Recent Excavations at Historic Washington State Park

Again we have had busy and fun summer hiatus from publishing the Kadohadacho News. Although we have been quiet, we have not been standing still. The AAS-SAU staff has been working hard on excavation and writing projects and lining up research for this fall. Now that fall has arrived, Kadohadacho meetings will resume this September and run through December. You will find a speaker schedule for the Fall 2010 in this issue of Kadohadacho News.

As you all know, the Kadohadacho Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society just completed a “Spring Break Dig” at the site of the Block House in Historic Washington State Park in March & April. This was followed by a 2010 University of Arkansas summer archeological field school at the Block House, the Royston House and the site of Dooley’s Ferry (south of Washington). The digs were a resounding success and David Markus, a University of Arkansas graduate student who will be using the Block House data for his MA thesis, will be our September program this fall.

The Block House was built between 1827 and 1832 and is a Federal “I” Style building that served as the home of Arkansas’s first documented Jewish settler and important Washington Merchant, Abraham Block. The 1982 & 1983 Arkansas Archeological Society summer digs, lead by Dr. Leslie “Skip” Stewart-Abernathy, were held at the Block House where we concentrated on uncovering the detached kitchen behind the building. In 1999 further work encountered a mysterious chimney behind the location of the detached kitchen.

This year we returned. We relocated the chimney that AAS Archeologists Randy Guendling, Mike Evans and Jared Pebborth uncovered in 1999 and did a full excavation around the elm stump growing out of the chimney. What did we find and what did we find out? Come hear about the dig from David Markus—on Tuesday, September 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.

New Meeting Location for Fall 2010

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!
Kadohadacho Speakers Fall 2010

- **September 14**—David Markus, University of Arkansas graduate student, will talk about his recent excavations at the Block House at Historic Washington State Park.
- **October 12**—Ben Swadley, Director of the Plantation Agriculture Museum and Vice President of the Toltec Chapter of the AAS will give a flint-knapping demonstration.
- **November 9**—Dr. Julie Morrow, the AAS Research Station Archeologist at Arkansas State University will talk about the Sloan Site: the world’s oldest cemetery.
- **December 14**—Pritam Chowdhury, University of Arkansas Ph.D. student & US Forest Service Archeologist, will talk about the archeology at the Ferguson Site in Hempstead County.

Golden Anniversary State-Wide Annual Meeting,
September 24-26

Can you believe it?! The Society is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year—the Golden Anniversary! And what better place than the historic town of Hot Springs. Hot Springs is a city with a rich history, visited by early Native Americans, presidents, sports legends, and even gangsters. In 1832 President Andrew Jackson made Hot Springs the first Federal Reservation—essentially America’s first national park. Forty-seven hot springs gush forth nearly a million gallons of 143-degree water every day.

The naturally pure water is used in the spas and consumed from free public fountains in the downtown area. Keeping with our 50th anniversary theme, we have included historic images of Hot Springs from vintage postcards on these registration pages. But the fun of Hot Springs won’t be the only draw. Our 50th anniversary meeting has all sorts of special activities and memories. There will be historical exhibits, a photo show, and a film highlighting the 50 years of the Society’s history. And, of course, there will be a few surprises too! Between the meeting and the town, there will be plenty to do in Hot Springs this September, so take some extra time, arrive a day or two early, and enjoy all the sights and activities.

The official conference hotel will be the Austin Hotel and Convention Center, located at 305Malvern Ave. in Hot Springs. Rooms for either single or double occupancy will be $85 per night, plus tax. Call 1-877-623-6697 toll-free to make reservations. Be sure to mention that you are attending the Arkansas Archeological Society Meeting, so the room rate is correct and the Society gets credit for the number of rooms booked. A variety of interesting papers, on both prehistoric and historic topics, will be presented on Saturday in the meeting room Desoto II. A number of papers follow the anniversary theme by offering historical retrospectives on sites and Society work.

Here’s a sampling of Saturday’s papers:
- C. Bartlett: *Tom Brook Site*
- K. Cande: *Looney Tavern & Rice House*
- M. Jeter: *50 Years of Public Archeology*
- J. Howe: *Clark & Norrell Sites*
- D. McKinnon: *Battle Mound* • M. Trubitt: *Magnelite at Jones Mill.* And don’t nod off—a surprise is planned for the afternoon break!

Making a return engagement after 23 years, our keynote speaker will be Dr. Brian Fagan, University of California, Santa Barbara (Emeritus). Dr. Fagan uses a lifetime of experience talking and writing about archaeology for the public to explore the art of storytelling about the past. For more information about the Golden Anniversary Meeting look at the URL below:

[http://www.arkarch.org/MeetingDesc2010ART.pdf](http://www.arkarch.org/MeetingDesc2010ART.pdf)

Kadohadacho Officer Elections This Fall

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).

It has been 2003 since the Kadohadacho Chapter of the AAS has had a slate of officers. 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 office 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 Jeanie 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 jcbrandon@saumag.edu

http://www.saumag.edu/archeology

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Pic of the Month: The logo for the 2010 University of Arkansas archeological field school at Historic Washington State Park, it featured the “Water Lilly” purple transfer print plate designed found at the block house, the Arkansas Archeological Survey’s logo (from the King’s Creek bowl found in southwest Arkansas) and the infamous Bowie Knife #1 forged for Jim Bowie by James Black in Washington, Arkansas.

Upcoming Conferences & Events
• October 6-9, 2010—Society for Commercial Archeology, Fayetteville, AR. Theme: “Odyssey in the Ozarks.” Not really archeology, but certainly interesting, the SCA is the oldest national organization devoted to the buildings, artifacts, structures, signs, and symbols of the 20th-century commercial landscape. Info: http://www.sca-roadside.org/
• October 27-30, 2010—Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC), 67th Annual Meeting, Lexington, Kentucky. Click here for more information.
• November 12-14, 2010—South Central Historical Archaeology Conference (SCHAC), Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN; http://www.uark.edu/campus-resources/archinfo/schac.html
• January 5-9, 2011—Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA), Austin, TX. http://www.sha.org/default.cfm