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The following officers were re-elected: President - George Brox; 1st Vice-President - George Zeimens; 2nd Vice-President - Robert Ellis.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

President Brox announced that the Executive Committee would meet at the Ramada Inn at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday, April 4, 1976.

STATE SUMMER MEETING

A brief discussion on the site of the State Summer Meeting was held. Since grant applications have not been acknowledged and other complicating factors made selection of a site at the present time impossible, it was moved by Imogene Hanson that selection of the Summer Meeting site be tabled until further information is available from the State Archaeologist's Office. The motion was seconded and carried.

INFORMATION NEEDED FROM CHAPTERS

President Brox reminded Chapters to report membership, officers, and time and place of meetings to the President and Executive Secretary at the earliest possible date.

After a short recess for lunch, the meeting was reconvened at 1:45 P.M.

FILM: "THE EARLY AMERICANS"

Larry Osborne presented a color film entitled "The Early Americans." The 41-minute film was produced in 1975 by the Shell Oil Company and is an excellent survey of early human experience in America. It is a film not only of explanation but of discovery with animated maps, panoramic landscapes, and scenes from the past and present. It shows how man's interaction with the environment led to his rise from nomadic hunter to builder of empires more than 2000 years before Columbus sailed for the New World. The Koster Site in Illinois and several sites in the Great Plains are depicted and there is an excellent demonstration of projectile point manufacture by Bruce Bradley.

The film is available for free public showings from the Shell Film Library, 1433 Sadlier Circle, W. Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46239. An excellent wall chart accompanies the film. Chapters may obtain a copy of the wall chart, along with descriptive information on the film, by writing to Shell Oil or to the Executive Secretary.

DR. LARRY LAHREN: ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE UPPER YELLOWSTONE VALLEY, MONTANA

Dr. Larry Lahren gave a slide presentation on "Archaeology of the Upper Yellowstone Valley, Montana." Dr. Lahren showed slides depicting the great ecological diversity of the Valley and told of the great difficulty of finding sites in the area. He emphasized the nature of preliminary surface surveys to be frequently misleading to the untrained eye. A great variety of sites was described, including quarry sites, open camp sites, rock shelters, hunting blinds, fasting shelters, bison kill sites, and artifact-bearing cairns. Although many of the sites in the area date from the Middle Prehistoric to the Late Prehistoric, Dr. Lahren stressed that more Paleo sites were expected to be found with the refinement of techniques and further investigation.

Dr. Lahren focused attention on the Meyers-Hindman Site in Park County, Montana, a site which was the basis for his doctoral dissertation. Named after the landowner, George Meyers, originally from Riverton, Wyoming, and Rose Hindman, an amateur who learned of the site from a sheep herder in the early 1950's, the site eventually yielded cultural components dated from 1200 A.D. to about 9,000 years before the present. Seven settlement units were identified, and the archaeological assemblage included 6,150 stone artifacts and a wide variety of faunal remains were evidenced by over 600 identifiable bone elements. The slides of the excavation by Dr. Lahren and his crew described techniques for establishing a grid system, the retrieving of soil monoliths, and the identification of cultural patterns and settlement units.

Dr. Lahren found that collectors and vandals had seriously hampered the ability of the professionals to get accurate interpretations of cultural information in many areas of the Valley, much of the site disturbances having occurred in the 1950's when the archaeological significance of the Upper Yellowstone first became apparent.

NED FROST, WYOMING RECREATION COMMISSION

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Frost were introduced. Mr. Frost, representing the Wyoming Recreation Commission, spoke briefly regarding current trends in Federal and State governments concerning historical and archaeological matters. Mr. Frost traced the origin of the Wyoming Recreation Commission and the origin of funding for archaeological research in Wyoming. In the mid-1960's, both the State and Federal governments created sources of funding. It is now imperative to work for the perpetuation of those funding programs, according to Mr. Frost. Recently, some of those programs have suffered serious cut-backs. The reasons for the funding cuts appear to be economical measures plus a lack of convincing

reassurance to Congressmen to the valuable work being done in cultural preservation. Example: the 1977 budget for the Historic Preservation Act has been cut from \$20 million to \$10 million. This is contrasted with demonstrated needs in the states estimated to be between \$200-\$300 million.

There is currently legislation proposed in Congress which would create a Historic Preservation Fund (presently, the funds are budgeted annually out of the General Fund). Mr. Frost stated that the legislation, if passed, might create funds in excess of \$100 million by the mid- 1980's. He emphasized that it is imperative that our Congressmen be notified regarding the current proposed bills. (SECRETARY'S NOTE: the bills referred to by Mr. Frost have been introduced in both houses of Congress under the title "A Bill to Amend the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 to Establish the National Historic Preservation Fund." The Senate bill number is S-327 and the House bill number is HR-12234. The address of Wyoming's Congressmen are as follows: Sen. Gale McGee, Dirksen Senate Bldg., Washington, D. C., 20510; Sen. Cliff Hansen, Dirksen Senate Bldg., Washington, D. C., 20510; Rep. Teno Roncalio, 1314 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D. C., 20510.)

Mr. Frost continued by reporting that the Wyoming Legislature had recently refused all funding for the Medicine Lodge Creek Site, a site belonging to the State of Wyoming. Although some funds were allocated, they are funds earned by archaeological teams of the State. In short, we are going to have to get to work to get the funding necessary for important archaeological research and preservation.

CHARLES A. REHER: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN NEW MEXICO

Charles Reher, Archaeology Instructor at the University of Wyoming, made a presentation entitled "Settlement and Subsistence Patterns of the Lower Chaco of Northwestern New Mexico." The study was the result of a contract survey done in conjunction with energy development. The survey covered an area of 75 square miles about 10 miles south of Farmington, New Mexico, in the San Juan Basin on the East side of the Chaco River. Whereas only about 120 sites were anticipated, the survey team found at least 750 sites, or about 12 sites per square mile. Aside from the initial purpose of the survey, a more important and broader purpose consisted of interpreting and integrating the archaeological data in a much larger archaeological framework.

Using a sophisticated methodology, the survey team set out from their campsite at "Hoot Owl City" to evaluate the cultural resources, design environmental monitoring programs, and evaluate plant ecology and geological factors. After walking literally hundreds of miles, a great deal of data was recorded

bearing on the cultural patterns of Paleo, Archaic, Anasazi and Navaho occupations in the area.

The area had been occupied intensively over a period of three to four thousand years. It was soon discovered that a number of effective prediction models could be devised concerning Archaic occupation patterns. This was done by combining knowledge of the fact that the Archaic occupations occurred in areas of great ecological diversity with plant zone maps and the evidence of modern ethnological accounts regarding gathering communities.

Anasazi/Pueblo occupations dating from 500 A.D. to 1300 A.D. were found in considerable number. Some very useful information was derived from the survey which allowed the survey team to accurately predict population trends by considering the relationship between the number of sites and the size of the drainage basin where the site concentrations were located. In an area of only six inches of annual rainfall, the Anasazi farmers were remarkably successful in their environmental adaptation.

Charles concluded his report with a comparison of early historic Navaho occupations to Navaho settlement patterns of the 20th century.

GARVEY WOOD: HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF FORT MCKENZIE

Garvey Wood, student at the University of Wyoming, presented a paper entitled "Fort McKenzie: Historical Archaeology of the Upper Missouri River." With slides and references from historical sources, Garvey described the history of the Fort and the problems of interpretation from the historical record resulting from conflicting accounts.

Fort McKenzie, established in the early 1830's by David Mitchell for the American Fur Company, was built in the heart of Blackfoot hunting grounds. Established some six miles above the mouth of the Marias River on the west bank of the Missouri, the Fort served as a trading center with the Blackfeet until it was burned to the ground in 1844. The well-fortified post was an important part of the lives of the Indians, serving as a recreation center, health and welfare center, and source of information to the Blackfeet regarding other tribes in the area.

The first description of the Fort was recorded by the German Prince Alexander Maximilian. Although the Prince left vivid descriptions of the trading post, these accounts were incomplete and often in conflict with accounts of subsequent post traders such as Alexander Culbertson and Francois Chardin. The only painting of the Fort while it was in existence was made by the Swiss

artist Carl Bodmer, travelling companion of Maximilian, who painted the Fort in the background of an Indian battle he witnessed near the Fort in August of 1833.

The Fort was besieged with problems from the outset, often because it was located within striking distance of Crow and Assiniboin who resented the opportunities it provided for the Blackfeet. Traders introduced small pox to the Indians at the Fort within a decade after its construction, resulting in the death of about two-thirds of the Blackfoot population. When Francois Chardin, a "hot-headed Frenchman," replaced Culbertson as chief trader and refused to admit some Blackfeet returning from Crow country to enter the Fort, hostilities erupted forcing evacuation of the Fort in 1844.

The Fort site was flooded in 1908 and leveled and seeded to grain in 1952. In the interim, it was severely looted. Maynard Schumate from Cascade, Montana, salvaged some trade items and observed much evidence of foundations of building in the old Fort, but even his discoveries conflicted with the descriptions left by the original occupants of the Fort.

Garvey suggested that the historical archaeologist cannot rely on the historical record alone, but must employ such archaeological tools as the proton magnetometer, electrical resistivity, and even the dowsing rod to obtain more complete information regarding the physical layout of the Fort. Garvey also suggested that records of the American Fur Company and accounts of burials within the stockade written by Maximilian might also be of value in reconstruction of the human drama associated with this significant frontier outpost in the remote Blackfoot country of the upper Missouri.

MARYANN FRARY: HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY ON THE OREGON TRAIL

Maryann Frary, Anthropology Instructor at Casper College, presented a paper on historical archaeology on the Oregon Trail in Wyoming.

Following the severe Spring snowstorm of 1973 and the subsequent effects of road maintenance equipment and natural erosion forces, a gravestone was found along a private access road near the North Platte River about 22 kilometers east of Casper. The gravestone bore the name of Quintina Snoderly.

Working amid blowing sand and inquisitive livestock, Maryann led a small crew of four in the one-day excavation of the grave site in June of 1974. The burial had obviously been accomplished with great care, and although the coffin had slipped in the grave and most of the physical remains had decayed, the sand had preserved coffin stains, stains of the ropes used to lower the coffin into the grave, and body stains in extreme clarity.

Through a reconstruction of the coffin, it was determined that it had been constructed by a skilled craftsman. Recent historical research has indeed confirmed that a member of the wagon train, Robert Moore, was a cabinet maker.

The cause of death appears to have been the result of an accident that occurred when the Snoderly wagon slipped off a ferry as it bumped into the north bank landing on the River, pinning Quintina Snoderly in the wagon or between a wheel and the bank. Skeletal pathology and experiments with replicas certainly reinforce this hypothesis. The immediate cause of death was a pressure impact to the left chest area resulting in multiple injuries consistent with the ferry accident hypothesis.

The historical aspect of the study has documented that Quintina was the wife of Jacob Snoderly and the mother of eight. She died June 25, 1852, while crossing the Plains from Missouri to the Willamette Valley in Oregon.

The historical research further substantiates the initial proposal made by Maryann that a family group moving West would not automatically bury a deceased member in a shallow grave after a "quickie" funeral. A broader context relating to the burial of Quintina Snoderly is not only that it seriously questions the belief held by some that the quickie funeral in a shallow grave was typical, but in terms of problem-oriented historical archaeology provides evidence that one can postulate cultural factors from a dig and check these with historical records.

Maryann showed several slides of the excavation and is currently researching further information on Quintina Snoderly.

ADJOURNMENT

President Brox announced that the Banquet would begin at 7:30 P.M. The meeting was adjourned.

BANQUET PROGRAM

The Banquet was held at 7:30 P.M. at the Holiday Inn. President Brox opened the program portion by expressing his appreciation to all who had contributed to the success of the Annual Meeting.

CHAPTER ATTENDANCE

President Brox called for a count of attendance by Chapters. There were