

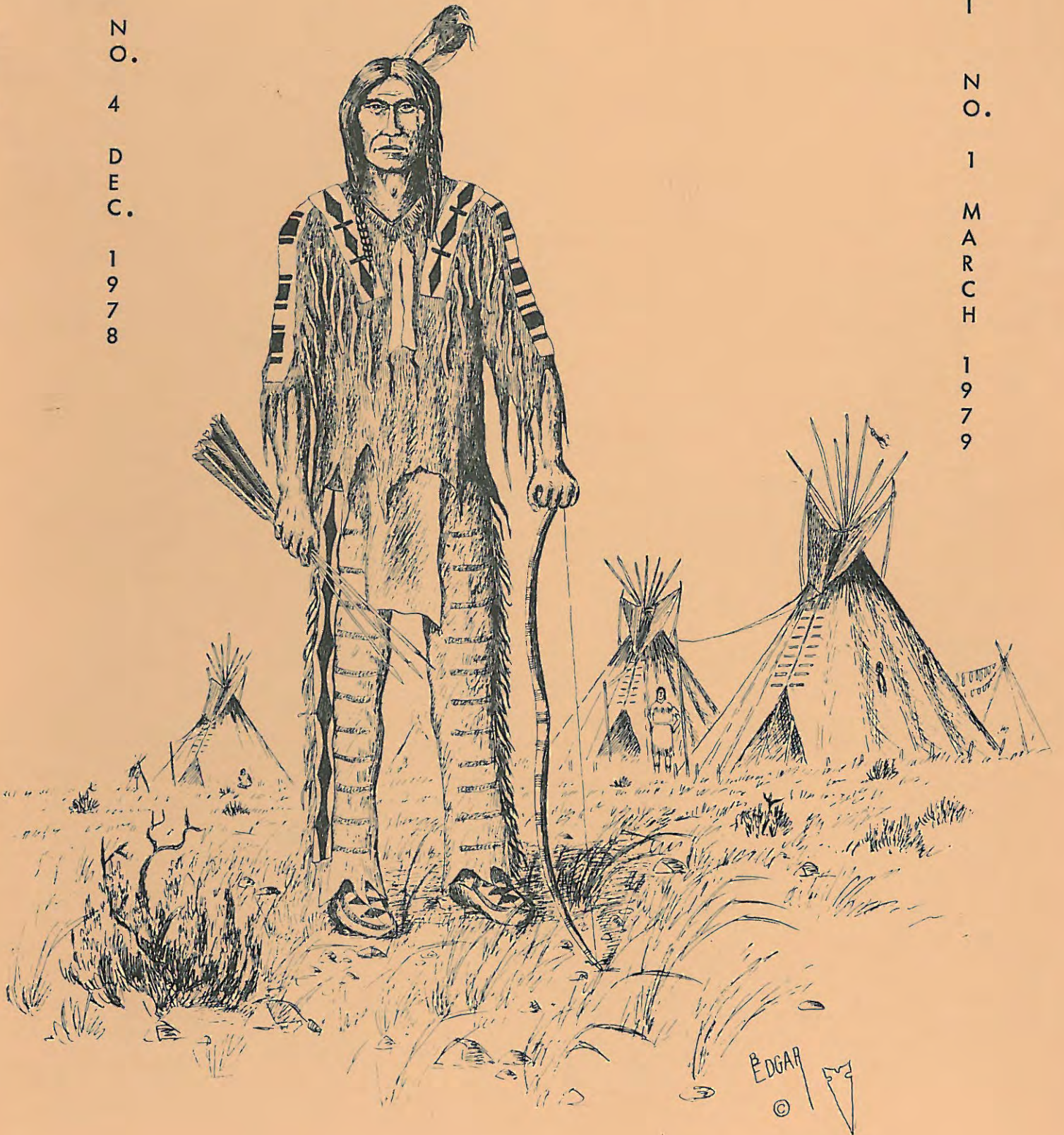
WYOMING  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

# THE WYOMING

# ARCHAEOLOGIST

VOL.  
XXI  
NO.  
4  
DEC.  
1978

VOL.  
XXII  
NO.  
1  
MARCH  
1979



was made as to what he is responsible for or what authority he has. A recent audit of the Recreation Commission wants clarification on this point, but the University is hesitant. Dr. Frison has been placed in the situation, at times, of having a possible conflict of interest due to this situation.

Comments were made on the amount of support received from various agencies in the State. This ranges from very good from the Recreation Commission to actual circumvention of the law whenever possible by certain other groups. Outside of Wyoming many look upon our state as a "happy hunting grounds". Dr. Frison has had to step on some toes to minimize the number of unqualified personnel showing up in our state.

The proposed Occasional Papers are now a reality, with the Little Goose Creek Report being on sale now. Plans for future issues include one on the Dead Indian Creek Site and the Helen Lookingbill Site.

A quick review of the year's work included comments on Agate Basin, the Horner Site, the Carter-Kerr McGee Site, Little Canyon Creek Site (which may be pre-Clovis), Bush Shelter, and the Helen Lookingbill Site. Data from Medicine Lodge Creek is being readied for publication next year.

In his final comments Dr. Frison asked for help from the Society in obtaining state-wide support for archaeology. This is vital in view of the rapid influx of large numbers of people, when it becomes easy to push archaeology aside if popular and legal support is not maintained.

Comments by George Zeimens

George Zeimens reported on the survey crew's activities during the past year. Thirty to sixty drill sites per week have been checked. This has made it possible for several students to get some training and experience, as well as earning some money. However, recent problems have arisen with the B.L.M. requirements. Several large surveys have also been done.

Further work at the Greyrock's Sites has revealed as many as twenty components, including a 5000-8000 BP level.

Paper by Kim Smiley, Recipient of the 1977 Mulloy Scholarship

Chuck Reher was presented to introduce papers being given. First, Kim Smiley, recipient of the 1977 Mulloy Scholarship, presented "Changes in Holocene Bison Cursorial Ability". This paper attempts to show behavioral changes in both man and bison based on bodily changes of the bison. It appears that earlier buffalo were larger and had greater running ability. Arroyo traps, procuring small numbers of animals, were common. Through time the bison size decreased, as did the running ability. This led to formation of larger herds for protection, which in turn caused man to use the jump or pound as the preferred method of kill.

Further Papers

Afternoon papers presented were led off by Rhoda Lewis, who discussed the

"Carter-Kerr McGee Methodology". One of the main items was the use of overhead photographs of each unit. These were developed at the site and then used for mapping.

Mary Lou Larson presented "The Charity Site: A Plains Archaic Site in Southeast Wyoming". She discussed the nature of the site, the method of selecting portions to be excavated, and different approaches to excavation of the same type of feature (in this case, firehearths).

William Tibesar presented a report of the Greyrocks Site. This nicely stratified site will be impacted by construction of the Missouri Basin Power Project at Wheatland. The site has yielded, among other things, pottery of the Woodland type.

A report on the stratigraphy and age of materials from Little Canyon Creek Cave was presented by Leslie Shaw. Due to discontinuities, the stratigraphic sequence of the cave is very complicated. Part of it appears to be older than 12,000 years. Good material from the Altithermal period is present.

Bill Latady also talked about Little Canyon Creek Cave. He has studied the large faunal remains and sees evidence for seasonal occupation of the site.

Judy Pinner presented "Firehearth Excavation Methods", a talk on the attempts to gain the greatest body of data with the least expenditure of time and money when digging firehearth sites.

Larry Todd presented "Long's Butte # 2: An Example of Controlled Surface Collection". He explained how the site was carefully surface mapped and collected. From this information several theories concerning the site purpose and usage can be proposed, such as use of the site at particular seasons as evidenced by the source of lithic materials.

John Albanese discussed the Geochronology of the Powder River Basin, with particular emphasis on the Holocene Period. John also demonstrated how archaeology and geology interact to the benefit of both. The rapid erosion and deposition of the area has produced several distinctive terraces such as the Lightning and Moorcroft.

Chuck Reher presented material on the River Bend Site, a protohistoric village on the outskirts of Casper. Work done at this site by both the University and Casper College led to recovery of much information on this site. Surprisingly, few sites of this age have been found and excavated in Wyoming, so this helps fill a gap in our knowledge of the area.

Jim Adams presented a complete report on the Smiley Springs Survey done by the Fremont Chapter during the past year. This well executed project included research on the geology and vegetation of the area as well as any historical significance. The on-the-ground survey revealed the existence of several prehistoric sites, which add significant information on the area to the State Site files.

Jack Hofman presented a talk on the Spiro Mound Site in southeast Oklahoma. There are both burial and village components in this site, which dates from 1150-1400 AD. A history of the management (mismanagement?) of the site was also presented, clearly demonstrating how improper handling of archaeological materials can be highly destructive.

Wrapping up an enjoyable afternoon, Julie Longnecker's paper on the Burials at Ft. Phil Kearny showed how a research design must be changed as information demands. What was originally thought to be the graves of several men previously unaccounted for, turned out to be horses buried by a local rancher!

#### Closing Comments

Closing comments included the plans to publish Chapter reports in The Wyoming Archaeologist. Dr. Frison's new book, Prehistoric Hunters of the High Plains, is now out and order blanks are available. Kim Smiley outlined the student publication presently being worked on. Orders can be placed through the Department of Anthropology. The Little Goose Creek Report is now on sale for \$1.50.

The Montana Archaeological Society state meet will be in Bozeman on April 15. The Blvaneses invited everyone to a cocktail party at their home tonight, following the banquet.

The meeting was adjourned.

#### Banquet, Awards Presented

At the banquet, held in the Drawbridge Room of the Town House Hotel, the Mulloy Scholarship was awarded to Mary Lou Larson who plans to start graduate studies next fall in California. The extra money in the Scholarship fund, collected by the Fremont Chapter in honor of Art Lookingbill, was presented to Julie Longenecker. Julie will also start graduate studies in the fall.

The Golden Trowel Award was presented to Irene Morgan for her many efforts in furthering archaeology in Wyoming. Due to her absence, Judy Pinner was very proud to accept the award for Irene.

#### Meadowcroft Rockshelter

Dr. James Adovasio of the University of Pittsburgh, presented a very lively talk and slide show on Meadowcroft Rockshelter near Pittsburgh, PA. This site was excavated with painstaking care, employing such things as light systems which provided shadow-free working in all areas of the cave. The site appears, at present, to be the best candidate for proving the existence of man in the New World before 11,500 BP.

A very pleasant cocktail party at the home of John and Evelyn Albanese brought the Wyoming Archaeological Society 1978 Spring Meeting to a close.

Respectfully submitted, Judy A. Pinner, Executive Secretary.