

**MADE OF STONE: IMPACTS ON EARLY HISTORIC SITES IN REPUBLIC COUNTY, KANSAS**

By Jack L. Hofman

Documentation of historic Euro-American sites in Republic County has highlighted a variety of ongoing factors that are contributing to the destruction of late nineteenth-century structures and sites. Such sites can teach about the daily life, economy, technology, and the culture of Euro-American settlers in a rural agrarian society. Many wooden buildings, constructed prior to 1900, have been lost due to abandonment and natural deterioration, as well as to efforts to clean up properties following land ownership changes. Stone structures are being destroyed by a combination of burning, razing, and dismantling for re-use of building stone. These efforts have been sparked by landowners' liability concerns and loss of family connection or interest in the heritage associated with structures. The potential for wood from local sources used in the construction to contribute to building a tree ring chronology for the area is one of many reasons why study and documentation of these early sites is important.

**ARCHED-CEILING STONE CAVES: EARLY HISTORIC HORIZON MARKERS IN THE CENTRAL PLAINS**

By Jack L. Hofman and Debi L. Aaron

Arched-ceiling stone caves or cellars are documented in the Republic County, Kansas, area to provide information about their construction, use, design, and age. Of 25 documented, most were built prior to 1910. By this time the rural population of Republic County was declining, and alternative construction methods and materials, notably cement, were coming into common use. The function of these structures was primarily for food storage prior to the advent of rural electrification, beginning in the late 1930s. Secondary uses were as temporary residences and shelter from severe weather. Construction of arched-ceiling caves was most common in areas with abundant native building stone, such as Fencepost limestone, and when stone masons were among the settling population.

**MAKING SENSE OF THE NUTTER SITE (14CD480): A CAUTIONARY TALE**

By Rose Marie Wallen

The Nutter site (14CD480), a Middle Ceramic-age earthlodge of the Central Plains tradition, was excavated by amateurs in 1969–1970. No report was written, although a portion of the collection and some sketchy field notes found their way to the Kansas State Historical Society. More than 40 years after the excavation, KAA member Rose Marie Wallen undertook writing a report on the Nutter site, using the small collection and field notes. It was not a simple task because another layer of archeology—the excavation itself—had been added.

## **ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF 14MO403: REPORT OF THE 2006 KANSAS ARCHEOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM FIELD SCHOOL**

By James L. Dougherty

In June 2006 the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school was held at 14MO403 in far eastern Morris County, Kansas. As a field school, the event was a resounding success; analytically the paucity of archeological features certainly was disappointing. The excavated findings of the field school, coupled with surface-collected artifacts in the Stauffer Collection at Wichita State University and those from another small private surface-collected assemblage, suggest Archaic and Woodland occupations of unknown frequencies and durations at this site. Collectively, the recovered archeological record and the geomorphological setting of the site suggest its most consistent use throughout prehistory was a fall and or winter camping place for the on-site production of chipped stone tools, primarily from gravels collected from the gravel bars of adjacent Rock Creek. Its setting in an ecotone undoubtedly added to its attractiveness for foraging and collecting in the surrounding areas.

## **THE EASTEP SITE (14MY388): A LATE ARCHAIC/WOODLAND PERIOD SITE IN SOUTHEAST KANSAS**

By John Tomasic, Edwin J. Miller, Mark Volmut, and Andrew R. Wyatt

In 2011 the Kansas Historical Society completed a series of excavations at the Eastep site (14MY388), a multicomponent archeological site containing stratified cultural deposits dating to the Late Archaic and Woodland periods (2000 B.C. –A.D. 1000). Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping technologies and techniques have provided critical information regarding the spatial distribution of artifacts and features at the site. Specialized research has provided significant insight regarding the lifeways of the site's former occupants. Overall, this research has generated valuable data that contributes to the understanding of the nature of human adaptation during the Late Archaic/Early Woodland transition in the region.

## **GEOARCHAEOLOGY AND PALEOENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT OF THE EASTEP SITE (14MY388), SOUTHEAST KANSAS**

By Rolfe D. Mandel

A geoarchaeological investigation was conducted at the Eastep site (14MY388), a multicomponent prehistoric occupation on the valley floor of the Verdigris River in southeastern Kansas. Whereas Area 102 is an archeological palimpsest, Area 101 contains deeply stratified cultural deposits dating to the Late Archaic and Woodland periods. This paper provides a geomorphic, sedimentologic, and soil-stratigraphic context for interpreting the archeological record, assesses site formation processes, and provides a numerical chronology for the alluvial deposits and associated soils. Also, the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of pedogenic organic matter are used to infer bioclimatic change during the period of occupation in Area 101.

## **Book Reviews**

*Folsom: New Archaeological Investigations of a Classic Paleoindian Bison Kill* by David J. Meltzer

Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins

*Clovis Lithic Technology: Investigation of a Stratified Workshop at the Gault Site, Texas* by Michael R. Waters, Charlotte D. Pevny, and David L. Carlson

Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins

*Late Pleistocene Archaeology and Ecology in the Far Northeast*, edited by Claude Chapdelaine

Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins