

KADOHADACHO

A Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society
Serving Southwestern Arkansas and the Ark-La-Tex

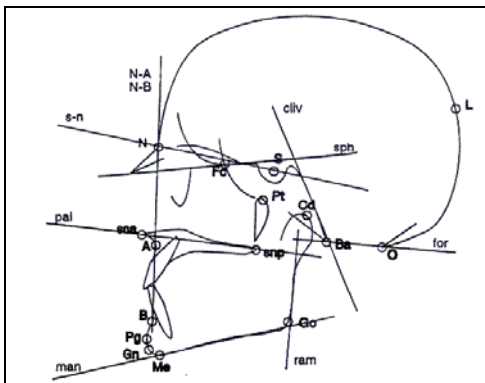
New Series, Volume 2, Issue 7

October, 2007

October 9 Program: Dr. Green to Talk About the Archeology of the First Americans

This month's Kadohadacho Chapter meeting speaker will be Dr. Thomas J. Green, the Director of the Arkansas Archeological Survey. Dr. Green will be giving a lecture entitled "Paleoindian or Paleoamerican?" which will explore some of the complexities around the archeology of the first peoples in the Americas.

In the past decade many biological anthropologists have started calling the few Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene skeletons found in the Americas *Paleoamericans* instead of *Paleoindians*. This change in terminology implies these early skeletons, such as Kennewick Man and Buhl Woman, may or may not be the biological ancestors of modern American Indians. Lacking direct DNA connections, biological anthropologists use similarities and differences in skeleton morphology (especially the skull) as a measure of biological affinity. Not all biological anthropologists agree this is an appropriate method. So what are the methods of tracing biological affinity? Why is there disagreement among biological anthropologists? Why don't we just use DNA? Come explore the answers to these questions on **October the 9th at 7:00pm in Bruce Center room 104 on the campus of Southern Arkansas University**. Come early and bring your artifacts for "show and tell."



Some anthropologists use measurements between reference points on the skull (shown above) to deduce the race of past peoples. By this measure many early skeletons found in the Americas do not resemble modern Native Americans. Find out why this is the case and what it all means at the next Kadohadacho Chapter meeting.



Dr. Thomas J. Green, Director of the Arkansas Archeological Survey. On Tuesday, October 9th, 2007, Dr. Green will speak at 7:00 pm in room 104 of the Bruce Center on the SAU Campus.

Prior to assuming the directorship of the Arkansas Archeological Survey in 1992, Dr. Green was employed by the Idaho State Historical Society as the State Archeologist and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer. Almost all of his archeological research results from the salvage of sites destroyed by projects not subject to federally-mandated archeology. His principal publications deal with Mississippian settlement patterns, southern Idaho pithouses, Idaho grave sites, NAGPRA, and CRM.



Upcoming Kadohadacho Speakers

- **October 9**—"Paleoindians and the First Americans," by Dr. Thomas Green, Director of the Arkansas Archeological Survey.
- **November 13**—"Caddo Indian Pottery," by John Miller, archeologist with the Arkansas Department of Highway and Transportation Department.
- **December 11**—Christmas Potluck & "Archeology at Historic Washington State Park," by Dr. Leslie C. Stewart-Abernathy, AAS, Winthrop Rockefeller Institute Research Station.



Upcoming Field Work & Volunteer Opportunities

As we reported in the last *Kadohadacho Newsletter* we will have several archeological projects going on in southwestern Arkansas this fall; and projects mean opportunities for *you* to volunteer. Some projects will be going on during the week and some will be running on the weekends, so we hope to accommodate as many schedules as we can.

First, we will be conducting a couple high-tech remote sensing surveys on two of the premiere Caddo sites in the region—Battle Mounds and Crenshaw in Lafayette and Miller Counties. We hope that the remote sensing data will help give us a picture of settlement patterns and let us find other features without the large-scale excavations necessary in the past. Crenshaw is a late Fourche Maline and very early Caddo ceremonial center that Dr. Schambach has conducted research on since 1969, while Battle Mound is a much later Caddo site with little formal archeological excavations (aside from excavations by Alex Krieger and others in the 1940s), but Battle's large, multi-levelled mound makes it very memorable to everyone who sees it.

Volunteers are needed to help lay out the grids, map and even work some of the remote sensing equipment. If you are curious as to how all this high-tech stuff works, come on out and volunteer!



University of Arkansas graduate student Duncan McKinnon using Bartington 601 Fluxgate Magnetometer to look beneath the surface without digging at Etowah Mounds in Georgia. Duncan will be doing similar work at Battle Mounds this fall.

Crenshaw (Miller County) Remote Sensing

October 22-26, Monday through Friday

Battle Mound (Lafayette County) Remote Sensing

Weekend #1: October 26, 27 & 28
(Friday, Sat. & ½ day on Sun.)
Weekend #2: November 9, 10, & 11
(Friday, Sat. & ½ day on Sun.)
Weekend #3: November 16, 17 & 18
(Friday, Sat. & ½ day on Sun.)

We will also begin working in the back yard of the Royston House at Historic Washington State Park in Hempstead County. Our mission there will be to help find evidence that will aid Arkansas State Parks in the

reconstruction of a back porch and to locate as many outbuildings as we can. The Royston house was the home of Grandison D. Royston (1809–1889), who was speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives (1837–1838), member of the Arkansas Senate (1856–1858), Arkansas representative in Confederate Congress (1861–1863), and president of the Arkansas Constitutional Convention of 1874. As we are doing so much in November, our dates for the work at the Royston House may change, so watch the web site and this listserv for updates. For now, however, we are penciling in the following beginning dates for the Royston excavations:

Royston House Remote Sensing and Excavation

Beginning November 12-16th, but continuing until we've completed the excavations.

If you want to volunteer for Crenshaw, Battle or the Royston House, contact Dr. Jamie Brandon at 870-235-4229 or jbrando@uark.edu

Finally, our friends at the Kisatchie National Forest will be hosting a PIT (Passport in Time) Project October 1-5 at the Caney Ranger District office in Homer, Louisiana. This project will be a laboratory project where they will analyze the material culture from the Marker 124 site (Prehistoric/Caddoan).

Contact Velicia Bergstrom, Forest Heritage Program Manager/Tribal Liaison, Kisatchie National Forest, 318-473-7043, 318-229-5344 cell, 318-473-7117 fax, vbergstrom@fs.fed.us

Keep your eye out in the *Kadohadacho Newsletter* and the [Southwest Arkansas Archeology e-mail list](#) for details and dates. We hope to see you at one of our meetings or on one of our projects this season.

The September Kadohadacho Chapter Meeting

The September monthly meeting (the first one since our return from summer hiatus) featured our own Dr. Brandon and a talk about one of his last projects before he came to the SAU Research Station in downtown Fort Smith, Arkansas. In his talk entitled "Zachary Taylor and the Sisters of Mercy: Historical Archeology of Fort Smith Arkansas" Dr. Brandon spoke about excavations around a lone chimney behind the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Garrison Avenue. AAS archeologists set out to find evidence of the home of Zachary Taylor while he was commandant of Fort Smith, but found instead a rich archeological record of the lives of a group of Irish nuns transplanted to western Arkansas in the 1850s. Twenty-one people were in attendance, including several folks from Dr. Brandon's recent continuing education class at Southern Arkansas Community College. Attendees came from Magnolia (12), El Dorado (5), Stamps (2), and Rison (1), Arkansas.

SAU Professor Appointed to the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission

By Becky Bell, Southern Arkansas University, Communications Center, posted September 21, 2007.

The 150 year anniversary of the Civil War is approaching and Dr. Jamie Brandon of Southern Arkansas University will be doing his part to make sure people understand what role played in the war.

Brandon, an assistant professor of anthropology at SAU and the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Research Station in Magnolia, was appointed by Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe this month to serve on the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission. The commission's main charge is to promote a suitable statewide observance of the Civil War's 150th anniversary from 2011 to 2015. Brandon is one of only four members of the 16 member commission to be hand selected by the governor.

"I'm honored to be a part of the commission, but it is going to be quite a lot of work to organize and promote a state wide set of programs to remember the Civil War," Brandon said. "One of the great things about being on the Sesquicentennial Commission is that it gives me the opportunity to promote the Civil War and help interpret the parts of the Civil War that people don't think about. A lot of it took place in Arkansas, especially southwest Arkansas."

After working for a decade in Northwest Arkansas in a community called Van Winkle's Mill Community inside Hobbs State Park in Benton County, Brandon set his sights on southwest Arkansas, particularly the area of Historic Washington in Hempstead County. He suspects that his project in northwest Arkansas, which eventually led to the creation of a historic trail there, as well as his dedication to doing archeological research in the 11 counties that make up southwest Arkansas, are the reasons he received the nomination.

Brandon divides his time between teaching anthropology classes in the spring at SAU and conducting archeological research in southwest Arkansas. The lion's share of his work has been in studying the 19th century as well as the Civil War period. Brandon has almost 17 years of experience in the field of archaeology and has been involved with projects in a total of 13 southeastern states. He has also authored or co-authored publications and/or technical reports on research in seven of those states and has a strong background in both the academic and private sectors.

For more information about the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Arkansas, go to:

<http://www.arkansaspreservation.org/preservation-services/sesquicentennial-commission/>

Join the Southwest Arkansas Archeology E-Mail List

You can keep track with the latest local archeology news by joining the Southwest Arkansas Archeology e-mail list.

The Southwest Arkansas Archeology List [SWAR_ARCH] is meant to help spread information about archeological news and activities in southwestern Arkansas...and, of course, the list will remind members of the Kadohadacho Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society about the monthly meetings.

To join simply send an e-mail message to SWAR_ARCH-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

You may also join be e-mail list by contacting Jamie Brandon at jcbrandon@saumag.edu

Upcoming Conferences & Meetings

- **October 2-5**—*Southeast Museums Conference*, Little Rock, AR. Info: <http://www.semcdirect.net>
- **October 17-20**—*Plains Anthropological Conference*, Rapid City, SD. Info: <http://www.ou.edu/cas/archsur/plainsanth/index.htm>
- **October 31-November 3**—*Southeastern Archaeological Conference*, Knoxville, TN. Info: <http://www.southeasternarchaeology.org>
- **November 16-18**, *South Central Historic Archaeology Conference*, Natchez, MS.
- **January 9-12**—*Society for Historical Archaeology Conference*, Albuquerque, NM. Info: <http://www.sha.org/about/conferences/2008.htm>

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