

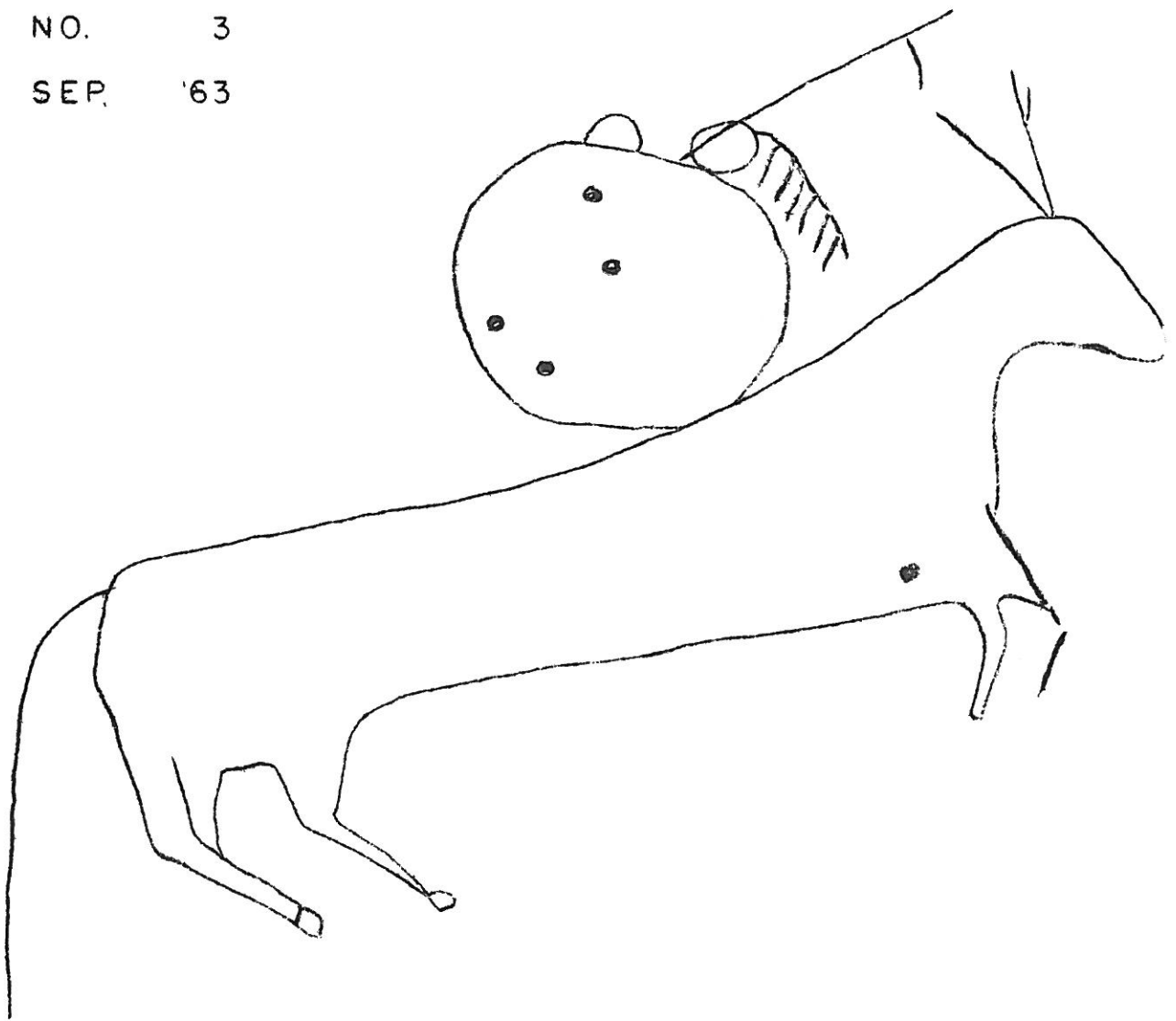
WYOMING  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

THE

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Dear Fellow Members:

It was good to visit with those of you who attended the Society's summer meeting at Meadowlark in the Big Horns. We missed those who were unable to attend. There was good fellowship, fruitful discussion, and a pleasant field trip arranged by our Sheridan Chapter. The pot luck dinner prepared by the ladies of our group was particularly delicious.

Two projects were proposed to make Wyoming citizens increasingly aware of the archaeological heritage left by ancient Wyomingites and to arouse the public's concern for proper preservation and investigation of these treasures. It is felt that these objectives will be important features in the educational phase of antiquities law enforcement---and help cultivate greater interest in good archaeology.

It was suggested that a collection of appropriate 35 mm projector slides be assembled with an accompanying prepared talk for presentation in schools, at meetings of interested organizations, and at various other public gatherings. Duplicate sets of slides can be prepared, and with each set there will be a mounted collection of plastic reproductions of important plains projectile point types. Tom Knapp has consented to direct this project. Please send slides and suggestions to him at Cody, Wyoming.

The Wyoming Amateur Archaeologist's Handbook presently is in the embryonic planning stage. In concensus thus far we visualize a terse, descriptive, thoroughly illustrated, indexed, pamphlet-type introduction to archaeology, written approximately in the style of the Boy Scout Handbook.

Our handbook will be aimed primarily at 3rd to 8th grade school children, their teachers, parents, and other potentially interested adults. A preliminary outline includes such topics as the following:

1. Aims and Objectives of the Science of Archaeology.
2. Chronology and Discussion of Plains Cultural Periods.
3. Observation of High Plains Cultural Phenomena--- Petroglyphs, Teepee Rings, Fire Lenses, Monuments, Quarries, etc.
4. Identification of Plains Artifacts
5. Brief Description of Archaeological Field Techniques.
6. Discussion of Rock Types Used in Artifacts.
7. Proper Method for Cataloguing Surface Collections.

President's Letter (Cont.)

8. Summary of Laws, Customs, and Regulations Governing Archaeological Field Work.
9. A Review of Two or Three Wyoming Site Excavations.
10. A Glossary of Archaeological Terms.
11. Addresses of Wyoming Archaeological Society Chapters.

In connection with the last item, we might consider whether it is desirable for each chapter to have a permanent post office box.

The handbook, if successful, may go through several rapid revisions. Let's get that first one out as soon as possible. We'll aim at completing a rough draft in December so that it can be edited, assembled, and submitted to the Society at the February meeting to be approved for publication with such changes as may be directed.

Please send all written material and suggestions to me at 1544 Bellaire Drive, Casper, Wyoming. A lot of material can be taken from articles previously published in the Wyoming Archaeologist, though there will be some work to be done in preparing these items to conform to the necessary limitations of space, structure, and vocabulary. It will be necessary for someone to start from scratch on some subjects. I will request our qualified members to cover categories on which no material is otherwise available. Others will be asked to assist in editorial tasks.

To avoid defeating the purpose of our book, we'll try to keep the average length of topics down to about 350 words. Some things can be covered in 200 words, and a few of the more complex subjects will run to 500 or more. If you are uncertain whether your article is prepared properly, send it in anyway and it will be reworked if necessary. Our outstanding member artist, Carl Belz has agreed to prepare the technical drawings depicting various artifacts. Other pen and ink sketches will be needed as text illustrations---such things as ancient man hurling spear at mammoth.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
Summer Meeting

August 17, 1963  
Meadowlark Lake, Wyoming

The meeting was called to order by President Baskett at 7 PM before a pleasant campfire, in the Meadowlark Lake Camp-ground area. Thirteen members plus guests were present.

A discussion pertaining to the awarding of the \$100.00 gift scholarship for the 1963-64 school year to the University of Wyoming was the first topic on the agenda, and it was decided that in as much as the student applying for the award was not an anthropological major, and that the Society Treasury should not be depleted, the award would not be made at this time. It was felt by those members present, treasury funds would be used for a statewide educational program.  
(see below)

Dues amounts and mailing of the Society publication was a rather lively topic of discussion, and after many pros and cons, Mrs. Alice Hileman proposed the following resolution requiring an amendment of the Society Constitution, which will be voted on at the next annual meeting in February, 1964:

Be it resolved that annual membership fees be modified as follows:

Single memberships will be \$4.00 each calendar year, with an automatic mailing of the publication; dues to be split half, \$2.00 to be retained by the State Chapters, \$2.00 to be forwarded to the Society Secretary-Treasurer.

Family memberships will be \$6.00 each calendar year (2 or more persons within the family); two copies of the publication with automatic mailing; dues split, \$4.00 retained by the State Chapters, \$2.00 to the Society Secretary-Treasurer (this includes the \$.50 for mailing).

As the services of a guest speaker could not be obtained, a lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Society and Chapters' responsibility with respect to an educational program of bringing our work and objectives before the general public. Several items foremost were:

1. A simple publication of techniques for the amateur, and identification of artifacts, or a catalogued work book for proper procedures of archaeology.

Summer meeting (cont.)

2. An educational media of 35 mm film strips with commentary, similar to the Audio-Visual program held in the schools.
3. Simple displays to depict clues or factual evidence in surface hunting for those individuals who may be interested in aiding our cause, but who are unfamiliar with artifact items, i.e. school children.

It is hoped that items 1 and 2 may be produced with the aid of the State Department of Education, and that some of the cost might be subsidised through them.

President Baskett has requested each Chapter president to personally institute some concrete program of inquiry in order to formulate the above mentioned topics, and it is requested from the membership their ideas relating to them. Members are asked to review their slide files for material that could be incorporated in the Audio-Visual program. Slides will be duplicated and then returned to the member.

Tom Knapp was commissioned to work up the first film strip for the audio-visual program, and it is hoped it may be ready for showing at the next annual meeting.

T. J. Weber was commissioned to make up a format or design of materials for the work book manual.

Library material for the Chapters was discussed and it was suggested that each library should contain a copy of Robert F. Heizer's 3rd Revised Edition of A Guide to Archaeological Field Methods, \$5.00, published by The National Press, Palo Alto, California, and that each Society member honestly interested in our avocation would make an attempt to read it. A new publication mentioned was Archaeology Techniques for Amateurs by Phillip A. Hammond, selling at a cost of \$5.95.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M. with a field trip planned for Sunday.

On Sunday the group departed from Meadowlark Lodge at 8:00 P.M. led by Bill Sands. A surface hunting trip was made to Soldier Creek area, high in the Big Horn Mountains, where several nice specimens were found. Also in the area was a slab marker stone that was thought may have some significance but excavation of the area proved fruitless.

Summer meeting (cont)

Members present were:

Sheridan: Zane & Elaine Hilman  
Fred and Alice Hilman  
Hila Gilbert  
Bill Sands  
Jim and Dorothy Goodwin

Casper: Ted Weber  
Dave Baskett  
Grover Phelan  
Carl Belz

Cody: Tom Knapp

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. Belz,  
Secretary-Treasurer

## CHAPTER NEWS:

### Cheyenne - by Alice Demarest

The August trek of the Cheyenne Chapter took place Sunday the 25th with 19 members and friends participating. The group first visited the Hell Gap Project, which is being excavated by the Peabody Museum of Harvard in cooperation with the University of Wyoming, and sponsored by the National Geographic Society. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Irwin and Miss Cynthia Irwin generously allowed full inspection of the site which shows eleven thousand years of continuous human occupation as revealed by artifacts and animal bones.

In the late afternoon the Society, led by Major Henry Lloyd and Mr. Grant Wilson, visited various stone rings and former Indian village sites.

The first regular meeting will be held in October and anyone interested in Plains Indian life or related subjects is cordially invited to attend.

### Statewide - Bozeman Trail Trek - Miss Marvina Carley, State Historical Society

In July the Wyoming State Historical Society sponsored a trek on the old Bozeman Trail commemorating its hundredth anniversary. Over one hundred people who love the out-of-doors as well as its history participated. Many were also members of the Wyoming Archaeological Society.

In 1851 the United States government promised the Indians the Powder River country if they would stop their attacks upon the travelers on the Oregon Trail. Unfortunately, soon after this promise was made, gold was discovered near Virginia City, Montana, and the mad rush was on. There were several routes to the Montana gold fields but they all took too long for the eager gold seekers. In 1863, John Bozeman came down the east side of the Big Horns, thereby blazing the shortened route, but it ran right through the promised Powder River country. The Bozeman Trail then became the battleground of the fighting Sioux and Red Cloud warned that he would kill every white man he found on it.

As the trek progressed along the Bozeman, many historic spots were pointed out and incredible stories were told of bravery and courage. The tales about Crook, Connor, Calamity Jane, Cole, Fetterman, Carrington, and many others made the hardships on the western frontier real again. Stops at the sites of Fort Connor



Chapter News (cont.)

(Reno), Phil Kearney, the Wagon Box Fight, Lake DeSmet, Crazy Woman Battlefield and the Sawyer Expedition Battlefield also added interest.

Next year there will be a trek on the Cheyenne-Deadwood Road. Why not go along!

AN HISTORIC PETROGLYPH SITE  
in Southern Montana

by Jim Goodwin

This site is located in Treasure County, Montana, on cliffs on the north side of the Yellowstone River, near the confluence of the Yellowstone and Big Horn Rivers.

The cliffs are of tan sandstone, and where the petroglyphs appear there is a dark brown stain on the sandstone. The drawings were incised through the stain into the tan sandstone. In some areas (stippled in Figure 1) the brown stain was rubbed off to expose the light background. The petroglyphs are about seven feet above the top of the present talus slope.

The figures at the top of the group are badly weathered (dotted lines, Figure 1). There may have been three or four spears and a fourth shield or target above those shown.

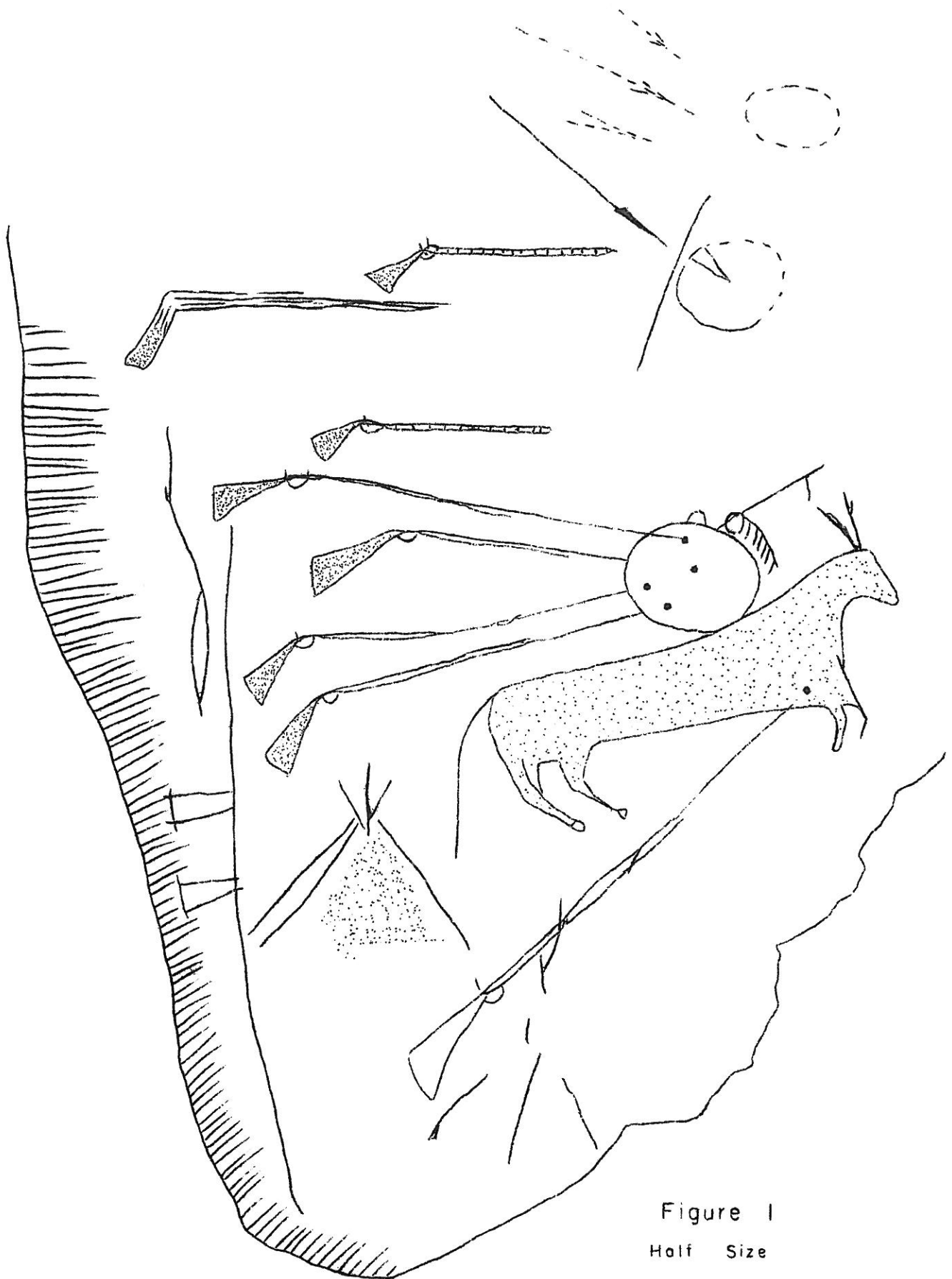


Figure 1  
Half Size

## THE RAMSBOTTOM BURIAL

By Gene Galloway

A rock-pile-covered Indian burial was dug up in 1954 by Lyle and Hazel Ramsbottom. The bones were saved and came to the attention of the writer who took them to Laramie in 1959. They were there examined by George Agogino.

Burial was apparently in a sitting position facing north and east. Neighboring rock piles were dug into but proved barren. Only one artifact was found with this burial, and it is unique, in the writer's experience. The tool is of weathered biotite granite and perhaps partly artificially shaped to a long pyriform outline. The large end is ground flat and smooth, perpendicular to the long axis. The tool is 10.2 inches long, and 3.4 inches at the widest point. Thickness varies from .9 inch to 1.6 inches.

The bones are those of a female, age 30  $\frac{1}{2}$ . All sutures are open. The ends of all long bones were broken and these were not measured or examined for pathology.

### DENTITION:

#### Upper

- R - 1st Incisor remaining
- 2nd Incisor abscessed - gone
- Canine abscessed - gone
- Premolars & Molars gone - healed shut
- L - Incisors abscessed - gone
- Canine abscessed - gone
- Premolars & Molars absent - healed shut

#### Lower

- R - Incisors - abscessed - gone
- Canine - highly worn
- 1st Premolar - abscessed - gone
- 2nd Premolar - absent - nearly healed
- 1st Molar - absent - healed
- 2nd & 3rd Molar - highly worn
- L - Incisors - abscessed - gone
- Canine & 2 Premolars - highly worn
- 1st Molar - absent - nearly healed
- 2nd & 3rd Molar - highly worn

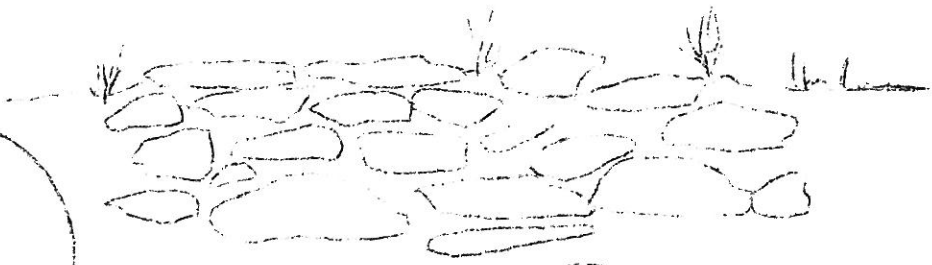
Ramsbottom Burial (Cont.)

SKULL MEASUREMENTS: (Centimeters)

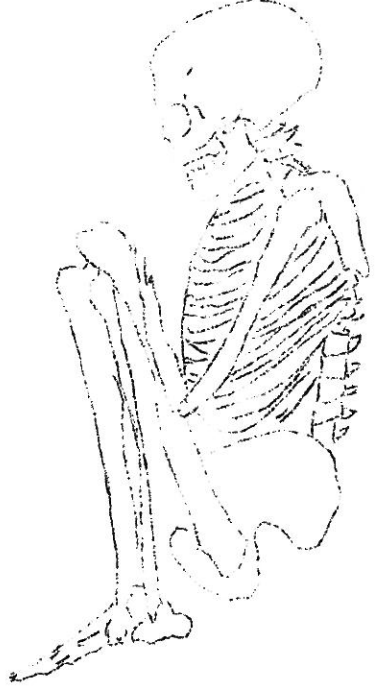
Length - 17.1 cm.  
Width - 13.0  
Arik. Height - 11.5  
Temporal Width - 8.9  
Prosthion-Nasthion - 6.8  
Basthion-Nasthion - 9.1  
Basthion-Prosthion - 9.1  
Rt. Eye:                      Left Eye:  
    Ht. - 3.7                      Ht. - 3.8  
    Width - 4.1                      Width - 4.0  
Nasal Width - 2.4  
Nasal Height - 5.0  
Zygomatic Width (extra orbital) - 10.9  
Face Height (total) - 10.5 est.  
Bicondylar Width - 11.1 est.  
Height of Symphysis (chin) - 3.1  
Bigonial Dia - 9.0  
Min. Breadth left Ramus - 3.1  
Height left ascending Ramus - 5.2

Foramen Magnum

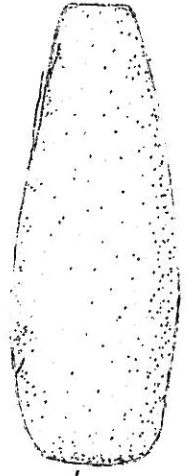
    Length - 3.9  
    Width - 3.1  
Gonion-Gnation - 9.2  
Bastion-Gnathion - 10.7  
Parion-Bregma Height - 11.2  
Parian Breadth - 10.6



Occipital



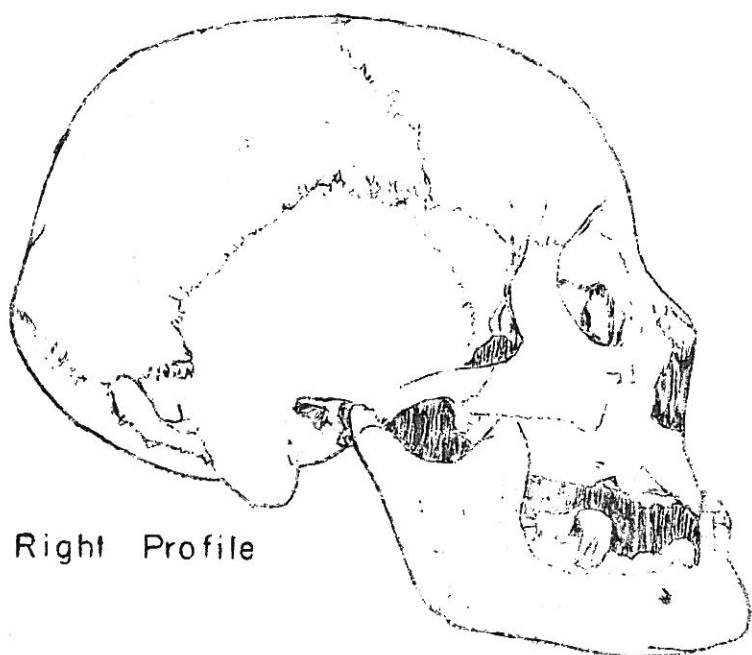
Approximate Burial Position



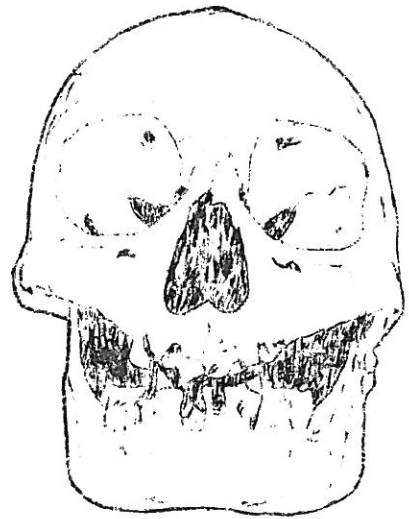
Stone Tool



Sagittal



Right Profile



Anterior

RAMSBOTTOM BURIAL

## THE SANDISON COLLECTION OF ARTIFACTS

By Carl Belz

Mr. Tom L. Sandison of 210 East 15th Street, Casper, has an extensive artifact collection with many beautiful projectile points of artistic and unique craftsmanship, many of which are mounted in display cases. Several of Mr. Sandison's points are seldom seen items of very unusual design. Included here are a rare corner-notched (tang) knife of deep red jasper, and three "turkey-tail" type blades of varied colored agate, points that will be depicted in a later report.

Mr. Sandison began his interest in artifact collecting in 1933 and made most of his interesting finds during the years 1935 through 1939. Surface hunting throughout the years was generally in the Pathfinder Reservoir area in the southern part of Natrona County and the northern part of Carbon County. Trips were made with friends or family members, and on many occasions, during sub-zero weather. During winter months, the "expeditions" were representative of "travel in the Arctic", for attire consisted of heavy footwear, large heavy outercoats and gloves, earflap headgear and goggles. The cold windy weather was quite severe.

Although Mr. Sandison has not catalogued his collection, he states that nearly 95% of his items were gathered from an isolated triangular location, in the area called by the Central Wyomingites as "the backwaters of Pathfinder". During this period of years the area was not inundated by the dammed waters. Water and silt now cover the area and prevent the finding of former campsites. Mr. Sandison has collected in other areas north and northeast of Casper, but the items gathered there make up a very small part of his display. The Pine Ridge area, north of Glenrock, was occasionally surface hunted during the major collecting years but due to the immensity of the formation, items found were never as numerous as in the Pathfinder locations.

During the late 1930's, Mr. Sandison related, there were vagabond persons adept at manufacturing various types of projectile points in order to earn a little "food money". It is hoped that those produced have not turned up as "aged" points in anyone's collection. (see figure E)

The EDEN type point, A, is made from a deep red jasper with very beautiful flaking. The basal edge shows very slight grinding and the tangs are very sharply pronounced. This point was found during the winter late in 1935 in a campsite among firepits in a tipi ring area in the "backwaters of Pathfinder". The size of the point is 2.78 inches long, by 0.69 inches wide, by 0.2 inches thick.

Sandison Collection (Cont.)

There is no indication of patination, possibly due to intense wind and sand action. This point somewhat resembles the ANGOSTURA type point in size and shape except for the tang and for the pronounced medial ridge.

Point B, which may possibly be described as an ANGOSTURA type point, is made from a very fine-grained light gray quartzite. The very fine oblique parallel flaking has such fine workmanship that the blade surface and shape almost seems to have been ground, while the basal grinding is rather pronounced. This blade was found in the spring of 1938 on the Shirley Basin Rim, following the run-off period. It was picked up in a hillside washout in scattered pieces, which, when assembled, proved to be a complete blade, broken into five pieces. This specimen is 4.4 inches long, 1.0 inches wide, and 0.25 inches thick, thin and lenticular in cross-section.

Point C is similar to an abbreviated EDEN point. It was manufactured from a "muddy" clear tan agate, and has short parallel flakes emanating from a flat medial ridge, and a barely perceptible stem which appears to be basally ground. This point also comes from the sand hills in the Pathfinder campsite area, and was found in the winter of 1937. Size is 1.975 inches long, 0.775 inches wide, and 0.2 inches thick, and similar in cross-section to an EDEN point except for the flat medial ridge.

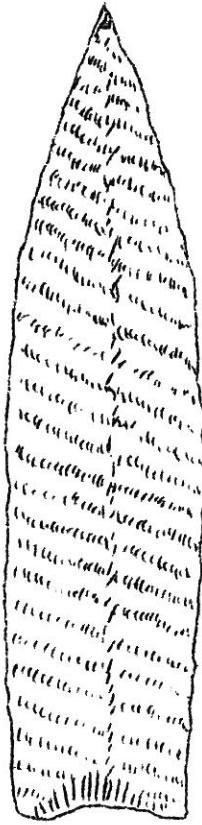
Point D resembles a SANDIA point in shape, except that it may be a little longer and wider. The shoulder is very pronounced and the "stem" begins about two-thirds down from the tip. It was made from very light gray quartzite with the flaking rather sparse and only toward the outer edges of the blade. The size is 4.15 inches long, 1.5 inches wide, and 0.3 inches thick. This item was found in the spring of 1940 in a camp area at Pathfinder.

Mr. Sandison feels that point E is not an authentic Indian artifact. He is of the opinion that it was not made by the Amerindian but is of rather recent origin. The point is reported to have come from the sand hills area of southeastern Colorado. It is somewhat similar to an EDEN type point in design. There is chip flaking and the whole stem shows basal grinding. It was made from a banded red-veined white agate with the veins running parallel to the longitudinal axis and is very beautiful in appearance. The cross-section is diamond-shaped, and the size 2.5 inches long, 0.7 inches wide, and 0.2 inches thick. Mr. Sandison has seen a number of similar points reputed to be genuine which were of the same material, identical workmanship with the same shape and design.

Artifacts  
From the  
Tom L. Sandison  
Collection  
Full Size



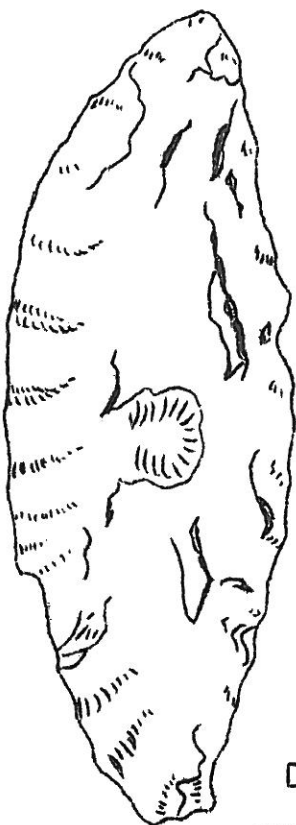
A



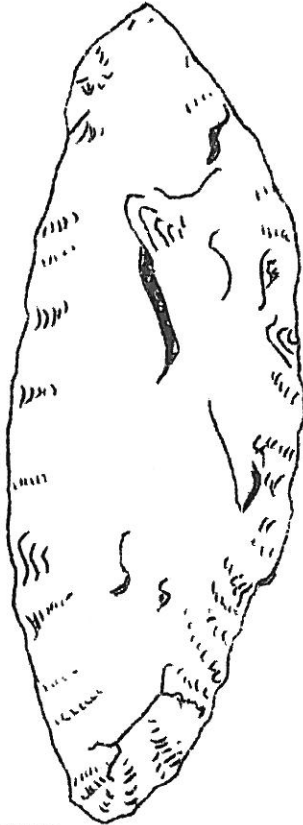
B



C



D



E



C. Belz



## H. A. TAYLOR RANCH PETROGLYPHS

By Tom Knapp

Investigation at the indian site located on the H. A. Taylor Ranch, Hyattville, Wyoming, consisted of three trips made by members of the Northern Big Horn Chapter to photograph the petroglyphs and to determine, if possible, the approximate age of the bison jump in conjunction with the drawings.

On Sunday, July 21, the writer, accompanied by his wife Edna, and members Karen and Lynn Knapp, of Basin, drove to the site to photograph the petroglyphs, and were met by Mr. Frank Turner, present lessee of the Taylor Ranch. Mr. Turner graciously permitted us to take as much time as needed to accomplish our purpose, and gave us valuable assistance in our exploration of the area.

The petroglyph site is a huge reddish brown sandstone cliff running for some 300 feet along the concourse of the present stream level of Medicine Lodge Creek, in a general north and south direction, with the front of the cliff facing east, and rising to a maximum height of approximately seventy feet. Many petroglyphs were observed, measured and photographed. Pecked, incised, and painted drawings of every description were observed, and a combination of all three techniques was observed in one badly eroded specimen. Most of the drawings appeared to be of historic or late pre-historic origin, with the well-defined outlines of game animals, hunting scenes, animal tracks, representative human figures, and with the usual collection of modern initials defacing the cliff surface in complete disregard of the value of the drawings on which they were placed. However, Mr. Turner, recognizing the petroglyphs as a valuable adjunct to our study of pre-historic man in Wyoming, has, since moving onto the ranch some years ago, done an effective job of preventing further vandalism of the drawings. (See Wyoming Archaeologist, Vol. V, No. 4, Turner Ranch Pictographs, Juanita Hinthorn, for a description of some of the individual drawings.)

On our way out we stopped at the ranch house to thank Mr. Turner for his hospitality, and to discuss with him the possibility of the site's being a bison jump. Because of its strategic location in relation to the surrounding hills and the proximity of a huge cultural complex, we had thought it would be an ideal situation for a kill site. Mr. Turner returned to the site with us and showed us where, during some tractor excavation for a road fill, he had uncovered four bison skulls and a large quantity of attendant bones. As this was immediately below the cliff, we obtained permission to return at a later date to investigate further.

## Taylor Ranch Petroglyphs (Cont.)

On September 29, NBHB Chapter members, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Kinnan and Walter Nelson of Cody, and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Breitweiser and Harry Keirn and Elsie Keirn, of Powell, Wyoming, returned to the site to run a test trench through the kill site in order, if possible, to ascertain the depth of the refuse or bone layer and to find artifacts which would give us a clue to its antiquity.

Mr. Kinnan reported that no artifacts were uncovered and only scattered bone pieces and stone flakes were found, so the results were rather inconclusive. At our October meeting we discussed the matter at some length, and it was decided by the members to again undertake to bring the investigation to some sort of a conclusion. With this in mind, we set Sunday, October 20, as the next field trip to Hyattville.

The trip was made on schedule with the following members present: the writer and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Kinnan and family, and guests Dr. and Mrs. Millard Smith and family, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Russell and Mrs. John Jacobson, all of Cody.

It was decided to sink a trench close to the area excavated by Mr. Turner in order to take advantage of the overburden which had already been removed and which involved a layer of blow sand about 2 feet deep. At about the 36" depth we encountered a charcoal layer in association with stone flakes and bone pieces. At depth of about 42", we started to uncover sections of bison vertebrae still in articulation and it was hoped that we would be able to excavate a complete skeleton. In all, approximately half the skeleton was recovered, including the pelvis, both femurs, and several ribs. One humerus had been split or broken. We did not find the skull of this animal, but an examination of those skulls previously dug out by the tractor showed no evidence of cracking open of the cranial cavities by the Indians, as has been observed in other jump sites.

At this same level, a large blue trade bead, elliptical in shape and some 14 mm. long was uncovered. During the excavation of another test trench close to the cliff a second bead was brought from a depth of about 24 inches. This second bead was of glass, 10 mm., round, and covered with raised dots of color. Dr. McCracken of the Whitney Museum has identified them as Venetian Polychrome beads, probably 200 years or so in age, and first brought into this country by the early fur traders.

As no extensive cultural layer extended below the layer in which these beads were found, it is to be supposed that this kill site

Taylor Ranch Petroglyphs (Cont.)

is very late in age, and the fact that the bone layer is not thick leads us to the obvious conclusion that the site was not used for any great length of time.

It is hoped that at some later date it will be possible to make a complete excavation of the site even though present evidence does not really warrant too much additional work.