

SEAC

newsletter

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 1

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EDITOR'S NOTE

When the 1970 issue of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference Newsletter was prepared in October, several members had not sent in their current research reports. A few of these have since been received and are being published as an extra issue of the Newsletter. Several of the reports sent to Chris Peebles for inclusion in Current Research in American Antiquity are also being included. Issue Number 2 of this volume will appear in the fall with the current research reports for 1971.

Several additional articles of possible interest to the members of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference are also included in this Newsletter.

CURRENT RESEARCH DEADLINE:

The deadline for current research for the fall (1971) Newsletter will be October 1. Please make plans during the summer to submit your reports no later than that date so that the Newsletter can be prepared, mailed, and received before the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in November.

ANNUAL MEETING:

November 12-13, 1971, has been set for the 28th Conference which will be held in Macon, Georgia. Richard D. Faust is program chairman and would appreciate any suggestions for the meeting (address: Southeast Archeological Center, P.O. Box 4547, Macon, Georgia, 31208). The 12th Annual Conference on Historic Site Archaeology will be held on November 11. Anyone interested in participating in this conference should contact Chairman Stanley South (University of South Carolina, Columbia, S. Carolina).

Bettye J. Broyles
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ARKANSAS:

Five major excavation projects were undertaken by the staff of the Arkansas Archeological Survey during this past year: excavation of a Dalton site in northeast Arkansas; testing for four sites representing several periods in southeast Arkansas; test of a Woodland mound in east-central Arkansas; excavation of a deep shelter in the Ozark Mountains; and excavation of midden deposits at the Crenshaw Site, a large Caddoan ceremonial and village site in southwest Arkansas.

The excavation of a Dalton butchering or hunting station in northeast Arkansas (see SEAC Bulletin 13) produced 125 Dalton points in situ, as well as a large quantity of other tools (adzes, true blades, scrapers, choppers, etc.), in association with the points (or knives). This is but one of several hundred Dalton sites now on record in northeast Arkansas, and it seems possible now to work toward delimitation of a settlement pattern for various drainages which include base camps and hunting camps.

The work in southeast Arkansas was oriented toward defining a chronology for the Bayou Bartholomew drainage specifically (see SEAC Bulletin 13), and more generally for the whole of the southeast portion of the State. Eighty-five sites have been recorded on the Bayou now, and a tentative chronology established so that future work will concentrate on in-depth studies of chosen sites.

The Woodland mound proved to be devoid of features and produced only scattered artifacts.

The shelter, tested last year, has over 3 meters of cultural material. While badly disturbed in the top levels and without perishable material, it does have a good stratigraphic sequence of stone tools, bone, and a little pottery, extending back to the Early Archaic period. This excavation will be used as the basis for a dissertation by Ken Cole of the Survey staff.

The Crenshaw work, supported by a National Science Foundation grant, was designed to test areas of the site which might reveal house patterns and other general living debris. All previous work at the site had been concentrated in the mounds and the cemeteries. No house patterns were found, but a great deal of information was recovered concerning the early occupations of the site, and of ceremonialism involving large quantities of white-tailed deer.

There was major concentration this summer (1970), also, on survey and site location throughout the State. Three assistants were hired full time for three months to work specifically on this. Two people are continuing full time throughout the winter on this work, which includes investigation of land leveling problems in eastern Arkansas under a couple of National Park Service contracts. Currently, in addition to this investigation, the Survey has a contract to do an Appraisal of the Archeological and Historic Resources in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley, which involves archaeologists from six states.

The University of Arkansas Field School, with fifteen students, tested an Early Ceramic site in west-central Arkansas. This Fourche Maline occupation is being recognized as occurring in a wide area over western Arkansas, before the Caddoan development.

The Arkansas Archeological Survey is in its fourth year of operation, and will go before the Legislature for its third biennial request in February. Over the State and at the seven participating colleges and universities, things seem to be going very well. The one college not now participating hopes to do so in fiscal 1972-73, and the Little Rock branch of the University of Arkansas is considering participation in 1973-74. The Survey is actively cooperating with the State Historic Preservation Program. The Archeological Society is flourishing and has over 700 members for only the second time in its 11 year history; about 150 members participated in the two excavation training sessions sponsored by the University Museum and the Survey.

Coordination of archaeological research on the State level in Arkansas seems to be working.

Hester A. Davis
State Archeologist
Arkansas Archeological Survey

LOUISIANA:

Work was conducted on the lower Boeuf River and the Ouachita River in conjunction with those members of the Northeast Louisiana Archaeological Society. The initial survey has located some twenty-three sites in the Boeuf Drainage which cover phases of occupation ranging from Middle Archaic through proto-historic Caddoan manifestations.

The lower Ouachita River from Monroe, Louisiana, to Columbia, Louisiana, has now been surveyed for its entire course and some nine sites have been located and collected. Several large surface collections were also available for analysis and the sites seem to cover the period from Poverty Point times through a proto-historic Caddoan entrada with strong Middle Mississippian connections. Above Monroe, a number of new sites have been recorded both along the Ouachita proper and in the D'Arbonne and Dorcheat drainages. These sites are contemporary with the Caddoan-Mississippian (proto-historic) spread along the Ouachita and Boeuf rivers below modern Monroe, Louisiana, but two sites (Moon Lake and Pargoud Landing) had trade materials in burials excavated by Mr. Manning Durham of Monroe in the early 1940's.

All totaled, some thirty-nine sites were collected and five major collections (the largest nearly 100 whole and restored vessels) recorded. These data are virtually the first to come to hand from the Monroe area since the field work of Clarence B. Moore in 1909. Also, this data allows us to formulate new phases of both the Caddoan and Lower Mississippi Valley sequences. We can now safely say that Mississippian influences-- shell tempered pottery, urn burials, large mound centers, red and white painted wares, cemeteries, and St. Francis points-- were coming into contact with Caddoan (Mid-Ouachita) aboriginal peoples on the Ouachita by A.D. 1200-1400 and that the Caddoan groups were oriented northwest across the uplands while the Mississippian groups were trending across the alluvial floodplain from the northeast.

These proto-historic trends were maintained at least until the late 16th Century and may have lasted well into the 18th Century at some sites where the Arkansas-Ouachita seem to have been related, leading to "attenuated Caddoan"

sites like Douglas and Greer on the Arkansas.

Below Columbia, recent fieldwork by the author and Jon L. Gibson of the University of Southwestern Louisiana has independently shown a relative dearth of proto-historic Caddoan or Mississippian sites. Moore (1909) illustrates one Plaquemine Period vessel from the Oliphart Site in Catahoula Parish and recent excavations at the Steve Etheridge Site indicate that the coeval Caddoan manifestations had turned southwest into the hills and had drifted down the interior drainages of Castor Creek into the Catahoula Basin to the south which was receiving Caddoan influences from at least two directions. The nature of these contacts has only begun to be modeled.

Lower Valley groups (Marksville through Plaquemine times) seem to have dominated the lower Ouachita up to Monroe. Little Caddoan influence is seen until well past Coles Creek or Alto I times. The earliest manifestations appear to be Bossier-Plaquemine manifestations which yield directly to Mid-Ouachita and/or Mississippian intrusions.

LABORATORY ACTIVITIES:

Dissertation research- Archaeology of the Ethnohistoric Caddoan Material. Wennar Gren Foundation Grant. Southern Methodist University- Dr. Joel Shiner is director of dissertation.

Analysis of excavation data from the Steve Ethridge Site; Caddoan (Mid-Ouachita Focus) Phases on the Ouachita and Boeuf Rivers in Northeast Louisiana.

Analysis of excavated material from the Terral Lewis Site (Madison Parish, Louisiana), a Poverty Point component village site.

Ceramic Analysis (in conjunction with H.K. Curry) of the Fredricks Site, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana.

NEW RESEARCH BY GRADUATE OR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:

Joseph Franks- Attribute analysis of plain ceramics from the Fredricks Site, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana; a late Issaquena Phase-late Troyville site. (undergraduate student)

William Bourn- Settlement Pattern and Prehistoric Sequent Occupance of the Dorcheat and Darbonne Drainages: A Cultural Ecological Approach (Thesis Project, M.A.)

Donald Hunter- Archaeological Survey of the Catahoula-Larto Lake Watershed. (undergraduate student)

NEW FACILITIES:

The Williamson Museum at Northwestern State University has opened. Nine exhibits, designed for teaching basic principles of anthropology as these are related to Louisiana prehistory are completed.

Northwestern State College is now Northwestern State University.

PUBLICATIONS:

Review: Louisiana's Ancients of Man. Texas Archaeological Society Bulletin.
Dallas, Texas.

Hiram F. Gregory
Northwestern State University

KENTUCKY:

During July and August, 1970, a field crew under the direction of Jack M. Schock excavated in Christian County, Kentucky. Most of the work was conducted on CH307, a late Archaic site containing a large percentage of stemmed scrapers. Field supervisor was Dana Beasley. This work was supported by funds from the Federal Bureau of Roads and the Kentucky Highway Department.

Other field work includes on-going surveys of the Gasper River drainage in south-central Kentucky and a winter shoreline survey of the Barren River Reservoir.

PUBLICATIONS:

Schock, Jack M. and James D. Wyss

1970 Archaeological Survey and Testing of Section 3, Interstate Highway 24, Kentucky (Available from Jack M. Schock, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky. Not for sale, but will exchange for survey or excavation reports from other institutions).

Jack M. Schock
Western Kentucky University

NORTH CAROLINA:

The East Carolina University Research Council has awarded a grant to Dr. David S. Phelps for a "Preliminary Archaeological Survey of the Chowan River, North Carolina." This project, to begin July 15, 1971, is a pilot study designed to locate sites and assay their stratigraphy and potential for major excavation. The survey should provide information on the total prehistory of the Chowan while emphasizing the identification of the Chowanoke villages recorded by Lane's expedition in 1585-86. Information on this single Algonkin tribal distribution will hopefully provide a basis for comparative local studies.

The East Carolina University archaeological field school will be conducted from June 8 through July 13, 1971, at Williamston, North Carolina, in conjunction with a research project to survey the lower Roanoke River.

A new archaeologist, Dr. Margaret N. Bond, a specialist in Mesoamerica, has been added to the staff of East Carolina University. She will be in the Lake Chapala region of Mexico this summer to select sites for future research.

David Sutton Phelps
East Carolina University

FLORIDA:

Since the beginning of 1971, the Laboratory of Archaeology at Florida State University has been analyzing materials from excavations at the Sowell Mound Site, which is located on the coast near Panama City in Bay County, Florida. FSU spent several weeks digging at the site in the summers of both 1969 and 1970.

Sowell was first described by C.B. Moore, who also excavated there. Since then, the mound has been subject to desultory excavations by various people, both amateur and professional. None of these later excavations have been reported. The purpose of the FSU excavations was to try and salvage any information that remained in the mound before it was totally destroyed.

The mound is located on land which presently belongs to the U.S. Navy Mine Defense Laboratory at Panama City. It is quite different in appearance from Moore's original description, but there are still some undisturbed portions of it. The excavations by FSU were concentrated on the south and east sides in the area of the highest remaining portions. A large amount of material was collected, including ceramics, skeletal material, and non-ceramic artifacts.

The ceramics are typically Weeden Island with characteristic Weeden Island I and II marker types. The non-ceramic artifacts are also typical and similar to items found by Moore in Weeden Island burial mounds. Investigation of the sources of the raw materials from which some of these objects are made may prove interesting. Copper, mica, and diabase rock are three items which seem to have been obtained from northern and central Georgia above the Fall Line. Interestingly enough, many of the sources of diabase rock cluster in the vicinity of Macon Plateau.

Preliminary analysis of the skeletal material indicates remains of at least 120 individuals from the FSU excavations alone. Many of the bones show pathologies, and there are many skulls showing deformation. All of the material is fragmented; no whole articulated skeletons were found. This seems to be the result of secondary burial practices, rather than any major disturbance of the mound (such as Moore's excavations).

The collection of ceramics is an interesting one and will be fully described in a forthcoming publication. Oddly enough, as well known as Weeden Island ceramics are, this will be the largest collection from a burial mound in northwest Florida ever described. The same is true for the skeletal material; this should be particularly valuable, since there is so little information on skeletal populations from other sites in this area. The primary importance of the Sowell excavations will be in the detailed descriptions of materials, useful mostly as comparative data.

Analysis of the 1969 materials is well along, and the results will be published before the end of the year. Two papers giving preliminary results were presented at the 23rd Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society (March 20, 1971).

FSU has also begun excavations at the Torreya Site in Torreya State Park, Liberty County, Florida. This is a small habitation site in an upland zone on the east side of the Apalachicola River. It is along a small creek drainage about three-quarters of a mile back from the high bluffs which border the east side of the river at this point. The excavations are under the

direction of George Percy.

Several trenches have been started, and a basic picture of the composition of the site is beginning to emerge, though the precise nature of the activities carried on there is not yet clear. It is a single component site, pertaining only to Weeden Island. Moreover, the range of ceramic types is very narrow; essentially all of the pottery recovered to date is either check stamped or plain. This suggests late Weeden Island (Weeden Island II).

The site is fairly extensive, but it is quite shallow. So far, nowhere in the excavation is the refuse zone deeper than a foot. Almost nothing has been found other than pottery; no animal bone, almost no worked stone, and only a few fresh-water mussel shells. One small pit contained a concentration of freshwater mussel shells and many land snail shells.

Flotation samples have been taken from each square and have yielded essentially nothing. Samples for chemical analysis of the midden soil are being taken, but have yet to be processed. They will be analyzed for pH value and level of phosphorous concentration.

The excavations at Torreya are part of a shift in the focus of work from the coast to inland regions. FSU is planning a long-term program of intensive survey and excavation along the Apalachicola and tributary rivers. Initially, the work will emphasize refined chronologies and distributional studies. It is obvious that the chronological framework for northwest Florida is outdated, and revisions will be necessary before such things as detailed settlement and subsistence pattern studies will be possible. In addition, an effort is being made at FSU to interest other departments on campus in the project and in interdisciplinary work with archaeology. In this connection, we are trying to re-activate the radiocarbon dating laboratory which the university owns.

George W. Percy
Florida State University

MISSISSIPPI:

A brief report was given in the November, 1970, Newsletter on excavations at the Teoc Creek Site in Carroll County, Mississippi. Charcoal samples recovered in this excavation have been processed at the University of Michigan with the following results:

<u>Level</u>	<u>Square 0-10E</u>	<u>Square 10S-10E</u>
2 (1-1.4')	1450 B.C. \pm 160 (M-2393)	1070 B.C. \pm 150 (M-2394)
3 (1.4-1.8')	1130 B.C. \pm 150 (M-2415)	- - - - -
4 (1.8-2.2')	1520 B.C. \pm 160 (M-2416)	1650 B.C. \pm 160 (M-2412)
5 (2.2-2.6')	1430 B.C. \pm 160 (M-2417)	1260 B.C. \pm 250 (M-2413)
6 (2.6-3')	- - - - -	1320 B.C. \pm 200 (M-2414)

7.3 ft. beneath natural levee: 1700 B.C. \pm 160 (M-2395) (This sample was taken from a deeply buried midden about 250 feet to the north of the one yielding the other dates, but apparently connected to the lower level of the latter.

In all levels, including the lowest deeply buried deposit, there were biconical plain Poverty Point objects. This form was in the vast majority throughout the excavation. Most of the Poverty Point complex projectile points were present and fairly numerous, with the Pontchartrain type making the strongest showing. No ceramic material was present beneath the plow zone (about one foot), although some fragments of steatite vessels were recovered.

Excavation of the Boyd Village Site in Tunica County, Mississippi, supported by a grant from the National Park Service, was completed in December, 1970. Two components were present, separated by a layer of sterile sand about one foot thick. The upper zone yielded pottery of the late Marksville, early and middle Baytown periods. So far, the only ceramic change revealed in this zone is a trend toward the decrease in size through time of cord impressions on the type Mulberry Creek Cordmarked. Dates from this zone, obtained from the University of Georgia, ranged from 250 \pm 80 A.D. (UGA-158) to 540 \pm 70 A.D. (UGA-159).

Beneath this zone and a layer of sterile sand, except where the sand had been disturbed by pit digging, was the earlier component, a stratum of blue-gray soil varying from one-half to one foot thick. The pottery was mostly a variety of Baytown Plain with a soft paste and colors tending toward oranges and buffs. Withers Fabric Impressed was present in considerable strength. Minority types include Cormorant Cord Impressed, Twin Lakes, and Crowder Punctated, as well as some as yet unclassified zoned punctated material. Two dates obtained from this component were 220 \pm 90 B.C. (UGA-166) and 85 \pm 100 A.D. (UGA-164). Considerable faunal and floral material recovered from pits in both zones will be analyzed at a later date. A published report on this site will be forthcoming.

John Connaway
Sam McGahey
Field Archaeologists
Mississippi Archaeological Survey

TENNESSEE:

Dr. William M. Bass, Physical Anthropology Professor at the University of Kansas, will become the head of the Anthropology Department at the University of Tennessee effective June 1, 1971. The University is planning to expand its anthropology department and is beginning a graduate program next year. They are also in the process of expanding the staff and are planning to add three new people this year to double the present staff of three for a total of six by next year.

NEW CURRENT RESEARCH EDITOR

Dr. Christopher S. Peebles, University of Windsor, has been appointed as Assistant Editor for Current Research in the Southeastern United States, by Edwin Wilmsen, Editor of American Antiquity. Dr. Peebles and Southeastern Archaeological Conference Editor Bettye J. Broyles will cooperate in gathering information for future issues of American Antiquity. Since the Fall Newsletter of the Conference will be published before the deadline for Current Research for A.A., you will be contacted for reports by your SEAC Editor first. This material, in turn, will be forwarded to Dr. Peebles for inclusion in A.A.

Anyone wishing to contact the new Current Research Editor can do so at the following address:

Dr. Christopher S. Peebles
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
University of Windsor
Windsor 11, Ontario
CANADA

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Second Preliminary Report: The St. Albans Site, Kanawha County, West Virginia, by Bettye J. Broyles. 104 pages, 55 figures, 5 Appendices (I, Projectile Point Type Descriptions; II, Late Pleistocene Climate; III, Recent Geological History; IV, An Analysis of Hearths; V, Description of Cores from the Vicinity), Report of Archeological Investigations Number 3, West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey, Morgantown, West Virginia, 1971. Price- \$3.50.

American Dawn: A New Model of American Prehistory, by Louis A. Brennan. 1970. 390 pages, 24 figures. The Macmillan Company. Price- \$8.95.

Archaeological Survey in the Lower Yazoo Basin, Mississippi, 1949-1955, by Philip Phillips. 1970. 999 pages, 450 figures, 21 tables, large site map. Peabody Museum Papers, Vol. 60 (Parts One and Two). Price- \$30.00.

Paleoecology and Ontario Prehistory, edited by W.M. Hurley and C.E. Heidenreich. 1971. Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto, Research Report No. 2. 250 pages, 38 figures, 58 tables.

The Leavenworth Site Cemetery: Archaeology and Physical Anthropology, by William M. Bass, David R. Evans, and Richard L. Jantz, with an Appendix on Dentition by Douglas H. Ubelaker. University of Kansas Publications in Anthropology Number 2, 1971. Lawrence, Kansas. 200 pages, 15 plates, 63 text figures. Price- \$4.50. Orders should be placed with Exchange and Gifts, University of Kansas Libraries, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. 66044.

MUSEUM HOLDINGS

This is the first of what is hoped will be a continuing series of brief descriptions on the archaeological and ethnological holdings of southeastern universities and museums. The purpose of the series is to make information on these collections available to researchers who might not otherwise be aware of them. Future submissions will be welcome by the Editor and should follow the format below under the headings: Professional Staff, Research Facilities, Major Collections, and Odds and Ends. This would be a good student project. The following report was submitted by Lee Hanson, Jr.

Southeast Archeological Center

National Park Service

(located at Ocmulgee National Monument)

Macon, Georgia

Professional Staff:

Center Chief: John W. Griffin

Research Archeologist: John W. Walker

Chief, Archeological Research: Richard D. Faust

Archeologist (Curator):

Archeologist (Assistant Curator): David H. Hannah

Research Facilities:

The Center has extensive work space and washing and cataloguing facilities, but lacks equipment for analysis and preservation. The Center library is small and largely confined to Southeastern archaeology.

Equipment: Ultrasonic cleaner (5 gallon capacity)
Homemade electrolysis unit
Binocular microscope

Major Collections:

Alabama- Material from the National Park Service's excavations at Russell Cave in 1962 and Charles Fairbanks' tests at Horseshoe Bend are stored at the Center.

Arkansas- Artifacts in this collection were obtained from excavations of 18th and 19th century structures at Arkansas Post National Memorial and from the Menard Mounds.

Florida- Material from Gordon Willey and Richard Woodbury's survey of the Flor-

ida Gulf Coast made in 1940, extensive survey collections from Everglades National Park, and material from test excavations at the Bear Lake and Onion Key sites made by John Griffin in 1968 and 1964, respectively, are housed by the Center.

Georgia- The bulk of the collection is made up of materials excavated in the Macon area during the 1930's. The better know sites represented are: the Macon Plateau, the Lamar Site, the Swift Creek Site, the Mossy Oak Site, the Napier Site, Brown's Mount (all in Bibb County), Old Oconee Town (Baldwin County), Kasita (Chattahoochee County), and the Bull Creek Site (Muscogee County). There are, however, also major collections from coastal Georgia, including the materials excavated at the Irene, Deptford, and other sites (Chatham County). Also of importance are a small collection of excavated materials from the Stallings Island Site (Columbia County), a collection of 18th century European material from Fort Frederica (Glynn County), and some river basin survey collections.

With the exception of some of the coastal sites, field notes for the above sites are at the Center.

Mississippi- Collections include survey material from along the Natchez Trace Parkway collected by Jesse Jennings, 1936-1937, and excavated collections from the Bynum Mounds, the Emerald Mound, the Mangum Mound, the Pharr Mounds, and Ackia, all along the Natchez Trace Parkway.

Virginia- Excavated materials from an Archaic site at Peaks of Otter on the Blue Ridge Parkway were collected by John Griffin.

A large documented collection made by Wirt Robinson around the turn of the century from the vicinity of Nelson County was recently transferred to the Center along with some notes.

A small collection of mid-19th century material from Appomattox Courthouse is also present.

Virgin Islands- Collections made by the park staff of Virgin Islands National Park from several sites on St. John Island.

Odds and Ends:

Five-piece beaded Cherokee (?) costume, ca. 1830.

Small type collection of Pamplin Pipes.

SHELL ENGRAVINGS FROM THE CRAIG MOUND AT SPIRO, OKLAHOMA

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PEABODY MUSEUM OF
ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Philip Phillips

In the Summer of 1933 rumors began to circulate among dealers in American Indian antiquities of spectacular finds coming out of one of the mounds of the great Spiro Site, on the Arkansas River in eastern Oklahoma, nine miles upstream from Fort Smith, Arkansas. The individual conducting the excavations bore the colorful name of Joe Balloon. In the fall of that year a group of unemployed miners, calling themselves the Pocola Mining Company purchased a lease from the grandfather (and guardian) of two small children, owners of the site and descendants of freed slaves that had been property of the Choctaw Indians. For the next two years this mortuary deposit of unprecedented richness was looted by the Pocola Mining Company, using methods appropriate to that industry but not to the demands of archaeological science. There were no antiquities laws at the time under which the lease could be broken, and when a licensing act was finally passed by the legislature in the Spring of 1935, it was not enforced by local officials. Following the expiration of the lease in the Fall of that year, what was left of the Craig Mound and its Great Mortuary, as it is now called, were properly excavated as a WPA project under the joint sponsorship of the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Historical Society, and the University of Tulsa. These excavations carried out in three seasons-- 1936, 1937, and 1941-- are being fully reported in a series of monographs by James A. Brown, the acknowledged authority on Spiro, two of which are already in print (Brown 1966a, 1966b).

Among the many classes of ceremonial artifacts recovered from the Great Mortuary, the most abundant and, from the standpoints of style and iconography, the most significant, are engravings on gorgets and cups made from large marine univalves imported from the Gulf of Mexico. These engravings constitute the largest corpus of figural and decorative art that has ever come out of a single site in the eastern United States if not all of North America, north of Mexico. The stylistic variability of these works, and the creativity displayed by the artists responsible for them, are almost unbelievable. These materials scattered in museum and private collections all over the country are largely undocumented. This applies particularly to the main bulk recovered by the commercial diggers. Valuable publications may be cited (Burnett 1945; Hamilton 1952; Brown and Hamilton 1965) but these cover only a small portion of the pot-hunters' finds. The gleanings obtained by the University excavations have been partially reported in an excellent publication of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society (Duffield 1964) and will be more fully presented in one of the forthcoming Brown volumes referred to above.

The inadequacy of such piecemeal publications lies in the fact that most of the shell artifacts recovered from the Great Mortuary, whether by miners or archaeologists, were in fragmentary condition, either broken before interment, or by the destructive operations of the Pocola Company which included tunneling and the use of dynamite. It is even said that whole cups were broken up for sale at the pithead in the expectation of greater monetary returns. Whatever the cause, the consequence is that fragments of the same artifact (this applies particularly to cups) now reside in widely scattered collections.

Obviously they cannot be assembled and stuck together, but rubbings of them can be matched and illustrated together in their proper positions relative to the whole artifact, thus providing a satisfactory vehicle for study. Some of the plates in the volumes described below bring together as many as eight or ten fragments from different collections. This is only one of several advantages of rubbings as a means of reproduction.

The Peabody Museum has undertaken to collect and publish in a suitable manner rubbings of all accessible shell engravings from Spiro of sufficient size or interest for future studies of style and iconography. The project is under the direction of Philip Phillips, Curator of Southeastern Archaeology. The rubbings, and drawings made from rubbings, are the work of a professional artist, Miss Eliza McFadden, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, assisted by Miss Linda Murphy, staff artist of the University of Arkansas Museum. The archaeological background and socio-cultural context of the shell engravings will be covered by Prof. Brown of the Department of Anthropology, Michigan State University, whose expertise in the archaeology of Spiro has already been mentioned. Miss McFadden has already completed rubbings of entire collections in the Smithsonian, Museum of American Indian, University of Arkansas Museum, University of Oklahoma Stovall Museum, Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art, Oklahoma Historical Society, Philbrook Art Center, Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Kerr Foundation, and many smaller museum and private collections. The generous submission of their cherished materials to the process of rubbing (which might be thought hazardous, but isn't) and permission to publish the results are here gratefully acknowledged.

The many rubbings and information on the shell engravings from the Craig Mound at Spiro, Oklahoma, will be published in six volumes by Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.

- Volume I An introductory volume covering the archaeological background, the technology of the shell artifacts and the general comments on style and iconography.
estimated 200 pages, including text and illustrations
- Volume II Braden School (Phases A, B, C)
estimated 200 pages, including 100 plates
- Volume III Craig School (Phase A)
estimated 200 pages, including 70 plates
- Volume IV Craig School (Phase B)
estimated 200 pages, including 100 plates
- Volume V Craig School (Phase C)
estimated 200 pages, including 75 plates
- Volume VI Decorative groups and unassigned works
General Summary
estimated 200 pages, including 60 plates

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bettye:

Received the SEAC Newsletter and Proceedings and was happy to read your article on projectile points found in bone and body areas. We have found many points in body areas we know were put there with intent to kill, but many archaeologists refuse to allow this as proof of violence. They say the points may have fallen into the body cavities. At the Koster Site, we found 11 burials that had been shot. One had six points in various areas of the body but none in a bone. Some points had impact fractures where they may have hit bone. In two bundle burials, I found points and the broken tips. Some had the stems missing. To me this indicated an effort had been made to remove the shafts leaving the broken blades minus stems.

At another site we found 5 burials that had been shot but no points in bones. Again, more than half of the points had the stems missing. How much proof is reasonable? We have only two bones with points associated. One is a vertebra with a stemmed point imbedded in it and another point with the tip missing that lay on the pelvis. The other point was in a sacrum and a similar corner-notched point, with stem missing, was lying on the floor of the grave in the stomach area. These two incidents tend to illustrate that if one finds a point with the stem or tip missing, chances are good that it had been in the body at burial and the point was damaged when the arrow shaft was removed. Most of this context is in Late Woodland, but we have found it to some extent in Mississippian as well.

Again, another bit of evidence of violence is the use of wooden clubs. I have found one to five skeletons in single or groups, that had the tops of the skulls sheared off leaving ragged edges, especially in Late Woodland (only a trace in Mississippian). DeBry illustrates Indians in the east carrying paddle-like clubs and I believe they were used much earlier, but the results of their use has not been recognized. Certainly, there was much strife in Late Woodland times in the Illinois and adjacent Mississippi valleys due primarily to over-population of these areas that was relieved with the advent of Mississippian agriculture.

Sincerely,

Greg Perino