# Iowa Archeology News



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### INSIDE 2005 FALL & WINTER ISSUES

Rest of the Story: Theodore H. Lewis (1856-1930) Fred A. Finney

Evaluating Mounds Using Ground-Penetrating Radar William E. Whittaker, OSA Glenn R. Storey, U of I

Indian Dugout Canoes Documented by Charles R. Keyes Michael J. Perry, OSA

Opochtli's Challenge Atlatl Meet Colin Betts, Luther College

**New IAS List-Serve** 

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site Dawn Bringelson, Midwest Archeological Center

Archaeology Month in Louisa County Kathy Dice, Louisa Co. Naturalist

**30-Year Honorary** Members & New IAS Members

John Palmquist, Inducted Honorary Ioway Tribal Member Mary Harvey, Ioway Tribe

IAS Announcements What's the Point Keyes-Orr Nominations April 22, IAS Spring Mtg.

**IAS Goals in Action** 

**OSA-IAS** Guthrie County Field Opportunity

Archaeology Items of Interest The Sandia? Project by Mark L. Anderson & Sarah Horgen, OSA, University of Iowa





Have you seen these point types? Inquiring minds would like to know!

These are a couple of photos of an artifact type infamously known as Sandia points. The type speciemns were originally recovered and named during excavations conducted by New Mexico archaeologist Frank Hibbin in the late 1930s at Sandia Cave. He presented these points as predating the Clovis point types also being recovered from his excavations. Controversy began almost instantly with debate focusing not only on the stratigraphic sequences of Sandia Cave but also on the involvement of the individual excavators.

Although a fascinating tail of archaeological intrigue, we will save the full story for a later edition of the IAS newsletter. What we want now is information leading to the identification, description, and dissemination of data about this point type in Iowa.

This point type does occur throughout Iowa and the western portion of the country and does represent an actual artifact type of prehistoric origins. The cultural associations are hampered partly due to the controversy and partly due to never being found in situ to date. Examples exist of surface finds only and this is where we need the IAS membership's help.

We would like to investigate the occurrence of these point types throughout Iowa, where do they occur. how are they made and of what materials, what other types of artifacts are they found with. and where is the geographic distribution just to mention a few issues of concern. We know that they occur in local collections and would very much like the memberships' participation by sending us information. We have a data sheet that includes metric and morphological questions, questions and comments about the point and space for an outline of the artifact itself. If you have the ability to photograph the point(s) we would appreciate images of both sides in any format that will provide a quality image. For contributions to or questions of this study please contact Mark L. Anderson at <u>mark-l-anderson@uiowa.edu</u> or Sarah Horgen at <u>sarah-horgen@uiowa.edu</u>. Results will be reported back to the membership with a preceding article about the origins of the point types and the controversy that still swirls about to this day.

There is not much mention of the Sandia type anymore in archaeological literature because its pre-Clovis association has been discredited and they have not been found in other stratified, dated sites. The few most recent (last 10 years) articles mostly focus on the background story of the excavation and arguments between those involved on what really happened. Michael Schott did mention Sandia in his IAN "Solutrean Connection" series, as some archaeologists have pointed to the type's similarity to Solutrean artifacts as evidence in this theory.

### And Now for the Rest of the Story: Theodore H. Lewis (1856-1930) Fred A. Finney

From the perspective of the twenty-first century, Theodore Hayes Lewis (1856-1930) is arguably one of the most important late Victorian era archaeologists in the Midwest. Personal details of his life are scarce. An excellent summary is contained in Dunbar Rowland's editorial comments at the beginning of Lewis' (1902) article published by the Mississippi Historical Society. It is reproduced below with annotations. This brief biography contains virtually all that is known about Lewis' background outside the Northwestern Archaeological Survey (NAS). It has information not included in his entries in Marquis' *Who's Who* (Marquis 1899, 1901, 1903, 1906, 1908, 1910, and 1912).

Theodore Hayes Lewis was born at Richmond, Va., December 15, 1856. After a residence of one year (1865) in Columbus, Ohio, his parents removed to Little Rock, Ark. [Lewis 1902:449]

A number of later writers list his year of birth. This is one of the few sources that gives the exact date (see also Marquis 1907; Upham and Dunlap 1912). Several researchers have been unable to find Lewis, his parents, or siblings in either the 1860 Richmond, Virginia, or the 1870 Little Rock, Arkansas, federal census population schedules. One potential problem for finding Lewis in the census is the fact that he was raised by an aunt and uncle for at least part of his youth.<sup>1</sup>

Until this paper, the names of his immediate relatives were unknown. The circumstances surrounding his family were unraveled by tracing Lewis through early twentieth century censuses. First, Lewis conclusively appears in the 1900 federal census as renting Hill's former residence at 406 Maria Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota. In particular the 1900 entry lists Lewis as an archaeologist. This entry further indicates that his father was born in Virginia and his mother in New York (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1900). In addition to the correct name and age,<sup>2</sup> the birthplaces of his parents serve as the diagnostic marker for making a positive identification of Lewis in the 1920 and 1930 censuses as a resident of St. Louis, Missouri (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1920, 1930). The 1900, 1920, and 1930 census entries and his death certificate had the same place of birth profile for Lewis (Virginia), his father (Virginia), and his mother (New York). The death certificate for Theodore H. Lewis is the only source for his parent's names—Hiram and Marie Curdy Lewis (City of St. Louis 1930). The age listed in the death certificate indicates that Lewis was born in 1854, 1855, or 1856. These differences suggest that Lewis might have shaved a year or two off his age when convenient, on the other hand it is possible that he simply did not know the correct year.

Lewis finished his public school education from 1866 to 1872 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Upon completion of his common school education at this place, he took a commercial course at the Miami Commercial College, Dayton, O. (1874). [Lewis 1902:449]

It is reported that Lewis spent one or two years as a schoolteacher near Chillicothe, Ohio, where he observed mound excavations and apparently learned to use a surveyor's level (Keyes 1928).

From 1876-8 he made archaeological excavations for Prof. William A. Muller, of Dresden, Germany, in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee. During the winters of 1878-95 he continued his archaeological work, surveying 10,000 mounds. This was a private enterprise, the results of which are still unpublished. [Lewis 1902:449]

Marvin Jeter (1990, 2001) provides some details of Lewis' excavations in Arkansas mounds, but did not find additional information on Prof. Muller. Lewis' private enterprise was called the Southern Archaeological Survey (SAS). It is evident from the Lewis-Hill correspondence that the latter provided funding for the winter surveys. Virtually nothing is known of the SAS. Like the NAS, it remains unpublished. Unfortunately there are no extant field notes for the SAS. Selected articles by Lewis had subjects that must comprise part of that effort. These include sites in Kentucky (Lewis 1887), Mississippi (Lewis 1891), Arkansas (Lewis 1894), and Alabama (Lewis 1895). Lewis rarely made artifact collections during his surveys. However, at least some of the materials he collected for the SAS are held at the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul (Finney 2004).

In the meantime (1880-95) he conducted the "Northwestern Archaeological Survey" under the auspices of the late Alfred J. Hill. The results of these explorations embracing over 12,000 mounds are also unpublished. [Lewis 1902:449]

Lewis (1898) used this 12,000 mound total in his brief NAS summary. Later writers (Keyes 1928, 1930, 1977; Irwin 1964) repeated this figure. However, this total is too low. Dobbs (1991) lists over 17,000 mounds and earthworks (ca. 1,000 of the latter) from over 2,000 sites in his comprehensive site finder aid for the NAS notebooks.

Prof. Lewis has made a special study of the Spanish and French explorations and settlements in the Mississippi valley and the Gulf States during the past twenty-five years. [Lewis 1902:449]

These investigations undoubtedly comprised part of the SAS. More importantly they set the stage for his post-NAS career as an historian. It follows up a joint interest in this subject held with Hill. By at least 1886, Lewis had acquired the title "professor" (Finney 2005).

His writings are mostly archaeological, and are published in the American Antiquarian; American Anthropologist; American Naturalist; American Journal of Archaeology; Magazine of American History; The Archaeologist; Science; National Magazine; Macalester Monthly; Macalester Contributions; The Anthropologist;<sup>3</sup> De Lestry's Western Magazine; Speaking Leaf (Order of Red Men); and Appleton's Annual Cyclopedia (1889). He published the first English translation (abbreviated) of the Rangel Narrative [on the De Soto Expedition]. Prof. Lewis is a life member of the Minnesota Historical Society and an honorary member of the Mississippi Historical Society. [Lewis 1902:449]

#### **Ultimate Fate**

The most enduring NAS mystery is the ultimate fate of Lewis himself. Despite the attempts by several generations of archaeologists, it remains unsolved. Lewis is listed in the first seven volumes of *Who's Who*. The first two indicate his address as 406 Maria Avenue, St. Paul, which was Hill's house (Marquis 1899, 1901), and Lewis' place of residence during the NAS (Lewis 1898a).<sup>4</sup> According to the 1900 federal census Lewis rented the house at 406 Maria Avenue and lived alone. *Who's Who* Volumes 3 and 4 merely list Lewis' residence as St. Paul (Marquis 1903, 1906). Only one other address can be found for Lewis in St. Paul. The 1903 city directory indicates that Prof. T. Hayes Lewis had rooms at 467½ Wabasha Street (Polk 1903). After the NAS fieldwork creased, Lewis became a partner in a St. Paul publishing business (Dobbs 1991; Keyes 1928). He was elected a life member of the MHS in 1898 and Prof. Lewis is listed as a St. Paul resident from 1899 to 1907 in the society records (Anonymous 1898; MHS 1899, 1903, 1905, 1907). It is known that Lewis left St. Paul in 1905 when it became obvious that the NAS notes would remain beyond his reach (Anonymous 1905). He sold his scrapbooks of archaeological newspaper clippings to the MHS and his artifact collection to Edward Mitchell of St. Paul, who later donated these materials to the MHS (Finney 2000; Mitchell 1908).

After 1905, his whereabouts become increasingly murky as Lewis began a long decline into oblivion (Dobbs 1991; Keyes 1928; Winchell 1911). He can be traced until around the beginning of World War I when Lewis disappears completely from view. The final article by Professor Lewis (1907) lists his affiliation as an Honorary Member of the Mississippi Historical Society. Volumes 5-7 have a one-line entry, without address, that refers the reader to the detailed entry in the *Who's Who* for 1906-1907 (Marquis 1906, 1908, 1910, 1912). His final entry in *Who's Who* appears in the 1912-1913 edition (Marquis 1912). Winchell (1911) merely indicates that Lewis had been reported in Ouray, Colorado, at some point after leaving St. Paul. A review of the membership records in the MHS biennial reports discloses that Lewis used Ouray as his address from 1909 to 1915 (MHS 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915). In the 1917 biennial report his address is listed as unknown and Lewis is absent from the 1919 and subsequent reports (MHS 1917, 1919).

According to the 1900 federal census and *Who's Who*, Lewis was a bachelor and for this reason may have lived with relatives after leaving St. Paul. This hypothesis does not explain his 1905 to ca. 1916 residence in Colorado, but may be the rationale for his appearance in the 1920 and 1930 federal censuses for the City of St. Louis, Missouri.<sup>5</sup> The aunt who raised him had relatives in the St. Louis area.<sup>6</sup> In the 1920 census he was listed as being a retail merchant in the newspaper business (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1920). The population schedule further indicated that he was a lodger in a boarding house owned by Fredricka Heinrich at 401 South Broadway Avenue. Presumably Lewis had a news stand located near his boardinghouse. Attempts to find Lewis in the St. Louis City Directories have proved futile. The April 1930 census entry provided the missing clue to his final fate. He was listed as being an inmate at the St. Louis City Infirmary at 5800 Arsenal Drive (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1930).

This institution served as the poor hospital and insane asylum for St. Louis City and St. Louis County. According to his death certificate, Lewis died July 17, 1930, from a heart condition recorded as "chronic myocarditis" (City of St. Louis 1930). No relatives were known and Lewis was buried in an unmarked grave for which no records exist. The Potter's Field or St. Louis Municipal Cemetery was located on the city and county farm at Hampton and Fyler Roads. His placement in the St. Louis City Infirmary would infer that the City of St. Louis received whatever assets Lewis possessed. No will was ever filed with the city or county. Unfortunately the fate of the archaeological records that he retained in 1895 remains unknown.<sup>7</sup> Lewis' ultimate fate is a stark reminder about the problems of human aging—particularly for those individuals without children—prior to social security. A final indignity occurred in the summer of 1950. The former city and county farm was sold for development and the bodies from the Potter's Field were moved to the Mt. Lebanon Cemetery in St. Ann, Missouri (Anonymous 1950). The above description of his post-St. Paul period is lacking in precise details for Lewis' activities. In retrospect, documenting what Lewis accomplished as a field archaeologist and ethnohistorian is more important than his life story after Lewis stopped writing articles (Finney 2001; Green 1987).

#### Footnotes

1: (FAF) In various letters to Hill, Lewis disclosed that is was the reason he wished to financially support the aunt in her old age.

2: (FAF) Lewis' age is incorrect in the 1920 census entry.

3: (FAF) A review of a brief-lived 1890-1891 monthly journal entitled "The Anthropologist: A Journal for Thinkers" did not find any contribution by Lewis.

4: (FAF) Today the site of Hill's house is part of a large parking lot for Metropolitan State University.

5: (FAF) Lewis can be found only in the 1900, 1920, and 1930 federal censuses. The 1900 entry provided the first listing for his parent's place of birth. This critical and diagnostic information is repeated in the 1920 and 1930 entries.

6: (FAF) Lewis-Hill correspondence, Archives, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

7: (FAF) This situation remains a potential problem for consulting archaeologists unaffiliated with an institution

#### Acknowledgments

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### Evaluating Mounds Using Ground-Penetrating Radar: A Test at Effigy Mounds National Monument William E. Whittaker, Office of the State Archaeologist, University of Iowa, Glenn R. Storey, Departments of Classics and Anthropology, University of Iowa

Native Americans, as well as most of the general public, consider prehistoric mounds to be sacred burial and ceremonial locations; only a few hundred still exist in Iowa, and many of these are endangered. Strong laws protect mounds, and archaeological excavation of mounds is virtually unknown in Iowa in recent decades. Archaeologists need non-destructive techniques for the identification, study, and evaluation of mounds to ensure their long-term protection and stabilization, and to increase our knowledge about the complex societies that created them.

Recently, the Office of the State Archaeologist teamed up with the Departments of Classics and Anthropology to test the usefulness of ground-penetrating radar (GPR) on burial mounds at Effigy Mounds National Monument in Northeast Iowa. In GPR an antenna emits a signal and the resulting echo returns to a receiver and is recorded by a processing unit. The returning signal is processed to make an image of the internal structure of the mound.

In 2004 the authors began a study to test the ability of GPR to evaluate the condition and structure of existing mounds with the hope that this information can be used for non-invasive analysis of mounds and the identification of previously undocumented mounds. The focus of this research was the Sny Magill Mound Group (13CT18), a part of the Effigy Mounds National Monument, and is situated in Clayton County, Iowa,

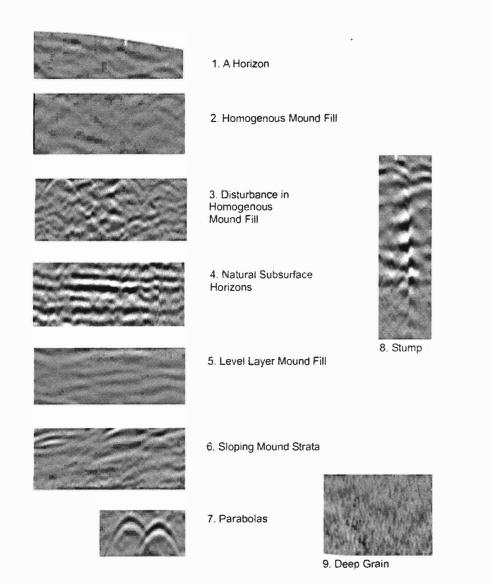


Figure 1. Vocabulary used to define radargram elements.

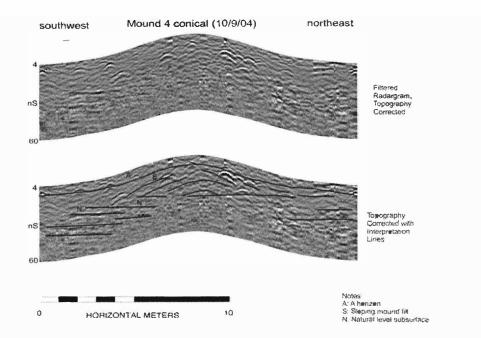


Figure 2. Mound 4, example of a vertical profile of a conical mound with sloping strata.

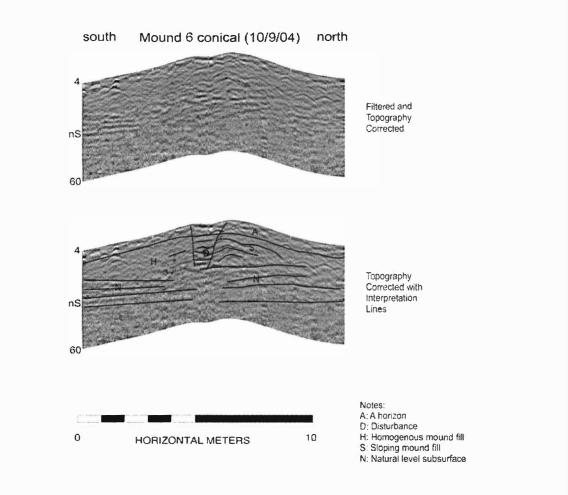


Figure 3. Mound 6, example of a vertical profile of a conical mound with sloping strata and a large disturbance.

along Johnson's Slough, a braid of the Mississippi River. A total of 121 known or suspected mounds exist at Sny Magill, primarily conical mounds, but also two bird mounds, three linear mounds, and three zoomorphic mounds which are typically described as bear mounds. The Sny Magill Mound group has undergone numerous surveys and investigations since it was identified in 1885. Excavations at Sny Magill and subsequent reanalysis reveal that the mounds were constructed primarily in the Late Woodland period, but with some evidence of Early Woodland and later Late Woodland utilization.

Based on analogies to historic Native American beliefs and on the distribution and co-occurrence of mound forms within mound groups, effigy mound shapes have been categorized into two broad categories, "upperworld" bird and bird-men forms inhabiting the realm of the sky, and "lowerworld" forms such as bears, buffalo, deer, and other terrestrial animals which inhabit the earth realm, and enigmatic long-tailed water spirits which inhabit the realm of water. The various realms are part of regional Native Americans' attempts to maintain social and cosmic balance, and imprecisely mirror historically-known clan groups.

At Sny Magill three different surveys occurred with different radar settings on March 13–14, August 26–27, and October 9, 2004. Every mound which could be identified on the ground was surveyed at least once, and most were surveyed at least twice.

Overall, the three surveys of mounds within Sny Magill presented a remarkable look into the internal structure of mounds. Through experimentation, a vocabulary was developed to describe the most common elements observed in radargrams (Figure 5). This vocabulary was developed by comparing the radargram to known disturbances, tree stumps, and other recognizable ephemera, and through comparison with soil structures in excavated mounds. While not perfect, it does allow for a discussion of radargram results in a meaningful way. The construction of such vocabularies is necessary for all GPR surveys, and is likely to vary greatly depending on local conditions.

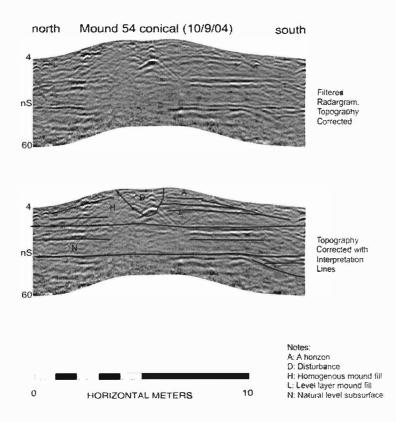


Figure 4. Mound 54, example of a vertical profile of a conical mound with level strata and a central disturbance.

# Elements frequently observed in radargrams at Sny Magill (Figure 1)

- 1. A horizon. The A horizon, or topsoil, is indicated by a continuous layer of homogenous or banded soil which extends across the entire mound. The A horizon tends to be deeper at the edges of the mound compared to the top, likely because soil aggradation from silting and erosion occurs there.
- 2. Homogenous mound fill. Homogenous fill has a uniform to slightly-lumpy appearance and are interpreted as massive fill. Deposited soils create differences in density because of minor variation within the parent material, differences in settling, and subsequent bioturbation, which can give it an oatmeal appearance. The presence of homogenous mound fill is probably the least reliable way to determine if a mound is cultural or not, because homogenous mound fill also appears in mounds determined to be non-cultural.
- 3. Disturbance. A disturbance is a break in the strata or homogenous portions of a mound, usually accompanied by parabolas or differently-appearing fill matrix. Often, these disturbances are associated with known disturbances such as tree stumps, depressions, or areas of excavation, however, several radargram disturbances do not correspond with known disturbances, and can be anything from a rock or a large rodent disturbance to a prehistoric cultural feature such as an intrusive burial or included feature.
- 4 Natural subsurface horizons. These horizons, which underlie the mounds and appear flat when surface topography is corrected, represent the sub-mound natural horizons associated with wash deposits. The natural subsurface levels are typically fainter beneath the mounds, since the radar signal has to travel farther through a more-complex assortment of soils to get to the natural subsurface levels. Unfortunately, this fading beneath the mounds limits our ability to see possible prehistoric subsurface features which are known from excavations at Effigy Mounds and other mound sites in the Midwest.
- 5. Level layer mound fill. Level layer mound fill probably results from the layering of loaded fill, such as from basket piling. Level layer mound fill can either appear as banding or as a horizontal cluster of parabola apexes.
- 6. Sloping mound fill horizons. Sloping strata appear in topographically-corrected radargrams. Again, this is probably loaded fills, although piled in curving arcs and slupms that radiate from the center base of the mound. The presence of sloping mound fill is generally the most reliable indicator that

a mound is cultural rather than noncultural. A review of mound literature indicates sloping mound horizons are common to most prehistoric mounds, and should, therefore be the most common type of fill observed in radargrams of mounds.

- Parabolas. Highly-reflective anomalies, such as rocks, will display themselves as parabolas. Large numbers of parabolas at all the same depth probably indicate a level horizon with a large cluster of anomalies.
- 8. Stump. When the radar antenna went over a stump it usually created a vertical line of chatter. This chatter would occasionally occur when no stump was observed on the surface, and therefore may correspond to a buried stump or other near-surface anomaly which allowed for minimal radar penetration.
- 9. Deep grain. Seen at the bottom of radargrams when the returning signal is extremely weak, deep grain typically reveals little in the way of anomalies, parabolas, or other objects of interest, but can show general deep strata.

### Differentiating true mounds from false mounds

One of the goals of this project is to be able to distinguish prehistoric mounds from non-cultural rises in the ground or historic piles of soil. The eight most common false mound types are tree root lifts, root ball inversions, loess and alluvium traps, borrowing for other mounds, historic piling, erosion from a point, landslide deposits, and natural fluvial deposits.

None of the potential false mounds are likely to exhibit sloping or level strata in the same manner prehistoric cultural mounds can. But it should be noted that the absence of level or sloping strata does not necessarily rule out prehistoric construction, since homogenous mound fills are possible, as are disturbed mound strata.

### Mound Variation

A summary of all the mounds surveyed with GPR at Sny Magill in 2004 are presented in Table 1, and typical mound radargram images are presented in Figures 2-4. Like all craft products, every mound is a unique creation, which is not precisely identical to any other mound. In addition, a limitless variety of potential disturbances can affect mounds after construction. In the course of mound evaluation and analysis, each mound should be treated as a separate, unique object; however, mounds can be classified according to structure and type of disturbance. In Table 1 a very conservative classification was made of each mound, based only upon unambiguous evidence of level or sloping strata and the presence or absence of large disturbances. For the sake of systematizing this categorization, a large disturbance is one which appears to occupy more than 25 percent of the mound's fill. It should be noted that Table 1 almost certainly underestimates the actual frequency of disturbance, since all mounds have some disturbances, not all disturbances can be seen with GPR, and not all disturbances necessarily occur along survey transect. Table 2 presents a summary of the different strata observed in the Sny Magill mounds. As expected, conical mounds with sloping strata are most common at Sny Magill, followed by homogenous fill mounds and badly-disturbed mounds.

#### Conclusions

GPR can reveal a number of features within mounds such as internal strata, anomalies, and disturbances. However, GPR cannot show everything one wants to know about a mound, such as a presence or absence of human remains or if the anomalies observed correspond to prehistoric cultural features.

There are innumerable variations in prehistoric mound construction in the Midwest, this diversity of form leads to difficulty in analysis of GPR radargrams. Mound building began in the Midwest ca. 3000 years ago and continued into the protohistoric period. Mound excavations at Effigy Mounds National Monument reveal a smaller subset of potential mound variation, with mounds typically displaying sloping strata or homogeneous fill and occasionally with possible subsurface depressions or prepared surfaces in the center of the mound. No large vaults or structures have been excavated at Effigy Mounds, nor are large stones a significant structural element. Several excavated mounds at Effigy Mounds display evidence of vandalism or other disturbances. This limited range of potential variation observed in excavated mounds is similar to the results obtained by GPR at Sny Magill.

The particular weaknesses of GPR may limit what exactly can be seen at Sny Magill; it is unlikely that very thin horizons of hematite, a common occurrence at Effigy Mounds, can be detected by GPR, and it is also unlikely a standard 400 MHz antenna will be able

Table 1. Di	ifferences	in strata	in Sny	Magill	mounds.

Form	Strata	n	%
Conical	sloping	39	32.2
	level and sloping	9	7.4
	level	4	3.3
	homogenous	23	19.0
	jumbled or	12	9.9
	unsurveyed	19	15.7
	probable non-mound	2	1.7
	subsurface feature	2	1.7
Linear	level and sloping	1	0.8
	segmented	2	1.7
	homogenous	2	1.7
	unsurveyed	1	0.8
Zoomorphic	segmented	2	1.7
•	homogenous	3	2.5
TOTAL	¥	121	100

to detect the very small clusters of bone fragment common to Effigy Mound National Monument graves. In addition, GPR probably underestimates the incidence of sub mound depressions, a common feature at Effigy Mounds National Monument, probably because the height of the mound diminishes deeper signals. Overall, GPR does display horizons, strata, and disturbances in a coherent manner consistent with expectations derived from archaeological excavations.

Currently, GPR analysis of mounds appears to be an effective tool to determine the overall structure and condition of a mound, and this information can be used to identify, protect, and stabilize mounds. Just as non-invasive medical diagnostic technology will never be 100 percent reliable, GPR and other forms of remote sensing may never be capable of consistently providing unambiguous views of the internal structure of mounds. But the techniques can be improved and refined, or at least we can obtain a better understanding of the limitations of the technology, through comparisons with excavation results.

#### Acknowledgments

Funding for this project came from a 2003 University of Iowa Social Sciences Funding Program grant, substantial additional support came from the Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa. Equipment funding came from a University of Iowa Arts and Humanities Initiative grant. Research at Sny Magill was covered under Federal Archeological Resources Protection Act permit 2004-2.

Many thanks to Joe Alan Artz, Robert Boszhardt, William F. Decker, Steven L. DeVore, Janis L. Dial-Jones, John F. Doershuk, Phyllis Ewing, Kira E. Kaufmann, Bob Palmer, Michael J. Perry, Jeff Richner, W. Lane Shields, Thomas D. Thiessen, and Anne M. Wolley Vawser for their help in arranging this survey and reviewing our subsequent reports.

 Table 2. Observed disturbances in Sny Magill mounds.

Disturbance		n	%
display no evidence of major	r	69	57.0
conical	60		
linear	5		
zoomorphic	4		
display evidence of major		30	24.8
disturbance/excavation			
conical	29		
linear	0		
zoomorphic	1		
unsurveyed		20	16.5
conical	19		
linear	1		
zoomorphic	0		
probable non-mound		2	1.7
TOTAL		121	100.0

### Indian Dugout Canoes Documented by Charles R. Keyes by Michael J. Perry, OSA

During his 1921 summer "working vacation" at the Iowa Great Lakes, Charles Keyes made the acquaintance of W. J. Loomis, then an elderly gentleman residing in Sprit Lake. On July 12, Mr. Loomis related a story of his youth of finding, along with other lads, several dugout canoes in the marshes of Prairie Lake, a small glacial lake a mile east of East Lake Okoboji in Dickinson County. Keyes recorded the story in a loose narrative style in his journal of the trip included in his "Book R" notebook. He also made a rough, annotated sketch of the form of the canoes. The story of the remarkable find, which apparently occurred around the year 1863, is transcribed here, retaining the original spelling, grammer, punctuation, and strikethroughs. Editorial inserstions appear in brackets.

<u>Indian dugouts</u> of cottonwood or basswood found submerged and stone laden within an area of about 8 rods square in north end of Prairie Lake more than 50 yrs. ago by W. J. Loomis, now living in Spirit Lake. The dugouts were discovered by stepping on the stones while hunting for eggs of wild ducks and geese with other boys. and were removed by attaching ropes and using team. Very light, however, after drying out thoroughly.

The boats were about 12, 15, and 18 feet in length and alike at each end, except the larger, which was broadest at the stern. The general shape was described as undercut and somewhat upturned bows. The largest boat was about 3 ft in diam. [diameter] at stern, the sides 7/8 in thick at upper edge and about 24 in. deep, the others of smaller proportional dimensions. but of equal breadth throughout, the smallest only about 1/2 inch thick at the upper margins. Depth of smallest 12–14 inches.

A paddle found in largest boat, double bladed. 8-9 feet long, soft wood.

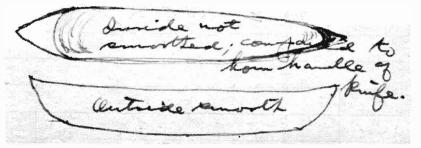
The canoes all found in one summer on N. side of Prairie or "Hog Back" Lake.

The dugouts were used for several years for various purposes: watering troughs, receptacle for rainwater, or boys' trapping boat. Indians to shoot out from under one on account of their lightness.

Some three years after the find four (4) Sioux Indians, camping a short distance below Spirit Lake with their families. took the largest dugout, repaired it with rawhide, etc, made a double bladed paddle and with racket-shaped [...] ends covered with rawhide. and readily navigated E. Okoboji with the repaired boat. They were even able to stand up in it. This boat was not seen again after the Indians were forced to leave. Mr. Loomis believes it was again sunk. The other boats, allowed to become checked and ruined, finally disappeared.

The above information secured from Mr. Loomis himself, now a man of seventy.

According to drawing by Mr. Loomis. Top view.



Keyes's sketch of a dugout canoe, based on descriptions provided by W. J. Loomis. Annotations read: "Inside not smoothed; compared to horn handle of knife. Outside smooth"

Mr. Loomis mentions use of pony travois by Indians who repaired larger canoe.

Mr. Loomis came with parents to Spirit Lake in 1858. Born 1851. Found canoes with other boys when about 12 years old. Mr. Loomis says earliest trappers he knew never used boats.

Mr. T. J. Marin [?], Spirit Lake pop factory, old settler, confirms story of use by Indians of larger dugout. Played in it with other boys; a well made boat. Story of lost straw hat.

Keyes's scientific discipline at this early stage of his archaeological career is evident in the story. He appears to have extracted as many details as possible from his informant about the date and location of the finds, the physical nature of the canoes, and how the canoes were used. He also established the likelihood that they were Native American made, and found a witness to corroborate at least part of the story.

Finds of Native American canoes in Iowa are exceedingly rare. A walnut canoe found along the East Nishnabotna River near Red Oak some 30 years ago, a portion of which is reposited at the Office of the State Archaeologist, is similar in form to the Prairie Lake canoes described by Loomis. Use of canoes for wild rice harvesting on the natural lakes of the upper Midwest by the Chippewa and related tribes is widely known, and the harvesting process apparently has a long history. Documentation of the ways in which canoes were stored when not in use is more obscure, but one could easily speculate that the practice of submerging rock-filled canoes along marshy lakeshores may leave an archaeological signature in the form of rock features with the rough outline of a canoe occurring in muddy sediments.

### Opochtli's Challenge Atlatl Meet By Colin Betts, Luther College



On Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup> the Luther College Anthropology Lab hosted the third annual Opochtli's Challenge atlatl competition and demonstration. The competition is named for the Aztec 'patron saint' of atlatls. Opochtli, also known as the

Left Handed One or He Who Divides the Waters, was the god of those who made their living in the lakes and marshes in the southern part of the Valley of Mexico. As such, he is credited with the invention of items associated with fishing and hunting waterfowl, in particular the atlatl and harpoon. This year's event drew over 25 competitors, including Luther students, faculty, staff, a team of five throwers from the University of Iowa led by anthropology graduate student Alex Woods, as well as individuals from the general public.

There were two events in which participants could compete. The first was the International Standard Accuracy Competition (ISAC) - a yearlong

international contest. The event uses a standard target at which competitors throw 10 times, five each from distances of 15 and 20 meters, with a total possible score of 100. Results of events throughout the calendar year are submitted to the World Atlatl Association. At the end of the year the international champions in the men's. women's and youth categories are announced. In addition, the WAA compiles a list of all time high scores in each division. At this fall's competition, Luther students Todd Brown and Katie McVey threw the high scores for the male and female divisions, with a 72 and 53, respectively.

There was also an unofficial field course in which there was nothing at stake except pride and the possibility of losing a dart in tall grass. This course consisted of 10 animal targets placed at various distances along a trail system that runs through restored prairie and woodland settings. Unlike the ISAC competition, this event makes for a more realistic simulation of the process of hunting with an atlatl, as competitors are often required to shoot on a slope, around trees, and through brush. As a result, scores are relatively low

compared to those achieved in the ISAC event. Students from the University of Iowa swept this event; Alex Woods posted the high score for the men's division of 85 points out of a possible 200 while Kimberley Townsend recorded a total of 37.



Luther plans to continue to host this event on an annual basis in coordination with Iowa Archaeology Month. Anyone who is interested in competing in the future is encouraged to look for the event in next year's calendar of Archaeology Month events. Although many competitors typically bring their own gear, Luther provides extra darts and throwers for those who want to give it a try. Feel free to just stop by or contact Colin Betts (bettscol@luther.edu) to get more details.

### The New Iowa Archeological Society List-Serve

As many of you have already noticed, the IAS now has an Iowa Archeology List-Serve. The purpose of this e-mail message list is to facilitate communication among IAS members and announce upcoming events of interest. It will be easier to communicate via this list-serve than it would be for each member to maintain his or her own list of IAS e-mail addresses. There are currently over 200 members on the list! This is a moderated list, so all messages posted to the list will be sent to the list moderator, Robin Lillie (IAS President) or the list owner, Alan Hawkins (IAS Membership Secretary), prior to the distribution to the entire list-serve. Any IAS member can post messages to this list serve, simply by e-mailing the message to:

### IowaArcheologyListServ@list.uiowa.edu.

All IAS members with e-mail addresses have been automatically subscribed to this list. If you are not yet on the IAS list-serve and wish to be, if your e-mail address changes or needs to be altered, or if you wish to unsubscribe from the list, please notify the list owner by e-mailing your request to:

or <u>alan-hawkins@uiowa.edu</u>. Let's make good use of this list serve.

### National Park Service-Midwest Archeological Center Herbert Hoover National Historic Site by Dawn Bringelson, Midwest Archeological Center

IAS volunteers contributed a great deal to the success of a National Park Service-Midwest Archeological Center field project at Herbert Hoover National Historic Site. During the week of October 16, five IAS members provided invaluable assistance during shovel testing and test excavations around the James Staples House, one of the homes in the historic core near Hoover's birthplace cottage in West Branch. Bob Brandon, Gary Dalecky, Fred Gee, Steve Hanken, and Charlotte Wright



Bob Brandon mapping artifacts at base of test unit. This unit sampled an extensive trash deposit likely associated with late 19<sup>th</sup> Century construction.



Steve Hanken and Charlotte Wright examine shovel test contents along the side of the house.

contributed over 90 hours in total, helping the MWAC crew to complete a daunting set of tasks during their limited time in West Branch. Brandon, Dalecky, Gee, and Wright are certified IAS members.

The Staples project delineated potentially sensitive areas surrounding the house in preparation for extensive rehabilitation work scheduled for Spring2006. We discovered and tested an intact trash pit, confirmed the location of a rich but shallow midden, and found deposits associated with the complex construction history of the house. This information will be used to guide the grading and excavation necessary to improve drainage around the house and stabilize the structure, helping the Park to protect its archeological resources in the process.

### Archaeology Month in Louisa County by Kathy Dice, Naturalist, Louisa Co. Conservation Board

Iowa Archaeology Month was celebrated in Louisa County this month with a week of activities. The Louisa County Conservation Board (LCCB) and the Office of the State Archaeologist worked together to provide all the activities.

To start the week Lynn Alex of the Office of the State Archaeologist visited with 5<sup>th</sup> graders in 3 schools in the county talking about who are archaeologists and how they do their work. Steve Lensink talked to the Wapello Kiwanis on Wednesday, Oct. 12 about the first lowa farmers. His talk received high praise from the 20 or so persons in attendance.

The big day of activities was on Saturday, October 15, when a variety of hands-on activities was offered at the Toolesboro Indian Mounds Museum, Toolesboro,



Everyone got into trying their hand at the pottery. Some beautiful pots were created and taken home.

Iowa, along with a guided bus tour of the Malchow Mounds near Kingston, Iowa and cultural events at the Louisa County Historic Center in Wapello, Iowa. Assisting these activities were OSA-staffers Lynn Alex, Colleen Eck, and Sarah Horgen, as well as the Putnam Museum's Christina Kastell.

The final grand event was having William Green, director of the Logan Museum of Anthropology at Beloit College, in Beloit, Wisconsin and former State Archaeologist of Iowa give a talk titled *Decades of Digging and Discovery: The Archaeology of Louisa County and Vicinity* on Sunday at the Louisa County Heritage Center in Wapello. Despite glorious weather, only approximately 100 people attended all events over the two days of public activities. The low numbers did not dampen the enthusiasm of the presenters who enjoyed more one-on-one time with the people present.



Katherine Justice of Wapello, Iowa learns how to make cordage, or string, from plant fibers. Cordage making was one activity to celebrate Iowa Archaeology Month at the Toolesboro Indian Mounds Museum on Saturday, October 15, 2005.



Young and old watch with fascination as water boils in a ceramic crock. The water was being heated by rocks heated in the fire. Colleen Eck, OSA, lead the activity. A great deal of fire cracked rock was created, leading to a discussion of what archaeologists look for at sites.

### **New 30-Year Honorary Members**

Congratulations to Gary Austin, Afton, Iowa; David Benn, Cresco, Iowa; Douglas Emrich, Tipton, Iowa: Mark Frey, St. Paul. Minnesota; Blane Nansel, Iowa City, Iowa; Donna Roper, Manhattan, Kansas; Loren Schutt, Wheatland, Iowa: and Louise Zipp, Geneseo, New York, on achieving Honorary Lifetime membership status. All of these individuals have been Active or Sustaining members since 1976.

### Welcome New IAS Members in 2005

Kathy Bakken	Decorah	Dan and Sharilyn Kimball	Little York, IL
Donald Boyce	Holy Cross	Daphne Miller	Fairfax
John Weimer and Judy Brady	Mallard	Scott Mooney and Family	Ottumwa
Fred and Marilyn Charbon Harris Darling Alex Dooley and Family Michael and Nurit Finn Edward Fleming Mary Foulk Alan Haight Linda Johnson Dorothy Kelly Kermit Ketelsen James Key	North Liberty Worthington, MN Iowa City Anamosa West Saint Paul, MN Moline, IL Mason City Webster City West Des Moines De Witt Eldora	John and Delores Pherigo Jim Probst Wend Ringgenberg Kay Risser Larry W. Rummells Saskatchewan Archaeological Society Louise Stanberg Kim Voss Paul Wiegand Jennifer Wilberding Jim Willard	Colfax Marion Kelley Murray West Branch Saskatoon, SK Callender Rock Island, IL Rochester, MN Dubuque Mendota, IL

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thank you received from new 30-year Honoary Member, Donna Roper by IAS President. Robin Lillie.

Robin.

What a pleasant surprise I just pulled from my mailbox! I was quite unaware of how nuch time had passed since I joined IAS until my last membership renewal card came with a note on it that i, was 30 years. Whew. I don't think there is any other state society where I have sustained my membership that long. I think, though, that it is partly because I have always thought that Iowa has an overall exemplary approach to archaeology - its state archaeologist's office, SHPO office, IAS, journal, publications, relations with Native Americans -top to bottom it has been quality, appreciation for archaeology, responsiveness to the various constituencies without compromising values, and just very fine people, both as scholars and as people.

There's also very interesting archaeology that I have been pleased to have involvement with on an off over those years (umm, decades, I guess we're looking at here)!

In any event, my sincere thanks to the officers, Board, and membership for the Honorary Lifetime Membership.

### DON'T FORGET !!

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO

### PAY YOUR

### IAS DUES FOR 2006!!

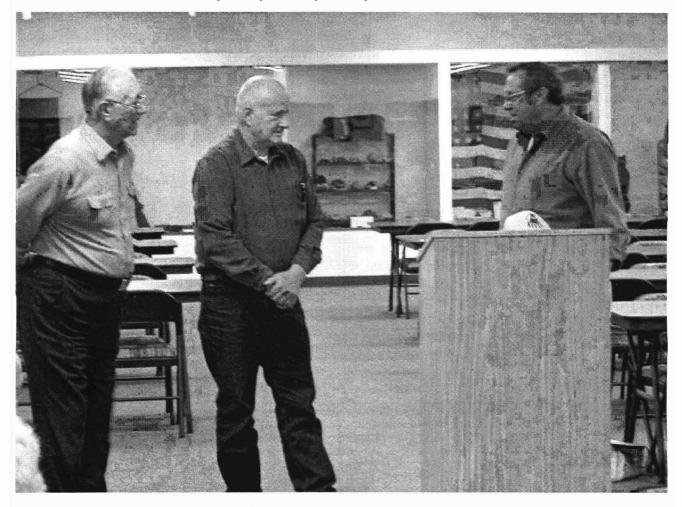
Contact: Membership Secretary, Iowa Archeological Society, University of Iowa, 700 Clinton Street Building, Iowa City, IA 52242-1030.

### **Membership Dues**

	<u>Non-Voting:</u> Student (under 18) \$ 9 Institution \$30
--	---

Donna

### Ioway Tribe Inducts Stanton, Iowa Resident as Honorary Member by Mary Harvey, Ioway Tribal Member



# From left: Emil Campbell, an Ioway Tribe Elder and John's close friend, John and Leon Campbell, the Ioway Tribe Chairman. Emil and Leon are descendents of Chief Mahaska, who was killed near the Nodaway River in what is now Montgomery County Iowa in 1834.

John Palmquist of Stanton, Iowa was inducted into the Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska as an Honorary Member on October 27, 2005. A supper was held in his honor on the Reservation, with Tribe members (including three Otoes) attending from Omaha, Nebraska as well as friends from Red Oak, Iowa.

After supper, Leon Campbell, Chairman of the Ioway Tribe, made a presentation. Mr. Palmquist received a plaque making him an Honorary Member. Helping make the event an occasion he would not forget, other members of the tribe gave John an Indian blanket and other gifts for him and his wife, Charlotte. This honor was given to Mr. Palmquist in the appreciation for his interest in the history of the Ioway Tribe, especially when the tribe lived in what is now the State of Iowa. Tribe members say this is the first time in memory that anyone has received such an honor as this.

John is a retired farmer and an amateur archaeologist. He also is an active member of the Montgomery County History Center and of the Iowa Archeological Society. John became friends with Kelly and Tammy Rundle of Fourth Wall Films. They are making a documentary on the Ioways titled *Lost Nation-The Ioways*. John and Charlotte attend the Ioway Pow-Wow every year. They set up their tipi to camp with the friends they have made throughout the years.

Once again John Palmquist, "Welcome to the Ioway Tribe!"

## IAS Announcements Events-Education-News

## What's the Point?



Try to identify the Iowa artifact pictured to the left. Please send your responses to the attention of the *IAN* Editor, Michael Heimbaugh at this e-mail address: <u>paleomike@msn.com</u> OR

Mail to: Mike Heimbaugh, 3923 29th St., Des Moines, IA 50310-5849.

Length - 1 1/2" Width - 1"

ATTENTION, IAS MEMBERS!

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR 2006 KEYES-ORR AWARD NOMINATIONS TO THE ATTENTION OF IAS PRESIDENT, ROBIN LILLIE BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21. YOU MAY SEND THEM TO:

> ROBIN LILLIE, PRESIDENT, IAS THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA 700 CLINTON ST. BLDG. IOWA CITY, IA 52242-1030 OR: <u>robin-lillie@uiowa.edu</u>

IAS MEMBERS

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR

THE 2006 IAS SPRING MEETING

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 AT THE BOONE CAMPUS

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# IAS Goals in Action

### **IAS EDUCATION & INFORMATION INITIATIVE**

After much discussion, the IAS Board has decided to take a more active approach to the organization's outreach and education efforts-not only to the membership, but also the general public. One way to accomplish this goal is to assemble a list of IAS members, and other friends of archeology, who would be willing to share their experiences and knowledge by presenting a program or demonstration to a variety of audiences and community groups in their geographic area. These might include schools, scouts, local chapters of the IAS, county conservation groups, or a group of particular interest to the volunteer presenter, etc.

The IAS Board asks the Chapters' and IAS Members' help in promoting this effort. Please furnish the information requested below. This information is pertinent to the success of this initiative. People submitting the requested information will be added to the potential pool of presenters. *Please be assured that you are not* 

*specifically making a commitment* - only indicating your willingness to consider a request to give presentations or demonstrations if contacted. Members are asked to include specific presentation or demonstration topics (Examples: pottery making, flint knapping, archaeological field work, artifact identification or other areas of interest).

The IAS Board also asks the Chapter presidents to please encourage their member's participation in this initiative. *The information requested should be sent to Nancy Heimbaugh, IAS Vice President (see below) by March 15.* Once the information is collected and compiled, it will be shared with IAS Chapters and members via the IAS web site. This educational outreach effort will also be promoted to other interested organizations and the general public as appropriate. This IAS initiative will help increase the awareness of the importance of Iowa's historic and prehistoric cultures and encourage their archaeological preservation.

### THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION !!

### **IAS Volunteer/Presenter Listing**

Please furnish the information requested by mail or e-mail by March 15.

Presenter or	· Demonstrator:		dentili a		
Address:					
Phone Num	ber (Day)	(Eve)			
Email:					
Chapter/org	ganization (if approp	priate)			
Topics with 1.	brief descriptions:				
Inte	nded Audience:	Youth	Adult	Multi-gei	nerational or
				-	A/V equipment
2.					
	nded Audience:	Youth	Adult	Multi-ge	nerational or
				0	A/V equipment
3.					
Inte	nded Audience:	Youth	Adult	Multi-gei	nerational or
					A/V equipment
Please send Nand Vice 3923	the above inform ty Heimbaugh President, IAS 29th Moines, IA 50310-58	ation by M			

515-255-4909 or <u>paleomike@msn.com</u> 18



OSA-IAS Sponsored Field Opportunity Guthrie County, Iowa May 13–May 21, 2006

The OSA and IAS with support from Guthrie County Conservation, Bright Foundation, and the Guthrie County Historical Village will offer an archaeological field opportunity at the Rivermill Farm Site, 13GT94, in Guthrie County. Diagnostic surface material collected from the site by IAS member Fred Gee include corner-notched projectile points tentatively identified as Pelican Lake and late Woodland pottery. Pelican Lake is a poorly known complex in Iowa. Elsewhere it has been identified as both late Archaic and Early Woodland. Research will address the question of intact deposits, the nature and age of the possible Pelican Lake component, and will provide an opportunity to document local geomorphology.

Stephen Lensink and Lynn M. Alex will direct the project. Participants will be introduced to standard surface and excavation methods. Rain days may provide opportunities to assist with preliminary laboratory analysis. **Participants** (14 years and older,) must register for at least three days at a cost of \$45.00 (nonrefundable). Those under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Certified IAS members may participate at no charge and will be asked to help inexperienced participants. Volunteers are responsible for travel to and from the project, meals, and lodging, and must have their own insurance. Lunch, water, and personal supplies should be brought into the site each morning. The project area is approximately one half hour west of Des Moines near Stuart, IA. Local facilities include:

#### Americ Inn 420 SW 8th St., Stuart, IA

(515) 523-9000

New Edgetowner Motel 1216 S. Division St., Stuart, I (515) 523-1122

**Stuart Motor Lodge** 203 SW 7th St., Stuart, IA (515) 523-1935

Super 8 Motel 203 SE 7th St., Stuart, IA (515) 523-2888



Nations Bridge Guthrie County Park Campground RR 2—approximately 5 miles north of Stuart, IA (515) 523-1789 Does not take reservations.

#### **Beaver Lake Campground**

3563 Del Rio Road-—one mile north of F65/State Street, Dexter, IA 50070; (515) 789-4661 Email: pennijohn@aol.com

Participants should wear sturdy shoes/boots, old clothing, work gloves, hat, and protective coat (warm, rain-proof). Please bring a 5 inch mason's trowel (Marshalltown brand preferred), plastic bucket, indelible black markers (Sharpies), pencil, lunch, and bottled water.

If interested please complete and return the following (a separate form is needed for each registrant) by <u>May 1</u>, <u>2006</u>. Dates will be filled on a first-come basis. Maximum of 20 volunteers per day. You will be contacted. You must be an IAS member to participate.

_Zip	(Phone)		(email)
ferred dates (you must r	egister for at least 3 days	):	
<u>Sun</u> (May 14)	<u>Mon</u> (May 15)	<u>Tue</u> (May 16)	<u>Wed</u> (May 17)
	_Zip ferred dates (you must r	_Zip(Phone) ferred dates (you must register for at least 3 days) Sun (May 14) <u>Mon</u> (May 15)	ferred dates (you must register for at least 3 days): <u>Sun</u> (May 14) <u>Mon</u> (May 15) <u>Tue</u> (May 16)

Make checks payable to Iowa Archeological Society (\$15 per day per person; \$20 additionally for IAS membership)

Mail to Lynn M. Alex, Office of the State Archaeologist, University of Iowa, 700 Clinton St., Iowa City, IA 52242 (email: lynn-alex@uiowa.edu) (phone: 319-384-0561)

# Archaeology Items of Interest

### **Events**

### **Center for American Archeology**

Jun 5-9	Flintknapping Workshop		
Jun 10-11	Family Dig It		
Jul 24-Aug	11 Adult Field School		
Sept. 16-17	Adults Dig It		

Questions about a program? Please contact the Center for American Archeology at: (618) 653-4316 or via email at:

### caa@caa-archeology.org

How to register? Download, print, & complete the Center for American Archeology Registration Form from the Registration Packet link on the main page of the web site (be sure to check which other forms are required!) or phone the office to request forms be sent via U.S. Mail.

#### Travel

SunWatch Indian Village/ Archaeological Park is a partially reconstructed Fort Ancient period Native American village along the Great Miami River in Davton, Ohio. The Fort Ancient culture as defined by archaeologists occupied the Middle Ohio River Valley between about AD 1000 and AD 1650 from what is now southeastern Indiana east to modern day West Virginia. The FortAncient peoples who lived in this area were the first intensive farmers of the area, and the last prehistoric group to occupy it prior to the arrival of European settlers.

Open to all groups of 20 students/ participants or more, SunWatch offers five unique guided tours lasting approximately 90 minutes. Groups must schedule at least one month in advance. Contact: www.sunwatch.org

#### **Books**

Chaco Canyon: Archaeologists Explore the Lives of an Ancient Society By Brian Fagan (Oxford University Press, 2005; 265 pgs. illus., \$30.00 cloth; 222.oup.com). Fagan minimizes how different Chaco was from the rest of the Pueblo universe. He has produced a history of the Chaco culture and of the archaeologist who have studied it. (American Archaeology, Winter 2005-2006, Vol. 9, No. 4).

Birth of a Culture By Elmer A. Guerri (ISBN 0-9707547-3-6, Woodburn Graphics, 576 full-color pages, over 2000 ditally remastered artifacts) An introduction to Tennessee history and timeline of Paleo through Historic periods in this book dedicated to ancient woodland people of Eastern Tennessee.

Membership Information					
Contact Membership Secretary, Iowa Archeological Society, University of Iowa, 700 Clinton Street Building, Iowa City, IA					
52242-1030.					
	Membershij	p Dues			
<u>Voting:</u>		Non-Voting:			
Active	\$20	Student (under 18) \$9			
Household	\$25	Institution \$30			
Sustaining	\$30				
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. <i>Iowa Archeology News</i> is					
published four times a year. All materials for publication should be sent to the Editor: Michael Heimbaugh, 3923					
29th St., Des Moines, IA 50310-5849. Home Phone (515) 255-4909. E-mail: paleomike@msn.com. IAS Web Site:					

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

**Iowa Archeological Society** The University of Iowa 700 Clinton Street Building Iowa City, IA 52242-1030



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John Doershuk Office of the State Archaeologist **700 CLSB**