

Note: The December meeting will also revive the traditional Christmas Potluck---so bring a dish and enjoy the food!



KADOHADACHO

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



New Series, Volume 2, Issue 9

December, 2007

December 11 Program: The Archeology of Old Washington & Christmas Potluck

This month's Kadohadacho Chapter meeting program will be given by Dr. Leslie "Skip" Stewart-Abernathy, the Research Station Archeologist at the new Winthrop Rockefeller Institute Research Station on Petit Jeane Mountain. Dr. Stewart-Abernathy will be discussing archeological research that he has conducted in Historic Washington State Park over the last 27 years.

The antebellum town of Washington, Arkansas, in Hempstead County was once the county seat, the Confederate state capital during the Civil War and a booming cotton town on the Southwest Trail. It is perhaps the best surviving example of a nineteenth century town in the Old Southwest. Unfortunately, the town's prosperity was short-lived. Several devastating fires and its omission from major railway routes condemned Washington to suffer economically for much of the early twentieth century. Its influence and eventually the county seat (in 1939) was taken by Hope eight miles away on that railroad.

When Washington became a state park, Dr. Stewart-Abernathy lead the initial archeological testing in 1980 and a series of Arkansas Archeological



Spring 2008 Kadohadacho Speakers

- **February 12**—Jeff Girard, Northwest Louisiana Regional Archeologist.
- **March 11**—Duncan McKinnon of the University of Arkansas Anthropology Department will talk about our recent remote sensing work at Battle Mound.
- **April 8**—Clarke Werneke of the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory will talk about the Gault site excavations in central Texas and early man in the New World.



Society Summer Training Program digs (1981, 1982, 1983 and 1984) where he excavated the detached kitchens that had once served the Block and Sanders Houses.

Dr. Stewart-Abernathy received his Ph.D. from Brown University in 1981. He has been working as a Research Station Archeologist since 1977 and has served at the Research Station at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (1977-1989), Arkansas Technological University (1989-2007) and now the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. Skip has also served as *defacto* "State Historical Archaeologist" serving as

an advisor to many state agencies and private organizations across the state—including State Parks, Arkansas Territorial Restoration (now the Historic Arkansas Museum) and local museums of all sorts.

Come learn about the archaeology of Historic Washington State Park on **December the 11th at 7:00pm in Bruce Center room 104 on the campus of Southern Arkansas University.**



Bottles (both glass and stoneware) recovered from the numerous excavations at Historic Washington State Park under the direction of Dr. Stewart-Abernathy. Photo by Leslie Walker.



Fieldwork Update: Crenshaw, Battle & Royston

Thanks to all of you that helped out with our fall projects—remote sensing at Crenshaw and Battle Mound and the excavations at the Royston House in Historic Washington State Park. I think all of the projects were successful and we have learned a lot about these sites that we did not know before this fall.

Thanks go out especially to our volunteers—Mia Brewer, Barbara Farley, Bob Campbell, Chet Walker and Ruth Ann Bickerstaff. Also thanks to the volunteer efforts of Dr. Ken Kvamme and his University of Arkansas remote sensing class (Tuna Kalayci, Kattie Simon and Andy Heller) for their work at Battle Mound. And, last but not least, thanks to the Arkansas Archeological Survey crew—Dr. Jami Lockhart, John Samuelsson, Duncan McKinnon, Tim Mulvihill, Amanda Brock, David Jeane and Clay Newton—for making things go smoothly.

If you missed out on these field projects, you still have a chance to see archeology in action. We will probably returning to all three of these sites to tie up loose ends in the spring. If you would like to help out,



Kattie Simon, a volunteer and member of Ken Kvamme's remote sensing class, using the Geonics EM38 conductivity meter at Battle Mounds. Photo by Anthony Clay Newton.



AAS Kadohadacho Chapter volunteers Ruth Ann Bickerstaff (in red) and Bob Campbell (in green) excavating with Dr. Brandon behind the Royston House at Historic Washington State Park. Photo by Anthony Clay Newton.

e-mail me or call me (870-479-4229) and we'll make arrangements.

Watch the Southwestern Arkansas Archeology List (SWAR_ARCH) or the AAS-SAU Station website for announcements about more fieldwork at Battle Mound, Crenshaw and Royston House in the near future.

Archeology Month Programs Needed

Arkansas Archeology Month is an annual celebration to commemorate Arkansas's cultural heritage as revealed through archeology. Exhibits, lectures, demonstrations, and other activities are scheduled throughout the state at museums, historic sites, state parks, libraries, and colleges to celebrate this special month.

Do your part to arrange for a few activities in southwestern Arkansas. Small exhibits of books, artifacts, and brochures can be put together at local libraries or museums. Consider giving a slide or PowerPoint talk to a civic club, or lead a tour of an archeological site.

All submissions must be received by **January 2** to be included in the printed Events Brochure. Check the Survey web site for more information. This year's theme is *Patterns of the Past*, but programs can be on any archeological topic.

The November Kadohadacho Chapter Meeting Recap

The November monthly meeting featured AHTD archeologist (and former AAS-SAU Station Assistant) John Miller and a talk about the techniques behind the making of Caddo Indian pottery. Miller not only gave a detailed and fascinating talk about the techniques that he uses to replicate Caddo pottery, but he also brought along many of his replications for "show and tell."

Thirty-seven people were attendance including David Perry of the Arkhoma Chapter (Fort Smith) of the Arkansas Archeological Society (visiting his father Vernon Perry) and Ivan Murphy who received his "provisional crew member" certification.



"Christmas and Candlelight" at Historic Washington State Park.

December Events at Historic Washington State Park

21st Annual Christmas and Candlelight, December 1, 2007, 1pm – 8pm.

Southwest Arkansas's premier Christmas event showcases Historic Washington at its loveliest. The entire park can be seen with natural 19th-century decorations and 3,000 luminaries lighting the way for you to stroll the historic streets. Guides are stationed in buildings and minstrels perform throughout the town. Admission: \$10 adults, \$5 children and students. Advance tickets available at a discount. Contact: (870) 983-2684 or oldwashington@arkansas.com for more details.

Christmas Past in Washington, December 3-14, 2007, 10 am – 2 pm.

Learn how our forebears celebrated the season! See the town's historic homes and buildings decked out in natural period decorations. Special curriculum-based school programs relating to the Christmas season and preparation for winter will be presented daily during this two-week period. Teachers, call (870) 983-2660 for reservations. Admission: \$5.50 per student. Contact: (870) 983-2660 or oldwashington@arkansas.com for more details.

21st Annual Christmas and Candlelight, December 8, 2007, 1 pm – 8 pm.

If you missed the December 1st event, here's your second chance to see Historic Washington showcased with its loveliest holiday attire. The entire park is set with natural 19th-century decorations. Three thousand luminaries light the way for you to stroll the historic streets. Guides are stationed in buildings and minstrels perform throughout town. Admission: \$10 adults; \$5 children and students. Advance tickets available at a discount. Contact: (870) 983-2684 or oldwashington@arkansas.com for more details.

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

• **January 9-12**—*Society for Historical Archaeology Conference*, Albuquerque, NM. Info:

<http://www.sha.org/about/conferences/2008.htm>

• **March**—*Arkansas Archeology Month*, Info:

<http://www.uark.edu/campus-resources/archinfo/archmonth.html>

• **March 7-9, 2008**—*50th Caddo Conference* Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA.

• **March 26-30, 2008**—*Society for American Archaeology*, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Info:

<http://www.saa.org>

• **March 27-29, 2008**—*Arkansas Historical Association*, Eureka Springs. Theme: "Land of Eccentricity," dealing with the unique, interesting, oddball & kooky aspects of Arkansas history.

Contact: Tim Nutt, timn@uark.edu

Contact Us:

Dr. Jamie C. Brandon
Research Station Archeologist
Southern Arkansas University Research Station
PO Box 9381
Magnolia, AR 71754
870-235-4229
jcbrandon@saumag.edu

David R. Jeane
Research Assistant
Southern Arkansas
University Research Station
PO Box 9381
Magnolia, AR 71754
870-235-4230
drjeane@saumag.edu



<http://www.saumag.edu/archeology>

Kadohadacho Chapter- Arkansas Archeological Society
Southern Arkansas University
PO Box 9381
Magnolia, AR 71754
<http://www.saumag.edu/archeology>

