

HAROLD REED AND THE KANSAS ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Thomas R. Witty, Jr., Kansas State Archeologist 1960-1994

I had the benefit and enjoyment of having known and worked with Harold and Margie Reed through 34 years at the Kansas State Historical Society. I first met them in 1967 at a meeting of the Apache Chapter of the Kansas Anthropological Association. They were new members and very enthusiastic and wanted to be involved.

How and where Harold and Margie became involved has been well reviewed in previous articles. However, from my viewpoint, two actions have and will continue to have significant benefits for archeology in Kansas: the creation of the Kansas Archeology Training Program and the Harold and Margie Reed Publication Fund.

In 1974 Harold became president of the KAA. It was at this time that Arkansas University was beginning an archeological training program with amateurs. Harold wanted a program like that for the KAA. We talked and I found myself in the role of “the immovable object being acted upon by an irresistible force”: the Reeds.

That June we all went, his family and mine, to Arkansas. Their program was a two-week dig with field lab and training classes. We were impressed and decided that we wanted one of those! Our program would be almost an exact copy. The Kansas Archeology Training Program would be held the first two weeks in June each year. All participants had to be members of the KAA. The first dig was in 1975, and there has been one every year since!

The program has facilitated research into a variety of sites and cultures not possible before. Archeologists and students from the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, and Wichita State University have taken part.

However, Harold’s most personal and very significant contribution is the Harold and Margie Reed Publication Fund, which established an annual grant for publication of KAA investigations. Fieldwork may take weeks, but the analysis, writing, and production of graphs and illustrations take months and too often fail to result in published documentation. The fund assures that good research still in specimen boxes and file cabinets will someday be analyzed and reported.

Many good people have been involved with the Kansas archeological program, and Harold was one of the best.

NOMINATION OF HAROLD REED FOR THE KAA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

By Rose Marie Wallen

In January 2005 the members of the Mud Creek Chapter nominated Harold Reed to receive the KAA Lifetime Achievement Award. Harold had been an integral part of the chapter since its beginning in 1974 and was a continuous presence at state KAA events since he joined in 1967. Certainly Kansas archeology would not be what it is today without Harold Reed’s interest and

work. A version of this nomination was published previously in the 2005 KAA Newsletter 17(4):10-12.

SMOKY HILL PHASE SETTLEMENT PATTERNS IN THE SALINA AREA

By Donna C. Roper, Kansas State University

Harold Reed recorded 85 archeological sites in Kansas during a period of approximately 40 years. Of these 85 sites, 28 were recorded within an intensively surveyed 12-mi² area encompassing the Smoky Hill and lower Saline river valleys in Saline County. Seventeen of these sites are identifiable to the Smoky Hill phase. The central concern of this paper is Smoky Hill phase settlement patterns. To this end, the settlement pattern concept is briefly reviewed and a detailed discussion of the environmental setting of the study area is presented. The settlement pattern analysis then proceeds. First, the types of Smoky Hill phase sites known within the study area are described. Recognized site types include lodge sites, mortuary sites, and campsites. Then, the relations of each site to others of the same type are analyzed, and some consideration is given to the relations of sites to sites of other types. The distributions of the lodge sites and the campsites to resource zones of the Smoky Hill and lower Saline river valleys are analyzed. The study shows that the Smoky Hill phase settlement pattern is more complex than we usually envision and that social considerations probably played a role in Middle Ceramic period settlement in this area.

HERE YESTERDAY, GONE TODAY, NO TOMORROW: MODERN AGRICULTURAL DESTRUCTION OF SMOKY HILL PHASE HOUSE MOUNDS

By Mark A. Latham, Burns & McDonnell, Inc.

During fall 2003 and winter 2004 a search commenced for a Middle Ceramic lodge site for the 2004 Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP). During this time numerous previously recorded Smoky Hill phase sites were visited within Saline, Ottawa, and McPherson Counties, Kansas. These sites were thought to or known to contain intact subsurface lodge floors; however, after examining the sites, it was determined that most were destroyed by cultivation and subsequent erosion within the last 20 to 30 years. This paper gives a preliminary review of the impact that modern cultivation has had on Smoky Hill phase lodge sites in Kansas based on information gleaned from several sources and site visits. In essence, the lodge construction style characteristic of the Smoky Hill phase—unlike other Central Plains tradition phases that placed these lodge floors at or near the ground surface—has exposed these features to modern cultivation and ultimate destruction.

THE FORSBERG SITE (14SA420): A SMOKY HILL PHASE HABITATION SITE IN CENTRAL KANSAS

By Mark A. Latham, Burns & McDonnell, Inc.

The Forsberg site (14SA420) is one of many Smoky Hill phase habitation sites found along the Smoky Hill River of central Kansas. The site contained at least three Smoky Hill phase lodges, which were excavated in the 1970s by Dr. George Taylor, Kansas Wesleyan College, Salina. Undergraduate students and amateurs under the direction of Dr. Taylor excavated a house each summer from 1974 to 1976. These summer field schools each lasted less than three weeks, and much of the work was described as “rushed and haphazard, and ... much was left undone that is necessary to do good archaeology” (Whiteacre 1978:2). Unfortunately, Dr. Taylor died in February 1977 before he could analyze the artifacts and develop a report on the site. This paper aims not only to describe the results of three excavations but also to determine if the three houses could have been contemporary.

14MP407, A GREAT BEND ASPECT SITE IN MCPHERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

By C. Tod Bevitt, R. C. Goodwin & Associates

Site 14MP407 is part of a cluster of Smoky Hill phase sites along the Smoky Hill River near Lindsborg, Kansas. Unlike many Smoky Hill phase habitation sites that have been subject to decades of tillage resulting in the loss of former living surfaces and house floors, part of this site remains well preserved in a pasture. Other areas of the site have been subject to long-term cultivation. A geophysical survey was conducted to identify anomalies with likely cultural associations. Numerous potential features were identified, including three large anomalies that corresponded with visible mounds in the pasture. Believed to represent the remains of collapsed structures, one of these mounds was the focus of the 2004 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school. Throughout a period of 16 days, the central mound area and several outlying anomalies were investigated. As a result, portions of a Smoky Hill phase lodge, including an intact house floor, were closely studied and documented.

A GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATION OF 14MP407, A SMOKY HILL PHASE ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE IN MCPHERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

By David Maki, Archaeo-Physics LLC, Minneapolis, Minnesota

A geophysical investigation of 14MP407 was conducted in the spring of 2004. A multi-method approach was utilized that included both magnetic field gradient and electrical resistance survey. The investigation sought to map buried archeological features prior to the 2004 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school. The geophysical survey successfully mapped several Central Plains tradition house features and numerous additional features near these houses. These maps were used to target one house and two additional features for excavation during the field school. Several additional anomalies or anomalous patterns were identified near houses but were not tested due to time and budget constraints. These anomalies appear to represent features external to the houses, ancillary structures, specialized activity areas, or footpaths; unfortunately,

the image resolution was insufficient to make more a definitive interpretation. The results of the investigation confirm the effectiveness of magnetic and resistance survey methods for mapping Central Plains tradition isolated farmstead or hamlets. Suggested survey design modifications are offered that would increase the visibility of small low contrast features at similar sites.

Book reviews

Stone Tool Traditions in the Contact Era by Charles R. Cobb

Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins

Looting Spiro Mounds: An American King Tut's Tomb by David La Vere

Reviewed by Randall M. Thies

The Allen Site: A Paleoindian Camp in Southwestern Nebraska edited by Douglas B. Bamforth

Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins

Remington Army and Navy Revolvers, 1861-1888 by Donald L. Ware

Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins