

THE SMOKE SIGNAL

Archaeological Research in the Glendo Reservoir Area
By L. C. Steege

During the months of June and July, a nine man crew led by Dr. William Mulloy of the University of Wyoming and Lou Steege of the State Museum, returned to the Glendo Reservoir area for further investigations of Middle Period occupations. This was a joint project sponsored by the National Park Service, the University of Wyoming and the Wyoming State Museum.

A stratified site was excavated. There were two levels of occupation, both of Middle Period origin. A cave shelter which was also occupied during the Middle Period was excavated.

Stone rings, both ceremonial and habitation, were excavated, photographed, and mapped. Four hundred forty features, such as the previously named stone rings, stone piles, and hearths were located on a topographical map was made in the field by Leslie Heathcote, a British exchange student from the University of Nebraska, who was one of the crew members. Dr. Bentzen and Glenn Sweem assisted with this mapping during our first week of operations.

We found two examples of eagle traps and two burial cists. The burial cists had been rifled and nothing remained in them.

The final three days were spent in excavating a Late Period pre-ceramic site. This was the only Late Period site found in the area during the two seasons that we spent at Glendo.

We missed the smiling faces of Margaret Powers, Alice and Fred Hilman. How come? Fred, your education was neglected this summer!

OVER THE CAMPFIRE

While working at Glendo last June, Dr. Bentzen and Glenn Sweem gathered about a hundred pounds of agates and other beautiful stones, brought them home, made some display boxes, and arranged to sell the stones to tourists through the courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce and Mrs. Hila Gilbert, all proceeds to go to our society. This little idea paid off to the tune of \$20.65, in spite of getting a late start. There is enough material left to continue the plan all next summer.

At the September meeting, it was voted unanimously to present an honorary membership in our Society to Mr. John Aubuchon, Superintendent of Custer Battlefield National Monument. We have received a fine letter of acceptance from Mr. Aubuchon. He also sent to our Society a beautiful brochure entitled "The National Park WILDERNESS", which will make a fine addition to our library

Lou Steege was honored on September 6 by being presented with the State Historical Society's award for Archaeological Research in Wyoming for 1958. It couldn't have happened to a finer guy. Our congratulations to you, Lou.

Don Grey made a trip to Laramie in September and showed Dr. Mulloy the artifacts and maps of our Kaufmann Cave and Medicine Wheel projects. Bill was very complimentary in his praise, and we are looking forward to some interesting final reports in these endeavors.

The Saturday Evening Post featured a 4-part serial in its September issues, titled Aku-Aku, being a condensation of a new book written by Thor Heyerdahl about the recent archaeological investigation of Easter Island in which our own Dr. Bill Mulloy played a prominent part. Don't read the first installment just before retiring or you'll be troubled with insomnia and probably nightmares. Since Dr. Mulloy showed his colored slides of this adventure to the Society, everyone should be interested in reading this book as it tells in more detail the very things he showed us.

The November meeting of our society will be held one week later than the scheduled date so that we may take advantage of Louis Steege's offer to put on a program for us and show color slides of the work done at Glendo this season. Lou has to be in Buffalo on the 8th and 9th, so he will entertain us on November 10 in the Hospitality Room of the Bank of Commerce at 8:00 p.m.

The editing committee extends thanks to Dr. Bentzen for the edition of The Smoke Signal during the summer months. We enjoyed them!

An oil painting by Mrs. Frances Nantkes, our secretary, is displayed in the window of the Lansing Paint Studio. The painting features artifacts gathered by the Fred Hilman in their travels and consists of several ears of Indian corn, a large water bowl, a very old water jug, several bowls and turquoise beads.

ARTIFACT COLLECTOR VISITS

Mr. Robert Vogel of Kimball, South Dakota was a recent visitor at the homes of Mrs. Margaret Powers and Albert Dumont. Mr. Vogel is an enthusiastic collector of Indian artifacts who got started on his hobby following the extensive dust storms of the early thirties. After especially heavy "blows" Robert would tramp over the newly eroded fields of his father's ranch, and gather artifacts. He has also collected from numerous sites in the Missouri river area above and below Chamberlain, South Dakota. An additional hobby of his is the art of taxidermy. He has done commercial work for a number of clients and has a large collection of his own. In order to house his collection of artifacts and mounted specimens, Robert has built a fireproof building on the ranch. He would welcome visitors to the ranch which is located about nine miles north and east of Kimball.

Mr. Vogel's interest in Indian culture took him on a trip to Mexico and Central America where he visited the ruins of Chichen Itza in the state of Yucatan. This city, deep in the jungle, is the remains of the old Mayan civilization. The hitherto unknown remains were discovered by Col. Charles Lindbergh as he was flying over the Central American jungles. We were given an account of the architecture and arrangement of the buildings and the work that has been done in restoring the ruins.

Robert reports that he does collecting along the shores of the newly formed reservoir behind Fort Randall dam. As water levels fluctuate the wave action exposes artifacts. If the water level drops slowly the artifacts remain exposed, but if the drop is rapid many of the specimens are washed into the reservoir. Robert has done considerable work in such areas and frequently screens the mud here and in some of the smaller creeks. Not only has he found arrow heads and scrapers, but some pottery, too, has been recovered by this method.

Please remember, this is your publication and the publishing committee will be very happy to accept suggestions to better it, news clippings or what have you. Let's all help to make it interesting.

October 6, 1958

EMBERS OUT