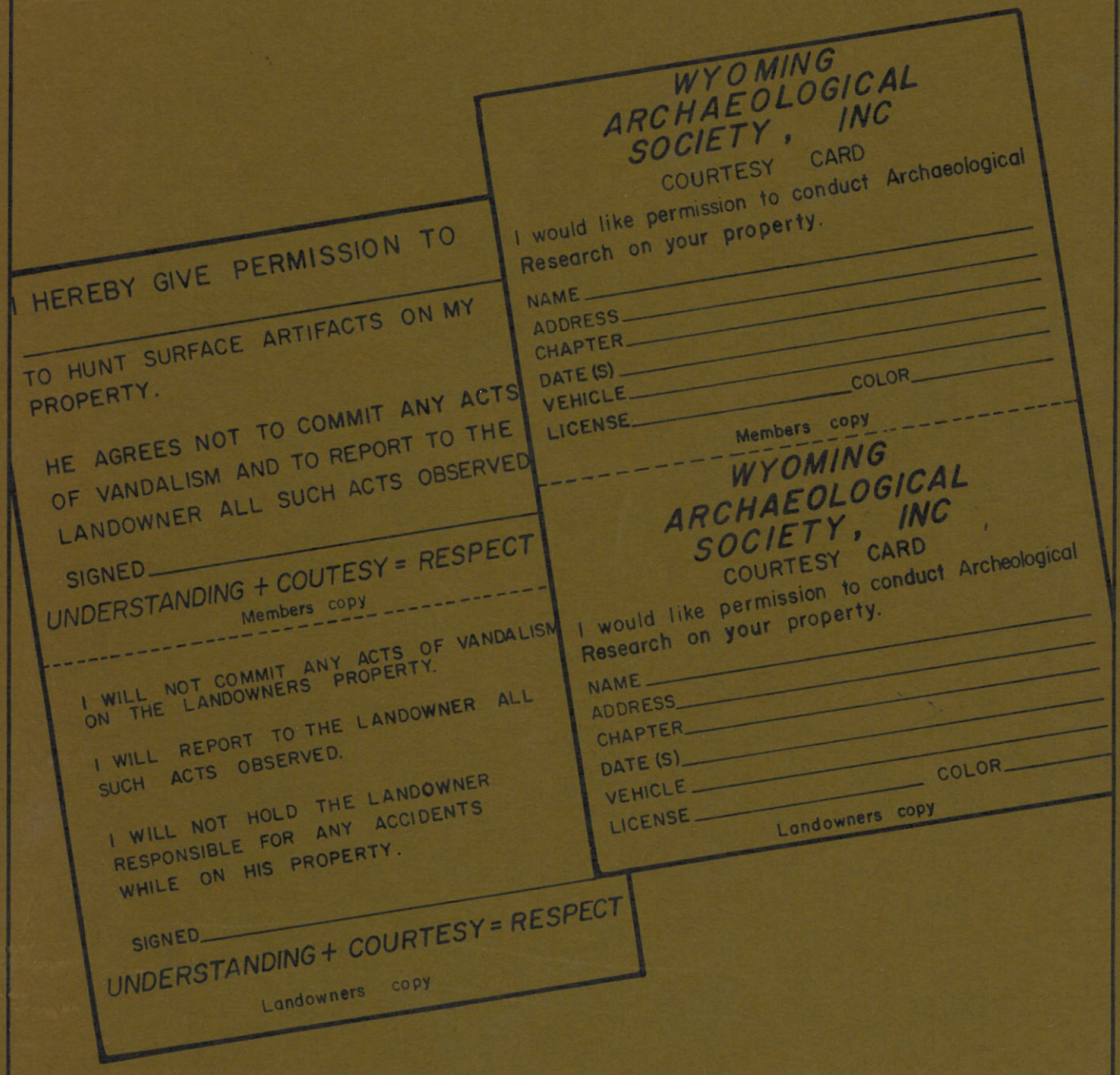
WYOMING
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

THE WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGIST



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. . . . . .

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WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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APPENDIX II

DECEMBER ISSUE CONTENTS

Editor's Notes

(1) John C. Lytle has been nominated for the Mulloy Scholarship award. He is a Senior this year at the University and we will be hearing a lot from him in the future.

(2) The cover on the Archaeologist reflects a fine idea suggested by Chapter President Dr. Schoondermark and adopted at December meeting. This trespass permit is similar to that used by Colorado Game and Fish and should help to improve relations with landowners. Bill Lloyd drafted the finished plan and we plan to sell these to individual members.

(3) The greatest assist to our constant need for more accurate cataloging of artifacts would be to establish, in convenient locations, study groups of artifacts from all of the Societies' dig sites. Plastic reproductions could be made as needed to make three representative sets from each site, and the choice finds by individuals could be reproduced for their own collections. One set should be placed with the University, one with the State Museum, and one retained by the Chapter. This plan would greatly solve an ever increasing storage problem, eliminate unprotected basement storage, and silence the mounting criticism of the non-availability for study. This plan has the approval of the State Archaeologist, and will be presented at the State meeting. Please discuss this within each Chapter so representatives may vote on the finished proposal after discussion at the State meeting.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
ARTS AND SCIENCES BUILDING
UNIVERSITY STATION, BOX 3431
LARAMIE, WYOMING 82070

ARCHAEOLOGICAL GOALS

In the last issue of the Wyoming Archaeologist, a number of thoughts and ideas were expressed on the present condition of Wyoming archaeology and the working relationships that presently exist and that we might hope to see expanded and improved in the future. Predictions are always tenuous but planning is necessary in any long range project.

The basic orientation in most Universities today is that a good share of money for research should come from outside sources. The University provides the location, the teachers and facilities, but to actually do research such as site work and analysis, the investigator is expected to exhaust money possibilities from grant giving agencies. For archaeology and anthropology, these include, for example, National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren, National Geographic Society, National Park Service, National Institute of Mental Health, and any other State, Federal or private organization that might be induced to support this kind of work. Universities also offer research money that may be applied for through regular channels. Many grants are given on a matching basis whereby the State or University matches varying percentages of money from other sources.

For various reasons, grant money from the usual federal sources is scarce. Aside from the usual reasons of war expenditures, it is also significant that there are continually more and more people engaged in research and ever greater competition for the funds. Applications for grants are difficult and time-consuming. Often a grant application takes on the proportions of a major journal article in terms of time and research that goes into its preparation. Processing of grant applications takes so long that the researcher is usually left in midair right up to and often beyond the proposed starting date before learning of rejection or acceptance.

These are problems in planning archaeological programs. Fortunately, the Wyoming Recreation Commission has already approved the budget for the coming fiscal year and with this as a working basis we can plan on at least two large crews (seven men each) or three smaller crews. National Park Service money for the Missouri River Basin will all be expended in recovery of the steamboat Bertrand on the Missouri River but there are possibilities for National Park Service money for other areas. Application has been made to the National Science Foundation but funds are difficult to obtain from this source and the results of the proposal will probably not be known until June. Some support is expected from the University and if any of the latter three materialize, we will be able to offer a good field program next summer.

There are areas of Anthropology that need strengthening at the University of Wyoming. For the first time, during the 1970 spring semester, we will have a course in Anthropological linguistics. In addition we have added a course in Fossil Man which will also be offered next spring, both by competent and qualified people.

As an isolated item of interest, it should be noted that two Wyoming students, Charles Reher and John Lytle, presented papers at the Plains Conference in Lawrence, Kansas over the Thanksgiving holiday period. The reports were on the Glenrock and the Eden site. It is encouraging to see that Wyoming students have finally reached this point. Every effort is being made to continue the Plains Conference at its present level in order that it will continue to serve as a platform for students to cut their teeth in the Anthropological world. No point in the life of an Anthropologist is more significant than the moment he stands before a professional audience and states his findings and his conclusions. Next year, greater participation in activities of this nature is planned.

In retrospect, over the past two years it is obvious that Wyoming archaeology can obviously progress at a desired pace only with the cooperation of the people of the state and its various agencies and organizations. It is a little frightening to think of the evidence that might have been lost if sites such as the Ruby Site, the Eden Site, the Elk Mountain Site, the Dead Indian Site, the Shirley Basin Site, and the Red Desert Site had been looted. It is discouraging to think of the much greater number of such sites that have been looted. So with increasing cooperation between the University departments, Archaeological Societies, Historical Societies, Highway Department, Game and Fish Commission and many others, Wyoming prehistory stands a chance of at least partial recovery.

George C. Frison
State Archaeologist

KEY TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING
IN WYOMING
UNDER THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

I. Requirements of Act to Participating States.

First: Frame a basic plan, comprehensive in scope as to time and geography. This includes a complete survey and cataloging of individual historic sites.

Second: Commence preservation, restoration, interpretation, etc., of individual sites on a bases of priority and relationship.

II. The Plan -- as taking form in Wyoming.

First: On a wide base to include benefits to state citizens and appeal to traveling public.

Second: To commence with prehistory and follow time and geography as they have influenced the separate historic phases which working together have resulted in the present structure of Wyoming.

Third: Which points out the most basic influence in the shaping of the state -- its possession of the major natural transcontinental travel route.

III. A Result -- The Oregon Trail as a basic theme in the portrayal of Wyoming history. To be accomplished through a development of Oregon Trail Parkways which will include not only the interpretation of historic sites but the development of recreational potentials at those places.

IV. The Glenrock Buffalo Jump -- becomes one of the most important of these parkway developments:

First: In time.

Second: In place -- prehistoric man used this transcontinental route also, at least by sections.

Third: In cultural interest.

Highway Beautification Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-285)

Title III; Sec. 301:

" . . . The Secretary may approve as a part of the construction of Federal-aid

highways the cost of landscape and roadside development; including acquisition and development of publicly owned and controlled rest and recreation area and sanitary and other facilities reasonably necessary to accommodate the traveling public.

"An amount equivalent to 3 per centum of the funds appropriated to a State for Federal-aid highways for any fiscal year shall be allocated to that State out of funds appropriated under authority of this sub-section, which shall be used for landscape and roadside development within the highway right-of-way and for acquisition of interests in and improvement of strips of land necessary for the restoration, preservation, and enhancement of scenic beauty adjacent to such highways, including acquisition and development of publicly owned and controlled rest and recreation areas . . . without being matched by the State."

National Historic Preservation Act (P.L. 89-665)

"The Congress finds and declares:

(a) that the spirit and direction of the nation are founded upon and reflected in its historic past;

(b) that the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the American people; . . . .

Title I; Sec. 101:

(2) to establish a program of matching grants-in-aid to States for projects having as their purpose the preservation for public benefit of properties which are significant in American history, architecture, archeology and culture; and . . . ."

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-578)

Title I; Sec. 1 (b) - Purposes:

"The purposes of this act are to assist in preserving, developing and assuring accessibility to all citizens . . . such quality and quantity of outdoor recreational resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable for . . . recreation . . . by (1) providing funds for and authorizing Federal assistance to the States in planning, acquisition and development of needed land. . . ."

Statement of reasons for scheduling the September 2, 1969 inspection trip to the site commonly known as the Glenrock Buffalo Jump.

First Reason: This reason involves what the site itself is and why its particular location makes it of special significance not only to the citizens of Wyoming but to any guests traveling through their state no matter from what part of the world.

This is a prehistoric site involving the culture of the North American High Plains and Mountain Aboriginal Man, a culture of such particular educational interest as to be taught even to primary school students throughout this nation as well as in several foreign countries. And this, a site where herds of bison were cautiously moved (the herdsman's term would be "drifted") to a key position and then suddenly stampeded over a hidden death leap, is a site where perhaps the most spectacular single distinction of that culture can be beautifully illustrated to an all but captive audience. An audience which has been led into the very central location of a fascinating prehistoric activity simply by reason of public vacation and business travel along the Interstate 25 route.

Second Reason: This reason involves the personnel whom have been invited to make this tour. These are the persons in Wyoming who hold authority for the administration of public laws and institutions whereby this prehistory cultural site may be developed and interpreted in a manner which will enhance, for modern mankind, its charm and cultural value. The purpose is to bring these authorities together at the site in order that they may individually visualize what their own agency might accomplish and collectively explore how a cooperative effort might bring about a truly superb development. Therefore representatives from the following Wyoming institutions and agencies have been invited:

1. University of Wyoming - - The President and the State Archaeologist, responsible for archaeological investigation and preservation throughout the State.

2. State Highway Department - - Administering the Highway Beautification Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-285).

3. Wyoming Recreation Commission - - Administering the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (P.L. 88-578) and the National Historic Preservation Act (P.L. 89-665).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Members:

A number of events have occurred during the past several months which should be reported.

The summer State meeting at Saratoga was highly successful and enjoyable. The Cherokee Trail Chapter should be congratulated for being such fine hosts. One of the ideas that evolved during the meeting was the establishment of a committee to investigate the possibility of forming a non-profit foundation as part of the Wyoming Archaeological Society. This foundation would solicit money to be spent solely for archaeological work in Wyoming. If funds can be raised, they could be used for sponsoring summer site work by Dr. George Firson or similar endeavors. This committee has been formed and we hope its efforts will be fruitful.

The 4th of July weekend was the occasion for the first statewide "dig", which was held in the Shirley Basin. Members of the Society came from all over Wyoming to participate in this excavation of a late prehistoric site. This site was rich in materials which made the trowel and shovel work all the more enjoyable. Dr. George Frison and Lou Steege cracked the whip and gave us the benefits of their experience and expertise. The success of this dig warrants having another one. We have tentatively set one up for this coming summer in the Sunlight Basin, west of Cody. Here, the Cody Chapter is excavating a particularly rich site, which to date has revealed two McKean horizons and an altithermal occupation. The Cody Chapter has agreed to act as hosts. The exact date is still open. We will announce it later and all members who possibly can are urged to attend. This is an occasion in which you can meet and work with other members from all over the State of Wyoming. It is both a rewarding and enjoyable event.

This past summer saw all of the chapters busy excavating various sites. Work has been completed at the Pumpkin Buttes Site, south of Gillette, and the Glenrock Buffalo Jump. Dr. George Frison and his University crews along with local members, completed the work at both sites. The work at Glenrock, which was sponsored by a National Science Foundation Grant, has received a great deal of publicity. The most recent was a lengthy and well written article that appeared in a Sunday edition of the Denver Post. In addition, the Wyoming Recreation Commission invited several delegations of Smithsonian and National Park Service personnel, who visited Glenrock and presented suggestions on how to preserve the site. The Wyoming Highway Commission is exploring the possibility of constructing a large rest area at the Glenrock site, which is only a few hundred yards from the four lane Interstate

highway. A fine interpretive display of the jump site could be constructed as part of the rest area facilities. The publicity and educational value that would be derived from this would be a big boost in getting our message across to the public.

My wife and I, accompanied Dr. George Frison, his family and students Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Reher and Mr. and Mrs. John Lytle, to the 27th Plains Anthropological Society Meeting at Lawrence, Kansas. This meeting was held at the University of Kansas over the Thanksgiving holiday. It was attended principally by professional archaeologists, most of whom were from the Central Plains states. The papers were primarily concerned with areas in or adjacent to the Mississippi Valley. I sort of felt like the petunia in the onion patch, or vice versa, amongst all those professionals. I am prejudiced, but I thought that Dr. Frison and his two graduate students, John Lytle and Chuck Reher, presented some of the best papers given at the conference. One strong impression that I derived from the meeting was that we in the northern Rocky Mountain area are still on the periphery as far as archaeological recognition or financial assistance available for archaeological work. However, primarily through the efforts of George Frison, the eastern branch of the profession is beginning to realize that we do have a lot to contribute. I had several professionals compliment your society about the quality of our publication "The Wyoming Archaeologist". This is a feather for the cap of our fine editor, Grant Willson.

I plan on visiting all of the state chapters during my term of office. To date I have visited Casper, Cheyenne and Saratoga. The purpose of these trips is to let all of the members of the local chapters know what their State society is doing. If you have any suggestions as to how to improve your State organization, I would appreciate hearing them. I will look forward to seeing all of you between now and the State meeting in April.

Sincerely,

John Albanese
President

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
SUMMER MEETING

Hospitality was the order of the day as members began arriving for the summer meeting of the Wyoming Archaeological Society, held in Saratoga, Wyoming on August 2nd and 3rd, 1969.

Registration was held in the grade school gymnasium, at 9:30, and almost everyone was present as identification badges were handed out, and signing in was started. All chapters in the state were represented, and President George Berger of the host chapter, Cherokee Trail, was present to introduce everyone and answer any questions concerning the meeting.

After signing in was completed, a short meeting was held in the gymnasium, with State President John Albanese of Casper giving a short welcome. President Berger then announced the tentative program and points of interest which could be visited during the day. The visitors were offered the following choices, with guides from the host chapter standing by to guide them: Encampment Museum; Immigrant Crossing, Baggot Rocks, or the host chapter's dig site near Elk Mountain. When the dig site was mentioned, that was the magic word, and with unaniumous approval, it was decided that all would prefer to visit our diggings. Everyone trooped away for a happy day, doing what we all love best. When everyone arrived at the dig site, there was a welcoming committee there to greet us; Lou Steege and his wife, Bea, had come from Cheyenne, stopped off at the dig site, and remained there to wait for us. It was a beautiful day, warm and clear, and everyone joined in to dig, visit, eat lunch together, and just generally enjoy themsevles.

At 7:30 in the evening everyone met at the school lunch room for the evening banquet, catered by the Saratoga Lady JC's. There were 138 present for this, the food was wonderful, everyone was a little sunburned and warm, but I think everyone had a wonderful time, and tried to visit a little with everyone present.

After the banquet, we all gathered at the grade school gymnasium to hear Dr. Farrish Jenkins speak on "Fifty Million Years at Como Bluff". His speech was illustrated with some very interesting slides, and I am sure all present gained some very useful information from it. George Frison, State Archaeologist, gave a report on different dig sites activities being conducted in the state; he mentioned that he had been trying to visit each one; and had accompanied Dr. Dubois on a whirlwind tour gathering hearth samples for dating. Mr. Steege showed some fine slides of the dig site in Shirley Basin; several Saratoga members participated in part of this.

All in all, it was a very wonderful and memorable meeting; I just hope that everyone present enjoyed it as much as I did. We all should give a big "thank you" to

all our state officers and officials serving all chapters so faithfully; always ready with fine advice and assistance; without them we would all be just artifact hunters, with no idea of what our finds consist of; no idea of their history, past or present. I always feel that with every artifact I find that I have a "History of the Land in the palm of my hand"-----if someone will just help me identify it.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Chillemi
Cherokee Trail Secretary

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

By Mary E. Garling

"The north wind doth blow, and we shall have snow--
and what will the robin do then, poor thing?
He'll sit in the barn and keep himself warm,
and tuck his head under his wing..."

Mother Goose may have presumed that all robins didn't make the annual migration to the south... and, in the same vein, what of the poor amateur archaeologist who doesn't make the trek south or west? He who cannot see the ground for snow? What will he do, come winter?

After the window-ledges have been cleared of those treasured points, agate knives, and other beautiful clutter of the summer's finds; and these artifacts have been duly catalogued and relegated to their respective drawers or boxes, what then?

Monthly meetings of W.A.S. chapters come and go. Old issues of WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGIST may be read and re-read. Other publications may be scrutinized for missed information, and yet the Wyoming winter lingers...

How about sharing knowledge with others? Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls; many and varied are the groups of young people (and some not so young) which can benefit from the amateur archaeologist's knowledge properly applied.

Your writer, for instance, has made it a yearly project to talk with youngsters of Casper, Wyoming's school system. During the fourth-grade schooling term, youngsters get a full year of Wyoming History, including everything which has happened in this state from its formation (geology-wise) to the present. Naturally, little is included in the text-books on Early-Man occupation of Wyoming, because very little was known at the time of printing. However, many of us who belong to the Wyoming Archaeological Society are aware of recent strides taken with regard to the way Early Man lived (from caves, such as Mummy Cave outside of Cody, to rock shelters, such as the Ross Rock Shelter at Arminto, to the habitation sites at Hells Gap near Guernsey). Included also would be recent excavations of bison traps or jumps and other projects reported on in The Wyoming Archaeologist.

Many of us have even taken part in the work on these projects.

With the aid of slides and a table-full of early man artifacts (everything from a mano and metate, knives or bifaces, to recent points), a most interesting show-and-tell

type program brings forth tumultous enthusiasm in the classroom. Grade school teachers are always looking for resource people in various fields of interest to the children. Become a resource person! The personal rewards are many!

First of all, the amateur archaeologist will find he is extending his own knowledge in preparation for the talk. Second, he is inducing further interest of archaeology in young people. Third, he is presenting the problems of destruction of sites with the hope of instilling desire in children to help prevent such destruction in the future.

Fourth, and perhaps best of all, the amateur archaeologist will find himself the recipient of many letters of gratitude from the students themselves; letters which he will read and re-read during the long winter months. The writer has enclosed excerpts from letters received recently after appearing before several fourth-grade classes.

"The movie you show was real good too. It was a real thrill to be there, because I have never seen a real archeologist.....I likes the petroglyphs. They were very interesting and the Mummy cave, Bufflo jump. I didn't even know what they were and now I know..... That sock really looked funny. I like the thinks you talked about! That was even funner than gym..... I liked the movie especially when your boy was there. I liked your beads with those bones..... Are mumy Joes eyes out? Were mumy Joes hair on or salpked?..... I hop you come back to show us new things that the Indian youse long ago. It don't sime Indian used woat we did..... Most of all I liked your movie and the rokes. I got a roke what was sharp at the end. I tired to cut meat but it did't cut the meat but it did cut Plastick and Mother thinks to and thats the 3rd..... I liked the leather and the mocisin best of all. It was very interesting. I hope when I grow up to be a archeologist just like you."

And with those thoughts to ponder upon, just how could any amateur archaeologist resist such results from one hour's work?

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FARSON SITE #48 SW 304

By Robert Larson, Joe Bozovich and Jack Krmpotich

The Sweetwater Chapter of the Wyoming Archaeology Society began its first dig on June 8, 1969 under the direction of Dr. Frison and his student assistant, Chuck Reher.

The site is located about six miles east of Eden, Wyoming situated in low lying, rolling hillsides just off the flat, level plain of Eden Valley on BLM land. The site was reported by Jack Krmpotich and a number obtained from the Executive Secretary in May, 1967. Final clearance to proceed with the excavation came from the State Archaeologist in agreement with the BLM in January, 1969. (See Figure 1).

The Chapter hopes that by the excavation of a portion of this site to get a representative picture of a prehistoric community which will contribute to the framework of a regional sequence. So far, twenty-eight 5' x 10' grids have been dug, troweled, and screened to an average depth of eight inches. Two shelter or lodge areas about three hundred feet south of the main site were also excavated. (See Figure 1).

The wealth of artifact specimens recovered to date is indicative of a single component site in a single layer of gray sand beginning at the surface. Changes in the color of the sand indicate more than one level suggesting yearly occupations. Rodent action has badly mixed the levels so that it is difficult to tell one level from another.

Every grid, except one, contained at least one fire pit. The ashes of these pits were of a very powdery nature, hence not suitable for dating purposes. Nearly all hearths were of the flat rock type. The rocks were laid flat on the ground and the fire built upon them.

Several of what were thought, at first, to be rodent holes turned out to be post holes slightly angled and four to seven inches deep. These post holes suggest some type of shelter, probably of the wickiup type. Prominent features of lodges #1 and #2 (Figure 1) were the post holes plus fire pits and cache pits, along with many potsherds, obsidian, and bone debitage. From shelter #2, samples were obtained, hopefully, for Carbon 14, magnetic, and obsidian dating.

From the large amount of bone specimens recovered the site would appear to have been a butchering camp. The preponderance of leg bones broken off above the joints showed what is believed to be a definite butchering technique unusual for

late prehistoric sites. Interesting, too, several mandibles were sawed off distal to the first premolar and proximal to the 4th incisor. The diastemas was utilized presumably in the making of bone beads. Circumstances (potsherds, bone fragments) suggest the boiling and processing of bone to obtain marrow for the making of pemmican.

A large variety of artifacts, besides quantities of firerock, have been recovered: antelope bone beads, bird bone beads, hammer stones, choppers, whole and broken knives and blades, drills, one broken metate, scrapers, abraders, potsherds, one broken human molar, worked flakes, two large concave base points, one large unidentified pointed objects, and numerous small finely chipped projectile points. (See Figure 2).

Lithic materials used ranged from quartzite, agate, Jaspar, oberts, to obsidian.

Members and individuals who took part in the dig from time to time are:

Dr. and Mrs. Frison
Dr. Witthoft, University of Penn.
Chuck Reher and other University students

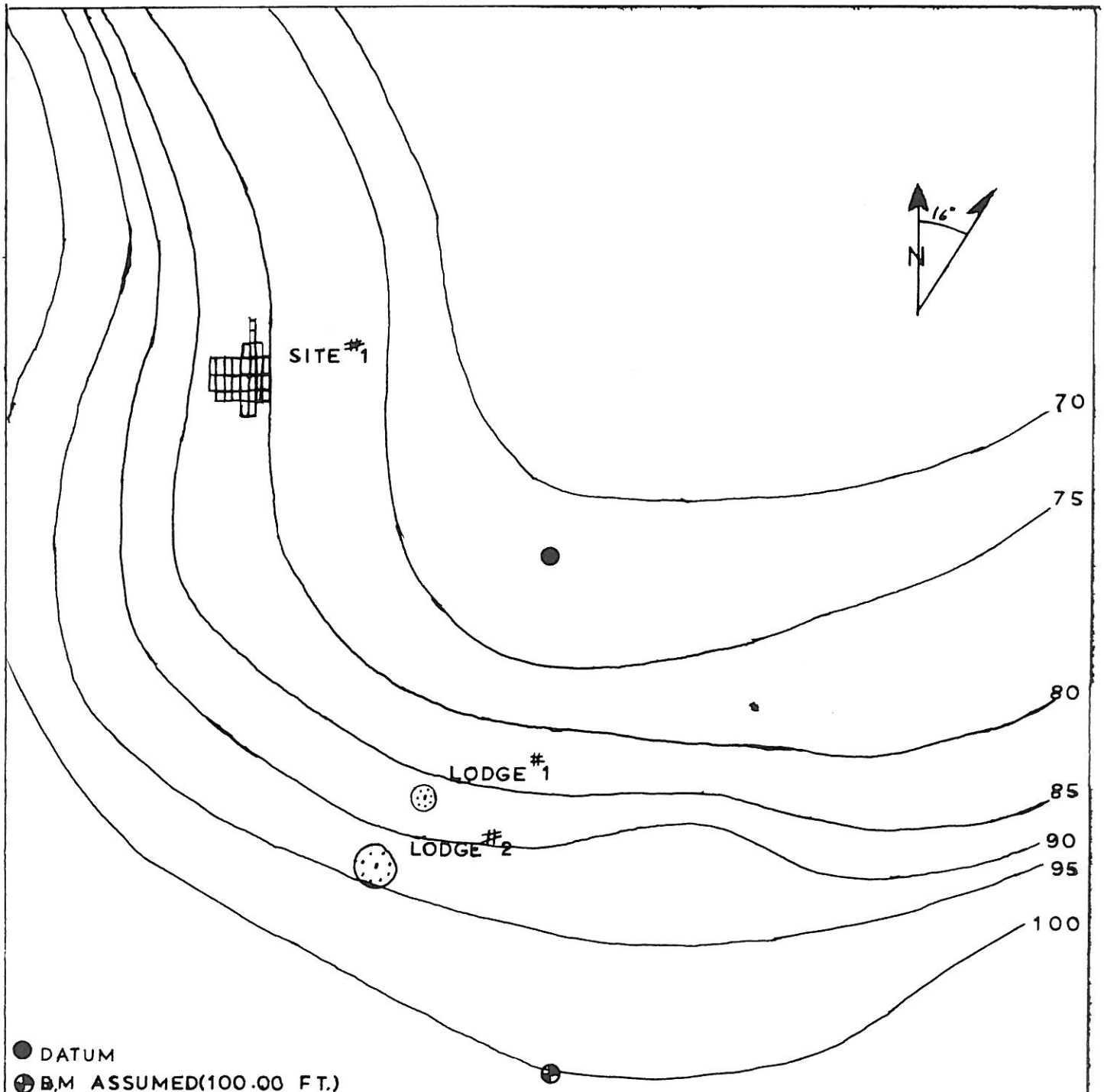
Sweetwater Chapter

Mrs. Lillian Evans
Mrs. Fred Grode
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Doak
Jim Bucho
Joe Bozovich
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Larson
Mr. and Mrs. George Babel and Family
Mrs. William Mehle
Eugene Iverson
Mr. and Mrs. Matt Tolar
Jack Krmpotich and son Matt, Stephen Yenko

Riverton and Lander Flintstones

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Adams
Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Appleby
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hildebrandt

With the success thus far obtained, the Chapter will probably continue to excavate the complete site. All members who participated are to be commended as all the information garnered from this site should contribute to the knowledge and ecology of a late prehistoric community.


16°
N
SITE #1
70
75
80
LODGE #1
85
LODGE #2
90
95
100
DATUM
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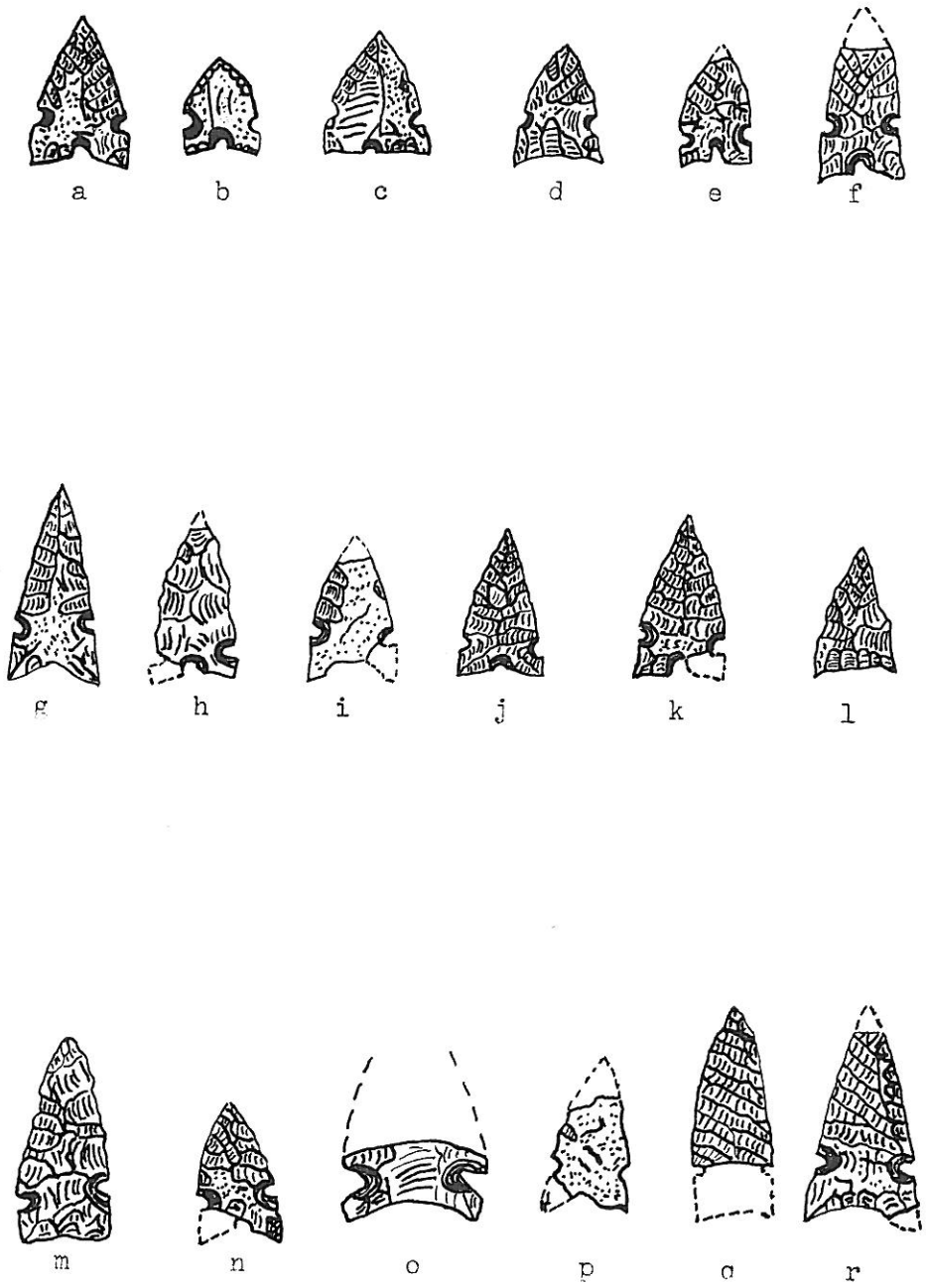
EXCAVATIONS
LOCATION, SE 1/4, NW 1/4, SEC. 2, T23N, R106W.
SWE TWATER CHAPTER
WYOMING ARCHAEOLGICAL SOCIETY
48 SW, 304
SCALE
0 10 50 100
SURVEYED MAY 1969 BY J. BOZOVICH

Figure 1



Jack Krmpotich

Figure 1

FARSON SITE 48 SW 304

By John C. Lytle

The Farson Site is located 38 miles north of Rock Springs, Wyoming, between the Red Desert and the Green River Basin in Sweetwater County. The elevation of the site is about 6700 feet. This area is characterized as rolling semi-desert country of partially stabilized sand dunes. Predominant flora includes sagebrush and greasewood with interspersed areas of bunch grass. Many saline areas are present. Presently the fauna of the area consists of badger, coyote, cottontail, jack-rabbit, and antelope with many small rodents. Water is relatively scarce throughout most of the country and the yearly precipitation is about 10 to 12 inches.

The sites were discovered by members of the Wyoming Archaeological Society. Attention was drawn to the area by concentrations of chipped stone artifacts. Preliminary investigation yielded a circular habitation area, 15 feet in diameter, with a small central fire pit. Other similar habitations were discovered nearby. One of these was oval in shape, 20 feet by 15 feet. The cultural deposition was 2-6 inches below the surface and was approximately 3-6 inches in thickness with some evidence of more than one period of occupation. The deepest deposits occured in the center of the lodges. The habitation floors were on a sloping area and this had been corrected by excavating into the slope on the high side and dumping on the lower. Outlining the lodge structure were shallow (4-7 inches) post holes spaced 3-5 feet apart.

The artifact material consisted of stone, ceramic, shell, and bone, believed to be typical of late prehistoric Shoshone occupation.

Projectile points were classified into three categories. First, is a triangular side notch with concave base and base notch. From both units, 128 examples were recovered. The second, is triangular side notch with a concave base and no base notch. 33 examples were found. Third, is a triangular unnotched point with concave base. 38 examples were found. 58 were fragmentary and unclassifiable...

Seven scrapers were recovered from both house sites. Three showed wear striations only on one end and the remaining showed striations on the end, sides, and corners. All but one are complete.

Twenty biface knives were recovered, of which two were complete. Of the total assemblage of biface, four were quartzite, thirteen of chert, and three of obsidian.

Two end hafted knives were recovered. One was found in three sections and restored. The other was a fragment.

Other chipped stone artifacts included: 4 expanding base stone drills, two tanged knives, 4 gravers, and 3 large blade fragments.

A large number of bifacial retouch flakes and other flakes demonstrated either a deliberate or a use retouch.

Seven large chopper tools were found, 3 of shale and 4 of quartzite. One was a quartz module flaked on one end in the manner of a typical chopper tool.

Both grooved and flat abrasive stones were recovered, all fragmentary and made from local sandstone.

One small and one large hammer stone were recovered.

Numerous grit and sand tempered sherds were recovered. Later reconstruction provided a complete profile of one pot and partial profiles of at least three others. The most complete is 9.4 centimeters at the bottom with a flanged base and expands to 25 centimeters at the shoulder. From here it narrows to an orifice of 18 centimeters and has a folded reinforced rim. Height is 30 centimeters. Surface inside and out is smoothed with no evidence of paddling or coiling. Sherd thickness is 6 millimeters to 9 millimeters. Sherds are friable and hardness is about 3.0 to 3.5.

Another specimen has a flared rim with a rounded lip but the bottom is missing. Surface treatment is similar to the first pot.

The other two specimens include two fragmentary flat bottoms and one rim section. Numerous sherds are drilled, presumably for patching purposes. A nearly complete pot found nearby is similar, with a flat bottom, flat base, and a flaring rim.

Worked bone includes 3 bone beads, 3 antelope ulna awls, and 4 antelope mandibles with a circular cutting groove in front of the first pre-molar. An incisor section shows a similar cut distal to the cincisors. The section of diastema between the first premolar and the last incisor was presumably utilized for a bone bead.

Shell artifacts included 3 circular beads, and one Olivella shell bead.

The dominant fauna at the site was Antelope, with one canid, either dog or wolf. One house site yielded an animal count of 47 and the other 28 animals, on the basis of mandibles which were the most frequently recovered bones. The remainder of bone material consisted of broken pieces including fragments of long bones, phalanges, scapula, ribs, cranial segments, a few vertebrae, and pelvic section. Most of these fragments bear butchering marks. Presumably these were being cooked in the pottery vessels.

Floral materials include significant numbers of charred Amaranth seeds, suggesting gathering activities.

In conclusion, it is believed that this site demonstrates a late pre-historic occupation of Shoshone in the Green River Basin. The number of antelope represented probably indicates a communal antelope procurement situation. The charred Amaranth seeds indicate that gathering was supplementing hunting activities.

The pottery sample is large in relation to other assemblages found to date in Wyoming. Excavation of more sites may provide more information about flat bottom pottery variations within the Shoshone tradition.

Excellent bone preservation and a good sample of antelope material should give good population studies and a number of stylized butchering techniques from the butchering marks and bone treatment.

Obviously this line of investigation is still very much in the beginning stage. Future excavation should reveal more of this cultural system.

RESUME OF WYOMING ARCHEOLOGY

By John P. Albanese
(Reprinted from WGA Earth Science Bulletin)
(June, 1969)

Current evidence indicates that man evolved in Africa, between 1 and 2 million years ago. He apparently was living in Europe and Asia at least 300,000 years ago. However, man is a relative newcomer to North and South America. It is currently believed that humans first entered North America between 20,000 and 45,000 years ago, during the Wisconsin stage of the Pleistocene, when fluctuating sea levels resulted in the intermittent presence of a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska. It is hypothecated that small bands of hunters migrated across the Bering land bridge in pursuit of big game, particularly the mammoth. Some Pleistocene geologists believe that an ice free corridor extended from interior Alaska, southward along the west and possibly east flanks of the Canadian portion of the Rocky Mountain chain. This passageway was not a permanent feature, but was blocked at times by continental ice sheets, particularly during late Wisconsin time. However, when the corridor was open, it would afford a natural passageway for the migration of man and animals, southward, into the interior of the Americas.

A few archeological sites in Texas, Nevada and California have been estimated to be approximately 40,000 years old. These figures have not been accepted by all archeologists and are still considered controversial (Stephenson 1965). However, most authorities do agree that man's residence in North America was well established by at least 20,000 years ago.

The actual skeletal remains of these original Americans are extremely rare. The oldest human skeletal remains, as yet found in North America, were excavated in 1968 at the Marmes rock shelter on the banks of the Palouse River in eastern Washington. Portions of a human skull have been dated as being 11,000 years old. The Marmes site has provided skeletal evidence of 23 human burials ranging from 200 years to 11,000 years ago. This has provided a wealth of information concerning the physical makeup of the early Americans (Kirk 1968). Unfortunately, this site was inundated by a man-made lake before it could be completely excavated.

The Clovis (Llano) Culture

Within the Rocky Mountain and Great Plains areas, the oldest recognized cultural complex is the Clovis (Llano) culture. These people were nomadic hunters of extinct species of bison and the mammoth, an extinct form of elephant. They occupied the area between 11,000 and 12,000 years ago, during the waning stage of the Pleistocene. On the basis of radiocarbon dating, it is believed that the last

remnants of continental glaciation disappeared from the present boundaries of the United States between 8500 and 10,000 years ago. Some well-preserved and extensive Clovis sites have been excavated in New Mexico and Arizona. These sites have been dated as being between 11,000 and 12,000 years old. The Clovis people used a distinctive, partially fluted, projectile point (see plate 1). These points have been found, actually imbedded in mammoth skeletal remains, at a site in Arizona (Wormington 1957). These points were either spear or atlatl points.

The atlatl was a spear thrower, that in effect extended the length of the thrower's arm Throws of 200 feet were possible with this device. It was used by most prehistoric people in North America. The bow and arrow is a comparatively new weapon in the Americas, and did not come into common use in the Rocky Mountain Area until approximately 1500 years ago.

One possible Clovis kill site involving mammoth remains has been excavated in Wyoming. It is located in section 20 of township 18 north, range 91 west, approximately 25 miles southwest of Rawlins. This site was excavated by the University of Wyoming and Harvard University during 1960 and 1961. The mammoth bones were first found by a dragline operator while cleaning out a spring. The bones were imbedded in a black organic mud which probably represents a bog deposit. A flint knife, a graver, chopper, scraper and chips were found associated with the mammoth bones. Some bones appear to have been butchered. It is surmised that the mammoth became mired down in the bog associated with the spring and was discovered by a band of Clovis people. They preceded to kill the animal, mainly with the use of boulders, some of which were found in the excavation (McGrew 1961). Even though a Clovis type projectile point was not found at the site, a radio-carbon date of 11,280 years would warrant the speculation that this was indeed a Clovis kill site.

Clovis type projectile points and mammoth bones (though not in direct association) have been found near the Hell Gap site north of Guernsey, Wyoming, in a loess unit dated between 11,000 and 12,000 years old (Haynes 1965).

Clovis points are rare, but have been collected as surface finds over much of eastern and northern Wyoming. Points resembling Clovis have been found at the surface near Eadsville on the west end of Casper Mountain.

The mammoth became extinct in North America sometime between 10,000 and 11,000 years ago. His demise was probably caused by a combination of climatic change and intense hunting by Clovis man. With the disappearance of the mammoth we also witness the disappearance of the Clovis culture.

The Folsom Culture

The next human entrant on the Great Plains and Wyoming is the Folsom man, who

occupied the region between 10,000 and 11,000 years ago. The Folsom complex was a nomadic, big game hunting culture. The favorite quarry was a form of extinct bison, much larger than the modern species. The Folsom culture was first discovered near the town of Folsom in northeast New Mexico in 1926 and 1927, when an expedition of the Colorado Museum of Natural History recovered artifacts in association with the bones of an extinct species of bison. This discovery was the first indisputable, bona fide case in which evidence of man was found in direct association with the remains of an extinct animal. When the association was discovered, telegrams were sent to various scientists, who came and verified the in situ association of bison bones and projectile points. Nineteen projectile points were excavated at the site (Wormington 1957).

The most extensive Folsom site found to date is the Lindenmeir site located 28 miles north of Fort Collins, Colorado. Over 6000 artifacts were recovered by the Smithsonian Institute, which excavated the site during the years 1934 to 1938. The artifact assemblage included projectile points, knives, various types of scrapers, choppers, hammerstones, rubbing stones, gravers, worked bone tools plus numerous pieces of smooth and striated hematite, which probably served as a source of pigment, and some hematite beads (Wormington 1957). In addition to the artifacts, bones of extinct large bison and camels were also found. The now extinct camel was apparently a source of food in addition to the bison. A radiocarbon date of 10,780 years was obtained for the Folsom layer (Agogino 1961). Projectile points and some knives were the only distinctive artifacts found at the Lindenmeir site. The Folsom projectile point is very distinctive and can be readily recognized. It is generally leaf-shaped with concave bases usually marked by ear-like projection. It contains a pronounced fluted groove along the long axis (see plate 1).

Folsom sites are not numerous and established sites are restricted to Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico and Texas (Agogino 1966). Three excavated sites in eastern Wyoming have yielded Folsom artifacts. These are the Hell Gap site, north of Guernsey, and the Agate Basin and Brewster sites located south of Newcastle. The Brewster site yielded a radiocarbon date of 8430 B.C. from the Folsom layer (Agogino 1964). Two Folsom sites have been reported in the Shirley Basin and there is also evidence of Folsom occupation a few miles northeast of Cheyenne. Several surface finds have also been reported from Fox Creek, east of Chugwater, Muskrat Canyon near Lusk, and on the Wyoming-Nebraska border northeast of Van Tassel (Steege 1969). In addition, amateur collectors have found Folsom points in the Red Desert and along the southern rim of the Big Horn Mountains. "There are probably many more Folsom sites in Wyoming that have not been reported. It is apparent that Folsom man was in this state in numbers" (Steege 1969).

A projectile point very similar to the Folsom point, but without the fluted groove, has been named the Midland point. These points have been found associated with

Folsom points near Midland, Texas and at the Lindenmeir site in Colorado. At the Lindenmeir site some of the unfluted projectile points "were found in a position which might indicate a late contemporaneity with Folsoms, but most of these specimens were found in a higher level, which would indicate a later survival" (Wormington 1957). At the Hell Gap site in Wyoming, Midland points have been found in a horizon lying above the Folsom complex. Scrapers and knives were found in association with the Midland points. A date of 10,300 years ago has been indicated for this cultural zone at Hell Gap (Irwin 1966).

Post-Folsom (Plano) Complex

The Folsom complex was followed by a series of big game hunting cultures, which ranged in age from approximately 10,000 to 6500 years ago, and are collectively called the Plano tradition. These people were also hunters of large bison, now extinct. These cultures can be identified on the basis of distinctive types of projectile points plus chronology. In the early 1930's,when these artifacts were being found, mainly as surface finds in the Great Plains Area, they were collectively called "Yuma points." This term led to a great deal of confusion as later work showed that "Yuma" embraced many different cultural complexes. The classification Yuma has now been abandoned, but one still runs across the term, particularly in conversation with amateur artifact collectors.

The climate in Wyoming and other portions of the Great Plains during the time of Clovis and Folsom occupation was more moist and cooler than at present. Beginning at about 10,000 years ago the climate began to warm up and culminated in a hot, dry period called the Altithermal. The Altithermal is usually placed in the time period lying between 7000 and 4500 years ago. It was previously thought that man moved out of the Rocky Mountain area during this time of postulated severe desert conditions. However, new work of the last 10 years has indicated that the climate during the Altithermal was not as severe as previously thought, nor was the area devoid of human occupation.

The present state of knowledge indicates that the post-Folsom big game hunters, along with the large bison that they hunted, disappeared from the region at the beginning of Altithermal time.

One of the most outstanding archeological sites in the western United States is located in eastern Wyoming, approximately 15 miles north of the town of Guernsey. This is the Hell Gap site (see plate 3) which is particularly noted for its rich and extensive remains of the Plano tradition. It is located in the Hartville Uplift in a small alluvial-filled valley that is cut into pre-Cambrian rocks. The valley is drained by a small intermittent stream along which three stations, about a quarter of a mile apart, have been excavated. These stations have revealed an intermittent

human occupation of this small valley over the past 12,000 years. Work on the Hell Gap site was carried out by the Peabody Museum of Harvard in cooperation with the University of Wyoming during the mid1960's. The Hell Gap site will be mentioned frequently in the following discussions.

The various Plano tradition cultures identified in Wyoming from excavated sites are listed below in order of decreasing age:

1) Agate Basin Complex

Characterized by distinctive lanceolate-shaped projectile points. This culture was first discovered in situ at the Agate Basin site north of Lusk. Cultural remains have also been excavated at the Hell Gap and Brewster sites in eastern Wyoming.

The Brewster site located north of Lusk contained two Agate Basin cultural levels which yielded radiocarbon dates of 9500 and 1030 years ago (Agogino 1964). The Agate Basin complex at Hell Gap is more completely and profusely represented than at any other known site. Materials recovered included a very large number of bones and stone artifacts, fragments of pigment stones and concentrated refuse heaps representing living areas. Two rings of post molds about 6 1/2 feet in diameter give evidence of very early hut structures (Irwin 1966). These would represent the "oldest houses" as yet found in Wyoming. Two sequential phases of the Agate Basin culture have been identified at Hell Gap. An age as old as 11,870 years for the Agate Basin complex has been dated at Hell Gap (Irwin 1966).

In addition to the above occurrences, Agate Basin sites have been located in the Shirley Basin, Sister's Hill south of Buffalo, and Yellowstone Park (Steege 1969).

2) Hell Gap Complex

This culture lies above the Agate Basin and was first excavated at Hell Gap where it dates as 10,120 years old. Diagnostic of this complex is a lanceolate projectile point with a pronounced shouldered appearance. At the Hell Gap site a large quantity of workshop debris, animal bones and some artifacts were uncovered (Irwin 1966).

Hell Gap cultural material has also been excavated at the Sister's Hill site located south of Buffalo (Haynes).

Hell Gap points have been found in surface collections from Shirley Basin, east central Wyoming and in the northeastern portion of the state (Steege 1969).

3) The Alberta Complex

At the Hell Gap site a rich horizon was excavated in 1964 which contained a good tool assemblage and projectile points of the Alberta type. The principal area where these type points have been found is the prairie portions of western Canada. The Hell Gap site is the only location so far known where the Alberta complex can be dated. Here it appears to be 9000 years old (Irwin 1966).

4) Meserve Complex

Meserve style projectile points have been found in the Northern Powder River Area, in situ by Don Grey. They have also been excavated in the Big Horn Canyon by W. Husted (in publication). The Meserve Complex is tentatively estimated to be slightly older than the Cody Complex (oral communication from George Frison).

5) The Cody Complex

The Plano tradition is noted for the fine workmanship and high quality of its projectile points. In the Cody Complex, this technical and artistic proficiency reached its peak. The Scotts Bluff and Eden projectile points plus the Cody knife (see plate 1) are diagnostic artifacts of the culture.

Cody Complex artifacts are widespread throughout the Rocky Mountain and Great Plains areas. In Wyoming there are a number of outstanding Cody Complex sites.

The Finley site, located west of the town of Eden in western Wyoming, is the type locality for the Eden point. Here projectile points and bison bones were recovered from the same layer by an expedition of the University of Pennsylvania Museum in the early 1940's. Twenty-four projectile points were recovered, 16 of them were in situ. They included both Scotts Bluff and Eden types (Wormington 1957).

The Horner site, yielding some of the finest Cody Complex artifacts found to date, was excavated by Princeton University and the Smithsonian, 4 miles northeast of the town of Cody. This prolific site was excavated from 1949 to 1952 and yielded numerous artifacts along with bison bones. It apparently represents a kill and possible camp site, and is located on a gravel terrace overlooking the Shoshone River. Unfortunately, a detailed report concerning the site has never been published. A brief report was published (Jepsen 1953), but additional information would be desirable. Radiocarbon dates from the site averaged 6900 years before the present (Wormington 1957).

Abundant Cody Complex remains have been excavated at Hell Gap. Eden and Scotts Bluff projectile points were recovered as well as Cody knives. A date of 8600 years ago was determined for this cultural layer at Hell Gap (Irwin 1966).

6) The Frederick Complex

The Frederick Complex lies above the Cody Complex at Hell Gap, where it occurs in two levels. The Frederick Complex (previously called Angostura) contained the most impressive assemblage of material at the Hell Gap site. Artifacts of bone and stone, hearth areas, refuse heaps and work shop areas were uncovered. These afforded an outstanding opportunity for studying the structure and layout of a Paleo-Indian campground. The lower Frederick level yielded a date of 8620 years ago (Irwin 1966).

7) The Jimmy Allen culture has been described as one of the youngest cultures of the Plano tradition by Agogino, who places it as later than the Frederick Complex (Agogino 1966). The Jimmy Allen culture was first excavated at the Jimmy Allen site 16 miles south of Laramie, by William Mulloy of the University of Wyoming. Thirty fragmentary projectile points were found associated with bison bones. All of the points were lancelote forms with concave bases and rounded corners. A carbon 14 date from charred bison bones yielded an age of 7900 years ago (Wormington 1957).

Projectile points typical of all the above listed cultures in the Plano tradition have been picked up as "surface finds" throughout Wyoming. In addition, points typical of other Plano cultures of the Great Plains area, such as Plainview and Milnesand, have also been found on the surface in Wyoming, but have not yet been found in situ.

The Foragers (Early Middle Period)

With the end of the Altithermal Period, a new group of people appear on the Wyoming scene. It was formerly thought that these people were completely different in cultural and economic orientation from the previous Plano tradition. These new arrivals were thought to be foragers, mainly oriented toward vegetable food gathering and small game hunting, who continually moved with the seasons in search of food. However, work by Frison in eastern Wyoming has shown that these forager peoples were also hunters of bison, particularly in the Powder River Basin. It is believed that these people lived as small foraging groups in the summer, but gathered together in the fall of the year to hunt buffalo in organized drives. This situation would indicate a high degree of social organization (Frison, personal communication).

This advent of the plant gatherer and small game hunter, who was also not adverse to eating insects, was formerly considered an abrupt event. However, recent work at the Mummy Cave site near Cody, and Patten Creek near Guernsey, as well as other sites in Utah, Nebraska and South Dakota, show that the Rocky Mountain and Great Plains were occupied during the Altithermal Period (Stephenson 1965).

Some authorities now think that the forager-mixed hunting culture may have gradually occupied the Rocky Mountain Area during the Altithermal period (Stephenson 1965). This foraging period has been called the Archaic stage in the general Great Plains Area. In the northwest plains of Wyoming, Montana and Nebraska, it has been classified as the Middle and Late Prehistoric Periods by William Mulloy (Mulloy 1958). Mulloy's classification is the one generally used in Wyoming.

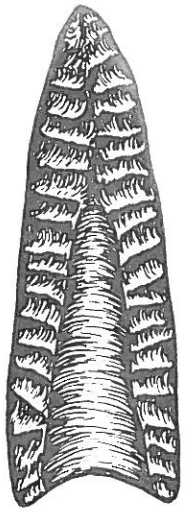
The first well-recognized Middle Period culture (see plate 2) is the McKean Complex, which was first described by Mulloy at the McKean site in Crook County, Wyoming, near the present location of Keyhole Reservoir (Mulloy 1954). This site was excavated in 1951 and 1952 by the National Park Service and the University of Wyoming.

Several distinctive varieties of projectile points are classified as McKean (Steege 1961). The advent of the McKean culture is characterized by the appearance of milling stones (manos and metate) which were used to grind vegetable matter. These grinding stonesare rare in Wyoming in those cultures preceding the forager stage. Rock shelters were popular habitats for the McKean and later foraging cultures. McKean cave and rock shelter sites have been excavated in the Big Horn Mountains and along the periphery of the Black Hills. Other sites have been excavated on the eastern plains of Wyoming, where Wickiup-type huts were used as shelters (Steege 1961).

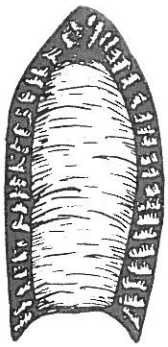
The most outstanding collection of McKean cultural material found to date was obtained at the Mummy Cave site (see plate 3) in Wyoming. Mummy Cave is located 12 miles east of the Yellowstone Park boundary on the banks of the North Fork of the Shoshone River. The site was excavated in the mid 1960's by the Whitney Museum of Cody. The cave is a large alcove in volcanic rocks. Mummy Cave is one of the outstanding archeological sites in the northwestern United States. An intermittent human occupation over the past 9000 years is revealed in 38 separate cultural layers. It was occupied through the Altithermal Period. The cave is famous for the remarkable preservation of ordinarily perishable material. The McKean culture occurred in layer 30 (C-14 dated 4440 years ago). Along with McKean and McKean variant projectile points there were tubular bone pipes, coiled basketry fragments, bits of vegetable fiber cordage and netting, wood trimmings, leather scraps, many flint chips and animal bones and other perishable and imperishable materials. Grinding stones also appeared in this layer (Wedel 1968).

Another layer particularly rich in perishable material was layer 36, dated 1250 years old. This layer also contained the dessicated body of an adult male Indian, from which the site received its name (Wedel 1968).

Frison, in an article describing the Leigh Cave site on the east flank of the Big Horn Basin, which contained a McKean cultural level, says that "it seems only logical

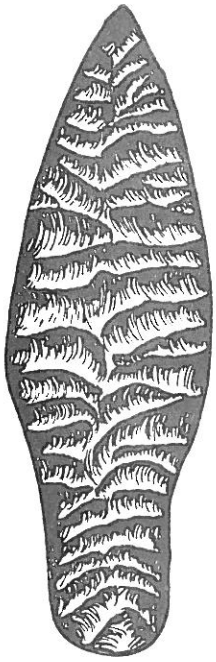


Clovis

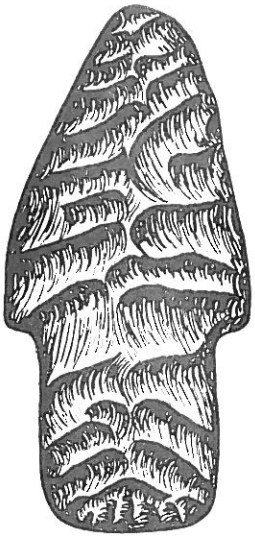


Folsom

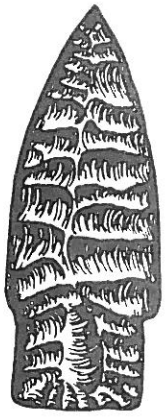
Agate Basin



Hell Gap

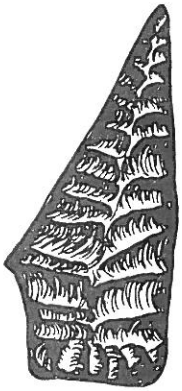


Alberta



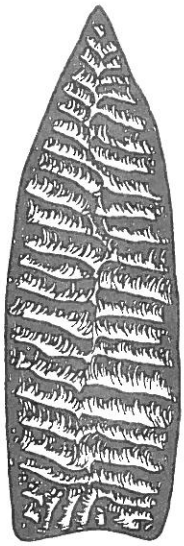
Scotts Bluff

Eden



Cody Knife

CODY COMPLEX



Frederick

Meserve

Jimmy Allen

PLANO TRADITION TYPE
PROJECTILE POINTS

PLATE 1

to assume that all of these people (early Middle Period) were closely tuned to a number of regional ecological adaptations." He describes a culture similar to a desert forager stage in the Big Horn Basin which existed at the same time "that there were peoples east of the Big Horn Mountains who were strongly oriented toward stylized techniques of buffalo jumping, trapping and hunting. However, in northeastern Wyoming, at the McKean site, the type site at the Early Middle Period, it is strongly suggested that there was a strong orientation toward plant gathering as well as hunting" (Frison 1968).

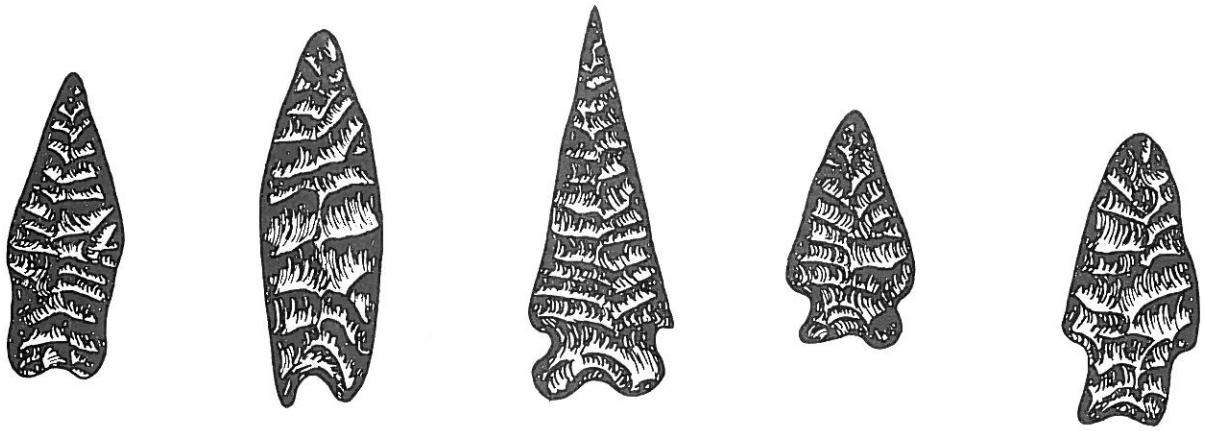
A bison kill site of early middle period time, located 9 miles north of Arvada in Sheridan County, has been described by Frison. (Frison 1967a). Here a number of bison were trapped and killed in a small box canyon tributary to the Powder River. McKean style points were recovered at the site. Geologic dating indicates an age of 3500-4000 years. Two other early middle period bison kill sites have also been described in this same general area of the Powder River Basin (Bentzen 1961, 1962). One was located approximately 26 miles north in Montana and the other 18 miles west of the aforementioned site described by Frison near Arvada. Early middle period stylized points and bison bones were associated at both sites. The northern site has a C-14 date of 4470 years before the present (Frison 1967a).

The oldest "burials" yet discovered in Wyoming were found in the Big Horn Basin near McCollock Peaks. During the summer of 1968 the Whitney Museum of Cody excavated a burial containing the body of an individual male over 6 feet tall, who had been buried in a flexed position in a pit. A fire had been built in the pit prior to internment. The body had been covered with broken grinding stones and then covered with dirt. McKean style projectile points were found associated with the skeleton. A similar type burial, also believed to be McKean in age, had been excavated several years previously, in the same general area, by the Whitney Museum (Edgar, personal communication).

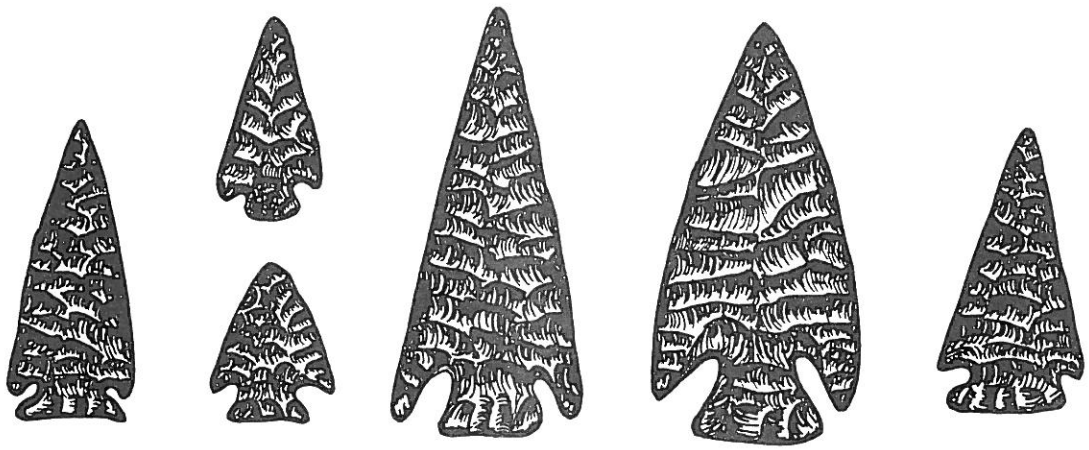
Radiocarbon (C-14) dates from McKean (early middle period) sites in Wyoming indicate that the McKean culture occupied the area from approximately 3200 to 4500 years ago.

Late Middle Period

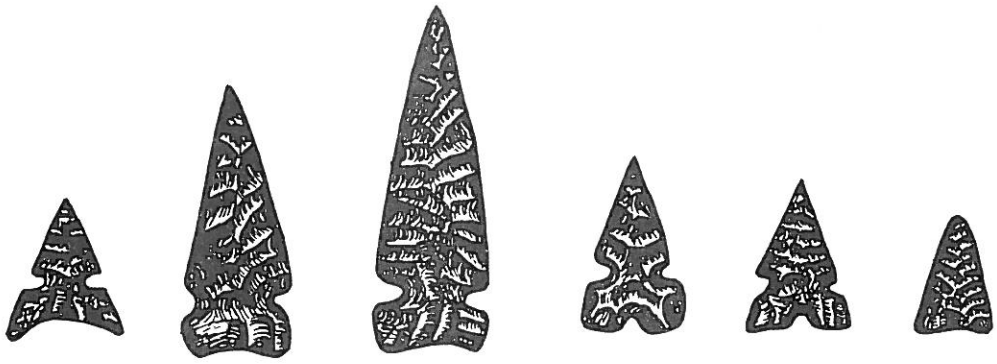
During the latter part of the Middle Period a different style of projectile point becomes prominent in the area. It is typically triangular in shape and is corner notched (see plate 2). It is younger than the McKean type and its variants. This later type triangular point is the most common variety that is found at the surface in Wyoming by amateur collectors. It is usually called a late Middle Period type. The makers of this new style point were still oriented toward a foraging type economy, though bison were undoubtedly being hunted and trapped in eastern Wyoming. Numerous



Early Middle Period Type Projectile Points (McKean and Variants)



Late Middle Period Type Projectile Points



Late Prehistoric Type Projectile Points

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INCHES

PLATE 2

sites containing these points have been located in Wyoming. Some of the more prominent excavated sites are located adjacent to the Big Horn Mountains, though this situation probably reflects the fact that more archeological work has been carried out in eastern Wyoming than in the western portion of the state. The Big Horn Mountain sites described in the literature have all been located in caves and rock shelters.

Cultural layers in the Big Horn Mountain sites that contained the late middle period style projectile points yielded radiocarbon dates ranging from 1620 to 1725 years before the present time (Frison 1962, 1965).

A late middle period site near Glendo Reservoir in Platte County has yielded radiocarbon dates of 1325 and 1525 years from two cultural levels (Mulloy 1965). These dates are considered by Mulloy to represent the terminal stages of the Late Middle Period.

A late middle period bison trap is currently being excavated by the Gillette Chapter of the Wyoming Archeological Society. It is located in the vicinity of Pumpkin Buttes in the southern portion of the Powder River Basin. The Indians constructed a network of corrals adjacent to a creek bottom. The buffalo were apparently driven into the corrals and then killed. It is tentatively believed that the site is approximately 2000 years old.

Late Prehistoric Period

The late middle period is succeeded by the late prehistoric period. The late prehistoric period is conventionally placed in the period from 500 A.D. to the coming of the white man.

In Wyoming, during the late prehistoric period, the economy became more oriented toward big game hunting. A desert culture still existed to the west and southwest of Wyoming in the Great Basin Area, while agriculture and hunting were evolving to the east of Wyoming in the Great Plains Areas of Nebraska and the Dakotas. Agricultural oriented communities existed along the banks of the Missouri River in the Dakotas (Stephenson 1965). However, as far as is known, agriculture was never practiced in Wyoming prior to the advent of the white man.

A distinguishing feature of the late prehistoric period in Wyoming was the appearance of the bow and arrow, which replaced the previously used atlatl dart. The distinctive projectile point of the period is an arrowhead that is long and thin, triangular shaped with prominent side notches (see plate 2). The use of corner notched projectile points did persist from middle into late prehistoric time. These late corner notched points are smaller and more delicate than the older varieties of the middle period.

Pottery was also introduced in Wyoming during the late prehistoric period. Previous opinion held that pottery making was never too extensive in Wyoming and of minor importance. However, "finds" of the last 5 to 10 years, particularly on the surface, have led to the belief that pottery use and manufacture in Wyoming was more extensive than previously thought. A rock shelter excavated near Cheyenne contained 257 potsherds of Plains Woodland and Upper Republican variety (Steege 1967), which are common to the east in Nebraska. Other varieties of pottery have been reported from Wyoming, e.g., Intermountain and Mandan-Hidatsa (Frison 1967b). Poorly defined and scattered finds of Pueblo corregated ware are appearing in southwestern Wyoming (Frison, personal communication).

Plant gathering was still practiced during late prehistoric time but undoubtedly the hunting of big game became more important as time progressed. Buffalo jumps were used to a greater extent than in preceding periods. Evidence indicates that these jumps, where bison were stampeded over cliffs, have existed as far back as early middle period time, though they are certainly more common in late prehistoric time. Two late prehistoric buffalo jumps have been excavated near Buffalo (Frison 1967b) and another near Glenrock. A late prehistoric period bison kill site in a box canyon, located between Midwest and Kaycee, has been described by Randall (1962).

Historic Time

The white man's influence was felt by the Indians on the Great Plains long before the time of Lewis and Clark. It is known that an active trading system among the northern tribes, involving European and American trading goods, was carried on during the early 1700's in the upper Missouri River area. This trading influence extended southward into Wyoming. Horses originating in the southwest United States were traded northward for guns and other items which were brought in mainly from Canada. By the early 1700's the horse was in wide use by the Great Plains Indian and to a lesser extent, the gun. This meeting of the horse, introduced from the south, and the gun arriving from the north, created a cultural explosion which completely changed the Indian's way of life. The horse gave the Indian mobility which he had never known before. Warfare became a way of life for some and continuing pressures between the various tribes created a state of extreme flux and migration. This state of turmoil and cultural change ended only with the complete subjugation of the Plains Indian in the 1870's.

The historic Plains Indian, particularly as depicted on television and in the movies, is the mental picture that most people have of the American Indian. This caricature bears little resemblance to the actual people, let alone the forager of the middle period, looking out from a rock shelter onto the foothills of the Big Horn Mountains, 2000 years ago.

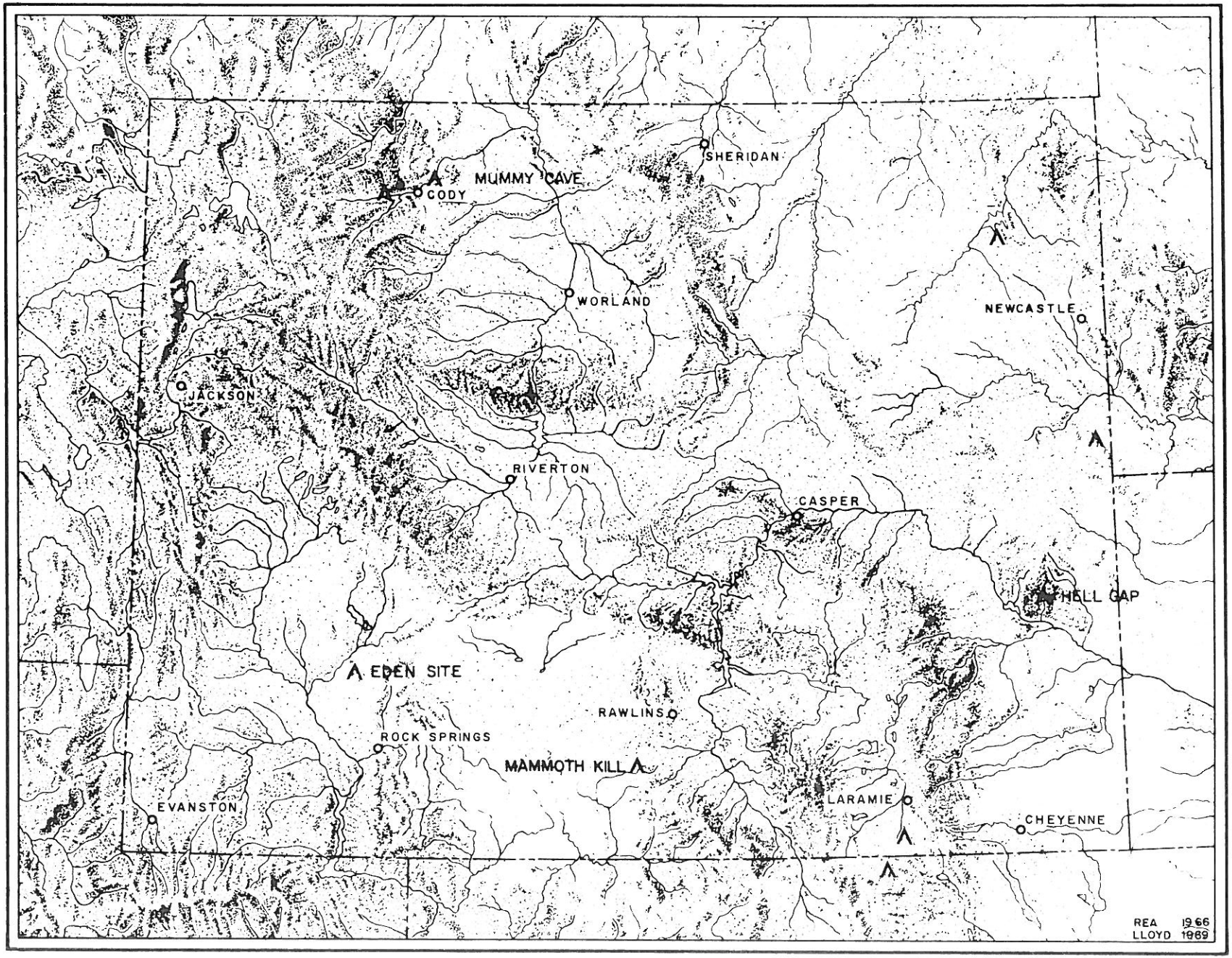
SHERIDAN
MUMMY CAVE
CODY
WORLAND
NEWCASTLE
JACKSON
RIVERTON
CASPER
HELL GAP
EDEN SITE
RAWLINS
ROCK SPRINGS
MAMMOTH KILL
EVANSTON
LARAMIE
CHEYENNE
REA 1966
LLOYD 1969

PLATE 3

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