

THE EARLIEST POTTERY FROM THE PLAINS: SUMMARY OF NEBO HILL PHASE AND INTRODUCTION TO THE BODINSON SITE

By Jim D. Feagins

The Bodinson site (14JO354) in Johnson County, Kansas, is only the fourth site from the Great Plains-Prairie Peninsula regions where fiber-tempered pottery has been identified. This Late Archaic (Nebo Hill phase) pottery is far older than first thought to exist anywhere north of the American Southeast. Prehistoric ceramics have long been considered one of the hallmarks for differentiating the Late Archaic from the Early Woodland time period over much of the United States. The background for the Nebo Hill phase and information about 14JO354 and other sites containing fiber-tempered pottery are summarized.

WINDMILL CREEK (14JW49): A CENTRAL PLAINS TRADITION LODGE SITE, LOVEWELL LOCALITY, NORTH-CENTRAL KANSAS

By Brad Logan and Lauren W. Ritterbush

Windmill Creek is a Central Plains tradition (Cpt) lodge site that was exposed through erosion by Lovewell Lake, a Bureau of Reclamation property on White Rock Creek in Jewell County, Kansas. Mapping of surface cultural material, including pottery, chipped stone tools and debris, bone, limestone, and daub after its discovery in September 2004 and again in September 2006 was followed by intensive surface grid collection and test excavations in October 2006 to determine its eligibility for placement on the National Register of Historic Places. The latter investigation revealed a bell-shaped cache pit, subsequently filled with bones of bison, deer, and canid that reflected bone grease processing, as well as a modest assemblage of other cultural material and two nearby post molds. These features, combined with the daub and other debris assumed to be extramural, indicate a house and associated sheet midden, perhaps comparable to the Phil site, another Cpt lodge occupation about 570 m southeast and on the opposite side of the stream. The presence of rim sherds, some of which had been decorated with a motif indicative of group identity, suggest the site's occupants belonged to a distinctive Cpt community of the Lovewell locality.

ANALYSIS OF 14SC5 FAUNAL REMAINS

By Mia Harbort

Extensive bone processing is a hallmark of Upper Republican Native peoples' highly mobile lifestyles. At 14SC5, which lies within Lake Scott State Park in northern Scott County, Kansas, a large deposit of extremely fragmented bones was found. A sample of this deposit is discussed here, specifically analyzed for bone breaking and cutting that indicates bone marrow and/or meat

procurement. The findings of this study were compared to other Upper Republican sites to gain insight into the objective of 14SC5 animal kills.

CORING ASSESSMENT AT THE TOBIAS SITE (14RC8)

By Crystal A. Dozier and Arland L. Wallace

The Tobias site (14RC8) is part of the Little River focus of the Great Bend aspect, located in Rice County, Kansas, which is dated approximately 1425-1750 CE. In Waldo Wedel's explorations of the site, he noted the appearance of various midden mounds, not all of which have been completely located (Wedel 1959:212). In October 2021 Wichita State University was contacted to provide a coring strategy to assess possible features on private property within site boundaries. With the possibility of low mounds in the locale, a coring technique was recommended to allow detection of possible mound features in a minimally invasive way. Ten 76-88-cm-deep core samples were taken. Soil color and textures appeared natural with no archeological material recovered.

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS: A SUMMARY OF THE 1991 ARTIFACT COLLECTION FROM THE HOLLENBERG PONY EXPRESS STATION (14WH316)

By Christine D. Garst

The remaining original structure at the Hollenberg Pony Express Station Historic Site in Washington County was built along the Oregon-California Trail in 1857. It operated as a Pony Express station only from 1860 to 1861, but the fascination with this slice of history may have helped to preserve the site. In 1941 the Kansas Legislature purchased the building and a small portion of 14WH316. Preceding restoration, Kansas Historical Society archeologists and a volunteer crew undertook excavation in 1991. This summary describes the archeological fieldwork and artifact collection from that investigation. The objects date primarily from the mid-1850s to 1941.

SEARCHING FOR NEEDLES IN A HAY FIELD: STORIES OF THE U.S. ARMY LAUNDRESSES

By Pauline E. Hintz

During the Indian Wars of the late nineteenth century, American military installations were strategically established to provide for the security of settlers and commerce pushing westward. Soldiers, scouts, and generals cut dramatic figures across the Plains, their exploits told and retold over the years until at times it is difficult to separate myth from reality. Less frequently recounted are the stories of the women who lived at these same forts. Among them were the "red armed women of the West," the U.S. Army laundresses. Throughout the 1870s, approximately 1,300 women served in this role (Coffman 1986:308). Far more volumes have been written about the uniforms they washed than have been written about the women who washed them.

Book Reviews

Grandfather Says: Native American parables and other lessons from reservation life and Grandfather Says: Buffalo is My Brother by BC Culbertson. Reviewed by Kathy Petrowsky.

The Deer Creek Site: An Eighteenth-Century Fortified Wichita Village on the American Southern Great Plains by Sarah Trabert, Stephen M. Perkins, Susan C. Vehik, Richard R. Drass, and Sheila Bobalik Savage. Reviewed by Wesley Gibson.

Wood in Archaeology by Lee A. Newson. Reviewed by Jim D. Feagins.

The WPA Guide to 1930s Kansas. Reviewed by Denise Wallace.