



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

KADOHADACHO NEWS

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



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December 14th: Archeology at Ferguson Mounds & Christmas Potluck

This month's program will be Pritam Chowdhury, University of Arkansas Ph.D. student and SCEP Archeologist for the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest. Mr. Chowdhury will be talking about his work writing up the Ferguson Mounds site—the most completely excavated Caddo ceremonial center in Arkansas.

The Ferguson site is located in Hempstead County and was first recorded by the Arkansas Archeological Survey in 1971. It was the focus of salvage excavations by Dr. Frank Schambach (the previous AAS-SAU Station archeologist) with the help of the Arkansas Archeological Society's annual digs in 1972, 1973, and 1974. In the course of the fieldwork conducted at this site, two Caddo mounds, a Fourche Maline midden 40-60 cm deep, a small Caddo and Fourche Maline cemetery area, and underlying early Archaic and Dalton components were discriminated at this archaeologically varied 2-acre site. No final report has yet been produced from the data recovered at Ferguson.



Our speaker, Pritam Chowdhury, and AAS-SAU Research Station Archeologist emeritus, Dr. Frank Schambach, touring Caddo Sites in the region—including Ferguson Mounds—in 2008 (Photo by Anthony Clay Newton). Come hear about the incredible excavations at Ferguson on **Tuesday December 14th, 7:00pm**.

Mound A, the temple mound, was built in two stages and provides us a rare glimpse at the long-term use of these mounds as ritual areas and living spaces. Excavations on the north platform revealed over 10 different buildings that had stood on the platform two at a time. Periodically these buildings burned leaving behind posthole patterns, much burned daub and small amounts of carbonized wood. These buildings seem to have been dwellings as they contained abundant domestic debris.

Five superimposed square buildings interpreted as temples were excavated on the south platform of Mound A. All of these had extended door passages, thatched roofs, and cane matted walls. All five were represented by great quantities of carbonized logs, cane matting, and some thatch all neatly (and naturally) contained within the wall lines of the structure.

For the Caddo, one immediate objective of this ritual may have been to produce a great plume of smoke and steam that must have emanated from each burned and buried building for a few days or even weeks.

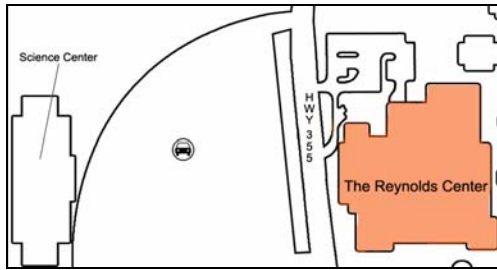
Mr. Chowdhury is working on writing up these incredible excavations as a part of his dissertation at the University of Arkansas. Come hear what Pritam has found out Tuesday, **December 14th, 7:00pm** at our **new meeting site for this fall in the [MAGNOLIA ROOM OF THE REYNOLDS CENTER](#) on the campus of Southern Arkansas University**. The December meeting will also be our **traditional Christmas potluck**...so come early, bring a dish and enjoy the food and talk.



Above: Excavations underway—archeologists & volunteers clean the face of a mound at the Ferguson site in 1973.

Ferguson was occupied between AD 1300 and AD 1500 and it seems to be typical of Late Caddo centers. It was vacant in the sense that there was no domestic occupation aside from those found on the mounds, with the population living in small farmsteads scattered around the countryside

New Meeting Location for Fall 2010



A detail map of the Reynolds Center Location. For a full campus map go to: http://www.saumag.edu/campus_map.asp

Due to construction activities on the SAU campus, we have had to temporarily turn over half of the AAS-SAU Research Station to the SAU Athletic Department to house a weight training facility. This necessitated moving David Jeane (and a few SAU Baseball coaches) into our old meeting room of Bruce Center room 103. Therefore we had to find a new home until we can reclaim 103 as a classroom...Our new home will be in the **MAGNOLIA ROOM of the Donald W. Reynolds Campus and Community Center on the SAU Campus**. This means you will have easily accessible, well lighted parking and we will be meeting in one of the best facilities in the region...come down and join us!

Arkansas Archeology Month 2011

Arkansas Archeology Month 2011 will be celebrated in March with a variety of programs, exhibits, hands-on activities, and tours at parks, museums, universities, libraries and elsewhere. Archeology Month is an annual celebration commemorating Arkansas's cultural heritage as revealed through the archeology of both prehistoric and historic eras. Please join this fun and educational event by submitting a program for Archeology Month.

To align with the Civil War sesquicentennial observance, this year's theme is *Archeology of Conflict*. Programs do not need to fit the theme, but can be on any aspect of prehistoric or historic archeology, early Arkansas history, or Arkansas's Native Americans. Ideas from past years include illustrated talks, artifact exhibits, book displays, craft demonstrations, open houses, and guided tours.

A submission form is attached, but you may also submit your program by email to mkwas@uark.edu, using the form as a guide for the information that is needed.

The deadline to get your event listed in the printed Events Brochure will be **Friday, December 17**. Submissions received after this date will be placed on the Events List on the web site. For more information on Arkansas Archeology Month or for ideas from past years, please check the Arkansas Archeology Month web pages at:

www.uark.edu/campus-resources/archinfo/archmonth.html

Historic Washington's Christmas & Candlelight December 11th

Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives, SARA Foundation and Historic Washington State Park present the 24th annual Christmas and Candlelight December 11, 2010. Contact: Gail Martin (870) 983-2633 or Josh Williams (870) 983-2284

Come to a place where peace, goodwill, and beauty abide! Southwest Arkansas' premier Christmas event showcases Historic Washington at its loveliest. Enjoy the simple elegance of 19th century Christmas as you join the festivities of Historic Washington on Saturday, December 11. From 1– 8 p.m. the entire park can be seen with natural nineteenth century decorations. After dark, luminaries light the way for you to stroll the streets, see historic buildings and musicians caroling throughout the town.

Buildings and their interiors are adorned with natural holiday decorations such as pine cones, grapevines, magnolia, pine and cedar branches that were prevalent during the period. Thousands of luminaries light the way as dusk sets in. Music begins at 5:00 pm in the Washington Baptist Church, Washington Methodist Church, Washington Presbyterian Church and the 1940 WPA Gym. In the evening, carolers stroll the streets as visitors enjoy the holiday event.

Lending to the tone of the evening, volunteers and interpreters can be seen in historic attire.

Menu orders will be available at Williams' Tavern Restaurant from 11 am to 3 pm. Buffet meals will begin at 4 pm and end at 8 pm. Surrey tickets will be available at the candle shop. Christmas gifts and mementos will be available at the 1874 Courthouse gift shop and the candle shop.

Tickets the day of the event are \$10 per adult, \$5 for child. For \$1 off advance tickets contact SARA at (870) 983-2633. This event is presented by Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives (SARA) Foundation, Pioneer Washington Restoration Foundation, the City of Washington, and Historic Washington State Park. This event is a definite memory maker you and your family will not want to miss it!

Historic Washington State Park, a restoration village preserving one of Arkansas's most prominent 19th-Century towns, is located on US 278 nine miles north of Hope and can be reached by taking Exit 30 off Interstate 30. For more information visit or call (870) 983-2684.



"Christmas and Candlelight" at Historic Washington State Park.

53rd Annual Caddo Conference March 25-26

The 53rd annual Caddo Conference will be co-sponsored this year by the Arkansas Archeological Survey and the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith.

Papers and symposia are invited that relate to the archeology, history, culture, and language of the Caddo Indians and the area of the Caddo homelands in Arkansas, Louisiana,

Texas, and Oklahoma. Presentations will be 20 minutes long. Send paper titles/abstracts by February 1, 2011 to: Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, Arkansas Archeological Survey, HSU Box H-7841, Arkadelphia, AR, 71999-0001, e-mail trubitm@hsu.edu, phone 870-230-5510.

Arrangements coordinator: Dr. Ann M. Early, Arkansas Archeological Survey, 2475 N. Hatch Ave., Fayetteville, AR 72704, email amearly@uark.edu, phone 479-575-3556.

18th Annual East Texas Archeological Conference, Feb. 12

The 18th Annual East Texas Archeological Conference will be held on Saturday, February 12, 2011, at the *Ornelas Activity Center*, 3402 Old Omen Rd., across Spur 248 from the University of Texas at Tyler.

The hours are 9 AM until 4 PM. Registration begins at 8:30 AM and admission is \$10 at the door.

The ETAC was established to bring together people interested in the archeology of our area. This is an opportunity for professional archeologists, avocational archeologists, and members of the general public to visit with each other about their shared and common interest in the region's cultural heritage.

For more information contact Mark Walters: mwalters@wildblue.net To present a paper, submit an abstract and a paper title to Tim Perttula: tkp4747@aol.com

Kadohadacho Officer Elections

At long last, the tyrannical dictator (AKA Dr. Brandon) who has been running the Kadohadacho Chapter has agreed to free and fair elections (after being pressed by his board of advisors: Bob Campbell, Clay Newton and Mia Brewer).

The Kadohadacho Chapter of the AAS has not had a slate of officers since 2003. The Chapter restarted monthly meetings in the spring of 2007 and we had been waiting for the revived membership to build-up and stabilize before we elected a slate of officers. That time has come. This fall we will be electing a President, Vice President and Treasurer (Dr. Brandon will maintain the post of *ex officio* secretary/editor of the *Kadohadacho News*) so we need some candidates. If you are interested in serving as an officer in the Kadohadacho Chapter of the AAS, please contact Dr. Brandon or David Jeane ASAP so we can get this election started and celebrate the AAS Golden Anniversary with a full-functioning Kadohadacho Chapter.

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 icbrandon@saumag.edu

Upcoming Conferences & Events

- **January 5-9, 2011**—Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA), Austin, TX. <http://www.sha.org/default.cfm>
- **February 12, 2011**—East Texas Archeological Conference, Tyler, TX.
- **March 25-26, 2011**—Caddo Conference, Fort Smith, AR.
- **March 30- April 3, 2011**—Society for American Archeology (SAA), Sacramento, CA. <http://www.saa.org>
- **April 14-16, 2011**—Arkansas Historical Association Meeting, Little Rock, AR. <http://www.arkansashistoricalassociation.org/>

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