



Saint Joseph Museum

11TH AND CHARLES STREET ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI 64501

April 16, 1985



Director: Richard A. Nolf

Mrs. William Rhule
5311 Bayou Drive
Bossier City, LA 71112

Dear Mrs. Rhule:

It was a plesasant experience to be able to speak with you today. I wish you good fortune in resolving the problems related to the disposition of your father's collection. If I, or the museum, can be of any service in this resolution, please feel free to call or write.

I am enclosing brochures on the two museums we operate along with a photocopy of the article in Sunday's Star.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours and
May peace be with you,

Richard A. Nolf, Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

pc: Mike Fisher
Don Reynolds

Enc.

(Matt Shippee collection)



Pony Express Museum

Extension of the St. Joseph Museum

914 PENN STREET

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI



STAR REGION

Sunday, April 14, 1985 Page 37A

Archeologist's family seeks home for artifacts

By Bill Graham

Staff writer

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It showed in the tenderness with which J. Mott Shippee would scrape yet another Indian relic from the ancient clay and loam of Platte and Clay counties.

"There was just a love and a wonderful carressing when a pot shard or an arrowhead lay in his hand," says his youngest daughter, Jane Rhule who as a child shared hours at dig with her archaeologist father. He died last month at 89. "His love was for the people that made it . . . and for the fact that it still existed and he had found it."

Now Mrs. Rhule and her three sisters want to make sure their father's collection of 40,000 relics will stay in good hands, but they're not sure how to do it.

No facility in the Kansas City area has enough manpower and space to handle the collection, they say, and nobody is willing to step forward with enough money to do the job right.

"Kansas City will support things like football and baseball by building stadiums . . . but they can't come up with a decent museum," said Mrs. Rhule, who now lives in Bossier City, La.

Mr. Shippee had hoped a permanent display of his arrowheads, stones and pottery would enable other Kansas Citians to



J. Mott Shippee . . . collected 40,000 Indian relics

take some of the same paths he had in his travels through time.

"I think, for the most part, we still want it to stay in the Kansas City area," Mrs. Rhule said.

For now, however, the family simply wants to keep the collection from being scattered, pilfered or buried again, this time in dusty storage.

The artifacts recently were sent to Knoxville, Tenn., to protect them from thieves.

Much of the collection includes evidence of Hopewell Indians, who lived in the area from the time of Christ to about 500 A.D. That culture influenced the Osage and Kansas Indians, who European explorers found living near the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers.

Mr. Shippee conducted digs at a Hopewell village site now part of the Frank Vaydik Line Creek Park at N.W. Waukomis Drive

and 60th Street in Kansas City, North.

A museum at the park displays some of the pottery shards, spearpoints, scrapers, knives and other tools he found in the area.

Mr. Shippee also is credited with identifying from artifacts an archaic Indian group he named the Nebo culture, which existed before 2,000 B.C.

Mr. Shippee once told a reporter he found his first arrowhead in Illinois in 1915, and "my hand just shook . . . it branded me."

He originally was a carpenter by trade, but he turned his passion for archaeology into a profession after World War II through self-teaching and endless hours of sifting dirt throughout the Midwest.

Charles Hammer, a former reporter for *The Kansas City Star*, accompanied him to several sites in the 1960s.

"He looked like an Indian—he'd spent his whole life living by campfires and digs," Mr. Hammer said. "He was withered and brown, and I think he thought like an Indian, too. He had a real understanding of the people he was digging up."

His work included stints on Smithsonian Institution digs, and the museum in Washington exhibits some items he found. He also explored sites threatened by

federal reservoir projects.

For many years Mr. Shippee was affiliated with the University of Missouri at Columbia as an archeologist-in-residence. A member of several archaeological and historical groups, he also served as a curator for the Kansas City Museum.

Mrs. Rhule said her father's collection, which weighs about 3,000 pounds, includes a white flint spear blade about 12 inches long and 5 inches wide.

"That was probably the most unique thing he found," she said. "It was in perfect condition, probably made for ceremonial use. There are also several pots that are quite lovely. He had some rare gorgets, a kind of jewelry that were plates hung around the neck."

Mr. Shippee's collection of writings, drawings and artifacts is significant to both Kansas and Missouri, said Tom Witly, director of the Kansas State Historical Society for 25 years.

"I think most certainly the collection should remain in this area," he said. "If it goes somewhere else, it will be put on display for a while, then put into a back room and forgotten."

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Artifacts find home at museum

More than 20,000 items
donated from late KC man

N.P. 7-6-99
St. Joseph News-Press

An amateur archaeologist's "gold mine" of artifacts and field notes from western Missouri is now the property of the St. Joseph Museum, where experts will need at least a year to catalog the vast collection.

The daughters of the late J. Mett Shippee of Kansas City spent years looking for a home for the more than 20,000 items, some at least 10,000 years old, that their father collected in the region.

They considered museums in Kansas City but decided two weeks ago that the staff at the St. Joseph Mu-

seum best understood the collection's value. The collection, which was donated, was moved from storage in Texas to the St. Joseph Museum in June.

"There are some very fine pieces within it," said Rich Nolf, director of the St. Joseph Museum. "It is primarily a research collection. In the future students and scholars will be wanting to look at the material."

Mr. Shippee, a carpenter by training who died in 1985 at age 89, was renowned for his sharp eye and his careful recording of each discovery of a knife, piece of pottery, tool, spear or ceremonial item.

"It is the finest and most comprehensive array of artifacts ever assembled in the Kansas City region," said

Jim Feagins, a member of the Missouri and Kansas City archaeological societies, who will help catalog the collection. "And because of the quality of Mett Shippee's field notes, it is a gold mine of scientific value."

Mr. Nolf said the St. Joseph Museum, located at 11th and Charles streets, already has stone axes and other items from the collection on display. He said it will take at least a year to catalog the collection.

"From a scientific point of view it's priceless," Mr. Nolf said.

Mr. Shippee was first drawn to archeology at age 11, when he found a chipped-stone spear point in an Illinois field.

Joseph. Feb. 16, 1946, she married in Delaney. He died in 1995. Delaney also was pre- death by her parents, Marie D. Mildred

where the family will receive friends from 5 to 8:30 tonight. Memorial contributions may be sent to the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church Endowment and Building Fund.

Sarah Greenwald
1918 - 1999

Sarah (Rashbaum) Greenwald, 81, St. Joseph, died Tuesday, June 1, 1999, at a St. Joseph hos- pital in Liberty, Mo. Mrs. Greenwald was a home- former member of Eastern Star. Harry

Helen E. McCrary
1916 - 1999

HAMILTON, Mo. — Helen Eliz- abeth McCrary, 82, Hamilton, died Monday, July 5, 1999, at a hospital in Liberty, Mo. Mrs. McCrary worked for the Chevrolet Co. in Hamilton for 30 years. She also was a former bookkeeper at MFA in Hamilton and worked for the government while living in St. Louis. Born Sept. 14, 1916, in Daviess County, Mo., she lived in Hamil- ton most of her life, except for six years living in St. Louis. Mrs. McCrary was a member of the Hamilton United Methodist Church, where she was a Sunday school and Rebekah Lodge

Sylvia M. Tarkio
1918 - 1999

TARKIO, Mo. — Sylvia (Neff) Tarkio, former member of Tarkio health-care center, died Monday, June 23, 1999, at a Hamilton health-care center. Born June 23, 1918, in Tarkio, Mo., Mrs. Tarkio was a member of the (Mo.) Methodist Church. She died on Jan. 15, 1999, at Harold E. Schebau Health Center in Tarkio, Mo., where she farmed until moved to Westfield in 1959. Tarkio lived until moving to Iowa in 1964. She died in 1993. Mrs. Schebau died in death in 1999.



Beetle Bailey

TAKE OVER WHILE I'M GONE, ME? WOW!

“He was hooked then and there,” said his daughter Joan Wagner, of Kansas City. “He was absolutely fascinated by the idea that there had been other people on that land, literally thousands of years before he was, people who could make these wonderful objects.” Ms. Wagner remembers the day her father gave her his

Continued from Page B1

Artifacts
find new
home at
museum

St. Joseph Museum will receive rare archaeological collection

ST. JOS. TELEGRAPH 7-8-99

The St. Joseph Museum is the institution selected by the daughters of the late J. Mett Shippee to be the repository for the extensive collection of archaeological artifacts which their father gathered throughout his life.

Joan Wagner, Barbara Shippee-Larson, Helen Raven, and Jane Rhule spent several years researching various museums and universities before choosing one — the local museum — for the collection's permanent home.

They are very proud of their father's contributions to the fields of archaeology and prehistory, and their objective was to choose an institution with a reputation for excellence.

Mett Shippee, who died on March 26, 1985, at the age of 89, was the authority on archaeology in the Kansas City area for more than half a century.

However, his career and discov-

ery in Missouri. He was a member of the team that worked with the St. Joseph Museum in 1961 to excavate the Oneota midden site on King Hill in St. Joseph.

He retired from MU at the age of 77 and then worked part time for the Kansas City Museum.

Mett Shippee's contributions to Missouri archaeology have been recognized many times with numerous awards.

Among the first was one from the Missouri Archaeological Society in 1953, when he received a life membership.

The Kansas City Museum Association made him a fellow of anthropology in 1972, and he was presented an honorary Doctor of Science degree by Park College in 1983.

The collection, which was amassed over a period of nearly 80 years, is fully documented, making it an extremely valuable contribution

cataloged by adjunct archaeological staff members Mike Fisher, Ed Barlow, and Jim Feagins.

After cataloging, they and other members of the museum staff plan to design and construct an exhibit relating to the material and to J. Mett Shippee.

After the cataloging has been completed, the museum plans to make the collection available for study by interested scholars.

Reverence for past pays

St. Joseph Museum gains collection Kansas City didn't value

Score this one a big victory for the St. Joseph Museum specifically, and this city in general.

Quietly last month, the daughters of the late J. Mett Shippee donated a huge collection of archaeological treasure to the museum. The donation is valuable on two levels.

First, Mr. Shippee pioneered archaeology in this area. He began when he 11 and continued until he died in 1985 at age 89. Part of the reason his collection is so valuable is that he kept such comprehensive notes on each item.

Indeed, in 1937, the Smithsonian Institution in Washington sent a professional archaeologist to work with Mr. Shippee, according to the museum board president, Jim Lehr. The Smithsonian representative almost immediately awarded Mr. Shippee the equivalent of a postgraduate degree for his work in the field. Mr. Shippee's work and collection is highly respected.

The collection is remarkable

in size and quality. It includes some 20,000 items, ranging from arrowheads to pottery and tools. Some of the items date back to the Paleo-Indian era (some 10,000 years ago), according to the Associated Press.

The staff of the St. Joseph Museum can be especially proud of the acquisition because the family picked this museum because staff convinced the family that it better understood the collection's significance in the field of archaeology.

"In general, sad to say, St. Joe seems to have a greater appreciation for history than Kansas City," Joan Wagner, Mr. Shippee's eldest daughter, told the *Kansas City Star*.

She is from Kansas City.

"It doesn't tear things down or throw things away like Kansas City does. And father always wanted to preserve the past."

Mr. Shippee's collection will be a proud addition to the museum. His daughter's words are refreshing for a community that frequently lives in the shadow of Kansas City.

3622 Russell Road
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

8
January 17, 1963

Dear Don and Maudie:

The world is in a hell of a mess and K.C. is no exception but the notice by the St. Joe Museum that you and Maudie are retiring caused me to do some letter writing in a hurry.

We haven't been out of the travail ourselves lately. Almost the worst thing that could happen to me came about this winter. My eyes are getting bad and I can barely write this letter.

Thank the lord, Margaret is seemingly OK. after some threats by her body which so far have calmed down by her doctor and she is hanging on ~~it~~ in apparently good shape. Our Museum has gone to hell or something. Our Museum out in New Mexico in a museum. I still am paid about \$135⁰⁰ a month by K.C. but don't know why. Our archeological meetings are at the Museum on the first Monday night of the month and the Society pays a small rent for a night meeting.

We do not know what caused this. We have a new director at the Museum who came from South Carolina and he is cleaning out the old people. He even fired Belva Wren who I thought was really OK. I think the world has gone nuts.

(2)

My ability as an archeologist is about shot
to hell. I'm nearly 87, going blind and a week
ago last Wednesday afternoon our house was
robbed of all our sterling silver, my big
mississippian flint knife ($12\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$ ") and a
lot of keep sakes from my father's mother's belongings
of the 1880's. A 22 Winchester rifle etc etc.
We really got hit. We were gone from the house 2 hours
in day light. The neighbors saw nothing apparently.
They must have worked fast. Broke a back door
glass and jumped the door open. This isn't all.
They took a hexagon shaped wooden case (flat) in
which I had that $10\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{8}$ flint blade from the
Renner burial mound in Riverside Platte Co. Mo. 1934.
a collector offered me \$1000⁰⁰ for it. I had no
intentions of ever letting anyone but the S.D. or
K.C. Museum have it. I guess it was too hot and
the police brought it back with the 22 rifle but so far
nothing else. No sterling silver. The police have
mentioned a horse full of things in K.C. and we
are hopeful but don't know when it will come maybe
today, Tuesday or later. Margaret and I were
weren't expecting to get cleaned out by looters.
Our house was ripe and I was careless to go off
grocery shopping. I hope we recover some of it.

In the loot from my parents life of 1875-95 there were miniature lockets with photos of the folks. My dad was mayor and 'Mo. Pac. Agent for the town of Greenleaf, Kansas in the 1870-80's and 90's. Then he went to Concordia, Kansas and then to K.C. The homes in those old towns are still standing. They were built of northern white pine.

All of these things have really hurt. But we are carrying on or trying to. I'm anxious to have the police of K.C. stop by and tell us something. We have never been hit before.

If you ever get in our area, be sure to stop by and say Hello for old times sake.

We don't drive much any more. Margaret does but I don't.

We'll be watchful and we hope you have good luck. Don & Maudie. Keep your Museum going some way. Matt and Margaret Shippee.

N. Shippee
1622 Russell Road NE
Kansas City, Mo. 64117



8
17, 1963

Mr and Mrs. Don Reynolds
3108 East Edmond
St. Joseph, Mo. 54501

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June 29, 1983

Mr. Mett Shippee
3622 NE Russell Road
Kansas City, Mo. 64417

Dear Mett:

Sometimes in this life something happens, somewhere, to someone, that gives us renewed confidence in the human race. Your recent award for a faithful and dedicated lifetime in archaeology was just such a happening. Our most sincere congratulations to you.

Sorry that Maude and I were not present to share the experience with you. Had heard rumors that such might be in the offing (from Mike Fisher) but not being around the museum as much since retiring am not privy to all that happens. Mike (that rascal) failed to tell us after he learned for sure. So--will shake your hand later.

All I can say is that it was a hell of a hard way to get a Ph.D. Would have been much easier to go about it the conventional way. I'll bet you will know better next time.

Best regards from Maude and all of the inmates at the St. Joseph Museum. Our best wishes and sympathy to Margaret. Does the old ball cap still fit or did she have to let it out a bit?!

Come see us.

Sincerely,

Don Reynolds, Curator
Pony Express Museum

DR:js

Digging pays off for Northland archeologist

Park cites J.M. Shippee

He's known throughout the world for his archeological studies.

At the Smithsonian Institution the "Beaded Boy" exhibit attests to one of his noted digs.

The Hopewells, the Black Hills Indians, the Nebo Hill culture—he's discovered and excavated relics from their lands.

And he's done it all without benefit of formal professional education.

But last Sunday J. M. Mett Shippee donned the robe and mortarboard of a college graduate as he accepted an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Park College at the commencement exercises.

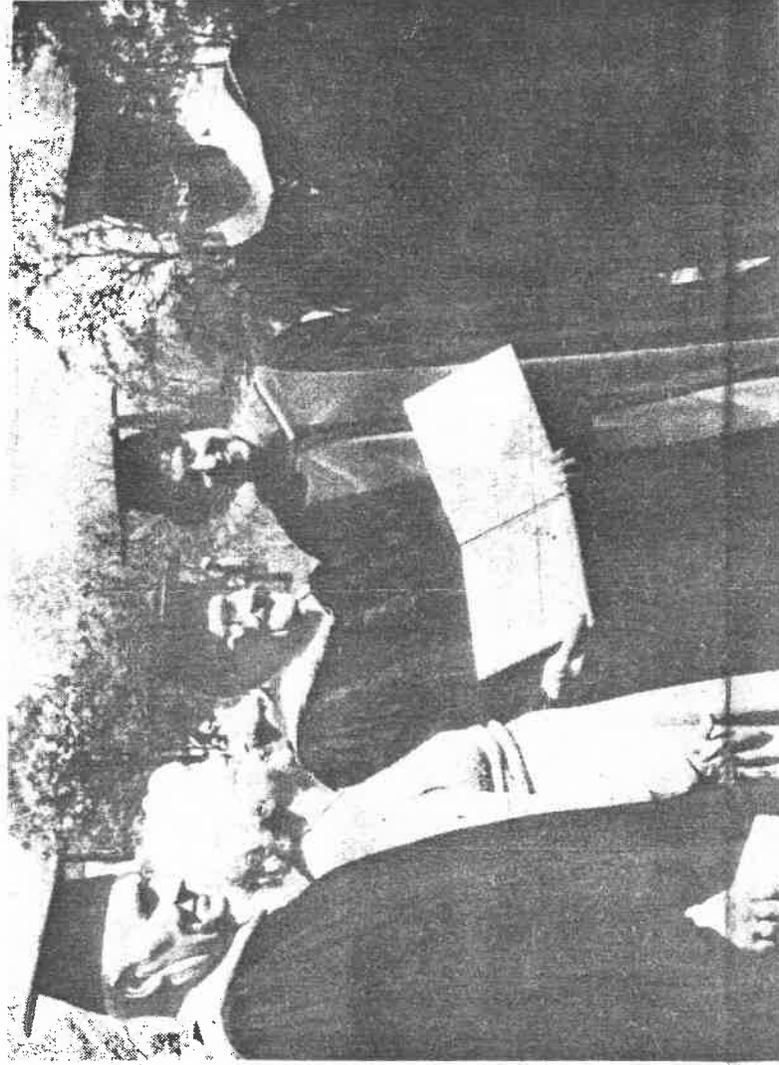
The degree was presented by Professor Albert Dusing, chairman of the division of Natural Sciences and Human Development.

"My biggest worry," Shippee said after the ceremony, "was keeping this hat on."

And it wasn't long until he shed the collegiate headgear for his usual baseball hat.

Many of his archeological digs have been done on a shoestring of a budget, Shippee said.

"The first year we dug at the Renner site (in Riverside) he said, "we had a budget of \$800. That was to feed and supply the whole



Well-earned degree

—As J. M. Mett Shippee (center) displays his diploma, a jubilant party shares the excitement with him. Park President Harold Condit conferred the honorary doctorate degree, Shippee's wife, Margaret, took pride in her husband's accomplishment; Academic Dean Barbara Higdon placed the symbolic stole on his shoulders, and Professor Al Dusing presented the degree to this 87-year-old man of "human spirit." (Photo by Schumacher)

The University of Missouri, the Kansas City Museum of History and Science, the Missouri Archeology Society, the Nebraska State Historical Society, the State Historical Society of Missouri, the Society for American Archeology—and the list of beneficiaries continues.

His long career as an archeologist has provided him with one of the nation's largest collections of ancient pottery, arrowheads, and jewelry.

His North Kansas City home is virtually a museum crammed with the various artifacts from sites he has helmed excavate. But

mencement, Shippee readily discussed his projects with graduating seniors, faculty and friends.

"I'll have to tell you about that sometime..." became a standard phrase as he realized time did not allow him to elaborate on the many experiences of his 87 years.

"Mr. Shippee's self-education and his contributions to his profession epitomize the potential for the human spirit. He is a living testimonial to the realization of possibilities which take place when intelligence, creativity, dedication, enthusiasm and hard work come together."



oldest daughter, Joan (Mrs. Richard) Wagner of Gladstone; their second daughter and her husband, Barbara and L. Eugene Larson of Kansas City-North; Wagner's daughter—Shippee's grand-daughter—and her husband, Joan and Scott Johnson of Kansas City-North.

As Shippee received his degree, tears streamed down his daughter Barbara's face, and later, his wife said the entire event left her in awe.

"We were so thrilled and happy. Why, when he got that standing ovation it just swelled and swelled. I've

fund repair of tired schools.

Support from local legislators, a boost to voter registration, emphasis on the absentee ballot and the initiation of neighborhood precinct captains establish a new approach to the bond campaign.

In a meeting with Park Hill PTA president's Friday morning. Assistant

election, but because the loss was so narrow, (63.3 percent of the 66.45 required) the school district is throwing the issue open to the voters again next month.

"We believe the votes are out there; a lot of people are in favor of the bond, but they just didn't vote," Davis said. "The biggest thing is to get the people to the polls."

three area grocery stores getting eligible voters on record. The workers also handed out requests for absentee ballots.

"Last time the absentee ballots made a difference, but a lot of people left town without filling one out. If we even got 150 absentee votes, we'd be in excellent shape," Davis said.

tion (June 4) for those who wish to absentee, Gerner said.

To further facilitate voting, a switch Gerner said Barry Precinct No. 34 formerly voted at Barry Middle School Linkville Precinct No. 31 formerly voted at Barry Middle School.

See School bond—p



Learning from experience—During the reception after Park College graduation ceremonies, archaeologist J. Mett Shippee, having just received an honorary doctorate degree, shares some experiences with Outstanding Parkite Kathryn

Phillips, who voices an interest in his profession. Park Professor Al Dusing (center) enjoys the banter of age and youth. —See Shippee story, page 8. (Photo by Schumacher)

Police subdues knife-wielder

by Paula Schumacher
editor

A knife-slashing incident at the Mark IV Apartments on Bell Road in Parkville last Saturday afternoon with a 23-year-old white male being taken to Tri-County Mental Health Center by Parkville police.

No charges were filed in the incident. The situation started, Chief of Police Mike Frye said Monday, at 1:08 p.m. Officer Collette Friend was called to Mark IV Apartments on a disturbance.

A man described as "flinging a rock around and claiming he was King" and his knife was Excalibur" had been breaking into cars and breaking car windows. The man was described as a "mached" apartment residents.

Cpl. Steve Burton, who was off-duty at the time but went to the scene, said the man had a large meat cleaver.

After Friend called for assistance from County Sheriff's officers, and Parkville Sgt. Roger Griffith and Burton arrived.

The police report indicates the man in what appeared to be a German language and then reverted to English.

"He went inside the apartment and stood at the top of the stairs outside and talked to him."

"At one point he asked, 'Are this the land one?' and later he said he would not die today but I might, he would not die today but I might,"

ton said.

See Knife-wielder



stitution the "Beaded Boy" exhibit attests to one of his noted digs.

The Hopewells, the Black Hills Indians, the Nebo Hill culture—he's discovered and excavated relics from their lands.

And he's done it all without benefit of formal professional education.

But last Sunday J. Mett Shippee donned the robe and mortarboard of a college graduate as he accepted an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Park College at the commencement exercises.

The degree was presented by Professor Albert Dusing, chairman of the division of Natural Sciences and Human Development.

"My biggest worry," Shippee said after the ceremony, "was keeping this hat on."

And it wasn't long until he shed the collegiate headgear for his usual baseball hat.

Many of his archeological digs have been done on a shoestring of a budget, Shippee said.

"The first year we dug at the Renner site (in Riverside) he said, "we had a budget of \$800. That was to feed and supply the whole outfit," he said.

The "outfit" included an archeological team from the Smithsonian Institution headed by Waldo Wedel. That was 1937.

From those early days to now, numerous organizations have benefited from this kind of tenacity demonstrated by Shippee.

The University of Missouri, the Kansas City Museum of History and Science, the Missouri Archeology Society, the Nebraska State Historical Society, the State Historical Society of Missouri, the Society for American Archeology—and the list of beneficiaries continues.

His long career as an archeologist has provided him with one of the nation's largest collections of ancient pottery, arrowheads, and jewelry.

His North Kansas City home is virtually a museum crammed with the various artifacts from sites he has helped excavate. But organization is the key.

Pottery, projectile points and bone tools depict his findings from the Renner site in Riverside.

Shell ornaments and beads and two long Clovis points indicate the digs in which he participated with the Smithsonian.

After Sunday's com-



Back to Basics—Struggling with the mortarboard became too much as it was back to the familiar headgear for Shippee.

ment, Shippee readily discussed his projects with graduating seniors, faculty and friends.

"I'll have to tell you about that sometime..." became a standard phrase as he realized time did not allow him to elaborate on the many experiences of his 87 years.

"Mr. Shippee's self-education and his contributions to his profession epitomize the potential for the human spirit. He is a living testimonial to the realization of possibilities which take place when intelligence, creativity, dedication, enthusiasm and hard work come together," Dusing said as he presented the degree.

Conferring the degree was Park President Dr. Harold Condit, with Dr. Barbara Higdon, dean of academic affairs, placing the doctoral stole on Shippee's shoulders.

Attending the event were his wife, Margaret; their

citement with him. Park President Harold Condit conferred the honorary doctorate degree, Shippee's wife, Margaret, took pride in her husband's accomplishment; Academic Dean Barbara Higdon placed the symbolic stole on his shoulders, and Professor Al Dusing presented the degree to this 87-year-old man of human spirit. (Photo by Schumacher)

oldest daughter, Joan (Mrs. Richard) Wagner of Gladstone, their second daughter and her husband, Barbara and L. Eugene Larson of Kansas City-North; Wagner's daughter—Shippee's granddaughter—and her husband, Joan and Scott Johnson of Kansas City-North.

As Shippee received his degree, tears streamed down his daughter Barbara's face, and later, his wife said the entire event left her in awe.

"We were so thrilled and happy. Why when he got that standing ovation it just swelled and swelled. I've never seen anything like it," she said.

And in all evidence, the audience as well as the Park College administration and faculty who voted to confer the degree have never seen anything like Shippee either—a man who earned that doctoral degree ten times over.

The Missouri Archaeological Society

15 SWITZLER HALL
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

3622 Russell Road
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

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THE MISSOURI ARCHAEOLOGIST

ROBERT T. BRAY (EDITOR), MIAMI

March 16, 1964

Don Reynolds
St. Joseph Museum
St. Joseph, Missouri

Dear Don:

I don't know where to address a letter to Shigley and Fisher so am sending this information to you; they asked for it and in addition I thought the county symbols for those around St. Joe should be known to them also. All of this information is in the Volume 15, 1 and 2, Bulletin 33 for 1953 but it is supposed to be out of print. If I was in their position, I would write and ask for one anyway in the name of the new chapter. The price was \$1.00.

Missouri Archaeological publications that are of particular use to those who work in the St. Joe area are as follows.

Volume 12, No. 1, Bulletin 28, 1950 \$ 1.50
A Preliminary Report on the Mill Creek Area of Andrew Co. Mo. by Francis Stubbs.

Volume 15, No. 4, Bulletin 35, 1953 .50
Among several reports there is one on
Archaeological Salvage at Avondale Mounds by J.M. Shippee

Volume 16, No. 1, 1954 .50
Hopewell Sites In The Big Bend Area of Central Mo. by Joe J. McKinney.

Volume 19, No. 1-2, April 1957, Renner Hopewell 1.00
Platte County. Leo Roedl and James Howard.

Volume 19, No. 3, 1957, The Diagnostic Point Type of .50
Nebo Hill Complex, J.M. Shippee

Volume 21, No. 1, 1959, The Little Osage and Missouri 1.00
Indian Village Sites, by Carl Chapman.

Memoir No. 2, 1952, Graham Cave, an Archaic Site 1.00

County symbols are--Andrew AN, Atchison AT, Buchanan BN, Caldwell CW, Clay CL, Clinton CI, Davies DV, Gentry GE, Holt HO, Nodaway NO, Worth WO, Dekalb DK, Platte PL, Harrison HA, Livingston LS, Grundy GY, Mercer ME.

We got home OK and only regret that our visit couldn't have been longer.

SINCERELY,

Mett
Mett Shippee

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

COLUMBIA 65202

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
AND ANTHROPOLOGY

3622 Russell Rd.
K. C. Mo. 64117

Mr. Don Reynolds
Saint Joseph Museum
11th & Charles St.
St Joseph, Mo. 64501

Margaret is having trouble getting back to normalcy from punctured shots, dope medicine to reduce circulation blockage in arteries to prevent a stroke etc. etc. It is a slow process and she must get lots of rest and no worry. This morning she is quite chipper. 2/26/82

Dear Don:

My writing arm should limber up some and I'll get you informed about my ideas etc while answering your letter.

Our health isn't so hot but I am concerned about me. I'm 86 on 3/6/82 and still hoe the garden which I spaded up last November with a I stopped driving the Chevy except in the near my eyes began deteriorating two years ago and that in traffic, I'm not too good with all of who are out there. I still have lots to communicate but I'm mostly through. I'll cut the grass etc. but little else.

I began reading your letter last night and studying the slides. I'm not shocked at the destruction of the Curial site for the present Americans have nearly reached the limit in their disregard for archeology and old fashioned decency. Gregg Stock, the only good and real honest director our Museum has ever had, finally got fed up and quit. He was here 10 years I thought he would get the Union Station but there is no real sincerity in the general run of people here and never has been. St. Joseph is a more history oriented place and you know it. I seem to have no place to dump my transport truck load of Indian relics and recorded information so I may peddle it piece meal. A number of people advise that owing to the universities, colleges and even museums being poor repositories for preservation and history etc. there is no use giving it to any one.

OVER

I'll return the slides after
using them a little.

page ②

The salvage from the historic burials of those
poor God forsaken ^{HISTORIC} Indians in your area is just
about worthless except to warn the present mad
inhabitants of the North American Continent as to
what their fate is bound to be. The pre-historic relics
and information that we have garnered after getting
some fairness in our selfish make up was and is a
warning to us but no we continue to devastate the earth
just as the human animal has always done.

If there is a Supreme Being he must be smiling at how
perfectly this one species continues to eliminate itself from
the earth and universe. I have no confidence in the pro-
fessional college punks or their anthropology teachers
to excavate a site simply because they have become anthro-
pologists when any good observing digger knows the work
really requires excellent knowledge and good judgement and
empathy sympathy for the natives who were crowded out of their
ancestral home by a mob of foreigners.

In looking at the slides, I always admire your ability at
photography and judgement. Our historians knew those
historic Indian people and we need not dig them up for knowledge of
their mental capacity or habits. It is the unknown prehistoric
people who require the ability of a person who from their own
experience can relive the story of what was happening to those
people who knew how to operate in their environment and were
satisfied. They had no ten cent stores, just ability to cobble up
what they needed to operate with. There were no expert technicians,
just guess and by golly folks, who did as grandma did and had done for
thousands of years. Oh Hell (Don you have lived long enough to rebuild
the story) Keep in touch with us here in K. C.

Mett

Mett

The Missouri Archaeological Society

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April 28, 1978

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Mr. Don L. Reynolds
Saint Joseph Museum
11 th. and Charles St.
St. Joseph, Mo. 64501

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Dear Don:

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W. R. WILSON, KANSAS CITY

I went over to the Museum yesterday and gave Gregg the copies of the Graphic that I thought they should have in their libraries. Gregg will have the one that his files do not have, which was the WINTER 1967. That is the one where Roy's artical about "WERE THEY KANSA, MISSOURI, IOWA ALL OR ONE OR NONE?". My contribution in that issue was : " BELATED ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION ON KING'S HILL ST. JOSEPH MISSOURI" That copy is one that I am quite proud of for I had something to write about and your photographs are wonderful. What I really like is that they picture the girls doing a real job of dirt moving. And that dig was the usual type in that the little boy students were not worth a damn and the Missouri professor swaped his wife for the party's cook. I never have understood how it happened that I did not get into the picture where the professionals were lined up back of the hallway showcase. I was just as pretty as those five on the right end. Chapman's tie runs from his collar to his pants zipper. Mike and Roy look dignified; the rest all look sort of surprised or unbelieving. And to this day I am so darn happy that the Saint Joseph Museum has that display of really diagnostic artifacts. If Missouri has any, they are probably buried under some mediocre crap from a two-bit site in Boone Co. Mo. How they can face the world and call themselves archeologists. Incidentally I have never read a copy of the report that the Nebraska gang wrote on what they did and learned. Aker was sent a copy. Nebraska under the supervision of Dale Henning has spent several years at the cruddy Mark Twain Park area of N.E.Mo. 1% of that reservoir money will be a lot wasted in the ripoff.

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At a meeting of the Clay County Museum Assn. last Saturday, the speaker was Richard Brownlee of The Missouri Historical Survey. He and Chapman were students together at M.U. In an issue of the REVIEW of several years ago; about the time of the Graphic VOL, XIX NoL. (winter 1967) Brownlee mentioned in a short review that Roy Coy had a story in the Graphic for 1967 , but he didn't seem to have noticed that Shippee and Reynolds had one in there too. These professional fourflushers use to irk me but now I more or less dull my ire and go off whistling Yankee Doodle.

THE MISSOURI ARCHAEOLOGIST

ROBERT T. BRAY (EDITOR), MIAMI

I am using this writing material because my K.C. Museum material is misplaced. Margaret and I are sort of mixed up these times, but we are happy.

we will be seeing you, the Shippees

P.S. Sorry to miss Maudie.

Mett

The Graphics arrived all OK, thanks a lot.

Missouri Archaeological Society

April 25, 1978
1000 HALL
COLUMBIA MISSOURI

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

Dear Mett:

It was nice to visit again with you and Margaret last evening. Maude was aggravated with me for not knowing that all of you would do us the honor of making the trek to St. Jo with Bill Eastman. She is still working at H. D. Lee Co. and is sometimes "pooped out" come evening. Has been having trouble with her elbow and is setting the wheels in motion for retirement from the place in a few months. Soooo, she missed seeing you.

I thought that Bill made a very fine and unusual presentation. A strange and interesting place - that Australia. Probably the only way I will ever see that part of the world will be through Bill's camera and slides.

I am enclosing some extra copies of the Fall 1961, MUSEUM GRAPHIC. If there are others that you need, just let us know.

Best wishes from all here.

Sincerely,

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

DLR:js
Enc.

At a meeting of the Clay County Museum Assn. last Wednesday, the speaker was Richard Brownlee of The Missouri Historical Society. He and Chapman were students together at M.U. in an issue of the REVIEW of several years ago; about the time of the 1967 issue. XIX Vol. (winter 1967) Brownlee mentioned in a short article that Roy Day had a story in the graphic for 1967. But he didn't seem to have noticed that Shippee and Reynolds had seen it then, and. These professional fourth-graders use to let us get away with it less dull my ire and go off whistling Yankee Doodle.

I am using this writing material because my 1000 HALL material is misplaced. Margaret and I are sort of used to these times, but we are happy.

we will be seeing you, the Shippees
P.S. Sorry to miss Maude.

Mett

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- WILSON, PEDDIA
- WILLIAM SPRINGFIELD
- WALLHAUSEN, CHARLESTON

THE MISSOURI
ARCHAEOLOGIST

1000 HALL COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

Weg

K.C. Mo, Jan 17, 1977

Dear Don:

Your letter and the slide have been reviewed before writing this note. The comments about the Nebo dates up at K.U. by Johnson sort of aggravate me for these Ivory Tower boys seem to hate recognizing that Nebo Hill must be very close to what was called Yuma out in Colorado and Angostura and Agate Basin ⁱⁿ Wyoming.

Johnson & O'Brien have a date from a deep Archaic site on the Blue River (Fittle Creek Reservoir) of Kansas. That date was about 3500 B.C. Below it they found a Nebo point, something like one foot lower. These same people (opinionated children) have made a rule that no one but an anthropology major from a University can evaluate a site for engineers who wish to excavate sewers etc through a site. By special dispensation they might allow me to evaluate one for the engineers.

I'm writing an open letter about this sort of discrimination. I have some choice instances to relate. One was where two graduate students were sent up to Angostura Reservoir in S.D., they found 2 sites pointed out by Reclamation engineers.

Two years later I had a Texas student with me and found 71. One of these, the Angostura site, was given ~~25,000.00~~ ^{\$25,000} to be tested and we got 4,500.00 of it. The rest kept the River Basin Survey going for a year.

Margaret, after a heart attack which kept her in the

hospital for a month and a house patient in cold weather for a lot more, is getting along quite well but is ornery, I cant get her to chop wood, carry out ashes or shovel snow.

The slide of the 3 big side notched points are near enough to be the same complex as the 4 fine ones that you sent the slide of. Tentatively I will continue to suggest that they are similar to the beautiful ones made of flint and others made of copper from Old Copper sites in S.W. Wis. Dates there are 5,000 B.C. But I will say they were for some special function as they nearly always occur in a cache and on a high isolated hill. Sort of like they were Ku Klux Klan boys who also liked to meet on a high hill and Ball Knobbers of the White River country of the Ozarks. I'm returning the slide before I lose it. I'm not as good at keeping track of valuable things as I used to be.

This winter has become one hell of a thing and I have to think of a lot of nice things to stand it. One is that quotation "Oh wind, if Winter comes, will Spring be far behind?"

I tried to get this in the mail but failed, so will be calm and hope to hear from you quite soon.

Sincerely, Mitt Shippee

That smaller point in the corner is old too. Looks somewhat like a Hells Gap of Eastern Wyoming. Mike Fisher has a real one from Sugar Creek in Platte Co. Mo.

Mr. Don J. Reynolds
St. Joseph Museum
117 1/2 Charles Street
St. Joseph, Mo. 64501



JAMES M. SHIPPEE
3622 RUSSELL ROAD
KANSAS CITY, MO.
64117

hospital for a month and a house patient in cold weather for a lot more, is getting along quite well but is ornery, I cant get her to chop wood, carry out ashes or shovel snow,

The slide of the 3 big side notched points are near enough to be the same complex as the 4 fine ones that you sent the slide of. Tentatively I will continue to suggest that they are similar to the beautiful ones made of flint and others made of copper from Old Copper sites in S.W. Wis. Dates there are 5,000 B.C. But I will say they were for some special function as they nearly always occur in a cache and on a high isolated hill. Sort of like they were Ku Klux Klan boys who also liked to meet on a high hill and Ball Knobbers of the White River country of the Ozarks. I'm returning the slide before I lose it. I'm not as good at keeping track of valuable things as I used to be.

This winter has become one hell of a thing and I have to think of a lot of nice things to stand it. One is that quotation "Oh wind, if winter comes, will Sorinus be far behind?"

January 4, 1977

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

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Mett:

First - I hope all are well down there at your place. I had to go all the way to Lawrence, Kansas to learn that the "better half" of the Shippee family had been sick. We sure hope that by now she is much improved and herself again.

Saw and talked with Dr. Al Johnson over at K.U. when our museummgng went over on a visit. Saw some of the material from Nebo Hill and asked about a carbon 14 dating. He said they had one - 1605 B.C. (?) Did I hear that right? Kind of puny I thought and so told Dr. Johnson. He agreed and said that you were none to satisfied either! I asked if there would be another back-up test and he said there would. Tried to take a few slides in the dim light of the lab and as soon as I can get them copied, will send some along.

I wanted to send you a slide (enclosed) of the three large points that I had told you about from up near Oregon Mo. What do you think about them? Took the slide last September and will probably go back up there some spring to dig out some bones on their farm they think are buffalo. Have written to them asking to borrow the three points for Allen Eichenberger to reproduce. He has already said that he would when he can get around to it in the spring.

Knowing your interest in these jumbo blades, I wanted to keep your curiosity whetted--maybe even to the point of figuring out who the heck made them.

Hope you and Margaret have a happy and prosperous 1977. All the best from Maude and me.

Sincerely,

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

DLR:js
Enc.

Metz

3218 GLADSTONE BOULEVARD / KANSAS CITY / MISSOURI 64123 / TELEPHONE 816-483-8300

Feb. 3' 1977

Dear Don:

I have been half nuts during this ice age with some apprehension of no heat except by fire place and also by being made aware beginning before Christmas of the Ivory Tower anthropologists who have made the rule that no archeologist except college students are to be used to evaluate the value of an area through which ^{U.S.} government money is to be spent in a construction project. A friend who was concerned asked if Mett Shippee after 30 years of professional employment was OK, and Dave Evans told him "Only by special dispensation of the committee composed of Evans, Dill Marguardt, Jim Price, Patrice O'Brien, Dale Henning and Robert Cooley.

I am not exactly mad but I have spent some valuable time writing of the anthropologist students and professors whom I have observed in the field during the last 44 years and the inability of many of them to demonstrate professional know-how, judgement and INTEGRITY.

I'm glad you had the 5x7 color prints made and here it would have been \$10.00 and with the postage it is 8.00 and 2.00 or 10.00, the way I figure it. On the invoice it reads 4 @ 2.00 = 8.00. You must get special prices and 5 prints for the cost of 4. I did forget to put the 10.00 in my letter but realized it later. I'm glad you trust me,

The slide I am enclosing is of the real you and

we sure about
print of it. I have decided to
slides to the K, C, Chapter some night if they will let me
and this one is one I like best. Margaret gets a kick
out of the one of the drunken archaeologist lying
completely out in the midst of his beer cans and shovel.
You are no Doory Tower boy, Thank God!!

I have probably left something out of this
letter but I have made a real effort to get every
thing in it. Waldo Wedel, by two long letters
has told me that he thinks the professors and
graduate students are missing the ball and substi-
tuting a lot of shop talk and 150 cent words instead
of a real story of what they learn at a site.

Do you recall that Abe Lincoln answered a
critic of General Grant and his drunkenness by
replying that he wished some of his other generals would
drink the same brand of whiskey. Mead and McClellan
were college boys who never did really fight.

All I care for now is to have this snow
and ice melt so I can get some work done.

Sincerely Mitt.

I haven't been to the Museum since Dec 17 '76

MR. DON REYNOLDS
ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM
11TH AND CHARLES STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MO. 64501

we sure like it. I have decided to show my King Hill print of it. I have decided to show my King Hill slides to the K. C. Chapter some night if they will let me and this one is one I like best. Margaret gets a kick out of the one of the drunken archaeologist lying completely out in the midst of his beer cans and shovel. You are no Doory Tower boy, Thank God!!

I have probably left something out of this letter but I have made a real effort to get every thing in it. Waldo Wedel, by two long letters has told me that he thinks the professors and graduate students are missing the ball and substituting a lot of shop talk and 50 cent words instead of a real story of what they learn at a site.

Do you recall that Abe Lincoln answered a critic of General Grant and his drunkenness by replying that he wished some of his other generals would drink the same brand of whiskey. Mead and McClellan were college boys who never did really fight.

All I care for now is to have this snow and ice melt so I can get some work done.

Sincerely Matt.

I haven't been to the Museum since Dec 17 '76

April 21'1977

Matt

Dear Don:

Just in case you haven't the full set of clippings, here is one.

Mike Fisher wants to read your copy. He probably signed that request that was sent to the legislature as did Jim Feagins of K.C., thinking that they were knights in shining armour.

But I didn't because since Arnold Research Cave I have regarded the professors as persons with an ax to grind. Chapman, Hunning, Reagan, Evans and all of them want

the cash that they can get ~~for~~ out
of that 1% of construction cost.

Evans was charging \$100.00 a day
for casually looking at a site
and writing a short report.

Wett

P.S. I don't see how the Spring
meeting can now be held.

Clippings went into
the St. Joe Museum's files

Wett

Kansas City, Mo, 64117 3622 Russell Rd, 64117

Dear Don:

I can't recall when or just the occasion of your making that color slide of me in the broad, floppy straw hat, but it must have been in the summer of 196? while we were digging on King Hill.

Margaret likes it and suggests one for each of our 4 daughters and one for Gregg Stock. She is enclosing \$10 to pay for them, that is if you have the slide. I think the 3x5 would be big enough but she wants the 5x7 ones.

The slides are interesting and must be of some of the material Ken Reid got at Nelo Hill site either in 1975 or 1976. The ones of the small $\frac{3}{4}$ grooved ax is a nice one to have. His charcoal samples were not from locations or associated with a point or ax that would really identify the charcoal as Nelo material. I think he was saving charcoal from scattered places and it should have been from a real fire or fire place with diagnostic artifacts. The K.C. Arch. Soc. has tried three times to get a date for charcoal from a good site and never yet has got a date that was satisfactory. There never has been a point or mano or ax in association. I'm one big

Dr. Mett O'Keefe (Damon Kearney & Associates)

Kansas City, Mo.
Lawrence, Kan.

6 ft diameter of limestone pieces where there were deer bones and broken artifacts, there was no charcoal. I missed the chance by not digging around this feature for the place where the stones had been heated and placed in the 6 ft wide circle to grill the raw meat. Many Indians prepared these stone grilling places. I found a nice one in Wyoming where the pebbles and cobbles were from the outwash of the Rocky Mountains. My photo of it is a beauty for 1950 photography. I was using a 2 1/2 x 3 1/4 Reconar which I still have but never use anymore. Reid wasn't let even look at a small level field just south of the Nubo Hill place where he dug and I'll bet that a few dollars would get the old landowner to allow a 5 ft x 100 ft test to be made. That place has never been eroded like where Ken dug and there the artifacts would still be in place from ^{one} 2 ft to 3 ft deep. But these colleges just won't give up and spend a few dollars besides the hundred or so thousand that the Corps of Eng. or the Highway people will furnish and which can't be spent for any place where they will ^{NOT} destroy the site. They waste an awful lot of money by letting inexperienced boys supervise the digs. They just don't know how or where.

A farmer or hunter would know what an Indian would do. I can return the slide.

Mr. Don Reynolds
St. Joseph Museum
17th & Charles St.
St. Joseph, Mo. 64501



William Road, N.E.
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

William Road, N.E.
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

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charcoal. I missed the chance by not digging
around this feature for the place where the
had been heated and placed in the 6 ft
circle to grill the raw meat. Many
prepared these stone grilling places.
I was from the outwash of the Rock
were in Wyoming where the pebbles
my photo of it is a beauty for
I was using a $2\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ Rock
have but never use any
Hill place where
sellers would
4 x 100 ft

May 10, 1975

Dear Don & Maudie:

I can use this stationery for they call me their Curator of Archeology. But I go over there only when necessary. I do get a lot of phone calls and they may increase beyond what I may like.

I'm getting acquainted with those two fine books which I probably would never have owned but for you two. I sort of hold back these days on buying books for they sure have gone sky high in most stores.

Last evening I answered a call that took me to a borrow pit where the bones of a large animal were partly uncovered. It turned out to be a big horse and very old that had been dug into a gully at the Liberty Arsenal of Civil War days. I still must report!

Metz

Kansas City, Mo.

May 3, 1975

Dear Don and Maudie:

If it takes Margaret and Me living together for 50 anniversaries to get you to come visit us, we will try for another 50 years to get you here each year. It was a day to remember and we surely cherish the fact that so many came.

The two books are new to us and they will be read and added to our library which will be enjoyed for the many years that we have ahead of us.

We thank you for everything.

Neil and Margaret.



Mr and Mrs. Don Reynolds
3108 Edmond
St. Joseph, Mo. 64501

Mett sealed this before I'd added my "bit"
We were so happy to see you - only wish
we'd had time to really visit. Thank you
for making our day complete.
Margaret.

MISS MARY CHAPMAN
1000 N. W. WISSELL ROAD
ANN ARBOR, MICH. 48106

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

COLUMBIA 65202

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Jan. 7, 1973

3622 Russell Road N.E.
K.C., Mo. 64117

Dear Don:

The enclosed history of The A.L. MASON (not A.V. Mason) is about all that the State Historical Society can come up with. I had a heck of a time deciphering the very dim copy of what evidently came out of Way's Directory of Western River Packets. Mrs. Dains Letter is quite legible. I was glad to learn the time of the photo that you enlarged quite some time back. You may be too.

Sincerely,

Mett

Mett Shippee

P.S. We visited Margaret Today (Sunday) and found her quite at ease and busy with company, knitting and reading. She may be released in a few days but no day has been suggested.



3622 Russell Road N.E. Kansas City, Mo. 64117

The following was obtained from the Research department of The State Historical Society of Missouri through the courtesy of Mrs. Mary K. Dains, Associate Editor Missouri Historical Review.

NOT A.V. MASON

A copy of the enlarged photo of the steamboat A.L.MASON, by Don Reynolds of the ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM was sent to the Historical Society for inclusion in their records and photos of the Steamboats that were on the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers during the steamboat days of the 1800's.

Mrs. Dains found the following records of the A.L.MASON in Way's Directory of Western River Packets 1930, p.9. Mrs Dains finds that A.L. Furton of Kansas City was the managing owner of the boat and ran from St. LOUIS to Kansas commanded by Capt. J.P. McKinney and others. Way says, however, that she was wrecked near Somflower landing, Mississippi River, June 1894. (note the copy of the history of this boat that she also sent and the date of wrecking is January 4, 1894).

OF KANSAS CITY

ALSO " Way's Directory, p. 213, describes the MOLINE as a sternwheel packet, wooden hull, built at Cincinnati, Ohio, Size 140 x 26.2. Long a raft boat, she was bought by the Kansas City Navigation Co. in June 1900 and converted into an excursion boat. Capt. Ralph Emerson acquired her about 1904, renamed her Emerson and used her towing his showboats.

(FROM A VERY DIM COPY)

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE A.L.MASON

IN THIS picture, the A.L. Mason is under construction at Madison Ind. in 1890 for the Kansas City and River Transportation Company, a concern that in the same year had two other boats of similar size and style, the State of Kansas and the State of Missouri, built at Madison. The capital came from business men in Kansas City who wanted to beat down high rail rates. Such a big scare did they throw into railroad officials, says Capt. Frederick Way, that they cut the rates before all three were completed. In fact the State of Missouri never saw the Missouri River and came for the Memphis and Cincinnati and New Orleans trade.

All three boats were primarily intended for freight and one may look right through the boiler deck in the above picture (/) to well back under the short Texas deck before, it will be noticed, the cabin and stateroom can be noticed.

The A.L. Mason first arrived in St. Louis on June 29, 1890, just eight days after her first inspection was conducted by the Louisville steamboat inspectors on June 21, 1890 at Madison. On June 26, 1891, June 25, 1892, June 23, 1893, she was given annual inspections in ~~the~~ St. Louis by the local inspectors of that city.

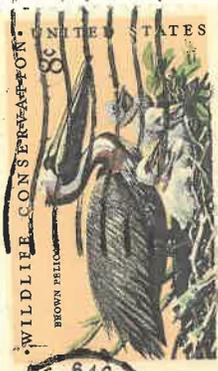
On January 4, 1894 while on a down-trip in the St. Louis-New Orleans trade, the A.L. Mason struck a hidden obstruction opposite Delta, Miss., about 90 miles below ~~Miss~~ Memphis. She sank and proved to be a total loss. The Memphis inspectors reported that the boat was valued at \$20,000 and the cargo at \$30,000. They noted that although no lives were lost, the master Capt. George G. KEITH, was badly injured. The late Fielding L. ~~Woolridge~~ ^{Woolridge} stated that his injuries were caused when the smokestacks fell upon him.

For readers who like the boat statistics, the hull of the A.L. Mason was 252 by 52.6 by six feet and the gross tonnage 1,130.34. Fielding L. WOOLDRIDGE said there were four boilers, each 42 inches in diameter and 25 feet in length. The engine cylinders 20 inches in diameter by seven feet stroke. "

Don: I had an awful time deciphering the copy that was sent me, please excuse the typing.

Mett Shippee Mett

J. M. Shippee
3622 Russell Road N.E.
Kansas City, Mo. 64117



Mr. Don Reynolds
St. Joseph Museum
11th & Charles
St. Joseph, Mo. 64501

Saturday August 10' 1972

Dear Don:

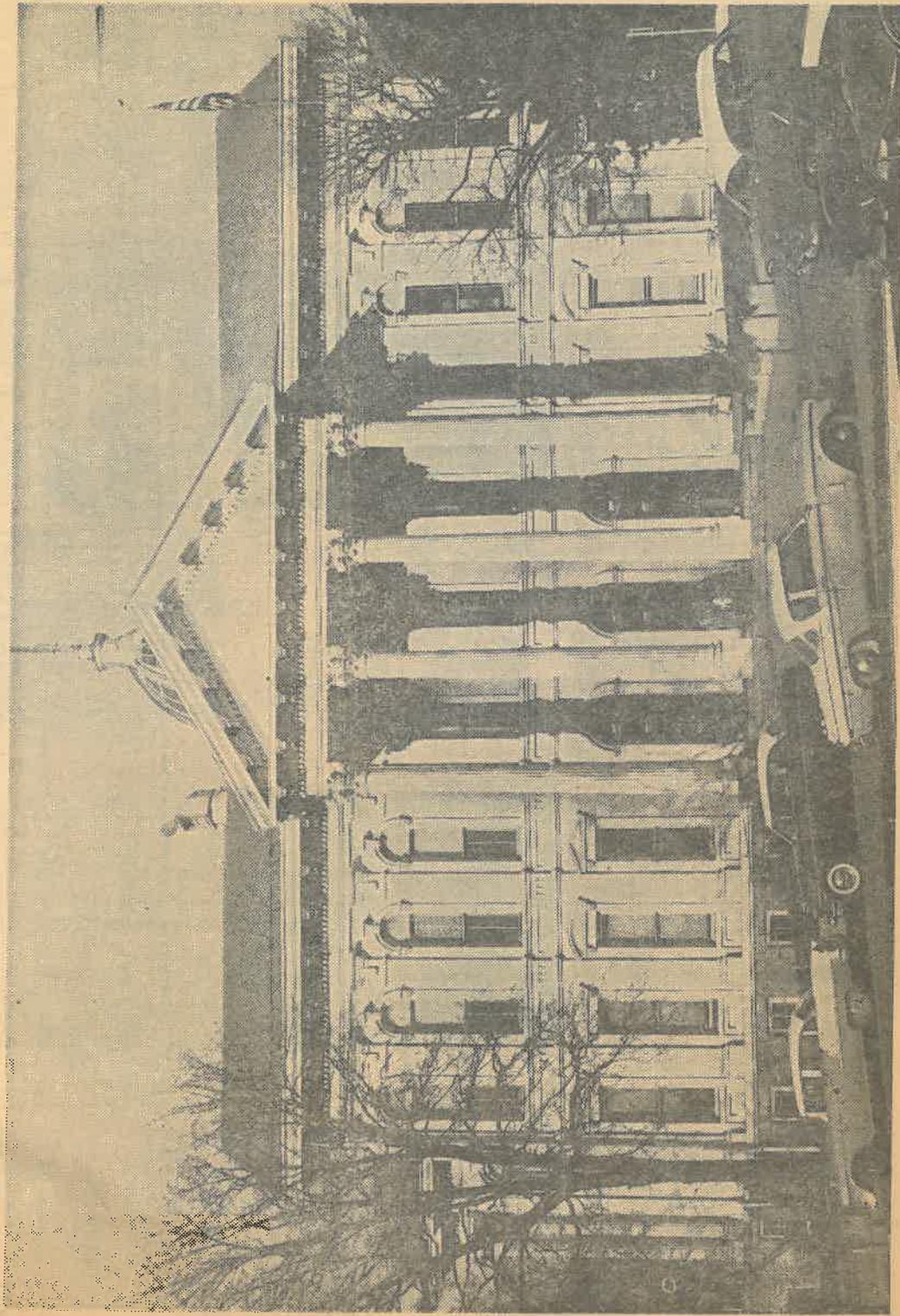
You might not get to see this
in the papers up at St. Joseph.
So here this one.

I was mighty glad that you
fellows could come down for the
Leary site and Uty material.
Hope you can do it again.

Wett Shippee

Don you could have got several when you were Friday morning.
Kansas City Times, Friday, Aug 11, 1972

Saving History From the Bulldozer



The Buchanan County Courthouse was moved house, but it was rebuilt, taking on its present

Test of Fire

By Mildred Grenier

St. Joseph, Mo.—This city may have buildings that are more important architecturally and historically than any other city in the Midwest, according to Richard Frank, historical and restoration architect of Ann Arbor, Mich.

Residents of St. Joseph, aware of their rich heritage, are battling to save their historic sites from the onrush of urban renewal wrecking crews.

Across the nation, the wrecker's ball and bulldozer are razing the nation's ties with the past in the name of progress.

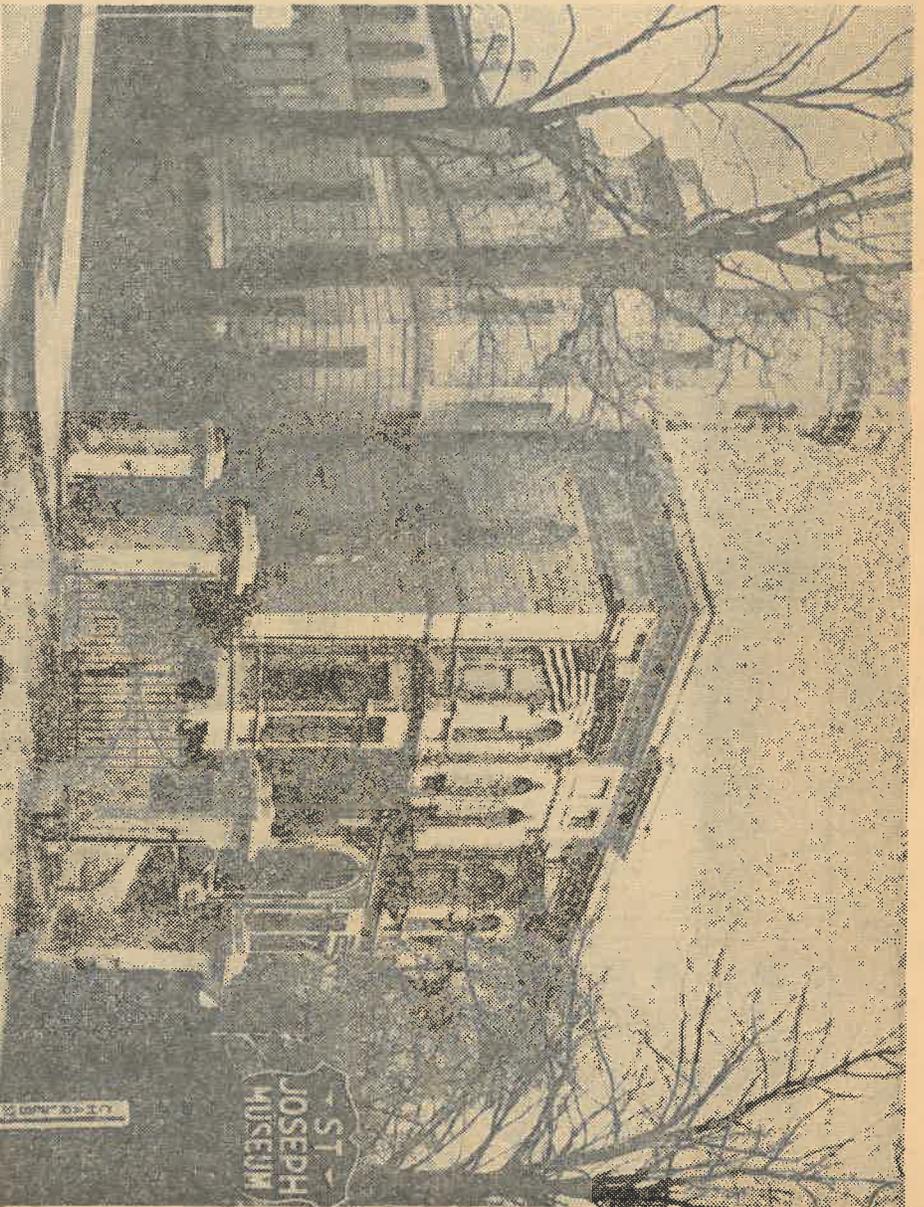
Progress is another name for going forward; but history-minded citizens believe that if we are to know where we are going, we must know where we have been.

They maintain that landmarks impart a distinctive character to a city and are objects of civic consciousness and pride.

Scene At Left

When opening into its present location in St. Joseph, Mo., in 1842. The original brick building was razed in 1871 and a new structure was built. In 1885 fire severely damaged the court-

yard. The floor plan is Gothic of architectural cross. On three sides of the building, Corinthian porticoes with stone columns add to its beauty.



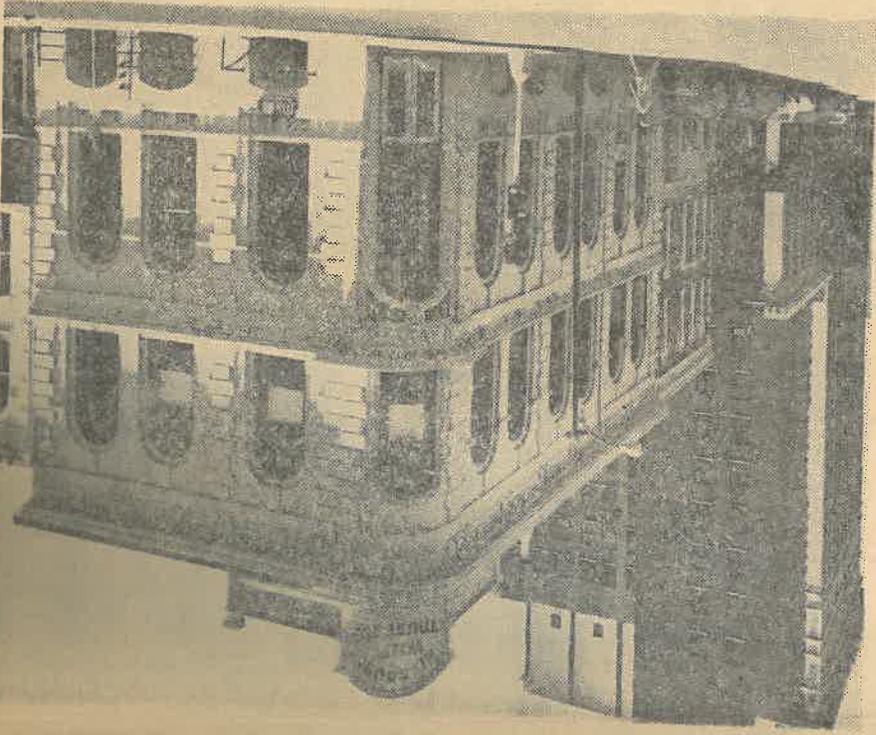
From Home To Museum

The picturesque building which now houses the St. Joseph Museum was once a stately home. The building was built in 1879 as the residence of William M. Wyeth. It was

later purchased by Milton Tootle. In 1947 it became the St. Joseph Museum. The building is a Gothic style sandstone structure containing 43 large rooms.

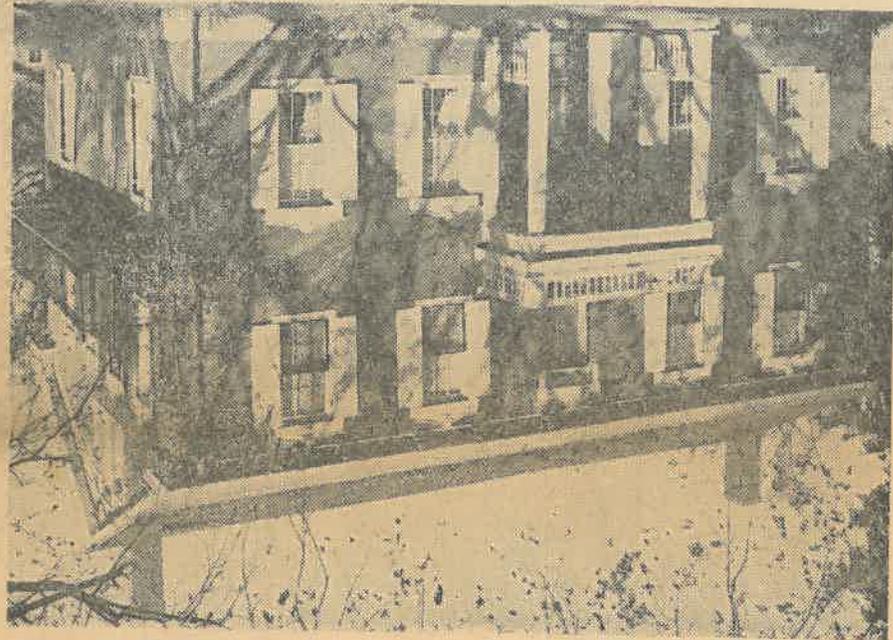
PEANUTS

...was once a stately home. The building was built in 1879 as the residence of William M. Wyeth. It was purchased by Milton Toole. In 1947 it became the St. Joseph Museum. The building is a Gothic style sandstone structure containing 43 large rooms.



Bank Landmark

The Missouri Valley Trust Company Building was built with native stone in 1859. It has been designated by the State Historical Society as the oldest bank building continuously in use west of the Mississippi. Since 1900 the bank has been the home of the Missouri Valley Trust Company.



Built From The Land

The Miller House is one of the oldest in St. Joseph. It was built in 1859 for Isaac Miller, a Virginian who came to Missouri. According to tradition, slaves dug clay on the farm, built kilns, and made the bricks to build the 12-room, 2-story structure. Visible on one of the bricks is the handprint of a slave child. Members of the Isaac Miller family still live in the house.

K.C. Mo. 64117 — 3622 Russell Rd. N.E. STEADMAN
A.F. MASON

Dear Don: Thanks for getting Nebraska down here
for the artifacts. I hope I dispose the rest of this
collection that easy. Concerning that 35 mm
negative of Liberty Landing and Arsenal Hill —
the reporter here in N.K.C. who had a like negative
blew it up to 8x10 and it revealed people on the shore
near the bow of the steamboat and that big
building. This proves to me that this was at Liberty
Landing and the gully in front of the building had
a road up the hill to the Arsenal and on to Liberty.
These historians are killing themselves down there in
this hot weather. I'll wait till fall to go look. Mett

I STILL WANT TO PAY FOR 2-8X10 PHOTOS



Mr. Don Reynolds
3108 Edmond
St Joseph, Mo. 64501

3622 Russell Road
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

Aug 1

Mr. Frank Black and
Mr. Charles H. Fountain
820 N. 10th. Street
St. Joseph Mo. 64502

Dear Mr. Fountain and Black:

It was nice of you to remember to send the copy of your most interesting discovery near Rushville. Several oval blades, but larger are in a museum west of White Cloud, Kansas. I have not seen them and don't know if those side notched points were with them. Several others were found near St. Joseph and reported by a woman who owns them. Zimmerman of White Cloud gave the Historical Society at Lincoln a huge side notch point. Zimmerman is dead.

I illustrate several of those points in my No. 2 in the Research publications of the Mo. Arch. Society. Fischer must have a copy. They cost \$1.50.

The National Museum of Wash. D. C. shows about 6 of them dug by Peabody Museum at Harvard in 1878, near Riverside Mo. I sketched them in that Research 2. A huge one was plowed up west of Parkville many years ago. They seem to always be from a pretty high hilltop.

You really made a most interesting find and valuable to archeology. Have Don Reynolds make a close up photo of the best of them.

I'd like to come hunt as I did 50 years ago but that visit to your meeting last Saturday laid me up for 3 days. I just am not strong any more. Bronchitis and 41 days in the hospital for that potassium burn on my forearm when a nurse tried to get the potassium into my blood.

Sincerely, Matt Shippee

September 13, 1972

Mr. J. Mett Shippee
3622 Russell Rd.
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

Dear Mett:

A belated thanks for sending along the news clippings of St. Joseph historical buildings. Many thanks. Never did hear of any Kansas City article on 23BN1 though. Maybe it didn't make it. Mike and I have been wondering what happened.

I am sending along a reprint copy of "Recollections of a Pioneer" that may be of interest to you. It is written by Watt Gibson, an old timer from around Agency, Mo.-- my old stomping ground. I have two original copies (one from two sides of the family) and had hoped someone might come up with money for a reprint. A Sam Utz, whose family name is in the book shelled out the money and had it done. Only a thousand copies, however, so they will be a little high at \$3.00. Let me know what you think of it.

The Reeces' and the Brinton's in the book are Maude's folks (she was a Brinton). The Captain Reynolds may have been some of my relation. Can't find out for sure. Not too sure I want to since he seemed to be on the wrong side of the fence and Maude's ancestors nearly finished him off.

The Nebraska boys hope to get back down to St. Jo in October and go to Fanning for a short dig for material to compare with 23BN1.

We will be in Montana where the Mountains and Plains Museum Conference will be held at Bozeman until September 25.

As Ever,

W. Don

K, C. Mo. Sept. 16, 1972

Dear Don and Maude:

Don you were so right about that book being of great value to anyone interested in the history of the Civil War and even the pioneers going to Oregon and California. I have already written a letter to a local couple who are greatly interested in all of this area's history; I recommended they try and acquire a copy from you or the Museum.

As for me, I never realized the hatred of the people on both sides about the secession and other issues of those times.

We had an old neighbor who was a young girl here in a farm community at the time and she still was bitter about the Bushwhackers who infested the farm ^{area} people.

She was a Houdeshell and the farm was an old one on Fishing River, south of Excelsior Springs or where that town is located today. Her people came to Clay Co. in the 1820's.

But such hatred could occur today. So many people react violently if they think they can get away with it. We do need quick acting law and order and really severe punishment for the crime that is prevalent, especially in the ghettos where there is a terrible drift of tolerance about these criminals who ~~are~~ becoming so numerous. Politicians are seeking their votes and so many of them cannot read or write,

but are actually just animals. And the worst part is that they are dope addicts and have no compassion for decent people. They rob and kill with no reticence. Dam for capital punishment and speedy trials, even lynchings.

But I have read most of the book and will get into it more thoroughly. More people should have it to read.

I now know that your ancestors had to live through a terrible time which was caused in part by the thoughts and actions of "do-gooders". I am in sympathy today with the Rhodesians and South African Whites.

I sent Mike two copies of the story about King Hill that was in the Star. I retained a copy for my files and sent one to Columbia. I hope I feel well enough to attend the Fall meeting there. The date seems not to have been set.

Sincerely,

Wett.

Wed. Sept. 26 '1972 — Got your note, the two blue beads and the clipping about the Huron Cemetery this noon and am glad you remembered me. I can remember the news items through the years when the two sisters resisted the bankers who wanted the land. The bankers even drove trucks over monuments and dumped building materials on it. Harry Frowbridge, now dead, fought for its salvage after the sisters died. That whole story was copied in the Kokomo papers but without the photos. I am glad to

have the clipping.

As for the beads, they are blue and in size exactly like the trade beads that the Pawnees wanted. They seemed to not want the red and the black seed beads that some other Indians would accept.

We find no beads what ever here in our area except a few made from bone or shell and other materials obtainable for aught here. The blue beads (this big ) that we have dug up on the prairies and plains of Kansas, were made in Venice. I don't know where the seed beads came from. The blue glass beads we found in the Wichita sites of Central Kansas (time of Coronado, and later, 1541 to 1600) were the blue ones from Venice.

The bone tubes worn by Sioux etc were made in Rhode Island by white men. The K. C. Museum has a breast decoration which is not the tubes made by white men but is of split bone pieces such as this , and is evidently Indian made.

I notice by the Plains Anthropologist magazine that the conference will be Nov 1 to 4 at Lincoln. I may go if I can stay free of the bronchitis for that period. I will try to go to Columbia for Mo. Arch. fall meeting if I am able. No date has come to me for it so far.

For now, Sincerely, Mett.

Dear Don:

Nov. 26'1972

It has been almost impossible to get information on the Cheyenne & Arapaho Indians from Darlington Reservation in Oklahoma. No person has been able to help me, that is the ones I have contacted but someone at the Smithsonian surely could with considerable research work.

I finally got out my two volumes (first edition, 1923 by George Bird Grinnell) on the Cheyenne Indians and it has helped some but not as much as I had anticipated.

Starving Elk was the son of a Starving Elk who ~~was~~ ~~the~~ ~~son~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~northern~~ ~~Cheyenne~~ ~~Starving~~ ~~Elk~~, ¹⁸⁷⁹ ~~the~~ ~~older~~ ~~one~~ was killed by a "Little Chief" up north, ^{in 1879} ~~years~~ ago.

The second Starving Elk was an elderly man when this photo was made.

Wolf Face, another old man was in a big battle with the Pawnees in 1852-53 so must have been in his late 60's when photographed. Grinnell has dates of 1980-1902 for these photos (the Cheyennes were at Darlington then.) ^{He had been} ~~badly~~ ~~wounded.~~

Yellow Woman may have been the daughter of a Yellow Haired Woman, wife of Walking Bear killed in 1867 in a gun accident. Grinnell says she died in Aug. 1915

Anderson Shirt (Grinnell) was born up north in the early 1800's. Walking Woman was mentioned in Grinnell but I lost the place and haven't reread it. over.

Bear Louse must have been named after a relative for a Bear Louse was shot & killed in the Black Hills in a dispute over a horse. see page 100 Vol. 1.

Little Chief was of a band removed from North Dakota in 1877. He fought against the Utes in New Mexico and likely went down there from Oklahoma. pages 29, 201, 232 Vol. 1.

A Black Coyote belonged to a very distinguished fighting family of Northern Cheyennes. The one in Grinnell's account was captured by soldiers in 1878 and committed suicide in prison.

This isn't much help ~~and~~ but it does bring out that Indian genealogy is a real maze. If you can get copies of Grinnell's books and have time to read them you may find them quite informative. I read No. 1 years ago and part of No. 2 but have forgot a lot of what I read.

I'm still not out of the woods with my bronchitis and sinus and I am not real efficient at a lot of research. Dale Henning has never got to examine the Oneota material I sent up to him. Too much to do with students and projects. Come see us, Matt.

105701
St. Joseph, Mo. 64501

3108 Edmund
Mr. Don Reynolds



UNITED STATES POSTAGE



RD. 17, MO.
CITY 17, MO.

Bear Louse must have been named after a relative
for a Bear Louse was shot & killed in the Black Hills
dispute over a horse. see page 100 Vol. 1.

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in 1877. He fought against the Utes in
rebelly went down there from Oklahoma
A Black Coyote belonged to
fighting family of Northern
Drinnell's account was
id committed sin
isnt m

K.C. Mo.

Dec. 26, 1972

Dear Don:

Many thanks for the blow-ups of the steamboat Mason and Liberty Landing in the back ground. And of course that hill is where the Liberty Arsenal was located. There is still some traces of the Arsenal on the hill and of the trail which led up from the Landing to the Arsenal. There is some talk of making the whole area a Clay County Park. At the left of the picture and visible in uncropped prints, a couple of rather large buildings are on the hill side. I have been told they may be the winery which was there. That winery could have been the attraction that caused the excursion steamboat to stop there. Kansas City has always had several excursion boats to take people for a ride where they could dance, drink, eat and gamble. The 'Majestic' in 1911 was a gambling boat. There were also the Chester and others.

You surely can have prints for your collections. I have sent one of these to the State Historical Society at Columbia, Mo. and all the history that I could learn. In the 1972, July issue there are the photographs of a lot of the Missouri and Mississippi River steamboats. I sent one of your 8x10's of the MOLINE to them several years ago. They thanked me and I know they were sincere.

Hope you had a good visit in the south over Christmas. We had our rather quite one but the kids did get here and especially Janis

husband (a pilot of a C 135 tanker) got home from S.E. Asia.)

I'm in one of my periodic mild slumps this morning but hope it a usual gets OK by noon lunch.

Well, old Harry Truman died this morning at 88. We didn't think back in 1934 that he would ever amount to much but he just seemed to be honest and was a good president which was a surprise, considering he was a politician. But he was pretty honest which I think is more than tricky Dick. I'm glad that Nixon beat Mc Govern and his crazy ideas.

Sincerely

Walt Shipp

Oct 6 '1971

Dear Don: Here is another picture which is of considerable importance to history in the Liberty region. The steamer "MASON" is not so important except that it was still plying the Mo River in the 90's when it was here moored to the north bank of the river at Liberty Landing, which was just at the base of Arsenal Hill. The arsenal was the scene of the first rebel attack at the start of the Civil War here in 1861 and the arms were taken and used in the war.

I copied this 35 mm from a picture ^(photo 5x7) in the K.C. Museum. The prints made by Elko were good, but when I had them make 2 - 5x7's some bid sure failed.

The left side of the picture came out dimmer than the right and it sure disgusts me, the service that Elko gives.

I hope you are not too busy to make me a 5x7 that is a decent blow-up.

I won't be mad if you are too busy. Mett

SHIPPEE Highway May Take Indian Village Site

S. JOSEPH GAZETTE, MAR. 1, 1971

KANSAS CITY (AP)—Completion of Interstate 435 around the Kansas City perimeter will destroy one of the most important prehistoric Indian village sites in the Midwest unless the highway route is changed, archaeologists say.

The site is on Brush Creek northwest of Parkville. It was discovered 20 years ago by J. Matt Shippee, but digging didn't begin until 1969. Shippee is archaeologist in residence at the University of Missouri.

"This site was occupied at two different times by prehistoric people," said Dr. Alfred Johnson, curator of the museum of anthropology at the University of Kansas. "One was 2,000 years ago and another in 1,200 A.D. In both cases there were extensive villages. Destruction would be a serious thing for our scientific knowledge."

Indians occupied the area at least 500 years, Johnson said, then left in 1200 A.D. and didn't return until 1700.

"There was a 500-year gap and we don't know why," he said. "There is evidence of an intense drought, but we can't figure out

why they didn't come back when the drought ended."

Shippee and Johnson have asked the Missouri Highway Department to consider rerouting the \$40 million highway.

"Because of the expansion of Kansas City, most of the ancient Indian sites have been destroyed," Johnson said. "We are at a point where if we don't begin digging soon, we won't have any in Clay County, but they were less important than the Brush Creek village in Platte County. He said there were more than 100 known sites in Clay County."

February 13, 1970

Mr. J. Mett Shippee
3622 Russell Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64117

Dear Mett:

I am belatedly returning your sheets on Cavagnial. We copied them here and the copies came out o.k. Sorry to be so tardy in getting this material back to you. Our usual policy is to let this kind of copy work pile up until there is enough for a "run."

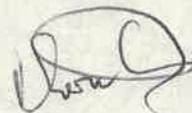
I hope to get down to see that area. Am more than anything else just curious I guess--as with any elusive local history. A history spot, still not located, especially one so old and important does present a challenge. But if all the pros have failed, what chance is left? Maybe some old farmer would have a better idea. Reckon so? I had hoped that you might have figured out a new approach and that I could go along when you dig up the first rusty gun, stew pot, gold coin or whatever. Mike mentioned using infra-red film from the air. Don't know if that would be of any benefit or not. Enough of day dreaming!

Enjoyed talking with you Monday. You must get up more often.

Thanks again for taking the time to look over the Enterprise Hill material and slides and for your opinion. We may get back down there this spring to "punch" the rest of that hill, although Mike heard just the other day that the Highway Department may not cut that particular hill away after all. Just like a bunch of women!

Don't forget to bring along the old river boat photos when next you come up.

Sincerely,



Mr. Mett Shippee
April 10, 1970
Page 2

April 10, 1970
certain of the members very hard (don't!) we can't go around digging
just where we please--especially cave shelters with Nebo Hill places
close by. I guess Mike already told you about the cave though.

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

As ever,

Dear Mett:

Want to answer your letter much before now but just didn't get me around to it.

Mentioned the Canon lens around but no one seems to take interest. Really, hardly anybody I know has a Canon or a Leica. Is it possible to get a special adapter so that you might fit it to your Contaflex? We have a 135mm Triotar adapted to our Bolex. Too bad that you can't make it work for you. Should be a good lens. What do you want for it? I was asked.

Les Hixon was by the museum one day when I was away. Maybe he had Fott Cavagnalle in mind, but left no word. Haven't heard anything from him since. Has he been interested in that place for long and does he know much about it?

Don't know for sure yet if I can get down to Washington State Park or not. Maude has ideas about going down Friday night and looking around St. Louis on Saturday. Also stop on the way down to pay an evening visit to my aunt and uncle at Columbia that we rarely get to see. This makes a rather full and expensive weekend and I have not yet been able to whip myself into any frenzy of enthusiasm. Mike wanted to leave at 2:15 A.M. Sunday morn! (He has to work until that time.) He can stay over Monday though, while we must get back Sunday night. Heck, I don't know whether we will go or not.... Have never had the chance to look around St. Louis but--in one day!?

Dr. Johnson is coming over next week to look at what may have been a shelter cave over on the Kansas side. Some of the club guys found it and were going to do some "potting." Mike spilled the beans and we said either they call Johnson or we (St. Joseph Museum) will. So--they did. Don't suppose that made

K.C. No. 64117

March 23 '1970

Dear Don:

I can't say when I'll be coming up that way but I'm yearning to so if I can ever get the wagon away from Margaret I'll try it.

Leo Roedel (a vice pres of the Society) says Carl wrote him for his opinion on ^{having} the Spring meeting at Washington State Park below St. Louis, for someone down there may be willing to sponsor it. I have little likelihood of driving that far but with Cahokia and the Bonne Terre area so near, there could be something for the members to see besides Anthropology students mumbering their lessons.

What I do want to tell you about is a CANON telescopic lense and fine black cylindrical case that my son in law in Seattle sent me. He picked it up and probably got a bargain for he is an amateur photographer and a real red hot restaurant man.

But I can't attach a Canon to my Contaflexes and I'm ready to pass it on to some one with a Canon Camera or a

Leica which last Doc Wilson says will take it. I'm not about to buy a Leica.

This lens is (Canon Lens 135 mm 1:3.5 No. 98993) Canon Camera Co., Inc. Lens made in Japan.

In addition to the case there are also the lens covers for both ends and a sunshade.

Wilson says this is a pretty expensive item and I wish I could use it but I can't with my 2 contaflexes.

I had an occasion to take a long shot at the Bison posed around the big bull on a natural mound at Line Creek Park but for me no luck.

Hixon who now lives and works over in Leavenworth is a Ft. Cavagnolle bug and I told him to have you explore the site with your metal detectors. He may be seeing you.

This lens will go to someone who can use it at a bargain price and the auctioneer is awaiting a bid.

Sincerely
J. Mett.

K.C. Mo.

July 19, 1969

Dear Donnd Maudie:

What a surprise — that picture that you made at the June 3rd. party. And then to see it on the 'Museum Graphic', full page. Gee Whiz! Folks seem to be carrying me high and it is all on account of the quite remarkable happenings in the last 5 years. We cry in the wilderness for years and years, sometimes for a lifetime and then, once in a while everything turns out quite perfect.

Believe me, I want King's Hill to be well known by archeologists and ethnologists and horticulturalists because I think it really is an important Indian village site. Things concerning King's Hill are falling into place as a result of yours and the other fellows efforts and we must not forget Betty's old mother from down at Clowdale who sicked Aher on to Betty's garden and too the pot hunter who would like to be an archeologist but can't keep from digging, degging, digging. They all stack up to do more for archeology than the professors.

I'll be up someday and get another Graphic or so

Sincerely
Mett



Don Reynolds

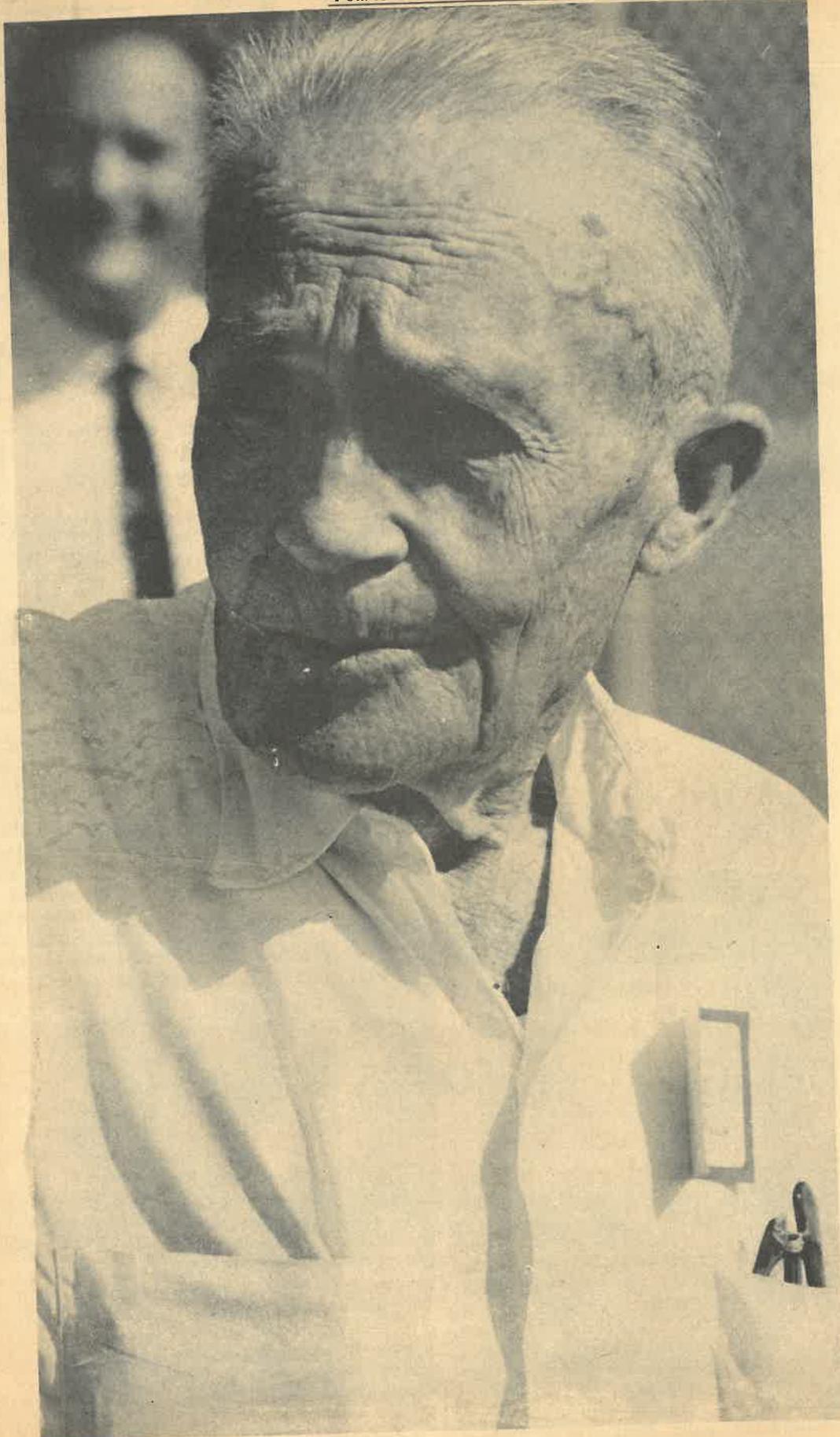
3108 Edmond

St. Joseph, Mo.

64501

Thursday: June 14 1871

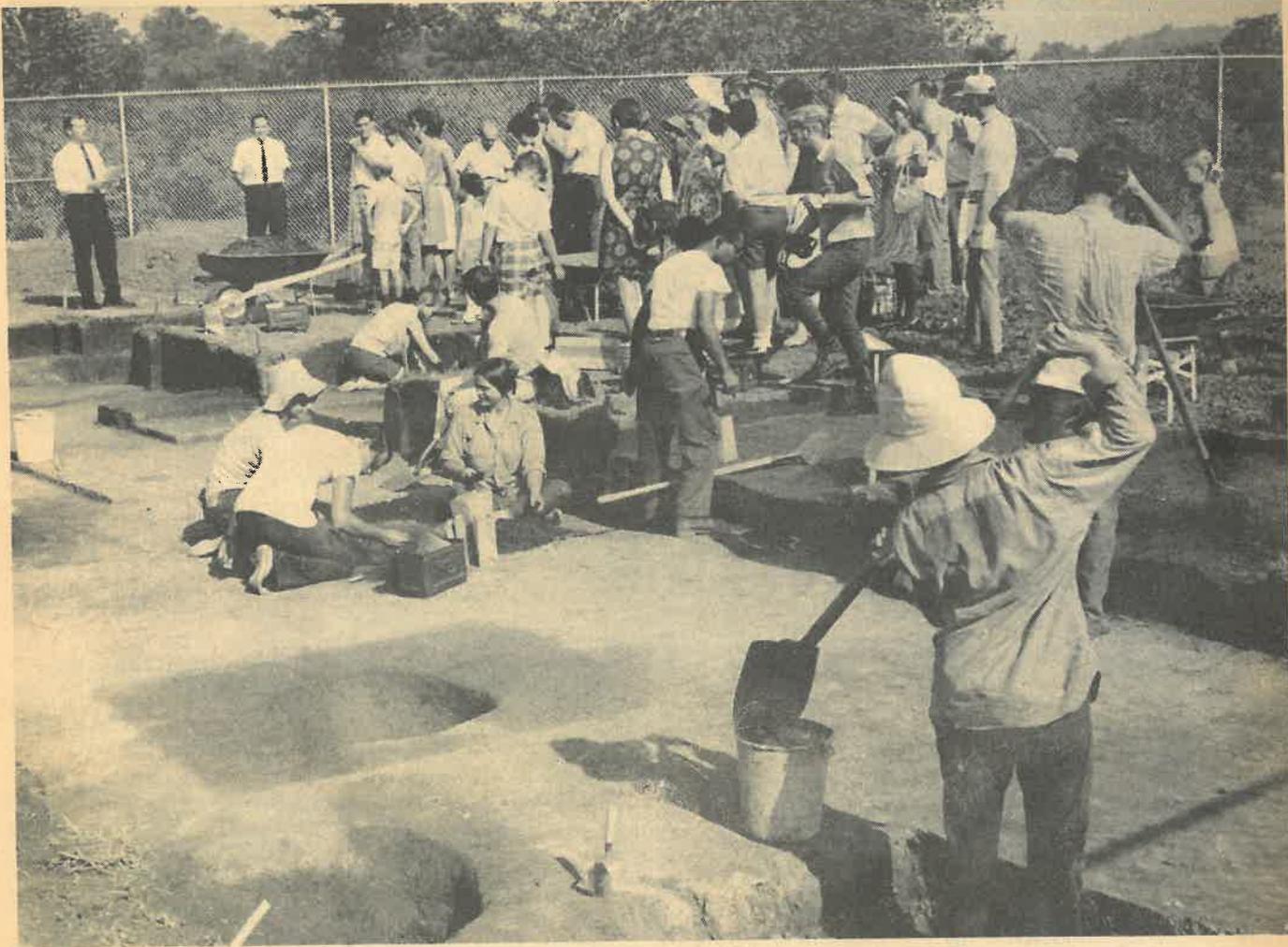
Dear Tom: I hope the pages of Barlow
you and got to you. I trust I can
do it again very easily. And I must
go up to the Miscellaneous Library
and make copies of the Mr. Reed's
1843. I am sending Frank Thors's notes
to you so that you can see them and let
him know that they are not lost but
just forgot. He probably will be glad
to get them back when you see him.
Mott.



FINDER OF LINE CREEK DIG
... Archaeologist J. Mett Shippee

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VISITORS GET BRIEFING ON HISTORY OF INDIANS
... while archaeology students continue their search

Hopewell Indian Culture Flourished 2,000 Years Ago

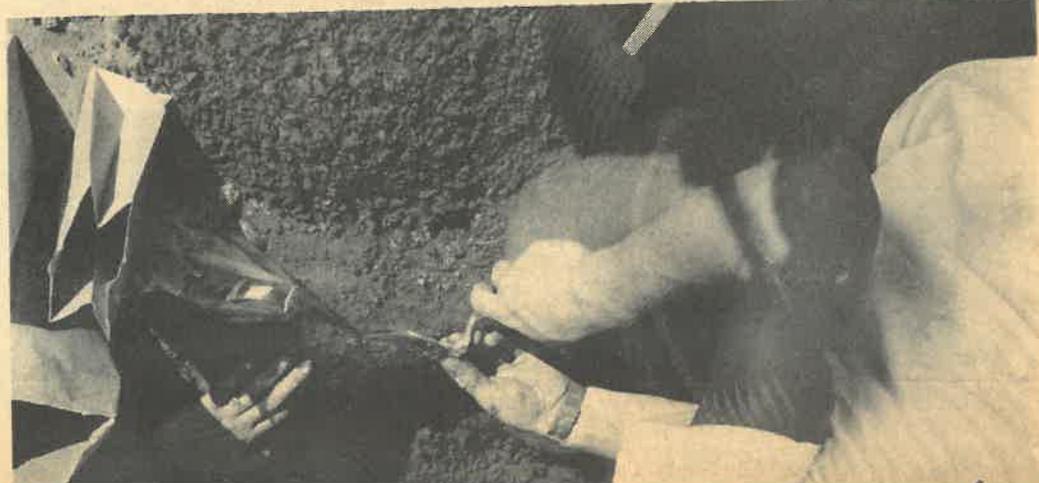


Students from Gre
Plains Archaeologic
School, laboratory a
sistants, archaeologis
and site supervisor, I
Alfred Johnson, depart
ment of anthropolog
Kansas University, a
excavating a "dig"
Line Creek Park, Platte County

DIGGERS SCRAPE OUT PITS BY HAND ... as they sift through dirt centimeter by centimeter



REFUSE PIT YIELDS VALUABLE ARTIFACTS ... of Indians who lived in area 2,000 years ago



and recreation depart-
ment, the Kansas Uni-
versity, will be open to
the public next Sunday,
July 20.
Through efforts of J.
Mett Shippee, research
associate, University of
Missouri, the site has
been preserved for

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Kansas City
History and
the city's park
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Kansas Uni-
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next Sunday,

efforts of J.
ee, research
University of
the site has
reserved for

study. The site depicts
the Hopewell Indian
Culture. Shippee has
uncovered remains of a
number of storage or
refuse pits and one
large fire hearth.

In June, 1969, stu-
dents began their scien-
tific excavation, which
is expected to take
three summers to com-
plete.



ARCHAEOLOGIST SHOWS POTTERY
... found at Riverside diggings



DIRTY HANDS ARE COMMON
... as students get close to nature

Line Creek Park Boasts Early Day Indian Culture

The 2,000 year old Hopewell Indian Village, or Line Creek Archeological Excavation, will have a Public Open House July 20.

The "dig" is located within an 80-acre tract of land recently acquired by the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department for a recreation area and more importantly, to preserve for excavation, what may be the last (and best preserved) Hopewell Indian Village within the United States. The site is located in southern Platte County (within the city limits of Kansas City, Mo.) on N.W. Waukomis Drive and Englewood Road, just west of Highway 169. Technically the excavation site is known as the Deister Site, but takes its present name from a stream on the property known as Line Creek.

Approximately 20 people are involved in the excavation at this time, representing students from the Great Plains Archeological Field School, laboratory assistants, archeologists and the site supervisor. Dr. Alfred Johnson, Department of Anthropology, Kansas University heads the field

school study. Mr. J. Mett Shippee, research associate, University of Missouri, also assists.

"Line Creek Dig" has been under observation for 36 years. Mr. Diester, a farmer living on the property, often found projectile points and other artifacts.

Shippee performed exploratory excavations which have uncovered remains of fourteen storage or refuse pits and one large (over five feet in diameter) fire hearth. Two pits excavated by Shippee contained typical Hopewellian artifacts including large fragments of pottery decorated in the Hopewellian style, fragments of tobacco pipes, and one complete pipe.

Photos of the Line Creek site excavation may be found on page 1A of this week's Dispatch.

Commenting on the village, Shippee said, "Where Kansas City is located now in northern Jackson County, there have been found numerous places where the Hopewell people had lived in extensive village sites. They are known to have been at 9th and Woodland, 12th and Woodland, 13th and Paseo, N. Terrace Park and on east along the southern slopes from the Missouri River bluffs in Jackson, Lafayette, Saline and Cooper Counties. Their village sites have been revealed by cultivation and construction work and on the hills and ridges the remains of burial mounds are an indication of the survival of the burial cult in a quite minimal form."

The excavation is a joint endeavor of the Kansas City Museum of History and Science, Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department, the University of Kansas and the University of Missouri. In June, 1969, students of the Great Plains Archeological Field School began scientific excavation of the site. According to Dr. Johnson, a thorough excavation of the site will require approximately three summers to complete.

K.C., Mo.

June 17, 1969

Dear Don:

The 8x10 prints that you made of Margaret & Me at the Gold Buffet surely came out very nice and we are glad to have them.

Your ability to make a good photo and print causes me to run to you for such things and it is an imposition, but honestly we appreciate your help so much that we feel deeply indebted to you and the St. Joseph Museum. You are due for considerable monetary reward from us.

The man who was taking those flash bulb shots, brought 17 out to us while I was trying to get over a siege of virus or some-

thing and they cheered me up so much that I have about recovered completely. He seems to be a good photographer and all of those 35 mm color shots came out real good. I guess he was using a telephoto lense and so the prints are real good. He gave me the negatives so I can have more prints made and send them to all the speakers. He is Jim Hammond who is a viola player in the R.C. Philharmonic orchestra. He tells me that Contaflex ~~lenses~~ ^{shutters} are noted for getting dirty. That makes me sad.

R.U. was to begin digging at Pine Creek Park today but it is raining so they may not. I hope we get some good weather at least in the daytime.

Sincerely, Matt

J. Matt Shippee Honored For Years Service

J. Matt Shippee, 3622 Russell Rd., was honored at a surprise testimonial dinner Tuesday night, sponsored by The Kansas City Chapter of the Missouri Archaeology Society. More than 100 persons from over Missouri and Kansas attended the dinner at the Gold Buffett in North Kansas City.

Shippee was honored for his contributions to American archaeology during the past 45 years. He has worked with the Smithsonian Institute, was the discoverer of the Platte County Line Creek site which will be worked this summer by Kansas University; and is probably best known for his Nebo Hill site five miles south of Liberty, an archeological

(See **ARCHAEOLOGIST**, page 2)

Archaeologist

(Continued from page 1)

complex which pertains to archaic man.

Barry Greenhaw, president of the KC Chapter presented Shippee with a silver trowel and Leo Roedl, vice president of the society presented him with a copy of "A History of Mett's Work in Archaeology."

Mrs. R.B. Aker served as mistress of ceremonies.

Among those attending the dinner were; Henry Hamilton, Miami, Mo., president of the Missouri Archaeology Society; Dr. and Mrs. William Bass, Dr. and Mrs. Alfred M. Johnson, and Dr. and Mrs. Carlyle Smith, from the archaeology department Kansas University; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Roedl; Dr. and Mrs. Sidney Ecklaw, department of geology, UMKC; Mr. and Mrs. William G. Hassler, representing the Kansas City Museum; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fisher, the St. Joseph Museum; Roland Pangburn, from Missouri University;

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pharris, president of the Clay County Museum Association; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Seelen, Sedalia, Mo.; Mr. and Mrs. Don Reynolds, St. Joseph, trustee of the Missouri Archaeology Society; Miss Diantha Haviland, department of classics, Kansas University; Lawrence Bradley, Candice Heavin, and Paul Katts, Kansas University, museum of archaeology.

*Times
K.C. Star June 17 1969*



J. METT SHIPPEE, ARCHAEOLOGIST, was honored last night by the Kansas City chapter of the Missouri Archaeological association at a dinner at the Gold Buffet restaurant, 503 East Eighteenth avenue, North Kansas City. Shippee, 3622 North Russell road, and his wife, Mrs. Margaret Shippee, admire a plaque and a woven Indian basket presented to him. The 73-year-old archaeologist is a specialist in the study of Mid-West Indians.

June 6, 1968

Dear Maudie and Don,

After all our efforts,
we didn't get to use
your pictures! There
were only two pictures
that were good, I guess,
so here they are. Sally
had already telephoned
the account in and it
went right to press,
sans pictures! Oh, well,
we have them for
us, don't we?

It was a beautiful
party and thank you
for coming - thank you
for using your camera,
- thank you for everything!

only two pictures appeared on the reel



We must get together
soon - My time is much
less filled now since
school is out, so
plans are easily
made -
Again, thanks!
Sincerely,
Margaret,
See Kocher one point - next.

THE HYGIENE LINE





This one should be
better if a real photographer
printed them.

We could use 6 for
folks who were at the
standing.

Done & mailed
(Don R.)

FRONTIERS

SUMMER 1969

(METT'S LINE CREEK)

LINE CREEK "DIG" PAGE 1



PATHWAYS PAGE 5

ANNUAL MEETING PAGE 3



A 2000 YEAR OLD INDIAN VILLAGE IN LINE CREEK PARK

by J. METT SHIPPEE
Research Associate, University of Missouri,
Department of Anthropology.



Mr. Shippee has investigated archaeological sites in Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota . . . for the United States National Museum. His research for the River Basin Surveys of the Smithsonian Institute led to work in the Missouri River watershed. Since 1954 Mr. Shippee has been a Research Associate with the University of Missouri.

Kansas City lies in the central part of an area bordering the Missouri River Valley where once existed numerous villages of prehistoric Indians who were of a western extension of the renowned Hopewell complex. Hopewell is a handy name applied to a distinct group which developed from a general culture known to archaeologists as the Woodland. In states east of the Mississippi River, the Hopewell complex seems to have developed from the coalition of several important Indian groups which made contact in the Mississippi and Ohio watersheds.

This coalition developed into a complex, the motivating incentive of which was linked to a burial cult whose desire for goods to be imported from regions many miles distant. Obsidian from Yellowstone Park was imported by the village artisans from which to flake the magnificent large spear points and knives. Copper was obtained from the Lake Superior region and was fashioned into ornaments and tools. Sea shells and mica were made into ceremonial objects and ornaments.

The huge mounds east of the Mississippi River were found to contain burials of people who must have possessed these exotic artifacts found with their bones. Within the mounds, these burials were often enclosed within a tomb made of huge logs and draped with matting. The common village inhabitants remains seem to have been disposed of in a manner that has left no trace after the intervening centuries.

People in all parts of the world have buried their dead in earthen mounds and have often placed artifacts and other offerings with them. The more exalted or loved persons probably were buried with the most extensive number of offerings.

MAY HAVE BEEN A PROSPEROUS PEOPLE

Through the careful investigations of capable archaeologists, we have learned that the villages near these fantastic Hopewell burial mounds, contained only utilitarian artifacts in the trash heaps and pits, and are quite ordinary when compared with the exotic grave offerings of the mounds. Limited observation in the Kansas City area has found this disparity to be reversed, for the graves within the local mounds of the Hopewell complex are devoid of offerings while the village trash heaps and pits do have the cast away objects of an apparently prosperous people. The few exotic artifacts found in the Kansas City village refuse are not only rare but usually are in a dilapidated condition and probably had been kept in a medicine bag as a family heirloom.

RICH SOIL A FACTOR

The rich soil of the broad creek valley would have provided nearby places for the probably small gardens. Neighbors and relatives were in the villages of Line Creek, both upstream and down, and two miles south at Riverside, there was a village of the same people which archaeologists think had been occupied from more remote times, for the pottery fragments recovered from the exceptionally deep trash-filled middens included some with decorations regarded as of an older period than those of the park site. The Riverside specimens are similar to tin and body potsherds from the Illinois River settlements in that state.

Thirty-two years ago, the United States National Museum sent Dr. Waldo R. Wedel to the Line Creek valley to excavate the important Renner village site in Riverside. This exploration resulted in a publication which contained considerable information for American archaeologists who had not previously been aware of this western extension of a most interesting and important Indian complex.

FIRST EXCAVATIONS IN 1937

Little excavation has been accomplished since 1937 but what has been done indicates that this westward migration of Indians of the Hopewell complex did resume after a few hundred years occupation in western Missouri and eventually diffused into the more uninhabited regions, especially further west into the prairie lands where the Hopewells eventually became indistinguishable from the natives of the area. There is strong evidence of this westward infiltration revealed by the decorated pottery and other artifacts and also from the mounds for the burials of the dead.

Illustration by Larry Mansker



It has been postulated that in the migration of the Hopewell people from Illinois to western Missouri and eastern Kansas, considerable changes occurred in the household equipment of the people as compared with their relatives in the East. We may think of the Kansas City Hopewell people as being quite independent of a cult that in the east must have been really autocratic. Yet the skulls recovered from the Hopewell burial mounds near Kansas City are of a longheaded race, just as are those which are found in the eastern states. Status seemingly was determined more democratically in this western environment where a dissenter was free to move away in any direction and into a vast area which was practically uninhabited.

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"rain storage by Hopewell Indians utilized sub-surface temperatures. These primitive refrigerators later became trash pits."

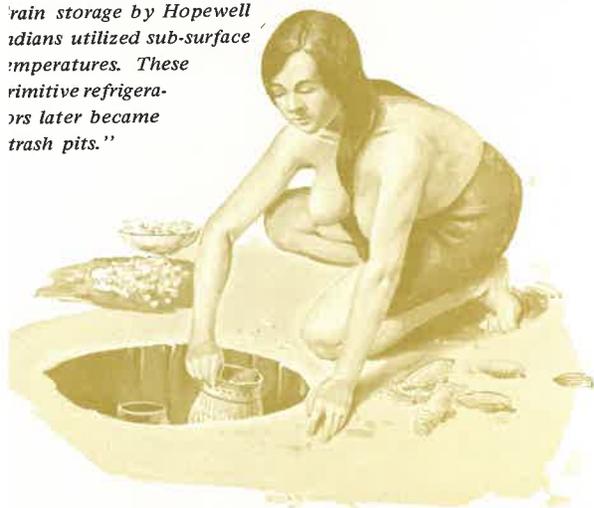


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After the disappearance of this Hopewell occupation in the Kansas City area, probably about A.D. 300, there seems to have been no populous groups of Indians living in the area until the advent of a quite different complex in A. D. 850. These later people occupied part of the old Hopewell region and in turn seemed to have dispersed, possibly westward after A.D. 1300. Again the Kansas City area was devoid of villages and there have been no permanent historic Indian occupational sites found nearer than 50 miles distant.

The excavations begun at the Deister site in Line Creek Park by Dr. Alfred Johnson, director of the Great Plains Archeological Field School, may be extended to further research in the following years and will undoubtedly clarify the concept we have of the Hopewell occupation in western Missouri and especially in Kansas City. What is occurring at Kansas City in the field of archeological research is regrettably late but hopefully in time.

NUMEROUS SITES IN AREA

Where Kansas City is located now in northern Jackson County, there have been found numerous places where the Hopewell people had lived in extensive village sites. They are known to have been at 9th and Woodland, 12th and Woodland, 13th and the Paseo, North Terrace Park and on east along the southern slopes from the Missouri River bluffs in Jackson, Lafayette, Saline and Cooper Counties. Their village sites have been revealed by cultivation and construction work and on the hills and ridges the remains of burial mounds are an indication of the survival of the burial cult in a quite minimal form.

To the west in Kansas City, Kansas, these people had villages near Jersey Creek at 9th and Troop, also in Klamm Park and on the southerly slopes from the bluffs along the right bank of the Missouri River. In Platte, Clay, Ray and Carroll Counties in Missouri, valley terraces along the river have been found to contain the village sites at many places.

The predominance of deer bones among those recovered from the village refuse, denotes the principal source of meat for these Indians but in addition we know that there were the natural foods such as nuts, acorns, wild seeds, numerous plants and the cultivated vegetables such as corn, beans and squash. Except for a season of excessive drought, food was no problem for these stone-age people.

The Hopewell village in Line Creek Park is seemingly the last large one that remains in the corporate limits of Kansas City, Missouri. Before the acquisition of the land, the village was drastically damaged by the construction of a large trunk sewer in Line Creek valley. Through a series of quite remarkable coincidences, the Kansas City Park department was able to acquire the 80-acre tract of land through which the creek runs in a pretty, rock-bedded course. The village, extending over about six acres in extent, originally must have been a most desirable location for the women and children. All of the people must have enjoyed the rock bottom pools of the creek and the water falls. Undoubtedly there were fish in those pools for they are caught even today, in spite of considerable contamination.

IT HAPPENED

The Line Creek "dig" is unique in that the Kansas City Museum formulated a project that involved the Kansas City Park Department, the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, Park College, and a civic leader . . . thus bringing together elements that have produced a truly exciting archeological excavation.

A 2000 YEAR OLD INDIAN VILLAGE IN LINE CREEK PARK

by J. METT SHIPPEE *Research Associate, University of Missouri, Department of Anthropology.*



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coming events!

WEEKEND PLANETARIUM SCHEDULE:

July 12 through August 31 MARS, THE RED PLANET
September 6 through October 12 COMING OF AUTUMN
October 18 through November 30 PLUTO, LAST STOP

EXHIBITS:

Behind the Scenes September 14 - November 2
Aquascaped Aquariums. October 5 - October 12

EVENTS:

Astrology vs Astronomy Debate September 16
Adult Taxidermy Classes Early October
Priceless Pathways September 27 - October 3

THE KANSAS CITY MUSEUM of History and Science is operated by the Kansas City Museum Association for the City of Kansas City, Missouri. The Museum was opened to the public in the spring of 1940 as a free educational and cultural institution dedicated to the preservation of our heritage and tomorrow's enlightenment.



MUSEUM HOURS:

The Kansas City Museum is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Sunday. Museum is closed on Mondays. 3218 Gladstone Boulevard. 483-8300. There is no admission charge.

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FRONTIERS, the official publication of the Kansas City Museum Association, is mailed quarterly to the Museum Association membership. Information about membership is available by writing the Director, Kansas City Museum of History and Science, 3218 Gladstone Boulevard, Kansas City, Mo. 64123 (483-8300) Director: Robert I. Johnson; Assistant Director: William G. Hassler. FRONTIERS/Volume 1/Number 3.

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Dear Don: April 2 '69

I finally located this Xmas newsletter from Wormington. It was in with the notes and maps of the Line Creek Hopewell site folder. After rereading it I ponder who, why and how did they have the guts to kick the 1968-69 president of the Society for American Archeology, out of the Museum and abolishing the department of Archeology. I gave a talk to a group out in Raytown Mo a week

letter of the Volk's before
- Don't really know what to
our thinking, however.

formation for a short "wrap-up"
y park system. Remembered
on of an Indian camp on
tight-wad). Our library
in his THE AMERICAN
ID PROSPECTS. If you
quote from it concerning
(Late again!)

Sincerely,

Don Reynolds
Assistant to the Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

DR:js
Enc.

ago and was told by some
people that in one of Schoenberg's
journals he tells that when the
Lewis and Clark expedition
passed the present site of
St. Joseph, they were told
that a large Indian village
was on that high hill.
I don't have any of Schoenberg's
works but hope to find one
with this information in it.
You might have them there
in the Museum library.
I can try over at the Missouri
Valley Room at the K.C. Library.
I hope you have it.
Mett.

Mr. Mett Shippee
3622 Russell Road
North Kansas City
Dear Mett:

September 17

*1 Roy ...
Schoolcraft ...
in Denver ...*
Mr. & Mrs. George D. Volk
Dr. Marie Worthington

4600 East Seventeenth Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220
and
514 Broadmoor Drive
Tempe, Arizona 85281

September 17, 1969

THE 1968 REPORT FROM THE VOLKS

Marie and Peter

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

Dear Mett:

The chief news this year is that I am no longer associated with the Denver Museum of Natural History where I have worked since I was seventeen, starting as a volunteer in paleontology and where I had been Curator a year ago. I guess I had better return this Christmas letter of the Volk's before you think I have forgotten it. Or before I do-- Don't really know what to think about all that. I and others agree with your thinking, however. Especially without more to go on. Too bad.

We are trying to get together enough information for a short "wrap-up article" on King's Hill now that it is in the city park system. Remembered that you had mentioned a Schoolcraft description of an Indian camp on King's Hill. Called Mike to phone you (I'm a tight-wad). Our library has no Schoolcraft journals but think it may be in his THE AMERICAN INDIANS, THEIR HISTORY, CONDITION AND PROSPECTS. If you know of a copy maybe we can still get a quick quote from it concerning the hill before the summer graphic goes to press. (Late again!)

Come see us.

Sincerely,

Don Reynolds
Assistant to the Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

DR:js
Enc.

Mrs & Mrs. George D. Volk
Dr. Marie Worthington

4600 East Seventeenth Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220
and
514 Broadmor Drive
Tempe, Arizona 85281

THE 1968 REPORT FROM THE VOLKS

Marie and Pete

The chief news this year is that I am no longer associated with the Denver Museum of Natural History where I have worked since I was seventeen, starting as a volunteer in Paleontology and where I had been Curator of Archaeology since 1937. In January, I requested a one-year leave of absence to begin in June, which would enable me to work for the University of Colorado Museum during the summer and to accept a visiting professorship at Arizona State University during the academic year of 1968/1969. The request was granted and announced in the Annual Report in February; and the leave began, as scheduled, on June 1st. On July 22nd, however, the Director wrote that he was closing the Department of Archaeology and that there would be no job when the year at the University ended. It's a shabby return for some thirty years of work, and it would have been possible to fight it; but there is much to be said for escaping from an administrative pattern of nepotism, favoritism, and opportunism that is in the tradition of the Borgias.

The first part of the summer was spent with Dr. Joe Ben Wheat digging an Early-Man site near Denver that dates back to about 7,000 B.C., perhaps earlier. I had put in one test pit the year before and established that a site was present. The situation at the Museum was such, however, that the discoverer, who had recognized the site on the basis of surface evidence, turned it over to the University of Colorado Museum for excavation. The National Science Foundation provided funds, and the further digging provided evidence of a most interesting site.

Travel this year has included a trip to San Diego for a symposium; on to Santa Fe, with Pete, for a meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, of which I am now President; three to the State of Washington; and a wholly delightful trip to Japan. There has also been much commuting between Tempe (just outside of Phoenix) and Denver. The first trip to Washington was in August, visiting the Marmes Rock Shelter where a team of scientists from Washington State University have been excavating one of the most important sites ever found in North America. It is a deep stratified site that has yielded not only artifacts but over twenty skeletons, three of which are more than 11,000 years old. The area was scheduled for inundation in mid-December by the Lower Monumental Dam on the Snake River, and the site would have been lost. Fortunately, however, President Johnson authorized the Corps of Engineers to construct a protective levy to hold the waters back at the site location, and it will be preserved, and further work can be undertaken. I flew back for the dedication of the levy in early

(over)

November and was back in Washington once again for the meetings of the American Anthropological Association in Seattle just before Thanksgiving. I was able to spend Thanksgiving with Pete in Denver, and I'll be home again during Christmas vacation.

Japan was really enchanting, and I also thoroughly enjoyed the few days I was able to spend in Honolulu. The International Congress of Ethnological and Anthropological Sciences was held in Tokyo and Kyoto in early September, and the American Council of Learned Societies provided a travel grant. Before the meetings began, Dick Shutler and I visited sites and institutions in Hokkaido, the northern island of Japan. The Japanese archaeologists couldn't have been kinder or more cooperative. The material we were shown and permitted to study was fascinating. It throws new light on various archaeological problems in North America and in Oceania, the area where Dick and his wife Betty have been doing outstanding work. The Tokyo and Kyoto meetings were superbly organized. There were great receptions in some of the loveliest gardens I have ever seen and so many beautiful places to visit.

It was necessary to go directly to Tempe to meet my first classes at the University with no chance to get back to Denver, but Pete met me there. He brought the car down and a trailer with my library, and he helped me to get settled before he had to go back to work. A professor in the Mathematics Department, fortunately, was going on sabbatical, and I was able to rent his house, which has proved to be quite pleasant. There are advantages to going out in the garden, picking fresh oranges or grapefruit for breakfast, and consuming them while reading about blizzards in the North. Teaching, after a long absence, has been somewhat strenuous but not too bad, thanks to a department with very pleasant and capable anthropologists on the faculty and some quite good students.

This semester I've been making frequent trips to Denver, which is only an hour and twenty-five minutes away by air. Next semester, however, Pete will be coming down here for the most part, and we are planning to move the dogs. Once they get here, they will adore the Arizona climate, but we worry about how they will adjust to their first plane trip.

This long-range commuting is less than ideal, and what we will do next year remains a question. We do want to stay in Denver. Perhaps I'll be doing some teaching; but the most important thing is to finish my book, which is nearing completion, and to get started on another one. This time the royalties will be mine instead of the Museum's, which will be a pleasant change.

All sorts of good wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Pete and from me, and special wags from the Chihuahuas.

3622 Russell Road, K.C. Mo. 64117

Feb. 2 '1968 4 A.M.
Ground hog day

Dear Don:

This is my usual waking hour it seems this winter so I got up to read the paper and to write this note. Most of the time I feel pretty darned good and since the doctor and the X-rays etc at the hospital ^{didn't} found anything, I guess I'll be around for a while but I'm knocking on wood.

You spoiled me with the prints you made of these five negatives and I hope you can find someone up there who will leave ~~them~~ the prints in the developer long enough to see the darned things. Elko just can't get it done.

The size you sent me before was fine. I trimmed some of them to fit the printed page as you can see in your copy of Mo. Archeologist Vol 28 '1966.

This ^{#3} is it enough I know but maybe an amateur up there with an enlarger could blow them up to about 3x5 or like yours. All I want is the artifacts to show. Uniform size don't mean a thing. I'm in no hurry but am cleaning up this sorrowful job for once and all before April when I may get ready for a big meeting in Santa Fe, N.M. over.

Send them back if you are too busy.

My mind keeps turning toward you fellows
and I am going to drive up when Margaret and

I can clear the desk down here and let our hair down.

It is unbelievable the rooms we have in the fire.

Margaret seems to have something to take her away from

the house every day now that her teaching days are over.

I expect you fellows miss Roy and Ada. I know

we will when we get up to St Joseph and for Francis

ask don't you and Mackie go away. But I'll let

you have a place picked out to retire when that time

comes and till you don't stop at our house as you pass thru

we'll now to read the paper and then put this

in the post office box.

Sincerely, Mett

March 8, 1968

Mr. Mett Shippee
3622 Russell Rd.
Kansas City, Mo. 64107

Dear Mett:

Son-of-a-gun! I almost forgot about your prints. In fact, I did until yesterday. Sure hope the delay won't be anything serious. I suppose you will need them before you go to New Mexico. Should be a nice trip and at a good time too. Maybe you will catch the desert in bloom.

Everything clicking along O.K. here. Spring's a bustin out all over. Yippee and hurrah! Come on up and we will walk over some of our choice sites and pick up some pipes and big long spears.

We have all of the trash from 23BN1 washed up and as soon as Dale can come up and talk to us will send it all back with him. K.U. still has part of the bones. Haven't gotten around to the identification of them as yet. I think something more (or less) important came up.

The status of the King Hill site is still in question. The owner can't seem to find a place to move to that suits and when she at one time had a place located we couldn't get any action from higher up. She refuses to give another year's lease so don't know what will be the outcome. Carl Chapman is somewhat put out since he was under the impression that we had the site secured. He had that impression from Roy and had listed it on the Lewis and Clark Trail. He has now removed it until we get the site. (If and when.)

Say I found three one dollar bills in with the negatives--must have gotten lost and mixed in by mistake.

Best regards to you all from all of us.

Sincerely,

Don Reynolds

September 29, 1967

September 29, 1967

Mr. J. Mett Shippee
3622 Russell Rd.
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

Dear Mett,

Enclosed are the prints of Research Cave that you asked for. Also your negatives. Hope the photos are satisfactory. Our ferrotype dryer is on the blink so no gloss on prints.

We all enjoyed having you with us at the dig last Saturday. Everything as it was though, I didn't get to gab with you very much. The short order weiner roast sort of threw us into a spin for awhile but turned out rather well we thought. (Or hope.)

I am enclosing my December, 1966 Missouri Archaeologist on Research Cave so that you may insert the necessary photos to make it complete. I very much appreciate your offering to do this and hope that it will not be too much trouble for you.

Best regards from us all to you and Mrs. and many more best wishes to Jane.

Sincerely,

[Faint handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

3622 Russell Road K.C. Mo. 64117

September 30 '1967

Dear Don:

You really hit the ball in printing those negatives of my Arnold-Research artifacts etc. And the prints are excellent. I'll get them into circulation where they will do some good and also fix up your copy which of course came through in good shape. ^{The \$3.00 is just a token for the superb printing which I appreciate so much.}

We will be interested in your pictures of the Friends magazine dig of last Saturday. The photographer from the magazine should have some good shots and it would be nice if he sent you copies of some of them.

You will be interested to learn that Leonard Blake of the Missouri Botanical Gardens writes this week that Dr Hugh Cutler of that place is about to release a manuscript on the King's Hill corn. For that I am glad and greatly pleased.

Letters this past week from various places have been interesting and cause me to be hopeful that some of my gripes may soon be eased by archeologists who think the Arnold-Research publication was nothing to what it should have been. Sincerely, Matt

RETURNED THE \$3.00!

Monday March 18 1968

Dear Don:

This to thank you for the 25 jumbo prints of the Arnold-Research Cave photographs. You don't know how very much I appreciate having them. These commercial photo stores are a pain in the neck; nearly as much as the help I get from Columbia. I would gladly pay 6 dollars for the prints.

Someday when it won't trigger retaliation I show the Columbia and Van Meter professionals one of these copies of the report in which I have fastened the 20 prints and my comments.

Blake writes that the corn samples from King's Hill were the best and largest from any place and I hear Cutler is preparing an article for the Museum Graphic.

I'll sure want to see that.

Sincerely

J. Mott.

We still want you to come visit.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mr. Ben Reynolds
% St. Joseph Museum
12th and Charles
St. Joseph, Mo.

K.C. Mo. Oct 5 '1968

Dear Din: Here is the reference that you asked for. The wagon factory and blacksmith shop are in Queen City, Mo. which is on Hwy 63 north of Kirksville. I believe the place is not open for general inspection by the public but I feel that the local organization in charge would let you see it. Dr. Frederick Lawer who talked to us is the son + grandson of the founders. It evidently is quite a fine old place and similar to Watkins Woolen Mill. 11/11/68

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES VISITED AND RECORDED BY THE ST. JOSEPH
MUSEUM AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI DURING APRIL 1961.

by
J.M. Shippee and Don Reynolds

Site Number 23AN36, Andrew Co. Mo.
Located at the northeast edge of Amazonia
Camp ground, extent undetermined.
NW corner NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 36, T59N, R36W, St. Joseph Quad.



The material collected was found where the road graders had skimmed the banks at the entrance to the stock farm which has a large arched gate. A church and graveyard are northeast of the place.

7 small body sherds were found. All are smooth inside and out. One sherd is cordroughened out^a side and has striations inside. All sherds are grit tempered. There was one rough flint blank and one small lump of baked clay.

The site is mostly in grass except where the road cuts through it. The location could well be the site of a large village.

Site Number 23AN37, Andrew Co. Mo.
Located on the crest of the ridge above the farm house of Chas. Sonnewald but not on his land.
It appeared to be a distinct Mound in 1938
Northwest corner Sec. 7, T58N, R35W, St. Joseph Quad.

Dillon Creek Mound and village sites:



The material collected was 1 rim sherd, grit tempered cord or brushed marked, One rim \rightarrow grit tempered smooth. 1 body sherd, grit tempered, cordmarked and resmoothed. 1 body sherd, brushed, fine grit and (clay ?) temper. 3 body sherds, grit temper, smooth ~~knux~~ surface. Small section of skull burned black. A fragment of a mussel shell.

The material suggests the burials to be Nebraska aspect artifacts. Don Reynolds remembers when the mound was several feet high and quite broad. It is now rather flat but is still being dug into by relic collectors. The material collected by the survey came from the dirt piles of the diggers.

Experienced people could still obtain a little information from the place. Reynolds has photographs of the excavation and material recovered when the mound was opened in 1938. He remembers the approximate number of burials taken from the mound. *THIS MOUND HAD BEEN DUG IN PREVIOUSLY MANY TIMES. ALSO FARMED OVER MR. SONNEWALD TOLD OF WAGON LOADS OF BONES THAT WERE TAKEN FROM THE MOUND AND SENT TO HOSS!*

Site Number 23AN38, Andrew Co. Mo.

Located on the creek terrace surrounding the house.
Owner Chas Sonnewald who has a collection from the site.
Small camp site in the Center $W\frac{1}{2}, NW\frac{1}{2}, Sec. 7, T58N, R35W$.
Dillon Creek valley seems to be a most ideal place for
Indian camps and Villages to be located.

For Map see site 37

Sonnewald's collection suggests that Nebraska aspect and
Woodland cultures have been on the site.

Our collection was 1 small, grit tempered, rim sherd, smooth.
2 cord roughened body sherds, grit temper, one is rough cord marked,
the other is resmoothed. 18 smooth grit tempered body sherds.
One small point . One fragment of a flint tool. One sand stone fragment.

The site is grassed over except where the garden is located. The site will
bear visiting at later dates.

Site Number 23 AN 39, Andrew Co. Mo.

Located on a slight knoll on the terrace of Dillon Creek
east of Mr. Sonnewald's place. Possible village site.
 $N\frac{1}{2}, SE\frac{1}{2}, NW\frac{1}{2}, Sec. 7, T 58 N, R. 35 W. St. Joseph Quad.$

For Map see site 37

Material collected: A small body sherd, smooth and shell tempered.
6 smooth and grit tempered body sherds. 9 cord marked and grit
tempered body sherds. 8 pieces of baked daub clay.
1 small flint knife. 2 small triangular points, no notches.
1 fragment of a point and 2 pebble hammer stones.

This site was in wheat and at a better time it may prove to be a very good site.

Site Number 23AN40, Andrew Co. Mo.

Located on a rather flat terrace of Dillon Creek to the
northeast of site 39. $SW\frac{1}{2}, NW\frac{1}{2}, NE\frac{1}{2}, Sec. 7, T58N, R35W. St. Joe Quad.$

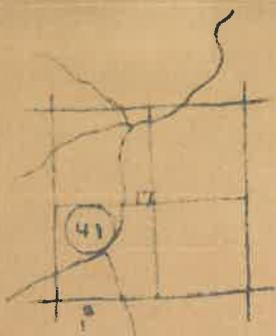
The site seems to be rather extensive and probably has had
houses for we found daub clay which had been baked. For map see Site 37

Material collected: 3 rim fragments, smooth, grit tempered. 2 body sherds,
smooth, probably shell tempered. 23 body sherds, smooth and grit tempered.
5 cord roughened body sherds, grit temper. 12 daub fragments, baked.
One small triangular Point . One small crude triangle point .
One plano-convex scraper . One thin flake knife, resharpened.

Look this site over any time you can get permission to do it.

Site 23 AN 41, Andrew Co. Mo.

Located 1 mile SE of Frank Flora's farm house which is 3 miles south and a little east of Rea, Mo. North $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 7, T60N, R34W. Bolckow and Stanberry Quads. It is on the eastern slope of a plowed field by an unnamed creek. The site is not high above the creek, which to me (Shippee) is strange for Nebo sites are high in Clay and Platte Cos.



Amid the outcrop of glacial gravels, Nebo Hill points, axes, celts etc. have been found by Flora. We found one crude ground stone celt which was left in Floras collection. See his collection from the site.

The site is in cultivation.

Site 23AN42, Andrew Co., Mo.

Located 2 miles south of Rosendale, Mo. on the terrace of Riggin Creek. SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 16, T60N, R35W. Bolckow Quad. Material collected: 1 medium sized corner notched point, base broken. 1 grit tempered, smooth body sherd. a piece of hematite.

Site is a plowed field, well washed.

It is hardly worth a second visit, but somewhere in the area there can be a good site.



Site 23AN43, Andrew Co. Mo.

Located 2 miles south of Rosendale, Mo. on the terrace between Kellog and Riggin Creeks.

NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 16, T60N, R35W. Bolckow Quad.

Material collected: 4 grit tempered body sherds, smooth. several fragments of flint knives.

Area is about two acres and may not be worth revisiting.

Site 23AT15, Atchison County, Mo.

Located about 5 to 7 miles southwest of Fairfax, Mo.

Bed of Creek inspected extends through the center of Sec. 36 and 1 & 2 of T60N & 63N, R41W. TARKIO QUAD.

This is not an Indian occupational site as it is regularly interpreted but a section of a stream with a deeply cut bed emerging from the loess bluffs of the Missouri River. On the Gravel bars of the stream, artifacts of Indian origin occur and also fossils and mineralized bone scrap of trash which is obviously from Indian campsites.



The fossils are of mammoth, mastodon and sloth. The artifacts are of Nebraska Aspect, Middle Mississippi, Middle woodland (Hopewell) and possibly of Sterns Creek cultures. The sites of the villages have not been found but definitely are on some of the terraces back in the hills. Of the flint points which we observed, see a Clovis point and one of the Nebo Hill complex were especially interesting. This whole area should be watched and surveyed frequently.

Amos Russell, a farmer living away back in the hills in the SW corner of Section 25, 64N, 41W. has a good collection of the materials from the site which he calls "The Big Ditch". Dr. Mehl of the University of Missouri has seen the Fossils and identified the huge claw as being of the great sloth of prehistoric times. An interesting item is that the bone scrap which evidently comes from the scrap and refuse of the Indians is mineralized too. An antler section cut and modified by the drilling of a hole through it, is mineralized too. DICK PIPER guided us to this place. He lives in King City in Gentry County.

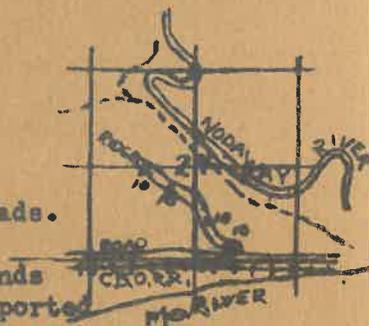
Site 23HO 10, Holt County, Mo. Burial Mounds

Location $\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Forbes, Mo.

2 miles west of Nodaway, Mo.

Southern $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 24, T 59N, R 37 W. Oregon and St. Joe Quads.

On a high ridge parallel to the river valley and which rises as you go westward there are 3 and perhaps more mounds which have been damaged by vandals and have never been reported to archaeologists. The site is being cleared as thou for a park. The brush is being cut from beneath the trees.



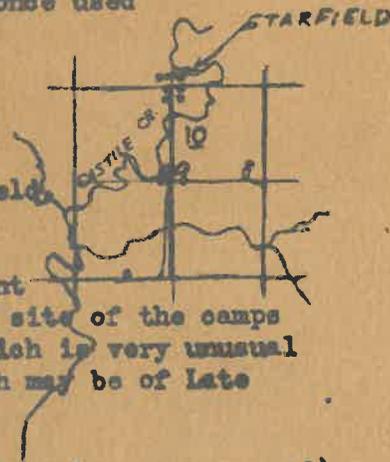
Stones protruding from the earth of the mounds, may indicate that they were markers or the protective cover that Nebraska Aspect and Middle Mississippi people seem to have once used over burials.

23OL 10, Clinton Co. Mo.

Location, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of the ghost town of Starfield,

$8\frac{1}{2}$ N $10\frac{1}{2}$ E - Sec. 29, T 56, R 32W. Gower Quadrangle

Camp site on a very gradual slope or terrace remnant of Castile Creek. The place seems to have been the site of the camps of several cultural groups, including Nebo Hill, which is very unusual at such a low place. There are also artifacts which may be of Late Woodland.



Material found by the survey is: 1 Nebo Point, (others have been found) A hammer stone, 2 small corner notched points (Woodland), 3 grit tempered, smooth body sherds and part of a mussel shell.

The site seems to be watched regularly by collectors so they should be contacted and something learned as to what the site is producing.

Site 25 CL 11, Clinton Co. Mo.
 Location of CAMP, 4 miles NE of Gower, Mo
 North west corner Sec. 32 T56N, R52W. Gower Quadrangle.



Northwest of the owners farm house, on the flat low ground of the valley there is a slight rise and flood waters and cultivation expose artifacts on about two acres of ground, which is now in wheat. Castile Creek.

Roy Allman of Parkville, Mo told us of the site. He has several axes and heavy points (Woodland) from the site. We found one shallow notched point on the site which was in poor condition for inspection. The owner would like to have visiters ask his permission to look for relics. His name is Price and he is a business man in St. Joe.

25 EN 3, Buchanan Co. Mo.
 Location of Camp on Reese Farm west of Agency, Mo.
 Central Ng, NW 1/4, Sec. 19, T56N, R54W. Dearborn Quad.



The site is SW of the farm house in a wheat field. The most prominent part of the creek terrace seems to have the most material left on it. There really is not much left and the site may be about eradicated.

- Material collected:
- 7 body sherds, smooth and grit tempered.
 - 5 body sherds, brushed or cord roughened, grit tempered.
 - 2 body sherds, smooth, shell tempered.
 - 2 small notched points
 - 2 plano-convex scrapers
 - Hematite and limonite fragments
 - 4 point fragments.

On the hill north of the site and West of the house there are supposed to be the graves of the Indians of the days when the agency was in operation. The Agency building is said to be near the location of the present day farm house. The graves are not marked and the place is in pasture.

25 EN 4, Buchanan Co. Mo.

This location is the general area of the possible site of the principle villages of the Indians who buried on King Hill. There is evidence of more than one cultural group as was determined by the inspection of Fred Hyde's collection from the general area and especially his farm which lies up the valley from the area described here. The Burials which seem to have been found all over the southern slope of King Hill from the creek to the summit, a half mile away, have so far been those of the Oneota Culture. Pottery and artifacts from the slope and from the graves has given this information. See report of Don Reynolds and photographs.



Continued on 6

continued from 5

Tentatively, the whole valley south of the Hill can be called the site of the villages but Hyde Park is particularly suspect and in years to come could be the place to explore for remains of the camps and houses.

I will recommend that a canvass of the whole ridge to the south of the crest of King Hill be made and the locations of burials found when construction activities have uncovered them, be placed on a map of the city streets and lots. Something of the actual concentration of burials could then be arrived at.

It is well to record here that Frank Flora has donated to the Museum, a very fine, black warclub and a pipestone pipe (catlinite) which he obtained on the Hill during WPA days. Liberty Missouri is the location of William J Jewell College and in that small museum on the campus there were in 1950, a number of rims of pots that were found on King Hill about 1914. Waldo Wedel of the Smithsonian asked Shippee to investigate this material in 1950 and he reported to Wedel. A copy of the report is on file in Shippee's possession. Shippee has part of a copper or brass hawk bell which he found on King Hill in 1950. It is stored in the home. (I Hope)

23 GE 7/8, Gentry Co. Mo.
Location 4 miles west of King City and a 1/4 mile south of the highway 48.
SE, SW, NW, Sec. 35, T61N, R35W. Stanberry Quadrangle.

In a field of Dean Bryant's we were guided to a place where Dick Piper of King City has been finding artifacts which are partly general Woodland but some are definitely of the Nebo Hill complex.

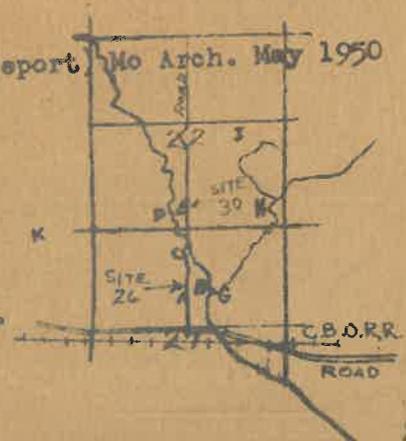
We found: 5 fragments of flint points of which one is a Nebo Hill point. There was a complete 3/4 grooved axe. Size of axe was 5 5/8 x 2 5/8 x 1 1/2 inches. 5 fragments of rough knives, 1 flint core, 1 rounded muller or pestle of quartzite.

This site may never warrant excavation unless some concentration is noticed in the future. Collectors of material from this site have not co-operated very well in reporting the finds.

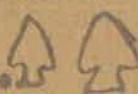


Site 23AN26, Andrew Co. Mo. Stubbs site A ^{AND} B (See his report Mo Arch. May 1950)
Located on Mill Creek 5 miles west of Amazonia
on the right bank of the creek.
Center of Sec. 27, T59N, R36W. St Joseph Quadrangle

We collected: 2 smooth, shell tempered rims, smooth.
2 shell tempered, smooth body sherds.
2 grit tempered, smooth rims.
1 smooth grit tempered clay piece which may be a pot lug.
It is perforated.



continued from 6

- 1 loop handle, smooth, grit tempered.
- 38 grit tempered body sherds, cord roughened.
- 15 grit tempered body sherds, smooth.
- 1 flint flake drill.
- 2 small points, corner notched 
- 1 triangle point or small knife
- 2 plano-convex scrapers.
- many pieces of clay daub, baked.
- A piece of scoria or pumice. This material floats from the banks of the Missouri River in the Dakotas. It can be found today on the river drift piles.
- 1 large flint axe,
- 1 base of a full grooved axe.
- 1 base of a stone celt.

This site should be checked from time to time to obtain samples of the material for the Museum. The site evidently has been occupied by several or cultural groups, including Nebraska Aspect, Late Woodland and possibly Middle Mississippi.

Site 23AN30, Andrew Co. Mo. Stubbs site E.
On Mill Creek, 3 miles west of Amazonia.
Left bank of Mill Creek
Collected by the Survey:

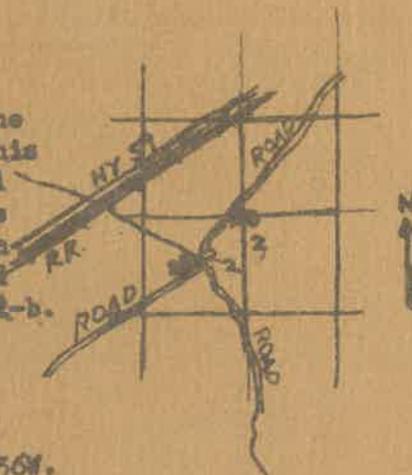
- 4 grit tempered, smooth body sherds.
- 1 small triangular point fragment

*For map see
Site 23AN26*

Site 23 EN 2, Buchanan Co. Mo.

Location, Cloverdale Creek near Halls, Mo.

Village site on the right bank of the creek by the barn and also north of the river road is under this site number. At this time the cemetery and burial mound on the hill top to the east are under this number too. The village material from the site on the west side of the creek and in the bottom land north of the River road is under the number 23EN2-b. There may be considerable difference in the occupations at the two places.



Villages are in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 28, T56N, R56W.

Burials are in the NW corner of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 28, T56N, R56W.

These sites have been badly vandalized in the last two years by local people who were attracted to the place by the scientific intentions of R.B. Aker and Larry Washington who live in Parkville and Kansas City and who have dug too damn much for the good of archaeology. Terrance Duchs of KU, Kansas has a little material from the site too, SURFACE COLLECTION.

Aker has intentions of giving the Museum samples of the potsherds from the site.

continued on sheet 8

The survey collected :

- 1 large flat celt
- 1 base and side notched triangular point
- 1 plano convex scraper
- 1 rim with diagonal impressions on the lip, brushed body.
- 1 Nebo Hill point
- 1 quartzite mano
- 1 " hammerstone
- 1 chert hammer stone
- 1 Hopewell rim with crosshatching
- 15 plain sherds, 8 cordroughened sherds

23PL44, platte Co. Mo.

Located 2 miles SE of Armour, Mo.

North edge NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SEC 2, T54N, R37W. Rushville, Mo, Quadrangle.

Material collected:

- 1 slightly braced rim with outer lip decorated with punctates.
- 1 plain rim, slightly flaring.
- 2 small body sherds, 1 shell temper, 1 grit temper.
- 1 large, broad, sidenotched point (Woodland or Hopewell)
- 1 limp of wattle

This site has Nebraska Aspect, Middle Mississippi and Hopewell sherds on it. The first two probably were contemporaneous but the Hopewell must have preceeded the others by ~~at least~~ 700 years, unless the Hopewell-like material is from a late Woodland complex. This site has produced numerous braced rims of the true Nebraska Aspect and there is a likelihood that Middle Mississippi and Nebraska Aspect were here on the site at the same time for according to MR. Aker he has dug up the pottery of the two where the it was mixed together with burials in a cemetery which he has been plundering.

