



College of Arts and Science

University of Missouri-Columbia

American Archaeology

Curation Office
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June 28, 2004

Sarah M. Elder
St. Joseph Museum Inc.
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MO 64502

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your help in registering the True Davis site. The Archaeological Survey of Missouri (ASM) has assigned the site number: 23AN0161. The report and site location are now on record for researchers that contact ASM.

As I mentioned a copy of one of the reports was found in Carl Chapman's papers, which are being archived here. Dr. Chapman had consulted in many archaeological salvage projects in our state. We are still uncovering many projects he worked on and we are now over a decade since his untimely death. His work and others like him have resulted in saving much information that would have been lost.

Thanks again for your help with the True Davis site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Candace A. Sall'.

Candace A. Sall
Curation Manager
sallc@missouri.edu

At 5:10 P.M. a call from Mr. True Davis to Don R. Not home but returned the call on arrival at 5:15.

Human bones had been found when workmen were digging a trench for a new porch at the rear (east) side of his home at 7601 N. Belt. "Buttons, beads and metal found."

At 5:30 Don R. to 7601 N. Belt to investigate.

A foundation trench had been opened by the Rauth Construction Co. and was ready for concrete pouring. Reinforcement rods were in place and grade stakes driven. I talked with both Mr. and Mrs. Davis. They showed me bones that had been dug out and also the metal buttons and ornaments. Several rusted pieces of metal, one of which appears to have been a knife. A whetstone and a gun flint were among the items taken out during the trench excavation. Also some two dozen glass beads of assorted sizes. The Davis's said that they were told that the skull was just within the corner of the trench edge. Bones already removed by the workmen were in a dust pan set aside from the work area. They appeared to be portions of femur and arm bones. The mandible and portion of the skull were also in the pan. Some dissatisfaction was expressed, especially by Mrs. Davis because the workmen had not told them of the discovery sooner. Mr. Davis said that the concrete portion work could be held up on Friday thus giving us all of the weekend to work and remove the remainder of the burial. When we are through, Mr. and Mrs. Davis would prefer that the bones be buried away from the house at some other place on their property.

I contacted Michael Fisher, President of the local archaeological society at his work place KQTV and asked for some short notice help from their membership.

Friday, April 17, 1981

7:00 A.M.

Phone call by Don R. to Dr. Carl Chapman, State Archaeological Society of Missouri at Columbia. Described situation and asked for his opinion and advice on digging as a salvage project. He thought that we should. They had no one that they could send to assist especially on such short notice, and if some sort of organized dig were not performed information could be lost. He gave his sanction to go ahead with the assistance of the local chapter of the Missouri Archaeological Society. (St. Joseph Archaeological Society)

7:30 A.M. to 7601 N. Belt with tools, shaker screens, etc. Present were:

Don Reynolds	St. Joseph Museum - Mo State Archaeological Society
Mike Fisher	St. Joseph Arch. Society - Mo State Archaeological Soc.
Keith Richardson	St. Joseph Museum Staff
Stanley Novak	St. Joseph Museum Staff
Frank Punzo	St. Joseph Archaeological Soc. Member
Paul Punzo	St. Joseph Archaeological Soc. Member

Screening was started first in order to clear away dirt piles blocking the trench area. Dry screening was not successful since window screen was needed to separate the small size beads and the finer mesh would not pass the damp soil. Another screen was rigged for water screening. An average of 5 or 6 beads per two shovel batch could be washed out in this manner. Screening, with the use of water was slow but productive.

Mike Fisher and Paul and Frank Punzo could only stay until 10:45. Stanley Novak worked until 2:00 P.M. at which time Keith Richardson and myself broke for lunch. At 3:00 Jerry Lyon, a Central High School Junior came (an Archaeological Society member) and he and Richardson screened the rest of the P.M. I dug the over-burden from the burial to within 2" of the estimated level of the remaining bones. Quit work at 4:50 P.M. to go to 914 Penn to close out the Pony Express Museum.

Saturday, April 18, 1981

Don R. to 7601 N. Belt by 7:30 A.M. Photographed dig progress after first cleaning away loose dirt that had fallen into the hole overnight.

Cloudy, threatening rain. Need for tarp. Located plastic sheeting.

Jerry Lyon (Route 1, Easton, Mo. 64443) returned to assist. He continued with the water screening. Other members of the archaeological society unable to come as planned this A.M.

Had dug to 24" depth on Friday (2" or 3" above the estimated top of the bones.) Had not exposed bones on Friday P.M. due to children playing in area after we were to leave. By 9:30 A.M. down another 1½" or 2". Darker dirt of burial area and bone fragments indicate that the skull was well across the E-W trench, (See figure #1) instead of in the very corner as said by the workmen. The dark soil of the burial area is at a N-NE by S-SW angle across the corner of the foundation trench. Most of the bones were removed with the soil from the trench. Remaining bones - the femur, lower leg bones and foot of the right leg were all in the very edge of the west side of the N-S foundation trench. The skeleton was oriented North-South with head to North. The lighter clay surrounding the dark soil of the immediate burial area appears to be sterile so a trowel may be used since haste in completing the dig has been requested by contractor Rauth.

By 11:00 A.M. lower leg bones and foot uncovered and based out. Very little of the R.H. pelvis remains and that pulverized. Bones very soft. Cleaned up burial area for photography. Approximate depth from present ground surface to burial 26".

Jerry Lyon returned and worked in P.M. screening (water).

The right leg bones, as described, are the only bones remaining of the burial, the remainder of the body having been dug out in fragments with the soil of the trench by the contractor's workmen.

Not enough of either the skull or pelvis remains to determine the sex of the individual. Probably male considering the burial items.

1:00 P.M. Reached sterile soil on either side of the remaining leg bones. Femur measured approximate length as best as can be determined with the deteriorated proximal and distal ends, is 16". All associated soil around, beneath and down to sterile, was water screened.

All beads and other artifacts will be photographed in the lab under more favorable conditions after they have been cleaned and prepared. Mr. and Mrs. Davis would like copies of certain of these 35mm slides for themselves. Also a report should be sent to them.

A descriptive report and all 35mm slides will be kept on file at the St. Joseph Museum for study and reference and to be added to when and if further information becomes available.

Remarkable is the similarity of certain of the grave items in this burial and those found in burials on the Sinker farm north of Sparks, in Doniphan County, Kansas. Especially the round buckle-like trade ornaments and some of the beads. (See photos on file of that site.) The Sinker burial site (14DP28) material was thought to date to the middle 19th Century. (Letter from Dr. Alfred E. Johnson to Mr. Ted Sinker 6/24/77) We should contact Dr. Johnson again for his comment on the slides that we sent to him of artifacts from that Kansas site that were brought to the St. Joseph Museum by the Sinkers to be photographed. We will send slides of the Davis Hill burial to him for comparison.

Completed dig at 3:00 P.M. The bones, after photography and study, are to be taken back to 7601 N. Belt and buried east of the house in the Northeast corner of the yard and a flat stone placed above them at the surface of the ground. Depth 2 feet. This spot was designated by True Davis and is just SW of the existing tree there.

The use of radio-carbon dating to determine the approximate year of burial has been suggested. Since the burial goods found with the bones indicate the burial to be proto-historic the plus-minus factor of a C-14 test would probably be equal to the burial age, and thus, be of no value.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis have verbally agreed to give the burial items (beads, gun flint, metal knife, ornaments, etc.) that are found in the excavation to the St. Joseph Museum. We have agreed to take the bones back to their property (after study of same which could take a year or so) and rebury them at the spot chosen by them.

The burial was on a very prominent hill to the east of the Belt Highway. It commands an overlooking view of all four directions. It is possible that there are other burials there.

Of possible interest is the following excerpt from the Journal of Rudolph Friederich Kurz.

"By the treaty of 1814 the Iowa were granted a strip of land south of the Potawatomi. They lived in a village on Black Snake River (Creek now called) 3 miles from St. Joseph."

Blacksnake Creek empties into the Missouri River at a point just north of Francis Street. Its course is now marked to the northeastward by the route of the Chicago Northwestern Railroad over the Blacksnake sewer. "Three miles from St. Joseph" (up Blacksnake Creek) would put the location of the Iowa village at within one mile from the burial site on the True Davis Hill.

No time span is given for the occupation of the Iowa village on Blacksnake Creek. It no doubt disbanded at the time of, or before, the Platte Purchase allowed settlement of the region.

On page 39 Kurz states that the Iowa were forced to withdraw (1848) to the other side of the river (Mo) by the combined tribes of the Sauk and Fox. (The land of the Iowas began at the Wolf River)

On page 40 Kurz states:

"Near the end of the year 1848 about 30 lodges of Iowa Indians camped in the forest across the river from St. Joseph." (Were they from the Blacksnake Creek village?)

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"The rapid growth of St. Joseph has caused the abandonment of Jamestown, or Jimtown, a former settlement on an eminence halfway between St. Joseph and Savannah. The empty tavern and some heaps of rubbish are still there (1850) as testimony to the town's early downfall."

Jimtown must have been in the general area of the location of the Iowa Village mentioned by Kurz. The proximity of Jimtown and the time of its demise (by 1850) could possibly indicate the status of settlement of the Davis land and area in the mid 19th century. It is somewhat unlikely that Indians would still bury their dead on settled and/or cultivated land.

That the burial could be Sac or Fox is another ethnic possibility since they were in the area and contributed to the forcing of the Iowa westward to the Kansas side of the Missouri River. Mortuary traits as set forth by Douglass D. Scott in his description of 14DP26, a Sac burial in northeastern Kansas, are somewhat similar to our burial on the True Davis hill.

As before stated, the burials on the Sinker farm north of Sparks, Kansas, 14DP28, contained similar artifacts. Professor David Frayer, Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas, after examination of artifacts from that area thought the burials there to be those of Sac Indians.

Don R.

Friday, April 18, 1981

The contractor, Rauth, complained in a loud manner about the delay last night. Blamed me or us, or whoever, for a "weeks delay." I told him that we were there at the request of the property owners and that with their sanction we were using one working day only of his time - Friday - and that he should see Mr. Davis with any complaints. He said no more. His son apologized for him.

Both Mr. and Mrs. True Davis - each at different times - saw the exposed burial after excavation and each expressed their dissatisfaction of the way the trenching was cut through more than one-half of the burial without their knowledge. It is apparent that the footing trench cut off one-half of the body lengthwise and all of the upper portion including most of the pelvis. Not only did the trench cut through the burial but the side of the trench next to that portion still undisturbed was undercut by some pointed object as if to pick out bones and/or grave goods. Also, two probe holes were noticed during the excavation.

It should be noted that Mr. and Mrs. Davis notified the St. Joseph Museum of the burial discovery just as soon as they learned of it. This, in spite of some possibility of added expense to themselves, because of the one day loss of construction time. (More than one day according to the contractor.)

According to the contractor's son, the Davises were warned by them that if they notified a museum a delay in construction might result. (Mrs. Davis expressed concern for the inadvertent disturbing of the dignity of the Indian's place of burial because of construction work.

Even with the thorough screening of all of the loose soil originally removed from the burial area by workmen and the subsequent screening of all soil removed in the process of excavating the remaining bones, there is some doubt that all burial artifacts were recovered. A gun flint was found but no gun. (Rust on the gun flint indicate attachment to a firearm) A watch fob ring was found but no watch. (The ring showed bright gold color at each side of the opening where the ends had recently been protected by holes in the fob.) Only three complete buttons were found.

Don. R

FROM INDIAN BURIAL ON TRUE DAVIS PROPERTY
76 N. BELT HIGHWAY, St. Jo. Mo.

- 1 Knife with riveted wooden handle. 8 to 10 inch blade. Badly rusted. Blade bent to 90 degree angle about 4½" from the handle. (Apparently bent before burial.
- (11) 2 Circular concave ornaments with buckle pins across the center opening app. 1 3/4" in diameter with an 11/16" hole in the center. There are three 1/16 concentric rings around the 11/16" buckle opening. These ornaments were apparently fastened to fabric such as that of a coat and held in place, with the concave side towards the fabric, by the buckle tongue or pin which was forced through the fabric to hold it in place. Both of these ornaments were still attached, side by side and touching each other, on a heavy cloth that appears to be coarse woven wool heavy enough to be an outer garment. The cloth was evidently preserved by salts from the adjacent metal. Possibly silver.
- 3 Metal buttons. All had soldered eyelets on back. Two, measuring 7/8", appear to be solid metal (brass?) and show no decoration. No visible printing on back. (Before cleaning) The third, 3/4" in diameter, has a crimped-on facing surface of thin metal which may have stamped with a fabric design. The two solid metal buttons and the circular 1 3/4" ornaments are similar to the ones found in the burial on the Sinker farm north of Sparks, Kansas. (See Don. R. reports of 5/30/77 and 2/7/80 under "SINKER FARM BURIAL - SPARKS, KAN." in the St. Joseph Museum archaeological files. (13) (14) (15)
One other ferrous metal button facing was found. 1" in diameter. (12)
- (19) 1 2" square piece of metal (ferrous). Shows close contact with cranial bone. Some is yet attached. Cloth on opposite side of metal. Other skull bone from occipital area shows an inner saturation of ferrous oxide.
- (20) 1 Piece of iron 2 3/8" X 1 3/4", pointed, thick and heavy, that appears to have been from an axe or tomahawk. Another piece, 1 5/16" X 1 1/2" but thinner, could also have been from such a tool or weapon. (21)
- 1 12" piece of metal, 1 1/4" wide and approximately 1/4" thick. (Badly rust caked) Probably a file. A small exposure of diagonal markings under rust in one place indicate this possibility.
- (18) 1 3/4" ring, apparently from the winding stem of a watch. (Ends where the ring would have been inserted into a watch stem are clean and bright gold color exposed indicating recent detachment. We found no watch in the burial.
- (17) 1 Piece of lead, 7/16" in diameter, flattened as if from striking another object with great force. Irregular hole in center.
- 2 Clam shells. One, the larger, partial. The other appears to have been filed, probably recently, on the off-hinge side. No tooling or decoration.
- 1 Sandstone piece approximately 1 3/4" X 4", that shows abrasion that may indicate its use as a pocket whetstone.
- 1 Gunflint. (16) Shows contact with iron. No gun was in the box of artifacts previously removed from the burial area by construction workers nor found in the undisturbed remaining portion of the burial.

FROM INDIAN BURIAL - TRUE DAVIS PROPERTY CONT.

BEADS:

- ① 448 White, opaque, misshapen, medium hole. $1/8"$ to $5/32"$ in diameter.
- ⑩ 209 White, opaque, cylindrical, "seed beads". App. $3/32"$ diam. Small hole.
- ⑧ 50 Robbin's egg blue, opaque, cylindrical "seed beads". App $3/32"$. Small hole.
- ⑦ 22 Purple, translucent, cylindrical "seed beads". App $3/32"$ to $1/8"$. Sm. hole.
- ⑦ 37 Purple, translucent, glass, square & faceted, $3/32$ to $1/8"$. Medium hole.
- ⑥ 11 Greenish blue, translucent, glass, barrel shape. Spiral pattern in surface. App. $1/4"$ in length and $1/8"$ in diameter. Medium hole.
- ④ 1 Purple, glass, faceted, $3/16"$ in diameter, medium hole. Opaque.
- ③ 1 White, opaque, cylindrical, $5/32"$ in diameter and $1/2"$ long. Med. hole.
- ⑤ 3 Cream colored, circular & flat, thin, opaque, small hole. Resemble sections of a small crinoid stem. Natural?
- ② 1 Section of a larger square oblong bead. Or portion of a pipe stem? Opaque. Appears to be glass but shows what appears to be drill marks in the circular opening. Estimated size of incomplete end portion $1/4"$ to $5/16"$ with a $1/8"$ hole. Length?
- 1 Pearl. $5/32"$ in diameter. Imitation. Possibly an intrusion from surface. Found in water-screened fill dirt. Were imitation pearls available in the early 19th century?

○ (Number on color slide)

pm R

Bones were in an advanced state of deterioration. Except for parts of the mandible and the upper teeth portion of the skull, the construction disturbed portion of the burial was fragmentized. The teeth show advanced wear and several show decay.

INDIAN BURIAL SALVAGE DIG
On Property Of
True Davis
7601 N. Belt Highway
North of
St. Joseph, Missouri
April 16, 17, 18, 1981

Late in the afternoon of April 16th construction work was stopped by Mr. and Mrs. Davis, the property owners, after they learned that pieces of bones were being dug from a footing trench by workmen preparing for the pouring of concrete at the rear of the Davis home. Also, beads and pieces of metal including a knife and a file had been dug out. (See complete listing on another sheet.) The St. Joseph Museum was informed. Dr. Carl Chapman, Missouri State Archaeological Society, University of Missouri, Columbia, was contacted. He advised immediate salvage work with possible assistance of members of the local St. Joseph Archaeological Society. The local group was contacted and members were on hand the next A.M. (April 17th)

On April 17th and 18th, all loose soil, already removed by the contractor's workmen, was water screened to salvage small beads, etc. The remainder of the burial, consisting of the right leg and a small portion of the pelvis, was more carefully excavated. Approximate length of the femur was 16". The remainder of the pelvis and the skull, except for the mandible, had been fragmentized by the construction digging and it was not possible to determine sex. The partial mandible and teeth may yet help to determine the age of the individual at time of death.

Burial was at a depth of 26 inches, extended, and oriented N-S with the head northward.

The burial site is on a prominent hill with an overlooking view in all directions. Drainage on the west is to the Blacksnake Creek and on the east to the 102 River Valley.

Soil taken from the excavation of the remaining bones was also water screened.

The two circular buckle-like ornaments, still attached to a course cloth, are very similar to those found in what were thought to be Sac burials on the Sinker Farm north of Sparks, Kansas. (14DP28)

The beads were later cleaned, sorted and photographed. The other burial goods were also photographed but not cleaned.

The St. Joseph Museum is most appreciative that Mr. and Mrs. Davis, recognizing the importance of the find, notified the museum, assisted in many ways with the excavation, and as a final gesture of good will donated the cultural items to the museum.

A more detailed progress report and a 35mm slide record of the excavation and of the burial items will be kept on file and available at the St. Joseph Museum, St. Joseph, Mo., 64501.

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Last April, the museum, assisted by the local chapter of the St. Joseph Archaeological Society, did salvage work on a construction project near the True Davis home on the north Belt Highway. Bones from an Indian burial were unearthed during the digging of a trench and the work was halted by the owners. The museum was called and over a week-end the remainder of the burial was excavated. A later report, now being prepared, will describe items of interest that were found with the burial.

For Tolol 1981 Happenings

Last April, the museum, assisted by the local chapter of the St. Joseph Archaeological Society, did salvage work on a construction project near the True Davis home on the north Belt Highway. Bones from an Indian burial were unearthed during the digging of a trench and the work was halted by the owners. The museum was called and over a week-end the remainder of the burial was excavated. A later report, now being prepared, will describe items of interest that were found with the burial.

For Total 1980 Happenings

ing. For a very slight compensation I was enabled thus to proceed with my studies. The Iowa I found especially friendly. The Fox Indians and the Potawatomi were far more reserved. The Iowa have been a well-disposed tribe from the first; there is no record of any hostile act on their part toward the white race. Both of the other two, on the contrary, have waged bloody wars for the retention of their lands, especially the Potawatomi. Whether, as some people assert, those two tribes are to be regarded for that reason as more warlike is a question. The Potawatomi, as a related tribe to the Chippewa, fought during the War of the Revolution with the English against the Colonists.

After the Treaty of Ghent they remained still loyal to the English by whom they were won over with gifts and instigated to uprisings until, upon their last great attempt under Tecumseh, they were left in the lurch by the English under command of General Proctor and were forced to surrender their landed properties and to withdraw. In accordance with the terms of the treaty of 1814, they were allotted lands, known in the State of Missouri as "the Platte Purchase," that extended from the estuary of the Platte toward the northwest, even to the confines of their enemies, the Sioux. But, though they excelled all other tribes in the art of tilling the soil and in the breeding of cattle, they were not yet to settle down in peace. A part of the tribe was removed to lands beyond the Missouri, on the Kansas River. How long they are to have the benefit of that retreat only time will prove. As to the questions whether this continual displacing of tribes from their farms is a benefit or a menace to civilization and whether a benefit or a menace to friendly relations with the Americans, that is easily answered. The Fox Indians have not been inveterate foes of the Americans. That they came in conflict at all was the fault of the English, whose plan was to make the Indians a cat's-paw to pull their own chestnuts out of the fire. That explains the position taken by Black Hawk, who builded his hope on the English, and also why Tecumseh was put in chains.

This strife between the Indians and the Americans caused unrest among the Iowa; they had never existed in great numbers—were never a large tribe. Therefore, when they saw the white men pressing westward even to their own boundaries, they knew the Americans too well to risk a losing fight. Besides, being allied with the French, not the English, they were always friendly in their dealings with the white race. That they were brave warriors the records of their history prove. Less than twelve years ago they fought the Missouri Indians at King's Hill, not far from St. Joseph, and won the battle.

By the treaty of 1814 the Iowa were granted a strip of land south of the Potawatomi. They lived in a village on Black Snake River 3 miles from St. Joseph. Those possessions they were

(X)

Summer 7
1845
12
1836

November 30th 1982

The burial bones were this day returned to the property of Mr. True Davis and buried in the northeast corner of his yard as per his request. The exact spot is $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet from both the north-south and the east-west fences. A plastic container with an identification slip within was placed among the bones. They are buried about 24 inches deep and are covered by a layer of bricks just beneath the surface. The burial was made by Mike Fisher and Don Reynolds.



The University of Kansas Museum of Anthropology
Lawrence, Kansas 66045 (913) 843-4215

September 24, 1981

September 18, 1981

Mr. Donald Reynolds
St. Joseph Museum
1106 S. Charles St.
St. Joseph, Mo.

Dr. Alfred E. Johnson, Director
University of Kansas
Museum of Anthropology
Lawrence, Ks. 66045

Dear Don:

Recently I talked with Mr. E. E. the Director of the St. Joseph Museum, and he asked you would you would undertake a letter about the Sinker Archaeological Site in Washington County, Kansas. We have identified the site 14DP28. The following is a summary of the site.

- Thanks for your letter of the 18th of September and the information on the Sinker Site #14DP28. After a somewhat recent over-the-weekend construction site salvage dig, I had mentioned to Rich Nolf the similarity of certain items of grave goods found in the two burials. Round buckle style ornaments and also brass buttons appear to be very similar to the Sinker farm burial items. I have not cleaned nor photographed any of the material yet but can get around to that this winter when I will have more time. Will get some slides off to you with hopes of a return comment. Would appreciate anything you might offer to help us complete some sort of report.

Will try to locate a copy of Plains Anthropologist (1976 Vol. 21 #72).

- Thanks again. I am at the Sac Indian Reservation, during that time period we have been trying to obtain permission from the appropriate Indian authorities to do archaeological work at the site. We will be working to obtain this permission so we can continue our efforts.

- The skeletal materials and the artifacts were returned to the family as they had requested.

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

- I believe that these skeletal remains were probably indicative of a more extensive burial area of some locality. The burial described by Smith in the Plains Anthropologist (1976, Vol. 21, No. 72) was only a short distance away.

DLR:js

Mr. Smith indicated that you are doing research on a similar burial and hope that these bits of information are useful to you.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred E. Johnson
Director



The University of Kansas Museum of Anthropology
Lawrence, Kansas 66045 (913) 864-4245

September 18, 1981

Mr. Donald Reynolds
St. Joseph Museum
11th & Charles Sts.
St. Joseph, MO 64501

Dear Don:

Recently I talked with Mr. Knoff, the Director of the St. Joseph Museum, and he indicated that you would appreciate a letter about the Sinker Archaeological Site in Donophon County, Kansas. We have numbered the site 14DP28. The following are points which you may find of interest:

- 1) Professor David Frayer, a Physical Anthropologist in the Department of Anthropology here at K.U., examined the skeletal material that we recovered from our excavations. This examination indicated the presence of skeletal remains representing two females and one male.
- 2) Our excavations, however, were of only a single individual. The bones representing the other two individuals were either mixed into the soil surrounding the grave of the single individual by agricultural activities or they were mixed by the collecting activities of various members of the Sinker family. Examination of the artifacts suggested that the burials dated to the middle or latter part of the 19th century.
- 3) As this area was a part of the Sac Indian Reservation, during that time period we felt it best to try to obtain permission from the appropriate Indian authorities before doing additional work at the site. We were unsuccessful in obtaining this permission so we discontinued our efforts.
- 4) The skeletal materials and the artifacts were returned to the Sinker family as they had requested.
- 5) I believe that these skeletal remains are probably indicative of a much more extensive burial area in this vicinity. The historic Sac burial described by Scott in the Plains Anthropologist (1976, Vol. 21, No. 72) was only a short distance away.

Mr. Knoff indicated that you are doing research on a similar burial and I hope that these bits of information are useful to you.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred E. Johnson
Director

February 23, 1982

Dr. Carl Chapman
211 Edgewood Ave.
Columbia, Mo. 65201

Dear Carl:

You will recall that last spring I called you about a salvage dig on the True Davis property just north of our city. We then went ahead, with the assistance of some of the local archaeological society members, and salvaged.

We always shy away from putting a shovel in the ground, but sometimes we can't avoid it and are forced to apply "thumb in the dike archaeology." Enclosed you will find some 35mm slides of the grave goods and some information on same. Knowing that you probably wondered what we found, I should have gotten the slides, etc. to you sooner. Summer seasons are hectic at our museums, however, so the material just sat around waiting for our cold weather lull and time for cleaning and photographing.

You may keep the slides if you wish. Would appreciate any comment you might make, especially on the circular buckle-like ornaments. Incidentally, they appear to be silver as you thought they would be.

The Davis family gave the beads, etc. to the St. Joseph Museum and we hope that at some time we will have the material on display. It should be interesting to see actual beads, etc. that were used as barter items in the early days of St. Joseph.

Best wishes from all here at the museum.

Sincerely,

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

DLR:js
Enc.

P. S. Incidentally, do you think it advisable to assign a site number to this find?

February 23, 1982

Mr. Mett Shippee
3622 Russell Road
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

Dear Mett:

Long time no see--and no hear either! Hope you and Margaret are well and ready for gardening. It's been a long winter! Even dandelions will be welcome!

A Am sending along to you some slides and a meager report that might be of interest to you. I know that anything and everything pertaining to archaeology is of interest to you. As you know, we here try very hard to keep our shovel out of the ground (your good advice). But once in awhile we get caught with our jaw down and break over with our type of "thumb in the dike" archaeology. Such a time was last spring on the True Davis place north of St. Joseph on the Belt Highway. He is True Davis, III, son of the former Ambassador to Switzerland and a friend of our museum. When he called on a Friday evening saying his contractor's workmen had bones all over a dirt pile, I not only didn't say no we can't get into it, but instead was up there (my supper was on the table) in ten minutes.

Well - it was a salvage dig. I couldn't deny that. Also a lost weekend. Also a lot of extra work. Sorry I didn't call you then. Almost did. You could have helped Mike's club members squirt water on one another. You may keep the slides if you wish. I made several. Would certainly appreciate any comment that you might wish to make. Especially about those circular buckle-like ornaments. They appear to be of silver. Can't seem to find any information as to date and source on such an ornament. Can you cite a reference? We screened out a nice selection of beads I thought. Took a lot of water to wash about two score wheelbarrow loads of soil through window screen. (made a lot of mud!) And a sloppy mess. Only one club member showed up on the last day, (Sat.)

Mr. and Mrs. Davis have given the beads, etc. to the St. Joseph Museum. Hope we can sometime display the material. A good example of local trade items.

Mett, let me hear from you. If you get up to Joe Town drop by and we will chew the bone. Best regards from all here. Maude o.k. and includes best wishes.

Sincerely,

DLR:js
Enc.

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

February 23, 1982

Dr. Alfred E. Johnson
Museum of Anthropology
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Ks. 66044

Dear Al:

Have now gotten the Davis salvage dig material photographed and some information compiled and am sending same along to you. I hope that it will be of interest to you. You will note that the burial had two of the circular buckle-like ornaments similar to the ones found in the burial on the Sinker Farm north of Sparks, Kansas. I scratched the edge of one and it appears to be silver. Carl Chapman had said he thought they ~~would~~ be. So far I have not been able to find any information as to the date and source of this type of ornament. If you could cite a reference, I would appreciate it. Also any comment you might have.

You may keep the slides for your own records if you wish.

Best regards from all here at the St. Joseph Museum.

Sincerely,

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

DLR:js
Enc.

March 24, 1982

Mr. and Mrs. True Davis, III
7601 N. Belt Highway
St. Joseph, Mo. 64506

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Davis:

We are sending to you, enclosed, ten 35mm slides of the excavation and burial items found by the workmen while digging the footing trench at the rear of your home last spring, and in the subsequent screening of soil and excavation of the remainder of the Indian burial. Also enclosed is a descriptive listing of the items.

We plan to use this material in future exhibits here in the museum showing actual items that were at one time used to barter in the early days of St. Joseph. It is an important addition to our historic and ethnic collections.

Again, we thank you for the kindness and cooperation during the excavation last spring and for your generosity in donating this interesting and locally important material to the museum.

Later this spring the bones will be brought back to your place, and as per your wishes, reburied in the Northeast corner of the yard. Tribal affiliation, at this point, is still speculative. The final paragraphs, on a separate page, of the report are to be regarded as food for thought for the time being.

We will, of course, inform you of any further developments or new information concerning the archaeological site.

Sincerely,

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

DLR:js
Enc.

INDIAN BURIAL SALVAGE DIG
On Property Of
True Davis
7601 N. Belt Highway
North of
St. Joseph, Missouri
April 16, 17, 18, 1981

Late in the afternoon of April 16th construction work was stopped by Mr. and Mrs. Davis, the property owners, after they learned that pieces of bones were being dug from a footing trench by workmen preparing for the pouring of concrete at the rear of the Davis home. Also, beads and pieces of metal including a knife and a file had been dug out. (See complete listing on another sheet.) The St. Joseph Museum was informed. Dr. Carl Chapman, Missouri State Archaeological Society, University of Missouri, Columbia, was contacted. He advised immediate salvage work with possible assistance of members of the local St. Joseph Archaeological Society. The local group was contacted and members were on hand the next A.M. (April 17th)

On April 17th and 18th, all loose soil, already removed by the contractor's workmen, was water screened to salvage small beads, etc. The remainder of the burial, consisting of the right leg and a small portion of the pelvis, was more carefully excavated. Approximate length of the femur was 16". The remainder of the pelvis and the skull, except for the mandible, had been fragmentized by the construction digging and it was not possible to determine sex. The partial mandible and teeth may yet help to determine the age of the individual at time of death.

Burial was at a depth of 26 inches, extended, and oriented N-S with the head northward.

The burial site is on a prominent hill with an overlooking view in all directions. Drainage on the west is to the Blacksnake Creek and on the east to the 102 River Valley.

Soil taken from the excavation of the remaining bones was also water screened.

The two circular buckle-like ornaments, still attached to a course cloth, are very similar to those found in what were thought to be Sac burials on the Sinker Farm north of Sparks, Kansas. (14DP28)

The beads were later cleaned, sorted and photographed. The other burial goods were also photographed but not cleaned.

The St. Joseph Museum is most appreciative that Mr. and Mrs. Davis, recognizing the importance of the find, notified the museum, assisted in many ways with the excavation, and as a final gesture of good will donated the cultural items to the museum.

A more detailed progress report and a 35mm slide record of the excavation and of the burial items will be kept on file and available at the St. Joseph Museum, St. Joseph, Mo., 64501.

FROM INDIAN BURIAL ON TRUE DAVIS PROPERTY
76 N. BELT HIGHWAY, St. Jo. Mo.

- 1 Knife with riveted wooden handle. 8 to 10 inch blade. Badly rusted. Blade bent to 90 degree angle about 4 1/4" from the handle. (Apparently bent before burial.

(10) 2 Circular concave ornaments with buckle pins across the center opening app. 1 3/4" in diameter with an 11/16" hole in the center. There are three 1/16 concentric rings around the 11/16" buckle opening. These ornaments were apparently fastened to fabric such as that of a coat and held in place, with the concave side towards the fabric, by the buckle tongue or pin which was forced through the fabric to hold it in place. Both of these ornaments were still attached, side by side and touching each other, on a heavy cloth that appears to be coarse woven wool heavy enough to be an outer garment. The cloth was evidently preserved by salts from the adjacent metal. Possibly silver.

- 3 Metal buttons. All had soldered eyelets on back. Two, measuring 7/8", (13) (14) appear to be solid metal (brass?) and show no decoration. No visible printing on back. (Before cleaning) The third, 3/4" in diameter, has (15) a crimped-on facing surface of thin metal which may have stamped with a fabric design. The two solid metal buttons and the circular 1 3/4" ornaments are similar to the ones found in the burial on the Sinker farm north of Sparks, Kansas. (See Don. R. reports of 5/30/77 and 2/7/80 under "SINKER FARM BURIAL - SPARKS, KAN." in the St. Joseph Museum archaeological files. One other ferrous metal button facing was found. 1" in diameter. (12)

(19) 1 2" square piece of metal (ferrous). Shows close contact with cranial bone. Some is yet attached. Cloth on opposite side of metal. Other skull bone from occipital area shows an inner saturation of ferrous oxide.

(20) 1 Piece of iron 2 3/8" X 1 3/4", pointed, thick and heavy, that appears to have been from an axe or tomahawk. Another piece, 1 5/16" X 1 1/2" (21) but thinner, could also have been from such a tool or weapon.

- 1 12" piece of metal, 1 1/4" wide and approximately 1/4" thick. (Badly rusted) Probably a file. A small exposure of diagonal markings under rust in one place indicate this possibility.

(18) 1 3/4" ring, apparently from the winding stem of a watch. (Ends where the ring would have been inserted into a watch stem are clean and bright gold color exposed indicating recent detachment. We found no watch in the burial.

(17) 1 Piece of lead, 7/16" in diameter, flattened as if from striking another object with great force. Irregular hole in center.

- 2 Clam shells. One, the larger, partial. The other appears to have been filed, probably recently, on the off-hinge side. No tooling or decoration.

- 1 Sandstone piece approximately 1 3/4" X 4", that shows abrasion that may indicate its use as a pocket whetstone.

- 1 Gunflint. (16) Shows contact with iron. No gun was in the box of artifacts previously removed from the burial area by construction workers nor found in the undisturbed remaining portion of the burial.

FROM INDIAN BURIAL - TRUE DAVIS PROPERTY CONT.

BEADS:

- ① 448 White, opaque, misshapen, medium hole. $1/8"$ to $5/32"$ in diameter.
- ⑩ 209 White, opaque, cylindrical, "seed beads". App. $3/32"$ diam. Small hole.
- ⑧ 50 Robin's egg blue, opaque, cylindrical "seed beads". App $3/32"$. Small hole.
- ⑦ 22 Purple, translucent, cylindrical "seed beads". App $3/32"$ to $1/8"$. Sm. hole.
- ⑦ 37 Purple, translucent, glass, square & faceted, $3/32$ to $1/8"$. Medium hole.
- ⑥ 11 Greenish blue, translucent, glass, barrel shape. Spiral pattern in surface. App. $1/4"$ in length and $1/8"$ in diameter. Medium hole.
- ④ 1 Purple, glass, faceted, $3/16"$ in diameter, medium hole. Opaque.
- ③ 1 White, opaque, cylindrical, $5/32"$ in diameter and $1/2"$ long. Med. hole.
- ⑤ 3 Cream colored, circular & flat, thin, opaque, small hole. Resemble sections of a small crinoid stem. Natural?
- ② 1 Section of a larger square oblong bead. Or portion of a pipe stem? Opaque. Appears to be glass but shows what appears to be drill marks in the circular opening. Estimated size of incomplete end portion $1/4"$ to $5/16"$ with a $1/8"$ hole. Length?
- 1 Pearl. $5/32"$ in diameter. Imitation. Possibly an intrusion from surface. Found in water-screened fill dirt. Were imitation pearls available in the early 19th century?

○ (Number on color slide)

DMR

At 5:10 P.M. a call from Mr. True Davis to Don R. Not home but returned the call on arrival at 5:15.

Human bones had been found when workmen were digging a trench for a new porch at the rear (east) side of his home at 7601 N. Belt. "Buttons, beads and metal found."

At 5:30 Don R. to 7601 N. Belt to investigate.

A foundation trench had been opened by the Rauth Construction Co. and was ready for concrete pouring. Reinforcement rods were in place and grade stakes driven. I talked with both Mr. and Mrs. Davis. They showed me bones that had been dug out and also the metal buttons and ornaments. Several rusted pieces of metal, one of which appears to have been a knife. A whetstone and a gun flint were among the items taken out during the trench excavation. Also some two dozen glass beads of assorted sizes. The Davis's said that they were told that the skull was just within the corner of the trench edge. Bones already removed by the workmen were in a dust pan set aside from the work area. They appeared to be portions of femur and arm bones. The mandible and portion of the skull were also in the pan. Some dissatisfaction was expressed, especially by Mrs. Davis because the workmen had not told them of the discovery sooner. Mr. Davis said that the concrete portion work could be held up on Friday thus giving us all of the weekend to work and remove the remainder of the burial. When we are through, Mr. and Mrs. Davis would prefer that the bones be buried away from the house at some other place on their property.

I contacted Michael Fisher, President of the local archaeological society at his work place KQTV and asked for some short notice help from their membership.

Friday, April 17, 1981

7:00 A.M.

Phone call by Don R. to Dr. Carl Chapman, State Archaeological Society of Missouri at Columbia. Described situation and asked for his opinion and advice on digging as a salvage project. He thought that we should. They had no one that they could send to assist especially on such short notice, and if some sort of organized dig were not performed information could be lost. He gave his sanction to go ahead with the assistance of the local chapter of the Missouri Archaeological Society. (St. Joseph Archaeological Society)

7:30 A.M. to 7601 N. Belt with tools, shaker screens, etc. Present were:

Don Reynolds	St. Joseph Museum - Mo State Archaeological Society
Mike Fisher	St. Joseph Arch. Society - Mo State Archaeological Soc.
Keith Richardson	St. Joseph Museum Staff
Stanley Novak	St. Joseph Museum Staff
Frank Punzo	St. Joseph Archaeological Soc. Member
Paul Punzo	St. Joseph Archaeological Soc. Member

Screening was started first in order to clear away dirt piles blocking the trench area. Dry screening was not successful since window screen was needed to separate the small size beads and the finer mesh would not pass the damp soil. Another screen was rigged for water screening. An average of 5 or 6 beads per two shovel batch could be washed out in this manner. Screening, with the use of water was slow but productive.

Mike Fisher and Paul and Frank Punzo could only stay until 10:45. Stanley Novak worked until 2:00 P.M. at which time Keith Richardson and myself broke for lunch. At 3:00 Jerry Lyon, a Central High School Junior came (an Archaeological Society member) and he and Richardson screened the rest of the P.M. I dug the over-burden from the burial to within 2" of the estimated level of the remaining bones. Quit work at 4:50 P.M. to go to 914 Penn to close out the Pony Express Museum.

Saturday, April 18, 1981

Don R. to 7601 N. Belt by 7:30 A.M. Photographed dig progress after first cleaning away loose dirt that had fallen into the hole overnight.

Cloudy, threatening rain. Need for tarp. Located plastic sheeting.

Jerry Lyon (Route 1, Easton, Mo. 64443) returned to assist. He continued with the water screening. Other members of the archaeological society unable to come as planned this A.M.

Had dug to 24" depth on Friday (2" or 3" above the estimated top of the bones.) Had not exposed bones on Friday P.M. due to children playing in area after we were to leave. By 9:30 A.M. down another 1½" or 2". Darker dirt of burial area and bone fragments indicate that the skull was well across the E-W trench, (See figure #1) instead of in the very corner as said by the workmen. The dark soil of the burial area is at a N-NE by S-SW angle across the corner of the foundation trench. Most of the bones were removed with the soil from the trench. Remaining bones - the femur, lower leg bones and foot of the right leg were all in the very edge of the west side of the N-S foundation trench. The skeleton was oriented North-South with head to North. The lighter clay surrounding the dark soil of the immediate burial area appears to be sterile so a trowel may be used since haste in completing the dig has been requested by contractor Rauth.

By 11:00 A.M. lower leg bones and foot uncovered and based out. Very little of the R.H. pelvis remains and that pulverized. Bones very soft. Cleaned up burial area for photography. Approximate depth from present ground surface to burial 26".

Jerry Lyon returned and worked in P.M. screening (water).

The right leg bones, as described, are the only bones remaining of the burial, the remainder of the body having been dug out in fragments with the soil of the trench by the contractor's workmen.

Not enough of either the skull or pelvis remains to determine the sex of the individual. Probably male considering the burial items.

1:00 P.M. Reached sterile soil on either side of the remaining leg bones. Femur measured approximate length as best as can be determined with the deteriorated proximal and distal ends, is 16". All associated soil around, beneath and down to sterile, was water screened.

All beads and other artifacts will be photographed in the lab under more favorable conditions after they have been cleaned and prepared. Mr. and Mrs. Davis would like copies of certain of these 35mm slides for themselves. Also a report should be sent to them.

A descriptive report and all 35mm slides will be kept on file at the St. Joseph Museum for study and reference and to be added to when and if further information becomes available.

Remarkable is the similarity of certain of the grave items in this burial and those found in burials on the Sinker farm north of Sparks, in Doniphan County, Kansas. Especially the round buckle-like trade ornaments and some of the beads. (See photos on file of that site.) The Sinker burial site (14DP28) material was thought to date to the middle 19th Century. (Letter from Dr. Alfred E. Johnson to Mr. Ted Sinker 6/24/77) We should contact Dr. Johnson again for his comment on the slides that we sent to him of artifacts from that Kansas site that were brought to the St. Joseph Museum by the Sinkers to be photographed. We will send slides of the Davis Hill burial to him for comparison.

Completed dig at 3:00 P.M. The bones, after photography and study, are to be taken back to 7601 N. Belt and buried east of the house in the Northeast corner of the yard and a flat stone placed above them at the surface of the ground. Depth 2 feet. This spot was designated by True Davis and is just SW of the existing tree there.

The use of radio-carbon dating to determine the approximate year of burial has been suggested. Since the burial goods found with the bones indicate the burial to be proto-historic the plus-minus factor of a C-14 test would probably be equal to the burial age, and thus, be of no value.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis have verbally agreed to give the burial items (beads, gun flint, metal knife, ornaments, etc.) that are found in the excavation to the St. Joseph Museum. We have agreed to take the bones back to their property (after study of same which could take a year or so) and rebury them at the spot chosen by them.

The burial was on a very prominent hill to the east of the Belt Highway. It commands an overlooking view of all four directions. It is possible that there are other burials there.

Of possible interest is the following excerpt from the Journal of Rudolph Friederich Kurz.

"By the treaty of 1814 the Iowa were granted a strip of land south of the Potawatomi. They lived in a village on Black Snake River (Creek now called) 3 miles from St. Joseph."

Blacksnake Creek empties into the Missouri River at a point just north of Francis Street. Its course is now marked to the northeastward by the route of the Chicago Northwestern Railroad over the Blacksnake sewer. "Three miles from St. Joseph" (up Blacksnake Creek) would put the location of the Iowa village at within one mile from the burial site on the True Davis Hill.

No time span is given for the occupation of the Iowa village on Blacksnake Creek. It no doubt disbanded at the time of, or before, the Platte Purchase allowed settlement of the region.

On page 39 Kurz states that the Iowa were forced to withdraw (1848) to the other side of the river (Mo) by the combined tribes of the Sauk and Fox. (The land of the Iowas began at the Wolf River)

On page 40 Kurz states:

"Near the end of the year 1848 about 30 lodges of Iowa Indians camped in the forest across the river from St. Joseph." (Were they from the Blacksnake Creek village?)

Page 53 in the Journal of Rudolph Friederich Kurz states:

"The rapid growth of St. Joseph has caused the abandonment of Jamestown, or Jimtown, a former settlement on an eminence halfway between St. Joseph and Savannah. The empty tavern and some heaps of rubbish are still there (1850) as testimony to the town's early downfall."

Jimtown must have been in the general area of the location of the Iowa Village mentioned by Kurz. The proximity of Jimtown and the time of its demise (by 1850) could possibly indicate the status of settlement of the Davis land and area in the mid 19th century. It is somewhat unlikely that Indians would still bury their dead on settled and/or cultivated land.

That the burial could be Sac or Fox is another ethnic possibility since they were in the area and contributed to the forcing of the Iowa westward to the Kansas side of the Missouri River. Mortuary traits as set forth by Douglass D. Scott in his description of 14DP26, a Sac burial in northeastern Kansas, are somewhat similar to our burial on the True Davis hill.

As before stated, the burials on the Sinker farm north of Sparks, Kansas, 14DP28, contained similar artifacts. Professor David Frayer, Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas, after examination of artifacts from that area thought the burials there to be those of Sac Indians.

Don R.

Friday, April 18, 1981

The contractor, Rauth, complained in a loud manner about the delay last night. Blamed me or us, or whoever, for a "weeks delay." I told him that we were there at the request of the property owners and that with their sanction we were using one working day only of his time - Friday - and that he should see Mr. Davis with any complaints. He said no more. His son apologized for him.

Both Mr. and Mrs. True Davis - each at different times - saw the exposed burial after excavation and each expressed their dissatisfaction of the way the trenching was cut through more than one-half of the burial without their knowledge. It is apparent that the footing trench cut off one-half of the body lengthwise and all of the upper portion including most of the pelvis. Not only did the trench cut through the burial but the side of the trench next to that portion still undisturbed was undercut by some pointed object as if to pick out bones and/or grave goods. Also, two probe holes were noticed during the excavation.

It should be noted that Mr. and Mrs. Davis notified the St. Joseph Museum of the burial discovery just as soon as they learned of it. This, in spite of some possibility of added expense to themselves, because of the one day loss of construction time. (More than one day according to the contractor.)

According to the contractor's son, the Davises were warned by them that if they notified a museum a delay in construction might result. (Mrs. Davis expressed concern for the inadvertent disturbing of the dignity of the Indian's place of burial because of construction work.

Even with the thorough screening of all of the loose soil originally removed from the burial area by workmen and the subsequent screening of all soil removed in the process of excavating the remaining bones, there is some doubt that all burial artifacts were recovered. A gun flint was found but no gun. (Rust on the gun flint indicate attachment to a firearm) A watch fob ring was found but no watch. (The ring showed bright gold color at each side of the opening where the ends had recently been protected by holes in the fob.) Only three complete buttons were found.

Don R.

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PLAINS INDIAN HAIR PLATES

By Charles Hanson, Jr.

Silver hair plates as items of Indian jewelry were fairly commonplace in southern Canada and eastern United States in the last half of the 18th century. However, no single item of adornment is as spectacular an example of Indian acculturation through trade as the long full sets of metal hair plates worn by Plains Indians in the 19th century.

In his excellent article, "Plains Indian Metal-working With Emphasis on Hair Plates" (*American Indian Tradition*; Vol. 8, No. 2; Alton Illinois, 1962, pages 55-76), Norman Feder summarized documentary evidence of the early use of hair plates by Eastern Indians, including a reference to an Ojibwa with his hair covered with silver brooches in 1806 and a Seneca of Sandusky with his long hair braid covered with a graduated set of round silver pieces in 1830.

He noted that the hair plate string was developed by Plains tribes who took special pride in very long hair and the references in the first decades of the 19th century tell of Indians wearing ornaments in their hair. In its later and fully developed form a set of hair plates was only fastened to the "scalp lock" and could be attached or detached at will. Some clue to the making of this transition may be furnished by a comment from David Burnet on the Comanches ca. 1820: "I have often seen dollars and their several integrants, suspended in a continuous line, terminating in picayunes, to the hair of a Comanche dandy, elongated by horse-hair or a cow's tail." The later hair plate sets of the southern Indians were made on a folded strip of cloth terminating in a brush of long horse or cow-tail hair, which might possibly be a traditional survival of the elongating piece described by Burnet.

There are a number of references to the use of silver ornaments on the Southern Plains early in the 19th century. Some authorities believe this was due to visits by Kiowa, Comanche and Cheyenne to the Upper Missouri trade fairs, others say the emigrating Delawares brought silver ornaments and

manufacturing techniques to those tribes. It is this writer's humble suggestion that it might be due to long trade relations with Spanish settlers on the Rio Grande and, to some extent, in Texas.

There is little reason to question that the Kiowa and Comanche received silver crosses, buttons and medals from the Spaniards. In Mooney's recording of the calendar history of the Kiowa the story is told of the capture of silver coin from a party of Americans in the winter of 1832-3: "...this being the first money they had ever seen, they did not know its proper use, and so beat the coins into disks to be fastened to straps worn attached to the scalp lock, and hanging down behind (hence the name for money, a 'dal-han 'gya, literally "hair metal"). After leaving the place they met some Comanche, who already knew the use of money, and on hearing the story told them the value of the silver pieces, upon which the Kiowa returned and searched until they succeeded in finding a large quantity. From this it appears that whatever trade the Kiowa had previously carried on with the Spanish settlements had been by barter in kind, as was usual along the Indian frontier in the early days. This was some time before the beginning of regular intercourse with Americans."

To me this also suggests that the Kiowa already knew what hair plates were and that they were either getting them from the New Mexicans or else they were buying sheet silver from the New Mexicans and making their own (which seems extremely unlikely). A few pages further on Mooney settled that question: "In the old days these ornaments (hair plates) were made for them, of genuine silver, by Mexican silversmiths near the present Silver City, New Mexico."⁴ In 1845 Lt. Abert wrote that the Kiowa men braided their long hair into a queue, sometimes lengthened with horsehair. "This queue is often ornamented with convex silver plates, which they procure from the Spaniards."⁴ This is one of the last comments by a careful observer on hair plate sets as rows of ornaments on a queue of growing hair as opposed to an attached queue of other material.

Abert painted a Cheyenne with hair plates in 1845 at Bent's Fort. A sketch of a Comanche made about 1828 for the report of the Berlandier Expedition to Texas shows a warrior with a long set of hair plates ornamented at the lower end.⁵ In 1834 Catlin painted a Kiowa chief with a string of graduated silver hair plates draped down his chest. Lewis Garrard wrote in 1846 that the Cheyenne traded for silver coins, beat them into hair plates and fastened them to a long braid of buffalo hair.⁶ In 1853 Lt. Whipple wrote of the Comanche: "From the crown of their heads was suspended a queue of horse-hair, reaching nearly to the ground, ornamented with ten circular plates of silver, from one to three inches in diameter, and terminated by a silver crescent and wampum."⁷

Friedrich Richard Petri, an immigrant artist in Texas, sketched Indians, probably Lipans, with sets of hair plates in the 1850's. He was in an area also frequented by the Delaware and Shawnee, who could have taught the Lipans and Comanches to make hair plates or made plates for them. There is no documented evidence that they did, but one of Petri's relatives by marriage, who had been trained as a metalsmith in Sweden, produced bridles and silver ornaments for the Indians.⁸

A Comanche burial in Texas of the approximate period 1850-60 yielded four silver "conchas" or hair plates. Though finished with different styles of openings, they were all remarkably uniform in thickness and showed no stress cracks, fragments of lettering or other signs of being beaten from coins. Instead, at least three of them appeared to have been formed from sheet silver of purity greater than coin silver.⁹



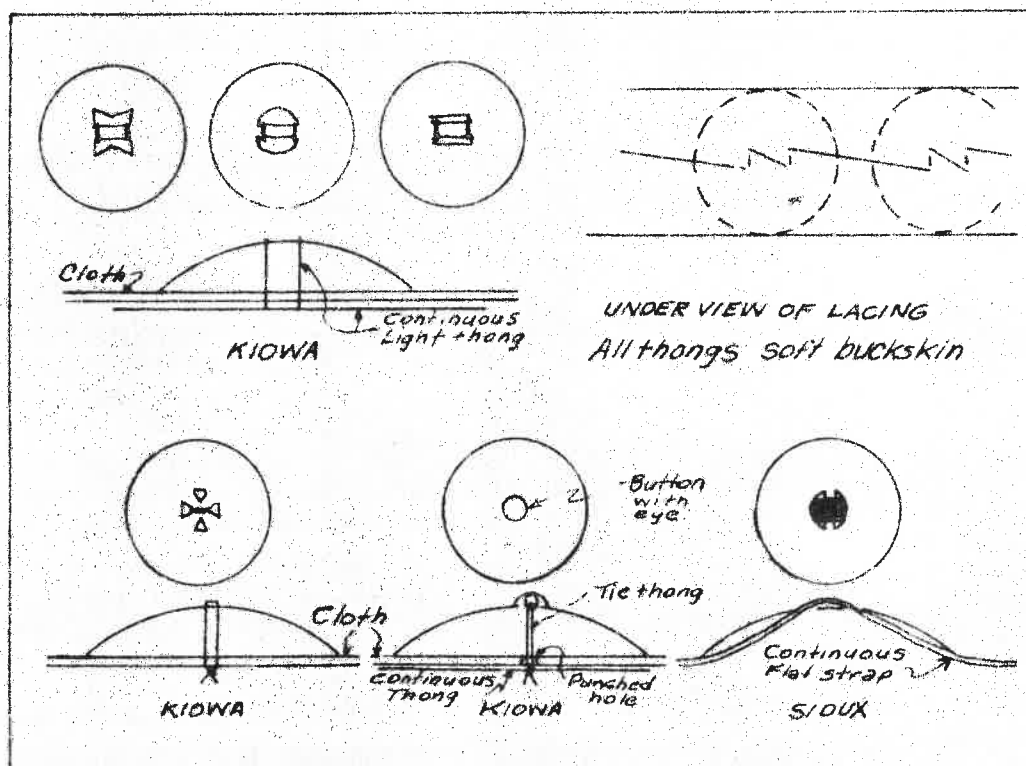
*Hair Plates: Left: Kiowa, silver
Center: Kiowa, German silver
Right: Sioux, brass*

In summary, we find silver hair plates well-distributed among the Kiowa and Comanche, and to a slightly lesser degree among the Cheyenne and Arapaho, before 1860. There is good evidence that most of the early ones, and many of the later ones, were made by New Mexican silversmiths. A few were probably made by other white or immigrant Indian silversmiths. There are also frequent reports of them being made by the Indians from coins and we have no way of knowing how many of these reports were romantic opinions based upon superficial knowledge. Some of the earliest strings may have been made of unworked coins. There is also no doubt that some Indians did hammer out their own plates, particularly after the advent of the Americans made coins easier to obtain. However, there is a practical argument against the theory of universal Indian manufacture of these hair plates. The largest size is often described as being 3 inches or more in diameter. It is very difficult to beat the average alloyed coin available then to such a diameter. The process requires good tools and constant annealing to avoid stress cracks.

The earliest queues were usually a long braid of the wearer's own hair, often extended by other braided hair or by a buffalo or horse tail. Eventually the queue became a separate piece of braided buffalo or horsehair, leather or folded wool trade cloth (generally scarlet). On the Southern Plains a long decorated brush of mane or tail hair often finished off the lower end of a cloth strip. Plates were usually graduated in size with the largest plates at the top.

At the mid-point of the 19th century a new material entered the field of Indian jewelry. German silver, an alloy of copper, zinc and nickle, was so named

because it occurred naturally in some parts of Germany. It was being manufactured in New York in the early 1830's and "silverwork" made from it appears in at least one Minnesota Indian site of the 1850's.¹⁰ The principal event for the summer of 1866 in the Kiowa calendar was the bringing of a large quantity of sheet German silver by trader Charles Whitacre or Whittaker.¹¹ In an article published in 1868, Theodore Davis listed "square plates of German silver" as standard items in the outfit of a robe trader.¹² As the total value of the Indian trade diminished in relation to other frontier enterprises, the traders were more willing to simply supply raw material for the Indians to work up themselves. With cheap material available, the art of German silver working flourished among the Plains tribes and most of the hair plates in this period were probably Indian-made.



Some styles of hairplates and methods of attachment.

For this reason it is difficult to rely upon the descriptions of hair plates by travelers, correspondents and army officers. They probably saw no difference between German silver and real silver. Obviously real silver plates did not disappear all at once but there is every indication that the use of German silver, both by Indians and by manufacturers for the Indian trade, increased very rapidly after 1865.

Whatever material was used, hair plates were certainly typical adornments on the Southern Plains by 1865. The paintings of the Medicine Lodge treaty councils by the soldier-artist Hermann Stieffel in 1867 show silver hair plate strings on most of the Indians. In a council with the Cheyennes at Fort Larned in 1867, correspondent Henry M. Stanley noted that the Indians wore "breast ornaments of silver shields, and Johnson silver medals, and their scalplocks were adorned with a long string of thin silver discs."¹³ Correspondent Keim, with

Sheridan in 1868, noted Osage scouts wearing long trains of small silver plates and the Kiowa and Comanche with "trains" 3 to 5 feet long of silver plates, from 3 inches to one inch in diameter, fastened on a strip of rawhide. He also noted the women with belts of silver plates and immense silver finger rings.¹⁴

These references to silver breast plates and women's silver belts and rings must surely refer to German silver. Certainly a pectoral (breastplate) couldn't be hammered out of a coin and there is no present evidence that Plains Indian women ever had the luxury of a belt fitted with real silver discs.

Several sets of large hair plates, probably German silver, were photographed by Will Soule at Fort Sill, 1869-1874, and the drawings of Cohoe, Cheyenne prisoner at Fort Marion, Florida, in 1876, show hair plates on most of the men depicted, even while hunting.

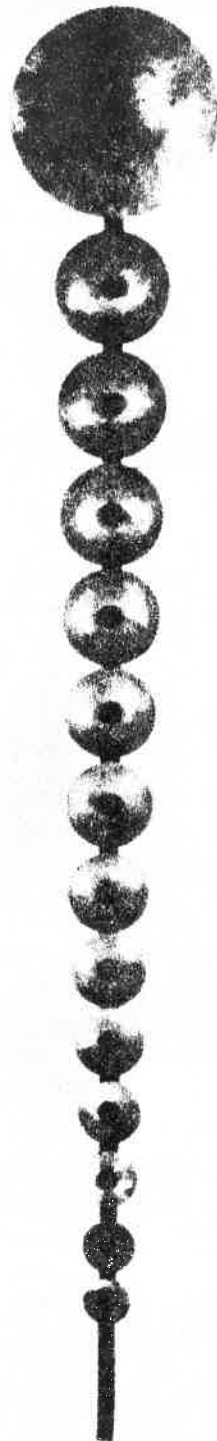
Indian-made German silver hair plates persisted for a long time in Oklahoma. Many of the old-time sets were sold or pawned during the Great Depression and relatively few sets of hair plates are now in museums.

Hair plates used by the Sioux and other more northern tribes are a different story. Lacking ready access to the silversmiths of New Mexico and quite removed from the posts which supplied so much trade silver around the Great Lakes, these Indians readily accepted brass as a jewelry material for rings, earbobs, hair plates, bracelets and breast plates.¹⁵ Maximilian mentioned the use of single brass hairplates by the Sioux in 1834. Alfred Jacob Miller, the artist who accompanied Sir William Drummond Stewart in 1837, painted several Sioux Indians with rows of graduated rings around long queues of the wearer's hair but he wrote that the Sioux and Snake Indians ornamented a long queue with flat plates and rings of brass "from the size of a dollar to that of a dime."¹⁶ He also painted a group of Teton Sioux at Fort Laramie in which two men are obviously wearing sets of hair plates.

In 1846 Francis Parkman described an Oglala brave near Fort Laramie: "From the back of his head descended a line of glittering brass plates, tapering from the size of a doubloon to that of a half-dime, a cumbrous ornament, in high vogue among the Dacotahs, and for which they pay the traders a most extravagant price."¹⁷ The oldest set of hair plates in the U.S. National Museum consists of large, rather crude brass plates on a braided buffalo hair base. It was collected from the Ute by Gunnison in 1853. Brass hairplates were probably custom-made at the larger trading posts. The Indians may also have used old kettles or other scrap to make their own.

The Indian Wars and closer contacts between the Sioux and Southern Plains Indians seem to have brought about changes in Sioux warrior fashions, particularly in the adoption of pectorals, "hairpipe" breastplates and hair plates of silver or German silver. This transition is reflected in Sir Richard Burton's observation in 1860 that the Sioux fops wore sets of "tin or silver" plates varying in size from a shilling to a half-a-crown, and plates of brass or tin in their front hair.¹⁸ Some of the Sioux in the Alexander Gardner photos at Fort Laramie in 1868 are wearing very large hairplates which are either brass or German silver but no definite data has been located. However, an 1860 traveler on the Oregon Trail saw the Sioux wearing graduated pieces of silver on a leather strip¹⁹ and a French visitor at Fort Laramie in 1867 described a Crow chief wearing a queue of graduated silver discs "made by patient beating out of American dollars."²⁰

Feder quoted a manuscript by a Major Williams in 1858 who said Grass, an Indian hunter for the troops, had a set of over 20 plates beaten out of dollars. He showed them how such plates were worn by Crows and by the Cheyennes.²¹



George Belden, who lived with the Sioux in the 1860's, wrote that the Sioux wore extremely long straps with tin or silver plates six or seven inches apart. "Most of these circular plates were made of silver dollars, beaten out thin."²² Margaret Carrington, the heroine of Fort Phil Kearney in 1866, wrote that the Sioux wore a succession of silver medallions from four inches to one inch beaten out of coin.²³ Here again, it seems impossible to make a four inch disc from any coin.

Most of these later plate sets were probably German silver. The style persisted for a while in reservation days but soon went out of fashion. In his drawings of "old time" life made 1890-1910, Amos Bad Heart Bull showed several Sioux wearing hair plates as he remembered them as a child.

Very little has been written about the details of the plates themselves. Three of the plates found in the Texas burial had thicknesses in the range of .052 to .089 cm. The fourth, which may have been cast, was thicker. A silver hair plate from a Kiowa set at the Smithsonian is .02 inches thick. This plate is 3.3 inches in diameter with a "cup" or center ordinate of .355 inches. The museum's set of German silver plates are .025 inches thick and the old Sioux brass hair plates are .04 inches thick. The methods of attaching the plates to the strips varied considerably and the accompanying sketches show several that are typical.

The large photograph illustrates three sets of hair plates in the collections of the Museum of the Fur Trade, each of a different type. The one on the left is a Kiowa set of silver plates, all but one of the same diameter. Each of the 19 large plates is attached with a thong through the loop of a small separate silver button on top of the plate. This use of a silver button suggests New Mexican manufacture. The queue is of scarlet wool cloth lined with white cotton cloth, with a yellow horsehair tip. The center set is a fine old Kiowa set of pierced and engraved German silver plates on folded red wool cloth with black hair tip.

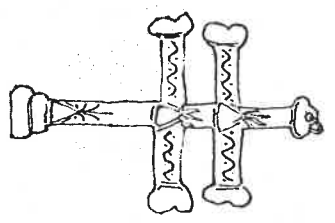
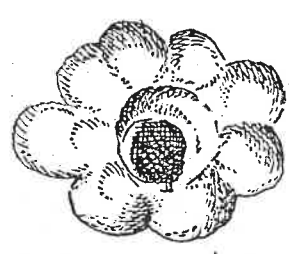
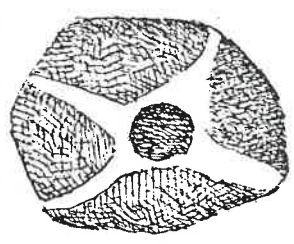
The set on the right is an heirloom set of brass plates from the Oglala Sioux. They are connected by a single leather strap laced through two slots in each plate. The large top plate shows Indian engraving and is of unusual size, measuring 9 inches in diameter.

NOTES

1. Quoted in Henry R. Schoolcraft, **Historical and Statistical Information Respecting the History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States**. Philadelphia, 1851. Part 1, 233.
2. James Mooney, "Calendar History of the Kiowa Indians," in **Seventeenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology, 1895-96**. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 1898. 254-255.
3. Ibid., 319.
4. "Journal of Lieutenant J.W. Abert from Bent's Fort to St. Louis," reprinted as **Through the Country of the Comanche Indians in the Fall of the Year 1845**. San Francisco 1970. 40.
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6. Lewis H. Garrard, **Wah-To-Yah and the Taos Trail**. Glendale, California. 1938. 141-2.
7. Lt. A.W. Whipple, **Report of Explorations for a Railway Route Near the ThirtyFifth Parallel of North Latitude**. (Reports of Explorations and Surveys, etc. Vol. III.) Washington, D.C. 1856. 32.
8. William Newcomb, Jr. with Mary Carnahan, **German Artist on the Texas Frontier, Friedrich Richard Petri**. Austin, Texas. 1978. 88, 131, 191, 192.

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INDIAN CULTURE
AND
EUROPEAN
TRADE GOODS

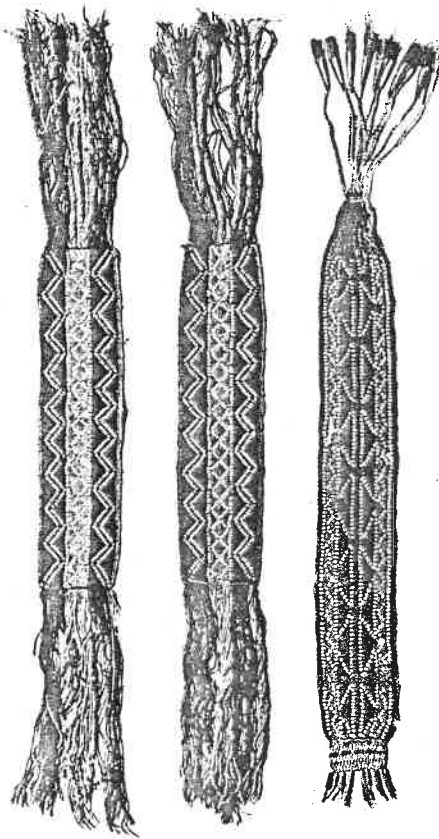


THE ARCHAEOLOGY
OF THE HISTORIC PERIOD
IN THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES REGION

GEORGE IRVING QUIMBY

MADISON • MILWAUKEE • LONDON • 1966
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRESS

Fig. 19. — Small glass beads, called seed beads, woven into an ornamental pattern on garters made about 1760. These garters are in the collection of Chicago Natural History Museum. The upper two garters were acquired by Jeffrey Amherst between 1758 and 1763.



relatively more popular and more abundant in the Late Historic period. And although seed beads deserve better treatment than I have given them, their chronological importance is negligible compared to that of trade silver ornaments, which are discussed in Chapter 7.

REFERENCES

Ballard, 1949; Ford, 1936; Greenman, 1951; Herrick, 1958; Kidd, 1949, 1953; Kinitz, 1940; Maxwell and Binford, 1961; Orchard, 1929; Quimby, 1942; Schoolcraft, 1853; Van der Sleen, 1963.

CHAPTER 7

THE TIME OF THE TRADE SILVER

The best single criterion for dating archaeological sites of the Late Historic period, 1760 to 1820, is the presence of silver ornaments of kinds made for use in the fur trade by silversmiths in Canada, England, and the United States. Such ornaments were not used in the western Great Lakes fur trade before 1760, but became very popular soon after that date. For instance, in June of 1763, when Alexander Henry, the well-known fur trader, was captured by Chippewa Indians at Fort Michilimackinac, he had for sale a large quantity of "silver armbands, and other valuable ornaments" which were taken from him, along with other trade goods (Henry, ed. Bain, 1901, p. 76).

Silver ornaments can be dated in two ways. Those made in London were stamped not only with the initials of the silversmith who made them but also with hallmarks and a date letter that changed every fiscal year (Fig. 21, A, K, and P). Thus, by learning the London system of hallmarks and date letters, one may determine the year of manufacture for a given silver ornament. American and Canadian silversmiths were not governed by such an accommodating system. Although they frequently stamped their initials on their products, they did not use hallmarks and date letters.

However, it is possible to find out the years during which given Canadian or American silversmiths practiced their trade and thus date their works in a general way. For instance, it might be known that a certain Canadian silversmith worked between the years 1779 and 1806, and thus any silver ornament with his particular mark would date from 1779 to 1806, and could not be earlier than 1779, although it could be later than 1806.

The most common types of ornaments were gorgets, brooches, crosses, armbands, wristbands, and earbobs. Less common were earwheels, hair pipes, hair plates, animal effigies, lockets, hat bands and crowns, and cradle-board decorations.

Wristbands were C-shaped bracelets made of sheet silver. Some of them were quite plain whereas others were ridged or had scalloped edges. Engraved decorations were rare. Wristbands frequently were stamped with the mark of the silversmith who made them. These ornaments were worn generally by women, but sometimes by men, especially in the first half of the Late Historic period.

Armbands were rather wide strips of sheet silver curved into a C-shape to fit a man's arm above the elbow (see Fig. 32). Some armbands were engraved with a central design or symbol and often bordered by longitudinal ridges, but others were plain. Both styles were perforated at the ends for the insertion of cords or thongs by which the armband was held and adjusted to the size of the wearer's arm.

Gorgets, which were chest ornaments worn by men, were of two kinds. The crescent-shaped gorget, or half moon, was concavo-convex in section and either plain or engraved upon the convex side. Suspension holes, often equipped with bosses or buttons, were provided at the points of the crescent. The engraved designs were similar to those placed on armbands. The crescent-shaped gorget as used by the Indians was an adaptation of the gorget worn by British army officers as a badge of rank, and the earliest silver gorgets worn by Indians probably were actual officers' gorgets. The British commissioned Indian leaders as "gorget captains" and presented them with silver gorgets and armbands engraved with the royal arms (Woodward, 1945).

The round gorget or moon was circular in outline and concavo-

convex in section. The engraved decoration occurs on the concave side. Two suspension holes frequently were equipped with hollow bosses. The round gorget probably had its origin in the aboriginal shell gorget of the Indians, and the degree of correspondence between the native shell gorget and the introduced silver form is impressive. Both have the same basic shape—round with a concavo-convex section. Moreover, both were engraved on the concave face of the gorget and both had suspension holes in the same positions.

Several kinds of brooches, all of European origin, were manufactured for the Indian trade. They came originally from Scotland and England (Parker, 1910, p. 353), and possibly from Germany (Woodward, 1945, p. 331). Although brooches at first were worn by Indian men as well as women, they came to be particularly favored by women. Among the known varieties of brooches were the following:

(1) Circular ornate or pierced brooches were concavo-convex disks with central, circular openings across which lay a hinged pin for fastening the brooch to the garment. These brooches were ornamented with a symmetrical arrangement of oval, triangular, diamond-shaped, and semilunar perforations (Fig. 20, *lower left*). In some instances engraved geometric designs were added to the solid parts of the convex face of the brooch.

(2) Plain circular brooches were similar in many ways to the circular ornate brooches, but lacked the cut perforations. However, plain circular brooches were sometimes engraved with simple geometric design. Miniature round brooches were manufactured and traded by the thousands. They were simple rings of silver, empty in the middle except for silver cross-pins to fasten them to garments. They were often worn in groups to produce a massed effect reminiscent of chain mail or flexible armor.

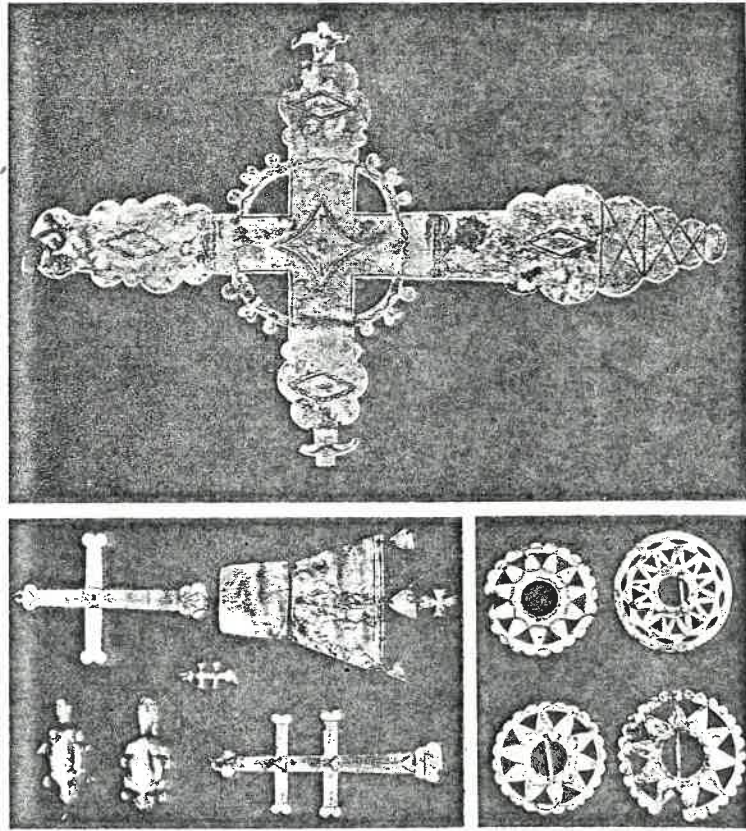
(3) Star brooches were multipointed, were concavo-convex in section, and had a round opening in the center. The various points of the star were sometimes enclosed with a rim or narrow band (Fig. 20, *lower left*). Some other styles of small brooches in common use were quadrilateral brooches, heart and crowned-heart brooches, double heart and crowned double heart brooches, and Masonic brooches.

There were several varieties of silver ear ornaments, including

earrings, earbobs, and ear wheels. Ear wheels were flat disks punched or cut out in various patterns so that the perforations left a tracing of geometric design enclosed within a circular rim.

Hair plates were disks that were concavo-convex in section. They seem to have been somewhat similar to brooches, but were worn as hair ornaments and also used, in later years at least, to decorate pendent strips of fur or braided hair. Although they are mentioned in early trade inventories and orders, actual specimens seem to be rare in collections of early trade silver. Possibly hair plates have been mistakenly identified as brooches.

Fig. 20. — Typical ornaments of silver used in the fur trade during the Late Historic period, 1760–1820. Courtesy of Chicago Natural History Museum. *Upper left*: beaver effigy pendants, composite pendant with engraved figure, single- and double-barred crosses, from Round Island, Michigan. *Lower left*: brooches, from Great Lakes region. *Right*: large cross, from Cross Village, Michigan.



Hair pipes were silver tubes worn as hair ornaments by men and perhaps by women. Silver crowns, headbands, or hatbands were made of sheet silver and often engraved and perforated to produce geometric designs. These ornaments were worn by men. Miscellaneous silver ornaments that appear to have been made in limited quantities were such items as elaborate cradle-board ornaments (Barbeau, 1942, p. 14), spoon-shaped lockets (Quimby, 1937, pp. 17–18, and Fig. 2), and hollow pendants in the form of animals such as bear and beaver. Beaver-shaped pendants (Fig. 20, *upper left*) were made by Robert Cruickshank of Montreal, a well-known Canadian silversmith. Cruickshank's silver beavers probably were made initially at the request of Indians from the northern half of the western Great Lakes region, for it was in this area that the beaver effigy pendant made of stone had a respectable antiquity. For instance, the prehistoric levels of a Chippewa site on the north shore of Lake Superior produced a nicely carved beaver effigy of gray dense stone, and beaver effigy pendants made of catlinite have been recovered from Middle Historic period sites along the northern shore of Lake Michigan.

Silver crosses of several kinds were common ornaments used in the Indian trade. They were worn by the men as chest ornaments or sometimes as ear ornaments. Gillingham (1943, p. 86) shows an old painting of an Indian adorned with silver ornaments including a double-barred cross hanging from each ear. Silver crosses ranged in size from miniature ones about an inch in length to large crosses 12 inches long. Both single-barred crosses and double-barred crosses (Fig. 20, *upper left*) were in general use. Moreover, both kinds of crosses were in some instances extremely elaborate (Fig. 20, *right*). Crosses were sometimes embellished with engravings of scrolls and conventionalized floral forms.

It was once popularly believed that these single- and double-barred crosses of silver had been given to Christian converts among the Indians by seventeenth-century missionaries. It was also once believed that the initials "CA" stamped on some crosses stood for "Cardinal Archbishop" or Father "Claude Allouez," and the initials "RC" stamped on other crosses stood for "Richelieu Cardinal." It is, of course, now known that "CA" was the maker's stamp of Charles Arnoldi of Montreal and that "RC" was the maker's mark of Robert Cruickshank of Montreal. Between 1780

and 1800 these two silversmiths must have made hundreds of crosses bearing their marks. It is probable that thousands of crosses were manufactured for the fur trade by various silversmiths, and it seems certain that they were made for and used as ornaments rather than as religious symbols.

As previously mentioned, silver gorgets and armbands often were engraved with pictorial representations of real or mythical animals, human beings, official arms of Great Britain and the United States, flowers or other plants, and various scenes. In Figure 20, *upper left*, there is illustrated a composite pendant made from a silver armband upon which was engraved a conventionalized representation of an Indian. And in Figure 29 there are shown some examples of the real and mythical animals engraved on silver armbands and gorgets. An example of the "scene" type of engraving appears in Gillingham (1936, frontispiece). This engraving on a gorget made by Joseph Richardson, Jr., of Philadelphia shows an Indian and a white man. The white man, sitting beneath a tree (the tree of peace?) is passing a winged pipe (peace pipe) to the Indian. A fire is burning in the background, and above them is the shining sun. A somewhat frivolous scene described by Woodward (1945, p. 331) consisted of an Indian seated on a keg of rum and drinking from a bottle. This engraving appeared on a very large silver cross, an unusual circumstance, as crosses generally were not decorated with representational engravings. In an order for silver ornaments sent from Albany Factory, a Hudson's Bay Company fur trading post in Canada, to England in 1796, there is a description of the scene desired: "Gorgets, with the following engravings. Vizt. to represent Albany (fort), two or three Houses, some Indian Tents and Indian Men & Women" (Barbeau, 1940, p. 37). Silver gorgets and armbands issued to the Indians by agents of England or the United States were usually engraved with the official arms of those countries. Entries in the ledgers of the Philadelphia silversmith Joseph Richardson, Jr., show that in 1798 he decorated silver ornaments with engravings of eagles and the arms of the United States. These silver ornaments had been ordered from him by the purveyor for the federal government (Gillingham, 1943, pp. 88-89), and probably were intended for official presentations. Official inventories of silver

ornaments used by the British (see Quimby, 1937, p. 20) show that the "King's arms and supporters" were engraved on armbands and gorgets.

The floral motifs engraved on some gorgets and armbands probably were an expression of the general Algonkian use of floral patterns which, regardless of ultimate origin, was well established in the time of the trade silver. The mythical animals (see Fig. 29, *d* and *l*) probably were expressions of the religious beliefs of Algonkian-speaking Indians. However, the real animals depicted in engravings on silver probably were clan or personal symbols. Possibly the Indians made drawings of the animals for the trader, who in turn submitted them to the silversmith for engraving, or in some cases it may have been the trader who actually engraved the ornaments. It is interesting to note the similarity in style between some of the animals engraved on silver ornaments and some of those inscribed on birch bark or drawn on paper as signatures to treaties by Indians of the western Great Lakes region (Fig. 29, *c* and *k*), whereas other engravings of animals on silver seem to represent traditional European styles of depiction (Fig. 29, *c*). The differences in style may indicate whether or not the engraver was copying samples submitted by Indian customers. Probably the mythical animals had to be drawn or described first by Indians so that they could be engraved on silver by the trader or silversmith.

The white men who made the ornaments for trade with Indians were generally well-known silversmiths who were working in England, Canada, or the United States (see hallmarks in Fig. 21). For a listing of such silversmiths and the identifying marks they stamped on their silver see Appendix 6. These silversmiths were well paid for their work, because only ornaments of good quality of silver and craftsmanship were acceptable for use in the fur trade. For instance, in May of 1759, Philip Syng of Philadelphia was paid 35 pounds and 2 shillings for 12 armbands, 12 dozen brooches, 11 dozen crosses, and 24 hair plates. In the same year during July and August, Joseph Richardson (the elder) was paid more than 115 pounds for 720 ornaments (Gillingham, 1936, pp. 12-13). These ornaments, however, were being made for trade with eastern Indians and did not reach the western Great Lakes

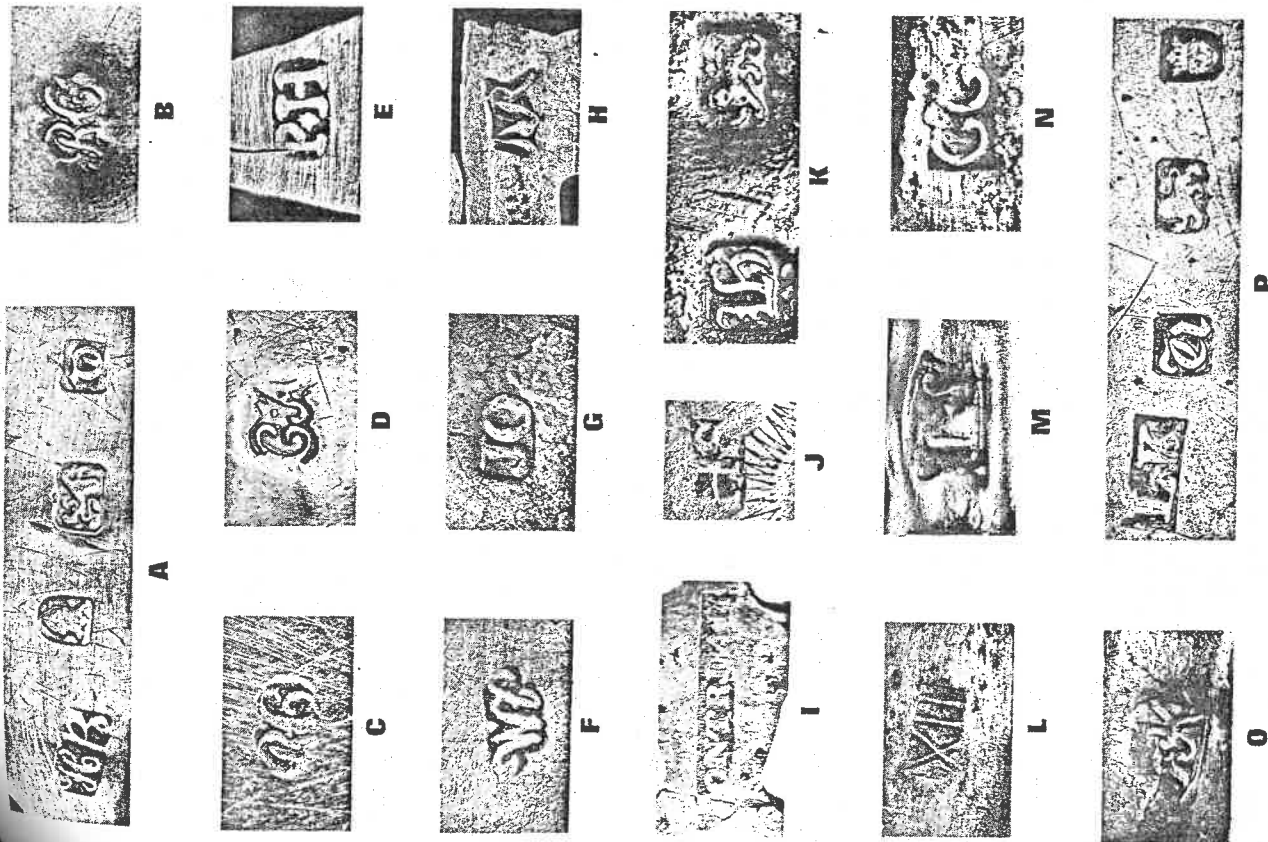


Fig. 21. (*facing page*).—Marks of silversmiths stamped on silver ornaments made for the fur trade in the Late Historic period, 1760–1820. Courtesy of Chicago Natural History Museum. A, Hester Bateman; B, C, Robert Cruickshank; D, Charles Arnoldi; E, Pierre Huguet dit Latour; F, unidentified, probably Canadian; G, John Oakes; H, Narcisse Roy; I, J, unidentified Montreal smiths; K, unidentified British; L, unidentified, probably Canadian; M, Jonas Schindler or the Widow Schindler; N, Christian Grothe; O, John Kinzie; P, Luke Kendall. (Not all identifications are positive.)

region until after 1760. Between May 1759 and May 1763 more than 8,000 silver ornaments were made by three Philadelphia silversmiths—Hollingshead, Richardson (the elder), and Syng—who collectively received for them a sum of more than 2,800 pounds (Gillingham, 1936, p. 25).

Excerpts from the journal of accounts of James and Andrew McGill as quoted by Traquair (1938, p. 5) show that the McGill Company spent upwards of 4,184 pounds for silver ornaments between August 1797 and April 1801. The Canadian silversmiths to whom this money was paid were Curtius, Pierre Huguet dit Latour, the Widow Schindler, and Robert Cruickshank. Single payments to Pierre Huguet dit Latour for silver ornaments ran as high as 773 pounds, 10 shillings, and 11 deniers. In 1779 and 1780 Col. Guy Johnson charged the Crown about 550 pounds for purchases of silver ornaments for distribution among the Indians. The silver ornaments consisted of gorgets, armbands, brooches, and earbobs (Barbeau, 1940, p. 34). Gillingham (1943, p. 89) reproduces a bill for silver ornaments rendered by Joseph Richardson, Jr., of Philadelphia on April 4, 1798, which shows that Richardson made, and in some cases engraved, 1,926 silver ornaments weighing more than 310 ounces, for which he charged a total of 323 pounds, 2 shillings, and 8.5 cents.

In 1801, Narcisse Roy, a Canadian silversmith, received 342 pounds in payment for about 9,000 silver ornaments. In the same year Robert Cruickshank, another Canadian silversmith, received a single payment of 318 pounds for a somewhat similar order of silver ornaments (Barbeau, 1940, p. 31). And in 1808, Augustin Lagrave-of Sandwich, Ontario, was paid about 31 pounds for mak-

ing 4,792 small (miniature round) brooches at 5 shillings per hundred, 15 large brooches at 2 shillings each, 13 ear wheels at 2 shillings each, and 12 large earwheels at 2 shillings each (McDonald, 1939). In the same year Pierre Riopie of Sandwich was paid about 29 pounds for "polishing" 600 brooches, 1,700 small brooches, 125 pairs of earbobs, 36 small wristbands, 6 arm-bands, 23 "half moons" (crescent-shaped gorgets), 4 "moons" (circular gorgets), 1 headband, 3 crosses, 6 small crosses, 40 "Emb's" brooches, 78 ear wheels, 7 "wings," and 300 pairs of earbobs (McDonald, 1939). During 1820 and 1821 the United States Government paid \$604.15 to Charles A. Burnett, then of Georgetown, D.C., for the manufacture of armbands, gorgets, brooches, and other ornaments for distribution among the Indians (Gillingham, 1938). From Chauncey S. Payne of Detroit the United States Government purchased silver ornaments for distribution to the Indians at Sault Ste Marie, Mackinac, and L'Arbre Croche in 1820. Payne was paid \$1,402.51 for 85 gorgets, 82 armbands, 336 brooches, 103 ear wheels, 3,800 small brooches, 66 wristbands, and 600 earbobs (Gillingham, 1938, personal communication).

Silver ornaments manufactured by white silversmiths were a universal element in the culture of Indians living in the western Great Lakes region during the Late Historic period, 1760 to 1820 or later. As pointed out to me by Dr. David Baerreis (personal communication, 1963), these silver ornaments regardless of their European origins were uniquely Indian in their cultural context in the New World. They were made for Indians and were used by Indians and, what is most important, they were buried with deceased Indians. Moreover, these silver ornaments can be dated not only to the Late Historic period in general but also to temporal segments within the period. If an unmarked circular gorget is found in a grave, I know that the grave has a date somewhere in the Late Historic period, after 1760, while if the grave contains a silver armband made by Hester Bateman of London and it has the proper year mark, I would know that the burial could not have been made before 1779. Thus, quite apart from any other cultural meaning these ornaments may have, they are

ideal chronological indicators for the Late Historic period, or parts thereof.

REFERENCES

- Barbeau, 1940, 1942; Gillingham, 1936, 1943; Henry, ed. Bain, 1901; McDonald, 1939; Parker, 1910; Quimby, 1937; Traquair, 1938; Woodward, 1945.

ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION OF AN HISTORIC SAC BURIAL FROM NORTHEASTERN KANSAS

by
Douglas D. Scott

ABSTRACT

A partial human skeleton, associated with a number of white manufactured goods, has been excavated on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River. It is a male about 20 years of age and about five feet two inches in height. He is identified as a Sac Indian who was interred between 1840 and 1860.

INTRODUCTION

In mid-August of 1968, members of the Great Plains Archaeological Field School, sponsored by the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, and Wichita State University tested a site in Doniphan County, Kansas. The author was a member of the field party that excavated the site. Excavation of the site, designated 14DP26, produced a human burial with a number of white-manufactured trade goods.

14DP26 is located on a small bluff overlooking the floodplain of the Missouri River and is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the river. The site is located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 17, Township 2 South, Range 20 East and is situated on the edge of a cornfield that has been under cultivation for a number of years. The soil is a sandy loess and there are a variety of grasses and deciduous trees along the periphery of the bluff.

During the pre-excavation survey, a number of glass beads, bottle glass fragments, and crockery fragments were found; and the decision to test the site was made on the basis of this evidence. Four test pits were initially begun along the edge of the cornfield. All were oriented on a north-south axis and were dug well below the eight inch plow zone into the sterile loess. A few ceramic fragments, along with some metal fragments, a few glass trade beads, and some human and animal bones were recovered from the test pits.

THE BURIAL

The burial was first noted at a depth of about eight inches in one of the test pits. The

skeleton was oriented northwest-southwest and was associated with a number of items of white manufacture (Fig. 1). As the remains were uncovered, it became apparent that the entire skeleton was not present. The sacrum was vertical when recovered with the legs outstretched to the southeast, indicating that the individual was probably buried in a sitting position and possibly was a partial surface burial.

The bones that are present are in good condition, but somewhat fragmented, probably due to activities concerned with preparing the field for cultivation. Both femurs, tibias, and fibulas are present, but the proximal ends of the left femur and left tibia are incomplete and the proximal ends of both fibulas are missing. The pelvis is incomplete with only the right greater sciatic notch, part of the right iliac fossa, both ischial tuberosities, acetabulums, and sacrum being present. The calcaneum and talus of both feet are present, as are several of the metatarsals and phalanges of both feet. Metacarpals and phalanges of both hands were also recovered. A few broken ribs, a maxillary canine, and a recently or partially erupted mandibular third molar comprise the rest of the remains. One of the rib fragments and the proximal joint of the fifth digit of the left hand of the burial have green stains on them. This would indicate that they had been in contact with either copper or brass objects. The stain on the phalange is 0.5 cm. in width and encircles the bone. This stain suggests that the individual was wearing a ring at the time of burial, although no trace of the ring was found.

An iron tankard or metal pitcher was found resting on the knees of the skeleton and a flintlock pistol barrel was laid across the top of the tankard or pitcher (Fig. 1). Twenty-four

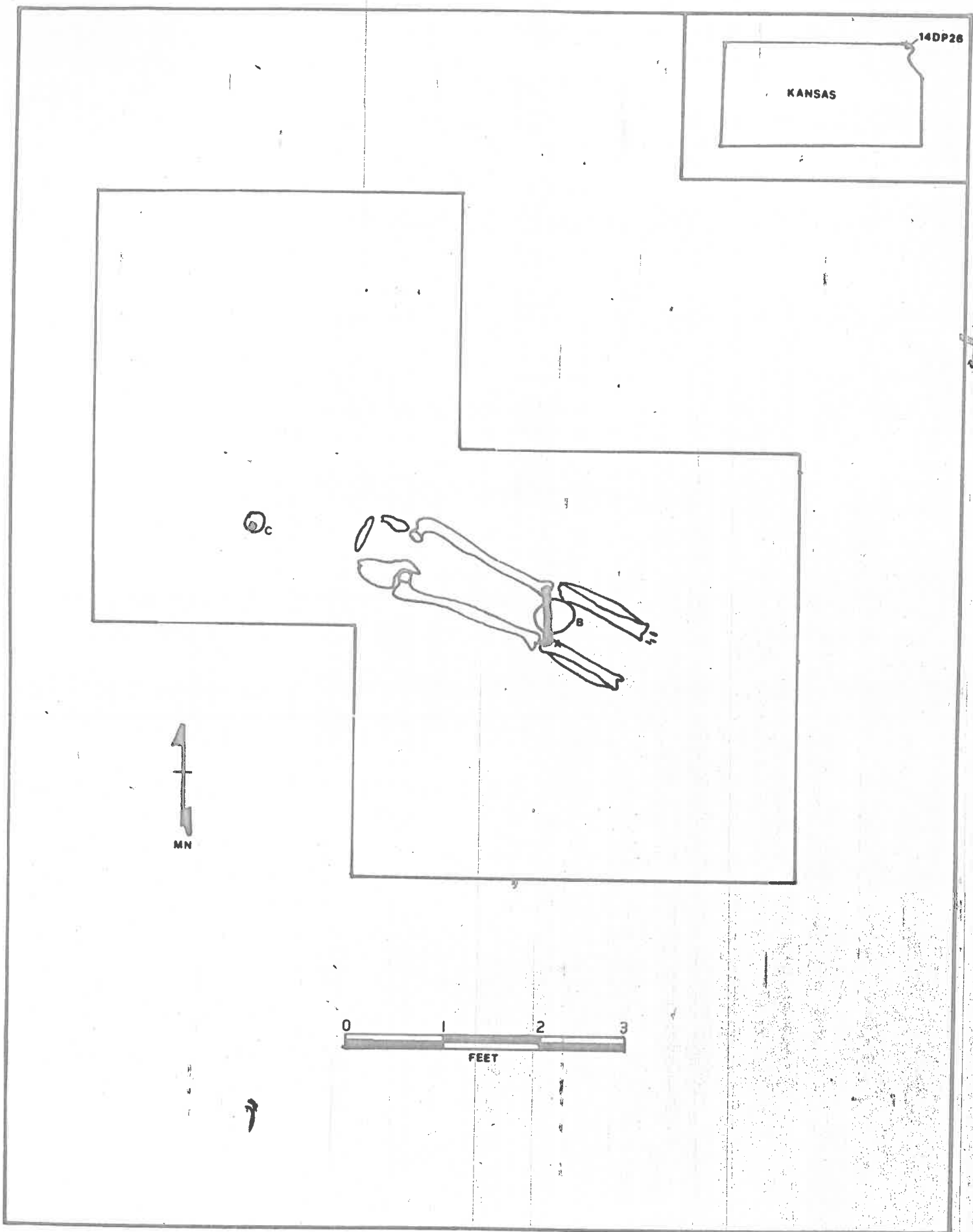


Fig. 1. Location of 14DP26 and plan of the burial excavation. A. Flintlock pistol barrel; B. Iron tankard; C. Brass

wampum beads and five pony beads were recovered in the fill near the pelvic area. A piece of textile of woven brass and linen thread was also found near the left hand bones.

A brass bell was found on the same level as the burial, but about two feet northwest of it (Fig. 1). Scattered throughout the fill of the burial excavation were other artifacts consisting of a brass ramrod guide with a portion of a hickory ramrod still in it, a portion of the side plate and spring of a clasp knife, a brass pendant, a small brass hawk bell, a green glass fragment, iron fragments, probably from the tankard or pitcher, and unidentified iron fragments, a mussel shell fragment, and a utilized chert flake.

The burial was identified as a male about 20 years of age at death and about 163 cm. or 5 feet 2 inches tall. Sex was determined on the basis of the general ruggedness of the bones, the angle of the axis of the shaft to the axis of the head and neck of the femur, and largely on the configuration of the sciatic notch. Although the sacrum is unusually short and broad for a male, it is uniformly curved, as in most males. The overall view points to a male, as do the associated artifacts. (See Table 1 for measurements of the skeletal material.)

The stature was determined by measurements of the right femur and tibia, using formulas from Genoves (1967:76). The femur gives a calculation of $163 + 3.417$ cm. or 5 feet 2 inches for the height. The tibia gives a calculation of $161 + 2.812$ cm. or 5 feet 1 inches for height.

Age was estimated on the basis of the closure of the epiphyses of the femur and tibia, which close between the ages of 18 and 20. A second consideration was the recently or partially erupted third molar, which appears between the ages of 17 and 25. These considerations yielded an age of 19 or 20.

A second individual is represented by the head and neck of a right femur from the burial excavation, in which the epiphyses has not fused. This individual is probably under 18 years of age, as indicated by the unfused epiphyses of the head and trochanters. The sex is indeterminate.

Perhaps one other individual is represented by one third unerupted molar, one second left

the mandible, and a small portion of the occipital bone and a broken rib. These bones are from the surface-test pit collection. The ramus has green stains on it, which would indicate that it had been in contact with either copper or brass objects. This individual is probably about 15 or 16 years of age, as indicated by the unerupted third molar, which would place the individual under 25 and probably under 17. The heavy tartar buildup on the second molar, which appears about 12 or 13, would indicate that it had been in use for some time, placing the age between 12 and 17, and probably about 16. The sex is indeterminate. The femur fragment and the other human bones mentioned above probably represent other burials at the site that have been disturbed by cultivation. The bones indicate that the area was used for more than one interment. Whether it was a formal cemetery or not remains to be determined.

THE ARTIFACTS

Of the 81 artifacts recovered, only 32 can be directly associated with the burial. Trade beads comprise 29 of the 32 associated artifacts. The entire collection includes: 1 potsherd, 19 stone artifacts, 2 earthenware fragments, 10 glass fragments, 36 trade beads, 7 brass artifacts, 4 iron artifacts, and 2 pieces of textile.

Most of the surface collection and the test pit collection were inadvertently mixed during shipment and artifacts from this collection are designated surface-test pit collection when they are described.

ABORIGINAL MATERIAL

Pottery

The one small body sherd is from the surface-test pit collection and is grit tempered with mica, feldspar, and quartz inclusions. The exterior surface is cord-marked and mottled buff to dark brown in color. The interior is gray, grading to buff in the center. The sherd is 0.5 cm. thick. Although the sherd is too small to assign it to a definite type, it does resemble Doniphan Ware described by Wedel (1959:112).

Chipped Stone

The single chipped stone artifact was recovered from the surface-test pit collection. It is a bifacially retouched blade fragment,

TABLE 1: Postcranial Measurements (in centimeters) of the Skeleton from 14DP26

Femur (Right)	cm.
Length, bicondylar	40.5
Length, maximum	43.0
Diameter of head (maximum)	.41
Sub-trochanteric diameter	
antero-postero	2.5
lateral	3.2
Middle shaft diameter	
antero-postero	2.5
lateral	2.5
Epicondylar width	7.1
Tibia (Right)	
Length, maximum	34.6
Middle shaft diameter	
antero-postero	2.6
lateral	1.9
Pelvis (Incomplete)	
Sacrum	
anterior length	9.6
sacral breadth	10.5

color. It measures 4.7 cm. in length, 4.5 cm. in width, and 1.3 cm in thickness.

Utilized Flakes

A total of 14 utilized, but unmodified, chert flakes were recovered. Only one was recovered in the burial excavation. The surface-test pit collection flakes range from 1.5 cm. to 3.3 cm. in length, and 0.2 cm. to 0.8 cm. in thickness. Colors of the chert are gray, pink, and white.

The burial excavation flake is also utilized, but unmodified. It is white chert and is 0.3 cm. in thickness, and is 3 cm. in length.

NON-ABORIGINAL MATERIAL

Strike-a-light

One oval strike-a-light or fire steel was recovered from the surface-test pit excavations. It is heavily oxidized and has fabric impressions and fabric adhering to one end, which will be described later. A section 3.7 cm. in length is missing from one side. The strike-a-light is 6.5 cm. in length, 3.2 cm. in width, and 1.0 cm. in thickness.

Pistol Barrel

A heavily oxidized flintlock pistol barrel was recovered from the burial excavation

tang still in position, as is the tang screw. The lock retaining screw and washer are also still in position. This screw has been broken near its point of attachment to the lockplate.

A number of X-ray photographs were taken of the barrel in hopes that the method of manufacture could be determined, however it was not possible due to the extensive oxidation of the barrel. The barrel measures 25 cm. in length and 2.3 cm. in width at the breech, tapering to about 1.9 cm. at the muzzle. It is about 54 caliber (Hamilton 1960: 126-128).

Dr. Carlyle Smith (Personal Communication, November 23, 1968) suggests that the pistol was probably broken when it was placed with the burial. He has stated that the missing lock and trigger guard would point to this assumption.

Tankard

An iron tankard or metal pitcher was recovered from the burial excavation. The reconstructed form measures 14.7 cm. in diameter and 16.8 cm. in height. The tankard is heavily oxidized, but the lapwelds and points of attachment for a strap handle are still visible. The base is slightly concave and

bottom to top. The reconstructed form has been bent out of proportion, probably due to the weight of the earth on it during burial. The original form was probably a quart-sized measuring tankard or pitcher, of the type used for measuring liquids, such as liquors.

Unidentified Iron Fragments

Three unidentified iron fragments were also found in the burial excavation. They range in thickness from 0.3 cm. to 0.5 cm. and are probably from the same unidentified object.

Pocket Knife

A portion of the brass side plate and iron spring of a clasp knife was recovered from the burial excavation (Fig. 2e). The spring is attached to the side plate by means of a brass double stage rivet. The overall length is 4 cm.

and the width is 0.4 cm. The spring is 3.2 cm. in length, 0.4 cm. in width, and 0.6 cm. in thickness in the center, tapering to 0.4 cm. on either end. The brass side plate is 3 cm. in length, 1.1 cm. in width, and 0.1 cm. in thickness.

Ramrod Guide

A brass pistol ramrod guide with a fragment of hickory ramrod remaining in it was recovered from the burial excavation (Fig. 2f). The guide is 2.1 cm. in length with raised bands on either end. Its outside diameter is 0.9 cm. A piece of the iron stock retaining pin is still in position. The hickory ramrod fragment is 0.6 cm. in diameter and 1.7 cm. in length. The guide probably was part of the pistol found with the burial, but as it was not in direct association, this cannot be

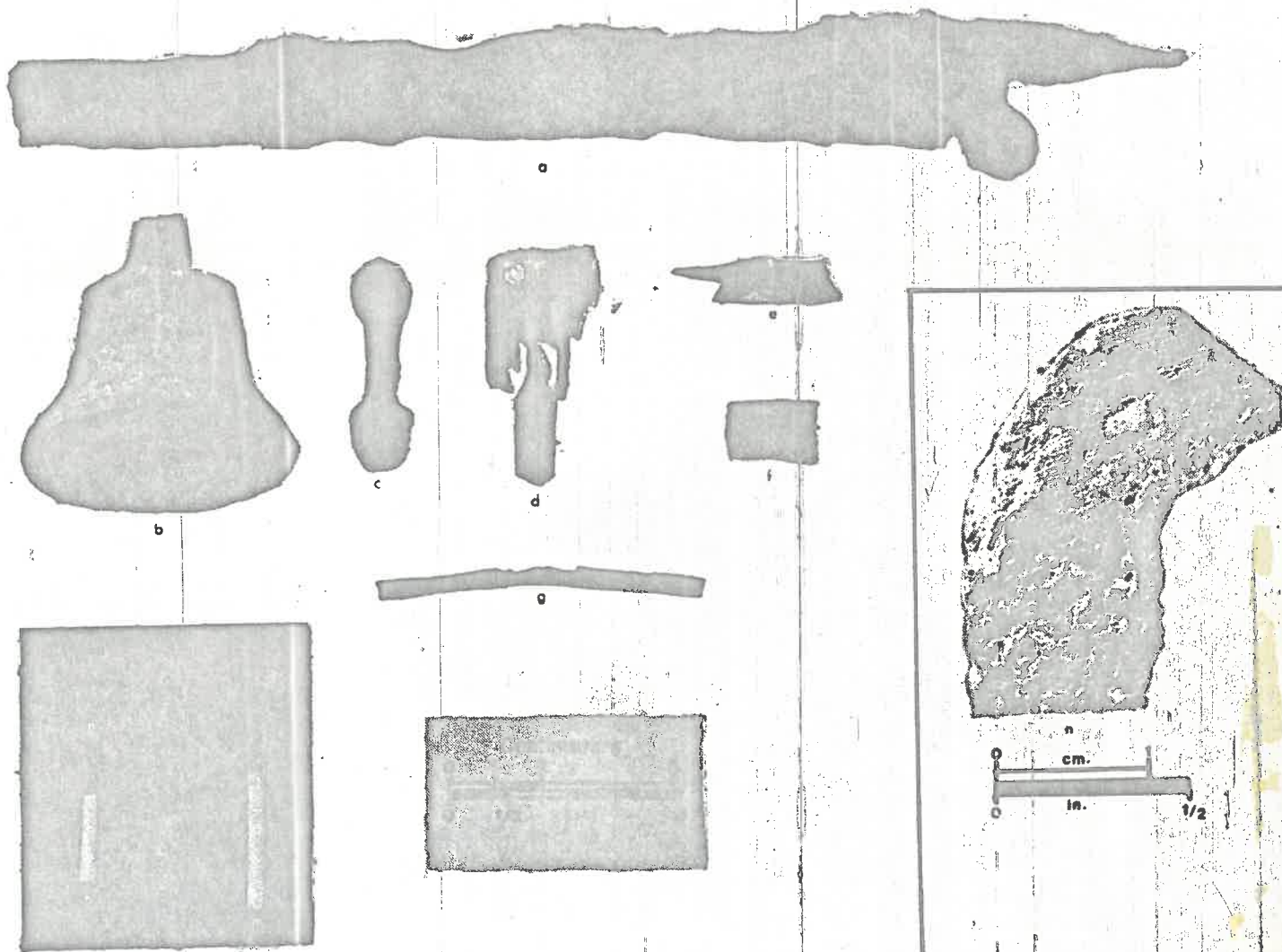


Fig. 2. Artifacts recovered during excavation: a. left side of flintlock pistol barrel; b-c. brass bell and iron clapper; d. brass pendant; e. pocket knife side plate and spring; f. pistol ramrod guide; g. brass rod; h. blue spheroid

proven.

Pendant

A thin, sheet brass pendant was also recovered from the burial excavation (Fig. 2d). When excavated, it was incomplete and badly bent, as if it had been hit by a plow. It is a rectangle 0.6 cm. in length and 2.7 cm. in width. The pendant has a series of three sets of vertical striations separated by two plain vertical bands. Two holes in the plain bands on one end were probably used for suspension.

Bells

Two brass bells were recovered from the burial excavation. One is a section of a small, round bell of the type known as hawk bells and is about 0.6 cm. in diameter. The section has a small opening in the top, probably for suspension.

The second brass bell is a large, expanding base shaped bell (Fig. 2b). The bell is 6.2 cm. in length and 3.6 cm. in width at the top, expanding to 5.8 cm. at the bottom. It was manufactured by casting. The cast iron clapper (Fig. 2c) was found in position and is 5 cm. in length. The clapper was attached to the bell by means of an iron loop. The top of the bell has a brass tab protruding from it, which has a hole drilled through it for suspension.

Unidentified Brass Fragments

Two brass objects, unidentified as to function, were also found. An elongated brass rod, rectangular in cross-section, was found in the surface-test pit collection (Fig. 2g). It is 7.5 cm. in length with notches having been cut into the center. The notches consist of two crude cuts taken from one edge in the center. The cuts are angled downward and toward each end. The results are two small triangles of brass removed and the remaining area rounded and smoothed. It is 0.4 cm. in width and 0.5 cm. in height. One end shows heavy oxidation where it has been in contact with an iron object. This rod may be a bracelet blank.

The second unidentified brass piece is from the burial excavation and is a small concave disc 0.05 cm. in thickness and 0.4 cm. in diameter. A small piece of brass wire has been placed through a hole in the disc. The wire is 0.7 cm. long and 0.1 cm. in

diameter. This may be a bead fragment.

Glass

Ten fragments of glass were recovered from the excavations, nine from the surface-test pit collection. Of the nine, one is a flat, clear glass fragment, 0.3 cm. in thickness. Another is a slightly curved pink glass fragment 0.7 cm. in thickness, probably from a bottle. The other seven fragments are translucent and are a light green in color. They range in thickness from 0.2 cm. to 0.6 cm. The four thickest appear to be from the base and kickup of a bottle, and the rest appear to be from the body. They would all appear to be from the same container, possibly a wine bottle.

The remaining fragment was found in the burial excavation. It is a translucent green glass and measures 0.2 cm. in thickness. It appears to be from the neck and shoulder area of a bottle and is probably part of the same bottle as the seven other green fragments.

Trade Beads

Two multifaceted, blue glass trade beads were recovered from the surface-test pit collection (Fig. 2i). They measure 0.6 cm. in diameter and 0.5 cm. in length. One light blue spheroid trade bead, 0.12 cm. in diameter, was found in the surface-test pit collection (Fig. 2h).

One copper-colored, elongated glass bead was also found in the surface-test pit collection (Fig. 2j). It has a white core surrounded by a mottled copper-colored glass. It is 0.9 cm. long and ranges from 0.4 cm. in the center to 0.2 cm. in diameter on either end.

Six opaque, white glass pony beads were recovered (Fig. 2l). Five of these were in direct association with the burial. They all measure 0.3 cm. in diameter and 0.2 cm. in length.

Twenty-six wampum beads were recovered, 24 of which were found in association with the burial. There are two white beads (Fig. 2k) from the burial excavation and 24 purple beads (Fig. 2m). The wampum beads range from 1.0 cm. to 3.2 cm. in length and from 0.3 cm. to 0.5 cm. in diameter.

Hardpaste Earthenware

The two pieces of earthenware or ironstone come from the surface test pit

collection. One is a small fragment from the rim of a plate or bowl. It is 0.3 cm. in thickness and is slightly curved. The exterior is white, while the interior is decorated with a series of polychrome bands.

The second piece is probably from the rim of a cup. It also is 0.3 cm. in thickness and is slightly curved. The interior is white, while the exterior is decorated with a floral style brown transfer design.

Textiles

The oval strike-a-light has fabric impression and pieces of fabric adhering to one end (Fig. 2n). The fabric is a fine weave in an alternating over-and-under fashion. The fabric is now a rust color and its original color could not be determined. The fabric is similar in weave and in texture to a cotton cloth, and may have been part of a pouch or some form of clothing.

The second piece of textile was found in the burial excavation near some of the bones of the left hand. The textile is made up of two kinds of thread, a heavy linen thread, white in color, and a fine brass wire or thread. The linen threads are in close parallel rows with the brass thread woven through the linen thread at a 90 degree angle. The brass thread is placed in pairs and woven in an over-and-under fashion through the linen. The brass thread is woven through the linen on both sides so that the linen thread forms a core. This fabric is similar to the type of fabric that made up the gold braid or lace on military coats.

Non-Artifactual Material

Of the three pieces of mussel shell recovered, only one was from the burial excavation. All are too small to identify as to species. One piece from the surface-test pit collection has a portion of the bivalve hinge.

A number of small fragments of unidentified animal bone were also recovered. One piece found in the burial excavation is possibly a food offering. The rest of the fragments are from long bones and ribs.

DATE OF INTERMENT

The suggested range of dates for the interment are based upon analysis of the white manufactured goods. Though many of the trade goods span a wide chronological range

of use and manufacture, a possible or most likely date of interment can be suggested. The wampum beads, for instance, are a poor time marker, as they were used from the early 17th century until the late 19th century. The length of the beads recovered from 14DP26 indicates that they were manufactured after 1746 (Douglas 1931:2, Orchard 1929:68).

The fragments of the hardpaste earthenware are too small to identify as to manufacturer or area of origin. The ceramic types and their designs, however, are of a style that did not gain popularity until about 1800 and this popularity lasted until just after mid-century. (Noel Hume 1970:130). The firearms material also has a broad date range. The flintlock ignition system was the common type from the 18th century until about 1825 and on past mid-century in the West. This type of ignition was more reliable to the inhabitants of the frontier and thus retained its popularity in the Indian trade until well past 1850 (Noel Hume 1970:213-214). The ramrod guide found at 14DP26 is similar in design to one found at a Wichita site in northeastern Texas that dated from 1700-1850 (Jelks 1966:57). The pocket knife fragment on the other hand, is from a style common throughout the 19th century (Russel 1967:351) and therefore, is reasonably non-diagnostic.

Several of the artifacts have a "tighter" date range than those previously discussed. One of these is the small hawk bell. This bell type is commonly encountered on sites dating to the first half of the 19th century (Jelks 1966:90). The oval strike-a-light, on the other hand, has a broad date range; however, it does have a rough terminus of about 1840 (Russel 1967:351).

Several artifacts tend to suggest a date of interment after 1840. The fragments of fabric were made on power looms which would indicate they could not date prior to 1838 (Kidwell and Christman 1974:37). The wine bottle fragments are from a bottle style common from about 1840 through the 1870s. The trade beads are reasonably good time markers. The seed beads are a reasonably common form throughout the historic period and are generally considered non-diagnostic. However, the blue faceted beads and the blue spheroid bead can be dated with more precision. The blue faceted trade beads are a

TABLE II: Mortuary Traits Observed at 14DP26 Compared to Iowa, Sac, Fox, and Kansas Mortuary Customs

Trait	14DP26	Iowa	Sac	Fox	Kansa
1. Grave goods with body	X	X	X	X	X
A. Receptacle (bottle, tankard)	X			X	X
B. Weapons or tools (firearms, knife)	X	X	X	N	X
C. Ornaments (pendants, beads, bells)	X		X	X	X
D. Clothing (possibly coat)	X				
E. Food	X	X	X	X	X
2. Interment in ground	X	A	X	X	X
3. Buried in sitting position	X	A	X	A	N
4. Northwest-southeast orientation of burial	X	L	X	X	N
5. Partial surface burial	?	N	X	X	N

After Voegelin 1944:339-372

Key: X — Trait Present
A — Recent Adoption
L — Recent Loss
N — Not Present
? — Possible but not known

form common from about 1830-1860+ (Woodward 1965:10-11, Good 1972:6-7); and the large blue spheroid bead has been found on fur trade sites such as Kipp Post dating 1820-1840 (Woolworth and Wood 1960:255).

In considering the entire collection, a date in the first half of the 19th century is obviously suggested. A tighter range is suggested by the ranges of several of the artifacts. The dates suggested are in the second quarter of the 19th century with the most probable dates clustering between 1840 and 1860.

ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION

To assign the burial to an ethnic group poses some problems since a variety of Indian groups have resided in the area of northeastern Kansas. Kansa Indians, for instance, were known to have been in present Doniphan County as early as 1724, when Bourgmund visited the area (Gray 1905:21). Since the date range for the interment suggests a 19th century date, the discussion will focus in that area. In 1836, the Missouri branch of the Iowa Sac and Fox were removed to the area and placed on the Great Nemaha Reservation on the Kansas-Nebraska line (Skinner 1926:191). Since these were the only Indians living in that vicinity during the probable date of interment, this then suggests that the burial has an

14DP26 as an Iowa burial ground.

Skinner (1926:254) has pointed out that the Iowa practiced scaffold burial and surface burial, in which the body was flexed and sitting upright. The Sac have also practiced several forms of burial including: complete burial in the earth, surface burial in sitting posture in several forms, and scaffold and tree burial (Yarrow 1880:141). It should be noted that members of the turkey clan of the Sac buried their dead in a sitting position on an isolated knoll under a tree, suitable for a turkey roost (Skinner 1923:37).

Comparative mortuary data seems to preclude the possibility of an Iowa ethnic affiliation (see Table II). As Table II also shows, the Kansa do not have burial in the sitting position, northwest-southeast orientation of the dead, or partial surface burial, as are observed at 14DP26. This, therefore, would also seem to preclude Kansa as the ethnic affiliation for this burial.

The Fox have only recently adopted burial in the sitting position, and are also known to have built grave houses over their dead (Voegelin 1944:359). However, no mortuary fence or other enclosure was noted during excavation. This feature is common not only for the Fox, but also of the Sac and late Iowa. Based on all considerations, however, this

Of the ten mortuary features observed at 14DP26, eight are found in the Sac burial practices, suggesting that this burial is probable Sac affiliated. If, indeed, this is a Sac burial, it would fall well within the 1840-1860 period suggested for the date of interment, as the Sac were removed to the Kansas area in 1836 and most of the tribe did not remove to Oklahoma until after 1876 (Kent 1880:116).

CONCLUSIONS

A study of the burial remains and its associated features has produced a possible ethnic identification and date range for interment. The historic burial recovered from the test excavations at 14DP26 has been identified as a male about 20 years of age at death. Analysis of the mortuary traits associated with the burial suggests that he was a Sac Indian. Further analysis of the trade goods associated with the burial suggest a date of interment in the second quarter of the 19th century with the most probable dates clustering between 1840 and 1860. Though the ethnic affiliation and date of interment can best be described as tentative, the analysis of the burial and its features yield the above as the best possible indication based on present available evidence.

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