

Iowa Archeology News



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2006 KEYES-ORR AWARD

George A. Horton was presented the 2006 Keyes-Orr Award at the April 29, IAS Spring Meeting held at the Boone Campus of Des Moines Area Community College. George has been a member of the Iowa Archeological Society since 1967. One of the first IAS members to be certified as a Site Surveyor, he has volunteered on numerous IAS projects and has been active in the Black Hawk Chapter.

George has given many presentations at IAS meetings. His current interests are in archaeo-astronomy and burial mounds. Over the years he has graciously donated artifacts to the Office of the State Archaeologist for use in teaching and research. George has served on the IAS Board of Directors, published an article on the McKinney site in the *Journal of the Iowa Archeological Society* and contributed to the IAS newsletter as well.

For many years, George has worked with Meskwaki artists and other members of the Meskwaki tribe. He has been a great ambassador for the IAS and friend to the Meskwaki.



2006 Keyes-Orr Award Recipient, George A. Horton

Iowa's Most Recent Certified IAS Member: "In His Own Words"

Submitted by Dale Clark

Congratulations to Dale Clark of Corydon, Iowa, who recently submitted site forms on ten new archaeological sites and passed the Certification exam in the Site Surveyor category. Here Dale relays his own story about his interests in archaeology.

I didn't give much thought to history as a young person but as time goes along and I moved into the middle age group, I found history of my family, my state, and my county became very important to me. This change of interest became a passion for anything that had a story behind it. I had found a large spear point and a sword here, many years before, but it just had not clicked in my brain there is a large amount of history around me here in little old Wayne County Iowa. Then I met D.E and Thelma Pidcock of Corydon, Iowa - winners of the Keyes-Orr Award, major contributors to the mapping of the Mormon Trail, local historians and rock hounds - and all the pieces to my passion seemed to come together. D. E. and Thelma have documented many campsites and believe that if you are to pick up an artifact, then you should take the time and find out as much as you can about it and document it so that each artifact has meaning. I guess you might say, they took me by the hand and showed me the way. Over the last 10 years I seem to be changing even more. It doesn't seem to be the quantity of artifacts that I need to find, but learning as much as I can about each piece I find, and how it fits into the puzzle as a whole. Now, like the Pidcocks, as I find a young person with an interest in history, I pass to them the importance of documentation of anything they find. I'm not sure which is better, finding a real nice artifact or seeing the sparkle in the eye and the smile on a young person's face when they find their first artifact.

I display my artifacts by state, county, township, and section, so that when I look at all the artifacts found within a section, it gives me an over look of all the types of tools and life styles within this area, even if there are several campsites in the same section. Sections separate my display, giving me a little wider view of all that was going on in the area. My numbering and documentation of the artifact will fine tune the spot it came from, but to connect one campsite with another this seems to be easier if I can see all the artifacts within, let's say, a mile square. This may not work for some but it seems to work for me.

If I was to pick out one thing that I have learned over the last few years of prehistoric artifact hunting, I would have to say: If I didn't have a written language and facts of my existence would change with generations of story telling, I would leave you a time capsule in the form, that we today call an artifact. Like a picture, one artifact is worth a thousand words. So document the thousand words.

An Etched Pipe from Southeastern Minnesota

Robert F. Boszhardt, MVAC Associate Director

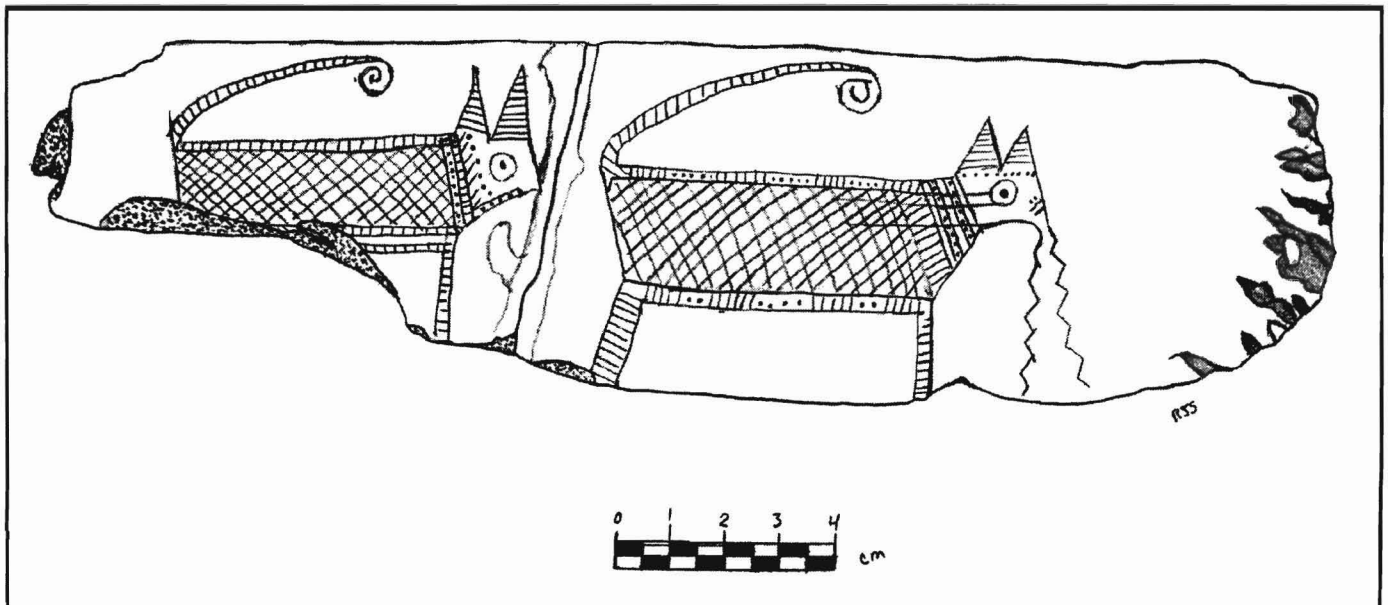
Each year, MVAC hosts an artifact show at Valley View Mall drawing approximately 20 displays and several thousand viewers. During the event, staff archaeologists also identify artifacts brought in by the public, and every year we see several rare artifacts. This year, Larry Dahl of Rushford, Minnesota, brought in a large pipe that his uncle had found many years ago in southeastern Minnesota. The pipe is nearly 9 inches long and made from a purple colored pipestone that probably originated in the Baraboo Hills near Devils Lake in Sauk County, Wisconsin. The pipe was broken and repaired, and appears to have been gnawed by a dog. The bowl is missing, and that break appears to have happened long in the past. The general shape of the pipe is a variation of a Hopewell monitor pipe, suggesting that it was manufactured between A.D. 200-400.

The most amazing aspect of this pipe is a series of four very detailed etchings, two on each side. The top etchings depict horned lizards with zigzag "power-lines" emanating from the head. The bottom etchings are of two long-tailed "panthers," again with power-lines. Both lizards and panthers are associated with underworld spirits in regional Native American mythologies. Lizards and panthers, for example are represented in Late Woodland effigy mounds across eastern Wisconsin and in the northern portion of the Driftless Area. At least two small, elbow-shaped pipes were recorded early in the 20th century from central Wisconsin that also have horned lizards etched on the bowls. One of these is very

similar to those on the top of Mr. Dahl's pipe and is illustrated in the book *Indian Mounds of Wisconsin* by Robert Birmingham and Leslie Eisenberg (University of Wisconsin Press, 2000).

It is not known if the pipe was etched by the original Hopewell manufacturers or if it was found by the later Late Woodland (A.D. 700-1100) or even Oneota (A.D. 1100-1700) peoples and the etchings added. Hopewell pipes often have geometric etchings on the bowl and basal edges, and some were carved into animal shapes such as beaver, bear, and birds. However, there are also several known instances of Oneota people having encountered Hopewellian artifacts during re-occupation of the same site, and re-depositing these in Oneota features. These include two Hopewell styled platform pipes (both also made of the purple Baraboo pipestone) that were found in mounds which contained Oneota features at the New Galena group in nearby Allamakee County, Iowa (see *Woodland Complexes in Northeast Iowa* by Wilfred Logan, National Park Service 1976). Therefore, it is possible that late pre-European people encountered the Hopewell pipe, and added the horned lizard and panther etchings on the Dahl pipe. It is impossible to determine which scenario is the case without knowing precisely where Mr. Dahl's uncle found the pipe.

The accompanying illustrations of the Dahl pipe were drawn by UW-La Crosse Archaeology major Becky Sprengelmeyer.



IAS Fall Bus Tour to Archaeology Day at Silver Mound, Wisconsin October 7-8, 2006

Join IAS members on a fall bus trip to attend Archaeology Day at the Silver Mound archaeological site near Black River Falls, Wisconsin, during peak autumn leaf season October 7-8, 2006. A chartered 47-passenger bus will depart from the State Historical Museum in Des Moines by 6 AM on Saturday, October 7, collecting additional passengers about 8:00 AM from the Office of the State Archaeologist, Iowa City. After an overnight stay in La Crosse, the bus will return to Iowa City and Des Moines by Sunday evening, October 8, following a stop at Effigy Mounds National Monument. Additional options are tours of the Mississippi Valley Archaeological Center (MVAC) lab, Ft. Crawford Museum, or a stop at Cabela's Outfitters store.

Silver Mound consists of a large sandstone hill containing a layer of Hixton quartzite which was quarried and chipped into stone tools for nearly 12,000 years. Hixton quartzite was traded over hundreds of miles and has been found at many Iowa sites. Silver Mound also contains a number of small caves or rock-shelters where Native Americans camped.

Archaeology Day at Silver Mound is an annual event sponsored by MVAC, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. This year the event takes place from 10 AM to 3:30 PM on October 7 and includes artifact displays and identification, Native American singing and storytelling, demonstrations of arrowmaking, flintknapping, and spearthrowing, as well as Native American crafts and games. Archaeologists from MVAC will provide tours of the site.

Following Archaeology Day at Silver Mound, we will stay at the La Crosse Best Western Midway Riverfront Motel where a block of 25 (nonsmoking) rooms has been reserved. The motel has access to several local restaurants. A tour of the MVAC lab is planned for Saturday evening or Sunday morning.

On October 8, the bus heads south to Prairie du Chien. There, we have the option of touring the Ft. Crawford Museum, site of an 19th century frontier military garrison where MVAC has conducted a series of recent archaeological investigations; or stopping at Cabela's Outfitters store.

A visit to Effigy Mounds National Monument follows where IAS members may tour the visitor center and/or take a guided hike to various mound groups.

The cost per person for the bus and a shared motel room is **\$100**. Meals and entry fees (the Ft. Crawford Museum charges \$4.00 for adults; \$3.25 for seniors) are not included. **Availability is on a first-come basis** for the 47 bus seats and 25 motel rooms. **Payment is due at the time of registration.** Further details will be sent to you in early September.

To register, please complete and return the form below, along with your check payable to the IAS, by 9/1/06:

Robin Lillie
Office of the State Archaeologist
700 Clinton Street Building
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242
robin-lillie@uiowa.edu

Deposits are NONREFUNDABLE after September 1, 2006.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

No. of persons in your party _____

Roommate preference

Are you unwilling to share a room?

Amount enclosed \$ _____

**IAS FALL BUS TOUR REGISTRATION
due by September 1, 2006**

Ground-Penetrating Radar at Fort Atkinson Provides Surprises

William E. Whittaker, OSA

Archaeological tests this May shows that ground-penetrating radar works well at identifying underground features and foundations at the historic Fort Atkinson Site (13WH57). In May The Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA), of the the University of Iowa, conducted ground-penetrating radar studies around historic Fort Atkinson, a post occupied by the U. S. Military and volunteer troops from 1840 until 1849. Officially, the fort was established to protect Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) Indians, but its primary effect was to control and monitor Native Americans and to prevent Euro-American settlement of the Neutral Ground until the area was formally acquired by the U.S. government. The fort was disbanded in 1849. In 1855, the fort was sold to private owners, and most of the buildings were subsequently demolished. Much of the remaining fort is owned and maintained by the State of Iowa as a State Preserve.

The 2006 radar survey of Fort Atkinson builds on the successful 2005 Fort Atkinson Cultural Resources Field School which demonstrated that radar is effective at relocating foundations at the fort, even when no visible sign of foundations existed on the surface. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources contracted with the OSA to radar survey much of the fort grounds prior to renovations. These renovations include the replacement and expansion of standing stockade reproductions, filling in exposed foundations to protect them, stairway reconstruction, and improvements to the few existing fort buildings.

The 2006 survey included almost all of the interior of the fort, as well as most of the mapped outbuildings

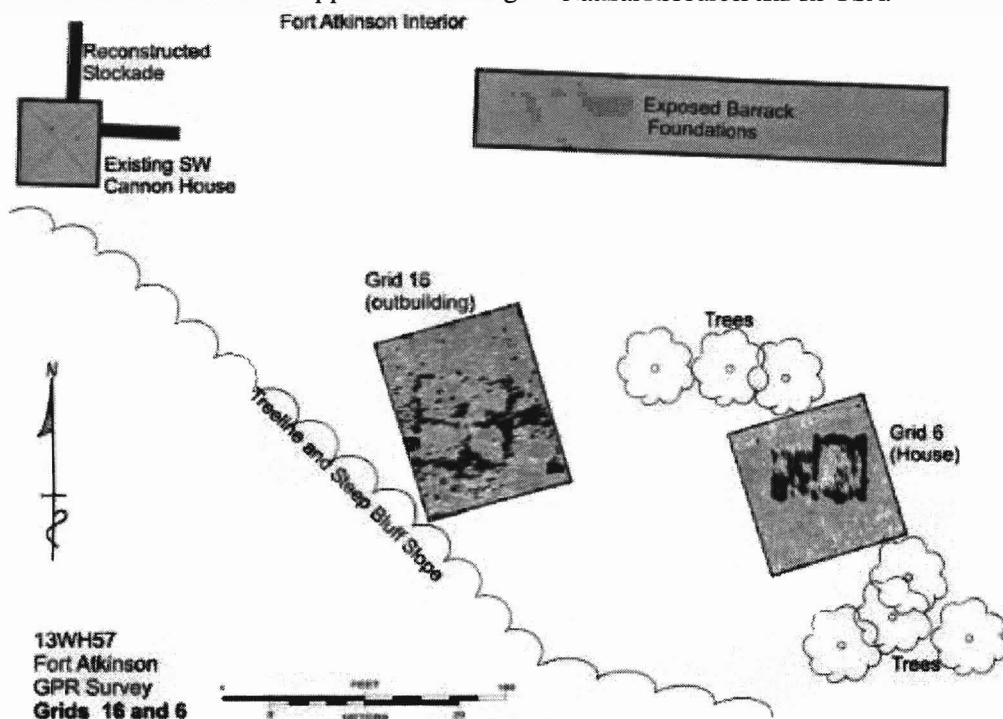
seen in an 1842 map of the fort. Sixteen grids were surveyed for a total area of 13,056 square meters, in addition to the 1800 square meters surveyed in 2005. All surveyed areas totals equals 14,856 square meters, or 3.7 acres, about half of the fort area.

Some of the more interesting finds from the radar surveys include the foundations of the dragoon stables north of the fort, to be discussed further in an upcoming issue of the Journal of the Iowa Archaeological Society, and several foundations and large features. Perhaps most surprising is evidence for previously-unknown structures inside the fort walls, and evidence of previously-undocumented structures outside the fort.

Shown { below } are two of the 16 radar grids, which clearly show a small house and probably-related outbuilding south of the fort; neither of which were documented before. These structures were probably occupied after the fort was abandoned in 1849, but archaeological excavation will be required to determine their age.

Al Becker was very helpful in coordinating the 2005 and 2006 investigations, and helped with the survey of several of the radar grids. Nearby landowners were very friendly in sharing information and allowing survey of their land, including Steve and Lorraine Sindelar, Bob and Michele Elsbernd, and Gene Smith, and their cooperation was greatly appreciated. The 2005 survey was funded partially by the Resource

Enhancement and Protection Act through a Historical Resource Development Program grant from the State Historical Society of Iowa; the 2006 survey was funded by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the OSA.



IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD SCHOOL MAY 13-21, 2006:

An Initial Report, by Fred R. Gee

Thirty-one persons from Iowa and Missouri participated in the Iowa Archaeological Society (IAS) Field School at two sites in Guthrie County May 13-21, 2006, with funding support from the Iowa Archaeological Society, Guthrie County Historical Village, and a personal gift from Mrs. Lois Bright. Originally planned for the Rivermill Farm site (13GT94), a site occupying a loess-mantled Pleistocene terrace above the South Raccoon River discovered and recorded by IAS member Fred Gee, the event was expanded to include a new site on a Gunder Terrace designated as 13GT119. Thus test excavation proceeded at both 13GT94 and 13GT119. Research was designed to test for the presence of intact subsurface deposits, identify the nature of such deposits, prepare a contour map, and outline the geomorphology of the area. Previous site survey by Fred Gee indicated the presence of Late Archaic projectile points and potentially Early Woodland ceramics. The project was also designed to educate participants about the nature of archaeological research.

The field school was led by Steve Lensink and Lynn Alex from the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA), University of Iowa. They were assisted in pre-event preparation, surveying, and unit mapping by Fred Gee, Curtis Nepstad-Thornberry, and Don Raker. Among the participants were five middle school Talented and Gifted students and their teacher, Kay Risser, from Murray, Iowa. One of these youngsters plans to be a paleontologist. Another participant was a recent high school graduate who will enter Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, this fall, and is planning a career in archaeology.

While numerous artifacts previously had been found on the surface of the plowed field at the Rivermill Farm site (13GT94), and participants continued to find partial points and pottery sherds on the surface, very few sub-plowzone artifacts and

no cultural features were recovered in the 11 1-x-1 m units excavated. The initial conclusion is that most of the artifacts at 13GT94 had been turned up by the plow and were eroded onto terrace slopes. The small number of randomly selected units among the 100,000 square meters at 13GT94 may also have missed existing subsurface deposits.

Three 1-x-1 m units were opened at 13GT119 on the lower

Gunder Terrace where the potential for buried subsurface features is greater. A possible living surface was identified in these units at a depth of 70-90 cm but no diagnostic artifacts were found.

Steve Lensink provided morning updates on the project and revised topographic and excavation unit maps daily. He also gave mini-lectures on archaeological techniques and the nature of soil deposition and stratification. Joe Artz, GIS Program Director, OSA, expanded Steve's discussion of geomorphology and soil deposition and will provide a summary of the area's geomorphology. Shirley

Schermer, Burials Program Director, OSA, evaluated several local areas suspected of containing mounds and informed participants of the nature of Iowa's burials' protection law. In addition, Tom Harvey, IAS member, did a flint-knapping demonstration. All things considered, all of the participants agreed the field school was an excellent educational and practical experience.

The OSA and IAS are grateful to the owner of Rivermill Farm, Ted Johnson, for his keen interest in and gracious hosting of the event. Thanks are also extended to Robert Harvey who agreed to backfill the excavation units. The enthusiasm and assistance of all the volunteers made this project an enjoyable one.



IAS/CIC Member Don Raker

FREE BACK ISSUES

JOURNAL OF THE IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

We have an overstock of some back issues of the *JIAS* and are short on storage room. If you are a current IAS member and would like a set of 20-30 volumes dating between 1952 and 2001, the cost is **only \$15** to cover UPS shipping and handling. **WHILE SUPPLIES LAST – ORDER NOW!!**

Send your name and a mailing address suitable for UPS delivery (no P.O. boxes), along with a check for \$15 payable to the Iowa Archeological Society, to:

JIAS Back Issues
c/o Office of the State Archaeologist
700 Clinton Street Building

**IOWAY TRIBE HISTORY DAY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2006**

**NEW MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORY CENTER
2700 N. 4TH ST. RED OAK, IA
INDIAN TACOS SERVED STARTING AT 11 A.M.
OTHER ACTIVITIES WILL BE PLANNED TO TAKE
PLACE OVER THE NOON HOUR**

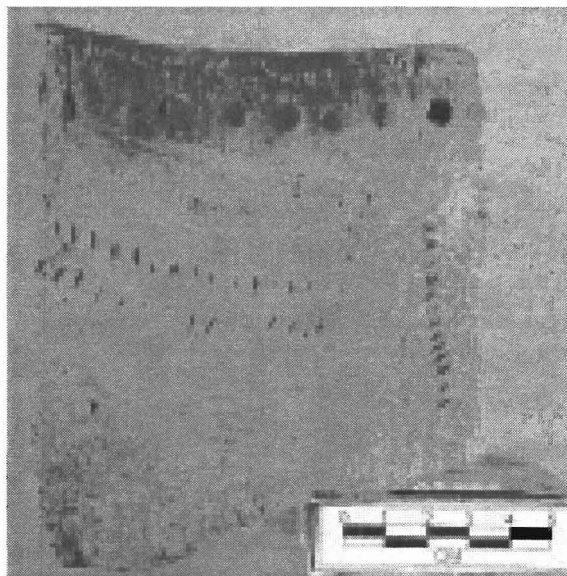
**DR. BILL GREEN WILL BE SPEAKING AT 1:30 P.M. ON:
THE IOWAY'S TRIBE FORMER VILLAGE, NOW CALLED, IOWAVILLE.
HIS SPECIFIC TOPIC WILL BE: IOWAY INDIAN HISTORY AS MAPPED
BY IOWAY INDIANS IN 1837.
DR. GREEN IS THE MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSON
ON THIS OLD VILLAGE SITE.**

A WELLMAN-AREA FIND

A rural Wellman, Iowa, resident contacted the Office of the State Archaeologist recently seeking information about a large rim sherd found near the English River valley. The roughly 4 x 5 inch sherd was found during grading of a sandy hilltop for construction of a new house on the south side of the English valley. The depth of the find below the original land surface was estimated at 1–1.5 ft (30–45 cm). A few fire-cracked rocks were observed, but no other artifacts were found. The sherd exterior exhibits a band of nodes and a perforation near the lip, two sets of horizontal trailed lines, a column of tool impressions, and two horizontal rows of fingernail

impressions all placed on smoothed or smoothed-over cord-roughened surface.

The interior is smoothed. The vessel had a weak shoulder, so the overall form of the pot would have been sub-conoidal. The paste and wall thickness are within the range of Linn ware, an early Late Woodland pottery commonly found in eastern Iowa. The combination of decorative elements present on this specimen is not so common, but similar sherds from Jackson County have been typed as Levsen Stamped. The find location has been recorded as 13WS516 and the sherd remains in the possession of the property owner.



IAS-Sponsored Field Survey in Van Buren Co. August 26-27, 2006

The history of human inhabitation of Iowa is a long one. It is believed that humans were within in the boundaries of what is known today as the state of Iowa approximately 10,000 years ago, or possibly even earlier. Sometimes, one culture inhabited an area once occupied by a previous culture. Modern culture and urban sprawl is a good example of such a phenomenon.

Gathering information such as artifact types and location, not only on the physical landscape but in the geographical one as well, contributes to our growing knowledge of Iowa's unique heritage. Provenance and context contributes immensely to relationships between site locations. Knowing more about these relationships leads to discovery of the movement of cultures; possible interactions between cultures; influences of one culture over another; or what helped a culture thrive while another died out.

An opportunity has arisen where information can be added to Iowa's recorded archaeological past and contribute to what is known or not known about our cultural "gaps". IAS member Mike Bresnahan owns property in Van Buren County. Over the past few years, he has brought artifacts collected from this property to the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) for help identifying their cultural affiliation. His collection includes projectile points and knife fragments from the Archaic period, as well as artifacts from the Woodland and Historic periods.

Mike has offered this property to interested IAS members. The area is currently fall-planted with winter alfalfa, allowing for a controlled pedestrian survey.



for a weekend workshop for area is an ideal location for such low, but will be prepared for surface visibility allows for a

Artifacts recovered from this controlled survey will be provenienced according to pre-designated arbitrary transects. Through careful control of provenienced artifacts, it may be possible to isolate specific sites within what now appears to be one multiple component site. A few small subsurface tests may be conducted to determine if there is a buried component, if there is stratification, and to help determine landform(s).

The resources collected from this project will be processed in the OSA lab during the winter months and then returned to the landowner. There will be announcements as to lab weekends, inviting interested IAS members to help process and record data about resources. There will also be a lab session dedicated to the process of recording sites. A follow up report will be submitted to the IAS newsletter or JIAS.

Mark Anderson and Maria Schroeder of the OSA will conduct the field workshop. The dates of these workshops will be August 26 and 27, 2006. There will be a \$10.00 per day field workshop fee. This fee will be waived for IAS members who have already received their certification in field survey and are willing to assist.

All who are interested, please contact Maria Schroeder for a registration form and map to the area.

e-mail: maria-schroeder@uiowa.edu

phone: (319)384-0974

address:

Maria Schroeder, OSA

700 S. Clinton

The University of Iowa

Iowa City, IA 52242

The Archaeological Conservancy's Recent Activities In Iowa

Terry McQuown, Associate Director Midwestern Region The Archaeological Conservancy

The Archaeological Conservancy was excited to have been invited to make a presentation at this year's Iowa Archaeological Society Spring Meeting in Boone, Iowa. For those of you who were not able to attend the meeting, I wanted to introduce you to the Conservancy, tell you about who we are, what we do, and suggest ways that you can help us preserve Iowa's archaeological past. For those of you who heard my presentation, I wanted to give you a brief update of some of the things we have been doing since then.

The Conservancy is the only national non-profit organization that permanently preserves archaeological sites that are located on private land. Generally speaking, we preserve archaeological sites by acquiring title to the land on which the sites are located and then create perpetual "archaeological preserves." We acquire title to archaeological sites by donation, bargain-sales-to-charity, and the purchase at fair market value. In addition, we also preserve sites by acquiring archaeological conservation easements over them.

Since our founding in 1980, the Conservancy has preserved over 325 sites in 39 states across the country, ranging in age from early Native American habitation sites to a 19th century frontier Army post. We are building a nationwide system of archaeological preserves to ensure that our irreplaceable archaeological resources will be available to future generations for research and education, and stand as continuing landmarks of our shared cultural heritage. We currently are working on preserving our first site in Iowa.

In April, after the IAS Spring Meeting, Dr. Stephen C. Lensink and Lynn M. Alex (both of the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist) took me on a tour of some of the many sites that Iowa archaeologists had suggested the Conservancy try to preserve. Our first stop was in Plymouth County, where we visited several late prehistoric Mill Creek habitation sites, which are characterized by large rich midden mounds. Development and continued plowing are a couple of the immediate threats to these archaeological sites.

Our next stop was in Mills County, where Dennis Miller kindly showed us some late prehistoric Nebraska phase sites. Many of these sites consist of earthlodge depressions that represent single occupations. As the City of Glenwood continues to expand, these sites are threatened by destruction due to development. After several enjoyable meetings with archaeologists, a quick trip to visit the Steamboat Bertrand cargo collection, and an excellent presentation by Dr. Lensink at the Sioux City Public Museum about his research in O'Brien County, we headed back to the Iowa City area, which we used as a home base to visit

Woodland period and historic sites in Louisa, Lee, and Van Buren Counties. Like the sites that we visited in other counties, many of these sites are threatened by continued plowing and potential development.

All in all, it was a very productive trip. Thanks to the generous assistance of concerned professional and avocational archaeologists (and particularly the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist) the Conservancy has been able to assemble a list of archaeological sites that we will use in our future preservation efforts.

After my April trip, I returned to Iowa during the month of June and had a chance to visit with several landowners to discuss the ways in which they can preserve their archaeological sites for the future. I am planning to return to Iowa in September to continue the Conservancy's efforts to preserve Iowa's past.

Before closing, I wanted to mention a few ways that you can help the Conservancy to preserve sites. First, we are always looking for leads on archaeological sites. If you know of any sites that you think are deserving of preservation, or if you hear of a

site that is going up for sale, please let us know. We can be reached at 614-267-1100 or tac-midwest@sbcglobal.net. As a rule of thumb, we are looking to preserve sites that are on private land, have internal integrity, and are likely to yield information that is important to

prehistory or history, but we are willing to try to preserve any site that has good research potential.

Second, once we acquire a site, we recruit "site stewards" to help us monitor the site. Site stewards visit our sites periodically and let us know if there are any issues that arise that we might want to address in the management of those sites. As we preserve sites in Iowa, if you would like to be a site steward for one of them, please let us know. The more people we have looking after sites, the better protected they will be.

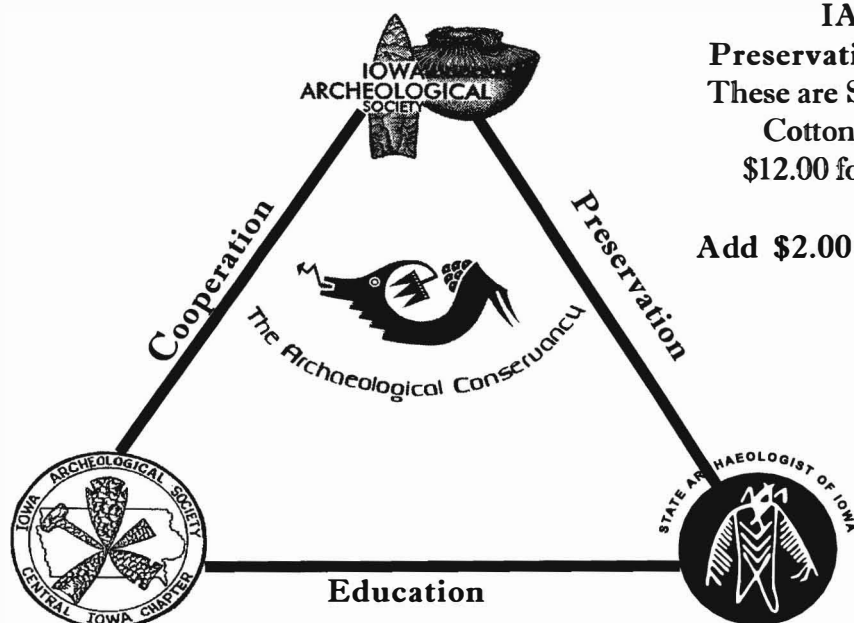
Finally, if you are not already a member, I would urge you to join the Conservancy. Annual dues start at only \$25 dollars. In return for your generous contribution, you will receive the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to preserve our nation's endangered cultural resources. And you will also receive our quarterly magazine, *American Archaeology*, which is the only popular magazine devoted to presenting the rich diversity of American archaeology and which will keep you up to date on our preservation efforts.

On behalf of the Conservancy, I would like to thank you for your assistance in helping us to preserve Iowa's past. I look forward to telling you more about the sites that we are preserving as we acquire them.



IAS Announcements

Events-Education-News



**IAS T-Shirts Celebrating
Preservation, Education and Cooperation**
These are Serene Green, 100% Heavy Weight
Cotton T-Shirts Made by GILDAN™
\$12.00 for Large (L) or Extra Large (XL)
& \$14.00 for XX Large.
Add \$2.00 for shipping. Send your orders
to:

Michael Heimbaugh
3923 29th Street
Des Moines, IA 50310-5849
515-255-4909 or 515-971-9975
paleomike@msn.com



**Central Iowa Chapter President,
Michael Heimbaugh Presents
Complimentary T-shirt and \$120.00
Donation to Terry McQuown, of The
Archaeological Conservancy.**

**Try to identify the Iowa artifact pictured to
the right. Please send your responses to the
attention of the IAN Editor, Michael
Heimbaugh at: paleomike@msn.com**

OR

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

**The point featured in the IAN Spring issue
is thought to be a Snyders point.
There were no correct responses.**



Length 2" Width 1 1/8"

UI-OSA NEWS



A SPECIAL
SECTION OF THE
IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

OSA STAFF ATTEND MEETINGS

Iowa Academy of Science

OSA staff led in their contributions to the annual Iowa Academy of Science meeting held at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake. The anthropology session was chaired by **Mark Anderson** and featured these OSA staff presentations: "High Resolution Mapping and Geophysical Survey of Late Prehistoric Archaeological Sites in O'Brien County, Iowa" by **Lynn Alex** and **Steve Lensink**; "Lithic Debitage Analysis at the Edgewater Park Site, 13JH1132" by **Anderson**; "The Late Archaic Transition to Horticulture/Edgewater and the Edgewater Park Site" by **William Whittaker**; "Fire-Cracked Rock Composition and Distribution in Palisades-Dows State Preserve, Linn County, Iowa" by **Julia Clark**, **Paul Garvin**, and **John Doershuk**. Also **Anderson** and **Daniel Horgen** introduced a poster paper illustrating their new Internet-based Framework for Lithic Analysis based on OSA's lithic raw material assemblage.

SAA

Three OSA staff, **John Hedden**, **Shirley Schermer**, and **Maria Schroeder**, attended the 71st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology held April 26-30 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. **Schermer** also participated in pre-conference meetings of the SAA's Public Education Committee and chaired the meeting of the PEC State Network Coordinators. **Hedden** presented a paper, co-authored with OSA's **Cindy Peterson** and **Cindy Nagel**, "Developing a Dataset for the Examination of Post-Contact Changes in Indigenous

Lifeways and Material Culture in Iowa."

Fur Trade Conference

Cindy Peterson attended the 9th North American Fur Trade Conference in Saint Louis, Missouri, in May, where the featured topic was "The Fur Trade before and after Lewis and Clark."

SNRC Meeting

Carl Merry and **Richard Carlson** attended a meeting of the State Nominations Review Committee (SNRC) for the State Historical Society on June 9. **Carlson** is the newly-appointed professional architectural historian and **Merry** has been one of the professional archaeologists on SNRC for two terms beginning in 1988. The committee is charged with reviewing National Register of Historic Places nominations for the State of Iowa prior to their being forwarded to the National Park Service. This committee also reviews Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP) and Certified Local Government (CLG) grant applications for archaeology and historic preservation.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION NEWS

Time Detectives

OSA and the UI paleontology repository hosted over 100 elementary aged students and their parents in a "Time Detectives" program on May 6. OSA's **Lynn Alex**, **Julie Hoyer**, and IAS volunteers **Denise** and **Wayne Shannon** supervised activities allowing the students to identify the remains of ancient animals and plants, excavate fossils from the sands, match clues with actual animal bones found in Iowa archaeological sites, and see the types of work archaeologists and paleontologists do. They could also go on an archaeology scavenger hunt through the UI Museum of Natural History, or play archaeology bingo. The activities ended with a tour of OSA's lab and lessons in atlatl throwing. Benefits from the program went to the Children's Initiative fund

which helps homeless and at-risk youth in Johnson County.

Iowa Archaeology Month

In commemoration of the centennial of the national Antiquities Act of 1906, Iowa Archaeology Month, October, 2006, will focus on stewardship and preservation. Many individuals and organizations have contributed to the discovery and preservation of Iowa archaeology, foremost being the IAS itself. This year organizations throughout the state will be asked to offer opportunities that highlight their local archaeology and the many ways that sites and discoveries are being cared for and preserved. These might be canoe trips, walking tours, exhibits, and behind the scenes demonstrations of conservation efforts. Please contact **Lynn M. Alex** to add your event to the IAM Calendar. This year, the OSA will assist the Archaeological Conservancy in acquiring an Iowa site for preservation. The IAS has generously provided funding towards the IAM 2006 poster.

To learn more about the Antiquities Act of 1906 visit:

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/sites/Antiquities/index.htm>

Loess Hills Seminar

Participants attending the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar near Onawa, Iowa, June 2-3, learned about documenting archaeological sites and the use of the Iowa Site Record form from **Lynn Alex**. The seminar, organized and sponsored by Western Hills AEA began in 1975 as a way to engage people in the study of the unique characteristics of the Loess Hills with an emphasis on preservation. Presenters and facilitators offer programming, hikes, and first hand experiences for participants, many of whom camp on site, in a variety of topics related to both the natural and cultural heritage of the area. Other sessions relating to the human history of the Hills included a prairie pioneer cemetery tour, Native Americans of the Plains, European Immigration in the Loess Hills, and a visit to the Turin site.

Archaeology Items of Interest

Events

Saturday, Sept. 9th: Prairie Awakening,
12:00 - 9:00 PM, Kuehn Conservation
Area
14581 K Avenue, Perry, IA 50220
Ph 515-465-3577

"To truly awaken a prairie, you must awaken the inhabitants of the wild place." Find *your* place in the wild. Come to the ***Awakening***. Native Americans from across the country and Canada will bring their drums, share their music and dance, retell their stories and invite the public to join them as they celebrate on the prairie at Kuehn. A very unique opportunity to learn about a place through cultural sharing by the first people, and to actually experience that place as a participant in the dances and songs of the celebration.

For more information contact the Dallas County Conservation Board at dallascocons@iowatelecom.net or visit the Website: www.co.dallas.ia.us.

Museums

Greeley History Museum, Greeley, CO
The new exhibit, "Awakening Stories of Ancient bison Hunting" focuses on the Kaplan-Hoover bison-kill site in Windsor, offering a glimpse of how, some 2,700 years ago, ancient hunters pursued bison herds on the northern Colorado plains. Nearly 200 bison were killed at the site, making this the largest known Archaic Period hunt site in the Americas. The bone bed was uncovered during a 1997 excavation and has since been the focus of researchers with Colorado State University. As archaeologists share their research findings, additional perspectives of Native Americans and bison ecologists are enriching the understanding of this remarkable hunting story. (Through August 30) Contact Information: 970-350-9220, or www.greeleymuseums.com (*American Archaeology*, Summer 2006, Vol. 10 No. 2 pg. 6)

In the Field

"Hot Archaeology: July in the Midwest"
by K. Kris Hirst, *About.com Archaeology Guide* (newsletters@about.com), July 17, 2006. "When you first consider going into archaeology, you hear a lot of loose talk about the romance of the science. But I always tell people they should go experience it firsthand, before you commit to spending your life—or the next several years anyway—getting a degree and a job. This description of what archaeological survey is like in the rolling lands of the American Midwest during July in August, when the corn is high and the humidity higher was written when I was actually in the field, and even today, I can remember the sweat rolling off my brows....I work in Iowa, and my job is to survey areas that the Iowa Department of Transportation wishes to buy for a new highway or bridge or some such. I'll tell you a little secret—the best time to find surface and near-surface archaeological sites, in the American Midwest anyway, is right after the farmers have cultivated and the first soaking rain has washed the fields down. In such fields, the artifacts (stone flakes, potsherds, and historic artifacts, mostly) fairly dance out and bite you on the ankle." Visit the web site at: <http://archaeology.about.com>

Membership Information

Contact: Membership Secretary, Iowa Archeological Society, University of Iowa, 700 Clinton Street Building, Iowa City, IA 51142-1030

Membership Dues

	<u>Voting:</u>		<u>Non-Voting:</u>
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. *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 50310-5849. Home Phone (515) 255-4909. E-mail: paleomike@msn.com. IAS Web Site: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/IAS/iashome.htm>

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