2009 CHAPTER INFORMATION

Absaroka Chapter
Chapter Address – PO Box 181 – Cody 82414-0181
Sylvia Huber, President – 307-527-7623
PO Box 522 – Cody 82414-0522
Email eagleofcody@trib.com
Kierson Crume, Vice President – 307-578-5929
PO Box 57 – Wapiti 82450-0057
Email keirson_crum@blm.gov
Rosemary Ginger, Secretary – 307-587-2041
2305 Tresler Ave – Cody 82414
Email rosginger@yahoo.com
Jackie Platt, Historian – 307-587-5031
202 23rd St – Cody 82414

Ancient Trails Chapter
Dr. Alice Tratebas, President
PO Box 883 – Newcastle 82701-0883

Casper Chapter
Dr. Mavis Greer, President – 307-473-2054
2599 S Paradise Dr – Casper 82604-3811
Email jgreer@greerservices.com
Dr. John Greer, Secretary – 307-473-2054
2599 S Paradise Dr – Casper 82604-3811
Email mgreer@greerservices.com
Gloria Boyce, Treasurer – 307-234-3898
7100 Old Salt Creek Hwy – Casper WY 82601-9612

Cheyenne Chapter
Dan Bach – Contact – 307-514-2685
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Email macroflora@msn.com

Cherokee Trail Chapter – inactive

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Margaret Harless, President – 307-856-3585
509 Northridge Dr – Riverton 82021-2625
Leniegh Shrinar, Vice President
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Email lschrin@tribcsp.com
Donna Peterson, Secretary
PO Box 348 – Riverton 82021-0348
Bill Porter, Treasurer – 307-856-6744
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Email wporter@wyoming.com
June Frison Chapter
William Scoggin – President
PO Box 458 – Rawlins 82301-0456
Email scoggin@tribcsp.com
Julie Francis, Vice President – 307-745-3410
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Email jfranc@state.wy.us
Carmen Clayton, Secretary – 307-745-7669
855 N Pine – Laramie 82072
Email cclay@state.wy.us
Dale Wedel, Treasurer – 307-744-6406
26775 Monroe St – Laramie 82070
Email dwedel@state.wy.us

Rawlins Chapter – inactive

Sheridan/Johnson County Chapter
Scott Burgan, President
1457 Pioneer Ed – Sheridan 82801-3333
BJ Earle, Vice President
PO Box 1106 – Buffalo 82834-1106

Sweetwater County Chapter
Bill Current, President – 307-362-0561
3200 Fir Dr – Rock Springs 82901

Teton County Chapter
Sal Rodriguez, President
PO Box 407 – Jackson 83001-0407
Email arryhead@aol.com

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Dale Wedel, President – 307-745-6406
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Email dwedel@state.wy.us
Janice Baars, 1st Vice President – 307-331-1177
1000 W 19th St – Wheatland 82201
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Larry Admundson, 2nd Vice President – 307-856-3373
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Email jazzamundson@wyoming.com
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Email jcbuff@bresnan.net
307-234-5424-h; 307-277-1370-c
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1000 W 19th St – Wheatland 82201
Email baars@wyomingwireless.com

Wyoming Archaeological Foundation
Judy Wolf, President – 307-742-5526
1657 Riverside Dr – Laramie 82070
Email jwolf@state.wy.us
(term expires 2009)
Barbara Nahas-Keiry, Secretary/Treasurer – 307-868-2685
PO Box 3146 – Cody 82414-3146
Email nahas@ctwest.net
Term expires ()

Eva Peden, Immediate Past President
145 Baldwin Dr – Lander 82520
Dr. George Frison, ex-officio – 307-745-9277
4619 Oriole Ln – Laramie 82070
Email gcfison@uwyo.edu
Dr. Mary Lou Larson, ex-officio – Laramie
Email mlarson@uwyo.edu
Dr. Mark Miller, ex-officio – Laramie
Email mmiller@uwyo.edu
THE WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGIST
VOLUME 52(1), SPRING 2008

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THIS ISSUE PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 2009
WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMORIAL GIFT or CONTRIBUTION FORM

Given by: Miss, Mrs., Mr., Ms., Dr. $ __________________________
(Amount)

Name: Last First Middle

Address: City & State Zip

Donor phone number ( ) ________________

TYPE OF GIFT: General Contribution [ ] Specific Contribution [ ]

In Memory of: ________________________________
Name City & State

In Honor of: ________________________________
Name City & State

Specify where you would like your money to go (e.g., Mulloy or Frison Scholarship Funds, The Wyoming Archaeologist, ???????)

Please make your check payable to THE WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Send to Carolyn Buff, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, 1617 Westridge Terrace, Casper, WY 82604

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION
MEMORIAL GIFT or CONTRIBUTION FORM

Given by: Miss, Mrs., Mr., Ms., Dr. $ __________________________
Amount

Name Last first Middle

Address City & State Zip

Donor phone number ( ) ________________

TYPE OF GIFT: General Contribution [ ] Specific Contribution [ ]

In Memory of: ________________________________
Name City & State

In Honor of: ________________________________
Name City & State

Specify where you would like your money to go (e.g., Hell Gap Site Research, other, ???????)

Please make your check payable to THE WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION
Send to Barbara Nahas, WAF Treasurer, PO Box 3146 – Cody 82414-3146 – 307-868-2685
IN MEMORIUM

AUDREY JOANN MAYCOCK
1916-2009

Audrey Maycock loosed her bonds, and left her earthly cares behind on May 4, 2009. From her daughter’s home in Phoenix, Arizona, she went to accept her reward for her charitable deeds and Christian life spent on earth.

Audrey Joann Maycock was born December 3, 1916 in Fenn, Idaho, to Manning Murl and Bethel Rowe Johnston. When she was six weeks old, she and her mother traveled to Gillette, Wyoming, by train, to meet her father who had homesteaded a dry land farm, six miles from Savagetown, Wyoming. It took two days by wagon to get from Gillette to the home.

She grew up on the farm, hoeing corn and walking or riding to country school from first grade through her sophomore year. In her junior and senior years, she worked for her room and board at the Sam Dickey home in Gillette, while she attended Campbell County High School. She graduated in 1934 as President of her class.

Following high school, she entered nursing school at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, in Hot Springs, South Dakota. She graduated in 1937 and returned to Gillette to work for Dr. McHenry at his hospital, then for Viola Saylor at the Gillette Hospital. She was active in the Wyoming Archeology Society, attending many “digs.” She served as President of the Gillette Chapter for many years. She was regularly invited to speak on Native Americans at Gillette grade schools, and maintained an interest in the history of the Native People throughout her life. Audrey was active in CowBelles, and spent one winter updating all the brands for the napkins.

In the fall of 1958, she and her family started living in Gillette during the school year. During that time, she worked at the office of Dr. Jerry Hannum and Dr. Joe Hoadley. She also worked in surgery, part-time, at the hospital. She became a skilled bowler and belonged to doubles and singles leagues.

After the twins graduated from high school in 1966, the family moved back to the ranch, but that fall Audrey commuted back to Gillette, filling in as grade school nurse.

In 1976, she was elected to the hospital board and served three years while the new hospital was being built.

She and Bill, spent the winters of 1983-’85 in St. George, Utah. Always one to stay busy, she took lessons in weaving. Later she traveled to Sheridan for lessons in Navajo weaving. One of her great delights was weaving rugs, saddle blankets and wall hangings for her children and grandchildren.

After her husband passed away in 1987, Audrey stayed on at the ranch helping in any capacity she could, and as always, was “the cook.”

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill, her son Michael, her son-in-law Darrell Coulter and a nephew, Craig Johnston.

She is survived by her daughter, Pamela, of Phoenix, AZ., sons, William P. “Billy” (Christina),
Mary Mehl Scarlett
1911-2009

A memorial service for Mary Mehl Scarlett will be held on Saturday, July 11, at one o’clock at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lander. Interment will take place at ten o’clock that morning at Mount Hope Cemetery. Visitation will be 4 -7 pm, Friday, July 10, 2009 at Hudson’s Funeral Home, Chapel of Mount Hope.

Mary was born on July 29, 1911, in Wayne, PA, the daughter of Theodore Ashmead Mehl and May Pennington Mehl. She attended Miss Sayward’s School for Girls, and later Baldwin’s School in Bryn Mawr, PA. On June 29, 1935, she married William (Bill) Richard Scarlett, Jr. They made their home in Overbrook Hills, PA, until after WWII, when they moved to Lander, Wyoming, and the family ranch on the Sweetwater River. Mary was a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Lander and a devoted member of the Daughters of the King. Mary and Bill were active members of the Wyoming Stockgrowers Association for decades and Mary, who was a charter member of both the Fremont County and Wyoming State Cowbelles, was instrumental in designing the first Cowbelle brand napkins for Fremont County. The family was very active in the Lander One Shot Antelope Hunt which originated on the Scarlett OHO ranch in 1940.

Starting in 1947, Mary prepared and served the annual Hunter’s Luncheon until 1981. She became famous for the variety of homemade cakes which were the center piece of the luncheon. An excellent cook, she was honored by having her German Chocolate cake recipe published in the Denver Post newspaper. Mary was devoted to her children, and was always supportive of their various activities. Family gatherings were among her favorite times. Hobbies and interests included: bridge, entertaining, cooking, sewing, knitting, embroidery, and reading. She was wonderfully creative, whether with a recipe, sewing machine, or needle.

Casper has been home to Mary for the last four years, where she enjoyed the many friends she made and the bridge games she played at Primrose Retirement Communities.

Mary is survived by her four children: Joan and Gene Thibodeaux, Houston; Dick and Maggie Scarlett, Jackson; Jack and Sue Scarlett, Lander, and Ruth Scarlett Stoval, Casper; nine grandchildren, twelve great grand children, two sisters, and a brother. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill, in 1982 and one brother. Memorials may be made to: One Shot Antelope Foundation, Water for Wildlife, 545 Main St., Lander, WY 82520; Daughters of the King, Trinity Episcopal Church, 860 S. Third St., Lander, WY; or Central Wyoming Hospice, 3 19 S. Wilson St., Casper, WY 82601.
NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wyoming Archaeological Society, Inc.
2009 Annual Meeting Minutes
8:06 a.m. – Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, WY
Saturday, April 4, 2009

Presiding: Dale Wedel, 1st Vice President

Call to Order: 8:06 a.m.

Report of Credentials Committee/Roll Call of Delegates: Executive Secretary/Treasurer Carolyn Buff certified the voting delegates: Absaroka – Kierson Crume and Sylvia Huber; Ancient Trails – Alice Tratebas; Casper – John Albanese and John Greer; Cheyenne – Dan Bach and Russ Kaldenberg; Fremont County – Larry Amundson and Eva Peden; June Frison – John Laughlin and Bill Scoggins; Sheridan/ Buffalo – BJ Earle; and Sweetwater County – Bill Current and Pat Doak.

Roll Call showed eight chapters represented: Absaroka, Ancient Trails, Casper, Cheyenne, Fremont, June Frison, Sheridan and Sweetwater. Not represented at the meeting were Cherokee, Rawlins and Teton. High Plains, Rawlins, and Teton are inactive.

Approval of Minutes of April 26, 2008:
Approved as distributed.

Treasurer’s Report: Executive Secretary/Treasurer Carolyn Buff gave the treasurer’s report showing a total net worth of $54,552.69, a net decrease of $3,867.42 over 2007, the decrease due to the WAS not having received the BLM reimbursement for the summer grant.. Motion by Bill Scoggins, second by John Laughlen to file the report for audit. Carried.

Auditor’s Report: Danny Walker, Sylvia Huber, and Bill Current performed the annual audit and found the accounts to be in order.

Editor’s Report: Danny Walker – reported that two issues of The Wyoming Archaeologist are printed and ready to be mailed once new mailing issues are resolved. All mailings now must be CASS certified in order to qualify for bulk rates. If not certified, first class postage must be affixed. The new rules will necessitate utilizing an outside source to do the certification. Danny will pursue a contract with a company who does this.

Manuscripts are desperately needed. At a brainstorming meeting on April 3, it was decided that the SHPO office will require the BLM and other federal agencies to do more public outreach so MOAs will require submission to the journal, not necessarily published, but submitted. In addition, the journal needs avocational submissions. Avocational manuscripts are not peer reviewed, only edited and then published. Professional submissions are peer reviewed. Danny has a list of reviewers. Any submission is appropriate: site reports, news from chapters, field trip experiences, etc. News items will be treated as news items. Russ Tanner is interested in renewing the book review section of the journal and there are currently several possibilities for that.

It was also suggested that a proposal to the Cultural Trust Fund be submitted to hire students to scan all of the back issues of the journal.

Librarian’s Report: Danny Walker – A student has organized the library following the move to the new anthropology building. The library has had major donations from the BLM and Bob Pickering and the Buffalo Bill Historical Center has donated 40 years of American Antiquity and the American Journal of Physical Anthropology.

Committee Reports: Scholarship: Carolyn Buff announced that the Scholarship Committee would meet at lunch to evaluate the scholarship applications.

SAA/COAS: Marcel Kornfeld distributed The Council of Affiliated Societies newsletter and announced that Gina Powell is the new editor. He also announced that the newsletter is available on the SAA web site. He is trying to get other states’ societies to participate in COAS since every newsletter has short items from societies. He requested news
The Wyoming Archaeologist

from Wyoming and it was pointed out that chapter reports are published in *The Wyoming Archaeologist*. It was also stressed that individuals shown in pictures must give written consent to print.

The Crabtree Award is given by the SAA each year to an avocational who has contributed to archaeology, but they must be a member of SAA.

SAA’s 75th anniversary meeting will be in St Louis.

**Chapter Reports:** The chapter reports will be published in *The Wyoming Archaeologist*.

**State Archaeologist’s Report:** Mark Miller announced that Dave Eckles had retired in December and was replaced by Paul Sanders.

George Gill and Rick Weathermon have published *Skeletal Biology and Bioarchaeology of the Northwestern Plains*, with a forward by William Bass, and is available at a conference discount rate.

The Plains Conference was a huge success with approximately 500 people in attendance.

Everyone is settled into the new anthropology building, and many site files are now digitized in the SHPO office. The UW Anthropology Museum is almost ready to receive the public.

The State of Wyoming is facing budget cuts, and the Office of the State Archaeologist has the smallest budget within the agency of State Parks and Cultural Resources. The cuts are probably going to affect travel and how often OWSA employees will be able to travel to chapters to give public presentations.

Miller is working with Cheyenne to update the State Parks and Cultural Resources web site.

**Old Business:**

**Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month:** Judy Wolf requested a donation of $250 to help support the poster, this year a picture of Fort Laramie (the 150th anniversary of Fort William) (June 19-21 anniversary celebration). Motion by Eva Peden, second by John Laughlin to approve the donation. Carried.

The Mummy Cave poster won second place at SAA. Judy is looking for ideas for the next poster.

**Wyoming History Day:** Will be April 21 in Laramie. WAS gives $100 annually to the best archaeology-related history project.

**Friends of the George G. Frison Institute:** Bill Scoggin, who has been designated as the liaison between the WAS and Friends group, reported that the Institute has undergone a required review; September 24, 3:00 will be the WAAM speaker and reception; the endowment is at approximately $100,000 with a goal of $200,000, which is matched by the state. Summer field work is scheduled at Hell Gap. The Hell Gap book is in press; out approximately May 1; and the 3rd edition of *Hunters of the High Plains* will be out later this year.

**Wyoming Archaeological Foundation:** Judy Wolf reported that the fundraiser poster is for sale at $25.00. Wolf reported that Hell Gap maintenance and upkeep was the primary focus for 2008. Some of the completed projects were: the entrance to the mine shaft has been secured with an iron gate so people will not be able to enter and get hurt; tree removal, fence fixing, and brush with fire potential was removed from the buildings; maintenance of the lab trailer and other small buildings around the premises was done; and a new hot water heater was installed.

School children and visiting researchers continue to visit the site.

The foundation’s fundraiser was kicked off at the Plains Conference in Laramie and proved to be a success. So that we can give grants to researchers we reprinted the “Clovis to Cowboy” poster to sell.

WAF issued grant guidelines for research. There were two applications received. One was withdrawn by the individual and one was granted. An announcement went out but for anyone who is not sure what the program is about, packets were made available.

**Names, addresses, etc.** will be published and Carolyn Buff requested that names, addresses, phone numbers and emails be updated as soon as possible.

**Ord Ranch Project:** John Laughlin announced that the Ord Ranch project has had no work done due to no access from the landowner.

**Wyoming Rock Art Interest Group:** Mike Bies and Larry Loendorf. Mike reported that approximately 80 people had shown interest. Over the next several months a list will be compiled to notify interested parties. A possible summer project was suggested – perhaps a project to see if all of the figures in Mary Helen Hendry’s book can be located, photographed, recorded and reassessed. The organized session for the Plains Conference was a success. Bies announced that the Buffalo Bill
Historical Center had recorded the rock art session and copies can be ordered.

**New Business**

**Fall Activities:** Mark Miller invited all attendees to the WAAM speaker on September 24 in Laramie. He also announced that the Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists is considering Lander for the fall meeting sometime in September with a change in the meeting format. An open session will be held following a short business meeting with the first topic being a discussion of problems in projectile point classification.

**At Will Employee Contract (AWEC):** Carolyn Buff for Paul Sanders. The Survey Section of the Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist is seeking persons interested in working in survey as temporary employees. Anyone interested should contact Paul.

**Brochures, Letterhead, Envelopes, Membership Cards:** are available from Carolyn Buff.

**Inactive Chapters:** High Plains, Platte County, Rawlins, Teton.

The Cherokee Trail Chapter voted to dissolve as of December 31, 2008. Motion by John Laughlin, second by Bill Current that the money from the chapter go into the general fund to be used for scholarships and general operating expenses.

**State Historic Preservation Office:** Ashley Rooney introduced herself as the liaison between the cultural resources department and the historical society. Her duties include legislative updates, program initiatives, etc. It was the consensus of the group that a letter be written to Milward Simpson, Director of State Parks and Cultural Resources requesting that Ashley also act as the liaison between cultural resources and the WAS. Carolyn Buff will draft a letter to the society requesting same.

**WAS/WAPA Web Site:** John Laughlin requested collaboration between the two groups to create a web site as beneficial to both organizations. Dan Bach (Cheyenne Chapter) will be the WAS representative to work on the project. Motion by John Albanese, second by Russ Kaldenburg to proceed. Carried.

**Election of Officers:** Larry Amundson, Chair, Fremont County; Sylvia Huber, Absaroka; Barbara Nahas, Absaroka; and Eva Peden, Fremont Chapter.

Nominated were Dale Wedel, June Frison Chapter, President, Janice Baars, June Frison Chapter, 1st Vice President, Larry Amundson, Fremont County Chapter, 2nd Vice President, and Margaret Harless as to the three-year term to the Wyoming Archaeological Foundation.

Motion by John Greer, second by Russ Kaldenburg to accept the slate as presented. Carried.

**2010 Nominating Committee:** Larry Amundson, second vice president, chair; Sylvia Huber and Mavis Greer

**Selection of Site for 2010 Annual Meeting:** The 2010 meeting will be held in Casper.

**Selection of Site for Summer Meeting:** Will be held at Hell Gap June 19-20, 2009, in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of Fort William (Fort Laramie).

**Announcements:** Carolyn Buff asked for an updated list of chapter officers.

The Wyoming Archaeological Foundation will meet at 7:30 a.m. at QT’s restaurant in the hotel, and the field trip to Legend Rock will take place following the WAF meeting on Sunday for anyone want to go. Due to the weather, a formal procession was canceled, and anyone wishing to visit the site was invited to do so.

Carolyn Buff announced that the membership database will be published in the journal, space permitting. Anyone not wanting their information published must make that request in writing.

The Island in the Plains Conference will be held May 9-10, 2009 in Custer, SD, with Mark Miller as the keynote speaker and field trips to an historic ranch and one to a rock art site.

The Rocky Mountain Conference will be held October 7-11, 2009 in Gunnison, CO.

If any one wishes to put together a poster or do any other project for COAS, please see Marcel Kornfeld after the meeting.

**Other Business to come Before the Body:** none

**Adjourn:** 10:14 a.m.

/s/ Carolyn M Buff
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

**AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT**

March 31, 2009

In accordance with the bylaws, the Auditing Committee has reviewed the Treasurer’s books and
records for the Wyoming Archaeological Society, Inc. for fiscal 2008.

AUDITING COMMITTEE SUMMARY
March 31, 2009

The Wyoming Archaeological Society, Inc. owns a checking account, a savings account, a money market account, and a certificate of deposit account at the Reliant Federal Credit Union, 900 Werner Court, #100, Casper, WY 82601.

Balance on hand March 31, 2008 – $58,420.11
Receipts
   Interest Earned – $2,050.05
   Deposits – $62,347.78
Disbursements – $7,795.09
Balance on hand March 31, 2009 – $54,552.69
Includes outstanding check(s) in the amount of $100.00, $14.00, and $26.55 and no outstanding deposits.

Audited and found correct.

/s/ Danny N Walker April 3, 2009
/s/ Sylvia Huber April 3, 2009
/s/ Bill Current April 3, 2009

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Minutes
April 4, 2000 – Sunset Restaurant – Cody WY 12:17 p.m.

Presiding: Carolyn Buff, Chair

Present: Larry Amudson, Carolyn Buff, Jim Buff, Bill Current, Barbara Nahas, Mary Lou Larson (ex officio), Mark Miller (ex officio), and Dale Wedel

Motion by Mark Miller, second by Mary Lou Larson to award the Mulloy scholarship to Sara Smith. Carried.

Motion by Dale Wedel, 2nd by Mark Miller to increase the amount to $1,000.00. Carried.

Discussion ensued about the scholarship meetings needing to be closed meetings due to the privileged nature of the information we receive from students. Since discussions often involve grade point averages and GPA is covered by the FERPA act, the meetings will be closed to all except the WAS executive committee, the state archaeologist, a representative from the University of Wyoming, a representative from the Wyoming Archaeological Foundation, and a representative from the Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists. The WAF and WAPA representatives will attend only if there are applications for the Jensen Travel Award.

There were no applications for the Frison Scholarship nor for the Jensen Traveling Doctoral Award.

Adjourn: 12:36 p.m.

/s/ Carolyn M Buff
Scholarship Chair
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/s/ Carolyn M Buff
Executive Secretary/Treasurer
THE WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGIST

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
CHAPTER REPORTS FOR THE 2008-2009 YEAR

ABSAROKA:
Testing/Excavation: Some members volunteered on excavations and assisted different organizations throughout the state.
Public Education: Distributed Archaeology Awareness month posters around the Big Horn Basin and gave talks at schools about archaeology. Took kids on field trips.
Work With Other Organizations: BLM, NPS, FS, Historical Preservation Board, museums, visitor centers; site stewardship program presented to Chapter; interacted with BLM on Bigh Horn Basin Resource Management Plan
Publications/Reports: Annual “Platte Site” report sent to office of State Lands
Programs Presented: Alaska Archaeology by Jeremy Karchut; Backcountry Archaeology on the Upper Greybull by Dr Larry Todd; Legend Rock Petroglyphs by Dr Danny Walker; Exploring Social and Historical Landscapes of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem by Laura Scheiber and Judson Finley; Old and New Discovered Sites of Interest in Western Wyoming by Sam Drucker

CASPER:
Programs Presented: Guadalupe Mountains Rock Art Project, Passport-in-Time, Lincoln National Forest, New Mexico by Dr John Greer; Peruvian Archaeology: A Mini Tour by David Vlcek; Abrigo do Sol: A Significant Archaeological Site in Brazil by John Albanese; Ceramic Identification from Fort Lookout II, 39LM57, Fort Randall Reservoir, SD by Dr Kerry Lippincott; The Arrest of Wyatt Earp at Slaterange and the Beginning of the Searles Valley Potash Wars by Russell Kaldenberg; Overview of the Atlatl: The Spearthrower in History and Modern Use by Russell Richard
Other: Field Trip to Cedar Ridge TCP Site Complex with BLM archaeologists

FREMONT COUNTY:
Survey: Relocating, mapping, GPS recording several stone circle sites, report to BLM
Testing/Excavation: Legend Rock

PUBLIC EDUCATION:
Public notice of, and invitation to, regular meetings and programs with posters, articles in newspapers, three radio stations, and TV bulletin board. Events and meetings sent to BLM calendar and public invitation issued. Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month posters and pamphlets to schools, libraries, college buildings and senior citizens’ centers.
Work With Other Organizations: Volunteers worked with Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and University of Wyoming
Publications/Reports: Booklets distributed to members with programs, dates, member names and phone numbers
Programs Presented: Legend Rock by Dr Danny Walker; Mountain Archaeology by Dan Eakin; Forest Archaeology by Dave McKee; Greek Archaeology by Craig Bromley; Southwest Petroglyph Slides; Egyptian Archaeology by Drs John and Mavis Greer; Aleutian Island Mummies by Gail Gossett; and Geology and Archeology: How They Interact

JUNE FRISON CHAPTER:
Survey: Archaeological reconnaissance of Indian Creek in Yellowstone National Park as well as selected portions of the Nez Perce Trail
Testing/Excavation: High Rise Village in the Wind River Range, finding two lodges and a large assemblage of perishable and non-perishable artifacts and features
Public Education: Several programs around the state; video of High Rise Village
Work with Other Organizations: Worked with federal employees as well as individuals from the Wind River Reservation, Colorado State University, and the private sector
Programs Presented: Summer on the Range: UW Archaeological Fieldwork 2008 by Drs Robert Kelly, Charles Reher and Marcel Kornfeld; Bison and Bison Behavior by Pete Gardner; The Laramie Landscape by Dr Charles Reher; Investigating the Dune Murder in Carbon County Wyoming, Circa 1880-1920 by Dr Mark Miller; Recent Visits to Rapa Nui and How Did They Really Move Those Stones? By Dr Julie Francis; The Early Arctic Small Tool Tradition in the Gates of the Arctic National Park by Andy Tremayne; From Paleolithic to Shogun: A Brief Archaeological Tour of Japan by Dr Marcel Kornfeld
This issue of *The Wyoming Archaeologist* continues the reprinting of a series of articles originally published in the *Annals of Wyoming* (journal of the Wyoming Historical Society) between 1955 and 1961, in the years the Wyoming Archaeological Society was in its infancy and during the early years of *The Smoke Signal* and *The Wyoming Archaeologist*. These reports document some of the early archaeological research and work of early members of the Society, illustrating the role played in the development of the present role of the society in today’s research. The articles are reprinted with the permission of the editorial board for *Annals*, Dr. Rick Ewig, Editor. While some of the concepts discussed are no longer considered valid in today’s archaeological world, we must consider the content in the context of the day: some of the earliest archaeological studies ever conducted in Wyoming.

Most of these articles were prepared by Mr. L. C. Steege of the Cheyenne Chapter, WAS at the time. Lou was devoted to recording the prehistory and early history of Wyoming and his concerns show in these articles. Some news reports were also prepared by members of the Sheridan Chapter, primarily Dr. R. C. Bentzen and Glenn Sweem. Lou’s background, qualifications and experience was presented in 1957 (*Annals of Wyoming* 29(1):121):

LOUIS C. STEEGE, a native of Bums, Wyoming, and a resident of Cheyenne, is a postal transport clerk, a position he has held since June 1941. He has been a student of archaeology for a number of years and is a member of the Society for American Archaeology, the Loveland Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society, and was appointed the Archaeologist of the Wyoming State Historical Society in 1956 and reappointed in 1957. He is past president of the Laramie County Chapter of the Wyoming State Historical Society. He served as chairman of the Archaeological Committee for the State Society in 1955-56 and worked with other groups to have the Frontier Creek petrified forest area in Wyoming preserved. Mr. Steege gives volunteer service to the Wyoming State Museum and has cataloged much of the Indian artifact collection in the museum and assisted with setting up some of the displays. In 1939 he was married to Berenice J. Merrick and they are the parents of three children, Sherry Lou, Janice Elaine and Tommy Dale.

Some news reports were also prepared by members of the Sheridan Chapter, primarily Dr. R. C. Bentzen and Glenn Sweem. These two Sheridan members also published many early articles on Wyoming archaeology, or presented the results of the Society’s research at professional archaeological meetings, often to rave reviews by professionals who were astonished “amateurs” could do such research with no formal training. Two of these site reports on Sheridan Chapter activities are especially important for making once again available: the society conducted major excavations and recording at the Little Bald Mountain site and several other sites, including at least two major bison kills, but more importantly, the Sheridan Chapter conducted the only formal archaeological investigations at the Medicine Wheel, a National Historic Landmark located above timberline in the Bighorn Mountains.

We hope you enjoy this trip down memory lane.
In attempting to write up the history of the Wyoming Archaeological Society, I shall give the doings and findings of the group as viewed by me, the Society's first President, as best I can for the year 1953.

Before going further I want to express my gratitude, as well as that of my entire Society, to Miss Lola M. Homsher, of Cheyenne, for her invitation to share some of the pages of the Annals of Wyoming through that most worthy Society, the Wyoming State Historical Society, of which I am also a member. I feel further indebted to her for her invitation to join this last mentioned group as I have always felt that archaeology is in no way complete without a comprehensive chronology or history of any archaeological item no matter how small or insignificant. In other words, when an archaeological find is made and the data is scientifically recorded and the item placed in a museum, the archaeologist's work is done and the whole thing passes into history. It is my belief, therefore, that the two Wyoming Societies should go hand in hand towards the betterment of a greater and more enlightened Wyoming. As a collector of Indian artifacts for years, I have dreamed of forming an Archaeological Society here in my own home state, that, through concerted efforts, we could secure legislation that would save, to the State of Wyoming, her precious store of stone-age artifacts.

On Feb. 4, 1953, my dreams began to be a reality when a few of my friends gathered here at my home, and we planned the first steps in what has become the Wyoming Archaeological Society. I was elected the Society's first President while John McClintock was elected Vice-President and Pauline McIntosh, Secretary-Treasurer, the latter two of Sheridan. There were six members present at this meeting and their names are as follows: Pauline McIntosh; Dr. Raymond Bentzen; John McClintock; Margaret Powers; my wife, Alice Hilman, and myself.

While on a trip to Colorado, previously, I had contacted a member of the Colorado chapter of Archaeology, Mr. H. N. McConnell of Boulder, and he was kind enough to forward me later a copy of their by-laws which we, in part, used as a basis for our own Society. Since that date we have changed our by-laws as seen best to fit our own needs.

During the year 1953 our Society grew from its six original members to forty paid memberships and four honorary members. The annual dues and membership fee in the Wyoming Archaeological Society is $2.50. The eligibility to have previously been bitten by that most elusive of all bugs, the "artifacts" bug, and a desire to work to achieve, in a scientific manner, the preservation of our so-called Indian artifacts.

I herewith enclose a copy of our by-laws which, at the present writing, we are using as complete except for the fact that we are in the process of incorporation.

Many of our members have fine and extensive collections, some that would rival any private collection I have ever seen anywhere. None that I know of are for sale, and to offer to buy an artifact from one of our members is almost taken as an insult.

To give a summary of the various types and kinds of artifacts found here in northern Wyoming would consume considerable space, but suffice it to say that the usual western plains types predominate with here and there an object of foreign vintage in evidence. Now and then some members of our group find an artifact that was manufactured many hundreds of miles away from Wyoming. For instance, arrows and spear points made of Mississippi Valley chert are occasionally found here, and I have in my collection two or three points that, through some unknown channel, found their way here from the much famed Cahokia mounds in Illinois. I have found points here that were made in Mexico, or as far away as the Rio Grande. There are occasional finds made here which include the much discussed Yuma
and the Folsom and Yuma half-breed; also the willow-leaf, which is typical of the Arkansas valleys; and now and then the beautiful black obsidian points from the shores of Oregon. Very little pottery is found here in northern Wyoming. Few effigies and ceremonials have made their appearance here, but the famed corner tang and back tang are found to exist in many collections.

To get back to the history of the Wyoming Archaeological Society, we meet the first Monday of each month at eight o’clock P.M. at each member’s home previously arranged. We arrange our programs for a full year ahead, giving us ample time to arrange for lecture course and details. Throughout the summer season, and weather permitting, we intend to hold field meets on Sundays and holidays, this in addition to our regular monthly meetings. One of our most interesting meetings last year was a field trip to our famed Medicine Wheel which lies atop the Big Horn Mountains and is considered by many authorities to be an ancient shrine. Another interesting field day was a trip into one of our large caves where we dug test holes to find if primitive man had one day lived within.

We are holding all-American Indian Days here again in Sheridan, Wyoming, and our Archaeological group had several fine artifact collections on display in business windows; and, again this year we intend to have a much finer display than ever before.

During the 1953 season our Archaeological members found many fine artifacts. Most predominant in numbers, of course, were the scrapers, then arrows and spear points, drills, reamers, piercers, hammers, manos, metates, smoothing stones, etc., and even a few corner tangs and lances.

I would like to stress one very important point and that is the absolute necessity of proper handling of skeletal finds and any and all other finds that are of any importance because, once an object is removed from its original resting place, its value to science may be lost entirely without having first been properly photographed, its position as related to its surrounding objects carefully noted, and all other possible data carefully saved. Much has been lost on account of indiscriminate digging, and I would strongly recommend that a capable party be called in before a find of this nature is disturbed.

At the Society’s last meeting it was decided that members of our group will take an Archaeological course here at Sheridan through our local Northwest College as soon as a suitable teacher is secured. The Wyoming Archaeological Society finished its first year’s existence on Feb. 4, 1953, and at that time opinion was expressed that we, as a Society, had at least made a start in the right direction and had accomplished considerable, at least for a bunch of amateurs. The following officers were chosen to head the Society for the second year: Fred Hilman as President; Mrs. Margaret Powers of Big Horn, Wyoming, Secretary-Treasurer; and Claude Gettys, of Story, Wyoming, Vice-President.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I -- NAME
The name of this organization shall be Wyoming Archaeological Society.

ARTICLE II -- PURPOSE
The purpose of the organization shall be to promote the study of the archaeology of Wyoming and other States among its members in the community, to take part in further investigation in that field, to assist in the protection of the antiquities of the State.

ARTICLE III -- MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. Any person interested in archaeology may become an active member of the Society by making application and paying the annual dues.
Section 2. All persons who made application previous to the adoption of the constitution shall be charter members.
Section 3. Active memberships shall lapse in case of non-payment of the annual dues, within a reasonable period after notice has been given by the secretary.
Section 4. Associate members and honorary members may be elected in accordance with the rules of the Society.

ARTICLE IV -- DUES
The annual dues shall be two dollars and fifty cents ($2.50).

ARTICLE V -- OFFICERS
Section 1. The officers of the organization shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and such others as the Society may provide for.
Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be those
usual to the offices named, with additional duties as the Society may impose upon them.

Section 3. The officers shall constitute an Executive Committee, with power to arrange for programs and to attend to other business and interests of the Society, subject to the Society’s approval.

Section 4. Officers shall be elected for a term of one year, the election to be held, ordinarily, at the last regular meeting of the academic year.

ARTICLE VI -- MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Society shall be held each month during the fiscal year.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called at any time by the officers, or by any five members. Members must be duly notified of such meetings in advance.

ARTICLE VII -- QUORUM

At regular meetings the members present shall constitute a quorum. At all other meetings a quorum shall consist of one half the active membership.

ARTICLE VIII -- AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Society, provided that notice of the proposed change was given at a previous regular meeting, and that all members have been notified of the proposed amendment.

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WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

REPORT ON AN ACT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICAN ANTIQUITIES (Public-No. 209) *

By

L. C. STEEGE

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that any person who shall appropriate, excavate, injure, or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity, situated on lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States, without the permission of the Secretary of the Department of the Government having jurisdiction over the lands on which said antiquities are situated, shall upon conviction, be fined in a sum of not more than five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for a period of not more than ninety days, or shall suffer both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic land-marks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and may reserve as a part there-of parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected: Provided, that when such objects are situated upon a tract covered by a bona fide unperfected claim or held in private ownership, the tract, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the proper care and management of the object, may be relinquished to the Government, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to accept the relinquishment of such tracts in behalf of the Government of the United States.

Sec. 3. That permits for the examination of ruins, the excavation of archaeological sites, and the gathering of objects of antiquity upon the lands under their respective jurisdictions may be granted by the Secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture, and War to institutions which they may deem properly qualified to conduct such examination, or gathering, subject to such rules and regulations as they may prescribe: Provided, that the examinations, excavations, and gatherings are undertaken for the benefit of reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions, with a view to increasing the knowledge of such objects, and that the gatherings shall be made for permanent preservation in public museums.

Sec. 4. That the Secretaries of the Departments aforesaid shall make and publish from

* 1959 Annals Editor’s Note: Because so much of Wyoming’s archaeological material is being lost to the state through neglect, improper excavation, and through removal from the state by other institutions, the Executive Committee of the Wyoming State Historical Society has become concerned over the situation. Mr. Steege, as a member of the Executive Committee, was requested to investigate into the federal laws governing such antiquities. This report is the result of his inquiries. * Editor’s Note: Because so much of Wyoming's archaeological material is being lost to the state through neglect, improper excavation, and through removal from the state by other institutions, the Executive Committee of the Wyoming State Historical Society has become concerned over the situation. Mr. Steege, as a member of the Executive Committee, was requested to investigate into the federal laws governing such antiquities. This report is the result of his inquiries.
time to time uniform rules and regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Approved, June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. L. 225)

You will note that there is no provision for State Historical Societies to be eligible to do any excavating, or to gather any objects of antiquity under this act. However, through the untiring efforts of one of the most outstanding men of our State, The Wyoming State Historical Society has been given consideration to make application for archaeological permits.

I believe that it would be most fitting at this time to pause for a moment to pay our respects to the memory of this great Statesman, our late Senator, Lester C. Hunt. Senator Hunt devoted a great deal of time towards the preservation of history in Wyoming and his efforts in this particular case were unlimited.

The following are the uniform rules and regulations as prepared by the departments of Agriculture, War, and Interior to carry out the provisions of the Antiquities Act.

1. Jurisdiction over ruins, archaeological sites, historic and prehistoric monuments and structures, objects of antiquity, historic landmarks, and other objects of historic or scientific interest, shall be exercised under the act by the respective Departments as follows:

   By the Secretary of Agriculture over lands within the exterior limits of forest reserves, by the Secretary of War over lands within the exterior limits of military reservations, by the Secretary of Interior over all other lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States, provided, The Secretaries of War and Agriculture may by agreement cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior in the supervision of such monuments and objects covered by the act of June 8, 1906, as may be located on lands near or adjacent to forest reserves and military reservations, respectively.

2. No permit for the removal of any ancient monument or structure which can be permanently preserved under the control of the United States in Site, and remain an object of interest, shall be granted.

3. Permits for the examination of ruins, the excavation of archaeological sites, and the gathering of objects of antiquity will be granted, by the respective Secretaries having jurisdiction, to reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions, or to their duly authorized agents.

4. No exclusive permits shall be granted for a larger area than the applicant can reasonably be expected to explore fully and systematically within the time limit named in the permit.

5. Each application for a permit should be filed with the Secretary having jurisdiction, and must be accompanied by a definite outline of the proposed work, indicating the name of the institution making the request, the date proposed for beginning the field work, the length of time proposed to be devoted to it, and the person who will have immediate charge of the work. The application must also contain an exact statement of the character of the work, whether examination, excavation, or gathering, and the public museum in which the collections made under the permit are to be permanently preserved. The application must be accompanied by a sketch plan or description of the particular site or area to be examined, excavated, or searched, so definite that it can be located on the map with reasonable accuracy.

6. No permit will be granted for a period of more than three years, but if the work has been diligently prosecuted under the permit, the time may be extended for proper cause upon application.

7. Failure to begin work under a permit within six months after it is granted, or failure to diligently prosecute such work after it has been begun, shall make the permit void without any order or proceeding by the Secretary having jurisdiction.

8. Applications shall be referred to the Smithsonian Institution for recommendation.

9. Every permit shall be in writing and copies shall be transmitted to the Smithsonian Institution and the field officer in charge of the land involved. The permittee will be furnished with a copy of these rules and regulations.

10. At the close of each season’s field work the permittee shall report in duplicate to the Smithsonian Institution, in such form as its, Secretary may prescribe, and shall prepare in duplicate a catalogue of the collections and of the photographs made during the season, indicating therein such material, if any, as may be available for exchange.

11. Institutions and persons receiving permits for excavation shall, after the completion of the work, restore the lands upon which they have worked to their customary condition, to the satisfaction of the field officer in charge.

12. All permits shall be terminable at the discretion of the Secretary having jurisdiction.

13. The field officer in charge of land owned or controlled by the Government of the United
States shall, from time to time, inquire and report as to the existence, on or near such lands, of ruins and archaeological sites, historic or prehistoric ruins or monuments, objects of antiquity, historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures and other objects of historic or scientific interest.

14. The field officer in charge may at all times examine the permit of any person or institution claiming privileges granted in accordance with the act and these rules and regulations, and may fully examine all work done under such permit.

15. All persons duly authorized by the Secretaries of Agriculture, War, and Interior may apprehend or cause to be arrested, as provided in the act of February 6, 1905 (33 Stat. L., 700) any person or persons who appropriate, excavate, injure, or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity on lands under the supervision of the Secretaries of Agriculture, War, and Interior respectively.

16. Any object of antiquity taken, or collection made, on lands owned or controlled by the United States, without a permit, as prescribed by the act and these rules and regulations, or there taken or made, contrary to the terms of the permit, or contrary to the act and these rules and regulations, may be seized wherever found and at anytime, by the proper field officer or by any person duly authorized by the Secretary having jurisdiction, and disposed of as the Secretary shall determine, by deposit in the proper national depository or otherwise.

17. Every collection made under the authority of the act and of these rules and regulations shall be preserved in the public museum designated in the in the permit and shall be accessible to the public. No such collection shall be removed from such public museum without the written authority of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and then only to another public museum, where it shall be accessible to the public; and when any public museum, which is a depository of any collection made under the act and these rules and regulations, shall cease to exist, every such collection in such public museum shall thereupon revert to the national collections and be placed in the proper national depository.

In reviewing a report of archaeological activity in Wyoming for the years of 1952-1953, in Southwestern Lore Volume XIX No 4 March 1954, I find work being done by four universities and institutions in addition to our own university.

Did you know that the material collected by these archaeologists from other states will probably be lost to our state forever? Also, that the history of these archaeological sites will be written by the universities and institutions from outside our borders who have these archaeologists in the field? Wake up Wyoming! Let’s start writing more Wyoming archaeological history in Wyoming.

**WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES**


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH FOR 1958**

Through cooperation with the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service, two major archaeological research programs are being planned for the summer of 1958.

A joint research program sponsored by the University of Wyoming and the Wyoming Archives and Historical Department will place a large crew in the field in the Glendo region in June. The crew, consisting of both excavating and mapping units, will be under the supervision of Dr. William Mulloy of the University of Wyoming and Louis C. Steege of the Wyoming State Museum. This joint project is a continuation of research started in the area in 1957 by a field crew of the University of Wyoming. The tentative plans are for the complete excavation of one site, and detailed mapping of other sites in the area.

The second major field operation is tentatively set for the month of August. The exact starting date has not been set as yet. This program will be sponsored by the Wyoming Archaeological Society of Sheridan, Wyoming. The crew, made up of members from the Society, will be under the direction of Dr. Raymond Bentzen. The project will be the complete mapping of the famous “Medicine Wheel”, and the surrounding area on Medicine Mountain near Kane, Wyoming.
On October 20, 1957, Mr. W. W. Morrison, authority on Emigrant Trail Burials, Mr. H. W. Ford, engineer from the Glendo Area Construction office of the Bureau of Reclamation, and Mr. L. C. Steege, archaeologist for the Wyoming State Historical Society, investigated all the known locations of pioneer burials in the Glendo Reservoir Area. Nine questionable sites were checked as non-burial locations. One was marked for later examination. Two known burials were located with some difficulty in Section 1, Township 30N, Range 69W.

The rocks which covered one grave had sunk into the ground and vegetation had grown over the entire area. By probing with bars, one burial was located. The second burial had not been covered with rocks and consequently a considerable amount of time was spent in trying to locate it. The only information available on these two burials was given by Mr. L. C. Bishop and is as follows: “The identity of these two men is unknown. Their bodies were found in a drift in a bend of the North Platte River by a Mr. Roedigger in 1890. The remains had been in the river for some time before they had been discovered. They were buried in two graves near the drift”.

These remains were relocated on a point above high water level about 500 feet southwest of the original burials on October 22 by L. C. Steege, H. C. Towns and H. W. Ford. The relocated burials were covered with talus from the slopes of the surrounding hills. A large boulder serves as a headstone.

On the same date, the site marked for later examination was rechecked. This site was located near the bottom of the reservoir and consisted of a scattered pile of large boulders. This location was criss-crossed with three exploratory trenches about ten inches in depth in brule. One wall of each trench was profiled. By this method it was revealed that the earth beneath the rockpile had never been disturbed previously. The site was then abandoned as a possible burial.

This project was carried out through the cooperation of the National Park Service and in compliance with Federal regulations concerning the relocation of burials within a reservoir area.

Investigations at this site included the excavation of a stratified site, excavation of a cave, excavations of stone rings and habitation sites. Charcoal samples for carbon 14 dating were taken from numerous hearths. A topographical map was made of the area locating all exploratory trenches and pits in addition to
440 individual features such as hearths and stone rings.

On Sunday, June 22 a caravan of 32 cars and 134 persons member of various Mineral and Gem Societies of Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming, were taken on a conducted tour of the digging. On the following Sunday, June 29th, 86 persons, members of the Wyoming State Historical Society from Albany, Platte, Goshen, Niobrara, Natrona and Laramie counties, and members of the Loveland Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society, were taken on a conducted tour of the site.

The research at Glendo has revealed an additional supply of information on the little known lives of Wyoming's vegetarian inhabitants of the Middle Prehistoric Period which dates back about 3,500 years.

KAUFMANN CAVE
The Kaufman Cave, near Sheridan, Wyoming, was excavated over the long 4th of July weekend by members of the Wyoming Archaeological Society under the direction of Dr. R. C. Bentzen, Glenn Sweem and Don Grey. The cave had served as a shelter for many different peoples of prehistoric times. Samples of charcoal were taken from the many hearths found in the cave.

Numerous artifacts were discovered as well as bones of several different species of animals and birds.

MEDICINE WHEEL
During the first part of August, members of the Wyoming Archaeological Society, under the direction of Dr. R. C. Bentzen, conducted a research program at the site of the Medicine Wheel near Kane, Wyoming, with permission of the Forest Service. Detailed maps of the Wheel were made. Charcoal samples for carbon 14 dating were obtained from a fire hearth. Stone artifacts, potsherd and beads were recovered from this site. Some wood samples for dendrochronology were obtained. Upon completion of the laboratory work, a true date for this Medicine Wheel should be forthcoming.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE BIG HORN BASIN
A field party from the Roswell Museum, New Mexico, under the direction of David Gebhard, spent the past season investigating some cave shelter sites in the Upper Wind River Valley and also continued with their archaeological survey of the middle and upper Big Horn Basin. A report on this work is not available at this time.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
By Glenn D. Sweem
The Wyoming Archaeological Society Inc., organized in Sheridan in 1953, now has three active chapters in the state. These chapters are located at Sheridan, Casper, and Cody (Big Horn Basin Chapter).

Plans are being formulated for the organization of two new chapters this winter at Cheyenne and Rawlins, and other chapters in other parts of the state later on.

A Highway Salvage Agreement has been drawn up by the Wyoming Archaeological Society and is under consideration by the State Highway Commission. This cooperative agreement, if accepted by the Commission, will facilitate the salvage, preservation, and interpretation of the archaeological, historical, and paleontological remains that are threatened with destruction by the stepped up highway construction program.

An Antiquities Bill is being prepared by the Society to be presented for passage at the 1961 State Legislature. This bill, if passed, will better protect Wyoming's historical, archaeological, and paleontological sites and restrict the movement of specimens from these sites to out-of-state collections.

A number of scientific explorations and excavations were conducted by the Casper and Sheridan Chapters during the 1960 season. Casper chapter excavated at the Lee Site (48JO326), which is located north of Midwest
and appears to be an old winter camp site that has been used for quite a span of time by ancient peoples. This site is located along the south exposure of a cliff face which no doubt afforded protection from the elements to the inhabitants: The camp area of this site is quite large and has a vertical depth of nearly 20 feet exposed along a vertical bank cut by a meandering stream. This vertical bank exhibits a number of fire hearths and bones exposed at different levels of occupation along this face.

Excavation at the present time consists of an exploratory trench nearly 60 feet long, 5 feet wide, and nearly 8 feet deep which has revealed a number of occupational levels and has produced arrow and lance points, knives, drills, scrapers, hammerstones, bone awls, bone beads, and pottery fragments.

Casper Chapter members, are working this site weekends, and whenever they can find time. Probably two more years of excavation will be necessary to complete this site.

The Sheridan Chapter conducted a number of field trips and excavations during the summer of 1960. From July 15th to July 27th, a field party led by President Sweem excavated a number of sites on the Taylor Ranch in the Hole-in-the-Wall Country, along the Middle Fork of Powder River drainage.

Work was concluded on the Sweem-Taylor Rock Shelter Site (48JO301), and the Grey-Taylor Rock Shelter Site (48JO303) which were partially excavated during the 1959 season. The Sweem-Taylor Rock Shelter is a well stratified site that produced some 260 artifacts consisting of arrow and spear points, knives, scrapers, awls, grinding stones, and bone implements. An unusual type of point was found in the lower occupational layer of this site along with McKean point variants. This point has expanded basal edges and a deeply indented base. (See Fig. A, Plate 1.) Such a point is described by Robert Lister as coming from the Hells Midden Site in Colorado, and Rogers describes it as coming from the Amargosa Industry of the Mohave Desert California. The Amargosa Industry is believed to post date the Pinto-Gypsum complex.

Material from this Sweem-Taylor Rock Shelter Site was submitted to Dr. Kennedy at UCLA for dating by the Thermaluminence process. A tentative date in excess of 3200 years has been estimated for this site for the present.

Work was completed on the -Grey-Taylor (48JO301) Rock Shelter Site with further exploratory excavations being done on the midden perimeter to locate the extent of the habitation area. This rock shelter revealed three cultural layers, the lowest of which can be dated probably Early Middle Period, because of the finding of Meserve points in conjunction with and below the McKean cultural layer. The Meserve culture at the type site is estimated at about 9000 years old, and this will be the tentative date set for this site until we get a positive date from the material submitted for thermaluminence at the UCLA laboratories.

In 1959 Charles Schulz, a member of this society, reported a group of rock shelters near the head of Blue Creek. This summer, Glenn Sweem and a crew from the Sheridan Chapter did some work at this site, but little was found. Pot hunters had severely disturbed a large area of the floor in the shelter since 1959.

Excavation at the site consisted of sinking two five-foot squares to bedrock to sample the stratigraphy and excavating two additional squares to sterile levels. Artifact production was small, and only three diagnostic items were produced. These consisted of one corner-notched point and two points which may be McKean variants. These points resemble the basic McKean in almost every way except that it is relatively wider, and its absolute length may be somewhat longer than the average McKean although too few specimens have been averaged to establish this fact. This type of point’s contemporaneity with the McKean Complex is strongly indicated in several sites, including Signal Butte in Nebraska, LoDaiska Site in Colorado, and the Sweem-Taylor and Grey-Taylor Sites in Wyoming. (See Fig. B, Plate 1.)

A fortified butte, Site 48JO308, near the head of Blue Creek, was shown to the summer field party by Mr. B. E. Turk of Sussex. This site is a rock-capped butte, fairly well isolated from the surrounding hills, and whose slopes
are fairly steep, with several cliffs out cropping around the slopes. It is upon these cliff outcrops, around the base of the cap rock, and on ledges and crevices of the cap rock that are located at strategic and protected places that 22 breastworks were built up out of boulders and rock and some pieces of log. The breastworks are large enough to hold from one to probably five or six men and vary in height from a few inches to two or three feet. Two of the breastworks incorporate the trunks of living trees in their construction. These trees are quite large and probably fairly old. Two other breastworks have trees growing up out of them, no doubt since the structures were built. Tree ring cores were taken with an increment borer from dead logs incorporated in two of the structures, from the old living trees whose trunks were used as part of the breastwork, and from the younger trees that have grown up since construction. Through dendrochronology, we will be able to get a minimum and maximum date as to when these breastworks could have been built. This site was mapped, photographed, and examined closely for any evidence that might shed any light on its defenders. One bit of information that was found, but which we doubt is associated with the breastworks, was a name carved into a blaze on one of the tree trunks. The name was A. Seeley, dated July 1898.

Other sites at which preliminary investigations were conducted by the field party this summer, and where further work is indicated were a mass burial site, a petroglyph site, an Indian village site, a cairn marked trail, and an early man site which will probably date back in
time further than anything so far located in this part of Wyoming.

Eugene Galloway, a member of the Sheridan Chapter from Buffalo, discovered a site yielding Agate Basin materials at a location about 8 miles southwest of Buffalo this summer. Dr. Agogino visited the site accompanied by Geologist C. V. Haynes and states that the site is part of a larger site that has partly eroded away. Dr. Haynes' study indicates that the site is probably the oldest Agate Basin Site yet discovered and thinks it may even be possible that the site rests on the Two Creek erosional surface which would make the site perhaps 11,000 years old. The cultural material lies about 13 feet below the present surface and extends about 35 feet along an arroyo wall.

A number of archaeological field trips were made to Indian petroglyph sites this past summer to record these ancient picture drawings by photographs and plaster casting.

A process by which plaster casts can be made of these petroglyphs, without harming or destroying the originals has been perfected, and through this process we hope to preserve some of the finer examples for museums and posterity.

These ancient petroglyphs are fast disappearing through weathering and vandalism by the "Kilroys" and "Privy Artists" who have added names and drawings to the cliffs where these fine examples of ancient art exist.

The Wyoming Archaeological Society is publishing an account of the results of its major excavations and explorations made for the past 5 years. This publication is called the Memoirs Edition and will be off the press in the near future.

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WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES
Annals of Wyoming. 1960. Volume 32, Number 2, pages 242-244

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH BY THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING FOR 1960
By
Dr. George A. Agogino
A grant from the American Academy of Arts and Science was used to obtain a charcoal specimen for a carbon 14 date from the Lindenmeier Site. This site, located on the Wyoming-Colorado border, is the only extensive habitation site involving the Folsom culture that is presently known. Previous research had been conducted at this site by Dr. Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., of the Smithsonian Institution and Dr. John L. Cotter of the Denver Museum of Natural History. The date, obtained by radiocarbon analysis (Isotopes Incorporated), was 10,780 plus or minus 375 years or 8820 B.C. A report of this investigation has been published as a monograph by the Denver Museum of Natural History under the authorship of Agogino and Haynes and can be purchased from the Museum for $1.00.

JOHNSON SITE
Investigations were conducted at the Johnson Site located north of LaPorte in northern Colorado. This site produced some artifacts of the Folsom culture but most of the cultural material shows redeposition, having been disturbed and mixed with later cultures. The excavations at this site were financed by a grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation in Anthropology.

HELL GAP SITE
A new type point, the Hell Gap Point, was discovered in situ in the Guernsey area through investigations financed by Americ, a Philosophical Society grant. The Hell Gap Site is one of the largest multi-cultural horizon areas in the High Plains. McKean, Cody Complex, Agate Basin, Hell Gap, and Folsom materials have all been found in situ in this area. Work will progress at this site as long as weather permits.

SISTER’S HILL
Sister’s Hill Site is a recently discovered site near Buffalo, Wyoming. Agate Basin material is found here in a geological cut and fill area of an arroyo bank thirteen feet below the surface. Unknown cultural horizons are to be found in levels both above and below this stratum. The University has a crew in the field at this site at the present time.
MAMMOTH KILL

A National Geographical Society grant was used to explore the first mammoth kill ever to be discovered in Wyoming. This site is located near Rawlins, Wyoming. The site was discovered when a dragline uncovered the remains of one of the best preserved mammoths ever found in the High Plains and one of the first mammoths found largely intact in the State of Wyoming. Evidence, indicating butchering, has been found in both the mammoth remains and the remains of an extinct bison at this site. Flakes and one knife, similar to those found at the Clovis Fluted Site in New Mexico, have also been found in the mammoth level. The cultural materials and the mammoth are believed to be about 12,000 years old and is the oldest cultural find made in Wyoming to date.

The mammoth’s skull weighs about 400 pounds. The tusks weigh about 140 pounds apiece. This section of the mammoth will be mounted in the University Museum at once. About two-thirds of the skeletal remains have been excavated to date. Drs. Paul McGrew, B. Mears and Dick Keffer of the University of Wyoming Geology Department assisted with the excavation of the remains at the site.

Investigations at this site will continue next summer. It will be a joint project by the University of Wyoming and the Peabody Museum of Harvard University.

LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS

Experiments are now being conducted with unburned bone for radiocarbon tests. Both the University of Michigan and the Humble Oil Company laboratories have recently obtained samples from Agogino, University of Wyoming, and Haynes, geologist from the American Institute of Research in Golden, Colorado, for unburned bone tests. Samples have been obtained from the Dent, Colorado, mammoth kill (first accepted occurrence of man and mammoth in this country, 1932) and the Type Site at Folsom, New Mexico, (first accepted occurrence of man and extinct bison in America, 1927). Samples were also taken from the Lipscomb Bison Quarry, a Texas Folsom site.

Experiments are also underway to see if it is possible to remove the coating and preservatives from treated bones so that they could be used for radiocarbon dating.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES


Field work at several archaeological sites in Wyoming has been carried on in recent months, under the direction of the organized chapters of the state archaeological society.

The Sheridan group has continued work at the Trapper Creek site, including additional excavation, which indicates an extended period of intermittent occupation. Further exploratory pits have been made, and the site has been surveyed. A map of the pictographs at the site is to be made, to supplement the photographic record.

More research at the Sisters Hill site, on Bull Creek, eight miles southwest of Buffalo, has been under way, primarily to prepare the site for geologic study by Dr. George Agogino and Vance Haynes. The site was discovered by Eugene Galloway of Buffalo.

Members of the Casper chapter have worked further at the Lee site, north of Midwest. Some twenty-five artifacts have been recovered recently.

The Turk Burial site has yielded further artifacts during the past summer. First reported to Glen Sweem and Don Grey during 1960, it has been re-opened twice by them. Several skulls and artifacts have been removed for study. Due to extensive disturbance of the site, it is not possible to determine if the site is a burial or a reburial. This site is no doubt related to a fortified hill, three miles distant, in which the same type of artifacts were recovered.

A bison trap northeast of Sheridan, in Powder River County, Montana, was excavated in August. This was with the sanction of the Smithsonian Institution which had in its possession a site report dated 1950, and the Montana Archaeological Society. Projectile points, probably Avonlea points, and bones recovered indicate the site was used for slaughtering only,
and the campsites were elsewhere. Adequate charcoal samples were obtained with the bones so a date on the culture will be forthcoming.

Work continues at the mammoth site near Rawlins, where a total of twenty-four artifacts have been recovered, all typical of the Clovis or Llano complex. Among recent finds are some bones from an extinct form of giant bison. Presence of these bones along with mammoth bones indicate the site was a frequently used kill site.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

THE LITTLE BALD MOUNTAIN SITE *
By RAYMOND C. BENTZEN, D.D.S.

Foreword:
The Wyoming Archaeological Society was organized in January 1953, by a group of northern Wyoming people who felt the need of joining themselves together to increase their knowledge of archaeology, and to assist in further strengthening of the State’s unenforced laws relative to archaeological exploration. When the writer accepted the presidency of the organization in January, 1957, he suggested to the membership that the society conduct a scientific exploration of one of the numerous ancient campsites in the Big Horn Mountains adjacent to Sheridan, the headquarters town of the group. The suggestion was accepted with great enthusiasm, and plans were then developed which culminated in the successful completion of the “dig” which is hereafter described.

Noteworthy in significance is the fact that 27 out of 45 members (60%) participated actively in the actual excavation and among these were six grandmothers.

I wish to give special thanks to an honorary member of our society, Dr. William Mulloy, for his kindness in the willing sharing of his knowledge during a week spent by the author in June at the Glendo Site to learn the accepted technic of mapping, excavation, and care of material; also for his assistance in the evaluation of the material unearthed in our excavation of the Little Bald Mountain Site.

My thanks also to the following members of our society who participated in the dig: Irene and Thad Custis, Alice and Fred Hilman, Elaine and Zane Hilman, Margaret Powers, and Clara White, all of Big Horn; Mr. and Mrs. Kester and Eddie, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sands and Billy, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Zumbrunnen, all of Buffalo; Mr. and Mrs. Hans Kleiber, Clarice and Jim Russell, of Dayton; Charles and Otto Nelson of Jackson; George Butler of Newcastle; Chuck Bentzen, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kusel and family, Chuck McIntosh, Frances and Robert Nantkes, Glenn Sweem and Glenn, Jr., all of Sheridan.

The following non-members also participated: Mrs. Temple of Dayton; Linney Calquist and Charlotte Wells of Hulet; Celeste Caldwell and George Chestnut of Winston, New Mexico; and Charles Ramstein of Basel, Switzerland.

In 1945, while surface-hunting for artifacts in the high country of the Big Horn Mountains, I discovered what appeared to be an ancient village site and buffalo-killing area situated in a saddle on the main divide immediately south of Little Bald Mountain at an elevation of 9,000 feet. Two small drainage ditches for the then little-used Wyoming Highway #14 had exposed...
arrowheads and bison bones, and an itinerant sheepherder informed me that in past years his daughter had gathered many buffalo skulls from that immediate area, stacked them up by the road and sold them to the occasional tourists who ventured that way.

The apparent area of occupation covered about ten acres, all of which except the road and ditches was heavily sodded. In 1955 five acres in the middle of the area was destroyed by the building of a new highway across the site and brought in dozens of artifact collectors who literally followed the earth-moving machinery to pick up the exposed artifacts.

Our expedition on this site was scheduled to start on August 3rd, and a week earlier a contract was let by the U.S. Forest Service for the construction of a new Hunt Mountain road which would cut right through the proposed site of our excavation. The forest supervisor very kindly informed the road-builders to keep off our site until we were finished. So, by split-timing, we have been able to contribute to the science of archaeology a site which would otherwise have been lost forever.

GEOLGY OF SITE

Mr. William Rogers, of Centerville, Iowa, who was working on his master's degree in geology at the University of Iowa, visited our camp and very kindly gave us the geology of the site. The site is a delta 60 feet in depth, lying on top of the Flathead Sandstone, and composed mostly of flat-petal conglomerate limestone washed down from the Gros Ventre Limestone formation in the higher Bald Mountain to the north and the Hunt Mountain to the south. A canyon gradually eroded on the west side, carrying all the drainage and leaving the Delta high and dry. Decomposition and erosion of the limestone together with beginning plant life gradually began the up-building of the soil process until the present stage when a cover of dark, humus soil from 14 inches to 24 inches thick overlies the sterile subsoil and limestone base. An extremely abundant cover of forage grasses and wild flowers furnishes food of sufficient quality to grow lambs from two months of age to market size in 60 days.

TOPOGRAPHY OF SITE

The site, being situated on a saddle of the main divide, with high mountains both to the north and south, and with the North Fork of Tongue River draining to the east and Beaver Creek draining to the west, it is apparent that the site was a main crossing point for game animals. This fact was capitalized on by ancient man in his never-ending quest for food, and he either waylaid the bison in its natural crossing from one side of the mountain to the other at this point, or else held drives up either canyon and slaughtered the animals as they filed through the pass.

The altitude being 9,000 feet, this was a summer campsite only, the average winter snow depth being over five feet. However the summer climate is ideal for a hunting camp, with a nearly constant cool breeze from the west, and a temperature range of 40 to 60 degrees F. Very few flies and mosquitoes were present.

EXCAVATION

A concrete datum post with brass insert was set at a high point on the north extremity of the arc to be excavated. An east-west exploratory trench 130 feet in length was dug 100 feet south of the datum post, and a north-south exploratory trench was dug at right angles to the east-west trench south from datum 0 to a length of 100 feet. These trenches were excavated to sterile hard-pan or limestone, a depth of fourteen to twenty-eight inches.

The north wall of the east-west and the east wall of the north-south trenches were troweled on the west side, carrying all the drainage and leaving the Delta high and dry. Decomposition and erosion of the limestone together with beginning plant life gradually began the up-building of the soil process until the present stage when a cover of dark, humus soil from 14 inches to 24 inches thick overlies the sterile subsoil and limestone base. An extremely abundant cover of forage grasses and wild flowers furnishes food of sufficient quality to grow lambs from two months of age to market size in 60 days.

At point 0.15 west in the south wall of the east-west trench, there was evidence of a fire-pit, so a careful excavation was later made of this area with trowels and brushes which disclosed a well-formed formation of burnt sandstone rocks lying seven to ten inches below the surface in a rectangular formation measuring 22 inches east-west and 28 inches north-south.
From between the rocks, a two inch point fragment of a projectile point and an obsidian pendant one inch in length were recovered, along with a good amount of charcoal. After removing all the stones, about two inches of the dirt was removed, underneath which was another complete layer of fire-blackened stones of the same extent as the upper layer and 14 inches below ground level. All were of flat sandstone from 1 to 2 inches thick and 2 to 7 inches long. More charcoal but no artifacts were recovered.

A grid system of 5-foot squares was laid out parallel to the trenches. These were excavated in mostly a checkerboard pattern by shaving a thin layer of sod (1 inch) from the surface, then removing and screening through a ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth screen all the dirt to a depth of 6 inches. All artifacts, chips and flakes were saved along with bones and put in labeled bags. Then the 6 to 12 inch layer was excavated and screened, etc.

Of a total of 36 5 by 5 foot pits excavated, every one produced artifacts for an average of nearly 6 per pit. This would average one artifact for each 4112 square feet or over 9,000 per acre. The original 10 acre site probably contained 90,000 artifacts! A good indication of the intensity of use of this part-year hunting camp.

Pit # 15, at location 0.80S-0.30W, proved to be the most productive, with six artifacts in the top strata, including a rare corner tang knife and the only iron arrow-point of the site; four artifacts in the middle strata, and three in the 12” to 16” depth.

Pit # 18, at location 0.80S-0.30W, contained fire pit or hearth #2 which yielded a good supply of charcoal, several bones and a plano-convex scraper beneath the hearth. This hearth measured 30” x 36” and lay 8” beneath the surface. The third and last hearth discovered lay in the southeast corner of pit 0.60S-0.10W. This was the deepest of the three and lay just on the top of the subsoil at a depth of 14” below the surface. It contained a good sample of charcoal but no artifacts. It was roughly circular in form with an outside diameter of 22” and 12” inside.

The first shovel of dirt from pit #30 yielded a perfect gem of a chalcedony drill. The most beautiful blade recovered was a lenticular-shaped one of light brown chert measuring 1 1/8” x 5”, from the top strata of 0.90S-0.10E.

An exploratory pit was dug and screened about 300 yards north of the datum post to ascertain whether the campsite extended that far. The top 6” produced two plano-convex scrapers, one arrowpoint and a few flakes, but the 6” to 15” strata was sterile.

Pit 0.10S-0.60W contained a lower jawbone of a bison with molar teeth in place and with ½ of a large jasper blade lying directly on the teeth at a depth of 6” below surface. This was carefully exposed and photographed in situ. Nearly all of the pits produced bones and teeth, mostly bison, but two smaller jawbones are apparently those of deer. All the leg bones were fractured so that marrow could be removed for food.

Only one fragment of mano was found in the E-W trench, but the writer excavated a complete metate measuring 10” x 14” x 1” from a drainage ditch on the north side of this site where erosion had exposed it several years ago at a depth of 16.”

Scarcity of agricultural artifacts and the preponderance of arrowpoints, scrapers and blades, together with the plentiful supply of animal bones, would indicate that this site was primarily a meat-hunting camp.

No evidence at all of habitation was found at the site and the nearest tipi rings known to the writer are a small group of about a dozen which lie about 11/2 miles south southeast at an elevation of about 10,000 feet. This group is devoid of fire pits and may be religious worship sites rather than a habitation locus.

The famous prehistoric Medicine Wheel which lies on a bare ridge one mile northwest of Medicine Mountain and nine miles west northwest of the Little Bald Mountain Site at an elevation of 9600 feet, may have been used or even made by the same people who slaughtered bison and other animals and left their artifacts at Little Bald.

Several sites containing great numbers of tipi rings lie along the main divide from northwest to southeast, and it is hoped that studies may be made in the future in an effort to determine the significance of these structures.
-- whether they were actually the weights to anchor the periphery of hide tipis, or whether, as Dr. Mulloy has postulated, they were merely symbols representing homes or churches and used as places of worship by ancient man. The routine absence of hearths and artifacts from tipi-ring sites, plus their common location on high, dry, wind-swept ridges, far from wood and water, would bear credence to the latter theory.

Of the total of 38 arrow-points recovered from the upper level of the 36 pits, 4 were of the side notched square based type identified with the period 1500 years ago to present time, while the lone iron point would of course be no older than perhaps 100 years, along with a single crude glass bead found in the upper level. The remaining 33 points were either of the corner notched or wide, square based triangular type attributed to the late Middle Period, 2500 to 1500 years ago.

From the lower level, 6” to 12” below the surface, 14 arrowpoints were recovered, of which only one was of the side notched variety, the remainder being corner notched or triangular un-notched. Two were unilaterally notched. It would appear from this typology that the heaviest usage of this site took place in the era 500 B.C. to 500 A.D. Only the base of one Yuma point was recovered in the upper level, and that was doubtless brought in as a surface find from some other location.

The variety of artifacts recovered from this site was quite extensive. Besides the arrowpoints, a large number of scrapers of all types were found, along with various types of blades, awls, drills, spoke-shavers, a hafted chisel, a shaft smoother, sinew dresser, a bone awl, several pieces of hematite, or red paintstone, and a single potsherd of baked clay. No spearheads were found, but the writer was fortunate several years before in finding a perfect corner notched red jasper spearhead, 4¼” x 1¼”, partly exposed by erosion in the wall of a drainage ditch on this same site, so spears or lances must have been used to some extent by these people.

A plentiful supply of bones and teeth were recovered, most of which were in an excellent state of preservation. Pending further study, the majority of the bones and teeth appear to be those of bison. No human bones or teeth were recovered.

It is anticipated that a carbon 14 dating will be obtained from the good samples of charcoal which were recovered from the fire pits, and then, perhaps, the age of this culture can be integrated with those of other sites in the plains and intermountain areas.
result, inaccurate. In 1917, the Forest Service made a map of the structure, which is referred to as the Stockwell map. In 1922, Dr. George Bird Grinnell visited the site and made a rather detailed report of its general appearance in the American Anthropologist. No excavating was done. When a road was built into the region in 1935, the Forest Service built a fence to protect the site. The road was extended to the actual site during August of 1958 while the investigation was under way.

It should be mentioned that the Medicine Wheel is not a wheel, and its relation to “medicine” ceremonies is not known, but the name is well established historically, and will be used here.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

**Location:** The Medicine Wheel is located in the northwest portion of the Big Horn Mountains in north central Wyoming at 45°49’ north latitude and 107°54’ west longitude. It lies on the western shoulder of Medicine Mountain overlooking the Big Horn Basin. The elevation is about 9642 feet. The site is reached by a well-marked road from Wyoming Highway 14.

**Geology:** The ridge on which the structure lies is composed of highly fossiliferous Ordovician limestone. The stone is irregularly laminar, and contains large numbers of chert nodules of blocky fracture. The limestone is soft, and one of the distinctive features of the formation is the large fissures that occur in the area. These fissures are often from two to four feet wide and up to a hundred feet or more deep. It is possible that these features may have contributed to location of ceremonial activities in this particular area through some supernatural association.

The thin layer of soil on the ridge is in a delicate equilibrium between erosional and formative processes. A topsoil layer of about six inches thickness clings in all but a few places. The subsoil is a limey material, fine near the top, and pebbly near the bottom, derived directly from the bedrock.

No stone suitable for artifacts occurs in the immediate area.

**Ecology:** At the present time, the area abounds in large and small game animals, game birds, fish, and several types of edible plants including berries, edible roots and fungi. Springs and creeks nearby furnish good water.

The Medicine Wheel: The Wheel lies on ground that slopes gently away from the precipitous edge of the ridge on which it lies. The Wheel (Fig. 1) is a nearly circular pattern of rock on the surface of the ground, and is about 75 feet in diameter. At the center of the circle is a stone-walled cairn about twelve feet in outside diameter and seven feet inside diameter. This cairn has an opening in the north side, and is built to about two feet in height. Its original height was probably not much greater. From this central cairn 28 radial lines go to the peripheral circle. Around the periphery are located six other cairns. These are of about the same height as the central cairn, but vary somewhat in size. All probably had an opening when first built. Five of these cairns touch the peripheral circle, but one lies about ten feet outside the circle on an extension of one the radial lines. The openings of four of the cairns face the center of the circle, while one opens away from the center toward the east, and one opens tangentially to the circle toward the north. The peripheral cairns are of approximately the size to hold a sitting person.

**Other Structures:** Early reports (1) (2) mention several structures in the immediate vicinity of the Wheel, but the Society was unable to definitely locate any of these. Several rings occur on the ridge, and several other structures were found, but their ages are questionable. Some of them obviously date from the tourist period. All structures were mapped, but no determination of origin could be made in most cases.

**PROCEDURE OF WORK**

A map of the general area was first made to help organize subsequent work. A detailed topographic map of the Wheel area was then made.

Many artifacts have been found on the surface of the ridge, and it was decided that two exploratory trenches would be dug apart from the Wheel in order to determine a “normal background” of artifact types and frequencies. Two trenches, each 100 feet long, were dug...
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northwest of the Wheel. Two trenches revealed that only the topmost layer of dirt yielded artifacts, and that no stratigraphy was likely to be found. The thin topsoil layer had no doubt been eroded and replaced many times, and all the artifacts that it contained were completely mixed. In two places, the topsoil appeared to deepen, and three five-foot squares were dug to determine if any stratigraphy could be found, but none was.

While the last two of the squares were being dug, a detailed map of the Medicine Wheel structure was started. When part of the mapping was complete, the digging crews moved into the mapped areas and began the excavation of the soil between the radial lines of stone and in the interior of the cairns.

Some dendrochronologically datable wood was found during the excavation, so the last phase of the work consisted in collecting living and standing dead wood specimens from which a master chart could be made.

THE EXPLORATORY TRENCHES

Development of the two exploratory trenches northwest of the Wheel included removal and screening of the top layer. It was originally intended to remove a second layer, composed of subsoil, to bedrock in each trench, but sporadic testing showed that deeper material was completely sterile. Since the topsoil was disturbed by erosional and organic forces, no stratigraphic separation could be made in the area which produced the artifacts. The range of types found seems to indicate a rather long period of intermittent occupation, however.

Two fire pits were found in the trenches. Neither yielded artifacts and only one yielded datable carbon. The date would be of little value however, since the relative age of the firepit is unknown.

Near the end of the trench system, on the west, was a group of stones weathered deeply into the soil. Whether these were the remnants of an early structure could not be determined, but the area was excavated. No difference in frequency or types of artifacts was discovered upon comparison with the yield from the trenches.

DETAIL MAP OF THE WHEEL

As the final exploratory work was being done, the mapping of the Wheel was started, using a portable grid system. (Fig. 2) The grid consisted of a sixteen foot square steel framework with lines stretched across at it two foot intervals in both directions. Sixteen foot squares were surveyed over the Wheel, the grid layed on each square in turn, and the outlines of the stones carefully drawn on coordinate paper in positions corresponding to the grid positions.

The spaces between the radial lines were
called segments, and were numbered from 1 to 28 from north, as were the radial lines themselves. The cairns were numbered from 1 to 6 from north in the same clockwise direction.

Cross sections of the Wheel and each of the cairns were drawn also.

The detailed mapping revealed several interesting things about the structure. The structure is not circular, but rather irregular. The radial lines were not straight nor were they evenly spaced. The cairns were irregular in shape and spacing as well. The often expressed hypothesis that the radial lines were aligned with topographic or astronomical features is made less tenable by their crookedness. It would seem that lines formed by sighting at an object would be much straighter.

During the mapping, several surface finds were made, including several colored bone objects of unknown use, two potsherds, and some stone artifacts. The bone objects appeared to be made of the long bones of some animal of
about the size of deer. The bones were very smooth on the convex surfaces, and bore red, green, pink and blue-green stains. Aside from the stains, the fragments were a uniform chalky white. None of the fragments was as large as an inch in greatest dimension, and no original form or function could be deduced.

EXCAVATION OF THE WHEEL

Segment Number One was excavated first. The digging proceeded from the periphery toward the center. Several square feet in the outer end were dug well into the subsoil until it became clear that the same pattern of sterility in the lower layer obtained in the Wheel as in the exploratory areas. Subsequently only the top layer was removed. Stone artifacts found in the interior of the Wheel demonstrated no differences from those found in the exterior exploratory work, either as to type or frequency.

The interior of the central cairn was excavated next. Three distinct layers appeared in the soil here. The usual topsoil layer was about six inches thick. Beneath this was a lighter colored layer about eight inches thick, distinguished from the subsoil by a lighter color, and the presence of some organic materials. The subsoil layer below this had the usual light color, but was finer grained than the corresponding layer elsewhere.

The top layer in the central cairn showed signs of limited digging, but this did not appear to have penetrated the second layer. The second layer yielded some ceramic trade beads, a perforated seed bead, and a potsherd. The lower layer yielded some rotted wood fragments, and the distal end of a tibiotarsal from either an elk or a bison.

The soil depth here was about 25 inches, and penetrated into a depression in the bedrock. The depression appeared to have been formed by the removal of fragments of the slab by bedrock to make a roughly conical pit. The evidence indicated that this must have been done at about the time of construction of the central cairn.

Excavation of the other cairns yielded little except in the cases of Cairns Two and Six. Number Two yielded three artifacts. Number Six yielded datable wood.

Cairn Six was filled with a wild currant bush before excavation. When the bush was removed, a layer of about seven inches of leafy material was met. Upon removal of this material, a piece of wood (Fig. 3) about three inches in diameter was exposed. The wood appeared to be part of a curved limb or small trunk. Both ends extended into the soil. Excavation proceeded very carefully, and it was soon revealed that both ends of the wood were firmly embedded in the rock structure of the cairn. One end was embedded in the soil beneath the lowest course of stone, and extended a distance of about fourteen inches into the region under the wall. It was solidly held in place by the weight of the stone above it. (Fig. 4) The other end was held between the lowest course and the second course of stone. It extended into the wall a distance for perhaps twelve inches. The

Figure 3: Wood specimen in Cairn 6 from which tree ring dating was made.
manner of engagement showed conclusively that the wood had been incorporated in the cairn at the time of its construction.

Further excavation revealed two more pieces of wood in place in Number Six cairn. Samples were collected from all these, and also from the many other pieces of wood lying on and among the rocks of the Medicine Wheel.

**DENDROCHRONOLOGY**

Wood samples were collected from fourteen trees living near the Medicine Wheel, and from several dead trees as well. A master chart was constructed from these samples, and the charts of the samples from Cairn Six were compared. The samples correlated clearly, and the date of death of the most recent piece proved to be 1760. The others were within 20 years of this date. Since the wood was probably picked up as deadfall, the Wheel was probably built several years after this date.

**SUMMARY**

The dendrochronology showed the wood in Cairn Six was of comparatively recent origin. It seems probable that the Wheel was recent in origin as well. Trade beads found in the central cairn tend to bear this out, but are in themselves inconclusive, of course. Stone artifacts typical of the Early Middle period were found in and near the Wheel area, indicating that many early people had been in the region before the Wheel was constructed.

The date produced for the Wheel makes it almost historical, and it seems that there should be legends among the Indians of the area which might relate to it. There are indeed (2), but they differ widely. There are similar structures in the area, and perhaps further investigation will develop further information. A very similar structure lies at the mouth of the Big Horn Canyon near old Fort C. F. Smith, and there are others in Montana and Canada, (3), (4), (5), and (6).

Dating results seem to agree with those found by the Glenbow Foundation (private communication from Richard G. Forbis) for Canadian monuments. The term monument is suggested by the findings of Kehoe (4), (5) and (6), and Dempsey (3), who have found some of these structures to be monuments to famous chiefs.

(4) Kehoe, Thomas F.; American Anthropologist, 60, 1958
(5) Kehoe, Thomas F., and Alice B.; Alberta Historical Review Volume 5, No. 4, 1957.
Wyoming Archaeological Foundation
Application for Funding Year ______

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A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAELOGICAL CONTENT IN NEWS MEDIA

by

Adam S. Wiewel

ABSTRACT

The media provide a great opportunity to communicate archaeology to a broad audience, and newspapers are the primary means for receiving news for millions of Americans. I examine the archaeological content of newspaper articles in the New York Times from June and December of 1995, 2000, and 2005 to document geographical, chronological, and topical emphases as well as the portrayal of archaeology in the media. This study suggests that the public has a vague and unclear understanding of archaeology. However, accurately written, informative, and entertaining articles can significantly shape the public’s understanding and perceptions of archaeology.

INTRODUCTION

In the January 2006 issue of The SAA Archaeological Record, Moore argues that the future of American archaeology is public archaeology. In order for public archaeology to be successful, archaeologists must convey the necessity and benefits of archaeology to non-archaeologists and establish an archaeologically literate public. Archaeologists have attempted to fulfill these goals in various ways (e.g., see case studies in Jameson 1997; Smith and Ehrenhard 1991). The media, particularly newspapers, are one way to reach millions of people and effectively communicate archaeology to the public (DeCiccio 1988; Kuhn 2002; McManamon 1991:124; Milanich 1991; Potter 1990). This study examines the archaeological content of newspaper articles in the New York Times from June and December of 1995, 2000, and 2005 to document geographical, chronological, and topical emphases as well as the portrayal of archaeology in the media.

THE ‘PUBLIC’ OF PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Public is a general term used by archaeologists to refer to everyone outside of the profession. However, the public actually consists of many distinct groups of people (Carman 2002; McManamon 1991), each with its own level of archaeological knowledge, awareness of archaeological issues, interest in archaeology, and attitude toward archaeology. McManamon (1991) identifies five important groups, each of which could benefit from focused attention from archaeologists.

Students and teachers provide a unique opportunity for archaeologists to work alongside those who specialize in education to generate an awareness of and appreciation for archaeology among students. Effectively communicating the value of archaeology to members of the legislative and executive branches of government can significantly increase political support for archaeology. Government attorneys, land and program managers, and other professionals who work alongside archaeologists benefit from a general understanding of significant archaeological issues, which can facilitate cooperative efforts. Archaeologists must address the concerns of Native Americans, the group that has historically received the least amount of attention. Moreover, educating Native Americans about archaeology is a way to bring more Native peoples into the field. These four groups are subsets of a much larger group, the general public.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL LITERACY AND PUBLIC INTEREST

Based on several surveys conducted to approximate the general public’s scientific literacy, McManamon (1991:123) makes several predictions about
the public and archaeology. Only a small percentage of the public, probably less than five percent, is archaeologically literate, or knowledgeable and well informed about archaeology. Around a quarter of the public is interested in and somewhat informed about archaeology, largely through previous efforts made by archaeologists to reach out to the public. However, the majority of the public, approximately 70 percent, is largely uninterested in archaeological topics and only obtains archaeological information from the media. Yet, this portion of the public views archaeology as positive and is generally supportive of archaeological undertakings. This segment of the public, which is essentially uninformed about archaeology, must be made the focus of archaeologists’ continued educational efforts.

THE MEDIA AND NEWSPAPERS

Archaeologists have identified many ways to fulfill goals of public education, including school programs, museum exhibits, public awareness posters and brochures, and the development of avocational/volunteer programs. However, the media may provide the greatest opportunity to communicate archaeology to the broadest audience. The potential usefulness of the media in reaching out to the public has not gone unnoticed by archaeologists (e.g., Decicco 1988; Milanich 1991; Pokotylo and Mason 1991:16-17; Potter 1990). During the second half of the 1980s, archaeological articles published in newspapers increased (Milanich 1991:110), and the increase has continued because the public is generally excited about archaeology. Newspapers are the primary means for receiving news for millions of Americans, and accurately written, informative, and entertaining articles can significantly shape the public’s understanding and perceptions of archaeology (Kuhn 2002:206; Pokotylo and Mason 1991:17).

With this in mind, I evaluated archaeological content of New York Times articles. The New York Times is the second largest United States daily newspaper, with a current circulation of over one million on weekdays and 1.7 million on Sundays, although the readership is dramatically higher (New York Times Company 2006). The main difference between the New York Times and USA Today, which is the largest daily newspaper in the United States, is that the Times provides not only national and world news, but also regional, state, and local news coverage. For this analysis, I focus on articles published in June and December of three years. The evaluation will provide a proxy for determining the public’s knowledge and perceptions of archaeology. Furthermore, this assessment will reveal the types of articles to which the public is exposed, which serves to reinforce the public’s opinions and attitudes about archaeology.

METHODS

To perform this analysis, I began with a systematic search for articles published from June and December of 1995, 2000, and 2005. I chose to review articles from the sixth and twelfth months in an attempt to avoid bias in terms of increased publication of archaeological reports during specific times of the year. I chose three nonconsecutive years to increase the range of archaeological events and issues covered.

A search of the LexisNexis Academic database for New York Times articles containing the terms archaeology, archeology, archaeologist, and archeologist returned 232 articles. These articles include obituaries, marriages, editorials, event listings, news summaries, book and magazine reviews, art reviews, Associated Press articles, and articles written by Times staff. My assessment of these newspaper articles began with omission of obituaries, marriages, and all other articles that lacked archaeological content or were indirectly concerned with archaeology. One hundred fifty articles were excluded for these reasons, leaving 82 articles for analysis. Many articles lack archeological content, but mention archaeology, often for descriptive and metaphorical purposes. For instance, Cotter (2005:E38), while speaking about Wardell Milan’s photographs, states that the pictures are “archaeological sites for personal and cultural excavation.” The high number of similar articles attests to the public’s fascination with archaeology.

I evaluated the remaining 82 articles for archaeological content. I first determined the geographical emphasis of each article, either Old World or New World, to determine if the Times highlighted archaeology in particular regions of the world. I surmised that archaeology in the New World would be given more attention because of its local, regional, and national coverage. Furthermore, articles with a New World emphasis were further subdivided between North America and South America. Reports
with a Central American and Mexican focus were included in the South American category based on fundamental differences between archaeology performed in these areas and in the United States and Canada. Articles that focused on North American archaeology were also divided based on a chronological emphasis, either Historic or Prehistoric, and articles were placed in a Not Applicable category if they focused on neither historic nor prehistoric archaeology.

I subdivided articles concerned with Old World archaeology into three categories: Egyptian, Greek/Roman, and Other. These categories were based on my preconceived notion that Egyptian and Classical archaeology tend to be overrepresented in the media. Articles that did not focus on either New World or Old World archaeology, or did not emphasize a geographical area, were included in a Not Applicable category.

To determine if certain types of archaeology are overrepresented by the Times, the 82 articles were divided into three categories: Biblical, Underwater, and Other. Obviously, the majority of articles should fall into the Other category, which refers to all non-biblical dry-land archaeology and also functions as a Not Applicable category. However, based on the romantic nature of biblical and underwater archaeology, my belief is that these types of archaeology will be overrepresented.

After I determined the geographical and chronological emphases of archaeological articles in the Times, I assessed the perspective or viewpoint of each article. I assigned each article to a single perspective, including Romantic/Aesthetic, Scientific, Educational, Non-archaeology, Pseudo-archaeology, and Other. These categories are drawn from previous studies (Davis 1978; Pokotylo and Guppy 1999; Pokotylo and Mason 1991) concerned with the public’s interest in and knowledge of archaeology.

Articles with a romantic or aesthetic perspective have a romantic and intriguing quality and often discuss treasure, wealth, and/or the monetary and aesthetic value of art and artifacts. Scientific articles provide a scientific viewpoint of archaeology, and often mention archaeological methods, excavation, research, and the scientific value of artifacts. Newspaper articles with an educational theme focus on education and educational opportunities for the public. Articles that emphasize other fields, such as paleontology, paleoanthropology, and geology, were considered non-archaeological. A pseudo-archaeology perspective refers to articles that emphasize a “speculative” archaeology, such as acoustic archaeology, hoaxes, and pure speculation lacking a scientific basis. Finally, the Other category includes articles with other emphases, including politics and resource management, and articles that generally lack a specific perspective.

In general, each article has a central perspective; however, a number of different issues are often addressed within each article. Thus, I created a number of categories to note these issues, including Scholarly Research, Education, Debate, Resource Management, Vandalism, Aboriginal, Tourism, and Discovery. The scholarly research and education issues are similar to the scientific and education perspectives; however, the issues, unlike the perspectives, are not central to the article. Debates and/or conflicts are common issues, as are resource management, cultural resources, and preservation. Vandalism, looting, or trafficking of art and/or artifacts are considered separate issues from resource management, although the two issues are sometimes linked. Aboriginal issues related to archaeology, such as ownership of skeletal remains and artifacts, are thought to be significant and are considered for this reason. Issues of tourism, although often overlapping with education, are distinct in that articles can emphasize tourism without mentioning education. Discoveries are noted because they are common to archaeology, and the public finds discoveries fascinating and positive.

Articles are noted for the presence or absence of superlatives such as most, best, largest, oldest, and earliest. Ascher (1960) recognizes the large number of superlatives present in archaeological articles. Although only a minor part of an article, superlatives are significant since their use can unintentionally shape the public’s knowledge of archaeology. Additionally, the portrayal of archaeology in each article as positive, negative, or neutral, is determined. The criteria used to determine the portrayal of archaeology are drawn from Kuhn (2002). Positive articles discuss the scientific and historical contributions of archaeology, opportunities for the public, discoveries, and generally portray archaeology as interesting and valuable. Negative articles portray archaeology in a critical and unflattering manner, as a hindrance,
as problematic and costly, as controversial and litigious, and as insignificant. Neutral articles either lack a positive or negative portrayal of archaeology or are balanced in their portrayal.

RESULTS
The New York Times emphasizes certain geographical areas in its archaeological reporting (Table 1). Unexpectedly, the majority of articles have an Old World area emphasis rather than a focus on archaeology in the New World. Additionally, there are more articles with a North American emphasis than South American, Egyptian, or Greek and Roman; however, these differences are not significant. Archaeological articles classified as South American discuss only state-level societies, including the Maya, Inca, Aztec, and a single article concerning the Olmec. Other Mexican, Central American, and South American archaeology is absent from Times articles. Similarly, with regard to the Old World, several regions are not covered or receive little attention. The Other category is deceivingly large, considering that Egyptian and Greek/Roman archaeology covers a much smaller geographical area than the remaining Old World. In this way, Egyptian and Greek/Roman archaeology are overrepresented in the New York Times articles.

Furthermore, only two of the fifteen Times publications concerning North American archaeology focus on prehistoric archaeology (Table 2). This is an extremely small percentage of the total number of archaeological articles. Thus, North American historic archaeology is overrepresented. Likewise, the low number of articles featuring underwater and biblical archaeology is unexpected (Table 3).

Times articles that focus on the romantic and/or aesthetic value of artifacts are twice as common as articles presenting archaeology from a scientific viewpoint (Table 4). Articles with headlines such as “A Mystery, Locked in Timeless Embrace” (Wilford 2005:F1), “Mythic Shields of Blinding Light” (Reif 1995:41), “Watery Grave of the Azores to Yield Shipwreck Riches” (Broad 1995:C1), and “Art of Old Nubia Opens a Window to a High Culture” (Cotter 1995:32) are common. On the other hand, few articles had non-archaeological and pseudo-archaeological perspectives. Articles with a non-archaeological perspective emphasized fields other than archaeology, such as Tyler’s (1995:4) “Peking Man’s Bones, and Affairs, Remain Unsettled.” Pseudo-archaeological articles were primarily speculative, such as “Did the Vikings Stay? Vatican Files May Offer Clues” (Gibbs 2000:F4). Finally, a large number of articles did not fall into any of these perspectives and are placed in the Other category. In retrospect, a resource management perspective would have been useful since a number of articles labeled Other concern politics and resource management. However, most articles in the Other category lack a general theme.

Although articles with a definite scientific or educational perspective are relatively few, scholarly research and education are common issues of archaeological articles in the New York Times (Table 5). Around half of the evaluated articles mention, at least briefly, a scientific aspect of archaeology, such as excavation, archaeological analyses, or the research potential of artifacts. Similarly, many articles briefly discuss archaeology in terms of educational opportunities for the public. Debate, conflict, and disagreement are common issues as well, featuring headlines such as “Mexico: Fox Asks Austria For Montezuma’s Crown” (Betancourt 2005:A6) and “Dispute Erupts on Plans For Ancient

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39
Footprints” (Wilford 1995:C11). Articles noting discoveries were also common, such as Pearsall’s (2000:14CN9) “Dig Gives New View of Colonial Housing” and “Found: A Wall of Old New York, and It’s Blocking the Subway” (McGeehan 2005:A1). Alternatively, articles addressing aboriginal issues, such as Kinzer’s (2000:1) “Museums and Tribes: A Tricky Truce” are rare.

Slightly more Times articles portray archaeology positively than negatively (Table 6). Pearsall’s (2000:14CN9) article, considered a positive portrayal of archaeology, discusses the contributions of a discovery concerning colonial housing. In contrast, McGeehan’s (2005:1A) article concerning a fortification wall discovered in New York is negative since the article emphasizes the discovery as a hindrance. The discovery delayed subway construction and has dramatically increased the cost of the project. Additionally, archaeologists could not agree on the amount of the wall to be preserved.

Approximately one-third (29 out of 82) of the archaeological articles in the New York Times contained superlatives. Superlatives are generally not located in the article headline, although superlatives often occur in the opening paragraph and are integral to the articles. Additionally, the use of superlatives is often related to discovery. For example, Simons’s (1995:A18) article “Newly Found Cave Paintings in France Are the Oldest, Scientists Estimate” highlights scientists’ interest in discovering the oldest cave paintings at Chauvet.

**CONCLUSION**

This analysis supports the findings of previous studies (Fagan 1984; Feder 1984; Pokotylo and Guppy 1999; Pokotylo and Mason 1991; Turnbaugh 1994, 2006) and shows that the public is interested in archaeology, as evidenced by the high number of articles. However, the public is not well informed about archaeology, and the media reinforce misunderstandings by focusing on certain geographical areas. In this analysis, the New York Times published fewer articles concerning North American archaeology than expected, especially considering the local, regional, and national coverage of the Times.

Moreover, articles concerning state-level societies, both in the New World and the Old World, were overrepresented, while other areas received relatively less attention. Gero and Root (1990) present similar results in an evaluation of archaeology in National Geographic. The public often associates

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Archaeology with state-level societies, possibly because of the visibility of the archaeological remains associated with these groups. Alternatively, the archaeological remains of prehistoric North America are generally less visible, and there are fewer reports concerning prehistoric archaeology in North America in the *Times*. Additionally, not a single article discusses any of the major North American prehistoric sites, such as Cahokia, Moundville, Spiro, Poverty Point, Chaco Canyon, or the numerous effigy mounds located in Ohio, for instance. These sites draw a large number of tourists annually, so the total lack of mention in the *New York Times* is counterintuitive.

Bense (1991:117) calls attention to several common misconceptions held by the public, including the misunderstandings that the most significant archaeological sites are not located in the United States; there is no locally significant archaeology, and archaeologists are primarily interested in impressive artifacts. The focus of the *Times* on state-level societies and spectacular artifacts associated with these groups, and a relative avoidance of North American archaeology, reinforces misconceptions.

The low number of articles featuring underwater and biblical archaeology is unexpected. Underwater archaeology features the lure of treasure and mystery, along with themes of technological innovation. Intuitively, one would expect this type of archaeology to be attractive to journalists. Similarly, one would expect biblical archaeology to receive much attention since it provides a unique way of merging science with religion.

Concerning the public’s knowledge of archaeology, Pokotylo and Guppy (1999) note that the public has an accurate or reasonable understanding of archaeology in that people tend to think of the scientific and historic nature of archaeology. Relatively few view archaeology in a romantic or aesthetic manner. This analysis contradicts that of Pokotylo and Guppy (1999) and finds that the public is exposed to the romantic and aesthetic perspectives of archaeology. This result may be due to the sources of information consulted by the public. The public’s knowledge of archaeology is more likely drawn from popular media than from academic sources. Likewise, Turnbaugh (1994, 2006) finds that students tend to view archaeology in a romantic way. The *Times* articles present a romantic image of archaeology to the public, which creates a distorted image of the science of archaeology and the scientific value of artifacts. Conversely, science and scholarly issues frequently appear in articles, yet in these articles, science was not the focus of the article; it was merely an auxiliary element.

Interestingly, this analysis demonstrates that the newspaper media rarely misconstrue non-archaeological fields with archaeology. However, others (Pokotylo and Mason 1991; Turnbaugh 1999, 2006) identify misconceptions as a problem and note that the public tends to confuse other fields, particularly paleontology, with archaeology. One reason for this disparity is that *Times* newspaper articles are edited for content and are written by science writers so that confusion regarding the scope of archaeology should be minor.

Similarly, this analysis reveals that the *Times* generally avoids publishing articles with a pseudo-archaeological perspective, likely for the same reason as mentioned above. In contrast, archaeology often receives an uncritical treatment in the popular media (Feder 1984:525), and individuals who lack an accurate understanding of archaeology are open to speculative and pseudoscientific claims.

Finally, few articles from the *Times* discuss aboriginal issues. Pokotylo and Guppy (1999) show that the public rarely considers aboriginal issues when thinking about archaeology. These findings may indicate a disconnect between the past of archaeology and present aboriginal groups.

The number of articles that present archaeology negatively should be a concern to archaeologists because the public may associate archaeology with high costs, controversial issues, and litigation rather than as a valuable and significant field. However, if the positive and neutral articles are combined, the majority of articles are not negative. Finally, the number of articles that contain superlatives is also cause for concern. Although subtle, the use of such modifiers can significantly influence the public’s perception of archaeology. In this case, superlatives reinforce the public’s misunderstanding that archaeologists are only interested in the most spectacular sites or artifacts, or the oldest and best.

This study, along with previous examinations of the public’s knowledge and opinion of archaeology, suggests that the public has a vague and unclear understanding of archaeology. Furthermore, news-
papers reinforce misunderstandings by focusing on certain geographical areas and emphasizing the romantic aspects of archaeology. However, a high number of articles still address the scholarly research involved in archaeology or mention the educational value of archaeology, and as the results show, many articles portray archaeology favorably. The media, especially newspapers, provide an opportunity to present archaeology to the public and can shape the public’s opinion and understanding of archaeology. Although the media is partially to blame for the public’s poor understanding of archaeology, the primary fault lies with archaeologists. Archaeologists can work to correct misconceptions and make archaeological findings interesting, relevant, and clear to the public. Archaeology can be entertaining without shortchanging its scientific basis.

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A METAL KNIFE FROM THE HOG PARK AREA, CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING
by
MARK E. MILLER and JAMES BUFF

Several years ago, one of us (Buff) found a historic artifact within a few miles of Hog Park in the forest of southcentral Wyoming. It seemed on discovery to be relatively old, but Buff could not be sure whether somebody had lost it recently. After showing the artifact to Miller, a decision was made to describe the artifact and publish this note in case more information might become available.

The knife (Figure 1) is made from a single piece of iron with no drilled holes, screws or other attached hardware. It weighs slightly over 312 grams with an overall length of 288 mm (Table 1). The artifact is slightly bent along its long axis (see right side view) as if it had been made from a gently angled piece of iron or was bent during use. The blade has been sharpened on both edges and surfaces. The sharpening is fairly uniform and consistent with regularized pressure against a grinding wheel. The beveled edges meet at a sharp point.

The handle element is morphologically diverse and narrower than the blade. One side shows a serrated edge with at least five of the six teeth showing worn edges. Five other concave margins are arrayed along the handle edges, each of which shows various stages of edge wear or grinding. The knife fits comfortably in either hand if it is held with the serrated edge up and is well balanced when resting across one’s finger at the contact of the handle and blade.

A broken length of iron apparently was used to fashion the knife. The basal edge of the handle has a concave surface bordered by two projections which look to have been broken from a missing length of iron. There is a hinge fracture on one projection resembling a snap break.

Efforts to identify what the source object was for the knife have been unsuccessful. Originally we thought it might have been fashioned from a brake handle of a small spring wagon or buggy, but the morphology is inconsistent with such vehicle components (Tom Lindmier, personal communication, 2009). Alternatively, the serrated teeth on the handle may have served as a ratchet lever for a mechanical part of some agriculture equipment, but no comparable examples have been found.

The antiquity of the item has not be determined. Evidence of rust pitting along various surfaces suggests some weathering of the iron, but that is not unusual in Wyoming even for fairly recent hardware. The uniform edge sharpening suggests the implement was sharpened by someone with access to a grinding wheel, and not by hand sharpening and sharpening. An Early Historic age does not seem unreasonable, perhaps a nineteenth or early twentieth century time period. While the irregular handle margins would allow the holder to sustain a grip during carcass butchering, the well balanced weight of the knife may argue it served as a throwing implement. No edge damage was seen to allow a more accurate functional assignment.

The Hog Park knife joins a growing list of interesting artifacts from Wyoming that defy precise chronological or cultural identification. Isolated artifacts like these are important to our understanding of human adaptations in the area, but their lack of context and association with other objects makes it difficult for identification. Nonetheless, this piece needed to be described in case similar finds are known, and more detailed knowledge of their form and function is available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>MEASUREMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Weight</td>
<td>312.10 grams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum artifact length</td>
<td>288.00 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum blade length</td>
<td>149.00 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum blade width</td>
<td>37.00 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum handle width</td>
<td>33.79 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maximum base width</td>
<td>41.53 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum artifact thickness</td>
<td>6.25 mm</td>
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</table>
Figure 1: Hog Park knife. Front view (left), right side view (second from left), back view (third from left), and left side view (right). Base of knife handle is shown below the front view. Computer scanned figure by Dr. Danny N. Walker.

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WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CONTRIBUTION FORM
MULLOY UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

In the spring of 1960, the Wyoming Archaeological Society (WAS) inaugurated an award program for Anthropology students at the University of Wyoming. Dr. George Duke Humphrey, President of the University at the time, wrote the society a letter praising them for providing the first support offered at the University for work in the field of Anthropology (*The Wyoming Archaeologist*, Volume III, No. IV, April 1960, page 11). The WAS support became known as the William Mulloy scholarship, and in the ensuing years it has benefitted scores of students, bringing a total of over $14,000 to its recipients. Currently, it is provided each year to a deserving undergraduate major.

Traditionally, the WAS awards committee gives $500 to the undergraduate of their choice. However, next year, 2010, will be the 50th anniversary of the William Mulloy scholarship program. The committee would like to offer members of WAS and former recipients of the Mulloy funding to contribute toward a special scholarship for the 50th anniversary recipient. We hope to provide at least $1,000 in support if not more, and WAS can cover $500 of that amount. If we receive more than $500 in contributions, we may increase the 2010 scholarship even more, and use the funding reserves for offering $1,000 per award in future years until the contributions run out. Please consider this opportunity to support our students and recognize the enduring legacy of Dr. William Mulloy in Wyoming Archaeology by contributing to the William Mulloy Undergraduate Scholarship.

Given by: Miss, Mrs., Mr., Ms., Dr. $_________________________ (Amount)

Name: ____________________________

Last   First   Middle

Address: __________________________

City and State   Zip Code

Donor Phone Number: (   ) __________________    email: ___________

Please make your check payable to THE WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND SEND TO Carolyn Buff, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, 1617 Westridge Terrace, Casper, WY 82604.

Specify on the check under For that the contribution goes to the William Mulloy Undergraduate Scholarship.
WHEREAS, Archaeology is the scientific study of human behavior by investigating the material evidence of features and artifact assemblages left behind at sites that survive on the landscape; and
WHEREAS, Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month was created in 1990, Wyoming’s centennial year, to better acquaint the public with the discipline of archaeology and strengthen the enduring bond between past and present in the Equality State; and
WHEREAS, Wyoming’s nationally recognized archaeology month posters depict the state’s valued cultural resources and have become a focal point of our contribution to America’s proud legacy of historic preservation; and
WHEREAS, Archaeology Awareness Month for 2009 showcases Fort Laramie National Historic Site in Goshen County, which historians have widely heralded as the quintessential frontier army outpost in the American West prior to 1890; and
WHEREAS, Fort Laramie has received the most comprehensive historical study, archaeological research, and remote sensing survey coverage of any site of its kind in the region, which has enhanced scientific understanding of the landscape and public interpretation of its history; and
WHEREAS, This year marks the 175th Anniversary of the founding of Fort William, a private fur trading post built in 1834 that was a predecessor of Fort Laramie at the same location.
NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVE FREUDENTHAL, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim September 2009 to be

“WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGY AWARENESS MONTH”

in Wyoming, and urge the people of Wyoming to take part in the activities planned to enhance public awareness of archaeology.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the Governor of Wyoming to be affixed this 26th day of August, 2009.