

FLUTED POINTS FROM NORTHERN KANSAS

By Jack L. Hofman and Barbara M. Crable

Two fluted points and a fluted preform have recently been found and documented in Republic County in northern Kansas. These artifacts, including a Clovis and a Folsom point, add to the evidence for early Paleoindian sites in the upland areas of the county, which is characterized by salt marshes and salt springs. Previously eight Clovis points and one Folsom have been reported from Republic County, and other discoveries have been reported for the region (Hofman 2013). This paper summarizes information about three new finds, including site settings and material types.

NOTES FROM AN EXPERIMENT WITH PRIMITIVE POTTERY FIRING WITH OPPORTUNISTIC THERMAL TREATMENT OF CHERT

By Jim D. Feagins and Peggy Feagins

This article describes the pyrometer recording of an outdoor pottery firing experiment using primitive methods. The experiment with thermal treatment of Winterset chert was an opportunistic adjunct to the pottery firing.

SQUASH KNIVES: AN EXPERIMENTAL ARCHEOLOGY PROJECT

By Daniel Houglund

This experiment compared the effectiveness and efficiency of bone squash knives and chipped stone tools. In time trials newly fashioned tools, based on designs found in some archeological contexts, were used to cut two varieties of squash.

SURFACE SURVEYS WEST AND SOUTH OF THE TOBIAS SITE (14RC8)

By Chris S. Kurtz

This report documents surface surveys conducted on cultivated fields immediately west and south of the Tobias site (14RC8), a Protohistoric Wichita village site in Rice County, Kansas. Plotted locations of lithic and other artifact finds provide a clearer picture of the settlement area and are the basis for adjustment of site boundaries. Extrapolation of the plotted artifact zone beyond the cultivated ground was the impetus for several additional investigations on adjacent pastureland.

CENTRAL KANSAS PETROGLYPHS: A DECADE OF KAA FIELD RESERACH

By Kent Sallee

This paper covers investigations of petroglyph sites in central Kansas. Fieldwork methods are reviewed, as well as the commonalities of the recorded sites. While field surveys are ongoing, research continues on sites recorded across the central United States to add to the larger body of knowledge. In addition, general thoughts and impressions about petroglyphs are offered.

THE ROCK ART RECORDS OF JAMES R. MEAN

By Donald J. Blakeslee

This paper discusses notes on Kansas rock art that were made by James R. Mead in the 1860s and 1890s. The 1860s report consisted of the autograph of a French fur trader that Mead found in a small cave on the banks of the Smoky Hill River. The more extensive 1890s notes included copies of petroglyphs and pictographs from a rock cliff near the headwaters of a small tributary of the Saline River northwest of present-day Wilson, Kansas. Some of the rock art there appears to derive from either the Osage or the Kansa, who used that portion of the state for bison hunting after about A.D. 1720. One petroglyph appears to be of Comanche origin, and another may be a depiction of a Cheyenne. Carvings that appear to be earlier than the historic period probably were made by ancestors of the Wichitas or Pawnees.

ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT CHIEF WHITEHAIR'S VILLAGE SITE (14WN143), WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS

By Andrea A. Hunter, John K. Williams, James Wiederhold, Leslie Bush, Christopher G. Leary, Aaron Ridley, Jon Stroik, Ben Goodwin, and Christopher A. Bergman

Site 14WN143, also known as Chief Whitehair's Village, is located in southeastern Kansas near the confluence of the Verdigris River and Salt Creek in Wilson County. The 2013 investigations involved surface collection and small-scale excavations (three block units, totaling 2.25 horizontal meters) and revealed features and artifacts dated to between A.D. 1420 and 1680. During this time the Osage people expanded westward from the Mississippi River valley and migrated into central and southern Missouri and northwestern Arkansas. Given the temporal and seasonal data recovered, the authors suggest that site 14WN143 reflects activities at a fall bison hunting camp, possibly related to the Protohistoric Osage.

ROCK FENCES IN THE MILL CREEK VALLEY, WABAUNSEE COUNTY, KANSAS

By Robert J. Hoard and Nicole LeBrun Manlove

Dry-laid native limestone fences are concentrated in Wabaunsee County, Kansas, just south of the Kansas River in the eastern part of the state. This same area had an unusually high level of German settlement in the mid-nineteenth century, but the rock fences so common there were not an Old-World German tradition. This paper explores the development of a cultural landscape that resulted from the interface of culture, geology, and geography, and argues that the rock fences built by early immigrants in the region are indicative of an adaptation to a new environment.

INKWELLS OF OLD FORT HAYS, KANSAS

By Debi L. Aaron

A collection of intact inkwells was recovered during a series of excavations at Old Fort Hays, Kansas. This paper presents the result of a study of 30 individual inkwells to determine the date range of those artifacts.

THERE IS MORE TO SPECTACLES THAN FIRST MEETS THE EYE: AN EARLY TWENTIETH-CENTURY PAIR OF EYEGLASSES AND CASE FROM 14LV427

By Jim D. Feagins

Eyeglasses contain a number of innovative attributes that developed through time. These not only increase understanding of the history of spectacles but can aid archeologists in dating historic sites. Specimens are less common in the archeological record than many other types of artifacts, and even then are usually damaged. They rarely are described in the kind of detail necessary to make them useful for comparative dating.

Book Reviews

The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky edited by Gaylord Torrence
Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins

The Archaeology of the North American Fur Trade by Michael S. Nassaney
Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins