BOOK REVIEW


This book is the product of much research, selection and analysis as the reader could ever hope to receive from a dedicated author. A brief introduction to the author, Dr. Paul W. Glad of Indiana University, on the jacket, states that he has created here "... a book distinguished by the freshness and good sense of its approach, the high order of its scholarship, and a remarkably readable style . . . ."

There is no doubt but that William Jennings Bryan would like to have known of himself as Dr. Glad portrays him, his reasoning, his heritage, his educational development, his environment as "The Great Commoner." This book evaluates the Chautauqua agenda and describes the great influence of McGuffy readers on the populace.

This reviewer who claims some attainment in ability to read and understand has never before had the religious philosophy of its people so well analysed and defined as Dr. Glad has shown it to be in the middle western United States. He credits Bryan with the fundamental belief that politics, ethics and religion are all in one. His explanation of how the Great Commoner wanted this country founded on the Christian basis of love for all mankind is worth present day, political study.

There are no wasted words in The Trumpet Soundeth. Each word has been chosen for exact meaning. How otherwise could such a revealing book cover a robust character and all the environment from 1896 to 1912, telling all, analysing all, connecting all in only 177 pages? There are 39 pages of notes and citations if one wants to delve more into the subject.

The Trumpet Soundeth is designed for the studious mind, for those who want to learn and who seek truth. It gives more than the personality of William Jennings Bryan: It clearly points out a way of life as well as the people and their whys and wherefores.

—Joe McBride

Oklahoma City
Micro-Card Publications Concerning Oklahoma Archaeology

As a nation-wide service, the University of Wisconsin Press is producing a series of publications in American archaeology on micro-cards, titled Archives of Archaeology. Several of the publications which deal with Oklahoma archaeology are here summarized.

To assist the reader in understanding the time relationship of the cultural periods referred to in this review, it should be said that the periods and people mentioned are: the Paleo, or very early groups of perhaps 8000 years ago and more, who made flint tools of beautiful workmanship; a possibly later period, herein called the "Lawton Aspect of the Southern Plains Archaic," in which a non-agricultural and, possibly, non-hunting group, lived: Archaic groups, who used large projectile points in hunting but had no pottery; a Woodland culture, in which a crude, grit-tempered pottery and large projectile points appear as well as greater tool variety; the Neosho focus, a yet later group who used shell-tempered pottery, a variety of bone implements and at least some smaller projectile points and who probably engaged in agriculture; historic Indian groups who were living at the time the white man moved into this area; modern white culture.

This is by no means an adequate description of the chronology of cultures in this area, but the list should aid the reader in understanding the relationships of the particular archaeological sites whose reports are reviewed here:

--Sherman P. Lawton*

Norman, Oklahoma


Baerreis and Freeman have provided a careful report on and analysis of materials uncovered in a bluff shelter on the Ozark uplift in Delaware County, Oklahoma, located in a hollow flanking the Neosho River. The cultures represented are similar to those found in other shelters in the same hollow, primarily Woodland and Neosho. In nearby areas a series of sites range from Archaic to late Creek. Also nearby are some of the largest Hopewellian (Woodland) villages in the county.

The authors are meticulous in detail, and give scrupulous attention to artifact typology. This sort of thing is essential for professional archaeological scholarship, but is not attractive to the lay reader—nor is it intended to be.

1 Dr. Sherman P. Lawton is President of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, and is Co-ordinator of Broadcasting Instruction in the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.—Ed.
Bone, ash and artifacts were found in several excavated squares, sometimes to a depth as great as 76 inches. Although the depth of materials representing the two cultures varied in the different excavations, the relationship was consistent, and there appeared to be a possible overlap of the cultures in time.

Six burials were crowded between a rock slab and the wall of the shelter, and there was a nearby infant burial. With one of the skeletons was an inverted grinding bowl in the hollow of which was a large number of insect larvae, possibly as a food offering. With another skeleton were fragments of twill-plaited matting of split cane. Pottery sherds and a small triangular projectile points with the burials were probably accidental rather than intentional grave furniture.

Four separate fire-beds at different depths suggested different periods of occupation.

All of the projectile points recovered were of chert, frequently varicolored. The dart points included Gary, Langtry, Snyder and Fairland, some that were Afton-like, and some not classified; for example, a few specimens with barbed points were similar to Williams. A new type, with a bulbous stem and slender, elongated blade was discovered and named the Cupp point. In addition, a number of triangular and small points were found. One eccentric looked like a modified Gary.

Large, ovate-acuminate knives, diamond-beveled knives (Harahey), knives with distinct bases, ovate scrapers, stemmed scrapers, and stone drills were recovered.

Food-preparation materials included flat slab grinding basins, some with rounded depressions. One flat slab had five rounded holes, just about the right size for holding nuts while being cracked; nutting stones were fairly common. Manos, hammerstones and sandstone shaft smoothers were among the lithic artifacts.

One fragment of a boatstone was found at a 16" depth. Two pieces of hematite were recovered.

Bone artifacts included: ulna, rib and cannonbone awls; reamers; worked deer mandible; bison scapula tools; antler and ulna flakers; shaft wrenches.

Some perforated deer phalanges could have been used as counters in games, as rests for the bases of drills or awls, or even as decorative pieces to be strung. Two sections of deer antler were described as "bracelets."

A number of turtle shell bowls and mussel shell scrapers were of interest.

Ceramic evidence included 1102 sherds and three partial vessels. The Woodland types were mingled with Neosho types at several middle levels.

Because the Woodland material was mostly associated with hunting or leather-work activities, the authors believe that this shelter was used primarily as a hunting camp by the Woodland people; this would
be consistent with the existence of Woodland village sites in the county. More complete Neosho materials suggest a complete year-round living cycle, and the shelter was probably used as a family residence during at least one of the periods of occupation.

In the 1930's a number of excavations of prehistoric sites in eastern Oklahoma were made by WPA workers. This cave reported by Miss Freeman was, like the bluff shelter described in the review above, one of the WPA projects.

The cave was located on the west side of Woodland Hollow, along a stream which led to the Neosho River, about a mile downstream.

The mouth of the cave was about 27 feet in width, and the opening extended about 40 feet into the bluff. The floor surface, before excavation, was from five to eleven feet below the ceiling, and the deposit at the front of the cave was five feet deep.

Unfortunately, pot-hunters had dug in the cave on at least one occasion, and the site was so disturbed that no stratigraphy could be relied on to establish a time sequence. Two ash lenses at different levels suggest at least two occupations. However, all of the material except a single pot-sherd could be ascribed to the Neosho focus, which indicates that occupation did not start as early as in the bluff shelter described above. The cave contained most of the same kinds of materials reported from the bluff shelter and, though the artifacts were sparse, there were some additional items. For example, there were Ellis dart points, some small notched triangular arrowheads, a bone head, a bone tube, a pottery pipe, a slightly broken celt and some notched rib and ulna pieces commonly called "rasps."

Pictures of manos which were found look as though some were also used as fire-stones, and some as nutting stones.

A single burial of a 21-25 year old male had no grave associated material.

Because of the paucity of material Miss Freeman suggests that the cave was probably a hunting camp. However, most of the materials for year-round living seem to have been present. An appendix by Aaron Elkins analyzes the skeletal material.


This volume includes four papers by Shaeffer, based on his work as archaeologist for the Oklahoma Archaeological Salvage Project.

The first report describes field survey work in the Fort Sill Military Reservation, in an attempt to map out the locations of sites within the confines of the Reservation. The survey was somewhat handicapped by inability to examine land within the impact of area of the fort's artillery. However, parts or all of seven drainages were examined, and 115 sites were located in a stream-edge distance of 30 miles.

Shaeffer and Fort Sill military authorities had expected to locate...
a large number of historic Indian village sites, since Plains and Wichita people are known to have used this area during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

One of the most interesting results of the work is the evidence that most of the sites in the reservation are prehistoric, some of them probably very old. One type of evidence is the number of stone hearths which occur throughout much of the region; nothing like them was ever reported for Plains or Wichita groups, though they are known to be associated with earlier cultures. Another definitive element is shell, which normally does not occur on later sites nor on the very early locations; thus the presence of shell can be a rough indicator of age. On the Fort Sill sites the presence of shell was consistent with other materials that might normally be expected with it.

A unique opportunity was presented by this project, since the artifacts range from prehistoric Indian to modern white.

On East Cache Creek, 32 sites were found, of which 12 showed no European contact. In most cases where white and Indian materials were mixed, they appeared to represent different time periods. Although large Plains Indian villages are known to have existed along this creek, none were located.

The Deer Creek-Medicine Creek drainages yielded 39 sites; of these 21 showed white contact; 8 showed no Indian material, although Chiricahua Apaches are known to have camped on some of them.

Blue Beaver Creek, which showed 20 sites, was apparently occupied during later periods. Ten were contact sites, and two lack any flint or quartzite evidence.

On Crater Creek only early sites were found, with a pre-dominance of quartzite over flint in a ratio of 3:1. Quartzite as an indicator of early occupation is a matter of debate, though Shaeffer and others have come to accept it as such, at least tentatively. This point is important in Shaeffer's discussion of "The Lawton Aspect," reviewed below.

In the West Cache-Quanah drainage Shaeffer and his field associates, Elmer Craft and James A. Marler, found one of the few large Indian sites discovered during the survey as well as a large site with abundant white cultural features; this site is also known to have been occupied by Comanches during historic times.

On Post Oak Creek, which is not adapted to agriculture, quartzite was the dominant lithic material.

Such pottery as was found suggests a Red River affiliation for the prehistoric groups rather than a Plains-Wichita relationship.

The entire project was limited to eighteen field days, so little excavation was done. It is possible that more test pits would have yielded further information.

Shaeffer gives detailed attention to the white artifact material,
and, where possible, dates such things as glass, china, buckles, buttons, mule-shoes, cartridges.

A valuable appendix lists the important dates of Indian history during the life of Fort Sill, including the last buffalo hunt and the last raid on whites by Indians.

The second of Shaeffer's papers deals with the Craig site, north of Nowata on the Verdigris River. Bulldozers removing dirt as part of a dam project exposed bones and artifact material which were called to the attention of the Oklahoma Archeological Salvage Project. A side about half a mile long and 300 feet in width had been largely destroyed. A large burial area had been completely removed. However, in the remaining undisturbed area it was possible to identify four stratified layers to a depth of twelve feet. These represented a considerable span of time, perhaps from 4-5000 years ago to 1000-1300 A.D.

The top level, about two feet deep, showed evidence of white occupation, or of modern Indians who had adopted white culture.

The next depth, Zone 2, was about four feet in thickness. This level yielded small to medium dart points, manos and bone tools, burned house wattle, one potsherd, beaver teeth, five burials and two varieties of hearths. The date of this level was put at late Archaic, although the sherd, small points and wattles suggest that perhaps the culture overlapped into the beginnings of a later horizon.

With the burials were bone awls and a turtle-back mano. With an adult male burial 81 items were found, including bone awls, bone spatulate instruments, hematite, yellow ochre, a flaker, scrapers, a drill or knife, a sandstone abrader and, an unusual feature, painted sandstone fragments.

Hearths formed of flat rocks, with many shells adjacent, suggested the locations of outside cooking areas, while small firepits indicated the probability of fires for warmth within living structures.

In Zone 3, which had a depth of about two feet, there were large points or scrapers.

The bottom depth, in hard, clay-mixed soil, was about four feet deep, and yielded heavy scrapers, gouges and planes. The tools were made of a limestone-like rock, and there was evidence of the use of quartzite. The type and workmanship, as well as the level, suggested considerable antiquity. Here, too, at a ten-foot depth, were the bottoms of postholes of a structure which was almost certainly associated with one of the later cultures, and indicated a house about 23 by 26 feet in area.

From the earth disturbed by the bull-dozers other items were recovered. These included abraders, large stone discs which might have been used as covers for pots or baskets, slab metates, a pounder, stone awls, a stone axe, stone balls with depressions on one side, a possible celt, choppers, a hammerstone and scrapers.

The third report in this volume concerns the Hubbard Site, five miles southeast of Elk City on Elk Creek. When the creek overflowed its banks and washed away the surface of an adjoining rise,
some bones and the outlines of pits were exposed. Twelve of the pits were excavated, but yielded little material, since only the bottoms of them remained. In one was a dog burial. Other bone remnants on or near the surface represented three human burials. Material included bones of bison, deer, dog and tortoise. Flint flakes were mostly from a quarry near Amarillo. Affiliation of the site seemed to be with people farther west, and it was suggested that there was a relationship with what is known as the Optima focus.

This study, the last paper in this series, is somewhat speculative, and describes and analyzes a prehistoric culture in which crude workmanship and the extensive use of quartzite are characteristic. The culture is named for this reviewer, since much of the original field work was done by him. Shaeffer's work added information and helped convince him that a previously unrecognized and unidentified prehistoric culture existed in Oklahoma. It is this culture which he calls the "Lawton Aspects." He calls attention to similarities to the Trinity and Clear Fork cultures in Texas, and the Cochise aspect in Arizona, and notes certain differences in workmanship, types of tools, and lithic materials which were used.

In essence, Shaeffer hypothesizes that the Lawton and Clear Fork aspects merged at the Red River, with the Clear Fork being the older culture. He further suggests that these cultures represent a degeneration or deculturation of earlier Paleo-Indian groups who made fine tools of flint, and who lived at the time of early faunal forms, such as the Bison Taylori. With the disappearance of these early buffalo, perhaps 8-10,000 years ago, a deculturation took place which resulted in the cultures represented by the Lawton aspect. It may be assumed that when the Bison appeared on the plains at a later date, new developments in projectile points and living habits took place. It is well established that at this time various Woodland people moved out on the plains and began a new way of life.

As Shaeffer notes, further field information is needed.

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This report concerns another of the WPA excavations, a rock shelter once a mile and a half from the Neosho River, but now under the water of the Lake of the Cherokees. The site was about 200 feet long, under a 20 foot overhang of rock. The front portion had been graded away when a road was cut through the area.

The materials recovered are very similar to those of the other sites reported in this review, but were greater both in number and variety. For instance, there were more than 50 Gary points, about 80 Langtrys, 80 Coopers and about 30 points which were "Snyder-like." Other types included Fairland, Cupp, Smith, Lange, Grand, Huffaker, Alba, and others. All were made of chert, much of it probably Boone Chert.

Some pottery, considered Woodland, was grit-tempered, and other
pottery, classed as Neosho was largely shell-tempered. Points such as Cooper, Type B, Langtry, Type A, "Snyders-like" and certain barbed types occurred only with the Woodland type pottery.

Since the Woodland materials were those needed only for hunting and skin preparation, Freeman thinks the shelter was used only as a hunting camp by the Woodland people. The Neosho materials were more varied, including mussel shells, seeds and grinding stones, whose basins look somewhat deeper than in those recovered from other sites in the area. Freeman believes that the shelter was a permanent residence area for Neosho people.

Apparently the human burials were carelessly gathered. However, Freeman was able to identify three burials, one with two individuals. The latter contained a bowl, an abrader, and shell beads.

The usual variety of stone tools and weapons were present, including a notched knife. The shell artifacts, too, were similar to those from other Neosho sites. The pottery included two fragments of pottery pipes.