

November 4, 1982

Mr. Robert Bray
November 4, 1982
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Mr. Robert Bray
3801 Evergreen Lane
Columbia, Mo. 65201

Dear Bob:

We have in recent weeks been corresponding with John Ludwickson in Lincoln, Nebraska and Dale Henning at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa relative to their completing the study on the remaining 23BN1 materials so that same can be placed for permanent storage with the bulk of the materials already here at the museum. This has been motivated by the need to get more of that Oneota material on exhibit. From time to time we have inquiries from museum visitors and also from other sources about the 23BN1 excavated materials.

Dale has expressed an interest in getting a report completed on 23BN1 and publishing it. I will quote from his letter:

"I still want to get a proper report done up on King Hill and our excavations there. There is a lot written up (pottery, faunal materials, corn), but it should all be pulled together. I have seriously considered applying for some money to pay for my time to write up the remaining collections and pull it all into a piece for publication. Surely, Bob Bray would be interested in such a thing. If I were to concentrate on it for about two months, the job could be done to the point of putting it to rights while teaching. I can think of several places where I might apply; would there be value to the Museum to put in a joint proposal to some agency or another? I feel obliged to do this and want to very much."

Mike Fisher and I have been talking about this and he may have already phoned you. I have also talked to people here at the museum and depending on the total amount needed, the St. Joseph Museum might possibly be able to help Dale in addition to his grant. (We do not know how much money would be involved for his study as yet.)

It is also possible that the St. Joseph Museum would need a quantity of copies of the King Hill report for their own use (if that could be arranged) and could some way be involved in the cost

Mr. Robert Bray
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of publishing for that amount. This, of course, is all tentative and would require some thought and discussion on the part of the Director and the museum board if and when possibilities are more certain and costs more defined.

We are interested, however, and would like to hear your thoughts on the matter.

Sincerely,

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

DLR:js

October 26, 1982

Dr. Dale Henning
Professor of Anthropology
Luther College
Decorah, Ia. 52101

Dear Dale:

Your letter of September 27 is in hand. Your thought that all of the 23BN1 information should be pulled together into one piece for publication is a good one and would be a final step in the right direction. At this point, however, we have no idea as to just what would be involved. Nor would we know where to apply for necessary funds. Nor the extent of funds needed.

I do believe that Bob Bray would be interested. Mentioned this to Mike Fisher and he, too, thinks Bob would be interested, saying that he is always looking for good copy to publish. We will contact him. I don't suppose any funding would be available from there - or would they?

Our museum lugs along, most of the time claiming to be just a little better off than church mice. (Generally true) Maybe we could find an angel!

If you were to write up the remaining collections and put it all in one piece as you suggest, I expect that you would need to temporarily move the material remaining at Nebraska University to your own location. Or would you? Is it a matter of additional or remaining study of those items or has that more or less already been done with a write-up now needed? We will ponder on it and keep in contact. There may be some way to get the job done.

We certainly do appreciate your past and present effort and interest and would welcome any ideas that may be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

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

DLR:js

LUTHER COLLEGE
DECORAH, IOWA 52101

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND SOCIAL WORK

September 27, 1982

Mr. Don Reynolds
St. Joseph Public Museum
St. Joseph, Missouri 64501

Dear Don:

Sorry for the delay in answering your note of inquiry re. the King Hill stone tools and historic materials. They are all safely located in the laboratory where we removed the pottery and bone materials several years ago. I have not communicated directly with John Ludwickson on this subject for over a year, but I am sure that he is not going to finish his project on the stone tools. I think the materials should all go to St. Joseph; John is too busy with his work to ever finish them up. The historic trade materials are there along with the stone tools. I have an inventory of those here in my files.

I still want to get a proper report done up on King Hill and our excavations there. There is a lot written up (pottery, faunal materials, corn), but it should all be pulled together. I have seriously considered applying for some money to pay for my time to write up the remaining collections and pull it all into a piece for publication. Surely, Bob Bray would be interested in such a thing. If I were able to concentrate on it for about two months, the job could be done to the point of putting it to rights while teaching. I can think of several places where I might apply; would there be value to the Museum to put in a joint proposal to some agency or another? I feel obliged to do this and want to very much.

Meanwhile, the materials should be returned and . . . I should be on hand when it is done if at all possible. If you have plans to pick it up, I would like to get over there for the event, but if I cannot, will make the proper arrangements. Please consider the possibilities for our going for a grant for me to write or . . . I will go it alone. The point is to get the time.

All well here. Too much to do and too little time for it all. Some interesting archeology and . . . some not so interesting. Betty and the boys are fine; we still enjoy living in the country, although the boys wish we heated with gas or electricity. They hate hauling wood.

Best regards,

Dale
Dale R. Henning, Prof.
Anthropology

DRH:aeo

*I thought this had
gone long ago. (note date):
our seed, has been over-
worked.*

Dear Dale:

Archaeological activity here in old St. Jo. is rather slow. We try to keep our shovels clean. Did get roped in on a farm field salvage dig where a farmer had several years ago plowed out a Copper Culture spear cache. We moved his bones and teeth away from his field but found no more spears nor anything else after the cultivating that he gave the burial! We look in on King's Hill from time to time to shoo away any youthful would-be archaeologists and once in awhile more serious collectors.

Sincerely,

DLR:is

2951 4 1506

August 4, 1982

John Ludwickson
August 4, 1972
Page 2

I now have Dale Hennings address and will drop him a line before long. We are now building shelves for storage of the pottery sherds, soil samples, screenings and floatings and botanical and bone material. Am wondering what the bulk of the remaining material might be when we finally get it. So far, we seem not to have any displayable artifacts except for some rather large rim sherds with handles. But then I suppose we would not have since Mr. John Ludwickson c/o Nebraska State Historical Society 1500 R Street Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 Many thanks for sending the copies of the excavation reports on Rock

Dear John:

We have at long last found time to unpack, sort through, consolidate and re-box all of the 23BN1 material that we have received to date. I should have responded to your last letter sooner but thought we would get to the job much sooner than we did. People going back to school for one half a day, vacations, etc. held us up. Also the Pony Express Stables takes up some of our time.

I know that you were looking for some U.S. National Museum material and also some University of Kansas material. Found only some Univ. of Kansas material in one small sack. Mostly chert chips and a couple of thumb scrapers, 14DP1. Also one small sack of Fanning chips, etc. that was dated 7/1972 and labeled surface collected by University of Nebraska University.

We haven't been of much help to you in your search. Sorry! Sorry also that we could not get on it sooner.

I thank you for your information on the circular silver ornaments that I described to you and you sent xerox sheets on. Am enclosing slides with an invoice of the artifact findings. I hope that it will not be regarded as a serious attempt at professional archaeology. We do the best we can.

Mike Fisher helped us go through the 23BN1 1966 and 1972 material. He sends his best regards.

We wonder if you are working in the field as you thought you would be this summer. Brownville I believe you said. Let us know.

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April 12, 1982

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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68508

Sorry about the tardy response regarding your letter of March 25, 1982. I was in the process of writing two papers for the Nebraska Academy of Sciences and felt I didn't have the time to give your letter proper attention until now. I have also checked into a couple of matters regarding King Hill and Fanning which I wish to report to you and ask your help on.

At this time, my involvement with King Hill is really tentative; here's why. When I returned to Lincoln in late 1977 (October), I approached Prof. Henning about finishing the lithics from the site. I had some small savings from my work in North Dakota and felt I could devote about two months full-time work to it, probably enough to finish my commitment to the site. Prof. Henning asked, since I was willing to "donate" some time to write something up, that I work on collections which had been gathered during the Mid-State Project during the summers of 1972 and 1973. I agreed and wrote a report for him on that material.

My memory fails in regard to what was to be done with King Hill. One of two possible agreements was struck, but I can't remember which is accurate. What I believe we decided is that my commitment to Prof. Henning on King Hill was finished, since what time I had to devote to a project was diverted to Mid-State by his request, and that he would write up the stone tools from King Hill. The other possible agreement was that since I had so much time involved, I should consider the project "mine" and should work on it as time became available. Soon after, Prof. Henning moved to Luther College in Iowa.

I have a manuscript on the stone tools (a xerox, Henning has the original), and my interest continues. However, since I can not remember

how Prof. Henning wished to deal with the matter, I can't say I am willing to finish the project--I might step on his toes. The collection (the stone, that is) is still in Lincoln and I would be willing to finish it if clear permission from Henning could be obtained. You must decide if you would be willing to allow the collection to remain here, or if you want it back soon. Perhaps, Henning agreeing, the collection could go to St. Joseph for accessioning and then be loaned back to me for completion of analysis. At any rate, Prof. Henning is the one to consult as a next step. Should he be willing, I too am willing to recommend some time toward a final write-up. Let me know what you decide, and what Henning says if you decide in favor of completing the analysis.

On a related matter, at one point in time, Prof. Henning, on my behalf, borrowed the Fanning site lithics from the U.S. National Museum, and another small collection from the site from the University of Kansas. Recently, Pater Bleed (now the Anthropology Dept. Chairman at Nebraska) got a request from Kansas for their collection back. I went over to help them look for it and it could not be found. What we did find was some of the U.S. National Museum stuff! Both collections were to have been sent back to the respective institutions years ago. My suspicion is that parts or all of these collections got sent, in error, to St. Joseph when the bone and pottery from King Hill was returned. Does that ring any bells? I'd appreciate knowing if you have some materials from Fanning mixed with King Hill, especially stone tools. All the U.S. National Museum stuff was in small paper sacks, nicely taped and with a five or six digit accession number neatly inked on the outside. If this stuff isn't in St. Joseph, I have no idea where it might be except, possibly, with Henning in Iowa.

Regarding Rock Creek Station, I was not personally involved with that work. Gayle Carlson, Staff Archeologist, sends along copies of the excavation reports he prepared at the end of each field season. I think the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission now has all the information they will need for fairly accurate reconstruction of the "West Ranch;" the "East Ranch" is totally destroyed, but there are photos, etc. I'm not sure when their tourist season opens at Rock Creek, but they will be ready for visitors this year. Should open any day now.

Regarding your "buckle-like circular concave ornaments," you don't say what they're made of, but I assume they are silver. I am sending you a xerox of some pages from George Quimby's INDIAN CULTURE AND EUROPEAN TRADE GOODS, which will help I think. If this isn't what they turn out to be, put them on a xerox machine and take a picture of them and send it to me and I'll look into it further.

Steve Holen (who says "hi") and I will almost certainly be doing a major excavation at Brownville, Nebraska, this summer. If the Reynolds and the Fishers can spare a day or two, they are cordially invited upriver. If you're interested, I'll let you know when we will be working there (when we find out for sure!).

Let me know about King Hill and Fanning. I hope the enclosed material

helps you in your research. Looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,



John Ludwickson

P.S. Been to Leary site lately?

JL:nb
ENC.

John Ludwickson
March 25, 1982
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March 25, 1982

Matt Shlenger had his 65th birthday the 6th of March. He is still going strong.

Let me hear from you.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Ludwickson
Highway Survey Archaeologist
Nebraska State Historical Society
1500 R Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

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

Dear John:

I have from time to time been asked by our accession and exhibits people here when the study of the last of the 23BN1 material will be completed so that we can pick up same. We have for the last couple of years been reworking our storage facilities and have for the last few months been into the archaeological collections. I believe Dale said that he expected the study to be completed in a year or so. We do not want to start with the King's Hill material until we have it all and know how to deal with it space-wise. Also, an exhibit is planned for some of that material and that is pressing. So---I thought we should get a letter off to you so that we can have some idea as to our future planning, etc.

I see that you have been involved in the Rock Creek Station archaeological dig and study. I have been there several times but always had to part tall weeds to even get around the area. I am interested in the outcome. Who do I write to for a report if and when one is published? Will it be open to the public as a historical attraction anytime soon?

Not much archaeology going on lately around here. We did have one little salvage dig that we just couldn't get out of. A construction crew dug into a burial at the edge of St. Joseph and Mike Fisher and I, with the help of his club members, cleaned it up. Lots of glass beads, a knife, a gun flint (no gun) and buttons. There were also a couple of buckle-like circular concave ornaments that we can't seem to find a reference on anywhere. They are 1 3/4 inches in diameter with a 11/16 inch hole in the center and a buckle tongue across the hole. They were still attached side by side to a coarse fabric. Similar ornaments were found in a Sac burial in Doniphan County, Kansas, about three years ago. Ever see such? (I could send you a slide if you are interested.)

Mr. John Ludwickson
March 25, 1982
page 2

Mett Shippee had his 86th birthday the 6th of March. He is still going strong.

Let me hear from you.

Sincerely,

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

DLR:mst

I am answering your note of inquiry re. the King Hill stone tools materials. They are all safely located in the laboratory. I have not seen the pottery and bone materials several years ago. I have not discussed directly with John Ludwickson on this subject for over a year, but I know that he is not going to finish his project on the stone tools. I think the materials should all go to St. Joseph; John is too busy with his work to finish them up. The historic trade materials are there along with the stone tools. I have an inventory of those here in my files.

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Best regards,

Dale
Dale R. Henning, Prof.
Anthropology

DRH:aeo

*I thought this had
long ago. (note date)
has been over -
want to see it
want to see it*