

NEWSLETTER OF THE
HISTORY OF ARCHAEOLOGY
INTEREST GROUP
Society for American Archaeology

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AUGUST 2018

Greetings,

Here we have a second newsletter this year and a mere few weeks after the last issue came out. There are several things that warrant a second newsletter. First, I forgot to include an obituary in the last newsletter that was prepared by Marlin Hawley on Robert T. Grange, Jr. and I wanted to correct that oversight. Second, Monica Barnes and Mario Rivera are looking for contributors to a session on the legacy of Andean archaeologists for the 2019 SAA meeting. Third, we have our first response written to an article in the newsletter, that by Daniel Schávelzon and Ana Igareta in the last newsletter. Joel Grossman considers what type of geophysical techniques were actually used in Mexico by Helmut De Terra, as you can see in the pages following.

Marlin Hawley pulls triple duty in this newsletter. In addition to the aforementioned obituary and once again finding numerous new works for our recent or noteworthy publications in the history of archaeology, he looks at important sources on the history of women in archaeology—something that was long neglected in many early histories of our discipline. Fortunately, as Hawley shows, there are numerous researchers actively working to correct this critical oversight.

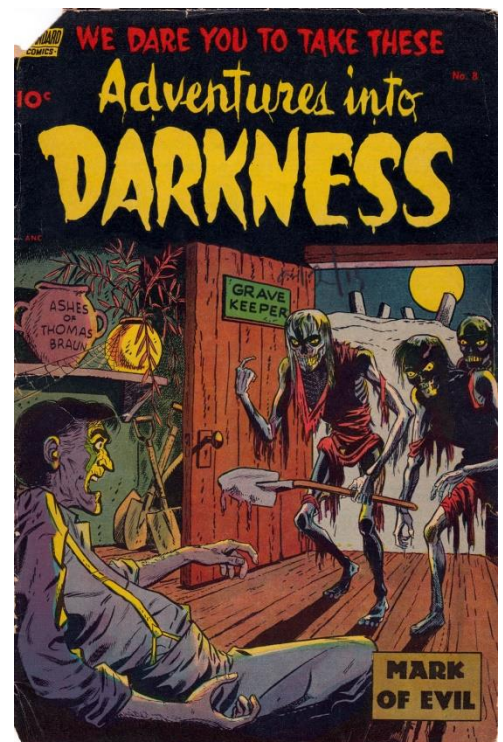
Finally, another frequent contributor, Donald B. Ball, continues his examination of early newspapers for information of archaeological interest.

More contributions are certainly welcome, and if you are doing a history of archaeology session or have a history of archaeology work of which you want to make me aware, see my email address at the bottom of this page.

Cheers,

Bernard K. Means

Send contributions for future issues of the newsletter to:
bkmeans@vcu.edu



Some of us are not quite ready to dig first think in the morning. Image in the public domain.

Roger T. Grange, Jr (1927-2017)

By Marlin Hawley

Wisconsin Historical Society



Image courtesy of Roger's sister Kathy Grange

Roger T. Grange, Jr., professor emeritus in anthropology at the University of Southern Florida, passed away in New Smyrna Beach, Florida, August 26, 2017. Born on October 6, 1927 in Chicago, Grange obtained his bachelor's (1946) and master's (1952) degrees in anthropology from the University of Chicago. Grange's long career began as a curatorial assistant in anthropology at the Field Museum but in 1955, with several seasons of field work under his belt in the Middle Missouri region (primarily South Dakota, most notably with his mentor, the late Carlyle S. Smith), he accepted the position of curator of the newly created

Fort Robinson Museum in western Nebraska. Grange and his wife, Jane, lived on site in officer's quarters while he and two staff artists researched and constructed exhibits. Following a promotion, the Grange's relocated to Lincoln, Nebraska, which promptly led him back into River Basin Surveys salvage archaeology at the Red Willow Reservoir, where he excavated the Plains Archaic Spring Creek and Logan Creek sites, among other, later horticultural era/Woodland sites. Equally comfortable with historic sites archaeology, in 1960 and 1961, Grange excavated at Fort Kearny. Spare time was spent on his study of Pawnee pottery, which formed the basis of his 1962 doctoral dissertation from the University of Arizona. His dissertation was published in 1968 by the Nebraska State Historical Society as *Pawnee and Lower Loup Pottery*.

In 1964, Grange moved his family to Tampa, where he became the founding chair of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Southern Florida and where he would spend the duration of his career. Although field work took him into the Plains again, he also would conduct archaeological investigations at historic sites for Parks Canada at Castle Hill, Newfoundland and Fort Lennox, Quebec. Beginning in 1978, he spent several summers excavating at Fort Michilimackinac and Fort Mackinac in Michigan. Grange retired in 1994 and settled in New Smyrna Beach, Florida, though he continued research in Pawnee ceramics, at Fort Mackinac, and locally as a volunteer at the eighteenth century Smyrne Settlement.

Dr. Grange penned an autobiographical paper, "'When I Was a Lad, I Served a Term...' Minor Adventures in Plains Archaeology in the 1950s and 1960s," published as part of a set of retrospectives in *Plains Anthropologist* in 2006 (vol. 51, no. 200). In his final year, inspired by that earlier effort, he wrote a book length autobiography, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Dig* (BookBaby, Pennsauken, NJ, 2017), which was published less than two months before his death.

The Legacies of Archaeologists in the Andes: Second Symposium, the Institutionalization and Internationalization of Andean Archaeology

By Monica Barnes and Mario Rivera



Map of South America. Obtained from
WikiCommons

(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Sudam%C3%A9rica_-_Am%C3%A9rica_do_Sul#/media/File:South_america.svg).

Monica Barnes (monica@andeanpast.org) and Mario Rivera (marivera41@gmail.com) propose a symposium entitled “The Legacies of Archaeologists in the Andes: Second Symposium, the Institutionalization and Internationalization of Andean Archaeology” for the 84rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, April 10–14, 2018, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Scholars who wish to present a paper at this symposium should send their title and abstract (200 words or less) to Monica by 1 September 2018.

Large scale archaeology was slow to develop in South America. Gradually, during the twentieth century, the various republics incorporated archaeology into their nation- and institution-building, funding and carrying out research, while setting the parameters of legitimacy. At the same time, foreign entities such as universities and museums sent both teams and individual graduate students to work on that continent. This symposium will examine the institutionalization and internationalization of Andean archaeology. It follows upon our 2018 symposium and moves beyond it to take up topics not covered then.

These may include, but are not limited to, foreign national participation (from Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Poland, Spain, Sweden, and North America); the establishment of archaeology programs in South American universities and museums, and the development of governmental regulatory bodies; studies of the Inca road system; the development of high altitude archaeology; various long-term projects such as Michael Moseley’s Harvard Moche-Chan Chan project, Betty Meggers’ and Clifford Evans’ Smithsonian-sponsored work in Ecuador and Brazil; Ann Kendall’s Cusichaca Project; John Victor Murra’s “A Study of Provincial Inca Life” (Huánuco) project; Jeffrey Parson’s Mantaro Valley survey; Richard MacNeish’s Ayacucho Project; The Viru Valley Project; Peruvian long-term work on North Coast sites such as San José de Moro, Cerro Sipán, Huaca El Brujo, and Huaca de la Luna, as well as the enduring contributions of individuals such as Junius Bird, Manuel Chávez Ballón, Frédéric Engels, Olaf Holm, Edward Lanning, Donald Lathrop, Lautaro Núñez, John H. Rowe, Julio C. Tello, Alberto Rex González, and Luis Valcárcel.

A Brief commentary on “South of Rio Grande: Helmut De Terra and the Tepexpan Man of Mexico” By Daniel Schávelzon and Ana Igareta

By Joel W. Grossman, Ph.D.

I write to raise some questions, and hopefully add some clarifications, around the suggested early use of Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) in Mexico in connection with the discovery of the Tepexpan skeleton, by Helmut de Terra, just after the end of the Second World War, between 1945 and 1952 (Shávelzon and Igareta 2018a:2). De Terra began his geological survey of Tepexpan in November of 1945 (De Terra 1947:40). That would be very early for Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR). GPR was first fielded by the US military in the 1930s (Persson 2005:90), but the first reasonably priced commercial systems did not become available until the mid-1970s. The first scientific GPR survey was developed and deployed by Walter Stern in 1929 to measure the depth of the Vernagtferner glacier in Austria (Stern 1929; 1930; Clarke 1987:15). Clarke describes Stern's discovery as follows... “As a doctoral thesis project, he developed and tested an interferometric apparatus for measuring ice thickness. A continuous oscillating signal was transmitted from a dipole antenna and received by a second antennaThe interference between the direct wave and that passing through the ice was observed and from this measurement the ice thickness was calculated “(Clarke, 15). The Vernagtferner glacier retreated in the modern era which confirmed the former depth of ice and the accuracy of Stern's invention (ibid, 15). In 1967, a system much like Stern's original glacier sounder was flown on Apollo 17 to the moon (Porcello et al.1974). I was introduced to the archaeological utility of GPR in the mid-1970s by the work of Bruce Bevan on Colonial historic sites being studied out of the MASCA laboratory of the University of Pennsylvania (Bevan 1975). The radar (**RA**dio **D**etection **A**nd **R**anging) equipment I deployed with Bruce Bevan in 1978 to map a buried colonial port community, Raritan Landing, in New Jersey was new and still partially in prototype form, with some antennas of various frequencies in pre-production boxes etc. - Radar profiles were hand plotted by archaeologists to make an innovative 3D color-coded radar map of the buried early 18th century port community (Grossman 1978, 1980; Grossman et al 1982).

I raise one basic question about de Terra's work. If de Terra did not deploy GPR in Mexico then what geophysical technology did he use? If de Terra did deploy Ground Penetrating Radar in Mexico between 1945 and the 1950s, that indeed would have been a first. However a review of the written record and correspondence with Daniel Schávelzon and Ana Igareta of the *History of Archaeology Interest Group* (HAIG) newsletter make it clear that misattribution to GPR was due to ambiguities in the original report and translation issues concerning the nuances of geophysical terminology (Shávelzon and Igareta, personal comm. July 11, 2018). My consideration of de Terra's work in Mexico suggests that he and his co-investigator, Hans Lundberg, did not use GPR, but that they did indeed innovate through the use of early geophysical resistivity surveying at Tepexpan and subsequently the early use of Libby's radiocarbon dating in Mexico (Shávelzon and Igareta 2018a). The use of resistivity in geophysical survey in the post-WWII-era makes sense, radar in general, and GPR, in particular, does not.

As a side note, it is not by chance that the names of de Terra and Libby were linked at Tepexpan, Mexico. Both were fiscally supported by Wenner-Gren and the work of both was promoted by Paul Fejos of the Fund. Libby at the time was awarded a grant of \$35,000 from the Wenner-Gren Fund, a substantial sum in the 1950s (Luciak 2016:S327). At the time, based on his geological analysis, de

Terra suggested a late Pleistocene age of at least ca 8000 BP for the Tepexpan skeleton (Schávelzon and Igareta 2018:5). In supporting that general age projection, Schávelzon and Igareta wrote that "Radiocarbon analysis concluded that the [Tepexpan] remains were seven thousand years old" (ibid, 6). The contemporary radiocarbon record suggests otherwise. Modern high resolution AMS radiocarbon determinations came out with a date range of no more than 920-1,980 BP (Taylor 2000; Table 4). This modern AMS date range suggests in turn that the Tepexpan skeletal material was less than 2000 years old, versus belonging to the 8th or 9th millenniums BP as suggested by de Terra (Schávelzon and Igareta 2018:5). But the central argument here deals with de Terra's geophysical work.

Aside from three mentions of radar, the 2018 SAA HAIG Newsletter article only states that de Terra and Lundberg employed "electrical surveying" and "electric conduction" equipment but nothing specific re Ground Penetrating Radar (Schávelzon and Igareta 2018: 5). To quote de Terra: "The method used has been known since 1916 as the 'linear electrode method'. It is the first time to my knowledge, that it was applied for the detection of buried prehistoric remains" (De Terra 1947: 41). The date of 1916 is significant. In that year, F. Wenner published "A Method of Measuring Earth Resistivity" (Wenner 1916). Although it had nothing to do with archaeology, in this landmark article, the American scientist, Wenner, developed the concept of "apparent resistivity" and thus simplified and unified the interpretation of geoelectrical resistivity measurements and made uniform treatment of measurements on large surfaces possible (Marés, et al. 1984:263). Finally, de Terra used the term "resistance" in direct association with the excavated human remains. In his article: "The excavation of the Tepexpan "Man" [sic], (I put "man" in quotes because the sexual morphology of the find had been questioned (Genovés 1960)) was determined by a spot of high electrical resistance" (De Terra 1947:41). Thus, it is strongly indicated that de Terra and Lundberg used resistivity equipment similar to, but different than, the Wenner configuration (Fig. 1), to map buried Mastodon and human bones at Tepexpan. Both Atkinson, the English archaeologist and geophysicist discussed below, and Lundberg would have been aware of the much earlier, WWI-era, work of Wenner on electrode arrays and resistivity.

If this is the case, then these points raise the question of the relative priority of de Terra's work in Mexico - relative to that of Atkinson in England - is important because it impacts one's evaluation of the relative level of geophysical innovation of de Terra and Lundberg in Mexico. According to Anthony Clark's book on archaeological remote sensing and prospecting, the first geophysical

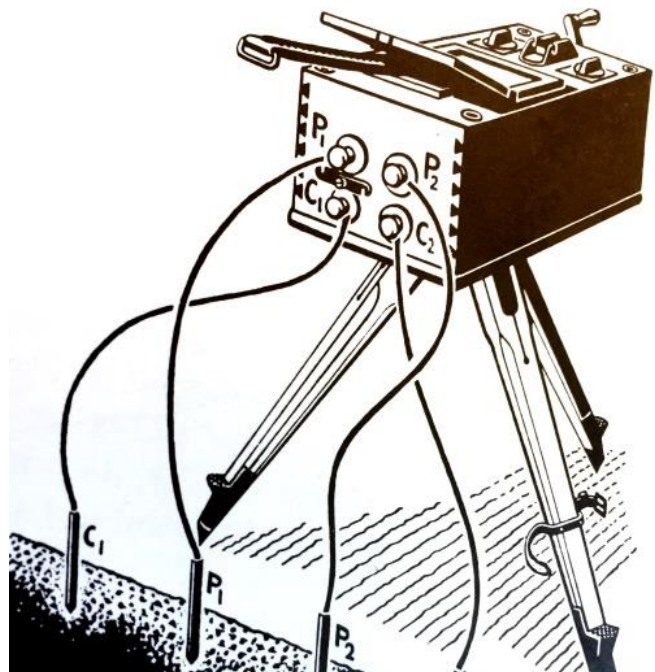


Figure 1. Diagram of Megger Earth Tester arranged for Wenner resistivity measurement (Clark 1990: Fig 1.). Adapted from *Seeing Beneath the Soil*, by Anthony Clark, 1997, Routledge, reproduced by permission of Taylor & Francis Books UK

survey of an archaeological site didn't take place until 1946 in England (Clark: 1990:11). That date attribution may hold for Old World archaeology, but the first geophysical survey of an archaeological site in the New World was done at Colonial Williamsburg in 1938 (Bevan 2000). Bevan (2000) mentions: "After this Williamsburg survey, the owner of that firm, Hans Lundberg, did an equipotential survey at an archaeological site in Mexico that aided the search for the ancient remains of Tepexpan Man (de Terra, 1947; de Terra et al, 1949). In this context, Atkinson "gave his first public account in a lecture to the Society of Antiquaries on 16 January 1947" (Clark 1990:12), the same year de Terra first published in English. But, de Terra first recounted his discovery of the Tepexpan find in Spanish in 1946 in the *Revista Mexicana de Estudios Antropológicos*. (De Terra 1946).

It is not exactly clear what instrumentation de Terra may have used with Lundberg as early as 1945 (ca. two years before Atkinson presented his results). Other than mentioning that Lundberg's technique used "the linear electrode method", de Terra was vague as to the working of his geophysical system (de Terra 1949:34). DeTerra provided a detailed inventory of Lundberg's equipment which was revealing, but it wasn't radar. De Terra detailed Lundberg's equipment inventory as follows: 1,200 meters of seven-stranded naked wire, 300 meters of rubber-coated seven stranded wire, 2 6-volt storage batteries, 1 transformer (Lundberg), 1 audio amplifier (Lundberg), 1 pair of earphones, 2 metal searching rods, 150 metal stakes and 300 wooden stakes (de Terra 1949:34). Clearly this inventory implied an array of multiple electrodes in a grid pattern, but beyond that his procedure is difficult to reconstruct.

In contrast, we know that Atkinson used a commercially available resistivity instrument, the Megger Earth Tester, adopted from mining and dam design to conduct his first survey of an archaeological site (Clark 1990:12). The Megger instrument utilized an array of four electrodes, known as the Wenner array (Clark 1990: Fig. 1). To quote a modern source:"A resistivity survey is designed to measure the electrical resistivity of the earth in order to provide information on the subsurface structure. The electrical properties of the earth are recorded as a function of depth and/or horizontal distance "(Campana and Piro 2008:184). Two of four electrodes gave an electrical pulse or charge into the ground; two of the electrodes record the resistivity of the soil between the electrodes. The Wenner configuration was introduced into the field of archaeology in England by Atkinson sometime between 1946-1947, again some two years after the work of de Terra and Lundberg in Mexico (Atkinson 1952, 1953, 1963; Clark 1990:12). Atkinson first presented, orally, his geophysical work with resistivity to the *Society of Antiquaries* in 1947 (ibid). He first published in French in 1952 (Atkinson 1952). His findings were finally published in English in 1953 in *Field Archaeology* (Atkinson 1953). The implications are clear, not only was the work by Atkinson late relative to the timing of de Terra's and Lundberg's fieldwork in Mexico, but it may have been the case that the two groups of scientists were not well informed about the work of their counterparts at the time.

De Terra's fieldwork was supported financially by the Viking Fund of New York (the Fund was renamed the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research in 1951 (Luciak 2016:S309)). His work was also supported by a detailed topographic survey of the project area by the US Geological Survey. "De Terra's connections with the Viking Foundation brought him the funds and made it possible for Hans Lundberg- developer of the detection equipment used by the team - to travel to Tepexpan to see how archaeologists made use of it. He also participated in the interpretation of the results of the electrical survey...." (Shávelzon and Igareta 2018: 2). In 1947, de Terra wrote: "I

considered this ground sufficiently promising for locating additional prehistoric remains by geophysical methods.”(1947:41). He went on to clarify the origin of this innovation by giving credit for the idea of using geophysical techniques to Paul Fejos, Director of Research of the Viking Fund: “He encouraged me to apply experimentally one of the geophysical methods and he suggested that Dr. Hans Lundberg (a Swedish physicist), of Toronto, Canada, be entrusted with this task. A special grant from the Viking Fund enabled us to secure the necessary instruments and accessory equipment, the former having been furnished by Dr. Lundberg” (De Terra 1947:41). De Terra himself wrote briefly about Lundberg’s technology, but gave credit where credit was due: “An equipotential method (similar to resistivity) was developed by the Swedish geophysicist, Hans Lundberg, who together with Helmut de Terra detected the remains of a very early human skeleton in the Valley of Mexico in 1947” (Persson 2005: 90). The Swedish geophysicists Lundberg and Sundberg developed electromagnetic methods suitable for prospecting for ore deposits (Marés et al.1984:263). Although “electric conduction” (the obverse of resistivity) had been used in geology, mining and “certain military uses”, it had never been used in archaeology (Shávelzon and Igareta 2018:5). As I have argued elsewhere (Grossman 2008), this early use of applied technology was laterally transferred to archaeology after being demonstrated to be effective in other disciplines.

I concur with the authors on the general significance of de Terra’s work: “De Terra’s work had an unquestionable impact on Mexican archaeology as well as on the archaeology of the whole of the American continent, and his style of research open up a door to the development of prehistoric man in Mexico and Latin America.” (Shávelzon and Igareta 2018:7). Thus, while de Terra does indeed warrant credit for innovation in geophysics and radiocarbon dating, there is no evidence that he used GPR in Tepexpan, Mexico

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Women in Archaeology

By Marlin Hawley

Wisconsin Historical Society

The role of women in archaeology is an important, and until the past 30 years or so, largely neglected aspect of disciplinary history. Fortunately, work in the US and abroad has illuminated the varied roles of women in the discipline. Such volumes as Barbara Williams's pioneering, 1981 volume *Breakthrough: Women in Archaeology* (which though was intended as primer for women contemplating archaeology as a career and not an historical study per se), Cheryl Classen's *Women in Archaeology* and, more recently, *Cultural Negotiations: the Role of Women in the Founding of American Archaeology* by David L. Browman, have helped to raise awareness and inspire additional research. At the American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) meeting in 1900, Zelia Nuttall opined that "a promising field is open to women in archaeology" *New York Tribune* (1900:5). The sum of several decades of historical research on the subject leaves one inescapable conclusion and that is that although the emerging profession was not always "open," women were, in fact, always part of the archaeological milieu, as patrons, collectors, and excavators. Women were producers and consumers of knowledge about the past.

Research on the topic in the US has tended to be regional in focus with several edited books, including *Grit Tempered: Early Women Archaeologists in the Southeastern United States* by Nancy M. White, Lynn P. Sullivan and Rochelle A. Marrinan and *Daughters of the Desert: Women Anthropologists and the Native American Southwest, 1880-1980: An Illustrated Catalogue* by Barbara A. Babcock and Nancy Parezo and *Hidden Scholars: Women Anthropologists and the Native American Southwest* by Nancy Parezo. These books celebrated the careers of a number of outstanding women archaeologists (and ethnologists) in the American South and Southwest.

At last fall's (2017) Midwest Archaeological Conference (MAC) in Indianapolis, Kelsey T. Grimm and Leslie E. Drane (Indiana University) shifted attention on the topic of women in archaeology to the US Midwest, co-chairing a poster symposium entitled, *Women at Work: Acknowledging Women's Legacy in Archaeology*. The session abstract reads:

The acknowledgement of women working in archaeology has notably flourished in recent memory, but who were the pioneering American women of our profession? For over a century, women have taken on many roles in archaeology with varying levels of professional education and have been successful in contributing to the field. Whether toiling over lab work or excavating great features, these archaeologists have not always been given proper recognition for their work. This session highlights the contributions of several female archaeologists from across the Midwest and brings to light the often undervalued contributions of those who helped make archaeology what it is today. By telling these stories we hope to start a conversation about the politics of recognition and inspire others to provide a more complete understanding of women's influence in shaping archaeology and the Midwest.

The posters are currently hosted on the Midwest Archaeological Conference website at <http://www.midwestarchaeology.org/2017-WomenAtWork>. The contributions include:

- *Harriet M. Smith: The First Female Field Archaeologist in Illinois* by Leslie E. Drane, Elizabeth Watts Malouchas and Sarah E. Baires
- *Mable N'omi Greber: A Monumental Professional of the Hopewell* by Kelsey T. Grimm
- *Retyping the "Female Archaeologist": The Career and Contributions of Dr. Emily J. Blasingham* by Alex E. Elliott
- *Mother of the GLOVE: Ermine Wheeler-Voegelin* by Kelsey T. Grimm and Lydia Lutz
- *Charlotte Day Gower Chapman (1902-1982): Archaeologist, Ethnologist, or Physical Anthropologist?* by Della Collins Cook
- *Alice Struever: Crucial Contributor to Flotation Methodology* by Savannah Leach Newell
- *Elaine Bluhm Herold: A Renaissance Woman of Illinois* by Eve A. Hargrave

A related blog post is <https://www.indiana.edu/~gbl/thedirt/wordpress/?tag=women-in-archaeology> by Kelsey T. Grimm, co-chair of the MAC poster symposium and library/archives coordinator at the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology at Indiana University. The post provides background on the inspiration for the symposium. It is illustrated and includes a link to a fascinating on-line exhibit of images of women in the field and lab culled from the Laboratory's extensive photograph holdings. Grimm rounds out the post with a bibliography of several key references on the topic of women in archaeology.

My own ongoing historical research on women in Wisconsin archaeology has revealed women as collectors and excavators extending well back in the nineteenth century. In the late 1870s, two archaeological societies formed in the state, the Lapham Archaeological Society, which was named for the pioneering scientist and archaeologist, Increase A. Lapham. Established in Milwaukee in 1876, the organization survived only a couple of years. The Archaeological Society of Northern Wisconsin (ANSW), centered in Green Bay, was created in 1877 and seems to have persisted into the early 1880s. In any case, both included women members, even if they were in the minority. One of the members of the ANSW, Mrs. Mary B. Abbott, who was born in St. Louis in 1801 and lived for many years with her husband at Mackinac before relocating as a widow to Green Bay, donated to its cabinet Native American pottery and natural history specimens from the straits that she had personally collected in the 1830s and 1840s.

The Wisconsin Archeological Society, established in 1901, included from its earliest days numerous women members, many of whom served on its committees and occasionally contributed to its journal, *The Wisconsin Archeologist* (Anonymous 1940). In the early twentieth century, members of the Wisconsin Archeological Society frequently collaborated with the Landmarks Committee of the Wisconsin Federation of Women's Clubs, an organization that played a pivotal role in the preservation of historical and archaeological sites in the state, including many of its beleaguered effigy mounds (Lapham 1905).

In addition to books, papers, and conference symposia, a number of websites have taken up the cause, adding to our knowledge of women in the history of archaeology and allied disciplines. Among the most successful is *Trowel Blazers* (<https://trowelblazers.com/>), a crowd sourced, web-based archive, "dedicated to outreach activities aimed at encouraging participation of women and underrepresented groups in archaeological, geological, and palaeontological science" (<https://trowelblazers.com/about/>, accessed July 13, 2018). To date, the archive features short illustrated articles on nearly 200 female archaeologists, geologists and paleontologists, from the mid-

nineteenth century down to the present. International in scope, the effort has also resulted in numerous conference papers, listed on the website, and book chapters and journal articles:

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2013 A Splendid Regiment of Women: 20th century research networks among women scientists in archaeology, geology and palaeontology. In *A Passion for Science*, edited by Suw Charman-Anderson. London: Finding Ada.

The *Archaeological Fantasies* blog provides a long list of Mothers of the Field, with essays on about a dozen of them; <https://archyfantasies.com/mothers-of-the-field-women-in-archaeology/>. More are to follow.

The *Maritime Archaeology* website (<http://www.maritimearchaeology.com/>) includes a brief, but informative page Women in Maritime Archaeology, which observes that, “[t]he field of maritime archaeology exists today due to a number of influential women. The early development of underwater research was driven by key figures such as Joan du Plat Taylor, Honor Frost, and Margaret Rule...” (<http://www.maritimearchaeology.com/information/women/>, accessed July 13, 2018). Brief biographical sketches of these pioneers, along with bibliographies of their key publications, are provided, as is information for women interested in the field.

The *Women in Archaeology* podcasts (<https://www.archaeologypodcastnetwork.com/wia-g30/>) includes two episodes on the same topic, A History of Badass Women in Archaeology, Episode 20 and A History of Badass Women in Archaeology, Part II, Episode 46. The discussions are wide ranging, with the panelists noting early in Episode 20 that for as long as there has been anything approximating archaeology, there have been women involved. “Deal with it!” is the refrain.

Breaking Ground: Pioneering Women Archaeologists edited by Getzel M. Cohen and Martha Sharp Joukowsky detailed the lives and work of 12 women involved in Old World archaeology from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The database compiled and maintained by Joukowsky and Barbara S. Lesko, https://www.brown.edu/Research/Breaking_Ground/search.php, compliments and expands upon the 2004 book. The compilers note that, “[t]his unique collection of pioneering women’s biographies includes not only field archaeologists, but also those who have been deeply involved in the discipline of archaeology: philologists, epigraphers, writers, artists, writers, museum curators, professors, and fund raisers”

https://www.brown.edu/Research/Breaking_Ground/about.php, accessed July 16, 2018. I should mention on the subject of women involved in Old World archaeology the volume, *Excavating Women: A History of Women in European Archaeology*, edited by Margarita Diaz-Andreu and Marie Louise Stig Sorensen.

Several other webpages and blogs present historical content about women in archaeology includes <https://digventures.com/2015/03/pioneering-women-in-archaeology/>, posted by British public archaeologist Maria Pakholok. The careers of seven archaeologists are summarized. *Live Science* hosts a page by science writer Mindy Weisberger, entitled Move Over, 'Tomb Raider': Here Are 11 Pioneering Women Archaeologists; <https://www.livescience.com/62086-pioneering-women-archaeologists.html>. Obviously alluding to the fictional character, Lara Croft, star of interactive video games and the silver screen, a website devoted to the character maintains a bibliography of biographies of women archaeologists: <https://archaeologyoftombraider.com/2013/08/28/10-biographies-of-early-female-archaeologists-explorers/>.

Of course, the elision of women or, rather all but a few, from histories of archaeology is hardly unique. The role of women in science has been a topic of research and debate for decades, with themes and trends in the field summarized (to the mid-1990s) in Sally Gregory Kohlstedt's paper, "Women in the History of Science: An Ambiguous Place" (Kohlstedt 1995). Ironically, perhaps, she makes that observation that

Recently archaeologists, whose research depends heavily on artifacts rather than written historical records, have offered new interpretations of gender roles in prehistorical science and technology. Rethinking how skills and implements improved over time and unconvinced that "man the hunter" was solely responsible, these scholars argue that women have always played a role in such developments, and that women probably developed such fundamental devices as vessels for holding water and cooking foods as well as fishhooks for the protein that supplemented red meat supplies from hunters. Egyptian women practiced medicine and studied chemistry and Greek women were known to teach and debate in the academies. Women have thus been continuing and significant participants throughout the history of science (Kohlstedt 1995:41).

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Examples of Early Newspaper Accounts of Ancient American Cloth, Basketry, and Other Perishables

By Donald B. Ball

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It is an indisputable axiom of research that useful information is where one finds it. To this end, it is the purpose of this brief paper to present a sampling of the type of data which might be gleaned from the pages of now obscure and largely forgotten early (1851-1919) newspapers potentially useful in advancing the study of a variety of perishable materials including (but by no means limited to) cloth, leather, basketry, and non-lithic tools. Geographically, these early accounts variously document items reported in Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

As might reasonably be anticipated, some narratives are highly embellished with a thick veneer of journalistic sensationalism while many are lacking in anything approaching adequate description. Others, however, are surprisingly detailed and straightforward in light of the era in which they were written. Regardless, they collectively make for interesting and often engaging reading. As a convenience to those who may use this anthology, **Table 1** lists these various newspaper articles organized state-by-state. Within the text, all entries appear in chronological order. This compilation is intended to be neither more nor less than an introductory offering of the types of available material and it would be remiss not to observe that there are likely many additional accounts of this nature silently lurking in any number of old newspaper files. Mounting a concerted effort to lure them from their hiding places might well prove to be a most rewarding undertaking.

Table 1. Newspaper Entries Organized by State.

State	Newspaper
Alaska	<i>Pacific Commercial Advertiser</i> , Saturday, August 7, 1875, pg. 3, col. 6 <i>Minneapolis Journal</i> , Saturday, July 30, 1904, pg. 3, col. 2 <i>Daily Capital Journal</i> , Wednesday, October 22, 1919, pg. 2, col. 2
Arizona	<i>Perrysburg Journal</i> , Saturday, October 3, 1896, pg. 2, col. 1 <i>Tombstone Prospector</i> , Friday, December 18, 1896, pg. 4, col. 4 <i>Arizona Republican</i> , Friday, May 10, 1901, pg. 4, col. 1 <i>Copper Era</i> , Thursday, March 5, 1903, pg. 3, col. 2 <i>Arizona Republican</i> , Thursday, February 20, 1919, pg. 24, col. 5
California	<i>Southern Sentinel</i> , Friday, September 11, 1885, pg. 3, col. 1
Georgia	<i>Daily Dispatch</i> , Saturday, March 15, 1884, pg. 4, cols. 1-2

	<i>Wahpeton Times</i> , Thursday, February 6, 1890, pg. 3, col. 1
Hawaii	<i>Hawaiian Gazette</i> , Friday, August 18, 1905, pg. 7, col. 4 <i>Hawaiian Gazette</i> , Tuesday, December 5, 1905, pg. 1, cols. 3-4
Iowa	<i>Omaha Daily Bee</i> , Monday, December 20, 1886, pg. 4, col. 5
Kentucky	<i>Washington Union</i> , Tuesday, June 29, 1858, pg. 1, col. 5 <i>Hancock Jeffersonian</i> , Friday, June 11, 1869, pg. 4, col. 5 <i>Daily Public Ledger</i> , Monday, November 9, 1896, pg. 3 col. 4
Michigan	<i>Lake County Star</i> , Thursday, September 19, 1878, pg. 3, col. 3
Minnesota	<i>St. Paul Daily Globe</i> , Thursday, December 10, 1885, pg. 2, col. 3
New Mexico	<i>Idaho Semi-Weekly World</i> , Tuesday, November 22, 1887, pg. 2, col. 6 <i>Eagle</i> , Wednesday, November 14, 1894, pg. 3, col. 3 <i>El Paso Herald</i> , Wednesday, September 6, 1916, pg. 1, col. 5
North Dakota	<i>Emmons County Record</i> , Friday, September 30, 1887, pg. 1, col. 5
Ohio	<i>Richmond Enquirer</i> , Tuesday, August 26, 1851, pg. 4, col. 1 <i>Cooper's Clarksburg Register</i> , Wednesday, December 17, 1851, pg. 2, col. 7 <i>Daily American Telegraph</i> , Tuesday, January 20, 1852, pg. 2, col. 3 <i>Fayette County Herald</i> , Thursday, September 26, 1867, pg. 4, col. 1 <i>Northern Ohio Journal</i> , Saturday, August 26, 1876, pg. 1, col. 9 <i>Somerset Press</i> , Friday, September 8, 1876, pg. 1, col. 7 <i>Bismarck Weekly Tribune</i> , Friday, August 1, 1890, pg. 8, col. 5 <i>Rock Island Daily</i> , Friday, December 18, 1891, pg. 1, col. 4
Texas	<i>Kansas City Journal</i> , Sunday, November 12, 1899, pg. 13, col. 4
Virginia	<i>Public Ledger</i> , Monday, March 2, 1874, pg. 1, col. 2
Wisconsin	<i>Daily American Telegraph</i> , Tuesday, January 20, 1852, pg. 2, col. 3

Richmond Enquirer

1851 The Ancient Mounds in Ohio. *Richmond Enquirer*, Tuesday, August 26, 1851, pg. 4, col. 1. Richmond, Virginia.

THE ANCIENT MOUNDS IN OHIO¹.—In the American Scientific Convention, now sitting at Albany, New York, Professor J. W. Foster², U. S. Geologist, has read a paper descriptive of samples of ancient cloth, from the mounds of Ohio.

Mr. Foster said that as far back as 1837, specimens of the same cloth had been presented to him, but he questioned the reality of it, and feared to make it public, lest he should be the means of propagating an error. The specimens are of a different texture. One may have been made by the ordinary means of weaving, but the other is evidently the result of some handicraft. There seems to be some connection between the Peruvians and the mound-builders. The present specimens were taken from a mound about two miles from Middletown, Ohio. It is evident the Indians never made this cloth, for they did not understand weaving; and they did not obtain it from Europe, for it is not such as would have been made for their trade. This cloth goes far towards authorizing a distinction between the North American Indians and the mound-builders. It is composed of a material closely allied to hemp. Dr. Goadby said that it was easy to distinguish between the fibre [sic] of flax and that of cotton. The former is round and solid, while the other presents the appearance of a vegetable tube. Professor Agassiz³ suggested that this cloth might be made of nettles. He said he had seen such in Switzerland, and on the first view it was his impression that the cloth in question was made of the North American nettle. Professor Renwick of Newark, then inquired if this was not spoken of by Columbus in his discovery? It was his impression that it was.

Cooper's Clarksburg Register

1851 Ancient Cloth Taken from the Mounds of Ohio. *Cooper's Clarksburg Register*, Wednesday, December 17, 1851, pg. 2, col. 7. Clarksburg, Virginia [now West Virginia].

Ancient Cloth taken from the Mounds of Ohio.

Of the seven papers read on the opening day, the most interesting was that by Mr. Foster, U. S. Geologist, describing samples of ancient cloth taken from the mounds of Ohio. We give an abstract:

"In 1848, Mr. Foster procured from a resident of Charleston, Jackson county [sic], Ohio, several fragments of cloth taken from a mound in that vicinity. They were found near the bottom enveloping several copper rings, and greatly decayed; though some were sufficiently preserved to evidence their

¹ This article under the same title also appeared in the *Spirit of Jefferson*, Tuesday, September 2, 1851 (pg. 1, col. 4), published in Charles Town, Virginia (now West Virginia).

² John Wells Foster (March 4, 1815 – June 29, 1873). He is now best remembered for his studies in geology and paleontology. His major (and posthumously) published work on archaeology appeared as J. W. Foster, 1887, *Pre-Historic Races of the United States of America*, S. C. Griggs and Company, Chicago. As was typical of the era in which he wrote, his interpretive efforts were greatly hindered by his adherence to a "shallow" chronology which effectively lumped all "mound builders" as being generally contemporaneous.

³ Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz (May 28, 1807 – December 14, 1873) was a native of Switzerland and educated in of Zürich, Heidelberg, and Munich. After immigrating to the United States in 1847, he became a professor of zoology and geology at Harvard University.

having been woven. Fearing deception or error, Mr. Foster refrained from making public at that time, a fact so novel in itself, and so repugnant to prevailing ideas as to the degree of civilization possessed by the mound builders; but having lately received from Mr. John Woods⁴, of Ohio, a gentleman high in office, and of unquestionable veracity, additional samples accompanied by a descriptive letter, all doubt as to the propriety of publishing the discovery is removed. In his letter, Mr. Wood states that the fragments of charred cloth, together with an arrow, and a considerable quantity of charcoal and bones were taken from the mound on the western bank of the Great Miami River, two miles north of Middletown, Butler county [sic], Ohio, during some excavations rendered necessary in constructing the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad. The mound was originally twenty feet high, and fifty years ago was covered with trees. About ten feet from its surface, there was a compact layer of fine [sic; fine?], red, and apparently burnt clay, about an inch thick; underneath which, near the middle of the mound was another layer of fine, cream colored clay, differing from any in the neighborhood. Under this latter, the charcoal, cloth and bones were found. The bones were few and small. Little earth was mixed with the coal and cloth, which evidently had remained as they had been placed when burned and covered up. The charcoal appeared to be on the outside of the cloth, which was frequently [sic; frequently] in folds of half a dozen thickness. The layers of burned and cream colored clay did not occupy but about five or six feet of the mound. As to the period when the charcoal and cloth were deposited in the mound, the only question occurring to Mr. Woods was whether the mound erected by a former race may not have been made a burial place by the Indians living here when America was discovered. Thinking of this question while at the mound, he was careful to examine the condition of the earth around and above the relics, and came to the conclusion that it could not have been disturbed after it was placed in the mound.

On this question Mr. Foster further remarks, that there is no evidence that the North American Indians possessed the art of spinning and weaving when first known to the whites; consequently they never possessed it; for an art so useful, when once acquired, would not be lost. — That the cloth was obtained from the Europeans by the Indians and then placed in the mound, at a comparatively recent period, is improbable for the following reasons. The layers of earth surrounding it were undisturbed; its material being less adapted for clothing and more costly wool, is not such as a civilized race would manufacture for a barbarous one, and moreover the texture of some of the samples could not have been formed in an ordinary loom, but was undoubtedly woven by hand. From these facts Mr. Foster infers that the mound builders who have left memorials of their existence from the shores of Lake Superior to those of the Mexican Gulf, were a laborious, intelligent people, far more civilized and advanced in the arts than the present race of Indians with whom they appear to have been in connection. The fabric in these samples of cloth, seems to be of some material allied to hemp; and the separation of the fibre [sic] from the wood is as complete as if done by the modern process of rotting and heckling. The thread, though coarse, is regularly spun. The texture of the samples from Jackson county [sic], is formed by the alternate intersection of the warp and wool; but in others from Butler county [sic], [Ohio,] the weft is wound once around the warp — a process only to be accomplished by hand. There is no reason to doubt that these woven fabrics are the work of the mound builders. — The art of spinning and weaving was practised [sic] by the ancient Peruvians. At Pachacamac, thirty or forty miles from Lima, where stands the temple of the sun, there are numerous remains of walls built

⁴ John Woods (October 18, 1794 – July 30, 1855) was a respected Ohio lawyer who variously served as prosecuting attorney of Butler County, Ohio, was elected to the Nineteenth and Twentieth Congresses (March 4, 1825 – March 3, 1829), and later edited and published the Hamilton, Ohio, *Intelligencer* newspaper. He also served as president of the Cincinnati, Hamilton, and Dayton Railroad in operation from 1846-1917.

of sun-dried bricks, indicating the site of a once large and compact town. In the burial-place here, are numerous mummies in a sitting posture, wrapped in many folds of a woven cloth, with an exterior covering of coarse matting. The fabric consists of the wool of the lama [sic] or alpaca, and a cotton which here grows spontaneously.

Daily American Telegraph

1852 Relics of the Mound Builders. *Daily American Telegraph*, Tuesday, January 20, 1852, pg. 2, col. 3. Washington, D. C.

Relics of the Mound Builders⁵.

Mr. Foster, United States Geologist, in a paper on the subject of the ancient mounds, describes some samples of woven cloth taken from a mound in Ohio, near Charleston, in Jackson county [sic]. They were found near the bottom of the mound, enveloping copper rings, and were greatly decayed, though evidently woven. He afterwards received from Mr. John Wood [sic; Woods], of Ohio, some more perfect samples. The cloth consists of a fibrous substance like hemp. Mr. Foster infers that the mound builders are [sic; were] a more industrious people than the present race of aborigines, and acquainted with arts of which they had no knowledge when America was discovered. The editor of the *Milwaukie* [sic; *Milwaukee*] "Advertiser," in noticing this paper of Mr. Foster, says:

"In 1838, we assisted in the opening of several mounds at Aztlan, in Wisconsin, where better samples were found, we should judge, than those described by Mr. Foster. The cloth found was of the quality of coarse, heavy bagging, evenly woven, and apparently of hemp or seaweed. This cloth, with a still coarser fabric, resembling Indian matting, enveloped a human skeleton. The whole was strongly bound with three-twined cord, and charred; but the cloth, mat and cord were very distinct, affording excellent samples of the different articles discovered. They were found near the centre [sic] of a large mound, and several other articles exhibiting skill in their manufacture, and which would have been of interest had they been preserved and given to the public."

Washington Union

1858 Ancient Shoes. *The Washington Union*, Tuesday, June 29, 1858, pg. 1, col. 5. Washington, D. C.

Ancient Shoes⁶.—The shoes found in the sepulchral chamber of the mummy, discovered in the Short Cave, a neighbor of the Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, in 1813, were made of wrought bark, resembling South Sea Island cloth. The needles used in the making of these shoes, which were in her reticule with other trinkets, were without eyelets, and were probably used as knitting-needles are used nowadays. A substitute for a metal thimble was a piece of well-dressed deer-skin, that had a thumb hole through it, so that when in use it covered the palm of the hand. The needles had a head in the shape of common-sized coat-buttons, and some of these were handsomely scalloped [sic; scalloped]. These needles were made of bone and horn, and were very smooth, showing that they had been much used.

⁵ This article under the same title also appeared in *The Ottawa Free Trader*, Saturday, February 14, 1852 (pg. 2, col. 3), Ottawa, Illinois, and *The Portsmouth Inquirer*, Friday, March 12, 1852 (pg. 2, col. 5), Portsmouth, Ohio.

⁶ This article also appeared under the same title in the *Keowee Courier*, Saturday, July 3, 1858 (pg. 4, col. 4), Pickens Court House, South Carolina.

Fayette County Herald

1867 An Ancient Relic. *Fayette County Herald*, Thursday, September 26, 1867, pg. 4, col. 1.
Washington, Ohio.

An Ancient Relic.

[From the Columbus Morning Journal.]

At a Pioneer meeting in Licking county [sic], Dr. Wilson⁷, one of the members of the Association, presented a gavel made from a coffin found in one of the ancient mounds in the neighborhood. Dr. W., in presenting it, gave the following history. "I claim that the wood that forms the body of this gavel, is older than, and has been longer in use by a human being than any other wood grown in the United States. The history of this piece of wood I will give you as it related to me by Mr. Jacob Parsons, who lives in this county, and was present when it was first discovered. It was found under the 'great stone mound,' several years ago by those who were engaged in removing the stone to protect the reservoir. This 'stone mound' stood on a hill about one and a half miles south of Jacktown⁸, and was originally 25 feet high, and 182 feet in diameter at the, base, and conical in shape. Near the north part, on the surface of the ground, the workmen found a space of about five or eight feet, covered by flat stones. These stones extended down in the earth about five feet. After removing them they found at the bottom a slab of wood, and on this were lying some copper rings; when this slab was removed they found it to be a cover to a hollowed-out log, sufficiently large to admit a human body; in this were more rings, in all numbering thirteen, also evident proof that a human being had been buried there. Some teeth were quite perfect, the bones were discernable, but when touched go [sic; went] to dust; hair and pieces of cloth adhered to the inside of the rough coffin⁹, but too much decayed to be preserved; the threads were dstinet [sic; distinct], and showed that the fabric had been coarse. In 1858 the late David Wyrick¹⁰ and others dug out this coffin, and bro't [sic; brought] it to our town, and this gavel is a piece of it. This is the only case that I am aware of where we have any proof that the mound builders buried in wooden coffins, and the only account we have of any cloth or woolen fabric being used by this people¹¹. There were a great many decayed human skeletons found at the base of this mound, but this was the only one that appears to have been thus carefully buried, and no doubt but that the builders placed these stones over their dead as a monument, perhaps in honor of their bravery. I learned of late that not less than four stone mounds

⁷ The elusive "Dr. Wilson" has not been further identified at this time.

⁸ No reference to the place name "Jacktown" has been located. This likely refers to Jacksontown, a small community in Licking County, Ohio.

⁹ Presuming first and foremost that this form of burial was correctly identified, it may be noted that while rare such prehistoric log coffins are not completely unknown. Other (and likely contemporaneous) examples are discussed in Donald B. Ball, "Two Additional Accounts of a Possible Middle Woodland Burial Cave in Blount County, Alabama," *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*, 2009, 55(1-2):36-42.

¹⁰ David Wyrick (1806-1864) is now best known for his 1860 "discovery" of the Newark Holy Stones, items reputedly buried by ancient Jewish settlers in prehistoric Indian burial mounds near Newark, Ohio. While a detailed discussion of these stones is beyond the scope of this paper, it is sufficient to observe that their authenticity is highly suspect. As viewed through the critical eyes of modern scholarship, it is difficult to place any degree of credence in any claims attributed to Wyrick. An extended contemporary commentary (attributed to "W. D. B.") titled "Letter from Newark" concerning these stones appeared in *The Holmes County Farmer*, Thursday, July 26, 1860 (pg. 1, cols. 2-5), published in Millersberg, Ohio.

¹¹ As evidenced by both other items appearing in this compilation and a number of early sources not discussed herein, however well-intentioned it may have been this statement is clearly in error.

were demolished to make embankments for the canal reservoir. Some three or four yet remain standing in this county. I hope this relic, or something else, will inspire the members of this society with sufficient interest to procure a record of the mounds of the county, so that if we cannot learn all that we should like to know of this people, let us if possible secure, in some form, what they have left us. Perhaps they did all they could to perpetuate [sic; perpetuate] remembrance [sic; remembrance] of themselves; let us not be such vandals as to destroy what yet remains of the works of this "lost race."

Hancock Jeffersonian

1869 Untitled notice of a yellow pine carving near Cumberland Ford, Kentucky. *The Hancock Jeffersonian*, Friday, June 11, 1869, pg. 4, col. 5. Findlay, Ohio.

A singular relic of the mound builders has been discovered near Cumberland Ford, in [Bell County] Kentucky. It is a beautifully carved statue of a man, in yellow pine, which from the quantity of pitch it contains, is known to be as indestructible as stone¹². It was evidently an object of workmanship, and of a date anterior to the Christian era. It is to be sent to the Smithsonian Institute [sic] at Washington.

Public Ledger

1874 A Cave and a Corpse. *Public Ledger*, Monday, March 2, 1874, pg. 1, col. 2. Memphis, Tennessee.

**A CAVE AND A CORPSE¹³.
An Interesting Discovery in Virginia.**

From the Lynchburg Virginian.

¹² Readily granting that the authenticity of this item would be extremely difficult to verify after so many years, this carving should not be arbitrarily discounted as a creative forgery. It is of interest that a comparable example of prehistoric art found in Christian County, (southwestern) Kentucky, was reported in an article titled "Finds Stone Image in Cave" which appeared in the *Hopkinsville Kentuckian*, Tuesday, September 19, 1916 (pg. 5, cols. 4-5), Hopkinsville, Kentucky. This piece was described as:

...rudely carved out of a tough, ferrous sandstone; it is about six inches in height and is well preserved except for a slight injury on one side of its head and slight weathering of one arm. The figure is in a sitting position with its legs doubled under its body and arms extended in front with hands resting on its knees. The eyes are cut diamond shape and the mouth and nose are cut sharp in the full face which resembles in general contour the faces seen in Egyptian carvings. The ears are flat against the head which is supported on a short, thick neck. On the back of the head is carved a double rectangular figure that looks like an attempt to show an open back, probably indicating the head as the seat of knowledge and wisdom.

Importantly, a rather surprising number of these statues have been reported at both various sites in Tennessee and the Etowah Mounds in Cartersville, Georgia. The Tennessee statues have been the subject of a major book by Kevin E. Smith and James V. Miller, *Speaking with the Ancestors: Mississippian Stone Statuary of the Tennessee-Cumberland Region*, 2009, University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

¹³ This article also appeared in *The Pulaski Citizen*, Thursday, March 12, 1874 (pg. 4, col. 4), Pulaski, Tennessee, and the *Clarksville Weekly Chronicle*, Saturday, March 14, 1874 (pg. 1, col. 5), Clarksville, Tennessee. The original article attributed to the *Farmville Mercury* (full title *The Farmville Mercury, and Official Advertiser for Prince Edward, Cumberland, Buckingham, Appomattox and Neighboring Counties*) of Farmville, Virginia, has not been verified.

Buckingham county [sic] has a sensation. A wonderful cave has been discovered there, which a writer in the Farmville Mercury tells about. After describing several chambers, the account continues:

"We had satisfied our curiosity and were about to leave the cave when behind a large rock, or rather a spur of the main rock which formed the bottom, my son discovered a larger passage than any we had before seen. This we entered, and after following some six or seven feet emerged into an apartment of immense size. The light of our torches falling upon the stalactites revealed a scene of beauty which was fairly dazzling. The size of this apartment I cannot tell, as the roof and sides were lost in darkness. We penetrated to a considerable distance, keeping close to one of the sides so that we might easily find our way back, and would have gone farther but for finding in a recess, some seventy feet from where we entered, lying directly under a shelving rock, the body of a man wrapped in some dingy cloth like substance. We did not know it was the body of a man at first, and were not positive that it was until we had gotten [sic] it outside the cave.

"Mr. Boyd discovered the body, and when we moved it from under the rock my son found several large and beautiful pebbles where the body had lain, and a small round vessel some four inches in diameter and about two inches in height [sic], shaped very much like an inkstand with handle; this and the stones or pebbles he put in his pocket. We took the body and at once went out of the cave. The cloths with which it was wrapped were very rotten, and when we had laid the body down after leaving the cave they had nearly all been rubbed from it. What were left crumbled like burnt paper.

"We brushed the body clean and found it to be the dried up remains of a man who had evidently been of more than ordinary size, for I found it to be by actual measurement five feet nine inches in length. It is dried and withered something like dried meat, only the skin is tightly drawn over it. It is hard to the touch, and wherever there is a wrinkle it is hard like parchment.

"It is impossible to form any idea what color the man was or what his features were like. The body now is a sort of smoky color, and the hair, though there is very little of it, is intensely black. On the second finger of each hand and on the thumb of the right were large square rings, round on the inside to fit the finger. These rings and the small vessel I have referred to were evidently composed of gold, with a large quantity of some kind of alloy which gave them a very peculiar appearance.

"We took the body to my house; where it is now. When we arrived with it there, my son bethought him of the pebbles he had found, and showed them to us. There are seven in all: five are richly colored and unlike anything else I have ever seen. The other two, I think, are diamonds; they possess in a very high degree the powers of reflection and refraction, and are about the size of a cornfield pea."

Pacific Commercial Advertiser

1875 Ancient Relics. *The Pacific Commercial Advertiser*, Saturday, August 7, 1875, pg. 3, col. 6.
Honolulu, Hawaii.

Ancient Relics. — An exchange paper gives a description of the remains of some Indians found up north and makes a "crude" comparison as follows:

Some Aleutian Mummies have been found by an American sealer — the remains of some Indians inhabiting the island of Kagamale¹⁴, north of Unalaska [i.e., Unalaska], a century and a half since. The mummies, consisting of eleven packages of bodies, were found in a cave, and are believed to be

¹⁴ No island of this name situated northeast of Unalaska appears on modern maps of the Aleutian Islands.

those of the great chief—Karkhayahouchak—and his family. The chief's body is covered with the skins of the sea-otter—a mark of distinction in Aleut burials—and is enclosed in a large basket-like structure, containing portions of body armour [sic], made of reeds bound together, and wrapped in sea-grass matting, while the whole is protected by the meshes of a fish-net made of the sinews of sea-lion. The packages of mummies are irreverently likened by a Transatlantic contemporary to consignments of crude sugar from the Sandwich Islands [i.e., Hawaii].

Northern Ohio Journal

1876 Ohio News Items (excerpt). *Northern Ohio Journal*, Saturday, August 26, 1876, pg. 1, col. 9. Painesville, Ohio.

Dr. Thomas F. Moses¹⁵, of Urbana University, and Dr. J. A. McLean, have unearthed several complete skeletons of the ancient mound-builders in the southeast corner of Champaign County [Ohio]. The skeletons were found ten or twelve feet below the top of the mound, inclosed [sic; enclosed] in a sort of a wooden sarcophagus, and some of the bones are very large and in remarkable state of preservation. One of the skeletons is that of a very young child. They have been removed and are now in the possession of the Scientific Association¹⁶. A copper ornament and flint implements were found with the remains. The explorations will be continued.

Somerset Press

1876 Exploring a Mound. *The Somerset Press*, Friday, September 8, 1876, pg. 1, col. 7. Somerset, Ohio.

Exploring a Mound.

A telegram from Urbana, Ohio, 23d inst. [i.e., August 23, 1876], to the Cincinnati Gazette says: "The exploration of the mound near this place, in which were found three perfect skeletons of the ancient mound builders, was continued yesterday by members of the Central Ohio Scientific

¹⁵ As recorded in *The Twentieth Century Biographical Dictionary of Notable Americans* (Rossiter Johnson, ed., Vol. 7, pg. 495, 1904, Biographical Society, Boston): "Thomas Freeman Moses was born on June 8, 1836, in Bath, Maine. He was the son of William Moses and Sarah Freeman. Thomas Freeman Moses married Hannah Appleton Cranch, daughter of John Cranch and Charlotte Dawes Appleton, in 1867. Educator and physician. He graduated from Bowdoin College in 1857; studied medicine in Bath, Maine, and in New York city [sic], and graduated from the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1861. He attended clinical schools and hospitals in London and Paris, 1861, and in 1862 entered the hospital department at Washington, D.C., as acting assistant surgeon. He had charge of several government transports and hospitals, and during the summer of 1864 was engaged in transporting wounded men from the battle fields of eastern Virginia. He also served as executive officer of the hospital steamer Connecticut and during a period of six weeks removed 14,000 men to the hospitals at Washington and Alexandria. He retired from the service in 1864, owing to ill health, and in 1866 settled in practice in Hamilton county [sic], Ohio. He was made professor of natural sciences in Urbana university, Ohio, and director of the schools for girls in 1870; acting president of the university, 1886; was president, 1888-94; a trustee, 1886-99, and served as treasurer of the board and chairman of the executive committee. With the Rev. Theodore N. Glover he founded the Central Ohio Scientific association in 1874 and edited its Proceedings in 1878. He is the author of: *Spiritual Nature of Force*, and a translation of Emile Saigey's *Unity of Natural Phenomena* (1873)." He was elected as one of the Vice-Presidents of the American Medical Association in June of 1892. The date of his death is not known.

¹⁶ This is a reference to the Central Ohio Scientific Association (see following footnote).

Association¹⁷. The result was the unearthing of the head of the third and larger of the three skeletons, which was well preserved, and its shape indicates good brain development. Below the head was found a strand of pure pearl beads, which admit of a fine polish. A circular mica ornament was also found above the builders, and must have served as a burial ornament. Near the upper part of the body were three flint arrow-heads, lying with the points up, pointing as from the wooden handles which had been held in the hands of the dead warrior, but now moldered away. The lower jaw of this skeleton is perfect. The mound in which they were found is about seventy-five feet in diameter, and fifteen feet in height, and is covered with an old growth of oak trees. The box in which they were inclosed [sic; enclosed] was made of logs and bark, and was very rudely constructed. The explorations will be continued, and it is believed much more of interest yet awaits discovery. Dr. Thomas F. Moses, of Urbana University, a gentleman of rare scientific knowledge, has charge of the work, and will leave nothing undone which may add to the very limited knowledge of the strange people who once inhabited this continent."

Lake County Star

1878 Mound Builders' Sepulcher. *The Lake County Star*, Thursday, September 19, 1878, pg. 3, col. 3. Chase, Michigan.

Mound Builders' Sepulcher

Near Niles [Michigan] are some relics of the mound builders in the shape of nine mounds. These mounds are in three parallel lines, three in a line. Commencing at the village of Summerville and extending north about half a mile—the lines running east and west. The central mound on the farm of Mr. Walter was opened by Dr. Bonnie, of Niles, under the direction of the Smithsonian Institute [sic] recently. The doctor sunk a shaft from the top of the mound nineteen feet deep, where the bones and relics were found in a sort of circular basin seven or eight feet in diameter, rather oval shaped from southwest to northeast. Fifteen years ago a burr oak, four feet in diameter, stood on the summit of the mound. This was cut down by the owner of the farm. After sinking the shaft a side entrance was made on the east side.

The mound is thirteen feet above the prairie level and sixty feet in diameter, built of sod, the layers still showing, and the bodies consequently were buried six feet below the surface. About twelve skulls were found. One set of bones indicate a man at least seven feet six inches in height. Other bones are those of infants. The bones were all heaped in together, the skulls on top. This is accounted for from the fact that they were buried in a sitting posture, and in the lapse of ages the skeletons all collapsed into a heap.

Besides the bones, three copper axes were found, two of them just the shape and size of the axes of this time, only not so thick, being not over half an inch in thickness. They are of excellent workmanship, smooth and even. On one ax is something that may be a most important discovery. It is the fibre [sic] of cloth on one side of the ax, as though it laid on cloth that decomposed and hardened again solidly on the copper. The threads can be distinctly seen running both ways. It is said that remains of cloth have been found in but one instance before in the mounds of this country; if so

¹⁷ The short-lived (October 20, 1874-1878) Central Ohio Scientific Association was based at Urbana University in Urbana, Ohio. An extended summary of the Association's archaeological investigations titled "Report of the Antiquities of Mad River Valley" by Thomas F. Moses appeared in 1878 in *Proceedings of Central Ohio Scientific Association* (Vol. 1, No. 1, pp. 23-48 + 8 plates) published in Urbana, Ohio.

this is a most important discovery. The smallest ax is more the shape of a chisel. There are no notches or holes for handles in the axes.

Deer bones were found sharpened to a point, and the butt end being the joint end, just as shoemakers use now to crease leather with. Some pearl ornaments were found, but they crumbled on exposure to the air. Three small pieces of burnt pottery were found, curved like the neck of a vase, and on one were two rows of small holes for ornament. The tooth of some animal was also dug out, of solid ivory, about five inches long, and perforated with a hole, as though to string on the neck. A few years ago a copper kettle and copper-spindle were round [sic; found] in one of the smaller mounds, which are still preserved by the finder, who lives near.

About half way between the central mound and the southwestern one is an oval ditch, open at the east end, like a horse-shoe, which was a few years ago six feet deep, with large trees growing in it. It is gradually being filled up by plowing over it, but is still very distinct.

As these mounds are not large enough for defensive purposes they may have been for sacred uses, and these bones the remains of a sacrificial dedication, as the sacrifice of human beings was known to have been common with Aztecs, who are supposed to have been the descendants of the mound builders. Certainly the relics, although comparatively few, are very interesting.

Daily Dispatch

1884 A Race of Giants. *Daily Dispatch*, Saturday, March 15, 1884, pg. 4, cols. 1-2. Richmond, Virginia.

A RACE OF GIANTS.

Strange Discoveries Made in an Indian Mound Near Cartersville, Ga.

Mr. J. B. Toomer yesterday received a letter from Mr. Hazleton, who is on a visit to Cartersville, says the Athens (Ga.) *Banner*. The letter contained several heads [sic; beads] made of bone, and gave an interesting account of the opening of a large Indian mound near that town by a committee of scientists sent out from the Smithsonian Institute. After removing the dirt for some distance a layer of large flag-stones was found, which had evidently been dressed by hand, and showed that the men who quarried this rock understood their business. These stones were removed, when in a kind of vault beneath them the skeleton of a giant that measured seven feet by [sic] two inches was found. His hair was coarse and jet black, and hung to the waist, the brow being ornamented with a copper crown. The skeleton was remarkably well preserved, and taken from the vault intact. Near this skeleton were found the bodies of several children of various sizes. The remains of the latter were covered with beads made of bone of some kind. Upon removing these the bodies were found to be encased in a net work [sic] made of straw or reeds, and beneath this was a covering of the skin of some animal. In fact, the bodies had been prepared somewhat after the manner of mummies, and will doubtless throw new light on the history of a people who reared these mounds. Upon the stones that covered the vault were carved inscriptions, and if deciphered will probably lift the veil that has enshrouded the history of the race of giants that undoubtedly at one time inhabited this continent. All the relics were carefully packed and forwarded to the Smithsonian Institute, and are said to be the most interesting collection ever found in America. The explorers are now at work on another mound in Bartow county [sic], and before their return home will visit various sections of Georgia, where antiquities are found. On the Oconee river [sic], in Greene county, just above Powell's mills, are several large mounds, one of them very tall and precipitous.

Southern Sentinel

1885 Cave-Dwellers. *The Southern Sentinel*, Friday, September 11, 1885, pg. 3, col. 1. Winnfield, Louisiana.

CAVE-DWELLERS¹⁸.**Some Relics Recently Found in Southern California.**

Some time since the editor visited a cave in the San Martin Mountains, Los Angeles County, which contained some Interesting Indian relics. It is in a rugged, and picturesque region, and the cave, which is 1,400 feet above sea-level, situated on the south side of a steep mountain, is difficult of access. It is a natural grotto in a somewhat friable rock, composed largely of small, petrified oyster-shells, most likely of pliocene origin. The excavation is about twelve feet deep and sixteen feet long, and not sufficiently high for one to stand upright. The bottom was covered with sand, caused by the disintegration of portions of the roof and surrounding walls.

In this cavern were deposited nine baskets manufactured from tule and varying in size from six to twenty inches in diameter. With the exception of the smallest basket, which was found inside of a larger one, each was covered with a neatly fitted cap woven from the same material, and each basket stood on a mat of the same. Three or four of the baskets were in a good state of preservation, while the others were askew or had been gnawed by wood-rats, which are abundant in this section and had constructed a large nest in the cave.

One of these baskets contained fourteen notched sticks an eighth of an inch thick, from one to two inches wide, and from ten to fourteen inches in length. These sticks have been painted, some crosswise and others lengthwise, with streaks of red and probably blue paint. It is most probable that they were used for chronological purposes, each notch indicating a moon or other specific period. Some of the sticks have as many as one hundred notches. They are made of redwood, and are perforated at each end.

Another basket contained thirty-three head-dresses of birds' feather. The wing and tail feathers of a variety of birds have been used, but the flicker (*Colaptes chrysoides*) predominates. They were made by lapping the quill ends and sewing them together, after which the leathers were alternated until the desired length was obtained. These dresses are from five or six inches to nearly a foot in width, and from two to five feet in length. Some are plain white, while others are more ornamental, being made of different colored feathers.

In another basket was found forty-five whistles, made from the tibiae of the deer, about ten inches in length, and had been cut off and the bone dressed down, forming a mouthpiece, after which the cellular portion of the bone had been removed and a lateral opening made about three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, opposite which asphaltum had been placed in such a manner as to cause the instrument to emit one or more sounds when the operator blew in the end. These bones been wrapped with bark, or some other pliable substance, and a mass of asphaltum fastened on the larger end, into which was imbedded a small piece of haliotis [abalone] shell.

But still more interesting specimens were found in another basket. These consisted of four perforated stone disks, or hammers, containing handles. The disks are probably serpentine, and measure from four to five and a half inches in diameter. The sides have been reamed, in the usual method of perforated disks, leaving the hole much smaller at the center. The handles are of toyon, or

¹⁸ This article also appeared in the *Iron County Register*, Thursday, July 23, 1885 (pg. 6, col. 3), Ironton, Missouri. The original article attributed to the Ventura, California, *Free Press* has not been verified.

bearberry, which is amongst the hardest woods in Southern California, and are thirteen to seventeen inches in length. The handles set a little slanting to the base, or flat side of the disk, and are fastened with an asphaltum cement. Two of the disks still retain paint markings. For what purpose they were intended is not quite clear to us. If for hammers, they are the only ones of the kind of which we have heard in this country. The usual method of fastening the handle is by groove and withe, and not by drilling a hole through the implement. We are inclined to the opinion that these were used as implements of war, or were used in religious rites. But whatever may have been their use they are unique, as far as we know.

In excavating the bottom of the cave we found considerable basket-work, as though it had been covered with this material. A wedge was found made of the base of a deer's antler, four and one-half inches long by one and three-eighth inches in diameter, wrapped securely at the larger end with some kind of cord to prevent splitting when in use. Also a haliotis shell (*Haliotis cracherodii* [sp]) having the holes filled with a cord and used, probably, for a drinking cup. A shell ornament and portion of deer's antlers, and a serpentine instrument for smoothing and straightening the tules for their basket-work, were also found. The cave bears no evidences of having been used for a place of residence, but simply as a deposit [i.e., depository] for these specimens, most or all of which have doubtless been used in their dances and religious rites and ceremonies. How long these specimens have remained in the cave it is difficult to determine. Being perfectly dry, and beyond the reach of rain or sunshine, they would remain for a great length of time without decay. — Ventura (Cal.) *Free Press*.

St. Paul Daily Globe

1885 Street Sayings (excerpt). *St. Paul Daily Globe*, Thursday, December 10, 1885, pg. 2, col. 3. St. Paul, Minnesota.

STREET SAYINGS.

Mr. T. H. Lewis of this city has received a specimen of calcined cloth, which will, no doubt, be interesting to archaeologists. It was recently found by Mr. George A. Smith of Brown's Valley, Minnesota, while making excavations in a mound. It was found at a depth of seven feet in a mass of human bones, some of which had been burned. Cloth in connection with original burials is seldom found, especially in the Northwest.

Omaha Daily Bee

1886 Iowa Items (excerpt). *The Omaha Daily Bee*, Monday, December 20, 1886, pg. 4, col. 5. Omaha, Nebraska.

Two very fine pipes, one of milkwhite [sic] stone, supposed to be fluor spar [sic; fluorspar], six copper awls and five copper axes, one of the latter completely cloth-covered, have been exhumed from the Toolesbore [sic; Toolesboro], Louisa county [sic], mounds¹⁹.

¹⁹ This Hopewell era (200 B.C.-A.D. 300) site is now preserved as the Toolesboro Mound and Museum in Wapello, Iowa.

Emmons County Record

1887 Dakota Happenings (excerpt). *Emmons County Record*, Friday, September 30, 1887, pg. 1, col. 5. Williamsport, Dakota Territory [North Dakota].

Some birch baskets were found in the last-opened Indian mound near Devil's Lake, which are of especial interest in the light of the accepted belief that the mound-builders were of a race existing a thousand years ago. The baskets were apparently made to be water-tight, being constructed of one piece so folded at the edge as to avoid cutting.

Idaho Semi-Weekly World

1887 Mummified Aztecs. *Idaho Semi-Weekly World*, Tuesday, November 22, 1887, pg. 2, col. 6. Idaho City, Idaho.

MUMMIFIED AZTECS.

Strange Discovery Made by Two Miners in a New Mexican Tomb.

There is a stir in scientific circles over the advent of five mummified Aztecs supposed to have been buried six hundred years. The group comprises two men, two women and a child. They were discovered some months ago by two miners, Hasty and Morris, in a hermetically sealed cave in the canyon of the Gila river [sic], on the boundary line between Arizona and New Mexico. The miners were prospecting, and noticed a place closed by human hands. They questioned the Indians, who declined to give any information, and were opposed to any exploration. Watching their chances, the prospectors removed the obstructions to the cave. Huge bowlders [sic; boulders], bound by excellent cement, had to be pried out of place. A search for treasures was unsuccessful, but twenty feet from the mouth of the cave they found an Aztec mummy in a sitting posture, the legs bent up after that custom of the race. The hands were folded over the breast in the posture of adoration, facing toward the East. A further search revealed other bodies. A mother and child were nestling together in a loving embrace. The bodies were removed to this city. They are in excellent preservation, not disemboweled, and were evidently mummified naturally. The skin is tanned. The women retain their long, flowing silken hair. Measurements by Dr. Paolo de Vecchi, of Turin University, and Dr. C. M. Richter, of Berlin, conform to the historical descriptions of the Aztecs, and the general appearance and mode of burial and the surroundings identify the mummies with the ancient race. The bodies were covered with highly colored clothes, which crumbled on exposure. Three kinds were saved, two of a coarse material and one of deep blue, woven in diamond shapes. No implements or utensils were found. All the Consuls here and many scientific men inspected the mummies recently. —*San Francisco Alta*.

Wahpeton Times

1890 Burial Mounds. *The Wahpeton Times*, Thursday, February 6, 1890, pg. 3, col. 1. Wahpeton, North Dakota.

Burial Mounds²⁰.

²⁰ This article also appeared in the *Juniata Sentinel and Republican*, Wednesday, May 6, 1891 (pg. 4, col. 2), Mifflintown, Pennsylvania, and *The Lewiston Teller*, Thursday, October 1, 1896 (pg. 6, col. 5), Lewiston, Idaho.

Mr. Reynolds has recently completed the investigation of a burial mound in Georgia, located on a bend of the Savannah about three miles from Silver Bluff. Its contents stamp it as one of the most remarkable yet opened. They consist of human crania, pottery, copper implements and ornaments, galenite [sic] pipes, stone implements, pearl and shell beads and textile fabrics.

The crania were in fragments and in an advanced stage of decay.

The pottery consisted of twenty-three pots ranging in size from small narrow-neck jars to large urns of a capacity of some sixteen gallons.

Some of these were elaborately decorated with stamped patterns.

There were four celts of hammered copper. The value and importance of these were indicated by the fact that they had been wrapped in cloth and incased in bark. There were also thin plates of copper with figures in relief similar in type to the Etowah mound species. They were much broken and so brittle that they could scarcely be handled.

Sufficient traces only of the textile fabrics were preserved by contact with the copper to determine their general character.

Eleven pipes, carved to represent human and animal figures, were taken from the mound. Many stone implements of the usual type, such as spear-heads, celts, chisels, etc., were found.

Bismarck Weekly Tribune

1890 The Mound Builder Knew Some Things. *Bismarck Weekly Tribune*, Friday, August 1, 1890, pg. 8, col. 5. Bismarck, North Dakota.

The Mound Builders Knew Some Things.

A mound that stood near the center of the town of Chillicothe, O. [Ohio], was fifteen feet high and sixty in diameter. In its demolition human bones were found in many places, and at the surface of the earth, upon pieces of bark, lay a single human skeleton covered with a mat and surrounded with various personal adornments and other articles, including a piece of copper in the shape of a cross. In a mound opened at Circleville [Ohio] was found a large mica mirror, three feet long, a plate of oxidized iron, and two skeletons covered with ashes and charcoal and surrounded by burnt bricks. These finds indicate that the mound builders were acquainted with many arts, and in some of them were quite expert. They certainly knew of the existence of copper on Lake Superior. Pieces of cloth have been found well preserved with some of the skeletons.

Rock Island Daily

1891 Relics of a Forgotten Age. *Rock Island Daily*, Friday, December 18, 1891, pg. 1, col. 4. Rock Island, Illinois.

RELICS OF A FORGOTTEN AGE²¹.

Two Skeletons Covered with Sheet Copper – A Copper Eagle.

Chillicothe, O. [Ohio]. – Dec. 18. Hundreds of people have come to see the mound-builder relics uncovered by Warren K. Moorhead. Of the five skeletons lying side by side two were covered with a sheet of copper six by eight feet. A large copper ax weighing forty-nine pounds was found. In size

²¹ This article also appeared in *The Progressive Farmer*, Tuesday, January 12, 1892 (pg. 5, col. 2), Winston, North Carolina.

and value it exceeds any single specimen ever found in the United States. There are traces of gold in it. The cutting edge is seven inches broad and very sharp. How it could have been fastened in a handle and used is a mystery. All the entailer copper axes are such as have been found before.

An Artistic Piece of Work.

Thirty copper plate with mound builders' cloth on them overlapped the axes. The average size of the plates was ten by six inches. A great copper eagle twenty inches in diameter, with wings outspread, beak open, and tail and wing feathers neatly stamped upon the copper surface, covered the knees of one of the skeletons. This is one of the most artistic designs ever found in copper. Remains of a copper stool about a foot in length and several inches in height lay near the head of one of the skeletons. The stool was made out of wood, and had been covered with sheet copper. Flint implements, bear tusks, seashells, and trinkets were also found.

Eagle

1894 An Old Basket. *The Eagle*, Wednesday, November 14, 1894, pg. 3, col. 3. Silver City, New Mexico.

An Old Basket.

In all probability one of the oldest baskets and the oldest ear of corn in New Mexico are now on exhibition at the drug store of V. L. Jackson & Co., in this city. These old relics were found about a mile south of S. S. Brannin's ranch on the Sapello in an almost inaccessible cave in the rocks. The cliff in which the cave was found is about 100 feet high and the cave was reached by falling a tree against the rocky cliff.

Quite a number of relics were found in the cave by Ed. Brannin, among which were three baskets made of twisted coils of grass and straw. The basket which was brought in here is in a fair state of preservation. It is about four feet across and about a foot deep. Some corn was found in the cave which is also in a fair state of preservation. It is on the ear and resembles, to some extent, the hard yellow corn grown in the east except that the ear is much smaller.

The cave in which these relics were found is several [sic; several] miles from the cliff dwellers' caves on the Gila²², but was most probably inhabited by one of the cliff dwellers. As a rule it seems that they lived in communities but there are instances where isolated caves have been found miles from these towns.

Perrysburg Journal

1896 Untitled article about an Indian mummy near Prescott, Arizona. *The Perrysburg Journal*, Saturday, October 3, 1896, pg. 2, col. 1. Perrysburg, Ohio.

An Indian mummy has been found in Arizona, near Prescott, that is believed to have once been one of the great men of the Aztecs. It was found by John P. Blundy, who communicated the facts to George F. Kunz, the New York diamond expert. Beside the mummy was a basket filled with a half peck of turquoises. With the Aztecs green was a sacred stone, and wealth was gauged generally by

²² The headwaters of the Gila River originate in southwestern New Mexico.

the number of green stones the person owned. Every man's treasure those days was buried with his bones, and neglect to do this was regarded as highly sacrilegious.

Daily Public Ledger

1896 Indian Mummy. *Daily Public Ledger*, Monday, November 9, 1896, pg. 3 col. 4. Maysville, Kentucky.

**Indian Mummy Dug Out of a Cellar on Elkwel Creek, Kentucky
- Skeleton of a Man Eight Feet High.**

Lexington, Ky., Nov. 9 [1896]. - John Winter, of Bell county [sic], last week, while digging a cellar at his home, on Elkwel creek [sic], excavated a giant mummy. The mummy was that of a man eight feet high, and wrapped in a winding cloth of skins. It was placed in a canoe-like coffin, and crumbled away upon being exposed to the air. At the head of the giant were a stone hatchet and a few cooking utensils and a large hollow stone, which presumably contained food. At his feet was a skin shield, which had also crumbled to dust.

Tombstone Prospector

1896 An Historic Find. *The Tombstone Prospector*, Friday, December 18, 1896, pg. 4, col. 4. Tombstone, Arizona.

**AN HISTORIC FIND.
Mummies Found in the Cave Dwellers Ruins.**

Mr. O'Toole a prospector arrived in the city last night say [sic; says] the Phenix [sic; Phoenix] Herald, with a number of mummies and historic relics which he unearthed in the cave dwellers ruins on the Verde. Mr. O'Toole made a complete circuit [sic; circuit] of the Verde river [sic]²³, from Cave Creek around the head of them and spent considerable time incavating [sic; excavating] among the ruins of the cave dwellers. His search was rewarded by the finding of a number of mummies of children in a good state preservation, arrow heads, cloths [sic; clothes?] of various kinds, needles made of bone, corn both on the cob and loose.

This morning M. [sic; Mr.] O'Toole called on Dr. Tuttle who unwrapped the mummies and examined them. There is absolutely no question of their genuineness as the skulls, teeth and bones are in a good state of preservation, while one of them has a fair growth of hair on the skull.

Kansas City Journal

1899 A Cave on the Border. *The Kansas City Journal*, Sunday, November 12, 1899, pg. 13, col. 4. Kansas City, Missouri.

A CAVE ON THE BORDER²⁴.

²³ The Verde River, a tributary to the westerly flowing Gila River, is located in central Arizona.

²⁴ This article also appeared in: *The Sun*, Sunday, November 19, 1899, section 2, pg. 5, col. 4, New York, New York; *The St. Paul Globe*, Sunday, November 26, 1899, pg. 25, col. 5, St. Paul, Minnesota; and *The Arizona Republican*, Tuesday, December 5, 1899, part 2, pg. 16, col. 6, Phoenix, Arizona.

In It Were Found Mummies of a Lost Race of People – Possibly One Was a Queen.

From the Dallas (Tex.) News.

George Wold, of Waco, while hunting lost cattle in the eastern portion of El Paso county [sic], near the boundary line of Texas, and New Mexico, discovered a cave which appearances indicate was the burial place of ancient people.

The cave may have been artificially hollowed out of a big rock at the foot of one of the Guadalupe hills near the state border. The appearance of the entrance and the regularity of the interior portion of the hollow in the rock suggests that it was either partially or wholly made by hand. The walls are scratched with something that may be hieroglyphics made by an extinct race, and if some savant acquainted with those obsolete writings should go there he might discover that they are the epitaphs of the dead persons whose remains are still to be found scattered on the floor and in niches.

When Mr. Wold and his companions entered the cavern they found that other explorers had preceded them and portions of the mummified bodies had been removed. There were seven thoroughly dried up, and one of them is obviously a female. The latter relic Mr. Wold appropriated, and he brought a portion of it, including the left hand and a portion of the arm with him. The tapering fingers and symmetry of the hand made the cowboys believe it might have been a person of aristocratic lineage, possibly a queen of a tribe interred among the bodies of her attendants. Everything indicates that centuries have passed since those people died and were wrapped in grass cloth and laid away in this immense grotto, the existence of which only became known within the last two years by reason of the caving in of the stones which had been piled up at the entrance.

Arizona Republican

1901 Some Valuable Relics. *The Arizona Republican*, Friday, May 10, 1901, pg. 4, col. 1. Phoenix, Arizona.

SOME VALUABLE RELICS

Dr. Miller's Recent Acquisition to His Big Collection.

Dr. J. Miller, who visited Sacaton²⁵ some time ago secured two valuable specimens, which he has added to his already large collection of curiosities and archaeological specimens.

The first and most interesting perhaps to the ordinary beholder is an old-fashioned Spanish knife, or short sword. He secured it from an Indian, who found it about six years ago in the mountains east of Sacaton, It is particularly interesting from the fact that it is distinctly Spanish and in all probability was lost or thrown away by some member of Coronado's famous expedition, as it was found in a section said by all students to have been crossed by that party. This, of course, is purely speculative, but if it was not of that origin, it came from some later yet old-time explorer from the same country.

The blade of the knife is eleven and one-half inches long and the handle is four inches long. The wooden part of the handle is gone and most of its metal covering, but there is enough of it left to show that it was once gorgeously engraved. The blade is engraved on both sides alike and crudely but deeply done. The engraving shows the picture of a huge serpent guarded by two lions, which are next [to] the handle, the serpent and lions being from the Spanish coat of arms.

The other specimen is a burial basket which was taken from a cave not far from Sacaton and originally held the bones of an Infant. The basket is, in fact, three baskets, nested with a fourth basket

²⁵ Sacaton is a small town located in Pinal County, (south-central) Arizona.

covering the three. This basket is not a specially [sic] recent discovery, as its existence has been known for some years, and when Dr. Miller secured it from the cave it contained several pieces of paper on which were written the names of persons who visited it years ago and wrote their names and the date and left the memoranda in the basket. One party was a family from Ohio and the paper was dated in 1888.

Copper Era

1903 Untitled article about a guano cave in Arizona²⁶. *The Copper Era*, Thursday, March 5, 1903, pg. 3, col. 2. Clifton, Arizona.

Wm. Traylor recently discovered an immense cave on the right bank of the Frisco river [sic]²⁷, which contains vast deposits of guano. In prospecting in the cave Mr. Traylor discovered many interesting relics of prehistoric races, such as bows, arrows, utensils, baskets, woven from bark, cotton twine and knitted cloth from both cotton and grass, or bark. He also found a large amount of corn cobs, which would indicate that the aborigines [sic; aborigines] who once inhabited these caves were somewhat familiar with the art of agriculture. That they were of a very ancient date is proven by the fact that their bows and arrows were not made with tooled instruments. They were made from round limbs or shoots, and the knots and limbs ground away by rocks. Mr. Traylor will remove the guano, and in doing so expects to encounter many relics of these ancient races.

Minneapolis Journal

1904 Alaskan Mummy as Alimony Asset. *The Minneapolis Journal*, Saturday, July 30, 1904, pg. 3, col. 2. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

ALASKAN MUMMY AS ALIMONY ASSET

Remains of Prehistoric Race Found in Cave Which Indians Guard

New York Sun Special Service.

Tacoma, Wash., July 30.—On an island in Prince William sound, Alaska, is a wonderful cave, containing remains of a prehistoric race of Alaska Indians. The cave is guarded by an Indian tribe which inhabits the island. As far as is known, but two or three parties of white men have ever entered it. Bodies inside are mummified after the manner practiced by the ancient Egyptians. These bodies were wrapped with cloths and dried grass, preserving them completely.

Two years ago a party of prospectors entered the cave and discovered a number of bodies laid away in niches of the rock. The party came out, intending to explore further on another day, but were notified by the Indians that they could not enter. The prospectors declared that the mummified Indians were much larger than any living race of men, being seven and eight feet in stature.

²⁶ This article was reprinted (also without a title) in *The Williams News*, Saturday, March 21, 1903 (pg. 1, col. 2), Williams, Arizona. A slightly abbreviated version of this notice titled "An Immense Cave" subsequently appeared in the *White Oaks Eagle*, Thursday, April 2, 1903 (pg. 1, col. 2), White Oaks, New Mexico. This version reported a Willard Taylor as the discoverer of this cave.

²⁷ The Frisco (properly the San Francisco) River, the largest tributary to the upper Gila River, meanders through southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona.

What is believed to be a mummy from this identical cave is owned by F. H. Baldie of Tacoma, whose wife is suing him for divorce. None outside of the family knew of his Alaska mummy until Mrs. Baldie scheduled it among his assets as worth \$2,000, requesting half its value in cash. She says he bought it two years ago of an Alaskan prospector. Mr. Baldie will not discuss the mummy pending the settlement of the divorce.

Taylor, A. P.

1905 Glimpses of Molokai. *Hawaiian Gazette*, Friday, August 18, 1905, pg. 7, col. 4. Honolulu, Hawaii.

BURIAL CAVES.

There are some who live at Pukoo [Island of Molokai, Hawaii] and elsewhere, remember in their youth to have entered burial caves cut in the face of a cliff, within which they saw skeletons, remains of feather cloaks, spears, war-clubs, feather helmets and all the trappings of power of ancient times, but today they cannot locate the caves, because the heavy development of lantana and tropical growths has concealed the entrances. There is a cave near the beach which, they say, can be entered only by diving into the sea and swimming through a tunnel. There is another passage also on the land side. Within this is said to be a double war-canoe and other valuable relics.

Hawaiian Gazette

1905 An Ancient Sled Found in a Kona Burial Cave. *Hawaiian Gazette*, Tuesday, December 5, 1905, pg. 1, cols. 3-4. Honolulu, Hawaii.

AN ANCIENT SLED FOUND IN A KONA BURIAL CAVE

Another historical and archeological discovery has been made in a cave near Hookena, Kona, [Island of] Hawaii. This time a sled, with the ropes still attached, a deep-water surf board, a calabash and some other trinkets were found.

The finder is N. K. Pupui, a young Hawaiian resident of Honolulu, who recently visited Kona. The cave was found in the face of a Pali which rose sheer up close to the sea. The entrance to the cave was very small and was barely discernible.

The sled, according to old-time natives, must be about three hundred years old. They think it dates back 200 years before Kamehameha I's period [i.e., ca. AD 1600]. The ropes are made of cocoa-nut fibers, and are still in fine condition. The surf-board is very short, a style used by the olden-time natives for deep-water sport.

The Forbes discoveries from the Waipio gulch cave, have all been received at the Bishop Museum [in Honolulu], and are being given a critical examination by those in charge. These relics are believed by some to be the remains of Kamehameha I, but their identity is still being shrouded in mystery.

El Paso Herald

1916 New Mexico Grew Cotton 3000 Years Ago. *El Paso Herald*, Wednesday, September 6, 1916, pg. 1, col. 5. El Paso, Texas.

New Mexico Grew Cotton Over 3000 Years Ago²⁸

Denver, Colo., Sept. 6. — Three thousand years ago cotton was raised in northern New Mexico and woven into cloth by prehistoric Aztecs. Also they made rope and twine, perhaps even thread, of cotton and of the yucca plant, known to an enlightened modern civilization as soapweed, or Spanish bayonet, and chiefly used by small boys for the manufacture of toy daggers.

The cotton cloth has been discovered in explorations directed by Earl H. Morris, of the University of Colorado, acting for the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Mr. Morris began work on July 20 on a four years' excavation of the famous Aztec ruins [now Aztec Ruins National Monument, New Mexico] on the ranch of H. D. Abrams, within an hour's walk of Aztec, N. M. [New Mexico].

The discovery of the cloth, which has been found beyond doubt to be cotton, is amazing to scientists.

The cotton closely resembles the common upland cotton grown in southern states today. Already the ranch men in the San Juan basin are considering the feasibility of putting in cotton plants there.

Arizona Republican

1919 Cliff Dwellers Grew Cotton. *The Arizona Republican*, Thursday, February 20, 1919, pg. 24, col. 5. Phoenix, Arizona.

CLIFF DWELLERS GREW COTTON

Indubitate [sic; Indubitable] proof that the white settlers in this section were not the first to grow cotton is furnished by the fact that Dwight B. Heard has a quantity of cotton seed which he found in the cliff dwellings in the northern part of the state [i.e., Arizona]. The seed was stored in a large granary pot when found, according to the custom of these prehistoric people who, because of the scarcity of grain and seeds of all kinds, carefully stored away the small stock on hand until it should be used. The strain of cotton as cultivated by the cliff dwellers was indiginous [sic; indigenous] and the staple was not very long, however it was sufficient for their needs and furnished them with clothing and blankets in the manufacture of which, considering their limited facilities they were very skillful. In the same cliff dwellings Mr. Heard found finely woven prehistoric cloth, similar to that he had previously found in the tombs of Egypt.

Daily Capital Journal

1919 Prehistoric Race of Eskimos Found in Alaska Ice Bed. *The Daily Capital Journal*, Wednesday, October 22, 1919, pg. 2, col. 2. Salem, Oregon.

PREHISTORIC RACE OF ESKIMO FOUND IN ALASKA ICE BED

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 21. Entombed in everlasting ice near Point Barrow, Alaska, the bodies of 80 Eskimos of prehistoric days, their huts and implements and clothing have been discovered according

²⁸ This news item also appeared untitled in the *New Mexico State Record*, Friday, September 22, 1916, pg. 2, col. 5, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

to W. B. Van Valin²⁹, field expert of the University of Pennsylvania who is in Seattle after two years of exploration in the great white silence.

What fate overcame the Eskimos of antiquity or how long ago their village was covered with ice Van Valin would not venture to say after his arrival in Seattle Sunday from Nome. Van Valin was unable to find an Eskimo legend which even hinted at the existence of the ice encased village he uncovered. In the oldest folk lore of the north the explorer was unable to find even a hazy tradition which pointed to the village or its inhabitants.

While expressing reticence as to details of his discovery Van Valin asserted that the bodies show the presence of black hair. Among scientists this assertion will go far to disprove the "blonde Eskimo theory" that the original inhabitants of the far north probably were Caucasians.

Although he is certain that the Eskimo village and its people belonged to a prehistoric age, Van Valin would not attempt to give the number of years the ice has covered them.

"All I can say is that these men lived years and years ago and I think thousands of years ago," Van Valin said.

²⁹ William B. Van Valin (1877-1951). Van Valin was a teacher, explorer, and self-trained ethnographer who lived with the Point Barrow Eskimo for three years. His experiences were later recounted in William B. Van Valin, *Eskimoland Speaks* (1941, Caxton Printers, Caldwell, Idaho). His collections were deposited with the University of Pennsylvania. Other newspaper accounts of Van Valin's explorations and experiences appear in: "Eskimo Mummies are On Way Here," *Evening Public Ledger*, Monday, September 29, 1919, pg. 3, col. 1, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; "Prehistoric Eskimos Found in Ice," *Kendrick Gazette*, Friday, October 24, 1919, pg. 6, col. 2, Kendrick, Idaho; "Ancient Race Dug from Ice," *The Bemidji Daily Pioneer*, Tuesday, February 17, 1920, pg. 2, col. 1, Bemidji, Minnesota; and "Former Colville Resident Pays Community a Visit," *The Colville Examiner*, Saturday, August 13, 1921, pg. 3, col. 3, Colville, California.

Recent or Noteworthy Publications

Editor's note: As is usual and very much appreciated, Marlin Hawley has worked diligently and most of the references below result from his efforts.

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