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COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR

With this issue, the Caddoan Archeology Newsletter begins its fourth year of publication with a new editor. Several changes will be instituted with this volume. The newsletter will have a new look, thanks to help from Martha Lopez, the Oklahoma Archeological Survey’s publications assistant. We have access, through the Survey, to the desktop publishing software, Ventura Publisher. By using this software, we will be able to introduce a new format.

Throughout this year, some new features, such as book reviews, will be launched beginning with the next issue. I urge anyone who has a publication they would like reviewed to send a review copy. There will also be a regular list of upcoming events, including meetings, relevant exhibits, field schools, seminars, and avocational digs. If you know of something interesting happening in the area (or even outside it), please send this information to me. We would also like to print news about ongoing projects, changes of address/jobs for researchers, and any other news of interest to Caddologists, professional or avocational.

The Survey’s computers are IBM compatibles; word processing software in use includes WordStar 4 and WordPerfect 5.1. We have both 5.25 and 3.5 inch drives. If you don’t use these programs, we would prefer files be sent in ASCII format. Office Systems, on our main campus, can translate Macintosh files, although we need to tell the operators what software program you use. Disks will not be returned, so keep a copy for yourself. Be sure to include a hard copy of your article. You may also send photos and line graphics you would like to have included with your article, although we may need to limit the number of photos because of the cost of printing them. Photos and line graphics will be returned if requested. We will try to maintain a publication schedule of late March/April (after the Caddo Conference), early July, early October, and January. We will thus need submissions by April 1, June 15, September 15, and December 1 for the corresponding issues. We may be able to include small items such as meeting dates, publications, etc., later than this deadline, but it would help if you send items earlier.

At this year’s Caddo Conference, three papers were presented relevant to the ongoing debate about the relationship of Spiro (and the northern Caddoan region) to the rest of the Caddoan area as well as to external areas. These papers were presented by Dr. James Brown, Dr. Frank Schambach, and Dr. Frank Winchell (see abstracts section). These papers with comments by the three authors and other interested parties will be printed beginning in this issue with Frank Winchell’s paper. Issue number 2 (and subsequent issues as needed) will continue this debate with the other papers and commentary. Please send your comments to me, and I will forward copies to the authors.

BACK ISSUES FOR VOLUME I

The Caddoan Archeology Newsletter, Volume I, issues 1 - 4, have now been reprinted. They are available for $10.00 to those who did not subscribe to this volume. If you were a subscriber to Volume I and did not receive all of your issues, please contact me (Lois Albert) and let me know which issues you are missing.
IT'S TIME TO RENEW SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THIS NEWSLETTER

This issue starts another volume of the Caddoan Archeology Newsletter. Those who have already renewed their subscriptions are listed below. If your name is not on this list, it's time to send in your renewal.

- Lois E. Albert - Norman, OK
- Paul & Rennie Benefield - Norman, OK
- Harold Brice - Bivins, TX
- Caddo Tribe - Binger, OK
- Chris Cojeen - Norman, OK
- Wilson W. Crook, Jr. - Dallas, TX
- E. Mott & Beth Davis - Austin, TX
- Don R. Dickson - Decatur, AR
- Armin Dressel - Camden, AR
- Robert C. Dunnell - Seattle, WA
- Melissa Green - Dallas, TX
- Ben Hay - Lone Star, TX
- L.H. Head, Jr. - Wake Village, TX
- Jack T. Hughes - Canyon, TX
- David Jurney - Waxahachie, TX
- Willard P. Leutze - Lafayette, LA
- Linda Lindsay - Dallas, TX
- Chris Lintz - Austin, TX
- Steven R. Mack - Tulsa, OK
- Dan McGregor - Irving, TX
- Tom Middlebrook - Nacogdoches, TX
- Jeffrey M. Mitchem - Parkin, AR
- Larry Neal - Norman, OK
- Bo Nelson - Pittsburg, TX
- George H. Odell - Tulsa, OK
- Tim Prettula - Austin, TX
- Dennis Peterson - Spiro, OK
- Prewitt & Associates - Austin, TX
- Burton L. Purrington - Springfield, MO
- Charles L. Rohrbaugh - Normal, IL
- Martha A. Rolingson - Scott, AR
- Frank Schambach - Magnolia, AR
- Don Shockey - Oklahoma City, OK
- Joe N. Shurtleff - Texarkana, AR
- Dee Ann Story - Wimberley, TX
- TARL - Austin, TX
- Pete Thurmond - Cheyenne, OK
- R.L. Turner, Jr. - Pittsburg, TX
- Wisconsin State Hist. Soc. - Madison, WI
- Don G. Wyckoff - Norman, OK
This paper will look into the relationship between the civic-ceremonial centers of Toltec and Spiro and the intervening area along the Arkansas Valley of Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. Although it may first appear that there were two separate developments along the Arkansas Valley, this paper presents the possibility that the centers of Toltec and Spiro were intrinsically involved with one another, and that one may have risen to preeminence at the expense of the other. Indeed, the collapse of Toltec and the rise of Spiro may explain why the Arkansas Valley east of Spiro was not heavily occupied during the early part of the Mississippian period. The discussion of these two centers along the Arkansas Valley will also be put into the perspective of the ancient Nile Valley. Here, similar developments and events led to the demise of the Nubian A-Group culture and the virtual abandonment of their territory south to the First Cataract. Using the Nile Valley as an analytical model, it will be proposed that interactions along the Arkansas River played a very important role in the development at Spiro.

The centers of Toltec and Spiro share the distinction of being the two primary points of cultural development along the Arkansas Valley during the Late Woodland and Late Prehistoric periods, respectively. Toltec, through the Plum Bayou culture, emerged first along the middle portion of the Arkansas Valley, reaching a height of development sometime between A.D. 800 and 900 (Rolingson 1982:1-6; 1990:44-46). At this time, the Toltec center commanded a strategic point along the Arkansas River where it opened into the broad, Lower Mississippi Valley. Up the narrower passage between the Ozarks and Ouachita highlands, approximately 200 km from Toltec, Spiro began as a significant local center on the river as early as A.D. 700, but did not reach regional prominence until sometime after A.D. 900 (Bell 1984:228; Brown 1984a:11-20, 1984b:259-262; Brown et al. 1978). Of course, during the first half of the Mississippian period, Spiro stood supreme over the prime bottomland stretch of the Arkansas River at the doorstep of the Great Plains.

It has been known for some time that during Spiro’s formative development, associated with the Evans phase (Orr 1946; 1952:246-247), the center may have been related to, or was at least influenced by, the Plum Bayou culture centering at Toltec (Brown 1984a:12-15; Rolingson 1982; 1990:46; Sabo et al. 1990:78; Schambach 1992:13-16). The relationship between the Evans phase and the Plum Bayou culture is not well understood. However, both developments were involved with the construction of platform and dome-shaped mounds, with burial of the dead in accretional units, and with a common set of ceramics which were similar in decoration, vessel shape, and paste composition (Brown 1984a; Hemmings and House 1985; Rolingson 1982).

The essential difference between the Plum Bayou culture and the Evans phase was the greater scale and magnitude of the mound and earthwork construction at the principal Plum Bayou center of Toltec. Between A.D. 700 and 900, eighteen mounds were constructed at Toltec; all were enclosed within a 40 ha area which was surrounded by a 1600 meter long earthen embankment (Rolingson 1982:1, 1990:38). The majority of the mounds at Toltec were either platform or flat-topped, and pyramidal-shaped.

As a group they were similar to other contemporary Coles Creek mound centers located farther downstream within the Lower Mississippi Valley. Nevertheless, the massive mound complex at Toltec was unique and significantly larger than most Lower Mississippi Valley mound centers at the time; the latter usually consisted of three prominent mounds surrounding a triangular-shaped plaza (Phillips 1970:555, Rolingson 1982:63; Williams 1956:58-60).

During the Late Woodland period, Toltec was clearly the primary center within the Arkansas Valley, extending its influence down river into the
Mississippi Valley and overland into the Great Bend area of the Red River (Rolingson 1982, 1990; Schambach 1982:182-183). Toltec also pushed its influence farther up river along the Arkansas Valley into the southern Ozark region where the construction of platform and domeshaped mounds coincided with the beginning of the Evans phase (Brown 1984a:11-15). During this time, Spiro emerged as one of eight or so smaller mound centers within the southern Ozark region of eastern Oklahoma. Curiously, farther down river from Spiro along the Arkansas Valley, there were no other mound centers of this period until the Plum Bayou occupation at Point Remove, located approximately 100 km upstream from Toltec (Rolingson 1990:39). The paucity of sites dating to this period along this stretch of the valley may be due to the fact that very little archaeological work has been conducted there. Nevertheless, despite the data gaps, there can be little question that there were significant influences moving up river from the Plum Bayou center at Toltec through the Arkansas Valley and into the Spiro area (Brown 1984a:12; Sabo et al. 1990:82). It is also likely that the settlement at Spiro during this time was tributary to the larger center, down river at Toltec.

It is only after the demise of Toltec that the center of Spiro began to assert its influence as a dominant center within the Arkansas Valley. At the beginning of the Harlan phase in the tenth century A.D., other southern Ozark centers such as the Harlan site were nearly or equally as important. Nonetheless, Spiro's strategic location on the Arkansas River would have allowed it to take supreme advantage of the political and cultural vacuum left by the disappearance of the Plum Bayou culture at Toltec. By the beginning of the Spiro phase in the mid-thirteenth century A.D., the center had grown considerably, containing at least 12 mounds within a 30 ha area. Of course, at this time Spiro had eclipsed all other rival centers within the Arkansas Basin.

As with the Evans phase, it appears that both Harlan and Spiro phase occupations extended only a little farther down river from the Spiro locality (Hoffman 1977; Sabo et al. 1990:111). However, in contrast to Late Woodland times, the Arkansas Valley east of Spiro, all the way down to Toltec, appeared to have been a virtual backwater during the first part of the Mississippian period. Thus, it would appear natural for the Spiro center to have extended its influence down the Arkansas River where the "drainage patterns [would have favored] cultural interactions to the east and west" (Brown et al. 1978:170). Nevertheless, the occupants at Spiro chose to make more meaningful contacts directly to the south with the Red River Caddoan cultures, and to the northeast with cultures in the Middle Mississippi Valley (Brown et al. 1978:170; Sabo et al. 1990:111-113; Schambach 1992). In assessing the location of all known Mississippian period occupations along the Arkansas River and its major tributaries within the southern Ozarks, it is apparent that the vast majority of them were situated up river from Spiro (Sabo et al. 1990:83, Fig. 30). Of the 40 recorded Mississippian period sites in the region, 32 are situated up river from the center whereas only eight are within the Arkansas basin down river. Indeed, many of these occupations down river from Spiro fall within the latter part of the Mississippian period after the center was abandoned. As mentioned above, this imbalance may be due to a lack of archaeological investigations carried out along the Arkansas Valley east of the Oklahoma state line. On the other hand, it is possible that this portion of the Arkansas Valley was significantly depopulated when Spiro assumed its prominent position on the river after the demise of Toltec. Perhaps the ephemeral Mississippian occupations noted at Toltec and 90 km upstream at the neighboring Alexander site are another indication of this population decline within the central Arkansas Valley after the disappearance of the Plum Bayou culture (Stewart-Abernathy 1982:53; House 1985:101).

Shifting back four thousand years across the globe to the ancient Near East, it is interesting to compare the possible depopulation of the Middle Arkansas Valley at the time of Spiro's florescence with what happened in the Nubian Nile Valley when the first Egyptian dynasty appeared at Hierakonpolis at the end of the fourth millennium B.C. Between the fifth and fourth millennium B.C., the Nile Valley south of present-day Cairo and north of the Second Cataract was occupied by Egyptian and Nubian Predynastic cultures. At the beginning of the fifth millennium B.C., the cultural boundary between the two Nilotic societies was not well defined. However, by 3500 B.C. the unnavigable stretch of river through the First Cataract had become the established political boundary. Like the Evans phase and the Plum Bayou culture along the Arkansas Valley, the Nilotic Egyptian and Nubian Predynastic societies shared a remarkably similar cultural repertoire. Although this was most notably seen with the ceramics, it was recognized in other traits, such
as burial practices, settlement patterns, and subsistence strategies (Nordstrom 1972:28; Reisner 1910:314; Winchell 1992:403-412). After comparing the earliest settlements north and south of the First Cataract, it is still unclear whether the Predynastic Egyptians spawed a cultural florescence among the Nubians or vice versa. In either case, it is evident that the Predynastic Egyptians and Nubians actively traded with one another north and south of the First Cataract. This reciprocal relationship between the two cultures stopped abruptly after 3100 B.C. when the Egyptian polities north of the First Cataract united under the single rulership of the first Dynastic king (Emery 1961). At the onset of the First Dynasty, Nubian A-Group occupations essentially disappeared south of the First Cataract, signifying a drastic cultural collapse had taken place. Based on archaeological evidence and early Old Kingdom texts, it is quite evident that the collapse of the Predynastic Nubian A-Group culture was the result of a direct political response inflicted by the Egyptians of the First Dynasty. They essentially stopped all trading activities with the Nubians, and may have even resorted to some raiding south of the First Cataract (Nordstrom 1972:29-32). As it is important to note, however, these Egyptians did not colonize the former territory of the Nubian A-Group, and the Nile Valley south of the First Cataract was pretty much left vacant until the beginning of the Middle Kingdom period.

In using this scenario from the Nile Valley, it is interesting to speculate that the area along the Arkansas Valley between Toltec and Spiro may have suffered from the similar effects of a political realignment. Thus, the collapse of Toltec and the disappearance of the Plum Bayou culture may have been caused by the rise of Spiro. However, unlike circumstances which seem so clear between Predynastic Nubia and the sudden rise of the first Kingship in Egypt, the connections between the fall of Toltec and rise of Spiro are not as self-evident. For example, it appears that the Plum Bayou occupation at Toltec ended shortly after A.D. 900. Spiro, on the other hand, does not appear to have taken off in a big way until more than three hundred years later during the Spiro phase. Indeed, the activities associated with the Great Mortuary appear to have taken place around A.D. 1388 (Brown 1984a:16).

What we are left with at Spiro is the shadowy Evans phase and the slightly better known Harlan phase, bridging the critical gap between the disappearance of Toltec and the sudden rise of the Spiro site. But what about the Evans and Harlan phases? As discussed above, it is becoming more evident that the connections between the Evans phase and the Plum Bayou culture were quite significant, indicating that there was a meaningful interaction taking place along the Arkansas Valley from Toltec to Spiro (Brown 1984a). The seemingly anomalous presence of Late Woodland shell tempered ceramics at Toltec and the Alexander site may also give some indication that at least some goods were being sent down river from the Spiro area (Hemmings 1985:38-41; Stewart-Abernathy 1982:50-53).

It also appears that the Harlan phase developed in situ out of the Evans phase as indicated by the excavations at the Harlan site (Bell 1972; Brown 1984a:15). It is likely, however, that the same type of transition also took place at Spiro even though the evidence may not be as clear. In either case, Spiro was probably the major center by the beginning of the Harlan phase (Bell 1984:228; Rogers 1989:167), if not earlier. It is estimated that Spiro had at least eleven mounds constructed during this period while Harlan had only four (Rogers 1989:165). In contrast, all other Harlan phase mound centers in the region had either one or two mounds.

The importance of the Harlan phase in the Spiro area is that it represented a significant shift towards trading, which may have been "a major economic activity" at the time (Bell 1984: 228). The transition to the Harlan phase from the Evans phase also seems to have been quite dramatic, suggesting that change within the Arkansas Valley near Spiro was anything but gradual.

The point to be made is that the period from the demise of Toltec to the rise of Spiro as the paramount center in the Arkansas Valley was quite short, if not instantaneous. The question then arises as to whether it was purely a coincidence that Spiro rose to its preeminent position at the same time that Toltec came to a halt. Granted, there is a distance of more than 200 km between Toltec and Spiro. Nevertheless, referring back to the Nile Valley, Hierakonpolis, which was the place of origin of the Egyptian First Dynasty, was more than 500 km from the nearest Nubian A-Group settlements.

If some sort of political shift took place along the Arkansas Valley from Toltec to Spiro, how could it be detected in the archaeological record?
It seems apparent that a critical testing ground for this hypothesis lies in the relatively unknown area along the Arkansas Valley between Toltec and Spiro. By using the Nubian Nile Valley abandonment analogue as a model, one could predict that Late Woodland occupations would exist along the Arkansas Valley downriver from the Spiro area, whereas early Mississippian occupations dating after A.D. 900 would not be found there. This kind of simple dichotomy would be based on the assumption that for the transference of ideas to have taken place between Spiro and Toltec there must have been Late Woodland occupations between the two centers. However, after A.D. 900, when the proposed shift in regional influence changed from Toltec to Spiro, the old lines of communication would have been cut off and occupations along the Arkansas Valley east of Spiro would have been significantly curtailed. Putting climatological factors aside, if there are very few signs of early Mississippian occupation in this part of the valley, this would indicate that some sort of severe political repercussion may have taken place. Of course, all this would have occurred at the beginning of the Harlan phase when Spiro became a powerful center.

To contradict this model, one would want to demonstrate that a continuous sequence of occupations did occur along the Arkansas Valley east of Spiro from the end of the Late Woodland period into the early Mississippian period. At this time, a continuous sequence from A.D. 900 to 1000 in the Toltec area of the Arkansas Valley cannot be confirmed.

A critical question arises about how far upriver within the Arkansas Valley the Plum Bayou culture existed. Likewise, how far downriver from Spiro did the Evans phase exist? As mentioned above, it appears that Harlan and Spiro phase occupations never did go much farther down river from the Spiro center. Based on this information, it is possible that a cultural boundary did exist just east of Spiro, especially where the Arkansas Valley begins to narrow when it passes between the Ozark and Ouachita highlands. Of course, the question arises as to who was situated downriver from Spiro, and could they possibly have been people associated with the Plum Bayou culture?

Both the cultural and bioarchaeological data derived from the Middle and Late Woodland occupations at the Alexander site suggests that the resident population living there was much more similar to Fourche Maline groups farther up the Arkansas Basin than to other groups farther down river in the Lower Mississippi Valley (Hemmings and House 1985).

In short, the Arkansas Valley between the centers of Spiro and Toltec promises to be a fertile proving ground in developing models on the origins of the former site. In invoking the old Childean term of "stimulus diffusion" (not to mention the old Boasian model of historical particularism), the flow of ideas stemming up the Arkansas River from Toltec may have had a profound effect on the formative development at Spiro during the Evans phase. During the Harlan phase, Spiro's rapid ascent to its paramount position on the Arkansas River may have been a direct effect of a cultural collapse at Toltec. And from the distant view of the ancient Nile Valley, the early Mississippian period center at Spiro may have been an active participant in that collapse.

Acknowledgements

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35TH CADDIO CONFERENCE (1993) ABSTRACTS

BROWN, James (Northwestern University).
THE POTENTIAL FOR CHRONOLOGICAL
REFINEMENT IN CADDIOAN ARCHAEO-
LOGY.

Far greater effort needs to be exerted in develop-
ing the kind of precision in regional chronologies
of material culture that will help address contem-
porary issues on ethnicity, as well as more sophis-
ticated questions respecting traditional topics of
study. The number of time sensitive attributes of
Caddoan ceramics and other items already docu-
mented indicate rich possibilities. This paper
draws attention to issues that chronological dis-
tinctions of greater precision have a major con-
tribution to make.

BURNS, Stephanie (University of Oklahoma).
PALEODEMOGRAPHY OF THE MACKAY
SITE (34LF29).

This paper will present preliminary bioar-
chaological information acquired from the burial
population at the Mackey site (34LF29). The site
is a black midden mound located near the Fourche
Maline Creek in the Wister Valley of southeastern
Oklahoma. Excavation of the site was undertaken
in 1940 by the WPA under the supervision of Phil
Newkumet. Recent curation and analysis of the
skeletal remains has yielded demographic informa-
tion on the 160 burials recovered. These data
will be presented and compared to similar
demographic information from the Sam, Wann,
McCutchan-McLaughlin, and Bug Hill sites.

DICKSON, Don R. (Historic Preservation As-
soiates). SOME PROBLEMS ENC-
OUNTERED IN IDENTIFYING LITHIC
RAW MATERIALS FROM ARCHAEO-
LOGICAL SITES.

Recently, many archeologists have attempted to
relate each chert tool or item of debitage
recovered in excavation to the most specific
geological stratum or member producing that type
of chert. Unfortunately, few archeologists under-
stand geology well enough to recognize parent
carbonates in the field, and far too many use
out-of-date publications and generalized geo-
logical maps to put together comparative collections
of raw material. This paper attempts to point out
some of the problems encountered today in iden-
tifying lithic categories recovered during excavation,
and to suggest methods of minimizing the
impact of these problems.

FIELDS, Ross C. (Prewitt and Associates,
Inc.). RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT AR-
CHAIC, WOODLAND, AND CADDIOAN
SITES AT COOPER LAKE, DELTA AND
HOPKINS COUNTIES, TEXAS.

Since 1990, mitigative excavations have been
completed at six prehistoric sites at Cooper Lake
in Delta and Hopkins counties, Texas. Finley Fan
(41HP159) is a stratified middle and late Archaic
site; John's Creek (41DT62) dates mostly to the
Woodland period; Tick (41DT6) and Spike
(41DT16) are multicomponent Woodland and
early Caddoan middens; Spider Knoll (41DT11)
is an early Caddoan farmstead; and Peerless Bot-
toms (41HP175) is a late Caddoan farmstead. This paper summarizes the work done at these sites, presents the results of the excavations, and offers interpretations concerning chronology, subsistence, settlement systems, and sociocultural interaction.

GADUS, Eloise (Prewitt and Associates, Inc). A RECONSTRUCTED VESSEL ASSEMBLAGE FROM A LATE CADDAN HABITATION SITE AT COOPER LAKE, HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS.

Fifty-four vessels were identified in the sherd collection from the Peerless Bottoms site (41HP175). Substantial sections of 39 of these vessels allowed the reconstruction of their overall form as well as their decorative motifs. This vessel assemblage is characterized by a variety of shapes and sizes, suggesting that storage, processing, and serving activities were performed at the site. Most of the jars and deep bowls have decorative motifs that point to a connection with Red River McCurtain phase. In contrast, serving vessels such as carinated bowls display combinations of design elements indicating a local interpretation of the diagonal scroll motif.

GIRARD, Jeffrey S. (Northwestern State University, LA). INVESTIGATIONS ALONG WILLOW CHUTE BAYOU.

Willow Chute Bayou, a relic channel of the Red River in Bossier Parish, was a major locus of Caddoan occupation during the Bossier focus (ca. AD 1200-1500; Webb and Gregory 1986). Until recently, however, substantial investigations in the area have been limited to Webb’s (1983) work at the Werner Mound site (16BO8). This paper reports current efforts to recognize patterns in site distributions along Willow Chute and describes test excavations carried out at the Vanceville site (16BO7) and the McIntyre site (16BO219).

Goode-Null, Susan (University of Oklahoma). WPA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS SPONSORED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA.

This paper is aimed at understanding the WPA archaeological projects in Oklahoma. These projects were carried out in 11 counties with over 200 WPA site numbers recorded. In the past fifty years, very few of the sites and their material remains have been studied or analyzed. This is partially due to a lack of information regarding the excavation and laboratory methods employed by the WPA. Therefore, this paper will present a synthesis of information regarding these aspects of the projects. Also included will be a review of other problems that impact research relating to these projects and their potential solutions.


Efforts to summarize and inventory the extensive prehistoric Caddoan collections held in the University Museum as required by NAGRA are currently underway. However, the lack of specific regulations for the legislation clouds the effort, particularly with regard to many pottery vessels which have no documented archeological context, funerary or otherwise. On-going efforts include time and cost studies of meeting the requirements of NAGRA.

LEADER, Pam (University of Oklahoma). ANALYSIS OF CHIPPED STONE ARTIFACTS FROM THE MACKY SITE (34LF29), ONE OF THE BLACK MIDDEN MOUNDS OF THE FOURCHE MALINE COMPLEX.

One of the research projects currently being conducted at the University of Oklahoma is the analysis of materials from the Mackey site (34LF29), which was excavated by the WPA in eastern Oklahoma in 1940. Preliminary analysis of chipped stone artifacts indicate that the Mackey site midden, was, in many ways, very similar to other black midden mounds along the Fourche-Maline Creek. However, the Mackey midden was significantly deeper than the other mounds that have been studied thus far. The presence of Early Archaic projectile points in the deepest deposits is an important discovery. The analysis of the materials from the Mackey site may enable us to extend our knowledge of the Fourche-Maline complex to an earlier time period than previous studies have suggested.

LEE, Dayna B. (University of Oklahoma). THE GHOST DANCE AMONG THE CADDÓ.
In 1890 the Caddo Indians of Oklahoma received the Ghost Dance doctrine of the visionary Wovoka from their neighbors, the Arapaho. Although Caddoan participants at first adopted songs taught to them by the Arapaho, they quickly began to compose their own songs and wholeheartedly adopted the Ghost Dance into their ceremonial complex. The Ghost Dance achieved a prominent place in Caddoan ideology, and the Caddo continued to practice the dance long after surrounding tribes has lost interest. The 1890 Ghost Dance movement has been characterized as a type of revitalization effort which erupts among societies in times of stress. Although once considered to be no more than a desperate and ineffective response to cultural loss, the Ghost Dance in fact represented a positive attempt to reconstruct a more satisfying and stable culture. This paper will explore the conditions which fostered Caddoan acceptance of the Ghost Dance doctrine, and discuss contemporary use of Ghost Dance songs in Caddoan ideology.

MIDDLEBROOK, Tom (East Texas Archeological Society). TEST EXCAVATIONS AT THE TYSON SITE, SHELBY COUNTY, TEXAS.

Members of the East Texas and Dallas Archeological Societies sponsored test excavations at the Tyson site along the Attoyac Bayou in western Shelby County, Texas in the spring of 1992. While five widely separated areas of the site were identified, all controlled excavation took place in Area 1, located on a high terrace remnant above the Attoyac floodplain. Ceramic analysis and three radiocarbon dates suggest the primary occupation at Tyson was Middle Caddoan. An enigmatic clay feature (Feature 1) measuring 2.3 x 1.6 m was uncovered near the central part of the site. Feature 3 was a round refuse pit with evidence of burning and contained large amounts of daub, bone, ceramics, charcoal, shell, and ash. Implications for regional chronology will be discussed.

NEAL, Larry (Oklahoma Archeological Survey). FITTING LIKE A GLOVER: FOUR CADDIOAN SITES IN SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA.

In 1991, four sites along the Glover River were tested to support National Register nominations. These sites represent part of the Caddoan occupation of the Ouachita Mountains in southeast Oklahoma. Features, artifacts, and limited charred botanical remains representing Caddo III and very late Caddo IV residencies are present. Radiocarbon dates obtained from features support the associations at three of the sites. Preceramic materials and features are present stratigraphically below the Caddoan occupations at two of the sites, apparently with a fair degree of integrity. One of the sites is badly disturbed by at least two episodes of vandalism, but the other three are nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.


Igneous rocks of central Arkansas, including lamprophyres, syenites, trachytes, and magnetite, are distinctive. One identifying characteristic is that they rarely contain free silica. These rocks were occasionally used at the Toltec Mounds site for artifacts such as plummetts, celtstones, celtl, hammerstones, and abraders. Artifacts of Arkansas igneous rocks have been identified in sites in several neighboring states in the Caddo area and in the Lower Mississippi Valley. The material apparently was used over a long period of time, beginning in the Late Archaic and continuing through the Late Woodland periods.

SABO, George III (Arkansas Archeological Survey). CADDIOAN KINSHIP: SYSTEMS, CATEGORIES, AND THEMES.

Only a few studies of Caddo kinship have been published, and no systematic evaluation of the available data has ever been attempted. This paper begins with an assessment of the available sources, and then summarizes preliminary interpretations concerning the organization of Caddo kinship and associated cultural categories and themes. Interconnections among Caddo kinship, settlement, social organization, and political organization are then explored.

SCHAMBACH, Frank (Arkansas Archeological Survey). SPIRAN ENTREPIES AT AND BEYOND THE WESTERN BORDER OF THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI SOUTH.

There is good evidence that the Sanders site in the Red River Valley in Lamar County, Texas and the Nagle Site on the North Canadian River in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma were entrepots for
Spiroan (probably Tunican) traders operating out of the Arkansas River Valley in eastern Arkansas and western Oklahoma.

SEALE, Richard (Northwestern State University, LA). THE COATES BLUFF AGENCY: A PREDICTIVE MODEL.

Extensive records allow us to model what physical remains might be expected at the last Caddo Agency in Louisiana. Moreover, the trade lists and letters clearly indicate frequencies which might help historic site archaeology define an Indian as opposed to early Anglo-American settlements.

TRISSLER, Alicia (Northwestern State University, LA). CAROLINE DORMON AND CADDÓAN ARCHAEOLOGY.

Caroline Dorman was virtually the only woman to contribute to Caddoan archaeology in the 1930s and 1940s. Her contributions have been footnoted occasionally by archaeologists and went toward focusing national and state attention on the need for site conservation and salvage. It was her effort that brought F. M. Setzler, Winslow Walker, James Ford, and to some extent, Clarence Webb to Louisiana archaeology. This paper concentrates on her role in the development of regional Caddoan archaeology as seen through her correspondence with the archaeologists mentioned above.

WALLIS, Kathleen M. RECORDS AND COLLECTIONS: MANAGEMENT FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

This paper will discuss why it is important for research archaeologists to begin planning for the care of records and artifact collections before excavation. The curation of these materials is an active part of cultural resource management. Archaeologists must be involved with museum/repository staff and make conscious decisions that are compatible with the long term goals of both.


Geographical Information Systems (GIS) is a powerful tool for developing a statewide database to aid in the identification, protection, and management of archaeological sites. By the integration of GIS, Remote Sensing, and Global Positioning Systems (GPS), researchers can increase the accessibility of archaeological data in the planning phases of land altering development and help moderate the allocations of land resources. The proposed Fort Boggy State Park of Leon County, Texas provides a testing ground for developing the methodology of implementing GIS technology at the state level for the preservation of cultural heritage.

WILSON, Diane (University of Texas- Austin). INCIDENCE OF DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE AMONG THE SANDER’S SITE (41LR2) POPULATION.

The primary objective of this study is to gain a better understanding of prehistoric Caddo culture by examining individual osteological remains from the Sander’s site (41LR2). This study examines evidence of stress on bones as it relates to "occupational" stress in order to define a prehistoric division of labor. Distinct markers are left on skeletal material resulting from cartilage deterioration in response to abnormal severe stress and repeated action stress. Repeated stress is referred to as occupational stress since it typically denotes a habitual, culturally prescribed task or posture. Preliminary results indicate a lack of evidence for a strict division of labor by sex.


The origins of Spiro as a paramount center within the Arkansas River Valley is an intriguing problem when contrasted with the demise of the Plum Bayou culture at Toltec. The relationship between the Arkansas River Valley centers of Spiro and Toltec can be compared and contrasted with the emerging Egyptian and Nubian Predynastic cultures of the Upper Nile Valley, which in turn, sheds lights on some interesting scenarios.

WYCKOFF, Don, Billy ROSS, Jack & Ann BULLARD, and John and Ann COFFMAN (Oklahoma Archeological Survey and Oklahoma Anthropological Society). "FROM THE
BANKS OF THE RIVER*: ARCHEOLOGICAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES ALONG THE LOWER CANADIAN.

Since 1988, increased rainfall and extensive flooding in central and eastern Oklahoma have overwhelmed the flood prevention capacities of most major reservoirs in the region. One consequence has been the release of unprecedented amounts of water. Within the Canadian River Basin, an invigorated stream regimen below eastern Oklahoma's Eufaula Dam is eroding banks and cutting the Canadian's extant channel deeper. Such processes are exposing sediments and gravel bars that are yielding notable quantities of prehistoric artifacts and vertebrate fossils. Although materials attributable to late prehistoric Arkansas Basin Caddoan cultures are represented, we survey and inventory the range of artifacts and fossils believed representative of late Pleistocene-early Holocene people and fauna. Also, we draw people's attention to the notable quantities of Alibates agatized dolomite clasts present in some gravel deposits.
UPCOMING EVENTS

MEETINGS

April

27-30 8th Meeting of Working Group I on Bone Modification. Hot Springs SD. Contact: L. Adrien Hannus, Archeology Laboratory, 2031 S. Grange Ave., Sioux Falls SD 57105.

27-Oct. 1 Accelerator Mass Spectrometry 6th International Conference. Canberra and Sydney, Australia. Contact: AMS-6, ACTS, GPO Box 2200, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia. Telephone: 61-6-249-8105; fax 61-6-257-3256.

June
5-7 American Rock Art Research Association Annual Conference. Reno NV.
14-16 Lithic Analysis Conference. Tulsa OK. Theme: The Articulation of Archaeological Theory and Lithic Analysis. Contact: George H. Odell, Department of Anthropology, University of Tulsa, Tulsa OK 74104. Telephone: (918) 631-3082.

October
1-3 Arkansas Archeological Society Annual Meeting. Russellville AR. Contact: Michael Pfeiffer, Ozark National Forest, PO Box 1008, Russellville AR 71801.
29-31 Texas Archeological Society Annual Meeting. Lubbock, TX. Contact: TAS, Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 6900 . Loop 1604 West, San Antonio TX 78249-0658. Telephone: (210) 691-4393 (Tuesday and Thursday mornings only).

August
17-23 7th International Conference on Hunting and Gathering Societies. Moscow, Russia. Contact: Linda Ellana, Department of Anthropology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks AK 99775.

November

-16-
February, 1994


April


OTHER EVENTS

Until May 5
Special exhibit, "Conquistador!". University of Arkansas Museum, Fayetteville AR. Spanish exploration of the Caribbean and the present southern United States. Includes the de Soto expedition. For more information call (501) 575-3555.

April 7-May 16
Special exhibits, "Maps and Minds" and "Mapping of Arkansas". University of Arkansas Museum, Fayetteville AR. Traces the history of cartography from prehistoric time into the satellite age. Includes historic map reproductions as well as modern maps utilizing aerial photography and sonar. The Mapping of Arkansas exhibit includes The Electronic Atlas of Arkansas, the nation’s first computerized comprehensive state atlas, as well as maps from 18th century explorations and early statehood.

June 11-13
Red Earth. Myriad Gardens, Oklahoma City OK. [This is one of the largest Native American festivals in the US, featuring dances and an arts and crafts exhibit hall.] Admission: $6 (daytime dances, arts festival and activities); $15 (3-day competition passes); children under 12 free for daytime events. Special evening dance event "Visions from the Past", $10 (adults), $5 (children under 12). For more information contact: Phillip C. Bread (public relations director). Telephone: (405) 427-5228.

COLLEGE CREDIT FIELD SCHOOLS

May 10-??
Southwestern (Louisiana) State University. Contact: Dr. Hiram (Pete) Gregory, Department of Social Science, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches LA 71497. Telephone: (318) 357-4364. Whether this field school will actually be given depends on a budget which has not yet been determined. Call the number above for updated information.

June 1 (continues for six weeks)
Stephen F. Austin University, Department of Sociology and Anthropology. A Late Archaic/transitional site near Nacogdoches TX. Contact: Dr. James Corbin, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches TX 75961. Telephone: (409) 568-4405.
June 14 - July 25
University of Oklahoma, Department of
Anthropology. The Certain site, a Late
Archaic communal bison kill and
processing site near Elk City in western
Oklahoma. Special topics include bone
bed excavation, taphonomy, butchering
techniques, and landform evolution.
Credit: 6 + hours. Tuition: $288
(resident), $1007.50 (non-resident).
Please note: Because this class is for
college credit, volunteers will not be
accepted.

June 21-July 30
Southwestern Missouri State Univer-
sity. A small site transitional from the
Woodland to Mississippian period in
Green County, about 20 miles west of
Springfield. Credit: 6 hours (3 field, 3
lab). Contact: Dr. Burton Purrington,
Department of Sociology-Anthropol-
ogy, Southwestern Missouri State
University, Springfield MO 65804.
Telephone: (417) 836-4890.

June 28 - August 6
University of Arkansas, Department of
Anthropology. A late prehistoric vil-
ge site on Lake Oahe near Pollock,
South Dakota, will be the site. Tuition:
$542 (in-state), $1262 (out-of-state).
Instructor: Dr. Marvin Kay. Application
deadline June 15. Contact: Ar-
cheological Field School, Department of
Anthropology, University of Arkansas,
Fayetteville AR 72701. Telephone:
575-2508.

AVOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS, SEMINARS, AND DIGS

Missouri Archeological Society
May 8
Ceramics Technology seminar. Lyman
Research Center in Saline County (near
Marshall). Begins at 10 AM, with four
instructors and an afternoon pottery
making demonstration. Limit - 60
people. Fee $8.25. Bring your lunch.
Contact: Melody Galen, Missouri Ar-
chaeological Society, PO Box 958,
Columbia MO 65202. Telephone:
(314) 882-3544.

Arkansas Archeological Society
June 11-27
A training dig will be held at several sites
near Shady Lake and Winding Stair in
the Ouachita National Forest. Spon-
sored by the Arkansas Archeological
Society, Arkansas Archeological Sur-
vey, and the Ouachita National Forest.
Membership in the Arkansas Ar-
chaeological Society required; attendance
at a Long Orientation is required for all
first time participants in the Arkansas
Training Program. Camping will be
available at National Forest campground
at Shady Lake. Registration fees rang-
ing from $20-30 are required; a late fee
of $10 is assessed for registrations after
May 10. Additional information about
this program (including seminars, ac-
activities, motels, etc.) is available from
the Arkansas Archeological Society, PO
Box 1222, Fayetteville AR 72702-1222,
telephone (501) 575-3556 (Russell G.
Scheibel or Hester A. Davis).

Texas Archeological Society
June 5-12
The annual dig will be held at the Lub-
bock Lake Landmark Site near Lubbock
TX. The Principal Investigator will be
Dr. Eileen Johnson. Dig sponsored by
Texas Archeological Society, Texas
Technical University, and Texas Parks
and Wildlife Department. Special
programs available for teachers (AAT)
and youth (seven or older). Must be a
member to attend ($25 individual, $30
family, $12.50 student). Adult registra-
tion fees, $75 for 1-3 days, $100 for 4-8
days. Registration deadline May 16.
Meals available at $3 for breakfast, $7
for dinner (adults). Additional informa-
tion and packets available from Texas
Archeological Society, Center for Ar-
chaeological Research, The University
of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio
TX 78249-0658. Telephone: (210)
691-4393; office manager, Laura
Beavers (office open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings only).

Oklahoma Anthropological Society

No dig will be held this year because of the university field school, insufficient Survey budget for supporting an archeologist on a dig, and the pending move of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey to a new building.

1993 First Americans Expedition (I) Jul 11-24; (II) Jul 28-Aug 11; (III)

Aug 15-28

Volunteer field assistance is sought in excavating the Mammoth Meadow site near Dillon in southwestern Montana. Some habitation floors exposed date to 14,000 years ago. The site includes a record of human and animal hair which can be studied and identified. An interdisciplinary team will lead the expedition. Cost is $1000 (this helps fund the fieldwork; you must provide your own tents, sleeping equipment, and transportation to Dillon MT. Contact: 1993 First Americans Expedition, CSFA, Weniger 355, Oregon State University, Corvallis OR 97331. Telephone: (503) 737-4595.
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-20-
RECENT PUBLICATIONS


This book is part of the series Interdisciplinary Contributions to Archaeology. A review copy has been obtained from the publisher; a review should appear in the next issue of this newsletter.


This monograph presents the results of a survey covering an area of about 1-mile radius around Spiro.


This book is a compilation of papers by scholars from several disciplines which were presented at two symposia sponsored by the University of Arkansas Museum. It addresses questions about the expedition's route, the explorers' experiences, the Native Americans' identities and lifeways, and the impact the meeting had on the two cultures.


This study found that there is no difference between maize varieties, no change during carbonization, and that archeological maize (when adjusted for anthropogenic alteration of atmospheric carbon dioxide) has the same isotopic composition as modern maize.


The materials explored for this study were coprolites and soils. They were from Lovelock Cave, Nevada, and from La Quinta, an open site in the Coachella Valley, California. These were both very dry environments, which would lead to the preservation of proteins in coprolites and soils. The likelihood of identification of such proteins in the far wetter environments of the Caddoan area is probably poor.