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A REAPPRAISAL OF N. H. WINCHELL'S PALEOLITHS OF KANSAS

By John D. Reynolds

In 1913 Newton H. Winchell, a well-known geologist from Minnesota, published a monograph entitled *The Weathering of Stone Artifacts, No. 1: A Consideration of the Paleoliths of Kansas*. In it Winchell presented his analysis of a large collection of stone tools collected from sites in the Kansas River valley. He concluded that the artifacts represented at least four distinct prehistoric cultures: Early Paleolithic, Paleolithic, Early Neolithic, and Neolithic and that the earliest of these cultures was assignable, minimally, to the Pleistocene or an even earlier time. Winchell, an outspoken proponent of great antiquity for the human settlement of the Americas, unwittingly utilized a collection of artifacts that contained a number of deliberate fakes. Winchell's thesis never gained acceptance by most American archeologists and its impact on Kansas archeology fortunately has been minimal. Nonetheless, it is important to document the fraud.

THE NORTHWESTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN KANSAS

By Marlin F. Hawley

In May 1893 Theodore H. Lewis of the Northwestern Archaeological Survey (NAS) visited the Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, area in search of French Fort de Cavagnial. The NAS was funded by Alfred J. Hill of St. Paul, Minnesota. Over the 15 years of its operation, Lewis recorded many thousands of Native American mound, earthwork, and habitation sites. The search for Fort de Cavagnial is part of a secondary interest of the two men. Established by the French in 1744 and abandoned in 1764, the ruins of the fort were noted by later explorers, such as Lewis and Clark and the expedition of Major Stephen Long. Lewis surveyed, studied plat maps, and interviewed old settlers in the area where the fort was believed to be, but ultimately he was unable to find any trace of the site.

WITCHING FOR FAILURE: GRAVES AND GROUNDTRUTHING

By Randall M. Thies

“Witching” for graves does not work. During my many years as an archeologist investigating burials, I helped to excavate 75 “really good” graves that were found by 15 or more witchers in 10 different Kansas locales, and I found nothing at any of them. Several other archeologists did the same thing. Basically, the claims of grave witchers are not substantiated by groundtruthing.

ANALYSIS OF A SURFACE COLLECTION FROM 14EK301, AN EARLY CERAMIC RESIDENTIAL SITE NEAR THE ELK RIVER IN SOUTHEAST KANSAS

By Craig Kitchen

This article contains data obtained from an artifact collection housed at the Kansas State Historical Society. Analysis based on ceramic and lithic artifacts led to the conclusion that 14EK301 was a residential site from the Early Ceramic period.

THINKING ABOUT HUMAN REMAINS AT THE ELLIOTT SITE

By Donna C. Roper

O'Brien's commentary on Roper's earlier discussion of human remains from the Elliott site misunderstands how Roper constructed her argument. This response first discusses the circumstances under which the article was written and some principles involved in inferring behavior when only the outcomes of that behavior can be observed. It then considers the Elliott site case and, using examples, discusses how various disturbance processes affect archeological sites and may have affected Elliott. How the interpretation of the human remains and funerary objects in the Elliott site collections was constructed is then reiterated, with an emphasis on how and why the techniques used in constructing that interpretation were chosen.

A RETURN TO GLEN ELDER: CULTURAL AFFILIATIONS OF ARCHEOLOGICAL MATERIAL FROM THE GLEN ELDER SITE (14ML1)

By James O. Marshall

The 1963 excavation of the Glen Elder site (14ML1) took place as part of the River Basin Survey project to salvage archeological sites that were slated for inundation by the Glen Elder Reservoir. The Glen Elder site was facing obliteration by the construction of the Glen Elder Dam. The results of the site excavation have never been published, an omission that this revised study finally corrects. Affiliations of the archeological material give evidence that Glen Elder is a Protohistoric-early Historic period occupation that, in part, is antecedent to the historic Kansa Indians.

Book Reviews

Archaeology for Dummies by Nancy Marie White
Reviewed by Donna C. Roper

Texas Civil War Artifacts: A Photographic Guide to the Physical Culture of Texas Civil War Soldiers by Richard Mather Ahlstrom
Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins

Skeletal Biology and Bioarchaeology of the Northwestern Plains edited by George W. Gill and Rick L. Weathermon
Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins

Archaeology of Institutional Confinement by Eleanor Conlin Casella
Review by Mary E. Conrad