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From the Editor

Volume II, No. 1 of the **Caddoan Archeology Newsletter** is the start of another year in our attempt to present substantive articles, reviews, conference information, and publications, etc., concerning Caddoan archeology in all its varied facets. Now more than ever those of us working in the Caddoan Archeological Area need to more effectively communicate on a broad range of issues that affect how we do archeology, how we learn about what others are doing in archeology, and how we communicate what we know about archeology to all those who have a legitimate interest in learning more about the Caddoan archeological record and the Caddoan peoples.

To do this, the contributing editors and I call upon all Caddoologists to help us in improving our communication network: (a) by contributing an article or a review to the newsletter, (b) by subscribing to Volume II, (c) by lending moral support to the editors as they try to keep the newsletter going, and (d) by spreading the word about the newsletter to others who might be interested in subscribing and/or contributing some text. In no way does this Newsletter speak for the Caddo Conference in any way, shape, or form (this would be difficult since the Caddo Conference is not a formally constituted body with elected officials or dues), but we think that having a newsletter that speaks to the varied archeological interests of the people who do Caddoan archeology can only help us as we go about our business. Without more and regular input from Caddoologists, this newsletter will wither on the vine.



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**NOTES FROM THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA
REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM**

Jeffrey S. Girard

During the spring of 1990 a project was started by the Northwest Louisiana Regional Archaeology Program to re-locate and update information on sites in northwestern Louisiana initially investigated by Dr. Clarence Webb of Shreveport. A summary of information from several sites likely to be of interest to Caddo archaeologists is presented here.

The Regional Archaeology Program is jointly sponsored by Northwestern State University and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. The primary purpose of the program is to record and update information about archaeological sites in the region located on private and state lands. The program also will compile and manage a regional data base and communicate the need for conservation and protection of archaeological resources to landowners and the general public.

Dr. Webb recently donated his artifact collections to the Louisiana Division of Archaeology to be housed at the Williamson Museum at NSU. In conjunction with cataloging and inventorying the collection attempts are being made to re-visit the sites to check map plottings, establish site boundaries, and to update information about current conditions of the sites. Many of the sites have proven difficult to find because of significant changes in land use patterns since the time of Dr. Webb's investigations. Areas that previously were cleared for cultivation or pasture now often are used for timber production. Periodic cutting of the timber has produced dense thickets with little or no surface visibility. Several sites from which Dr. Webb made large surface collections now are visible only as small artifact scatters exposed in eroded portions of logging roads.

Despite the changes in land use, most of the investigated sites remain in good condition. Summaries of six sites in DeSoto Parish and one in Natchitoches Parish are presented here.

Keatchie Site (16 DS 1)

The Keatchie Site (16 DS 1) is a large scatter of pottery and chipped stone located on the south bank of Keatchie bayou. The deposits consist of 20 to 70 cm of sandy loam overlying a dense, reddish-brown clay. A dark midden deposit containing a high density of sherds, chipping debris, and faunal remains also is present. Dense vegetation precludes delimitation of boundaries for either the midden or site. However, cultural material is scattered over an area of at least 150 m by 100 m. Immediately east of the site, Keatchie Bayou has exposed a layer of gray clay that might have been useful as a raw material for ceramic manufacture.

Dr. Webb's 1967 notes concerning this site list a variety of recovered projectile points including Gary, Ellis, Kent, lozenge, Carrollton, Ensor, Macon, and Evans. Triangular, ovoid, and irregular bifaces, along with

large flake scrapers, manos, and pitted manos also were found. Arrow points include Alba, Scallorn, and Bassett. Most of the pottery is bone tempered and brushing is the dominant surface treatment. Smaller numbers of incised and engraved sherds also are present. Dr. Webb typed two sherds as Marksville or Yokena Incised. He interpreted the pottery component as a somewhat aberrant manifestation of the Bossier Focus.

The site remains in good condition. There is subtle evidence of past excavation in the form of a shallow trench now visible only as a shallow depression in the midden area. Because of the dense vegetation artifacts are not easily seen and the site seems well protected. The area is used for timber production and has been leased to a hunting club.

The Keatchie site has high research potential, particularly since it is apparent that a significant amount of faunal material is preserved in the midden. The possibility of structural remains and other features also is high.

Smithport Landing Site (16 DS 4)

The Smithport Landing Site is located south of Smithport Lake where Buffalo Bayou empties into the swamp known as Bayou Pierre Lake. The site is situated on a series of low knolls formed from erosion of the Prairie Terrace. The site is well known (Webb 1963), but its exact location has been in doubt. However, careful study of Webb's descriptions and map leaves little doubt that the site has been re-located.

The area now is in mixed forest and surface visibility is low. A small number of plain sherds were found during the 1990 re-visit. Although the area now is used for timber production and surface visibility is poor, during the 1930's much of the area was cleared and cultivated. Remains of several tenant houses are visible. It is interesting to note that surface collections from the plowed midden and excavation of the burials at the Smithport Landing site provided the first and still most comprehensive data concerning early Caddo ceramic assemblages in the region. However, if initially encountered today, the site would likely be recorded as several small ceramic scatters. These probably would be interpreted as limited-activity loci or ephemerally-occupied camps and it is doubtful that much interest would be shown in more intensive investigations.

The Smithport Landing Site appears to have sustained very little damage since the excavations of Dr. Webb and Monroe Dodd in the 1930's. Several depressions found in the southern portion of the site may represent old excavations, but negative impacts appear to be minimal. The site still has high potential to yield significant information.

Williams Point (16 DS 5)

This is a large site with a high density and diverse range of artifacts. The area currently contains numerous houses and several landowners reportedly have large artifact collections. The site is situated

on a spur of land that projects eastward into Smithport Lake. The spur is the end of a ridge that is a remnant of the Prairie Terrace.

Although much of the area is disturbed by modern structures and roads, the artifact scatter is visible across the entire ridge. A concentration of sherds and chipping debris is visible in the garden of one of the landowners who also has a large collection (several specimens have been donated to the Williamson Museum collections).

Dr. Webb noted that in 1935 road grading uncovered a burial that contained a Pease Brushed-Incised vessel and an elbow pipe. His notes and collections indicate that the site has multiple components. PaleoIndian artifacts include San Patrice points, beveled scrapers, and Albany spokeshaves. The Archaic Period is represented by Gary, Ellis, Macon, Elam, Ensor, Wells, lozenge, Kent, Pontchartrain, Frio, Evans, and Morhiss points. Dr. Webb believed that the pottery (which includes the types Hardy Incised, Dunkin Incised, Sanson Incised, Karnack Brushed-Incised, Pease Brushed-Incised, Belcher Ridged, Pennington-Rhinehart zoned and free punctated, Wilkinson Punctated, and untyped engraved sherds) represents the Alto-early Bossier transition. Alba, Friley, Scallorn, Hayes, and Catahoula arrow points also were recovered.

The Williams Point Site appears to have been occupied over a long span of time and cultural deposits are not deep or stratified. Although many artifacts remain on the site, the overall horizontal spatial structure has been altered significantly by modern land use.

Hewitt Mound No. 1 (16 DS 7)

The number 16 DS 7 initially was assigned to two sites containing isolated conical mounds. However, because the mounds are located at a distance of more than 1 km from one another a new number (16 DS 270) has been assigned to the northern mound, the second described by Webb in his 1982 paper on the Bellevue Focus (Webb 1982). Thus, 16 DS 7 now refers only to the southern mound.

The site is situated at the edge of the eroded Prairie Terrace on the north side of Smithport Lake. The mound projects 2-3 m above the surrounding terrace and is a little over 20 m in diameter. It has been partially truncated by pothunting. Four large pits are visible in the top, two are about 1 m deep, two are more shallow. The sides of the pits are slumped and the pits are filled with recent slopewash and leaves. None of the pits appear to represent recent excavations. A trench about 1 m wide and 1 m deep is visible in the south side of the mound. It, too, looks like an old excavation. Judging by an eroded area on the south side of the mound, the upper 50 cm of moundfill appears to consist of loosely compacted brown loamy sand. This sand is underlain by reddish loamy sand that has a mottled appearance.

No associated village or midden debris is visible, but leaf litter and humus completely cover the surrounding surface. A few flakes and small plain sherds are present in a road cut approximately 60 m west of the mound.

Dr. Webb (personal communication) believes that the excavations were made primarily by L.S. Frierson, Jr. (now deceased), and that he recovered a large quartz crystal biface from this mound (see Webb 1982:267-268). The possibility that the site is related to the little known Bellevue Focus makes the site valuable for future research.

Hewitt Mound No. 2 (16 DS 270)

The northern Hewitt Mound was assigned the new number 16 DS 270. Because this is the second mound discussed by Webb (1982) it is referred to as Hewitt Mound No. 2. The site is located directly across the lake from the Williams Point site (16 DS 5). The mound is situated on a long narrow ridge that represents an eroded portion of the Prairie Terrace. The mound is approximately 3 m higher than the terrace on the west (lake) side, and 1.5 m higher than the terrace on the east (ridge) side. Five potholes plus a trench, all 50-70 cm deep, are visible in the top of the mound. The pits appear to be more recent than those at 16 DS 7; one is bell shaped and looks as though someone has carefully excavated around a vessel and removed it. Very dark deposits, perhaps representing a midden, are located about 25 m east of the mound. However, the surface is almost totally obscured by leaf litter. A single small rim sherd with no visible decoration was collected from this area.

Like Hewitt Mound No. 1, this site is in good condition despite the mound excavations and there is high potential for addressing significant research questions here.

Thigpen Mound (16 DS 12)

The Thigpen Mound is located on top of a steep bluff overlooking Bayou Pierre in northeastern Desoto Parish. The bluff is a remnant of the Pleistocene Prairie Terrace. The site consists of a single conical mound, approximately 2.5 to 3 m high and 15 to 20 m in diameter. A surface depression, filled with water at the time of the site visit, is present immediately north of the mound. The depression likely represents a borrow area used for mound construction. The mound and surrounding areas currently are covered in weeds and medium to large trees. No artifacts are visible on the site surface. A very large and deep pit has been excavated into the top of the mound, but the pit appears to have been made many years ago. The current landowner stated that the mound has been in its present state since he acquired the property during the early 1960's.

Dr. Webb acquired a fairly large collection of sherds from the site and classified them as Dunkin and Hardy Incised, Weches Impressed, Wilkinson Punctated, Hickory Engraved, vertical and diagonal incised with notched rims, Bossier Brushed, Pease Brushed-Incised, Belcher Ridged, and plain. Stone artifacts consisted of Gary points, one oval knife, and a Gahagan biface fragment. Dr. Webb (personal communication) found the latter artifact on the site surface, 10 to 15 m from the mound.

No sherds were found in the surrounding fields at the time of the 1990 site visit, but surface visibility was low and no shovel tests were employed. The site might contain significant research data despite the damage to the mound, but more intensive testing is necessary.

Richards Site (16 NA 399)

Also of interest is the Richards Site in northern Natchitoches Parish. This site was visited by Dr. Webb (personal communication) and numbered N-4, but a state number never was assigned. The site is situated on a bluff overlooking Jim's River only a few kilometers south of the Hanna Site (Thomas et al. 1980). Like Hanna, the Richards Site appears to be a large, intensively-occupied early Caddo site.

The landowner has a house and several gardens on the site and has acquired a substantial collection of artifacts. However, numerous ceramic and chipped stone artifacts remain on the surface. It appears that several isolated midden deposits may be present. Although negative impacts have occurred from modern activities, the site is in good condition and has high potential for yielding significant research data.

Upcoming Projects by the Regional Archaeology Program

The ongoing project of re-visiting each of the sites recorded by Dr. Webb will continue during the next year. In addition a project has been started to record sites along the shoreline and major drainages on the Louisiana side of Toledo Bend Reservoir. Relatively few archaeological sites have been recorded along the shoreline, but reports of sites being exposed with water level fluctuations are numerous. The area apparently is being hit hard by collectors and the pace of residential and recreational development near the reservoir is accelerating. Information acquired from the survey will be presented in future issues of *Caddo Archaeology*.

References Cited

- Thomas, Prentice Marquet, Jr., L. Janice Campbell, and Steven R. Ahler
1980 The Hanna Site, An Alto Village in Red River Parish. *Louisiana Archaeology* No. 5.
- Webb, Clarence H.
1982 The Bellevue Focus: A Marksville-Troyville Manifestation In Northwestern Louisiana. *Louisiana Archaeology* 9:251-274.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The annual meeting of the Caddo Conference will be held March 22-23, 1991 in Nacogdoches, Texas. The meeting is being organized by Dr. James E. Corbin of Stephen F. Austin State University with the assistance of the East Texas Archaeological Society. Further information on the meeting will be presented in Volume II, No. 2 of this newsletter.

PAST CONFERENCES

Southeastern Archaeological Conference

The Southeastern Archaeological Conference held their annual meeting November 7-10, 1990 in Mobile, Alabama. A number of interesting papers were presented that are pertinent to Caddoan archaeology, including:

- T. Riley, R. Edging, and J. Rossen, "Cultigens in Prehistoric Eastern North America: Changing Paradigms"
- D. Hunter, "The Apalachee on Red River, 1763-1834"
- D. Kelley, "Coles Creek Faunal Exploitation in the Ouachita River Valley of Southern Arkansas"
- B. Smith, "Eastern Cultigens and Possible Mesoamerican Connections"
- D. Stone, "Mesoamerican Plants and Southeastern Connections"
- J. Griffin, "The Weight of Artifactual Evidence for Connections"
- F. Schambach, "The Place of Spiro in Southeastern Prehistory: A Reinterpretation"
- T. Kidder, "Where's the Chief: Coles Creek Social Organization and Evolution in Northeast Louisiana"
- M. Smith and D. Hally, "Chiefly Behavior: Evidence from Sixteenth Century Spanish Accounts"
- J. Mintz, "Site Selection and Prehistoric Subsistence Patterns in the Arkansas Ozarks"

The Spanish Missionary Heritage of the United States

Held November 8-10, 1990 in San Antonio, Texas, this symposium focused on the origins of the Spanish Missions and their influence in the New World. Archaeologists, Architects, and Historians discussed the foundings of the missions, the interaction between the Indians and the Europeans, and the role of the missions in Spanish Colonial society. Paper presentations and panel discussions included:

Jesuits, Franciscans, and the Mission Process
 Mission Society and Community
 Relations with Non-Mission Indians
 Missions and Presidios: Defending Cross and Crown
 Mission Archeology: In Search of a Past Heritage
 The Mission Community in Transition
 Mission Architecture: A Heritage in Stone
 Preserving the Spanish Mission Heritage

For further information, please write to: Quincentenary Committee, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, 2202 Roosevelt Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78210.

Texas Archeological Society

The Texas Archeological Society held their annual meeting October 26-28, 1990 in Dallas, Texas. A number of papers on Caddoan archaeology were presented:

- James E. Bruseth and Timothy K. Perttula, "The 1991 TAS Field School at the Sam Kaufman Site, Red River County, Texas"
- James E. Corbin, "The Juan Pedro Walker Map of 1806: A Guide to 18th Century Spanish Colonial and Caddoan Archeology"
- Jan Guy, "Test Excavations at 41SY81: An Early Caddoan Habitation Site, Middle Sabine River Basin"
- Loyd Moody and Harvey Morgan, "Discovery of an Exotic Chert Preform Cache"
- Paige Price and Velicia Jones, "Archeological Investigations at the Acosta-Taylor House (41NA182), Nacogdoches, Texas"
- Frank Winchell and David H. Journey, "Native American Integration in 19th Century Anglo-American Society: An Archeological perspective from Northeastern Texas"
- Bill Young, "Mission San Jose de la Nazoni: A Preliminary Report"

1990 Arkansas Archeological Society Annual Meeting

The AAS annual meeting, held October 13, 1990 in Jonesboro, Arkansas, focused on the De Soto route in Arkansas. Charles Hudson's banquet address "The Hernando de Soto Expedition of 1539-1542" provided the overall synthesis for the route, and others discussed the pertinent documentary sources, the regional archaeological evidence for the route, and computer simulations of possible routes across the state. Individual papers included:

- * Jeff Mitchem: Artifacts Associated with the De Soto Expedition of 1539-1543
- * George Lankford: The Documentary Sources
- * Peter Cash: Garcilaso Retranslated
- * Charles Ewan and George Sabo III: The Importance of De Soto Research in Arkansas: More than Lip Service
- * David Dye: The Crossing
- * Dan Morse: The Northeast Arkansas Route
- * Ann Early: The Central Arkansas Route
- * Frank Schambach: De Soto's Army in Southwest Arkansas: Where the Spanish Did Not Go
- * Bryan Kellar: Marking a Highway Route
- * Fred Limp: Computer Simulation of Possible Routes
- * Jeff Mitchem: Parkin (Casqui)
- * Kim Allen: Bradley and Campbell (Pacaha)
- * Anna Parks: Greenbrier (Coligua)
- * Scott Akridge: Little Red River (Calpista/Palisma)
- * John House: Looking for the Sixteenth century in the Lower St. Francis Basin, East-Central Arkansas
- * Tom Dillard: De Soto Slept Here: De Soto and the Local Historians

Louisiana Archaeology Week

The third annual Louisiana Archaeology Week was held September 24-30, 1990. Sponsored by the Louisiana Archaeological Society, the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy, and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, one of the main events was the presentation of lectures by archaeologists who specialize in the prehistory of Louisiana and adjoining states. Frank Schambach presented a lecture on "The Prehistoric Caddo", and Marvin Jeter discussed "Protohistoric Archaeology in Southeast Arkansas and Northeast Louisiana". Pete Gregory lectured on the "Archaic in Louisiana" and "Historic Site Archaeology", and Bill Day talked about an "Introduction to the Tunica Treasure"

EARTHWATCH PROJECT IN EASTERN OKLAHOMA

Between May 19th and June 28th, Lois Albert (Oklahoma Archeological Survey) and Dr. Dan Rogers (Smithsonian Institution) will be conducting an excavation project involving Earthwatch volunteers in three two-week sessions. The project centers on the excavation of an early homestead (about A.D. 600-800) in the Lee Creek region of the Ozarks. Individuals interested in participating may write: Earthwatch, 680 Mount Auburn St., Box 403, Watertown, MA 02272.

1991 TAS FIELD SCHOOL AT SAM KAUFMAN SITE

The 1991 Texas Archeological Society Field School will be held June 8th-16th at the Sam Kaufman site (41RR16), a major Caddoan mound center in Red River County in Northeast Texas. Dr. James E. Bruseth, director of the Department of Archeological Planning and Review, Texas Historical Commission, will serve as the principal project archeologist for the Texas Archeological Society.

The Sam Kaufman site was selected for this year's Field School because it is in imminent danger of being destroyed by looting and flooding by the Red River. In the spring of 1990 a major portion of the site was washed away, along with one of the two mounds at the site. The future of the site does not appear to be promising, and salvage work by the TAS appears to be the only hope for recovering information before this important Caddoan site is lost.

In addition to work at Sam Kaufman, several thousand acres of adjacent land will be surveyed for Caddoan hamlets and outlier sites. Test excavations will be undertaken at two other nearby Caddoan mound sites, the Fasken Mounds (41RR7) and the Wright Plantation site (41RR14). The TAS work at these poorly understood sites will provide a better understanding of their place in Caddoan prehistory.

For further information on the field school contact:

Texas Archeological Society
Center for Archaeological Research
The University of Texas at San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas 78285-0658

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A PERSPECTIVE ON ARKANSAS BASIN AND OZARK HIGHLAND PREHISTORY

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It is, from time to time, valuable to reassess and perhaps shed new light on long-held perspectives. In "The 'Northern Caddoan Area' was not Caddoan," Frank Schambach (1990) provides a provocative reinterpretation of the archaeology of the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highland regions of Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri. While certain comments in this paper have merit and deserve deeper consideration, the central theme and supporting arguments are severely flawed, both from conceptual and data points of view.

Schambach's central argument is that there were no Caddoans in the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highlands north of Spiro. To make this point he asserts that the only Caddoan site north of the Ouachita Mountains is the Brown Mound group at Spiro. All the other sites in the region, including the Craig Mound group at Spiro, are not Caddoan, but are instead a currently undefined Mississippian manifestation. Schambach's scenario goes something like this: Mississippians moved up the Arkansas River valley in the early Mississippian Period (presumably in the Harlan Phase, A.D. 850-1250), through western Arkansas to eastern Oklahoma where they displaced the Caddoans living at the Brown Mound group. The Caddoans moved back south to the Ouachita Mountains. The Mississippians, including "people of the Plum Bayou culture. . . the Spiro phase [A.D. 1250-1450]" then built Craig Mound at Spiro while possibly operating a trade system "to supply buffalo meat and hides to the rapidly growing and increasingly protein poor and clothing poor Mississippian populations. . ." to the east (p. 3). Later, the Mississippians, who were probably ancestral Tunica, retreated back down the Arkansas River "to south of Dardenelle, where De Soto encountered them in 1541 (p. 4)". The Caddoans then returned to the Spiro area to become the people of the Fort Coffee Phase (A.D. 1450-1500s). This sequence of events is a fascinating reinterpretation of regional culture history, unfortunately it falls flat when confronted by either contemporary theory or the data.

The basis for Schambach's argument is a two-pronged theoretical orientation relying on geographical determinism and the notion that Mississippians and Caddoans are distinctive groups of people with their own set of unique material "traits". These are perspectives I expressly reject and which are marginal given the advances of the last 30 years of American archaeology. The role of geographical determinism in Schambach's argument is evident in his insistence that the Ozark Highlands, the Arkansas River Valley, and the Ouachita Mountains each had a distinct culture history apparently relating to ethnically identifiable groups of people (p. 3, also see Schambach 1988, 1990). It would be too tedious to recount the intellectual history of geographical or ecological determinism; instead, suffice it to say that such orientations have been

replaced by culture ecology, ecological functionalism, and related perspectives, each making use of the idea of adaptation, but without reliance on strict biogeographical boundaries (e.g., Wyckoff 1980).

Although Schambach uses the terms "Mississippian" and "Caddoan" to mean variously, a time period, a cultural tradition, or a group of people, the latter usage is the one least in accord with recent evidence. To imagine the migration of Mississippians up the Arkansas River to Spiro and beyond, clearly implies a connection with the old Mississippian "heartland" and expansion concepts. Even in the 1950s Phillips, Ford, and Griffin (1951:451) suggested that the Mississippian cultural tradition developed in a number of localities almost simultaneously. Now, increasing evidence from many parts of the eastern United States has helped to confirm their viewpoint. Migration is simply not a good explanation for the spread of the Mississippian cultural tradition into the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highlands (Peebles 1990:26; Smith 1984). If the Craig Mound group were built by a group of ethnically Mississippian peoples, then the explanation would depend on migration and the site-unit intrusion argument similar to the classic, but poorly founded, example offered by Willey for the Macon Plateau (1953:370-372). Migrations did sometimes occur in prehistory (Rouse 1986), but Spiro is not one of those cases.

Schambach's argument contains several inaccuracies that, taken together, provide a sound case for rejection of his reinterpretation. I will address a few of these problems before concluding with a brief statement of what constitutes a far more likely scenario for the prehistory of the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highlands. One statement that is particularly inaccurate has to do with Schambach's attempt to show that the concept of a Northern Caddoan Area has no legitimate basis. He states that Orr (1946) defined Spiro as Caddo simply because Swanton (1932) included eastern Oklahoma when he drew a line around the Caddoan area. A subtle, but important point here is that Orr never used the word Caddo, as Schambach states; instead, Orr used the word Caddoan as a means of acknowledging differences between the regions. Furthermore, Orr (1946:249, 250, 253, 255) uses the information available to him from Harrington (1920), Jackson (1934), Sayles (1935), and Krieger (1945) to discuss the connections between Spiro (and other sites in the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highlands) and several sites in the Red River region. Orr was not blindly following Swanton's suggestion, nor was he just using pottery types to define these relationships--many artifact categories and features enter into the discussion. Likewise, it is inaccurate to attribute the definition of a north-south link to Orr alone. Well before the time of Orr's writing the idea of a Caddoan presence in the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highlands was widely accepted (e.g., Thoburn 1931:76). Several archaeologists in the 1940s, most notably Krieger (1944, 1946:Map 1, Fig. 26), also defined and refined the attributes that connected the two areas. Given new data, some of the relationships discussed in the 1930s and 1940s would not stand up under scrutiny today; but, even so, Schambach's attempt to trivialize the development of a north-south link is far from convincing.

The bulk of Schambach's paper centers on reinterpreting the Spiro site. As stated above, he describes the Brown Mound group as Caddo (not just Caddoan, but specifically Caddo) and the Craig Mound group as Mississippian. It is not possible to separate these two areas of the site, nor is it possible to isolate the Brown Mound group from the many other Harlan Phase mound centers and habitation sites throughout the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highlands. There is no material culture or chronological distinction, as Schambach argues.

At Spiro, contrary to Schambach's claim, there is ample material continuity to link the upper and lower portions of the site. All the non-mound buildings, whether upland or lowland, are very similar. The buildings are square, with four center-posts, an extended entryway, and individually set wall-post construction. They are found scattered across the site, but especially on the lower areas (Brown 1966:125-143). Schambach argues that the clay- and grog-tempered pottery found in the Brown Mound group defines these mounds as Caddo and separates them from the Mississippian shell-tempered pottery using people who built the mounds on the bottomlands at Spiro and at other sites like Harlan. However, the buildings on the bottomlands do not contain shell-tempered pottery, they contain grog-tempered Williams Plain (over 92%), and grog-tempered pottery also predominates in the early levels and burials of Craig Mound (Brown 1966:88-89, 111-114, Brown 1971:197, 200; Rogers 1982:44, 162-170). Rather than evidence for occupation by two distinct ethnic groups, Spiro presents substantial continuity through time, with grog-tempered ceramics predominately early and shell-tempered ceramics predominately late. To verify this it is instructive to look not just at Spiro, but also at the numerous habitation sites in the immediate area. Rohrbaugh (1985:159-160) provides important evidence for continuity by pointing out the continuation of particular pottery types through the Harlan, Spiro, and Fort Coffee Phases.

Schambach attempts to draw a distinction between the Brown Mound group and other Harlan Phase sites like Harlan (Bell 1972) by noting differences in house mounds and pottery types. The differences he notes are designed to confirm chronological and cultural distinctions, however, the radiocarbon dates from the Brown Mound group and the Harlan site show contemporaneity (Bell 1972:253-258; Brown 1967; Rogers 1980, 1982). As for the house mounds, the architecture and artifacts (for instance from House Mounds 4 and 5) from the Brown Mound group are virtually identical to the architecture and associated artifacts from the Harlan site (Bell 1972:164, 165, 220; Brown 1966:117; Rogers 1982:45-46). There are also a number of similarities in the architecture associated with all types of mounds throughout the Arkansas Basin and Ozark Highlands (e.g., Kay 1990; Kay et al. 1989; Muto 1978; Rogers 1982:49-91). Schambach also argues that the buildings at Harlan were "scrupulously cleaned mortuaries" while those in the Brown Mound group contain domestic debris (p. 4). This is a very problematic statement considering that the buildings at both sites produced very little debris (Bell 1972:221; Brown 1966:115). Only House Mound 5 produced much artifactual debris, but this is the only one in which the fill was screened (Rogers 1980, 1982).

Even more important to Schambach's argument than the house mounds is the type of pottery present at the Brown Mound group and at the Harlan site. He contends that the former is characterized by grog-tempered pottery and the latter by shell-tempered pottery, like Woodward Plain. This is simply not true. It is only a matter of reviewing Bell's Table 14 (1972:226) to see that shell-tempering is not common at the Harlan site and Woodward Plain is only about 8% of the total sherd count. The reason that there is any Woodward Plain at all is that it increases slightly in the latest burials, which are late Harlan Phase and show some of the characteristics of the subsequent Spiro Phase. Rather than severing the links between the Brown Mound group and the Harlan site the evidence provides one of the strongest links between any two sites anywhere and provides good evidence for cultural continuity.

A far more parsimonious culture history for the Ozark Highlands and Arkansas Basin, one that does not require a complex sequence of migrations, is the interpretation currently in use

(see relevant chapters in Bell [1984] and Rogers et al. [1989]). The late prehistory begins with hunting and gathering groups of the Fourche Maline Phase (ca. 300 B.C.-A.D. 850) scattered across western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. These groups began using pottery and cultivating native plants around A.D. 500 to A.D. 700. Sometime between about A.D. 800 and A.D. 900 the descendants of Fourche Maline Phase peoples participated in the development of ranked societies known to us as the Harlan Phase (A.D. 850-1250), including the establishment of mound centers, settlement hierarchies, substantial public architecture, hierarchical burial treatments, and increased cultivation of maize. These developments probably originated through a variety of interactions with similar groups to the east and south and are linked with the emergence of the Mississippian over a vast portion of the eastern woodlands (e.g., Early 1990; Smith 1990). Exchange of exotic high status goods such as marine shell and copper was probably important to this developmental process (Rogers 1990). Subsequent cultural developments in the Spiro Phase (A.D. 1250-1450) continued the trend toward further cultural elaboration, although there is yet no evidence that maize was the dominant crop. At Spiro very elaborate burials occur in Craig Mound with less ornate, but similar versions in contemporary mound sites like Norman (Finkelstein 1940; Rogers et al. 1990). The Fort Coffee Phase (A.D. 1450-1500s) marks a major departure from the elaborations of the Harlan and Spiro Phases. As in several regions, mound construction and use cease and evidence for a hierarchical social system declines.

While there are other trouble areas in Schambach's analysis, the one primary point that remains is the question of whether there were Caddoans in the Ozark Highlands and Arkansas Basin. There is no evidence that there were people in the region who were the direct ancestors of the historic Caddo, but no one in recent times seriously argues this. Very few archaeologists working in the Ozark Highlands and the Arkansas Basin use the term Caddo at all, instead Caddoan is preferred, to acknowledge similarities between the north and the south that are more than just a trade link. Ultimately there is little point in continuing what amounts to a debate over terminology that does not advance useful analysis. In part, Schambach's reanalysis seems to be responding to the impression that the prehistory of the Spiro site has received too much attention because of its anomalous artifact hoards, which are, of course, not representative of Caddoan prehistory. These are useful observations, and while he seeks to deemphasize Spiro's role, he in fact hinges his entire argument on Spiro. This aside, Schambach's idea that Spiro had little connection with or influence over other sites in the region is not supportable. Evidence for hierarchical settlement systems with similar patterns of mortuary treatment are part of the evidence for regional interactions (Brown et al. 1978; Rogers 1983). Spiro probably did not exert authoritative control over this vast region, but there are strong connections that provide an important grounding for future research.



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- J.W. Clark--Historical Antecedents Beyond the Texas Border
- J.F. de la Teja--The Camino Real: Colonial Texas's Lifeline to the World
- A.J. McGraw and L. Sparks--The Beginning: Spanish Eyes turn to the Northern Frontier
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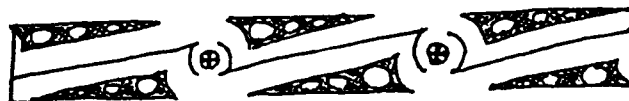
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The Cheatwood Place (41RR181), a Midden Mound along Little Mustang Creek, Red River County, Texas

Steve Gaither, Timothy K. Perttula, and Gary Cheatwood

The Cheatwood Place is a multi-component midden mound located on an upland projection at the confluence of Christopher Branch and Little Mustang Creek, about 1.5 kilometers north of the Sulphur River. The site has thick midden deposits with excellent faunal and shell preservation, and promises to contribute important information on several periods of Sulphur River prehistory. The archaeological record in this part of the Sulphur River basin is not well known at present (Perttula and Nathan 1989; Peter et al. 1990).

Investigations at the Cheatwood Place site have been limited to surface collections, and the excavation by Cheatwood of a single 1x1 meter test unit in the midden mound. Vertical provenience was not noted in the test unit, the matrix of which was screened through 1/4 inch mesh, except that the midden was approximately 60 to 90 cm in thickness with artifacts throughout the deposit.

A total of 845 artifacts have been recovered from the site to date. The assemblage includes 347 pieces of lithic debitage, eight cores, five biface fragments and blank/preforms, five projectile points, 17 unifacial and retouched tools, two pitted stone/hammerstones, 336 fire-cracked rocks and cobbles, 93 ceramic sherds, and 32 pieces of burned clay and daub.

Of the 93 sherds, 17 were decorated (including three rim sherds) and the other 76 were plain (including four rim sherds). The sherds were tabulated by temper: (a) grog (15 sherds/16.1% of the total); (b) grit (2 sherds/2.1%); (c) grog and grit (24 sherds/25.8%); (d) grog and bone (10 sherds/10.8%); (e) grit and bone (1 sherd/1.1%); (f) grog, grit, and bone (38 sherds/40.9%); (g) grit and shell (1 sherd/1.1%); and (h) grog and carbonaceous material (2 sherds/2.1%). The grog-grit-bone- combination has the largest representation in the Cheatwood Place assemblage.

These temper categories were subdivided into *coarse* and *fine-tempered* sherds to further characterize the ceramic assemblage (cf. Schambach and Miller 1984; Miller 1986; Perttula 1988). This was determined by a visual inspection of the apparent density of the temper in the paste. Fine-tempered sherds include those determined to have 10 percent or less temper by volume; coarse-tempered sherds have 30 percent or more by paste volume. Those few sherds falling between were classified into one of the groups by assessing the size of the individual particles of temper, and the overall homogeneity of the paste and temper.

The coarse-tempered sherds represent 68.8 percent of the assemblage (64 sherds); 17.2 percent of these sherds were decorated. The 29 fine-tempered sherds represent 31.2 percent of the collection, but 24.1 percent of this group had been decorated.

The types of decorative techniques identified in the coarse-tempered sherds are predominantly "wet" methods of decoration; that is, the decoration was applied while the clay was still in a plastic stage. Included are two incised, one trailed, three punctated, and one applied sherd. Four engraved sherds, a "dry" decorative method that was applied after the clay had reached the leather-hard stage, were also classified as coarse-tempered. The fine tempered sherds were predominantly "dry" decorated (two engraved and three red-slipped), although one punctated and one brushed/incised sherd represent "wet" decorated sherds among the fine-tempered group.

To classify the decorated ceramics from the Cheatwood Place site, the sherds have been divided into ten *decorative elements* in the manner employed by Miller (1986) in his analysis of a ceramic assemblage from a Caddoan mound site on the Sulphur River in Miller County, Arkansas. The decorative elements are as follows:

Element 1 (Figure 1a): Large triangular punctates on the body of the vessel.

Element 2 (Not illustrated): Small triangular punctates placed on the body of the vessel.

Element 3 (Figure 1b): Horizontal brushing and fingernail punctations on the rim and body of the vessel.

Element 4 (Figure 1c, d): Horizontal incised lines on the vessel rim (carinated bowl).

Element 5 (Figure 1e): Parallel engraved lines with an engraved pendant triangle. The engraved design is on the vessel rim.

Element 6 (Figure 1f): Widely-spaced horizontally engraved lines on the vessel body and rim.

Element 7 (Figure 1g): Curvilinear engraved lines on the vessel rim.

Element 8 (Figure 1h): Trailed lines and brushing on the body of the vessel.

Element 9 (Figure 1i): Parallel applique strips on the vessel body; and

Element 10 (Figure 1j): Brushing on the vessel rim, with possible impressed decorations below the brushing on the vessel body.

Decorative elements 1 and 2 are common on a variety of Caddoan utility vessels, and cannot be assigned to a particular ceramic type. Elements 3, 8, 9, and 10 closely resemble Pease Brushed-Incised (Suhm and Jelks 1962:119-120), which occurs in frequency at several Caddo sites in the middle and lower Sulphur River drainages that are estimated to date between ca. A.D. 1200-1500 (e.g., Miller 1986). Possible typological identifications for decorative element 4 include East Incised, Davis Incised, and Dunkin Incised; the presence of this decorative element on carinated bowls from Cheatwood Place suggests that they most likely can be assigned to Davis Incised and Dunkin Incised (Suhm and Jelks 1962:35, 37). The parallel engraved design with engraved pendant triangles is known to occur in the Sanders Engraved type, but given the location of the site, decorative element 5 is identified as Hempstead Engraved (Suhm and Jelks 1962:69 and Plate 35). Decorative element 6 is possibly Hickory Engraved, while the small sherd with the curvilinear engraved design in element 7 is unidentified. The red-slipped pottery from the site may be from Caddo types such as East Incised (Suhm and Jelks 1962:41), Avery Engraved (Suhm and Jelks 1962:1), Sanders Plain, or Ripley Engraved. Red-slipped pottery is not common in Sulphur River Basin ceramic assemblages (see Heartfield, Price and Greene 1982a, 1982b; Miller 1986; Perttula 1988).

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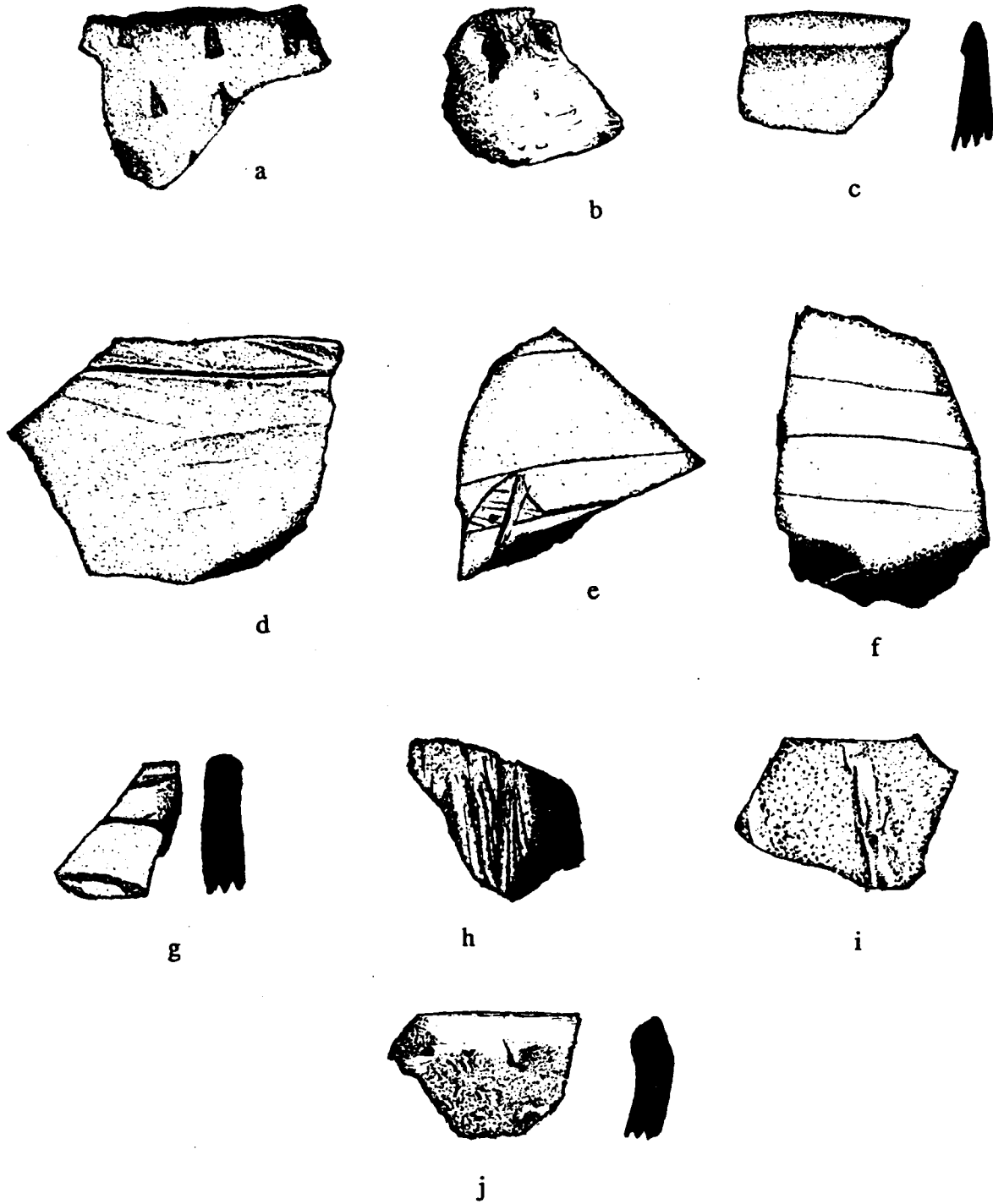


Figure 1. Decorated Ceramics from the Cheatwood Place Site (41RR181), Red River County, Texas.

The lithic artifact assemblage primarily consists of lithic debitage and fire-cracked rock. There are small numbers of cores, bifacial tools, groundstone, and a number of expedient unifacial tools and retouched pieces.

Ogallala quartzite, a local resource, dominates the lithic assemblage for debitage and chipped stone tools, accounting for 72.4 percent of the site sample. Other quartzites (those with a coarser texture), petrified wood, jasper, and local cherts account for another 22.7 percent of the assemblage, while lithic raw materials of non-local origin represent only 4.7 percent of the debitage and stone tools. Included in the non-local category are novaculite, chalcedony, a possible Kiamichi Green chert, a possible Frisco chert, and a black siliceous shale. These materials originate in the Ouachita Mountains of Southeast Oklahoma and Southwest Arkansas, but are available as stream gravels in the Red River (see Banks 1990). Although the sample of lithics is small, the percentage of non-local cherts is generally comparable to other known sites in the Middle and Upper Sulphur River basin (Pertulla 1984, 1988).

Ten artifacts were classified as bifaces. There are three probable thick bifaces (those more than 10 mm in thickness) which are best interpreted as manufacturing rejects (Pertulla 1988). All are on local coarse-grained quartzite (Figure 2a). The thin bifaces are represented by two small fragments, one a possible medial tool section of Ogallala quartzite with an edge beveled from resharpening, and the other an unidentifiable bifacial tool fragment, also manufactured from Ogallala quartzite.

The projectile points and fragments include a probable Gary type stem of jasper (Figure 2b), a possible dart point stem of Ogallala quartzite, and another stem manufactured from hematite (Figure 2c). The latter may have been resharpened, which caused the breakage. The fourth dart point was manufactured from Ouachita Mountains siliceous shale. It is not typable as only one worked edge remains of the piece. Medial beveling is evident, and the edge has been resharpened for use. The last projectile point was manufactured from Ogallala quartzite; its thickness and estimated neck width suggests it is a Gary type, *variety Camden* (Schambach 1982). It has also been resharpened (Figure 2d).

The 17 unifacial and retouched tools are predominately manufactured on Ogallala quartzite flakes, but three of the unifacial tools are manufactured on non-local materials: a dark gray chert with white inclusions, a Red River jasper, and novaculite. Unifacial tools include: (a) utilized flakes, without deliberate retouch (Figure 2e, g), along distal and lateral edges (8/47.1 percent); (b) those with heavier edge utilization and possible retouching (Figure 2f) (3/17.6 percent); (c) a denticulate (Figure 2h) (5.9 percent); (d) three end and side scrapers (Figure 2i, j) (17.6 percent), (e) a graver; and (f) a perforator.

The perforator is predominantly uniaxially worked from a primary flake, and has steep bilateral beveling near the tip; the tip is broken (Figure 2k). The graver is also predominantly uniaxial, with edge retouching extending approximately 11 mm bilaterally from the tip. Both tools show definite use polish.

The cores recovered from 41RR181 include three tested cobbles, three core fragments, and two complete cores (Figure 2l). Five of these are of Ogallala quartzite, two are of coarse-grained quartzite, and the other one is of jasper. The tested cobbles, as well as a significant amount of flakes having 76 to 100 percent dorsal cortex (12.1 percent of the quartzites) indicates that the cobbles were collected and taken to the site area with only minimal reduction at the procurement areas. The whole Ogallala quartzite cobbles are quite small (both less than five by three cm), and may indicate the minimal size selected for possible future reduction.

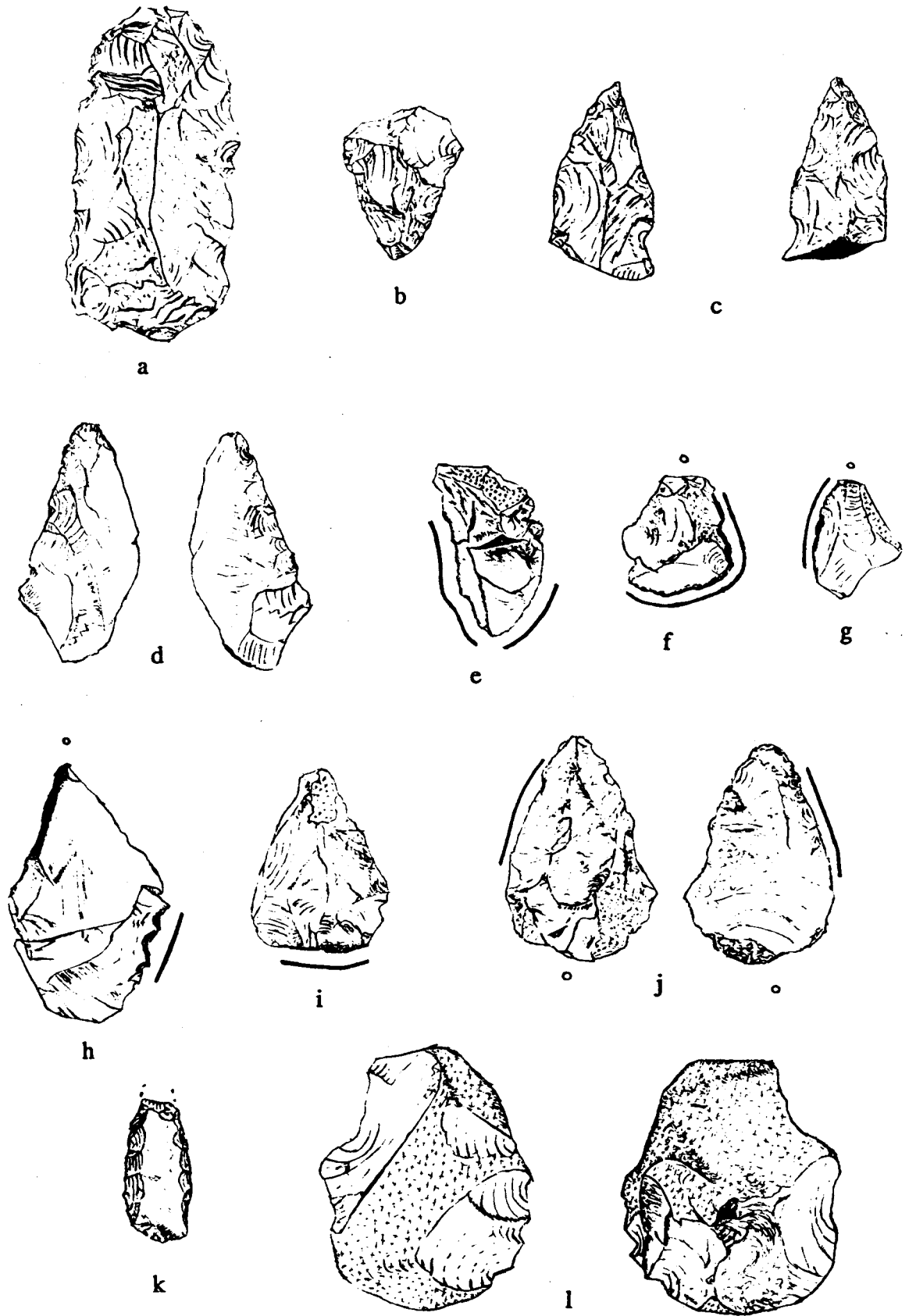


Figure 2. Selected Lithic Tools from the Cheatwood Place Site (41RR181).

Reduction techniques seem to vary with the coarseness of the lithic material. Those cores with the coarser texture had no apparent platform preparation, a complete core of Ogallala quartzite that was probably heat-treated showed some evidence of edge preparation by abrading, while the finest-grained Ogallala quartzite cores, also heat-treated, evidence stepped fractures from edge preparation by crushing.

The jasper core is the smallest in the collection; as the core retains dorsal and ventral cortex, and is only 10.4 mm thick, the original cobble was probably quite small. However, one of the flake scars appears to have a positive percussion bulb indicating that it may be a fragment of a larger tabular cobble.

Two coarse-grained quartzite cobbles show percussive use. The smaller of the two, ovate and thin, has evidence of percussion along one cobble edge, with extensive modification from hammering/pecking at the larger end. No pitting is evident on the cobble faces. The other cobble has pitting on one face, and another area evidences percussive use.

Fire-cracked quartzite rocks and cobbles are abundant in the midden mound, as over 330 have been collected in limited work at the site. Fire-cracked rocks are common by-products of food preparation activities, and indicate the importance of rocks in cooking activities. It is possible, however, that the fire-cracked rocks also are by-products of lithic raw material heat-treating activities, as Banks (1990 personal communication) has noted how important heat-treating is in the Sulphur River Basin to improve the knappability of the local quartzites.

Summary

The Cheatwood Place midden mound contains an archaeological deposit that dates from at least the last 2000 years. The identified Gary point, and fragments of other contracting stem dart points, probably indicate a Late Archaic and/or an Early Ceramic or Woodland Period occupation (e.g., Schambach 1982; Story 1990). Sites of this time period are common in the area between Mustang Creek and Cuthand Creek in Red River County (Heartfield, Price and Greene, Inc. 1982a, 1982b), and throughout the Sulphur River Basin. Although vertical provenience information is not available from the Cheatwood Place midden mound, it is suspected that a significant portion of the well-preserved midden deposits at the site date to the Late Archaic and/or Woodland Period.

A second occupation at Cheatwood Place is represented by the ceramic assemblage; possible decorated sherds of the types Pease Brushed-Incised, Davis Incised, Dunkin Incised, Hempstead Engraved, and Hickory Engraved have been identified among the 17 decorated sherds from the site. Based on the frequency of Pease Brushed-Incised and Hickory Engraved, and comparisons with the dated ceramic assemblage at the Myers Mound, a general temporal range for this occupation is estimated to be ca. A.D. 1200-1400, plus or minus 100 years.

Further work is planned for the Cheatwood Place midden mound in 1991. The purpose of the work will be to clarify the vertical and horizontal integrity of the site, and the various occupations preserved in its midden deposits, acquire reliable radiocarbon and thermoluminescence samples for dating purposes, and to recover interpretable samples of faunal and floral remains from the different occupations to discern specific subsistence patterns. If we are successful in acquiring this type of information from the site, archaeologists working in the Sulphur River Basin will be in a better position to address basic issues of cultural change in Northeast Texas.

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