

Illinois Archaeological Survey Annual Meeting September 9-10 Springfield Illinois

PAPER/POSTER TITLES AND ABSTRACTS, Saturday September 10

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Hannah Rucinski and Georgia Abrams (ISAS)

Public Archaeology in the Mirror: An Updated Model. at the Illinois State Archaeological Survey

--PAPERS--

Note: The below paper times may change if the preceding business meeting and IAS awards ceremony end early but the order of papers will not.

(1) 10:15 - Dendrochronology Meets Small Diameter Coring—New Data from Kincaid Mounds

Nicholas V. Kessler. *Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research, University of Arizona* , Brian M. Butler. *Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University Carbondale*, and Paul D. Welch. *Department of Anthropology, Southern Illinois University Carbondale*

Abstract

During the 1934-44 University of Chicago investigation of Kincaid mounds, Florence Hawley and her student Robert Bell undertook a pioneering effort to date the site using dendrochronology. Although they compiled a useful master sequence using red cedar from both southern Illinois and the Missouri Ozarks, their attempt to obtain valid absolute dates from the archaeological samples failed. The large collection of samples they amassed was eventually transferred to the Tree Ring Laboratory in Arizona. Using new chemical and analytical techniques as well as AMS technology, researchers there have made the Hawley-Bell collection again relevant to archaeology, obtaining new, highly precise age estimates from some of the old samples. There has been a happy convergence of this research with an on-going effort to examine Kincaid's numerous smaller mounds using small-diameter coring. This presentation will provide a progress report on this on-going research and the resulting new dates from portions of the Kincaid site.

(2) 10: 30 - Golconda Job Corps Archaeology: Evaluation of Two Sites in Pope County, Illinois

Ayla Amadio, *Center for Archaeological Investigations, SI U Carbondale*; Mary McCorvie, *USDA Forest Service*.

Abstract

During May 2021 two archaeological sites in Pope County IL at the Golconda Job Corps property were investigated by the Center for Archaeological Investigations (CAI). These sites were; 11PP10223 a 19th Century homestead and 11PP1025 a pre-contact site located along a tributary of the Ohio River. This paper will highlight our excavations, the diagnostic finds from these sites, and how they related to the history of the area.

(3) 10:45 - Ground Truthing the Jackson County Poor Farm Cemetery: Towards the Preservation of a Historic Cemetery

Ryan M. Campbell, *Associate Director Center for Archaeological Investigations, SIU-Carbondale*

Abstract

The Jackson County Poor Farm operated between 1877 and 1942, housing the poor and elderly of southern Illinois who found themselves unable to provide for their own care. The county farm was located on the grounds of what is today Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIU) and at one time included a boarding house, a supervisor's house, farm buildings, and a cemetery. The last remaining structure on the property was demolished in 2013, long after the original layout of the farm had fallen out of public memory. Today the poor farm exists only as an archaeological site, with the remains of the buildings and poor farm activities buried beneath the surface. This talk recalls the rediscovery of the poor farm cemetery, which likely contains the burials of more than three hundred poor farm residents. Through a combination of historical research, geophysical survey, and excavation, archaeologists from SIU identified the boundaries of the cemetery and confirmed the presence of intact burials. The work has been a critical first step towards its preservation.

(4) 11:00 - Gone and All but Forgotten: Preliminary findings from St. Henry's Cemetery (11S1742), East St. Louis, IL, 1869-1908 Part I and Part II

Kaleigh C. Best, M.S. and Jessica R. Spencer, M.A., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Center for Archaeological Investigations

Advisory: :This talk will feature photographs of Euro-American Remains and Burial Items

Abstract

St. Henry's Cemetery (11S1742) is a Catholic cemetery in East St. Louis, Illinois that was active from 1869-1908. During its use, at least 1700 individuals were interred from at least two nearby parishes. After its closure in 1910, the cemetery was reportedly moved by 1926. An Illinois Army National Guard armory eventually was constructed on the site in 1949, which is still in use today. With scheduled improvements to the armory and questions related to whether or not the cemetery was removed in actuality, investigations conducted by Wagner et al (2020) revealed that at least some graves had been removed, while others appear to have been left behind. As Phase III work began in Nov 2021, mechanical stripping revealed the presence of 72 features within the scope of new improvements. By the end of January 2022, excavation of 47 of the features revealed the presence of

human remains in 36 of the 47 excavated features (77%). Of the 47 excavated features, 32 were analyzed to completion. This presentation will provide preliminary findings on the grave characteristics and in situ decedent position, mortuary and cultural artifacts recovered with each grave, and demographic information (age, sex, stature, pathology) from each of the recovered individuals analyzed in the lab. Resulting analyses highlight many artifacts associated with the Victorian 'Beautification of Death' movement, as well as information on individuals living in East St. Louis at the turn of the century.

Lunch: 11:30-!:30 - On Your Own – Be Back at 1:00!!!

(5) 1:00 Analysis of Red-Slipped Ceramics From the American Bottom, Illinois

Glen Freimuth and Margaret Beck

Abstract

This project is a study of red slipped ceramics from the American Bottom, IL. The analysis investigates the source(s) of the clays used to produce the slip, the use of the clay(s) through time and space, possible trade of red slipped ceramics, and a possible center for the production of certain red slipped vessels. We present the various analytical techniques used and some preliminary results from an ongoing project.

(6) 1:15 Igneous, Metamorphic, or Sedimentary Stone Tools from the Koster Site, Horizon 11, an Early Archaic Component

Mchael D. Wiant, Illinois State Museum

Abstract

To date, 342 igneous, metamorphic, or sedimentary tools from the Early Archaic period Horizon 11 (ca. 7500 bce calibrated) at Koster site have been documented qualitatively and quantitatively. Modifications range from one battered edge to the complete reshaping of a stone. In morphofunctional terms, the assemblage includes hammerstones, pitted manos or nutting stones, pestles, metates, and adzes. Stones with circular battered areas on at least one face are most numerous by far; however, the number and variety of highly modified specimens is noteworthy. The diversity of the assemblage contributes to our understanding of the evolutionary trajectory of pecked and ground stone technology. Ramifications of this assessment with respect to other aspects of Early Archaic lifeways are discussed.

(7) 1: 30. The Cherokee Trail of Tears in Southern Illinois

Mary R. McCorvie., USDA Forest Service

Abstract

In 1837-1838 an estimated 11,000 Cherokee traveled through southern Illinois as part of their forced relocation from their homelands in the east to new homes west of the Mississippi River. The trail still exists today as modern Route 146 that extends from Golconda on the Ohio River in the east to Ware on the Mississippi River in the west. Archaeological sites and trail cuts associated with the removal are located on both private and federal land in southern Illinois. The USDA Forest Service assists the modern-day Cherokee in the preservation of this trail through the placement of interpretive signage along the trail. Archaeological investigations, and participation of Forest Service personnel as board members in the federally sponsored national Trail of Tears Association.

(8) S1:45 Stockade Lines and Cellars: Delineating the 1802-1806 US Army occupation of Forts Kaskaskia I and 2 in Randolph County, Illinois

Mark J. Wagner, Felipe Nava, and Jamison Yong, Center for Archaeological Investigations and SIUC Anthropology.

Abstract

While conducting a summer field school archaeology class at the state-owned French Fort Kaskaskia I (11R326) site in 2017, SIUC archaeologists unexpectedly discovered the remains of a previously unknown second American Fort Kaskaskia (11R612) visited by the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1803. Subsequent investigations at both Forts 1 and 2 revealed that US Army soldiers briefly occupied the old French fort in 1802 while building their own fort to the north in 1803. The discovery of a deep earthen cellar at the American fort in 2021 represented the first clue to the probable location of the western stockade wall of that fort. Remote sensing investigations west of the cellar in 2022 followed by hand excavations confirmed the existence of the western stockade line as well as locating the remains of a stone firebox to a structure within the fort. The discovery of these three features—cellar, stone firebox, and stockade line—reveals that the newly discovered American Fort Kaskaskia (11R612) visited by Lewis and Clark in 1803 remains largely intact despite impacts from road, waterline, and park construction over the past 100 years.

(9) 2:00

Excavations at Site 11S38

Jacob Province, SIU Edwardsville

Abstract

Site 11S1358 is located on a low terrace within the Silver Creek drainage basin, approximately four miles southwest of the Scott Air Force Base mid-America Airport Complex, and approximately 17 miles southeast of Cahokia. Excavations carried out by SCI Engineering in the winter of 2008-2009 revealed that the site primarily represents a Late Woodland occupation but also has a Mississippian component. This presentation will provide a brief summary of the history of investigations at the site including the Phase III work, I will also try to place the site in the larger context of the Mississippian

word. While the primary area of focus will be the ceramic assemblage of both the Late Woodland and Mississippian components, the features, stone tools. And faunal remains will also be discussed.

(10) 2:15 Orr Herl: : Sitting on Top of the Underworld

Steve Boles, Bob McCullough, Tamira Brennan, Benjamin Skousen, and Erin Benson

Abstract

The Orr-Herl site (1Ha1) is a poorly understood multicomponent site that contains a Mississippian village along with at least two mounds. The site sits on a limestone bluff above the Ohio River between Elizabethtown and Rosiclare. A unique feature at the site was an exposed vein of fluorite along the river bank. Fluorite is a soft crystalline mineral that was carved and drilled for personal adornment use and to a lesser extent, temple statuary. Chert was also exposed along the riverbank below the site, giving residents at Orr-Herl two important natural resources that were heavily utilized. Three local residents were kind enough to show their surface collections from the site to be recorded and one was instrumental in laying the groundwork for access to the site for a geophysical survey in 2021. In this presentation, we provide highlights from the both the surface collections and magnetometer survey.

2:30-2:45 BREAK

(11) 2:45 Sponemann Phase Occupations in the Silver Creek Drainage of the American Bottom Region

Dan Blodgett, ISAS

Abstract

The Low Tee (11S1735) and William Pfeffer Site No. 2 (11S204) are multi-component prehistoric sites located in the Silver Creek drainage within the uplands of the American Bottom. The most recent investigations were conducted in 2009 by the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) in advance of an IDOT road improvement project. Recently completed analyses of these investigations reveal Late Woodland Sponemann phase investigations at both sites. This paper presents those findings and discusses how this information contributes to our understanding of the two sites as well as the overall Sponemann phase.

12) 3:00 Geophysical Surveys and Langford Village Structure: Current Research.

Bob McCollough

Abstract

Late Prehistoric Langford Tradition settlement is centered in northeastern Illinois. Unfortunately, that part of Illinois has witnessed significant historic-era development and many of the larger habitation sites have been destroyed or damaged, which limits opportunities for wide-area investigations focused on internal village structure. Geophysical surveys were conducted at the

Langford Tradition Briscoe Mound site (11WI25) located on the Des Plaines River near its confluence with the Du Page in Will County, Illinois. The goal was to identify the internal village structure to test if the Langford community plan identified at the central Illinois Noble-Wieting site (11ML24) was replicated at Briscoe. The two extant mounds were also evaluated for internal integrity. Several unknown linear anomalies in the magnetometer images similar to those found at some other Illinois Late Prehistoric sites were also identified.

13) 3:15 Community and Feasting at the Fingers South Site

Elizabeth Watts Malouchos, Erin M. Benson, and Steven R. Kuehn (ISAS)

Abstract

Excavations in the early 2000's at the Sauget Industrial Park in Sauget, Illinois, revealed an unprecedented late Mississippian occupation at the Fingers South Site. This site (11S333S) is located 11 km south of Cahokia and was part of an integrated farming landscape. The exceptional Morehead phase (1200-1300 CE) occupation at Fingers South included a suite of specialized buildings, objects, and features that point to dynamic community-making practices. Here, we discuss Feature 123, a unique pit containing feature residues and lithic offerings, and explore the compelling evidence of vibrant community gathering during the Morehead Phase.

(14) 3:30 Archaeological soil micromorphology observations from Cahokia, Noble Wieting, and the experimental Controlled Archaeological Test Site (CATS)

Michael Aiuvalasit, PhD, RPA, Assistant Research Scientist, Illinois State Archaeological Survey

Abstract

This presentation highlights results from three ongoing archaeological soil micromorphology projects being conducted in the Environmental Archaeology Laboratory at the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS). From Cahokia, microstratigraphic observations of a soil column collected from the fill of the Submound 51 pit shows a far more complex depositional sequence and use history than originally interpreted, particularly early in the sequence of pit infilling. Soil micromorphology and microCT scanning of samples from the fill sequence of extra-mural pit feature F49 at Noble Wieting is aiding in chronological and functional interpretations of when and how this feature was used. And finally, samples collected from experimental features created 25 years ago at the Army Corps of Engineers Controlled Archaeological Test Site (CATS), shows how micromorphology reference collections are critical for interpreting analogous archaeological features. These examples demonstrate the potential for soil micromorphology to provide insights relevant to long-standing archaeological research questions, as well as to advance new research.

(15) 3:45 The New IAS Curation Database: Its Development, Beta Testing, and How It Will Help Illinois Archaeology.

Sara L. Pfannkuche, Tamira Brennan, And Michael Farkas (ISAS)

Abstract

During the summer, ISAS began to beta test its new curation database. This relational database, implemented in FileMaker Pro, will allow for better control and intellectual access to the approximately 30,000 cubic feet of IDOT and University of Illinois collections that ISAS manages. The database is still in its development phase, but beta testing of some of its functions began this summer using student workers. When completed the database will allow for complete management of collections across the different buildings and offices used by ISAS including loans, donations, use images, collections histories, and more. The database will also have a publicly accessible component so that researchers can see what resources are housed at ISAS that may facilitate or enhance research. This presentation will discuss how the database was developed, why a relational database is best for collections management, the goals of the database, and what has been accomplished so far through beta testing.

(16) 4:00 Keeping Illinois Moving: ISAS, DOT and Over a Quarter Century of Statewide Cultural Resource Management

Brian Adams, ISAS

Abstract

This paper will present a brief history of the historical development of the cooperative relationship between the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS). This will be followed by a summary of current transportation - related projects throughout the state being conducted by ISAS.