PROGRAM WITH ABSTRACTS





WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WYOMING ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

1995 ANNUAL MEETING SARATOGA, WYOMING MAY 21-22, 1995

PAPER PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

- **11:00 A.M. ANNE K. ARMSTRONG;** What's For Dinner?: An Initial Analysis of the Faunal Remains from Block 1 Excavations, Fort Laramie National Historic Site Quartermaster Dump
- **11:30 A.M. WILLIAM CURRENT;** A Case Study: Magnetics as a Means of Discovering Buried Prehistoric Sites within Eolian Deposits
- **1:30 P.M.** JUDSON FINLEY; Heat Treating of Chipped Stone Material: An Example From the Lookingbill Site
- **2:00 P.M.** CHRIS HALL; The Hudson-Meng Site: A 10,000 year old B. bison antiquus Bonebed In Northwestern Nebraska
- **2:30 P.M.** JASON M. LaBELLE AND LAWRENCE C. TODD; Current Reinvestigation of the Glenrock Buffalo Jump (48CO304) Faunal Assemblage
- **3:00 P.M. PATRICK M. LUBINSKI;** Pronghorn, *Bison, Rodents, and Rabbits: Prehistoric Hunting in the Wyoming Basin.*
- **3:30 P.M. RUSS TANNER;** Who Built the Little Rock Houses?: An Ethnoarchaeological Examination of Architectural Features at Several Overland Stage Stations in Southwestern Wyoming.
- **4:00 P.M.** ALAN WIMER; A Discussion of Paleoindian Tool Kits From The Wyoming Basin

ABSTRACTS

ANNE K. ARMSTRONG; University of Wyoming

What's For Dinner?: An Initial Analysis of the Faunal Remains from Block 1 Excavations, Fort Laramie National Historic Site Quartermaster Dump

The investigation of faunal remains can help determine what was being consumed, the economic structure, ethnicity and general health of a cultural group. The University of Wyoming Fort Laramie Project began in the summer of 1994 with mitigation of the Quartermaster Dump, just downstream from the main fort area. Faunal remains recovered from Block 1 excavations are in association with dump episodes from officer's row during the 1980s. The purpose of this paper is to identify what portions or cuts of meat the military officers at Fort Laramie were eating and if these were higher grades than their enlisted men were eating.

WILLIAM CURRENT; Current Archaeology

A Case Study: Magnetics as a Means of Discovering Buried Prehistoric Sites within Eolian Deposits

A study to determine the feasibility and reliability of gradiometers to detect buried cultural sites with eolian contexts was conducted in the LaBarge-Big Piney area. This study, conducted at seven locations, indicates that the correct magnetic equipment coupled with the proper sampling strategy is an effective supplement to current methodology for detecting buried cultural sites with little or no surface expression.

JUDSON FINLEY; University of Wyoming

Heat Treating of Chipped Stone Material: An Example From the Lookingbill Site

Heat treating of lithic raw materials is a procedure that has been known to have been practiced prehistorically in both the New and Old World. At the Lookingbill site (48FR308), investigators have identified this process in the chipped stone assemblage. Experimentation on cherts local to the Lookingbill area have demonstrated that heating improves knappibility and affects the appearance of chipped stone. Analysis has shown this procedure was most likely to have occurred while in a bifacial reduction stage.

CHRIS HALL; University of Wyoming

The Hudson-Meng Site: A 10,000 year old B. bison antiquus Bonebed In Northwestern Nebraska

The Hudson-Meng site is located in northwestern Nebraska and represents one of the largest accumulations of *B. b. antiquus* bones in North America. Originally investigated in the 1970s by Dr. Larry Agenbroad, the site was interpreted as a humanly produced kill and meat processing area. However since that time, archaeologists have developed new, more advanced methods of investigating such sites. In 1990, Drs. Lawrence Todd and Dave Rapson, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, began new excavations at the Hudson-Meng site. After four seasons of excavations, it has been found that many of the original interpretations may have been incorrect. This paper reviews how those original interpretations have been changed in light of the new evidence that has been uncovered at the Hudson-Meng site.

JASON M. LaBELLE AND LAWRENCE C. TODD; Colorado State University

Current Reinvestigation of the Glenrock Buffalo Jump (48CO304) Faunal Assemblage

The Glenrock Buffalo Jump, a late prehistoric bison jump located in east-central Wyoming was excavated and published by Dr. George Frison in a 1970 *Plains Anthropologist Memoir*. The report is a much referenced and important foundation work concerning late prehistoric hunter-gatherer economies on the Northwestern Plains, as well as being one of the first sites in the United States where faunal analysis played such a primary role in site interpretation. Within the last decade, changes in the methodology of analyzing faunal remains have made reexamining previously documented materials appropriate. Portions of the Glenrock material have been systematically coded and catalogued with taphonomically oriented procedures in mind.

Current reanalysis of the faunal remains includes the documentation of humanly induced modifications (dismemberment marks, marrow extraction impacts) and natural modifications (such as carnivore chewing, weathering, etc.). The differentiation between these factors of modification can help clarify procurement strategies used by these late prehistoric hunters. Also, frequency counts of male and female elements help evaluate models of selective procurement within the archaeological assemblage. Three elements, the humeri, humeri, and metacarpals, provide a preliminary baseline for formulating interpretation of prehistoric utilization of the Glenrock site bison.

PATRICK M. LUBINSKI; University of Wisconsin, Madison

Pronghorn, Bison, Rodents, and Rabbits: Prehistoric Hunting in the Wyoming Basin.

What were the important animals for Wyoming Basin foragers? Given the aridity of this area compared to the grasslands of the plains, are bison a relatively insignificant

resource? Preliminary examination of 96 radiocarbon dated faunal assemblages, from Paleoindian to Protohistoric, indicates that bison, rabbits, rodents, and pronghorn were the predominant mammalian resources throughout prehistory, although there are several trends across time and space. Ongoing analyses of five possible pronghorn communal kill sites are beginning to provide data that will address the hypothesis that pronghorn were subject to increase use and effort in the Late Prehistoric period.

RUSS TANNER; University of Wyoming and Bureau of Land Management

Who Built the Little Rock Houses?: An Ethnoarchaeological Examination of Architectural Features at Several Overland Stage Stations in Southwestern Wyoming.

Architectural attributes discovered during excavations at the Salt Wells Stage Station on the Overland Trail in Sweetwater County and subsequently recognized at other Overland stations have been determined to be of Scotch-Irish origin. Roof and wall construction techniques and floor paving are virtually identical to construction techniques developed by the "Ulster Scots" for the building of small farm houses and barns in barren regions of Northern Ireland. It appears that Overland Stage Company owner Ben Holladay, himself a Scotsman, may have been aware of these techniques and hired craftsmen to built structures according to that plan. In any case, the structures along the Overland trail have been discovered to be much better constructed than was previously thought.

ALAN WIMER; University of Wyoming

A Discussion of Paleoindian Tool Kits from The Wyoming Basin

Surface collections from six sites in the Wyoming Basin have yielded an extensive example of the Paleoindian tool kit. Both formal and expedient tools make up the assemblage which is discussed in reference to form, function, and lithic material selection.