The RECORD

The RECORD is a journal reporting the activities of the Dallas Archeological Society. It is published periodically during the year depending on the availability of manuscripts.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

A big date to remember is November 4 through November 6 1983, when The Texas Archeological Society holds its annual meeting in Dallas at the Dunney Dallas Hotel. This is located on Northwest Highway at Marsh Lane. If you need a reservation form or other information see Paul Lorrain. The hosts of this annual meeting are SKU and the Dallas Archeological Society. To volunteer your services on the many chores necessary to this meeting, call Paul Lorrain, 750-1835.

I just talked to our esteemed member and internationally known flintknapper, J.B. Sollberger, again. As most know, he had bypass surgery earlier in the year and is doing fine. He attended the September DAS meeting. He sounds good. I'm not saying that he will be racing somebody's bull to the nearest barbed wire fence - not just yet -- but he has been knocking the flint around, and I'm looking forward to seeing him "back on the train" again. Congratulations, J.B.

Our deepest sympathies go to our friend and member, Anna Ericson, and to president Ruth Ann Ericson. Anna's brother, Mr. Ed Almquist, passed away last month in their home state of Kansas.

Herschel Cobb has prepared another interesting paper for us, which appears in this issue of THE RECORD. Thanks, Herschel.

Sincere sympathies also go to our excellent secretary, Bonnie McKee, whose mother-in-law, Katherine Jalonick McKee, passed away just a few days ago. Special sympathy is for husband, Bob McKee.

Our excellent treasurer, Vic Armstrong, has had problems lately with his cute daughter, Leigh Ann, 11 years old. It seems that Leigh Ann really enjoys our McKenzie Site (smart girl). But mean old father, Vic, has been snowed with urgent work that keeps him and Leigh Ann away from the McKenzie Site. Tish, tish, Vic.

A BURIAL AT THE SAM KAUFMAN SITE

By Herschel Cobb

(with a rare eyewitness account which catches the Red River in the act of furiously digging itself a new channel.)

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The Sam Kaufman site is located on the south bank of the Red River in Red River County, Texas, in Northeast Texas.

Over a period of many years, prehistoric burials were exposed in the Red River bank by the eroding action of the river from heavy rains. This river is well known for its meandering and for changing its course. On the curving horseshoe and ox-bow bends, the river cuts away the outside bank of the curve and builds up sand bars at the opposite bank. This widens the river, and sometimes destroys valuable farm land.
Mr. Kaufman once said that he had lost 200 acres of his land to the river.

The Sam Kaufman Site is quite extensive, containing many burials over a large area. Through the years, the number of burials lost to the river was undoubtedly tremendous.

This site is considered a component of the McCurtain Focus of the Fulton Aspect. The McCurtain Focus was first defined by Baerials (1943). Components of it are known in McCurtain County, Oklahoma, and in Red River County, Texas. Detailed information was published on one component of the McCurtain Focus (the Sam Kaufman Site) by R. K. Harris (1953).

Quoting Harris in THE RECORD:
"This site is late in the Caddo time span. The pressure of the Osage to the north and the Chickasaw to the east had driven the last of the Caddo bands above the Red River. The site was near the end of the Caddo band, and the Red River was their only protection. There was a pooling of water in the Osage River which made it a good location for the site." Harris, THE RECORD, 1960 15(1):2.

A few members of the Dallas Archeological Society have salvaged a number of Sam Kaufman Site burials, over the years, and reported them in the Society's bulletin, THE RECORD. In 1953, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Huff Jr. reported eleven burials he and others had salvaged, and had assigned numbers to them.

From 1954 through early 1960, seven more burials were salvaged from the lower site, and reported by Mr. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. John Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Huff Jr.

A burial excavated by Dr. Huff, with the assistance of the writer, was assigned the number eighteen.

The report that will follow describes burial number nineteen. This burial was excavated in early 1960 by Mr. Leon Joplin, an acquaintance living near the Sam Kaufman site.

In 1968, Southern Methodist University excavated two small low mounds and several single burials in the surrounding areas, as well as a multiple burial of 4 individuals, several house floors, and a circular saucer-shaped burial containing eleven individuals under the west mound.

Before proceeding with the report on burial number 19, we must digress to report a significant event. This is an eyewitness account of a violent change in the Red River's course which took place over an airline distance of about six miles along the river near the Sam Kaufman Site.

In the spring of 1977, heavy rains fell in the drainage of the Red River west of the Sam Kaufman Site, and the river was overflowing its banks in places.

The low gradient of the river and the existence of ox-bow and horseshoe bends lying at right angles to the normal direction of flow, contributed to the overflowing and cutting of a new channel. The new channel joined together the two ends of the horseshoe bend on which the Sam Kaufman Site is located and changed this former river bend into a cut-off lake. See Figure 1.

On the 17th of May 1977, Mr Leon Joplin who lived near the Sam Kaufman site, was at home about two miles away. This was near the south part of the horseshoe bend where the site is situated.

When the turbulent river cut the new channel, he stated that he heard a very loud roar that sounded like a tornado. He could see the tremendous flow of water rushing across the floodplain, taking the most direct route eastward, and bypassing the ox-bow bends which were already full as it cut a new channel in the red sandy soil.

Figure 1 shows the channel both before and after the change. It is straighter after being changed.

The Sam Kaufman Site is also changed. Since the bypass, the site has become stabilized and covered with grass. No caving or eroding occurs that would expose any further burials.

We appreciate Mr. Joplin supplying this eyewitness account of a unique event taking place on a major American river. All have seen numerous ox-bow lakes, but few if any have experienced just how it all came about.

BURIAL # 19

Burial # 19 was discovered and excavated by Mr. Leon Joplin in the spring of 1960, after he had seen pothunters excavate burials in the area. He notified Dr. Mark Huff Jr., who, with the writer and his wife, Evelyn, removed the back-fill of the grave as Mr. Joplin remembered, and then photographed the burial for a permanent record. The five pottery vessels were put in their original locations for photographing.
The site number shown in Figure 2 is the one used in the old Texas quadrangle numbering system. The burial was about two feet deep, and the individual was in an extended supine position. The skeleton was in a poor state of preservation. In the photo taken from directly above the burial, Figure 2 the head was at the left side of the photo.

**THE POTTERY VESSELS**

Referring to Figure 3, (C) is a miniature Simms Engraved bowl, which is a variation of the usual type. The sharply angled shoulder is absent where the vessel body begins curving to the rim. Also, the rim is everted instead of being vertical. The color is black with mottled firing spots. Diameter is 11 centimeters and 5.5 cm. height. In the decoration pattern, ticks are visible on the lip of the rim. Two engraved lines encircle the bowl under the rim. There are four engraved panels spaced evenly around the bowl under the rim, with ticks on the bottom line.

The number four appears again and again in connection with the decoration panels of these and other Caddoan ceramics.

Simms Engraved occurs in the McCurtain and Texarkana Foci, and appears to be a late prehistoric type. In at least one case, it extends into association with European trade goods at the Sam Kaufman Site (Harris 1953).

A Nash Neck Banded type of jar, Figure 4 has a light tan color and a body diameter of 11.5 cm. with a height of 12.7 cm. It has a narrow plain flaring rim. The decoration entails equally spaced nodes under the rim and a row of incised ticks alternating with small punctates (the magic number 4 again).

An elongated triangular applique design extends from the rim downward almost to the base of the vessel. Again the applique is repeated 4 times.

Item (b), Figure 5, is a Nash Neck Banded jar with a grayish tan color. The body of the vessel is 14 cm. in diameter and 17 cm. high. Decoration consists of four equally spaced nodes under the plain narrow rim, located in a row of small slanting punctates.

An elongated triangular applique design extends from the rim downward two thirds of the distance to the base. Again, the triangular applique design is repeated 4 times around the vessel.

**FIGURE 2. BURIAL NUMBER 19. THE SITE NUMBER IS FROM THE OLD TEXAS QUADRANGLE NUMBERING SYSTEM**
HUDDSON TYPES: There seems to be some uncertainty about the cultural affiliation of the Hudson type vessels. Some came from historic sites and some from prehistoric sites. Suhrn and Jelks (1962).

Clarence B. Moore (1909) shows the Hudson Engraved type bottles at the Keno place in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, as well as in the lower Arkansas River valley, and in Lafayette County, Arkansas, at the Battle place (Moore, 1912).

By way of comparison, all the bottles recovered from single burials at the Sam Kaufman site by Southern Methodist University had incised designs rather than engraved, like the one shown here. (Skinner, Harris, and Anderson, editors, 1969).
Figure 7, Item E, is an Avery Engraved bowl, which has an interlocking scroll design engraved through the red slip or red film. Diameter at rim is 25 cm. and height is 20 cm. The area around the scrolls is filled with engraved hatchures.

The estimated ages of all five of these burial vessels is in the time span of about 1400 AD, to 1700AD, or even later. Avery engraved is very common in the McCurtain Focus of the Fulton Aspect. Nash Neck Banded occurs in both the McCurtain and the Texarkana Foci.

Another photo of the burial site, Figure 8, shows the location of the burial with respect to the ox-bow lake which formerly was a portion of the Red River channel.

References Cited, see page 9.
ECHOES FROM SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION ON THE
R. KING HARRIS ARCHEOLOGICAL COLLECTION

by Inus Marie Harris

Prepared for:
Dr. Ruth Ann Ericson
President DAS

First, a personal word: in behalf of
King and me, I extend our appreciation to
the Dallas Archeological Society Family, and members of the Texas Archeological
Society, The University of Texas at Austin,
the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the
Smithsonian Institution for their years of
support, inspiration, labor and moti-
vation. It was this, combined with King's
collecting and research, that resulted in
the Lord blessing our efforts, and answer-
ing our prayer, by placing our archeolog-
cial collection in the National Museum
of Natural History at Smithsonian Insti-
tution in Washington, D.C.

After a massive stroke in May 1979,
dust gathered on King's books and col-
collection during his long illness, which
finally resulted in his death on February
13, 1980. Later, Christion friends and
members of King's family stood in a circle
in our living room and joined me in prayer
for the Lord to open a door where King's
lifetime work would be continued; and,
that it grow and expand to scholars yet
unborn; here and around the world.

When Dr. Dennis Stanford, the Smith-
sonian Archeologist, decided to take the
Collection to Smithsonian in 1981, he
urged me not to publicize our gift.
Because, he said, under no circumstances,
would Smithsonian consider accepting the
collection, except for the fact that they
and other institutions heretofore men-
tioned, had previously worked with King
and knew how faithfully he kept meticu-
lous records on artifacts, mapped, cata-

colored, scientifically studied; and in
many cases, he and others sketched,
photographed and documented our findings.

It was you all: the DAS, SMU, et al,
who personally, and as institutions,
couraged King and me in our continual
tracing down and recording all the informa-
tion we could gather on each artifact as
it was added to our backyard Museum.

Since King's death, how often I have
had to call on various ones of you, and the
the others mentioned, in order to help me
recall things King told you; and you've
so graciously and knowledgeably responded
and helped me contribute to many Smith-
sonian inquiries. Thus, you've all shared
in this valuable contribution to our
National Museum, and our National Archives
which houses, I am told, not only King's
notes and files, but also your correspon-
dence and writings that came across his
desk.

On August 5, 1983, June Crowder, a
Smithsonian Lab Volunteer, and a former
DAS member, phoned me. And, by the way,
let me add, she is another example and
living proof of the caliber of "Dallas
Archeological Society-generated enthu-
siasm, tireless labor and research".
When her husband relocated in Washington,
D.C., June Crowder volunteered to assist
Dr. Joe Brown a member of the Anthro-

cology Department at Smithsonian on invent-
yory King's collection. Work began on
the collection in the Summer of 1982.

In August 1983, when she called, she
was very happy to report that the
Smithsonian inventory was complete and
and accession; that there are about 450
sheets, eachabout the size of a TV tray.
These inventory sheets were completed by
hand. They were scheduled to be put in
the Smithsonian computer system in the

fall of 1983, the first completely com-

puterized Smithsonian collection.

On these Inventory Sheets is a wealth
of information about each item, such as;

| Site Number |
| Location: County, State and country |
| Smithsonian Accession Number |
| King's Number |
| Object Identification |
| Number present |
| Measurements |
| Type of Material |
| References (sometimes) |

June Crowder said about 4,500 item types
were recorded. Then she added, that often
there were many specimens of one artifact
type. For example, she recalled the
micro-blades from the Poverty Point Site
in Louisiana; that they numbered approx-
imately 1,080. And, incidentally, Dr.
Joe Brown related to me that the Poverty
Point material in the Harris Collection
is making a great contribution to the
Smithsonian's Poverty Point collection.

Ed. note: This is a good point to
remember. I, personally, did not even
know that there were micro-blades at
Poverty Point. To study this and other
Poverty Point material at Smithsonian
would be a great privilege. End of Ed. note.
June also referred to the fact that the collection totaled approximately 45,000. Consider the glass trade beads though; all of us here know of the thousands and thousands of bead specimens that represent only the bead collection, which King often concentrated on, in his last years.

In fact, several months ago, Dr. Dennis Stanford mentioned to Mr. Larry Banks that, at that time, 36,000 categorical, individual entries had gone into the computer. Then he explained that each entry could represent only a few specimens of one bead-type, but on the other hand, a categorical entry could also represent several thousand specimens of only one bead-type.

In closing, the purpose of June's August telephone call was to tell me to pass the word around to you all, and for us to publicize the fact that the Harris collection has been completely inventoryed and will soon be computerized. It will then be moved to Smithsonian's beautiful new SILVER HILL ADDITION STORAGE. And, by proper appointment, it is now ready for continued observation, study, and research.

Ed. Note: We all thank Inus for her report. I'm also happy to pass on to you some information from June Crowder on the work that was done at Smithsonian on King's collection to make it accessible.

From June Crowder:
Cataloging or inventorying
1. Work began July 1982, finished December 1982, 7 hours per day, 5 days per week.
2. Each site laid out on worktable and grouped according to artifact type.
3. All field notes, published reports, etc. on site collected and read.
4. Each group catalogued on inventory sheets: A. temporary number, B. Harris number, C. identification of artifact, D. measurement, E. remarks/references, F. number of items in this group.

Accessory of collection
1. After inventory sheets checked, permanent Smithsonian number assigned to each item.
3. These sheets, with accession number added, form the basis for computer input performed by the Smithsonian staff.

I was assisted occasionally by other volunteers and especially by Mr. Brown of the Smithsonian staff, but was fortunate enough to perform essentially all cataloging of the collection by myself. I think it is nice that the process was kept in the "Dallas Archeological Society family." I thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

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Herschel Cobb paper
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