus another 80 acres to the northeast on Sections 10 and 15, T98N-R37W. The 1911 plat of Okoboji Township (Ogle 1911:37) shows G. W. Calkins as the owner of the latter 80 acres, who is probably the William Calkins met. In 1921 Keyes reported that both C.C. and William Calkins lived in Milford, with Lewis Calkins residing on William's home place. The original Homer Calkins homestead had fallen from the Calkins family holdings and was owned by Otis McLaughlin in 1921. Homer's sons reported that Indians still frequented the Big Bend in 1868,

the year Homer settled, and that Homer "personally knew Chief 'Johnnie Green,' who said that he had lost within the Bend no fewer than 500 warriors in battles with the Sioux" (Keyes 1921). Keyes parenthetically wondered about the identity of Potawatamie Chief Johnnie Green.

Keyes began his description of the Big Bend site, now called the Milford site, with a discussion of three mound groups:

The Mounds. Mr. C.C. Calkins says that in the early days hundreds of low mounds were to be seen, elevated only about a foot above the surface. He thinks they were burial mounds. The larger mounds examined stand in three groups. Group A (let us call it) stands some 300 yards to

Table 2. Modern Site Numbers and Status of Keyes Sites Documented in 1921.

Site Name	Modern Site Number	Present Status
Gillett's Grove	13CY2	Previously recorded
Big Bend (Milford), village, mounds, earthworks	13DK1, 13DK2, 13DK109	Previously recorded, refined
Henderson	13DK28	Previously recorded
Okoboji Mound	13DK39	Previously recorded, possibly destroyed
Hazard	13DK42	Previously recorded
Wiese/Ackley Garden	13DK43	Previously recorded, refined
Giep Donation/Miller's Bay	13DK44	Previously recorded
J. W. O'Farrell Mounds	13DK49	Previously recorded, unconfirmed, possibly destroyed
Lakeside Lab Mound (Lookout Hill)	13DK69	Previously recorded, unconfirmed, possibly destroyed
Big Bend (Milford) Mound Group B	13DK113	New, unconfirmed, possibly destroyed
Elmer Inman Donantion	13DK114	New, unconfirmed, possibly destroyed
Elmer E. O'Farrell Mound	13DK115	New, unconfirmed, possibly destroyed
Lakeside Lab Mound 2	13DK116	New, unconfirmed
Waterman's Siding	13OB3	Previously recorded
Clyde Martin Farm Village (Wittrock)	13OB4	Previously recorded
Robinson Mounds	13OB20	Previously recorded
Clyde Martin Farm Mounds	—	Vague location, possibly east of 13OB4
M. E. Hill Mounds	13OB68	New, unconfirmed

the S. and E. of the Will Calkins house, now occupied by son Lewis Calkins. These mounds, 30–40 feet in diameter and now 1½ to 3 ft. high, are in an oats field and easily recognized. Two or three other mounds are said to have stood to the west of these. If so, they were not visible in the tall corn now growing there. ...

Mr. Will Calkins says the mounds of this group have never been opened.

Group B stands on both sides of the road S and S.E. of the Otis McLaughlin barn (the old Homer Calkins homestead). Two mounds (possibly a third) stand in pasture S. of the road and are now 35–50 feet in diam., the two distinct ones ca. 40 feet in diam., and the larger, perhaps not a mound at all, about 1 foot high and 50 feet in diam. Mr. McLaughlin and C.C. Calkins think they have never been opened. Mr. Calkins says that years ago Dave Young, Co. Supt., Spirit Lake, excavated a mound of this group which stood in the road. (Inquire in Spirit Lake). Nothing remains of this mound. From the top of the largest mound three other mounds can be seen indicated in the cornfield directly S. of the barn. These nearly obliterated. All the mounds have been subject to cultivation since white settlement ...

Group C? Three or four small elevations 12–18 inches high and 12–15 feet in diam. stand on unbroken land E. of Homer Calkins homestead toward river. These may or may not have human origin. ... [Keyes 1921; spelling and punctuation in original]

The described area of Mound Group A lies south and south-east of an extant farmstead in the SE¼, SW¼ of Section 10, T98N-R37W, roughly corresponding to previously recorded site 13DK109, but apparently covering considerably more area than indicated in the modern record. The record has been updated to show its likely extent. Regarding Mound Group B, apparently the farmhouse originally lived in by Homer Calkins had been converted to a barn by its later owner. Assuming Otis McLaughlin's barn is an outbuilding on an extant farmstead west of a local road in the southwestern part of the big bend, Keyes is probably mistaken about the location of the "pasture S. of the road," and Mound Group B may simply lie to south and south-

east of the Homer Calkins farmstead. Based on the location of Homer Calkins's home on the 1888 map and Keyes's description of the location of the Otis McLaughlin barn else where in the notes, Mound Group B lies well south of the recorded site area and has been assigned a new site number, 13DK113. Field confirmation of 13DK113 is necessary. Due to Keyes's uncertainty and its vague location, Mound Group C cannot be considered either as part of the greater complex or a site in its own right.

Next Keyes described an apparent linear earthwork and sketched its outline (Figure 3), under the heading Linear? or Serpent? Mound?:

Beginning some 200 yards N.E. of Will Calkins home and running almost N. (slightly E.) for about 400 yards is an embankment from 12–18 inches high and from 15 feet in diam. to a final vanishing point after curving at N. end. This runs across land covered with brush and timber to E. and a weedy field to W.

Origin uncertain, but it certainly looks for the greater part of its length, about three-fourths, like the N.E. Iowa and Wisconsin linears. [Keyes 1921; spelling and punctuation in original]

Although the embankment cannot be discerned on the 1939 aerial photograph of the Big Bend area, the fields appear as described by Keyes with a cultivated tract north of the Calkins house and uncultivated land with scattered trees to the northeast. With the cultivated tract aligned parallel to the northeast-southwest local road traversing the neck of the Big Bend, a long, linear feature oriented roughly north-south would lie in both the cultivated and uncultivated areas. Site 13DK2, originally a duplicate of 13DK1 and later considered simply the mound portion of the greater complex, but never given a confirmed location, has been reassigned to this possible earthwork with an unconfirmed location in the NE¼, SW¼ of Section 10, T98N-R37W.

Third, Keyes discussed a large area containing the habitation locus and additional earthworks:

The "Circles." Three of these described by C. C. Calkins, two are situated at E. of road some 80 rods N.E. of Homer Calkins homestead and one, also E. of road, 40–50 rods S.

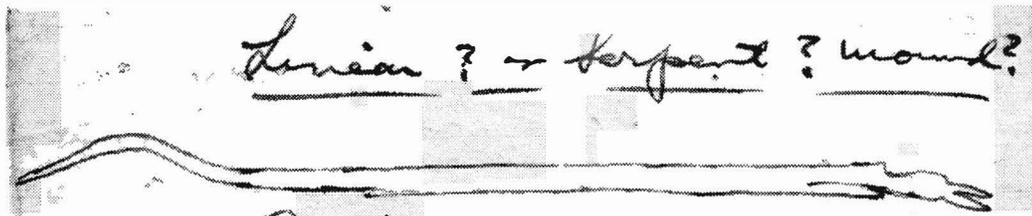


Figure 3. Rough outline of the “Linear or Serpent Mound?” at the Big Bend of the Little Sioux River.

of Will Calkins house. These are described as from 100–125 feet in diam. circular excavations ... 10–12 feet across and about 2½ feet deep ... An embankment of similar dimensions on outside of ditch.

The Camp or Village Site.

About 80 rods S. of the Will Calkins house, or rather less, over a space of two or three acres just N. of a row of willows, the soil is filled with broken bones, pieces of clam shells, potsherds, flint chips, and the general refuse of a place occupied for a considerable time by the Indians. Mr. Will Calkins says that when cultivation began about 50 years ago the broken bones were so thick that it was like ploughing through a gravel bed. Also in these early days the soil was burned red in ten or a dozen different places scattered over the area. Rather large pottery fragments were found, showing ‘crimped’ edges. ... Numerous implements found including pipes. ... Samples of the refuse from the village or campsite were gathered ... [Keyes 1921: spelling and punctuation in original]

On a trip to Arnolds Park on July 27, 1921, Keyes met pioneer settler Lafayette Ring, who supported the Calkins brothers’ information concerning both mounds and “circles” at the Big Bend (Keyes 1921). Trees visible along a fence line in the 1939 aerial photograph may be the willows Keyes referred to, corresponding to the line between Sections 10 and 15, T98N-R37W. Circular features are also visible and may be the earthworks Keyes described. The origin and function of the circular and linear earthworks is a subject for future research at the site, assuming they can still be discerned in the field. Keyes’s area of habitation refuse appears to correspond to the area containing the excavation blocks opened during the 1978 field school directed by Lisc Spargo (Spargo 1984). Joe Tiffany’s (personal communication 2004) brief inspection of the site with former IAS member Darrell Frerichs suggests that Keyes’s collection area was the densest portion of the site, with scattered artifacts present over a much larger area south of the old Will Calkins place and the 13DK109 burial area. Based on the information from Keyes notes, 13DK1 has been refined to include the both the circular features and habitation area south of, but contiguous with the burial features assigned to 13DK109.

The 86 specimens Keyes recovered were inventoried during the Keyes Collection upgrade project (Tiffany 1981:73). Much of the surface collection consists of flaking debris, shell-tempered body sherds, and mussel-shell fragments. Noteworthy specimens from the site include a small triangular projectile point, a strap-handled rim sherd, an incised catlinite fragment, a complete valve of mussel shell worked into a tool, and a shell effigy pendant possibly representing a fish or water monster (Figure 4). Gradwohl (1982) has suggested similarly worked mussel shell valves functioned as corn shellers. A specimen tag accompanying

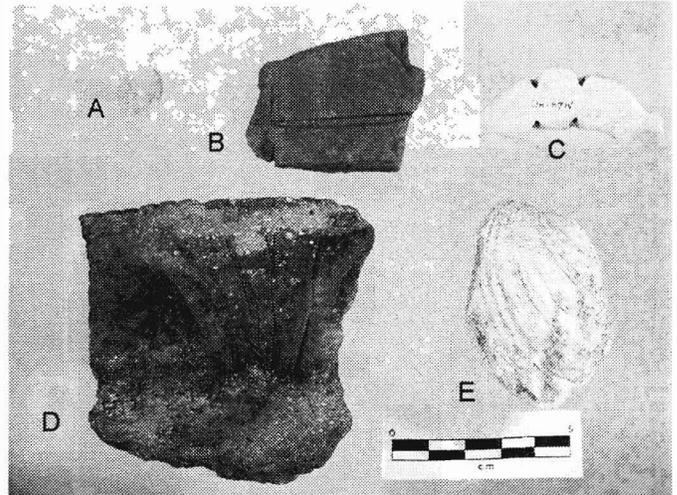


Figure 4. Selected artifacts in Keyes collection from the Milford Site. A: triangular projectile point, quartzite; B: incised catlinite; C: shell effigy pendant; D: strap handled, shell-tempered rim sherd; E: mussel shell “corn sheller” tool.

the pendant indicates it was originally collected by Clement Webster from an uncertain location within the Big Bend area.

Book R is clearly an important document the Keyes Collection, representing the only source of primary data about sites and artifacts from his pre-appointment activities. The Spirit Lake journal was the beginning of Keyes’s pattern of identifying his informants, briefly summarizing their collections and sites, and presenting his first-hand accounts of sites to which he was led. That pattern became Keyes’s standard approach to fieldwork documentation in his better-known notes from his subsequent years as director of the archaeological survey.

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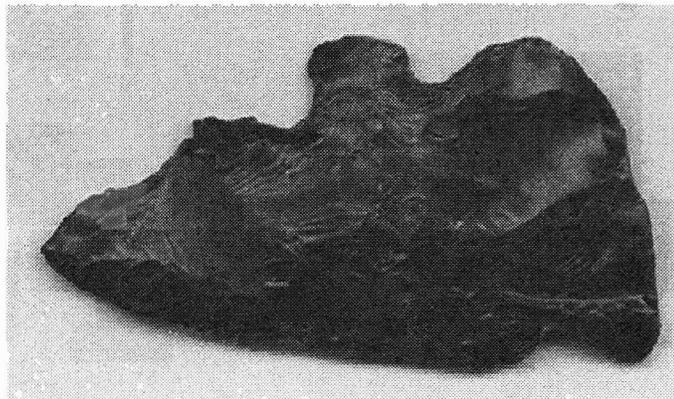
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Zieglofsky, Debby J.
1985 Thomas MacBride's Dream: Iowa Lakeside Laboratory. *The Palimpsest* 66:42-66.

.....

What's the Point?



Width = 1 Inch Length = 2 1/4 Inches

Try to identify the artifact (left) found in Iowa and send your responses to the attention of the Editor, Mike Heimbaugh at: paleomike@msn.com. or to: 3923 29th St., Des Moines, IA 50310-5849.

The projectile point featured in the Fall *Iowa Archeology News* (Vol. 53, No. 3, Issue 187) is thought to be a Meserve (Dalton type). The Editor thanks Jim Schmuecker (Marengo, IA) and Monty Rogers (University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse student) for their responses.

Excerpts from *Megalonyx Matters-7* By Holmes A. Semken

"On Saturday January 10 and Sunday January 11, thirteen volunteers descended to the snow-covered Northboro sloth site (in 11 degree weather) to exhume sloth remains. The dig centered on the floor of a 7' by 16' trench, hand excavated by Bob Athen through 10-12 feet of overburden over a possible bone concentration. The prediction, which proved to be correct, was based on two bones exposed in the east end of north wall (John Kohrell's Trench in field notes) of the previous excavation....

A vertebral string, along with a possible skull fragment, was taken in a plaster jacket. Generally, the bone is hard and specimens may be removed without plaster jackets for preparation in the Museum lab. The specimens are being cleaned and stored in batches that were recovered in close proximity. A sketch map of specimen location based on photographs and measurements with respect to datum is under construction. Although not all have been

removed from packaging, about 25 additional elements were recovered....

Dean Tiemann has given permission to remove more overburden on the north bank via the excavator. Bob Athen and Dean have talked to Phil Mather (Mather & Sons Excavation) and Bob and Phil examined the site January 19.... Timing is dicey in winter but the "minuteman" concept worked last time.

The minutemen, all associated with the IAS were John Boruff, Steve Foudree, John Kohrell, Lee McNair, Dennis Miller, Matthew Schmitz, Jeanne White, Don Wirth and Charlotte Wright. Lynn Alex, Uof I-OSA, was instrumental in recruiting the volunteers via e-mail and a notice in the Winter *Iowa Archeology News*. Bob Athen, Sonia Athen, David Brenzel and Holmes Semken also participated at the event."

IAS Announcements

Events-Education-News

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By IAS President Bill Anderson

Greetings once again to all IAS members. Again, I have an opportunity to share with each of you what is happening in your organization.

The year 2003 was an exciting year for our society with many successes and challenges, as well. Let me begin by recapping the past year and giving you a preview of what is in store for the membership in 2004.

The Spring IAS Annual Meeting of 2003 was hosted by the Black Hawk Chapter on the UNI campus in Cedar Falls on May 24. Bob Hall was the featured speaker and the Keyes-Orr Award was presented to long time member Joe Tiffany. The afternoon tour consisted of a visit to the Butler Center and the Clay Prairie Preserve.

IAS members traveled to South Dakota for a joint Fall meeting with the Archaeological Society of that state on September 12, 13, and 14, 2003 in Sioux Falls and Mitchell, South Dakota. The guest speaker was Lynn Alex of the Office of the State Archaeologist of Iowa. Her presentation was entitled *From Bellevue to Belle Fourche: An Archaeological Trek Across the Prairie-Plains*.

The annual Spring Meeting of the IAS will be held on May 1, 2004 in Cherokee and will include the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of the late Adrian Anderson to Iowa archaeology and historic preservation. If anyone would like to contribute a personal and / or professional testimonial in memory of Adrian, please contact Dan Higginbottom at the State Historical Society, 600 East Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-0290. This Spring meeting will also include a bus trip to Sioux City to visit the new Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and the Sgt. Floyd Memorial. The featured speaker for the evening banquet will be Gerard Baker, Superintendent of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trails. His presentation will be entitled "We Saw Them Coming" and will be an overview of the Lewis and Clark Expedition from the American Indian perspective. Be watching your mail for registration materials.

Mark your calendar for October 9, 2004. The Ellison Orr Chapter and Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse will be hosting the Fall,

2004 Annual Meeting Meeting at Luther College. You won't want to miss this great week-end.

Another series of successful Archaeology Month activities were held from September 20 - October 19, 2003. The theme was *First Contact* and Public Archaeology Coordinator Lynn Alex reported that 98 events were held, there were 73 hosting organizations, and 48 communities were represented. Plans are being made now by Lynn to coordinate another great series of events for this year.

Watch for upcoming announcements regarding field school opportunities around the state in which IAS members may participate in 2004. Included is a June field school hosted by the Sanford Museum in Northwest Iowa.

Again, we were blessed with outstanding publications from Mike Heimbaugh, with Nancy's assistance, (Quarterly Newsletter) and Joe Thompson (IAS Journal). The Newsletters and Journal are received in a timely manner and they are truly a credit to our organization. There will be a special publication of the Journal in 2004 to honor the accomplishments of the late Maria Pearson. Thanks to the Mike and Joe for their quality productions.

Membership Secretary Michael Perry informs me that we finished the 2003 year with 468 memberships and we have already enrolled 242 members for the 2004 year. We have had a number of new members enroll. Our membership list includes contacts from all around the United States. We need to remind everyone to renew their present membership. Michael needs to hear from you soon if you haven't taken care of this important responsibility.

IAS Treasurer Tom Harvey reports a favorable treasury balance. The Board has made financial commitments in support of many worthwhile educational programs around the state. Site Preservation and Stewardship remains a high priority on the IAS Board Agenda.

We can all be proud of our organization and its members and what they represent. We are blessed to have a very caring and productive Executive Board that always has the best interests of the IAS as a top priority. We should always strive "to want to make a difference," and I truly believe that we do. Have a good year.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE
MAY 1st & 2nd
2004 SPRING IAS MEETING
SANFORD MUSEUM, CHEROKEE, IOWA**

**** BUS TRIP TO THE
NEW LEWIS AND CLARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER
** BANQUET SPEAKER, GERARD BAKER, SUPT.,
LEWIS & CLARK NAT'L HISTORIC TRAILS
SPEAKING ON THE LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION
FROM THE AMERICAN INDIAN PERSPECTIVE
** TOUR OF THE CROCKER SITE - LOCATION OF
SANFORD MUSEUM 2004 FIELD SCHOOL**

Higginbottom Special Membership Fund

IAS member Dan Higginbottom has graciously provided funds to help pay the IAS membership dues of senior citizens or others with limited fixed incomes. Up to five Active memberships may be paid in full by the fund. Individuals may be new or renewing members. If you know of someone who may benefit from this special fund, please contact Membership Secretary Mike Perry by telephone at 319-335-5602 or by email at Michael-Perry@uiowa.edu.

IAS Chapter News

Black Hawk Regional Chapter

The Black Hawk Regional Archeological Society met January 8th at the UNI Museum. A film on the making of stone tools was shown. February 4th Dr. Arthur Golczewski from UNI spoke on *A Contemporary View of Ancient Egyptian Art*. Jim Elliott presented *Petroglyphs in Skull Valley, Arizona* for the March chapter meeting.

Contact Lisa Beltz

1804 W. Ridgewood Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613

(319) 268-0865

Lisa.Beltz@uni.edu

Central Iowa Chapter

The January 25th CIC meeting consisted a business meeting and election of officers. Also on the agenda were project updates for both the SHSI/CIC Lithic Tool Project (Jerome Thompson and Michael Heimbaugh) and the Living History Farm Project (Doug Jones and Michael Heimbaugh). Jerry Baker presented *Mill Creek Artifacts from NW Iowa – 850 AD to 1150 AD* and showed artifacts from that time period and talked about how the differences in soil types effect the preservation of bone and antler artifacts. *Arrowheads Old and New: Knappers, Archaeologists, and Collectors* was presented by Grinnell Anthropology professor, John Whittaker February 22nd. His book *Flintknapping: Making and Understanding Stone Tools* is well known and respected. He has been studying the modern folk who make stone tools and what this art means to them, and a book, *American Flintknappers: Stone Age Art in the Age of Computers*, will be published in May by University of Texas Press.

Contact Michael Heimbaugh

3923 29th St., Des Moines, IA 50310

(515) 255-4909

paleomike@msn.com

Southeast Iowa Archaeology Chapter

The S.E. Iowa Chapter held a planning meeting for 2004 chapter activities in early March. 2004 marks the 10th anniversary for the refounding of the S.E. Iowa Chapter.

Contact Bill Anderson

Box 51, Richland, IA 52585

(319) 456-3911

bpandearch@iowatelecom.net

Northwest Chapter

In January the chapter met in the Sanford Museum to watch a video on flintknapping and had the opportunity to do some pressure flaking. The chapter discussed their hosting of the 2004 Spring IAS Meeting to be held in May, and worked on matching artifacts to site sheets in February. If the March 14th weather permitted, the NW Chapter planned travel to O'Brien County to look for artifacts and remains of buildings that may have been the location of a fort.

Contact Linda Burkhart

Sanford Museum

117 E. Willow, Cherokee, IA 51012

(712) 225-3922

sanford@cherokee.k12.ia.us

Ellison Orr Chapter

Archeology at the Daugherty Site, a Prehistoric Camp Along Canoe Creek, Winneshiek County, Iowa was presented by Lowell Blikre for Bear Creek Archeology, Inc. in February.

Contact Lori Stanley, (563) 387-1283

or Joe B. Thompson, (563) 387-0092 or

Orr Chapter, PO Box 511, Decorah, IA 52101

iasorrchapter@hotmail.com

Quad City Archaeological Society

Dr. Richard Anderson, Professor Emeritus of Geology, Augustana College, presented the November Program. He spoke on the evolution of the Mississippi River system in the eastern Iowa and northwestern Illinois region. Sadly, Bill Schafer, Chapter Treasurer for many years, passed away November 20th. He was a faithful officer, a wealth of knowledge, and a cheerful and friendly companion. He will be missed by all Quad City Archaeological Society members, and especially by chapter officers. Vice President, Bernie Peeters, presented the January program entitled *On and Around the Acropolis*, and John Hawry, a new Chapter Board member, presented *The World's Oldest Megaliths* in February.

Contact Ferrel Anderson

1923 East 13th St., Davenport, IA 52803

(319)324-0257

andersonfe@msn.com

IAS Web Site

<http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/IAS/iashome.htm>

4/24/2004

Raging Cow Atlatl Meet
Grinnell College.

UI-OSA NEWS

A SPECIAL
SECTION
OF THE IOWA
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



UI-OSA Staff Receive Excavation Safety Training

On March 5, 2004, 26 OSA staff members participated in an all-day trench excavation safety seminar led by Dr. Jack Mickle, Professor Emeritus, Department of Civil Engineering, ISU. Mickle has spent the last 12 years conducting safety training seminars for the construction and homebuilders industries as well as for other professionals. Mickle is a primary author of the OSHA requirements for worker safety in trenches and has extensively researched the mechanics of trench wall collapse. Archaeologists are a unique audience for his seminar because unlike the typical construction worker, our training in archaeology already gives us considerable knowledge about soils. However, he also notes that archaeologists are without doubt at-risk given our propensity to cut vertical, free-standing profile walls that sometimes must expose deeply buried deposits. Mickle's training has provided OSA staff with a wealth of practical knowledge that will help ensure preventable accidents are avoided during archaeological excavations.

Meskwaki Resource Trunks and CD-ROM

The State Historical Society of Iowa and the OSA have partnered with the Meskwaki Nation to create an interactive CD-ROM of primary and secondary sources on Meskwaki history and a traveling kit designed to provide hands-on experiences. The kits, funded by the Fred Maytag Family Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Humanities Iowa, include a teacher's guide, lesson plans, bibliography, illustrations, and videotapes, along with samples of material culture. The artifact replicas and natural materials will stimulate an understanding of Native American lifeways and illustrate what can be learned from

archaeological research. Replicas have been created by members of the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa and by a number of IAS members including David Carlson, Mark Anderson, Colleen Eck, and Don Wirth. The replicas include appliqué pieces, wooden spoons, matting needles and cattail mats, bone hoes, fire drill kits, and gourd rattles. Videos detail cattail mat-making, native lead mining, and Meskwaki history. The accompanying CD-ROM, funded by Humanities Iowa and the State Historical Society of Iowa provides an archival component of photographs, documents, maps, films, audio clips, artifacts, and narrative interpretations.

Iowa History Forum

OSA Staff members will participate in the 2004 Iowa History Forum presented by the State Historical Society on April 17. Dubuque's new National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium is hosting the event.

Shirley Schermer will present an "Overview of the Archaeology of the Mines of Spain." **Jim Collins** will report on "A Native American Mine along Lower Catfish Creek, Dubuque, Iowa." His latest research has uncovered a lead mine (13DB799) which, based on frontier mining technology, may be Native American, probably Meskwaki, in origin. This is the first record of a Native American mine in Dubuque County.

Lynn Alex and **Mary Bennett**, Special Collections Coordinator of the State Historical Society, will introduce the new Meskwaki resource boxes and CD-ROM.

Back to the Ice Age

The theme for this year's Iowa Archaeology Month will be "Life in the Ice Age." For some of its activities, OSA will partner with the UI Museum of Natural History in presentations of their recent excavations of a Pleistocene giant ground sloth. The new mammoth exhibit at the State Historical Museum in Des Moines will also be featured. IAM 2004 is scheduled for late September-Early October.

SHA Summary

This is a follow up to last winter's article on OSA staff at the Annual Conference for Society for Historical Archaeology in St. Louis, Missouri. SHA offered a diverse selection of workshops for OSA staff attending: **Lynn Alex**, **Shirley Schermer**, **Shawn Osborne**, **Cindy Nagel**, and **Maria Schroeder**.

OSA Staff were joined by some "old friends" familiar to many IAS members. Participating in a workshop on trade goods were two former OSA personnel. **Bill Green**, recipient of the 2002 IAS Keyes-Orr Award and former OSA director, currently director of the Logan Museum in Beloit and **Bill Billeck** former OSA researcher currently with the Smithsonian Institution. Bill Green presented *The "Middle Ground" in Iowa: Trade and Interaction at Iowaville, ca. 1770-1810*. Bill Billeck presented *Glass Trade Bead Assemblage Comparison in the Northern and Central Plains*.

Welcome, Melanie!

Melanie Riley has joined OSA's Geographic Information Program to work on LANDMASS, a predictive model and database for discovering and evaluating unrecorded archaeological sites. Melanie is a native of Fairfield and attended Truman State University, receiving her B.S. in Business Administration in 1993 and is now working toward her B.A. in Anthropology at the UI. She has been a volunteer lab technician at OSA and with the IAS at the Maxwell Site (13DA264), Bowen's Prairie (13JN152), and Bonaparte Pottery (13VB200).

Melanie is interested in Historic Preservation. One of her activities is working with the Jefferson County Historic Preservation Commission to pass a historic preservation Ordinance in Fairfield. Other interests include rock collecting and gardening. Melanie and her husband Wade reside in Iowa City and are expecting their first child in July.

Archaeology Items of Interest

Events

4/24 - Raging Cow Atlatl Meet at Grinnell College. All atlatlists, skilled, novice, or just curious are welcome. Contact John Whittaker at (641)-269-3447 or e-mail: whittake@grinnell.edu.

6/14 - 18 - Flintknapping Workshop with Tim Dillard. Dillard, an expert flintknapper with over 20 years of experience, will lead the course. Fees are \$500/per for the week, and include room, board, and instruction. For a registration packet contact: Center for American Archeology, P.O. Box 366, Kampsville, IL 62053, Ph-(618) 653-4316 or www.caa-archeology.org.

7/19 - 8/13 - CAA Adult Field School. CAA offers 4 weeks of excavation and laboratory experience undergraduate students, graduate students, and individuals who simply wish to learn more about archeological exploration. Work will be on *The Buried Gardens of Kampsville*. Tuition covers room, board, supplies, & instruction. Fees: \$500 (1 week); \$900 (2 weeks); \$1200 (3 weeks); and \$1400 (4 weeks). For information contact the Center for American Archeology, P.O. Box 366, Kampsville, IL 62053 or Ph(618)-653-4316 or www.caa-archeology.org

News

Court Ruling on Kennewick Man's Remains. The February 2004 Newsletter of the American Committee for Preservation of Archaeological Collections (ACPAC) reports that the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the scientists. The 24-page opinion, written by the Honorable Ronald M. Gould and filed February 4, 2004 is best summarized in the last paragraph: "[15] Considered as a whole, the administrative record might permit the Secretary to conclude reasonably that the Tribal claimants' ancestors have lived in the region for a very long time. However, because Kennewick Man's remains are so old and the information about his era is so limited, the record does not permit the Secretary to conclude reasonably that Kennewick Man shares special and significant genetic or cultural features with presently existing indigenous tribes, people, or culture. We thus hold that Kennewick Man's remains are not Native American human remains within the meaning of NAGPRA and that NAGPRA does not apply to them. Studies of the Kennewick Man's remains by Plaintiffs-scientists may proceed pursuant to ARPA."

Books & Web Sites

Tobacco Use by Native North Americans: Sacred Smoke and Silent Killer. Edited by Joseph C. Winter. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 2000. xviii + 454 pp., 70 photographs, 30 maps, 50 figures, 60 tables, references, index. \$65.00 (Cloth, ISBN 0-8061-3262-0).

William Green's book review published in *Plains Anthropologist*, Vol. 49, No 189, 2004 states that this book is "the" comprehensive source on the past and present relationships between Native Americans and tobacco from the Arctic through Central America... The strength of Winter's book is that it incorporates material from historical, archaeological, medical, and public health perspectives from much of North America. Importantly, Native voices are heard in several chapters."

Web Site of Interest

Robin Lillie, U I-OSA forwarded this interesting web site on the Johns Hopkins University's Egyptian dig at the Precinct of the Goddess Mut in Luxor, Egypt. It's located on line at: <http://www.jhu.edu/~neareast/egypttoday.html>

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		

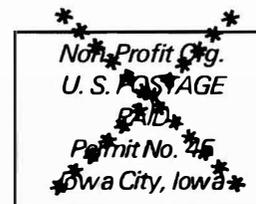
Newsletter Information

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 . IAS Web Site: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/IAS/iashome.htm>

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John Cordell
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