

**AN AGATE BASIN LOCALITY IN CHEYENNE COUNTY, NORTHWEST KANSAS**

By Jack L. Hofman and Dan Busse

A Cheyenne County site yielded three Agate Basin projectile points and a limited variety of other Paleoindian and Archaic artifacts in an upland setting. The location may have served as a hunting overlook, and the specimens suggest retooling activities during Paleoindian and later periods. Some other finds of Agate Basin points in Kansas are noted, and issues in their identification are reviewed.

**A STRANGER CUT THROUGH TIME: THE EVANS SITE (14LV1079), STRANGER CREEK VALLEY, NORTHEASTERN KANSAS**

By Brad Logan

The Evans site (14LV1079) is one of four sites in the Evans locality, a 480-acre tract below the confluence of Stranger Creek and Little Stranger Creek in Leavenworth County, northeastern Kansas. The others are Scott (14LV1082), Caenen (14LV1083), and Paul (14LV1043). Investigations by Kansas State University field schools in 2003 and 2004 resulted in their inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Evans site has components of Middle-Late Archaic, Middle-Late Woodland, and Late Prehistoric age. Artifacts recovered during surveys of cultivated and scoured ground are diagnostic of Late Archaic, Woodland, and Late Prehistoric age. Test excavation revealed a tentatively identified Middle Woodland component 25-45 cm in depth near the western side of an erosional chute, now the channel of Stranger Creek, that bisects the site. Debitage and pieces of fire-cracked rock of a Late Archaic component are exposed at depths of 1-1.3 m on both sides of the chute at its northern end. Its age is inferred from a radiocarbon date on a buried soil 84 cm in depth in the same area. Middle Archaic activity is represented by in-situ concentrations of debitage at a depth of 2.3 m on the west side of the chute. Their age is inferred from a radiocarbon date on a second buried soil 30 m to their north at a depth of 2.15 m. Ex situ projectile points diagnostic of Archaic and Woodland origin have been found in the chute and on a gravel bar at its northern end.

The Evans site exemplifies the processes of valley aggradation, flood scouring, and stream migration that have resulted in site burial, exposure, and erosion by Stranger Creek. Research in the watershed promises to increase understanding of cultural adaptations and processes of change through much of the Holocene in the Lower Missouri River region. Middle and Late Archaic components can track adaptations to climate change from the mid-to-late Holocene, from a period of post-glacial maximum aridity (the Altithermal) to one like that of today. Investigation of the Middle Woodland

component can shed light on the Kansas City Hopewell culture, whose western edge is the Stranger Creek watershed. Late Prehistoric activity can be compared to manifestations of prolonged occupation during the Steed-Kisker phase and Pomona variant at the Scott, Caenen, and Paul sites and others in the region.

### **PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP: NATIVE NATIONS AND WHITE RELATIONS IN THE CENTRAL PLAINS REFLECTED BY PEACE MEDALS**

By Jack L. Hofman

Peace medals were an emblematic element of the interactions between Native American Nations and the governments of the United States and Europe. Few peace medals have been documented in the archeological record of the Central Plains area, which became the states of Kansas and Nebraska. These tokens, however, reflect diverse periods of contact, distinct cultural groups, and different eras of white and Native relationships. Eighteen peace medals from Kansas and Nebraska are discussed here along with information about their potential origins and archeological and cultural contexts.

### **CAMPGROUND ON THE OREGON TRAIL: ARTIFACTS FROM THE PRIVATE PROPERTY SURROUNDING HOLLENBERG STATION AND COTTONWOOD CREEK**

By Garrett Seuser

Hollenberg Pony Express Station was built in 1857 along the Oregon-California Trail to trade with emigrants, soldiers, and other travelers. It is situated east of present-day Hanover, Kansas, just north of Cottonwood Creek. It holds the distinction of being the only station along the trail in its original location with its original dimensions. It served as a trading post, mail station, blacksmith shop, and farm. The State of Kansas purchased the site in 1941, and it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1966. In 1991 the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school was conducted on the state-owned property where the station itself (14WH316) sits. However, the points where the trail approached and crossed Cottonwood Creek and the supposed campgrounds used by the many travelers are on private land. Here an extensive metal detection survey was undertaken by the author over the course of three years and is ongoing. A large number of artifacts were recovered, suggesting widespread use of the locality as multiple campsites.

### **ARCHEOLOGY OF THE BAKER HOUSE (14MO701): THEY COULD SMELL THE PIES BAKING AS THE HOUSE BURNED DOWN**

By Christine D. Garst

In 1972 and 1973 the Kansas State Teachers College, now Emporia State University, held

archeological field schools near Council Grove at the Baker house and store (14MO701), structures that had burned in 1862. This article summarizes the archeology of the 1972 field season at the Baker house and discusses the artifacts recovered that year. The article serves as a companion piece to Garst's article on the Baker store in *The Kansas Anthropologist* 42:115-138.

## **THE CHILDREN OF FORT HAYS AND THEIR TOYS**

By Pauline E. Hintz

For more than 50 years boxes of artifacts from excavations at Fort Hays (14EL301) have sat on the shelves at the Kansas Historical Society. Within these boxes are 122 special items—the remains of toys. Whose toys were these? What stories do they tell about the fort's children: the blacksmith's children, the soldier's son, the captain's daughters? These artifacts cannot provide a complete picture of any specific children, but they can allow a glimpse into children's lives at a frontier fort.

## **SIoux QUARTZITE IN KANSAS: ITS GEOLOGICAL ORIGINS AND USE BY PEOPLE**

By Robert J. Hoard

Sioux quartzite is a hard, pinkish-red rock that is occasionally found in northeast Kansas. The recent removal of a Sioux quartzite boulder known in the Kaw language as *Í<sup>n</sup>'zhíje'waxóbe*, the Sacred Red Rock, from Robinson Park in Lawrence, Kansas, has brought Sioux quartzite broader public appreciation. This article discusses the geological origin of Sioux quartzite and the many ways it has been used by people over the years.

## **Book Reviews**

*Images of America: Spiro Mounds and WPA Archaeology in Oklahoma.* By Scott W. Hammerstedt and Amanda L. Regnier. Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins.

*Blackbeard's Sunken Prize: The 300-Year Voyage of Queen Anne's Revenge* by Mark W. Wilde-Ramsing and Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton. Reviewed by Denise Wallace.

*Lives in Ruins: Archaeologists and the Seductive Lure of Human Rubble* by Marilyn Johnson. Reviewed by Pauline E. Hintz.