

# WisArch News

The Newsletter of the Wisconsin Archeological Society

## Members Gather at Silver Mound for the Fall 2019 Field Assembly



Touring Silver Mound during the Fall 2019 Field Assembly.

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# Wisconsin Archeological Society

[www.wiarcheologicalsociety.org](http://www.wiarcheologicalsociety.org)

## 2019 Officers, At-Large Directors, Affiliated Organizations & Committee Chairs

### Elected Officers

President: **George Christiansen III**, [president@wiarcheologicalsociety.org](mailto:president@wiarcheologicalsociety.org) (term 2019-2020)

President Elect: **Rob Nurre**, [president-elect@wiarcheologicalsociety.org](mailto:president-elect@wiarcheologicalsociety.org) (term 2019-2020)

Secretary: **Katherine M. Sterner**, [secretary@wiarcheologicalsociety.org](mailto:secretary@wiarcheologicalsociety.org) (term 2016-2019)

Treasurer: **Jake Rieb**, [treasurer@wiarcheologicalsociety.org](mailto:treasurer@wiarcheologicalsociety.org) (term 2016-2019)

### Directors at Large

**Dan Joyce** (2018-2019), [djoyce@kenosha.org](mailto:djoyce@kenosha.org)

**Thomas Loebel** (2018-2019), [earlypaleo@yahoo.com](mailto:earlypaleo@yahoo.com)

**Cynthia Stiles** (2019-2020), [cydstil@newnorth.net](mailto:cydstil@newnorth.net)

**Seth Schneider** (2019-2020), [sethschneider@icloud.com](mailto:sethschneider@icloud.com)

### Affiliated Organizations

*Charles E. Brown Society-Madison:* **Joe Monarski**, [jrmonar@frontier.com](mailto:jrmonar@frontier.com)

*Kenosha County Archaeological Society-Kenosha:* **Donald Shelton**, [dgshelton@wi.rr.com](mailto:dgshelton@wi.rr.com)

*Robert Ritzenthaler Society-UW-Oshkosh:* **William Wasemiller**, [william.wasemiller@sial.com](mailto:william.wasemiller@sial.com)

*Rock River Archaeological Society-Horicon:* **Julie Flemming**, [rras.president@gmail.com](mailto:rras.president@gmail.com)

*Three Rivers Archaeological Society-Beloit:* *Currently Inactive*

*UW-La Crosse Archaeological Club:* **Valerie Watson**, [watson.valerie@uwlax.edu](mailto:watson.valerie@uwlax.edu)

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Programs Committee: **Ryan Howell**, [ryan.jayhowell@yahoo.com](mailto:ryan.jayhowell@yahoo.com)

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Preservation of Sites Committee: **Rob Nurre**, [rob.nurre@gmail.com](mailto:rob.nurre@gmail.com)

WAS Awards Committee: **Heather Walder**, [heather.walder@gmail.com](mailto:heather.walder@gmail.com)

Editorial/Journal Committee: **Kent Dickerson**, [kent.dickerson@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:kent.dickerson@wisconsinhistory.org)

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The editor appreciates the assistance of Amanda Jones for help on formatting this issue.



## *A Message from the President*

Greetings from the desk of the President!

As I sit and write this, the early November skies are threatening again to open up with another one to three inches of the billowy white stuff. Winter feels like it has fallen upon us quickly this year and it is time to reflect on the year that was and the New Year that is rapidly approaching.

The last year has seen the implementation of new bylaws and the completion of two successful field assemblies. The new bylaws appear to have streamlined our organization and made it possible to be more responsive in certain areas. We are aware that in some areas we need to improve our communication, primarily with regard to our affiliated organizations. This is high on our agenda for our November meeting, so stay tuned! The elections are now complete, and we welcome Jennifer Edginton and Warren Mohar to the board of directors in January, as well as seeing the return of Seth Schneider in an officer's position as Treasurer. We owe many thanks to Jake Rieb for his multiple terms of service as the Society Treasurer and to Daniel Joyce and Thomas Loebel for their service to the board; we all look forward to your continued participation in the Society!

Our Spring Field Assembly, at the Horicon Historical Society's Satterlee Clark House, saw members working hand-in-hand with archaeologists in the excavation of a post-European contact trading post. Many thanks to Kurt Sampson, as well as, Lahnne Neu and her wonderful family! Members had a chance to see how archaeological excavations are conducted and how artifacts recovered from the field are cleaned and prepared for analysis. The I.A. Lapham award was presented to Dr. William Green and members had the opportunity to meet with him.

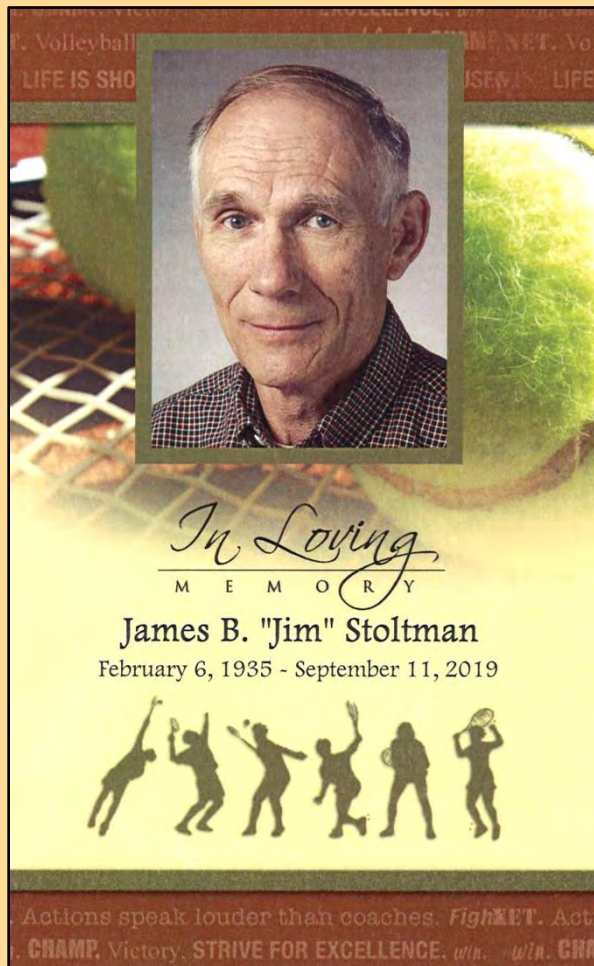
Our Fall Field Assembly was held at Silver Mound near Hixton this October. Over 100 people braved cool temperatures and rain to have tours of the amazing quarries and rock shelters associated with the Silver Mound site that has evidence of over 12,000 years of human activity. Thanks are owed to Jean Dowiasch, Dr. Connie Arzigian, and the steadfast student volunteers from the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center who sponsored the event with the Wisconsin Archeological Society. I can't forget to include the helpful owners of the Hixton/Alma Center KOA campground, John and Debbie Bierbach. Or to Ernie Boszhardt of Driftless Pathways who gave a wonderful tour of the northern quarry pits. We would not have had a successful event without all of the people who have donated their time and to all of you who have supported the Society through your membership and participation.

A couple of things for the future, we are very close to publishing the 2019 double issue of *The Wisconsin Archeologist*, so that should be out to you all soon. I would also like to remind you to keep your eye out for the invitation to the Winter Dinner (held annually in Milwaukee this January). As well, remember to renew your membership with the Society in December so you don't miss newsletters, events, and the 2020 issue of *The Wisconsin Archeologist*. We are currently planning the Spring Field Assembly, so there will be news on that as well in the near future.

Thank you all again for a great 2019! We have seen our membership increase this year and we hope that you have enjoyed the direction that the Society has been moving in. If you have questions, comments, or recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact me at [president@wiarcheologicalsociety.org](mailto:president@wiarcheologicalsociety.org).



## In Memory of James B. Stoltman



Our dad James B. "Jim" Stoltman, age 84, passed on Wednesday, September 11, 2019, in Madison surrounded by family and close friends. He was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on February 6, 1935, to Bernard and Sophia (Kalitowski) Stoltman.

He is survived by his loving wife, Sallie Stoltman; daughter Wendy (Mike Platt) and two sons Jeff (Sara) and Andy. Jim was also the proud grandfather to Patrick, Alison, Christian and Eileen and great-grandfather to Oliver. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Our dad was genuinely humble and invariably found a self-deprecating way to change the subject when it was focused on him. In an unheralded fashion, he preferred to first address the needs of others. So, a traditional obituary recounting his life and extolling his virtues will certainly cause him great displeasure in the afterlife. Wishing to avoid that, let's just say that Dad was a devoted archaeologist who felt privileged to serve as a teacher, researcher, and counselor to those who entered UW-Madison's Department of Anthropology. His contributions to the field of archaeology were many even though he never used a bullwhip or wore a fedora.

When he wasn't digging in the dirt with his students or analyzing ancient pottery under a microscope, he loved to play tennis, drink a good martini, travel with Sallie, fish, sip fine cognac, play poker, adore his grandchildren, savor vintage port, smoke cigars, write about archaeology, drink a margarita, listen to favorite songs (most notably Ripple), and throw overripe bananas while vigorously gesturing during meetings. We found out late in his life that he preferred white wine over red. Who knew?

In the afterlife, we encourage Dad to continue honing his cooking skills. By that we mean learn to cook pasta in a way that doesn't create a glutinous mass that destroys the pot. On the other hand, we affirmatively recognize that Dad's ability to save items in the refrigerator endures as a poignant reminder of the lifesaving value of clearly legible expiration dates.

Dad, your many friends, colleagues, tennis buddies, poker pals, students, children and grandchildren recognize your kindness, selflessness, humor, humility, approachable intellect, and devotion to others – especially to Sallie. You didn't "do a back flip and die" with all of us watching, but we sure appreciate your humor right until the end. Those around you are better because you were here and appreciate you deeply. All those individuals you treated like family miss you greatly and are following your example. Indeed, you remain a "ripple in still water".

A memorial service will be held at CRESS FUNERAL HOME, Madison, WI 53705, on Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. A visitation will be held at the funeral home on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Agrace Hospice.

## Affiliated Organizations Information

### Charles E. Brown Archaeological Society

The Charles E. Brown Chapter meets monthly (except the summer months) at 7pm on the second Thursday of each month, at the Wisconsin Historical Society Auditorium, 816 State Street in Madison, across from the Union, unless otherwise noted. Contact Joe Monarski at [jrmonar@frontier.com](mailto:jrmonar@frontier.com).

### Kenosha County Archaeological Society

The Kenosha County Archaeological Society meets on the second Saturday of the months of October, December, February and April at 1:30 pm at the Kenosha Public Museum, 550 First Ave., Kenosha, Wisconsin. Contact Donald Shelton at [dgshelton@wi.rr.com](mailto:dgshelton@wi.rr.com). Information on events at the Kenosha Public Museum can be found at [www.kenosha.org/museum/](http://www.kenosha.org/museum/).

### Milwaukee Meetings of the Wisconsin Archeological Society

Milwaukee meetings of the Wisconsin Archeological Society are held at the UW-Milwaukee Campus in either Sabin Hall or in the Union. Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month during the academic year (September through May). Guest lectures begin at 8:00 pm. Contact Rob Ahlrichs at [ahlrichs@uwm.edu](mailto:ahlrichs@uwm.edu).

### Robert Ritzenthaler Society

The Robert Ritzenthaler Society meets on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7:00 pm, September through May. Meetings are held at Room 202, Harrington Hall, on the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Campus. Contact William Wasemiller at [william.wasemiller@sial.com](mailto:william.wasemiller@sial.com).

### Rock River Archeological Society

Monthly meetings of the Rock River Archeological Society are held on the third Wednesday of the month, from September through April, at 7:00 pm, at the Visitor's Center, Horicon National Wildlife Refuge. This facility is accessible via Highway 28 between Mayville and Horicon. The Rock River Chapter invites you to visit their weblog at <http://rockriverarch.blogspot.com>. Contact Julie Flemming, [rras.president@gmail.com](mailto:rras.president@gmail.com)

### Three Rivers Archaeological Society

The Three Rivers Archaeological Society meets on the second Monday of every month (except July and August), alternating between the Macktown Living History Education Center (Rockton, IL) and venues in Beloit, Wisconsin at Beloit College and the Beloit Public Library. Currently Inactive.

### UW-La Crosse Archaeological Club

The Archaeology Club provides a social and academic outlet for UW-La Crosse students interested in archaeology and/or anthropology. The club provides speakers, field trips, and presentations. Contact Valerie Watson at [watson.valerie@uwlax.edu](mailto:watson.valerie@uwlax.edu).

## The Fall 2019 Field Assembly of the Wisconsin Archeological Society

The Fall Field Assembly of the Wisconsin Archeological Society was held on October 19 at Silver Mound (Jackson County), one of the largest, oldest, and most important archaeological sites in the Midwest. Silver Mound was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The “Hixton Silicified Sandstone” found at Silver Mound was used by Native Peoples for nearly 12,000 years. Participants were able to join several guided tours of the prehistoric rock shelters, rock art locations and quarry pits on Silver Mound. Activities/displays included: flintknapping, artifact identification, atlatl throwing, Native American games and local artifact collections.

We appreciate the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center for co-sponsoring the Fall Field Assembly. Thanks to The Archaeological Conservancy and the Hixton/Alma Center KOA for their permission to hold the event. Thanks to all the presenters and participants who braved the rainy, cold conditions for making it such a memorable event. Enjoy some of the photos from another successful Field Assembly! (Photos courtesy of Amy Rosebrough.)



**The Pitted Landscape of Silver Mound.**



**Throwing Spears using Atlatls.**



**Ernie Boszhardt Leads the Tour Group through Fields to Large Pits on the North Side of Silver Mound.**



**Tour Group Walks along a Ridge of Spoil between Two Huge Mining Pits.**

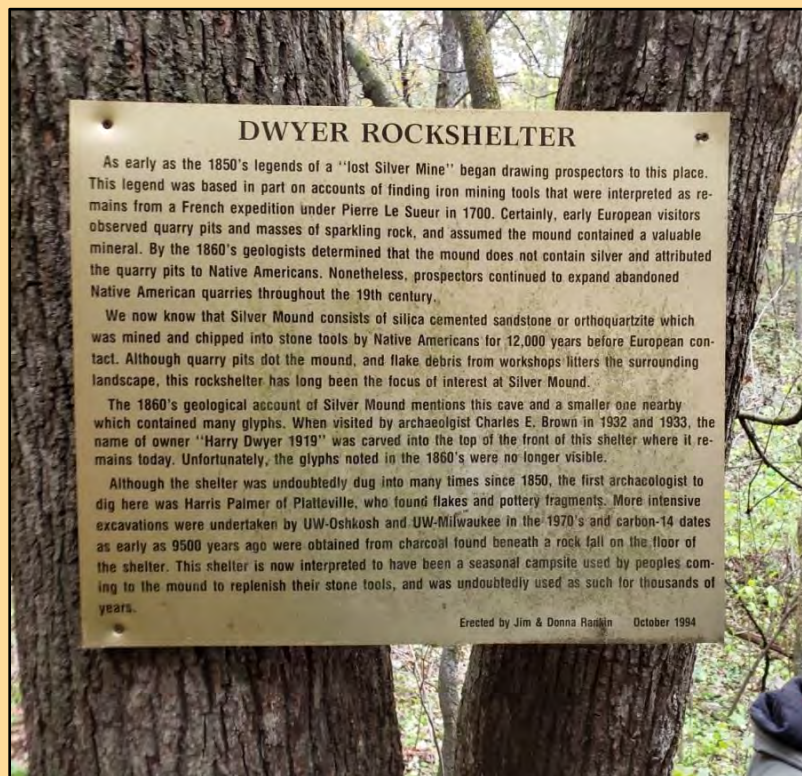


**Tour Members Examine Rock Art in the Rainy Day Shelter, at the bottom of an Ancient Mining Pit (R. Boszhardt inside shelter, and not seen).**





**Touring Dwyer Rockshelter along Ravine on Silver Mound.**



**The Dwyer Rockshelter Marker on Silver Mound.**



**Connie Arzigian using Bull Roarer at Silver Mound.**



**Connie Arzigian and Amy Rosebrough Leading Tour of Geske Rockshelter on Silver Mound.**

## Lapham Research Medal Awarded to Bill Green

By Marlin Hawley and Janet Speth

Bill Green, the James E. Lockwood, Jr, Director (retired) of the Logan Museum at Beloit College, received the Increase A. Lapham Research Medal at a ceremony on May 18, 2019 at the Wisconsin Archeological Society meeting at the Satterlee Clark House in Horicon, Wisconsin. Bill was honored for his many contributions to Wisconsin and Midwestern archeology and anthropology as well as his extensive involvement in burial sites protection legislation in Wisconsin and his pioneering work in the Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society.



**Bill Green (left) receiving the Increase A. Lapham award from the Wisconsin Archeological Society (W.A.S.). Also pictured is W.A.S. President, George Christiansen, along with Janet Speth and Marlin Hawley.**

Bill has been involved in Midwestern archeology since the late 1960s when he was a research and clerical assistant for the journal *Current Anthropology*. Bill obtained his BA at Grinnell College (1974) and his MA and PhD (1977, 1987) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. While at the University of Wisconsin, Bill was employed as the first staff archaeologist with the Historic Preservation Division at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Bill was instrumental in the creation of much of the state's compliance archaeology structure, as well as the digitization of site codification cards and beginnings of the regional archaeology program, among other innovations. Bill was also the first to recognize that George Squier's handwritten reports from Trempealeau provided evidence of a Middle Mississippian presence along the western edge of the state.

For many years active in the Wisconsin Archeological Society, Bill served as the editor of *The Wisconsin Archeologist*. As a member of the Wisconsin Archeological Survey (from 1978-present), he took on positions of leadership, including most recently in revisions to the state's Burial Sites Preservation legislation. His longstanding interest in Wisconsin archaeology is also reflected in a number of publications in *The Wisconsin Archeologist*, as well as in other journals. An idea of the breadth of Bill's interests and expertise is offered by the recent titles written or coauthored by Bill: "The Myrick Park Mounds (47Lc10), an Effigy Mound Site in Western Wisconsin", "Illinois Archaeological Collections at the Logan Museum of Anthropology", "George Hull Squier: Scholarship and Prehistory in Western Wisconsin". Bill's wider interests in the upper Midwest, especially Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin are reflected in a range of service, from editorship of journals, serving as faculty at institutions of higher learning, and in a staggering body of other publications, presentations and posters spanning more than 40 years. The Increase A. Lapham Research Medal is intended to recognize distinguished service in anthropological research (not just in Wisconsin). The awards committee could hardly find a person more richly deserving of the Lapham Award than Dr. Green, whose career has been spent in groundbreaking scholarship in the Upper Midwest. (Photos courtesy of Amy Rosebrough.)

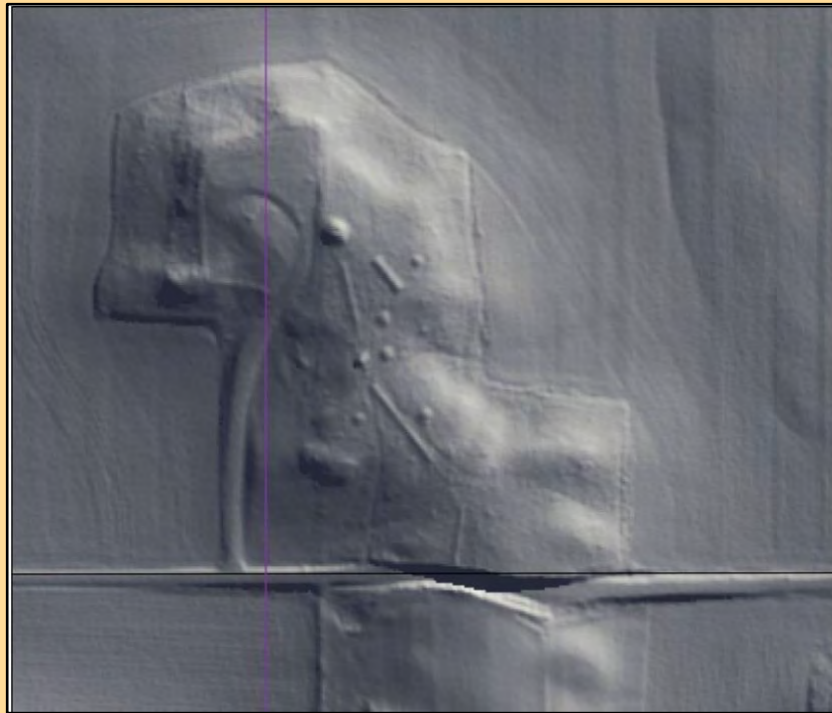


## Regional Research

### Hillshade Lidar Image of the Von Behren Group

By Richard Weisman

A 2012 LIDAR image of the Von Behren Mound Group immediately caught my interest (Figure 1). This image distinctly shows three different mound types: conical, linear, and effigy. Unfortunately, as is all too common, it also shows evidence of past destruction. Faint remnants of a right wing from a bird effigy can still be observed. The body of the bird mound having been destroyed by a road that runs through it. There is no sign of the left wing or another conical mound that was once present south of the road.



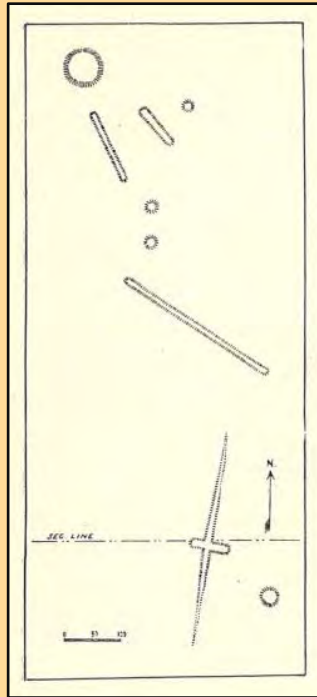
**Figure 1. Hillshade Lidar Image of the Von Behren Group, Sauk County.**

The Von Behren Group, located in Sauk County, has been mentioned in at least three literature sources. Each source provides unique information about the mound group.

A 1902 article by Mr. E. C. Perkins discusses a survey of the mound group he had completed with Mr. Robert A. Patterson (Figure 2). Working in forest and heavy underbrush, they identified five conical mounds, three linear mounds, and one bird mound; calling them the Vonburn Mounds. This name was based on the current owner at the time.

A 1906 article by A. B. Stout mentions him visiting the site with a group of people. He corrected the property owners name and lists it as the Von Behren group. They found two more conical

mounds that had been missed by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Patterson. They also found the road cutting through the body of the bird.



**Figure 2. 1902 Map the Von Behren Group Mounds.**

A state survey form that had been included with Hulburt's correspondence in the Charles E. Brown manuscripts shows a map of the mounds. Some of the writing is difficult to read and the reporter is not known. The map closely resembles the drawing from Mr. Perkins. There are some minor differences. The bird effigy mound of Mr. Perkins is shown as two mounds intersecting. The wings run parallel and rounded at the tips on the survey form. While Mr. Perkins shows the wings as narrowing with pointed tips.

The LIDAR image appears to show nine conical mounds. That would be two additional conical mounds not previously noted by the sources referenced. To actually confirm that these round features are conical mounds a visit to the site would be needed. Overall though, LIDAR images like this have increased the total number of mounds from nine in 1902 to now include 11 mounds; providing a much more accurate picture of the ceremonial use of the site.

### References Cited

Perkins, Edward C.

1902 The Vonburn Mounds Near Prairie du Sac. *The Wisconsin Archeologist* (o.s.) 1(4):93-94.

Stout, A. B.

1906 Archaeology of Eastern Sauk County. *The Wisconsin Archeologist* (o.s.) 5(2):281.

Browns, Charles E.

n.d. State Survey form from M.F. Hulburt correspondence in C. E. Browns MSS. SHS.

## **Four “Lizard” Pipes made from Baraboo Pipestone**

By Robert “Ernie” Boszhardt

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Many Native American groups have traditional stories about underworld water spirits, including tribes indigenous to Wisconsin. For example, Radin (1923:194, 239-240) documented “Waktcexi” (water spirits) for the Ho-Chunk (see also Deiterle 2005a), Skinner (1913) recorded “Misikinubikuk” (horned snakes) and “Wiabskinit Matc Piseu” (water panther) for the Menominee, the latter being comparable to the Anishinaabe (Chippewa/Ojibwe) “Mishipijiw” (e.g. Conway 2010). Most are characterized as having long-tails, clawed feet, horns on their heads, and sometimes with spikes along the back. These beings may take the form of a lizard-like creature, a panther, or various combinations (including serpents, some with wings). They are generally malevolent towards people who are protected by Thunderbirds that battle underworld spirits during thunderstorms by shooting lightning bolts from their eyes. Many stories also reveal that humans could also appease water spirits by offering tobacco (Brown 1937).

Early historic depictions of long-tailed beings include Piasa pictographs that were documented in 1673 by Marquette and Joliet above a Mississippi River rapid near what is now Alton, Illinois (Esarey 2015) and a horned buffalo-snake that was recorded by Jonathan Carver in either Wisconsin or Minnesota between 1766-1768 (Carver 1976:99). Archaeologically, underworld spirits are occasionally rendered in rock art (e.g. Schrab and Boszhardt 2016:19, 49-50, 82-83, 98, 113; Conway 2010) and more commonly as lizard, panther or turtle mounds within the effigy mound region centered across southern Wisconsin (Birmingham and Rosebrough 2017). Rock art depictions are notoriously difficult to date while the age of effigy mounds corresponds to the Late Woodland period (ca. A.D. 750-1100).

Over the past several decades, I have observed four stone pipes that have depictions of long-tailed beings incised onto their surfaces. Although, each was found at a different location across southern Wisconsin and into southeastern Minnesota, all four were carved from purple-tinted material that is almost certainly Baraboo Pipestone, an argillite/pyrophyllite from the Baraboo Range in southcentral Wisconsin (Boszhardt 1997; Broihahn 2003:164-172, Teelin 1997). Baraboo Pipestone is not only visually recognizable due to its purple color, but also has a distinct mineral composition dominated by kaolinite followed by pyrophyllite and muscovite, which can be detected by minimally destructive X-Ray Powder Diffraction (XRD) (Boszhardt and Gundersen 2003, Gundersen et al. 1997), non-destructive Portable Infrared Mineral Analyzer (PIMA), (Emerson et. al. 2013:54; Hughes 2008; Sabo 2007; Wisseman et. al. 2012) and other methods (e.g. Medaris et. al. 1999).

George West (1905, 1934) documented two of the four pipes in his classic early 20<sup>th</sup> century research into aboriginal smoking customs. The first was mentioned in his 1905 *Wisconsin Archeologist* article as having been found in 1895 by a John Weber of Killare (sic) in Juneau County. That county’s Killdare Township includes the south side of the Lemonweir River. West illustrated the stem-hole side of this vase-shaped pipe based on a second-hand sketch, which shows a long-tailed animal with four clawed legs and a circular head with either pointed ears or horns. The body is filled with horizontal lines and the face is depicted with horizontal eyes a vertical nose and a smiling mouth. West noted that a similar figure was inscribed on the opposite

side and suggested these represented lizards. He did not include this pipe in his more comprehensive 1934 volume, suggesting that he never actually saw it.

In the 1990s, a public field school volunteer named Brooke Nelson brought a private collection from Juneau County to the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC) at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse for documentation by the Region 6 Archaeology Program. The collection was then kept at the Woodside Ranch along the north side of the Lemonweir River and included a purple pipe that had a pair of horned lizard-like creatures incised onto opposite sides. This vase-shaped pipe is certainly the same one reported by West in 1905. Figure 1 is a photograph of the nonstem-hole side that shows the creature with four clawed legs and horizontal lines that fill in the body as well as the legs. The eyes are depicted as circles and the horns are comparable to those in West's 1905 sketch of the opposite side. The stem-hole side was more faithfully illustrated as a drawing for the discussion of underworld panthers in the book *Indian Mounds of Wisconsin* (Birmingham and Eisenberg 2000:108; Birmingham and Rosebrough 2017:116), and that image includes horizontal zig-zag lines extending from each side of the head.

The second pipe inscribed with a lizard-like spirit animal that West (1934:873) documented was from his personal collection that was subsequently donated to the Milwaukee Public Museum (Cat # 14153). This is a small elbow form found in Kewaunee County. There are two nearly identical renderings of a long-tailed animal with three-clawed feet on four legs (Figure 2). The head, body and tail were made by carving a deeper vertical groove from the bowl to the base. Between the long-tailed animal and facing the stem is a set of four or five vertical lines.



**Figure 1. Photograph of vase-shaped pipe bowl from Juneau County showing nonstem-side with horned lizard-like creature whose body is filled with horizontal lines.**





**Figure 2. Photograph of elbow pipe from Calumet County in the Milwaukee Public Museum collection (Cat. # 14153) showing one side of bowl with relatively simple lizard-like creature incised.**

Another elbow pipe with a horned panther was found by pioneer Wisconsin Archaeologist Stephen D. Mitchell. A photograph of this pipe was found in the Charles E. Brown manuscripts in the Archives of the Wisconsin Historical Society (call number PH 700). In Box 5, Folder 181 is labeled Wisconsin Pipes and contains a black and white photograph of 13 pipes representing various forms and sizes. In one corner of that picture is a relatively small pipe that has an elaborately carved four-legged animal on the bowl with a long tail running up the stem. Two pointed ears or horns were incised atop the head and the body is filled with alternating zones of oblique lines.

The same pipe is included within the Oshkosh Public Museum's *People of the Waters* exhibit (<http://www.oshkoshmuseum.org/Virtual/PeopleoftheWaters/index.htm>) and illustrated in the virtual exhibit with information sheet that it is from the S. D. Mitchell collection (Cat. # 800-83). Multiple color pictures of all sides show the animal in profile on both sides (one side is damaged) with a top down view on the center of the bowl and zig zag (lightning bolts) on the base of the stem (Figure 3). The purple color of the pipe is identical to Baraboo Pipestone.

Mitchell began collecting in the 1880's and over four decades amassed over 6,000 objects, nearly all from Green Lake County, which he displayed at his home in Mitchell Glen. His knowledge of local archaeology provided the foundation of Brown's (1917) article on the *Antiquities of Green Lake*. That report documented a concentration of at least 19 long-tailed panther mounds in that area, and includes a report that Ho-Chunk regarded Green Lake as home of their water spirit clan as well as stories about water monsters that tipped over canoes or caused whirlpools, which swallowed entire flotillas so that local Ho-Chunk would not venture far from shore (Brown 1917:52-53).



**Figure 3. Profile view of S.D. Mitchell elbow pipe from Green Lake County in the Oshkosh Public Museum (Cat. # 800-83) showing rectangular body filled with zones of oblique lines on the bowl, and the long-tail running up the stem. One zigzag line can be seen along the base. Image adapted from the museum's virtual catalog associated with the People of the Water Exhibit/Fur Trade.**

Mitchell died in 1926 and over time his artifact collection became scattered. Records indicate that some objects (e.g. two small Oneota vessels) were purchased by the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (Penn Museum) from Michell in 1890. The Oshkosh Public Museum purchased an assortment of historic and prehistoric objects in 1928, including the pipe described above. However, it is not known where most of Mitchell's collection went.

The fourth pipe was brought to one of MVAC's annual artifact shows by Larry Dahl whose uncle had found it many years ago in southeastern Minnesota (Boszhardt 2007). The pipe is nearly nine inches long and was made from a purple pipestone that almost certainly indicates the Baraboo source. The pipe was broken and repaired by the finders and appears to have been gnawed by a dog. The bowl is missing, and that break appears to have happened long in the past. The general shape of the pipe is a variation of a Hopewell monitor pipe, suggesting that it was manufactured between A.D. 200-400.

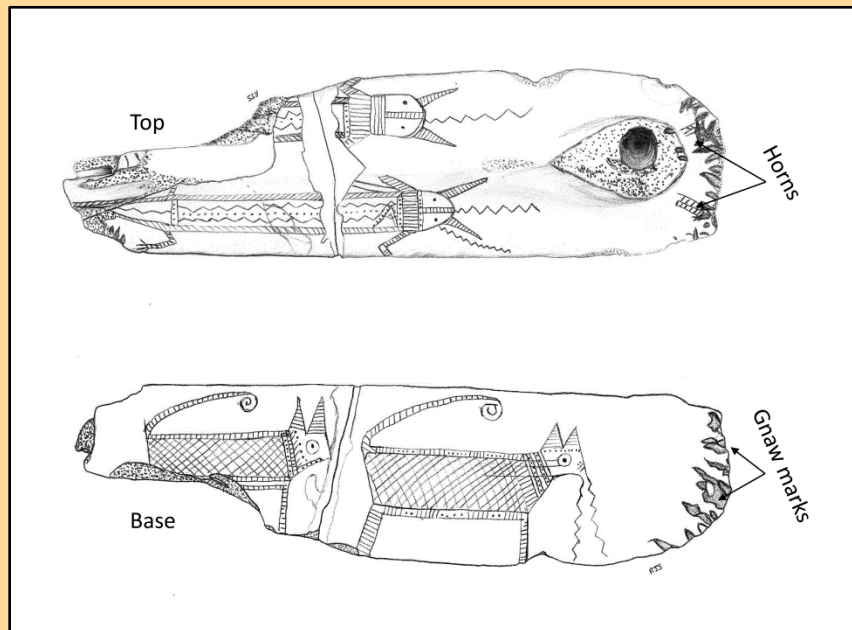
The pipe is incised with a series of four very detailed images, two on each side (Figures 4 and 5). The top etchings depict horned lizards with zig-zag lines emanating from their heads. The bottom etchings are of two long-tailed panthers, again with zig-zag lines. It is apparent that the artist was depicting the lizards from a top down view and the same spirit animals as panthers from a side view on the pipe base. In addition, there are two large horns on the top side in front of the broken bowl, a position that suggests the tapered pipe itself embodied a horned lizard where tobacco would be offered to and smoked emanated from the head (bowl).

It is not known if this pipe was inscribed by the original Hopewell manufacturers or if it was found by subsequent Late Woodland (A.D. 700-1100) or even Oneota (A.D. 1100-1700) peoples and the decorations added. Some Hopewell pipes have geometric etchings on the bowl and basal

edges while others were carved into various animal shapes, and iconography depicting underworld realms was an important aspect (Carr and McCord 2013 and 2015). However, there are also several known instances of Oneota people having encountered Hopewellian artifacts during re-occupation of the same area, and re-depositing these in Oneota features. For example, two Hopewell styled platform pipes (both also apparently made of purple Baraboo Pipestone) were found in mounds that contained Oneota features at the New Galena group in nearby Allamakee County, Iowa (Logan 1976). Therefore, it is possible that late pre-European people came upon the Hopewell pipe, and added the horned lizard and panther etchings on the Dahl pipe.



**Figure 4. Photograph of the top of the Dahl platform pipe from southeastern Minnesota highlighting the upper portion of one horned lizard on the top side.**



**Figure 5. Obverse and reverse drawings of the Dahl pipe showing plan view of lizards on the top and profile view of panthers on the base. Note the two additional horns added to the front of the top that indicate the entire pipe was embodied as spirit.**

### Summary

George West (1934:193-197) documented a number of pipes depicting long-tailed beings from the Great Lakes region, many of which he interpreted as lizards and panthers. Although he did not attribute these to underworld spirit beings, he did note that small lizards were inexplicably feared by certain tribes.

All four of the pipes described here contain versions of underworld/water spirit/lizard-panthers. On each pipe, images of long-tailed beings were inscribed on opposing sides providing symmetry. On the vase-shaped pipe from central Wisconsin and the elbow from Calumet County, the nearly identical plan view-oriented images were incised onto the front and back, so that one faced the smoker. The figure on the stem-hole side of the central Wisconsin pipe differs from the opposite one in having horizontal zig-zag power lines that likely represent lightening or power, emanating from the head. The elbow pipe from Green Lake County has a long-tailed creature carved onto both sides in profile view, with the tail running up the stem. This pipe also has a compressed plan view depiction of the spirit on the bowl facing the smoker, and zig-zag lines and tiny dot lines were added along the base with a line of dots also placed on the outside of the bowl. The Dahl pipe from southeast Minnesota more elaborately depicts dual plan view “lizards” on the top and profile view “panthers” on the bottom. All four spirit being depictions on this pipe also have zig-zag lines connected to the head areas. The bodies of three of the pipes are filled in with lines, some placed horizontally, some in oblique zones which are cross hatched on the Dahl pipe.

Archaeologically, iconographic representations of underworld beings are known at least as early as Hopewell (Carr and McCord 2013 and 2015). The Dahl pipe from southeastern Minnesota is a Hopewell monitor style, but it is not certain if the decorations were done by the original pipe manufacturers or by subsequent Late Woodland or Oneota people who may have found and repurposed the pipe. Certainly, long-tailed representations of underworld creatures were common by Late Woodland times, at least in the effigy mound region of southern Wisconsin. Hundreds of lizard, panther, and turtle mounds were constructed primarily in southeastern Wisconsin, but also near Trempealeau and up to Diamond Bluff along the Mississippi River. These may have commemorated clan spirits affiliated with the underworld, and the two elbow pipes and lone vase-shaped pipe with incised lizard/panthers from east-central Wisconsin likely represent Late Woodland manufacture and use. Underworld representations continued through the late prehistoric and protohistoric period of Oneota cultural dominance in the Upper Midwest with several depictions rendered on catlinite pipes and tablets. For example, West (1905:136) describes and illustrates a small catlinite disk pipe from Jefferson County that has a horned serpent incised along one side and another “Buffalo Pipe” from Sauk County that has a lizard carved into the side just below a lead eye insert and a serpent down the front (1934:197). In addition, the famous New Albin tablet from northeast Iowa was decorated with a Thunderbird/birdman, who emits zigzag lightning bolts from its eyes, swallowing a long-tailed underworld spirit (Benn 1989; Bray 1963).

The fact that all four of the pipes described here are almost certainly manufactured of Baraboo Pipestone attests to an underworld connection with that place, particularly Devils Lake, a legendary water spirit home (Dieterle 2005b; Brown 1937). Baraboo Pipestone quarries are documented within the Baraboo Range in the vicinity of Devils Lake State Park, and there is a long-tailed panther within the mound group at the north end of that lake. Baraboo Pipestone

appears to have been used as early as Late Archaic times based on several documented gorgets (Boszhardt personal files), and a purple tube pipe documented in 2009 from central Wisconsin indicates Early Woodland exploitation. This distinctive material was clearly used by Middle Woodland peoples to make platform/monitor pipes and Late Woodland people for elbow pipes. It was also used by Mississippians at Aztalan and several other Upper Midwest sites for ear spools (Boszhardt 2004:66; Gundersen et. al. 1997; Richards et. al. 2008), and workshop scraps were found at East St. Louis in the Cahokia Metropolis (Boles et. al. 2018:94-397). In contrast, Oneota people appear to have not used Baraboo Pipestone, in part reflecting the absence of known Oneota settlements near the Baraboo Hills, and perhaps because they increasingly focused on red catlinite for carving.

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## Archaeology News and Notes

### New staff at the State Historic Preservation Office, Wisconsin Historical Society

John H. Broihahn  
State Archaeologist

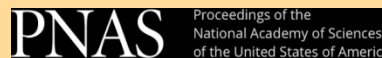
As many of you know, staff of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at the Wisconsin Historical Society review projects submitted by federal and state agencies and individuals to insure that they are in compliance with preservation laws. Dr. Tyler Howe joined the staff as the manager of the Compliance section of the SHPO in June of 2019. He received a B.A. in history from Kentucky Christian College (2003), an M.A. in History and Cherokee Studies from Western Kentucky University (2005), and a PhD. in Anthropology from the University of Tennessee (2019). His dissertation was titled: *Regarding Themselves as Permanently Settled": An Ethnohistory of Cherokee Communities, Borders and Networks during a Period of Hyper-Displacement*. Between 2005 and 2016 he worked as a Tribal Historic Preservation Specialist for the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians. In this position Dr. Howe managed reviews of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.



### Norse Settlement in Canada was of Longer Duration Study Finds

A study by researchers at Memorial University of Newfoundland and published in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* found the Norse settlement at L'Anse aux Meadows on Newfoundland may have been inhabited for up to one hundred years. This finding is based on the recovery of an organic layer containing non-native beetles and pollen from walnuts and hops. The layer was radiocarbon dated to the late twelfth to mid-thirteenth centuries, after the generally accepted date of occupation of the site.

L'Anse aux Meadows is the only undisputed site of pre-Columbian presence of Europeans in the Americas. This settlement, which included eight Icelandic-style turf structures, has been securely radiocarbon dated to around AD 1000. The researchers suggest the Norse occupation may not have been continuous, which is consistent with the shallow cultural deposits that characterize the site. The site may have served as a base for additional exploration of the area and served as a shared zone for Norse and Native interaction.



### Student Travel Awards Offered by the Wisconsin Archeological Survey

John H. Broihahn  
State Archaeologist

In the spring of 2019 the Wisconsin Archeological Survey created two student travel awards. The awards of \$500.00 each are intended to encourage students to attend and present the results of their research at professional conferences. In its inaugural year the Survey selects the following two proposals:

Nicollet Pegarsch (recent graduate, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse): Investigating the Accuracy of 3D-Photogrammetry in Relation to Artifacts.

Megan Harding (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee): Oneota Lithic Economy at the Schmeling Site (47JE833) in Southeastern Wisconsin. The award winners attended the Midwest Archaeological Conference in Mankato Minnesota.

Award Eligibility Applicants funded by the Wisconsin Archeological Survey must meet the following criteria:

- the research project must be pertinent to the state of Wisconsin;
- the applicant must be an undergraduate or graduate student; OR if the research was conducted while a student, then the applicant may be a recently graduated student (graduated Fall 2018 or Spring 2019)
- the applicant must not have received this award in the past two years



The Wisconsin Archeological Survey is an organization of professional archaeologists with an interest in the archaeology of Wisconsin.

See <http://wisarchsociety.org/>



### Egyptians Cultivated Domesticated Watermelon 3500 Years Ago

A study published in the open access journal *bioRxiv* reports that the New Kingdom Egyptians were cultivating domesticated, red-fleshed and sweet flavored watermelon. Using genomic data, including results from a study conducted on a watermelon leaf recovered from a mummy's sarcophagus, the team of researchers concluded that the modern variety of watermelon is the variety represented by the leaf and on several wall paintings. They also determined that the likely progenitor populations still grow in the upper Nile valley, in what is now the Darfur region of Sudan. It is here that the sweet, red-fleshed watermelon may have been domesticated and the use of the plant could then have spread northward along the Nile. The recovery of a watermelon seed in Libya and dated between 5000 and 8650 years ago suggests a much earlier domestication for this plant.

The authors conclude that “this study and others exemplifies the power of integrating collections-based phylogenomics with archaeological data and comparative genomics to resolve the domestication history of

modern crops”. “The search for wild watermelon germplasm for engineering more disease-resistant varieties now should concentrate on the Darfur region of Sudan.” Watermelon is among the World’s most important cucurbit fruit crops with a production of 197.8 million tons in 2017 and accounting for over one third of the global tropical fruit production.



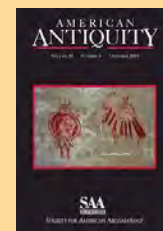
### Long Distance Exchange between Georgia Island and the Great Lakes 4,000 Years Ago

Excavations at the McQueen shell ring site on St. Catherines Island off the Atlantic coast of Georgia revealed to the excavators evidence for direct, long-distance exchange between ancient hunter-gatherers in Eastern North America. The report by Matthew Sanger et al. in *American Antiquity* (Vol. 84/No. 4, 2019), describe a ceremonial copper object and related burial practices at the St. Catherines Island site which closely corresponds to objects and ceremonial activity previously identified in sites in the Great Lakes region.

The McQueen shell ring is a massive (70 m in diameter) ring of seashells which surrounds an earthen plaza. A burial pit was identified in the center of the plaza filled with more than 80,000 ash-encrusted bone and tooth fragments along with a copper band and fragments of stone tools.

Analysis of the copper band indicated that the metal came from any of several ancient copper mines bordering Lake Superior and located on islands in that lake. These include the Minong Mine site on Isle Royale and Michipicoten Island in eastern Lake Superior.

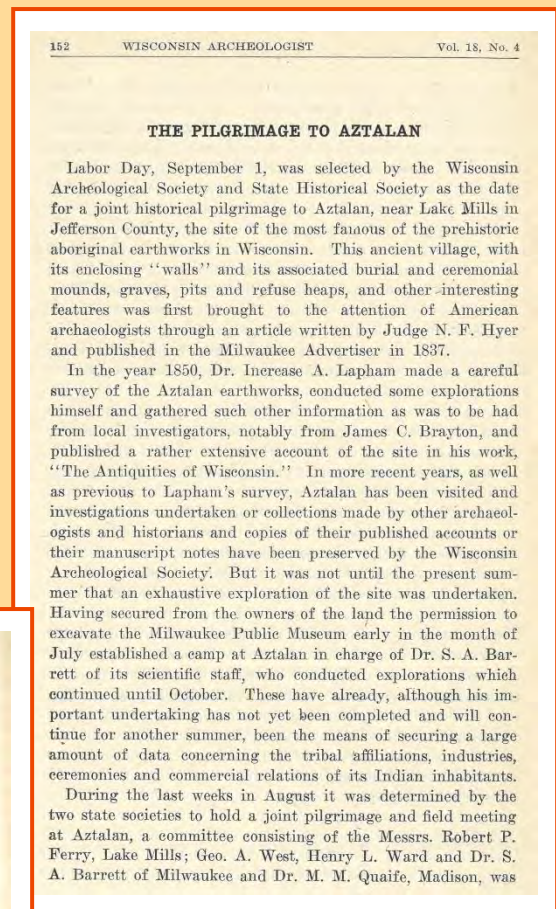
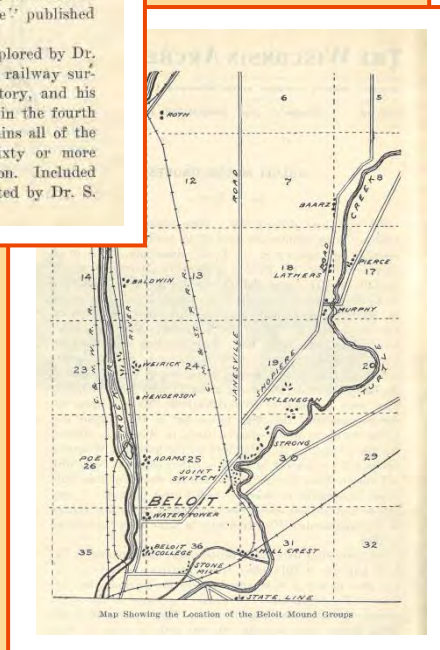
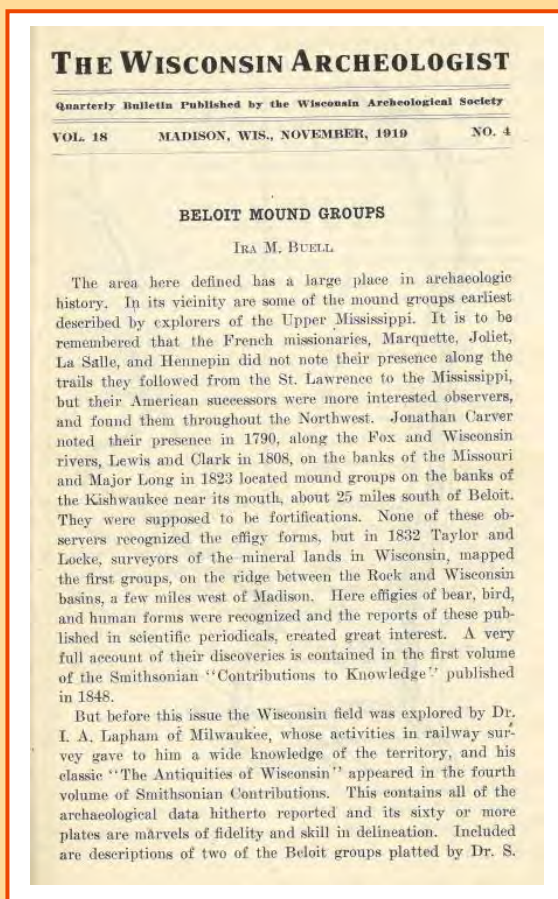
The artifacts in the burial pit were associated with the cremated remains of at least seven people. The practice of cremation and association with Lake Superior copper is a common trait in the Late Archaic of the Great Lakes and suggests to the authors direct connections between that area and the southeast. The authors suspect that the site represents a place for the gathering of hunter-gatherers to partake in seasonal ceremonies. The authors suggest that “the discovery of long-distance exchange of prestige goods among Archaic period communities living in the U.S. Southeast challenges traditional notions of hunter-gatherers as living in relative isolation and instead suggests nonagrarian groups created and maintained vast social networks thousands of years earlier than typically assumed.



## Back Dirt: 100 Years Ago in the *Wisconsin Archeologist*

These articles appeared in the November 1919 issue of the *Wisconsin Archeologist*. The first is a report on the Beloit Mound Groups by Ira M. Buell. The survey actually includes areas in the Townships of Beloit and Turtle in Wisconsin and the adjacent Townships of Rockton and Roscoe in Illinois. The author, Ira Buell, resurveyed the area with the intent to "collate all data hitherto reported, clear up all uncertainties as to position and preserve for future reference the fast disappearing records of a forgotten past". He was able to locate 210 mounds from 25 different locations. A total of 131 mounds were located on the banks of the Rock River and 79 in the Turtle Creek valley in Wisconsin. The Beloit College group contained the largest number of mounds (22) found on the Rock River in Wisconsin.

The Labor Day 1919 pilgrimage to Aztalan was reportedly the largest such event held to that date, attracting 522 persons from both the Wisconsin Archeological Society and the State Historical Society. The program included a basket luncheon; speakers that included: Robert Ferry, George West, Louise Kellogg, Charles E. Brown, and Dr. Samuel Barrett; and a tour of the site excavations (in progress for two months) by Dr. Barrett.



## Remembering Fall

Wisconsin's fall season felt short with all the snow storms and cold temperatures this November. Please, enjoy this photo of fall in the Black Earth Valley, Dane County.



**Festge County Park, the Gateway to the Driftless Area with Blue Mounds on the Distant Horizon.**



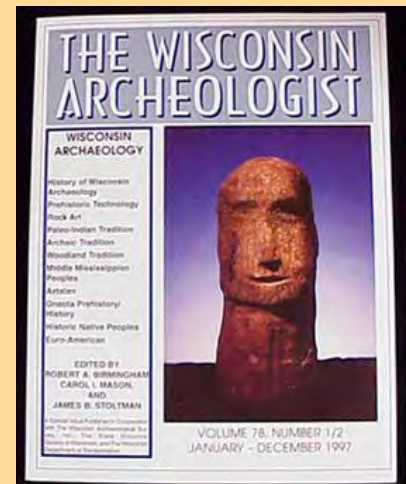
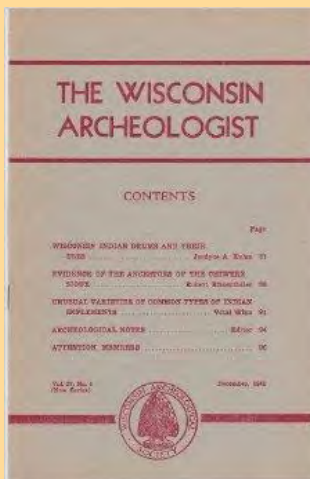
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