

Ohio Archaeological Council Spring Membership Meeting

Friday April 28, 2017

Cedar Ridge Lodge @ Battelle Darby Creek Metropark, Galloway, Ohio

AGENDA

9:30: Coffee and Donuts

10:00: *The Camp Sherman Data Recovery Project: Results and Implications for Archaeological Reconnaissance of Military Training Sites.* Andrew R. Sewell, Lawhon & Associates, Inc.

10:20: *There's a Hopewell site where?! The 2016 investigations at the Spracklen Site.* G. Logan Miller, Illinois State University

10:40: *Brassfield Chert—A personal Journey.* John Stroman, Independent Researcher

11:00: 10 Minute Break

11:10 : *Is part of Ohio's archaeological record hidden beneath eolian sedimentation on Pleistocene terraces (and elsewhere)? A consideration.* Matthew P. Purtill, Ball State University

11:30: *New Radiocarbon Dates at Seaman's Fort and Green Creek: New Analysis of Ceramics at Seaman's Fort; Greenman and Griffin on the Esch Mounds Excavation and the Analysis of the Esch Mounds Ceramics.* Glen Boatman, Western Lake Erie Archaeological Research Program Black Swamp and Sandusky Bay ASO

11:50 Lunch

1:00: Ohio Archaeological Council Business Meeting

2:10: *Preliminary Investigations at the 18th Century Shawnee town of Piqua.* Lance Greene, Wright State University

2:30 *An Archaeological Context Study of the Stillwater Creek, Little Stillwater Creek, and an Adjacent Portion of the Tuscarawas River Mainstem in Harrison and Tuscarawas Counties.* Karen Leone, Jocelyn Connolly, Michael Striker, Donald Handshoe, and Marcia Vehling, Gray & Pape, Inc.

2:50: *Earthwork Update: The New Steel Earthworks (33Ro62) Magnetic Survey and Ongoing Results from a Historic Aerial Photo Survey in Pickaway and Fairfield Counties.* Jarrod Burks, Ohio Valley Archaeology Inc. and David Lamp (40 minute combined mega presentation)

3:30: Adjourn meeting

PAPER ABSTRACTS

The Camp Sherman Data Recovery Project: Results and Implications for Archaeological Reconnaissance of Military Training Sites

Andrew R. Sewell, Lawhon & Associates, Inc.

In May 2016, Lawhon & Associates, Inc., conducted a Phase III data recovery for the proposed ROS-Industrial Parkway road project in Scioto Township, Ross County, Ohio. The project was conducted at the request of the Ohio Department of Transportation, Office of Environmental Services. The location is within the former boundaries of Camp Sherman (RO0274), one of 16 World War I National Army cantonments. Many of the other cantonment locations were reused during World War II or otherwise redeveloped. Although large portions of Camp Sherman were also redeveloped after the war, there are still significant areas of the former cantonment that have not been touched after the buildings were removed in the 1920s. Camp Sherman thus represents a rare opportunity to use archaeology to investigate a highly important era in American history.

This paper will present an overview of the project results, which yielded a wealth of data about Camp Sherman and also granted valuable insights into archaeological deposition and survival at World War I cantonment sites. The project results appear to conform to April Beisaw's hypothesis about artifact deposition at institutional sites and will provide guidance for future investigations of large-scale, temporary military encampment sites.

There's a Hopewell site where?! The 2016 investigations at the Spracklen Site

G. Logan Miller, Illinois State University

The Spracklen Site (33-GR-1585) is one of a small but growing number of Hopewell non-earthwork sites in the Ohio Valley subject to systematic investigation. Spracklen lies about 3km south of the Pollock earthworks in an upland setting in the Little Miami River valley. Spracklen was the focus of investigation by the Illinois State University field school in archaeology during the late spring of 2016. Although heavily impacted by historic agricultural practices, surface collection, geophysical survey, shovel testing, and unit excavation indicate that Spracklen was probably a short-term camp repeatedly utilized during the Middle Woodland period. The Hopewell connection at Spracklen is demonstrated by the presence of numerous bladelets made from exotic cherts. This presentation will discuss the feature and artifact assemblage at Spracklen while highlighting the questions guiding ongoing analysis.

Brassfield Chert—A personal journey

John Stroman, Independent Researcher

The Brassfield Formation of southwestern Ohio dates to the Silurian period. It consists of multiple beds of limestone and contains nodules of chert. Brassfield chert served as a local source for chipped tools in southwestern Ohio with usage peaks in the Middle Archaic, Middle Woodland, and Late Prehistoric periods. The Brassfield limestone is also rich in crinoid fossils that furnished the Native Americans with ready-made material for beads. The formal presentation will be followed by a hands-on opportunity to examine pieces of limestone, chert nodules, projectile points, and crinoid "Cheerios" from the Brassfield Formation.

Is part of Ohio's archaeological record hidden beneath eolian sedimentation on Pleistocene terraces (and elsewhere)? A consideration.

Matthew P. Purtil, Ball State University

Eolian, or wind-blown, sediments blanket portions of Pleistocene terraces in alluvial valleys throughout the midcontinental U.S. In Ohio, previous quaternary studies have identified eolian deposits, primarily in the form of loess, on high Pleistocene terraces in river valleys such as the Ohio, Scioto, and Hocking. Traditional thinking posited a depositional age for these sediments soon after the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) (~21 ka) with little chance for subsequent reactivation or remobilization events. In other words, eolian sediments were thought to have been deposited and remained stationary since before human's entered the eastern U.S. Recently, geoscientists actively have been dating numerous eastern U.S. eolian landforms through optically stimulated luminescence. Testing has demonstrated that these landforms have been active, and remobilized, numerous times since the LGM likely in response to periods of high aridity or wild fires. The potential that remobilized eolian sediments blanket currently undocumented archaeological deposits on Pleistocene alluvial terraces has received limited attention. Recent geoarchaeological research at Sandy Springs, Adams County, Ohio, has documented that now-relict eolian sand dunes have been active during periods of the late Pleistocene-Holocene and potentially cover unknown archaeological remains. This discussion will focus on the results of Sandy Springs and broadly address the potential that we are missing part of the archaeological record due to its burial by late Pleistocene-Holocene eolian processes.

New Radiocarbon Dates at Seaman's Fort and Green Creek: New Analysis of Ceramics at Seaman's Fort; Greenman and Griffin on the Esch Mounds Excavation and the Analysis of the the Esch Mounds Ceramics.

Glen Boatman, Western Lake Erie Archaeological Research Program Black Swamp and Sandusky Bay ASO

Three new radiocarbon dates for ceramics at Seaman's Fort have verified the vessel shapes of the Metz Transitional Model at Seaman's Fort. An additional radiocarbon date provides an additional date for Earth Work No. 1 at Seaman's Fort. A radiocarbon date from residual on a vessel from Green Creek provides the 1st Middle Woodland date for the Green Creek site, which has a parallel date for a similar vessel at the Taylor site.

Previous researchers compared Esch Ware from the Esch Mounds site In Erie County with McGraw site pottery from southern Ohio, disregarding Griffin's analysis of Esch Ware as being distinct from southern Hopewell ceramics. This caused an assumption that Esch Ware was southern Hopewell or influenced by southern Hopewell ceramics. This has now been corrected by the Sandusky Bay chapter of the ASO in an article entitled "Metz Transitional Ware (B.C. 300-A.D. 700): A Case for Cultural Continuity in North Central Ohio from Leimbach Culture to the Sandusky Tradition", printed in the 2016 AENA. Attention to Greenman and Griffin's analysis instead of forcing a comparison with the McGraw site ceramics would have saved much confusion.

Preliminary Investigations at the 18th Century Shawnee town of Piqua

Lance Greene, Wright State University

The Revolutionary War era Shawnee town of Piqua, or Peckuwe, is located in Clark County, just west of Springfield. This large town was attacked in August 1780 by Virginia and Kentucky militia led by General George Rogers Clark. After intense fighting, the Shawnee abandoned the area. An archaeological research project initiated through Wright State University attempts to identify evidence of both the village and the battlefield. The primary goal is to understand the lives of the Shawnee people who lived there and to situate the town within the broader Native history of the region.

An Archaeological Context Study of the Stillwater Creek, Little Stillwater Creek, and an Adjacent Portion of the Tuscarawas River Mainstem in Harrison and Tuscarawas Counties

Karen Leone, Jocelyn Connolly, Michael Striker, Donald Handshoe, and Marcia Vehling, Gray & Pape, Inc.

This study was intended to drawn on known data to provide a better understanding of archaeological context in the Appalachian region of eastern Ohio. To that end, the study answers a list of research questions that evaluate and synthesize prehistoric site data for their potential to determine if the study areas each, or collectively, represented an Appalachian highland locality. A total of 198 prehistoric archaeological sites were identified in the study area, and site data were evaluated and synthesized

using a variety of GIS predictive model tools. Results regarding differential site density in the three areas provide insight into settlement patterns based on natural factors, such as the ruggedness of terrain and navigable waters.

Earthwork Update: The New Steel Earthworks (33Ro62) Magnetic Survey and Ongoing Results from a Historic Aerial Photo Survey in Pickaway and Fairfield Counties

Jarrold Burks, Ohio Valley Archaeology Inc. and David Lamp

This winter has seen many new discoveries in the world of Ohio earthworks. With support from the Ohio History Fund, the Heartland Earthworks Conservancy and Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc. have conducted a new magnetic survey at the Steel Earthworks (33Ro62) in Ross County. Originally recorded by Squier and Davis as two enclosures in 1848, a 2007/2008 magnetic survey conducted by Burks identified nine additional earthen enclosures and at least two probable post circles. The new survey, which collected higher density magnetic data, brings the total enclosure counts up to 15 earthen enclosures and nine post circles, demonstrating just how complex even small sites can be.

Simultaneous with the magnetic surveys at Steel, David Lamp (with help from Burks) began what has turned into a very successful survey of historic aerials for signs of previously undocumented earthworks in Pickaway and Fairfield Counties. To date, systematic scanning of the aerials has yielded a new enclosure count of over twenty, most of which are small circles. Many of the new enclosures are located on terraces or bluffs along major streams, but some have been identified in the uplands, as well. While photos from the 1950s seem especially useful for locating earthworks, visibility can be highly varied—and some only appear in relatively modern aerials (those taken in the last 20 years). These findings highlight the need for systematic aerial photo analysis on all survey-level projects, CRM or academic. They also show that Ohio has a tremendous number of earthwork sites that have yet to be documented.