

Early Man

*Being an account of the Koster Expedition and other explorations of the
Northwestern University Archeological Program in Southern Illinois*

NEWSLETTER III

August 1974

Announcing The First Fall Field School

We have not previously offered a field school during the regular academic year because of lack of facilities for winter use and adequate staff. We have been gradually winterizing the Kampsville facilities and assembling staff members. We conceptualize the Kampsville facilities as a permanent base for the conducting of experimental archeological research and devising and operating archeological teaching and training programs. We plan this as a permanent--hopefully soon to be year round--center for field training in archeology and experimental archeology research.

We expect to enroll between 20 and 25 students in this first fall field school with a full time faculty of about 3 and a part time faculty of 5. We will excavate on 3 different sites. Seven courses will be offered--lab courses, excavation courses, and 1 lecture course. Students may enroll in 2, 3, or 4 courses. Those eligible are high school seniors and university students from any school. Students enroll at Northwestern University as special students. Credits are transferable to most colleges and universities with an anthropology program.

If you are interested in enrolling for the fall session, write Stuart

Struever, Northwestern Archeological Field School, Kampsville, IL 62053 before Aug. 31, after that time write Stuart Struever, Dept. of Anthropology, Northwestern Univ., Evanston, IL.

Fall School Tour Package Planned

We are in the process of developing a brochure to describe a new program which we plan to offer to school groups of all ages from elementary through college. This fall will be the first time excavations will actually be in progress during the fall months of the academic year. School groups will be able to visit one of the archeological sites actually being dug this fall, visit the Kampsville Museum, and perhaps enjoy a special presentation on other aspects of the Northwestern Archeological Program. The brochure will explain the tour program in detail and announce the fee. To obtain a brochure phone Peter Gilmour in Kampsville 618-653-4525 before Labor Day or Evanston 312-492-5009 after Labor Day.

Visitors To The Koster Site Speak Out On Why The Work Should Continue

On a recent Sunday afternoon we talked with a number of site visitors. Helen and John Nichols of Greenville, Pa. remarked, "I thought the hole would be a lot bigger than it is." Dan Kallal of Medora, IL said, "It's quite a bit deeper

than I thought it would be." Bonnie Williams of Decatur, IL mused, "It's impressive, but I thought it'd be bigger." Gerhardt P. Lang of St. Louis exclaimed, "It's the biggest hole in the ground that I've ever seen--man made that is."

While the visitors couldn't agree on their expectations of the appearance of the site, everyone that we talked to felt that the work being done at Koster was valuable and should continue, Mr. and Mrs. John Nichols of Greenville, Pa. said, "Should the work go on? Definitely. We've got to preserve this stuff because if you destroy it it's gone forever." Fred Klawnsky, Forestry grad from Southern Illinois University, "It seems people are more interested in where they are going these days instead of trying to find out where they're coming from. This (Koster) is a motivation to some people. If you can touch one person out of every hundred you're reaching your goal." Ed Zalaski of East Peoria, IL, "It's the idea that we can trace man back to get a foothold on how our civilization fits in compared to others." Terry Poelker of Belleville, IL, "I think it's really important to everybody. They really should keep going. Every thing isn't in Mesopotamia." Don Parker of Decatur, IL, "Sure--it's showing American people now that the Indian (early man) wasn't a stereotyped person--it was us you know--we're the descendants of these people. It's going to prove to the people that they weren't 'rah rah little Indians' and I'm really for these things." Mr. and Mrs. John B. Hinton of Ballwin, Mo., "Absolutely worth it. After all how do we know where we came from and what was here?" Jim Dundee of Carlinville, "We're picking up some knowledge. Definitely it's good." Ed Disser of St. Louis, "Important? Oh yes, very much so. My primary concern right now is so many sites around St. Louis are being destroyed by subdivisions and such."

We asked two 10 year old visitors

what they thought was happening down in that big hole. Linda Field of Arnold, Mo. said, "Digging up things to put in a nice museum." G.W. Francis of Alton told us, "They're digging and looking for Indian skeletons and stuff so they will know how the Indians lived and everything like what they ate, where they put a lot of stuff, and where they had fires. Stuff like that."

John A. Merrill New Full Time Staff Member

John A. Merrill has a dual title--Vice President and Executive Director of the Foundation for Illinois Archeology and also Administrative Director of the Northwestern Archeological Program. Mr. Merrill's job encompasses the fiscal well being for the Foundation for Illinois Archeology and anything relative to finances will eventually become his responsibility. His primary responsibility, however, is raising funds. He will meet with foundations, corporations, and individuals to encourage an interest in specific projects. Another goal is to refine present procedures to spend in the most efficient way. He is extremely interested in seeing the dream of a year round permanent school of archeology in Kampsville become a reality.

Mr. Merrill is a professional educationalist with a 20 year career in the teaching of music in public schools and in the University of Michigan. He served for almost 12 years at the National Music Camp at Interlochen, an extension of the University of Michigan. During this period of time he became the vice president with responsibilities for fund raising and all the non-academic departments such as housekeeping, food service, maintenance, office personnel, student center, transportation etc. From this fund raising experience he moved to the Development Staff of Northwestern University for the past 5 years.

Mr. Merrill worked with Dr. Struever as a colleague during this time and assisted Struever on a very part time basis.

John Merrill was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., educated in Toledo, Ohio, and graduated from Ohio State University. He earned his Master's Degree from Michigan State University. Mr. and Mrs. Merrill have 4 children. Their youngest son, Kent, is a 3rd year participant of the Northwestern School of Archeology and this year is serving as a staff member in the Flotation Lab. The Merrills came to Kampsville in a houseboat which is presently moored in the Mississippi River across from Hamburg, IL.

Mr. Merrill is very enthusiastic about his new duties and told us, "I feel that this opportunity is the cap on my career--perhaps the

pinnacle of the challenges that I've had in my rather varied educational career, not only from a fund raising standpoint, but from the standpoint of my own intellectual growth. I have a very deep and sincere belief in the project itself from the educational point of view. It's functional education at its best."

Horizon 4 Activity Area Identified

In one of the test squares located behind the main Koster trench we have identified a chert artifact manufacturing area. In the area were 2 hammer stones and (piled right on top of each other) 4 hunks of chert--a preform roughly shaped, and 3 cores or modified nodules. The size and shape of the preform suggested that the long ago worker was about to make the big Wadlow blade that was the typical Hor. 4 knife.



During a rest period at the Koster Site, students rap with Verne Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter was featured in a story in issue number II.

Photo by D.R. Baston

Koster Site Progress Report

We've been doing a lot of work in the smaller horizons between 8 and 11, and are now into 11 in a fairly large area. We have opened up a few test squares behind the Koster trench to try and determine the limits of Hor. 4 and 6. That area between 8 and 11 is looking a lot more complex than we thought. Rather than having continuous occupations over a large area like we had experienced with Hor. 1, 4, 6, 7, and 8, we're having very small limited, localized occupation zones that are discontinuous, as if a small group of people lived on the site for 2 weeks, went away for 2 months and then came back for another 2 weeks in that same year but in a slightly different location. That would give these little scattered occupation zones. We're trying now to find out exactly how many different occupation zones we have.

One important phase of our total program is to develop new excavation techniques and to refine existing procedures. We have bulk excavation which we've been doing all along; last year we tried piece plotting, which although it gives you a lot of really good information gives you perhaps more than you can handle and takes so long we could piece plot for the next 50 years. Instead we're using the micro-block technique. We break up a 6' x 6' into 16 different smaller units and trowel that down and recover everything as if we were piece plotting but measure in only artifacts and large rocks. This is combined with a little bit of piece plotting. One of the really good things about piece plotting is that it helps you determine micro-stratigraphy. We're using small units a foot and a half on a side and taking a whole line going north-south and another whole line going east-west across the major transepts of the site, piece plotting smaller units all the way down to the bottom of the level. That way we'll be able to

tie into any kind of variations in stratigraphy and be able to find it in adjoining squares and still recover that information.

Former Guide Appointed Program Director Of The Northwestern Archeological Program

Peter Gilmour will be in charge of a variety of special programs such as--Adult Field School, Tour Program, Visiting Lecturer Program, High School Field School, Jr. High Field School, Northwestern Archeological Program Speakers' Bureau. Peter will also be involved in helping to develop new programs as well as keeping present programs operating effectively.

Peter Gilmour was born and raised in Chicago. He has been a high school teacher for the past 10 years in the Chicago area, teaching the history of religions. Peter recalls that he was 27 before he ever visited a farm. His 2nd visit to a farm was a visit to the Koster Site in the summer of 1972 when he visited a friend who was working at the Site. During the following school year, friends informed Peter of a job opening the following summer as interpreter at the Koster Site. Peter applied and won the job.

Being a guide at the Koster Site was quite an experience for Peter because of the variety of people he met at the Site--from the local person just down the road a piece to the person who read the New York Times article, jumped in his car, and drove non-stop from New York to see the Site because it sounded so interesting.

Peter recalled, "The interesting thing I found working at the Site is that there is something about it that turns everybody on--there is something about it that interests everybody regardless of their level of education, or their background, or their work--it's different things for different people. It was a real easy job.

I felt like I was the guy pulling up the curtain on a great stage play. All you had to do was pull it up and the audience was satisfied."

During his teaching career Peter was involved in developing an interdisciplinary studies program for 150 sophomores. Peter said, "When I saw the interdisciplinary setup in the Northwestern Archeological Program it was very similar to the program my colleagues and I had developed, even though the subject matter was different. Even though I have left the classroom and teaching every day of the week, I still feel that I am in education and am sort of responsible for the education of the general public, in terms of archeology. In things like the adult field schools, group tours, people visiting the site and the museum, I see this terrific educational process going on. I think somehow that the education people receive outside the normal classroom is much more effective, a much more dynamic side of the educational process than the actual chapter by chapter lessons in the classroom, so I'm still very much a part of education."

Clendenen Homestead Koster Site — Eldred, Illinois 1820

"Who built that handsome house?" How did they get hewn stones up to the top of the third floor?" "Amazing! After hardships of travel, they chose this same little sheltered valley to settle and live in." "What a view!" "These are about the best shorn-up windows I have ever seen." "...but some of the comments about the limestone house built by Clendenens about 154 years ago. It represents the invasion of European Culture into the Cultures being so thoroughly studied by Northwestern Archeological Program. One thing they all have in common--they found the same valley the ideal place to spend their lives.

According to Statistics Population of Greene County, Illinois from Census of 1870, George W. and Mary Reynolds Clendinen entered Greene County in a one-horse Dearborn wagon--from Saint Charles County, MO, where they resided until the spring of 1820..."when he removed to Greene County, settling in what is now Woodville Precinct, on the tract of land embraced in the farm where Henry Houdashelt now resides, near the point where Macoupin Creek breaks through the bluff." They homesteaded and built a log house. A photograph of the rock house discovered in the family album of Mabel Louise Griswold, White Hall, bears the caption, "Rock House Built 1820"...making Clendenen the oldest house in Greene County.

Synoptical Family History Giving Sketches of the Glendonyn-Glendenin-Glendenin-Glendenin, Etc., Family states: "The original name was Glendonyn or Glendonwyn and is no doubt of Welsh origin, belonging to the Glendowers, the Royal Family of that country...In 1263, at the battle of Larga, Robert de Glendonyn distinguished himself and was rewarded by the Scotch King with a grant of large estates in Ayr...The name of Glendenning was known in Scotland...About 1150 Wm. of Glendenning, second son of John 2d Lord Douglas owned a large tract of land."

Under - Historical and Inferential-
A Sketch of the Scottish Line -
"Those of the names which, in modified forms, it is the purpose of this sketch to track during the last 350 years (since their downfall in Scotland in 1644 for adherence to the Royal Stuarts), have many of them occupied honorable positions in Scotland, Ireland and America. They have been nearly always, in good circumstances, respected by their neighbors, and especially noted for quiet, peaceable and honest conduct. They have adhered to the cause espoused, alike, regardless of gain or loss...Sir John Glendonyn, or Glendining, 11th Baron,

joined in the Montrose Rebellion in behalf of the Stuarts, and was condemned to death, but escaped to France, returning on the restoration of the Stuarts. In the British Acts of Parliament, several Glendenings were fined as Border Riders."

Under a heading - Emigrate to Ireland and America - "to escape persecution, large numbers of Scotch went to the North of Ireland from 1612 forward"...regarding escape to America, "From 1700 to 1760, as high as 12,000 in a year came. These men and their sons, in 1776, were almost to a man, rebels against England. They formed the

backbone of Washington's Army... Pennsylvania listed nine officers and men with various spellings of the Clendinen name."

In 1746, brothers, Charles, Archibald and John Clendenin landed at Baltimore from Dumfrieshire, Ireland. John remained in Pennsylvania. Charles and Archibald settled in Virginia. In VA, Col. George Clendenin became a noted Indian fighter and Revolutionary soldier. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of VA in 1783. While in Richmond, he bought land, built a large house, "bullet and arrow proof", called for years, Clendinen Fort (Pic-



The old stone house at the Koster Site. This photograph was taken March 14, 1871. The old house is currently finding new life as a Visitors' Center.

tured on a D.A.R. commemorative plate) later Fort Lee. Here, Col. George founded Charleston, named for his father, Charles Clendenin.

A WV booklet This Week, "The Charleston Story" states: "Finally, in May of 1788, Col. Clendenin, with about 24 rangers of the Greenbrier County Militia, arrived near the mouth of the Elk River and erected a stockade fort in the wilderness that was to become the town of Charleston, the county seat of Kanawha County, and eventually the Capital of the State of WV." Robert Clendenin, brother of Col. George, is named on a marker at the Kanawha County Court House, as one of the first Justices of the county. Another quote: "General Anthony Wayne's victory over the Federated Indian Tribes brought peace to the Ohio River Frontier, and in 1795, the town of Charleston, which had been incorporated as a town in 1794 ceased to be a frontier post only, and began to have growing pains. In 1799, the population was close to 100. Daniel Boone, who had come to Charleston in 1790, decided it was getting "too crowded", and started - with his family-- for the Western Country, where he would have more room."

Clendenins must have shared Mr. Boone's feelings. Land records in Bourbon Co., KY show transactions by Thomas J., George W., (nephew of Col. George) and John from 1799 through the 1820's. Robert died there. Col. George died in OH in 1797, while visiting his daughter who had married the Governor of OH.

The migration of Clendinens from KY was in anticipation of new lands opening in Illinois Territory. The reason for leaving St. Charles, MO, according to family, is that George W. could not accept the Missouri Compromise of 1820--opening the State to slavery--or that he could not tolerate the Missouri mosquitoes!

George W. died at the homestead in 1841. His wife died in 1879.

The Atlas states: "When the family settled in Greene County, there was scarcely a settlement between their place and the prairies to the eastward near where Kane is now situated, and wild deer and Indians still were roaming over their accustomed haunts. The famous Indian, Chief Blackhawk, and his family spent one winter on Diamond Island in the Illinois River, about three miles from the Clendinen home. The old warrior frequently visited the whites along the bluff with whom he was peaceable and friendly. They always considered Blackhawk a man of the strictest honor and his word could ever be relied upon." The Greene Co. Atlas lists Hazard Perry Clendenen (8 years old when his parents homesteaded), as head of the family. He was the changer of the name to its present spelling, "Grandpa said he got tired of dotting the i."

Hazard married Maria A. Clark, daughter of Absalom and Lydia Clark in 1842. Quoting again: "When about the age of twenty, Hazard made several trips to New Orleans on flatboats loaded with produce and livestock and after making his sales, would return on a steamer...He would build the flatboats on Macoupin Creek or the Illinois River." Hazard and Maria had six children, four of whom grew to adulthood. Mary A. married Robert King and moved to MO. Foster married Mary Low and lived in Chicago. Orson was sent to Reynolds relatives in IN for education. He married Ella Foster of Laporte, IN, bought land and farmed there all his life. His grandchildren have visited Koster, and brought the Clendenen collection of surface artifacts for Dr. Struever to see.

Oscar enlisted in the Union Army at the age of fifteen..upon a trip into Carrollton with his brother, Orson, from which he did not even return home. He married

Clarissa Bradley. They had two children. Ruben was the father of the late Oscar Clendenen, an early friend of Dr. Struever and frequent visitor during the early days of Koster test squares and the first excavations. Janette married Charles Henry (Jack) Borman, son of John and Catherine H Henkle Borman whose land and home are now owned by Froman Holswarth. Their oldest daughter, Beatrice, married Charles H. Smith. They owned the present Charles Helton farm, three miles north of Koster, on Coles Creek. When the basement of the house was being dug in 1925, there was evidence of campfires and when bones were uncovered, they were carefully articulated back into the human skeleton and sealed behind a concrete wall.

Thus Early Man brings the Clendenen story to 1974--the old house, the Clendenen Family Cemetery on the hill near the East Field--with at least twelve known graves in it--and to one fine young farm family--Joe Lee and Doris Helton Brannan, Cathy, Stanley and Tommy.

The phenomenon is in the continuity of the genealogical line. Joe and his brother, Michael are sons of Keith and Janette Smith Brannan of Eldred, making both of them great-great-great-great grandsons of George W. and Mary Reynolds Clendenin

Clendenin. They farm the present land of Koster, Helton, Holswarth, Schild and Logan--most of which was part of the 1700 acres of virgin forest primeval and plenteous flood plain, owned and loved by George, Hazard Perry and others of the first Clendinens of Koster Site, Greene County, Illinois.

Editor's Note--the old stone house on the Koster Site has been given new life. Guide Gorden Will has cleaned and refurbished the interior, and turned the old dwelling into a visitor's center. The above article was prepared by Eileen Cunningham, herself a great-great-great granddaughter of George Clendenen, builder of the pioneer homestead home.

Did You Know???

...that the black bear was a sacred animal among the Indians of Ill? From at least 2500 B.C. the black bear appears again and again in ritual context at Koster and other sites. The canine teeth of the black bear were used as ornaments by high ranking people and the bones were disposed of ritually--there are none found in garbage deposits.

...that the region surrounding the Koster Site is one of the richest in the U.S. for finding the distinctive spear head called the clovis point made by the Paleo Indians? Did these people live at Koster?

'74 Newsletter Staff

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