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U. A. S. NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Ray T. Matheny

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Associate Editor: Lawrence O. Anderson

Published approximately every six weeks by THE UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. The purpose of the Newsletter is to disseminate knowledge of recent archaeological discoveries bearing on the Latter-day Saint scriptures; also of the archaeological activities and viewpoints of the Society and its members. Subscription by membership in the Society: three dollars per year; or Life Membership, fifty dollars. (Membership also includes subscription to other publications of the Society and of the BYU Department of Archaeology.)

77.0 SUMMER ACTIVITIES. The Department of Archaeology, Brigham Young University, obtained a Federal Government permit to do reconnaissance and excavation work in Montezuma Canyon, San Juan County, Utah, for the 1961 season. The project is under the direction of Dr. Ross T. Christensen, Department Chairman. Ray T. Matheny has been heading the field work which includes a survey of sites within Montezuma Canyon, an excavation of a kiva, and detailed mapping of a group of house mounds in Long Canyon (a part of Montezuma Canyon).

The survey of sites means that each site is visited, if possible, measured, cultural samples obtained, photographs or drawings made, and the site placed on an accurate map. Several of the sites are cliff dwellings high above the canyon floor and are now inaccessible except by special climbing equipment. Most of the sites thus far checked date to the Developmental Pueblo period (roughly A D 1000).

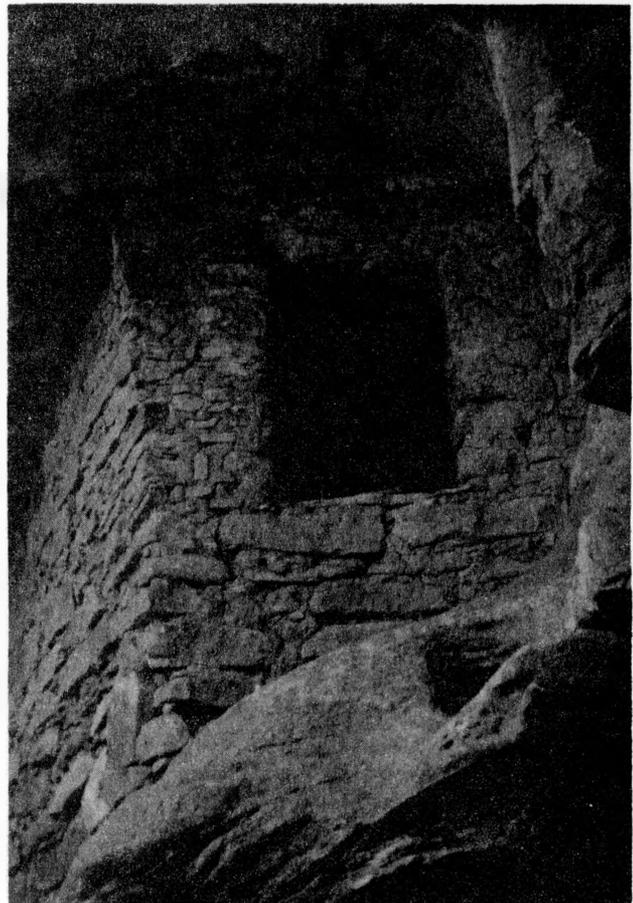
Lawrence O. Anderson has been working on the instrument survey of a concentration of house mounds in Long Canyon. He has spent many laborious hours battling the elements in attempting to make the first archaeological map of these ruins.

Site 42Sa839, or "Kiva House" as it is called by field personnel, has been completely excavated. The work was very rewarding, revealing hundreds of well-preserved artifacts including roof timbers that may give important tree-ring dates.

This summer the canyon has been flooded four times. Two of the floods were the worst experienced in the 40 years settlers have lived there. The field group was caught in the last storm and had considerable difficulty in getting out of the canyon. They battled two feet of water and debris in places and "just made it" over a rapidly eroding road. These storms have taken their toll of the ruins by undermining the banks of the stream course, which causes the mounds to slough off into the stream.

Eleven BYU students and Dr. Ross T. Christensen went on the last field trip, the weekend of the 21st of

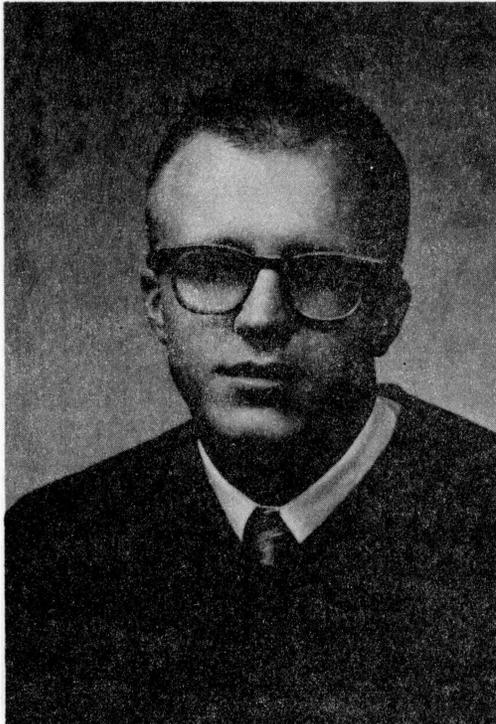
October, to Montezuma Canyon. They began an exploratory trench in a pit house in Long Canyon and made an investigation of Pearsons Canyon. The instrument survey was continued and seven new house mounds were discovered making a total of 75 in Long Canyon alone. Robert Kenyon and Dave Avery, zoology students, accompanied the group to collect and study the fauna of these canyons. Plans call for at least one more field trip this year plus an aerial photographic survey.



Well preserved granery - Montezuma Canyon



Dee F. Green



Carl Hugh Jones

77.1 MASTER'S DEGREES. Carl Hugh Jones and Dee Forace Green both received master's degrees at the August Commencement.

Mr. Jones has been a graduate assistant in the Department of Archaeology for the past two years. He has taught classes in beginning archaeology, done research on local Indian materials, organized equipment and supplies for the 1961 expedition, and was employed by the Church Archaeological Committee to act as assistant field director for the Aguacatal project. He is now working at the Temple Square Museum in Salt Lake City.

Mr. Green has also been a graduate assistant in the department. He has taught several lower and upper division classes during the last two years. He attended Tulane University for one semester in 1961 and is presently working on a doctorate program at the University of Southern Illinois.

77.10 Hinckley Site. In partial fulfillment of the Master's Degree, Mr. Green has written a thesis on the G. M. Hinckley Farm Site, Utah County, Utah. His report includes a reanalysis of the previous work done there by the BYU in 1947, 1949, and a summary of the excavations made during the 1956, 1958, and 1960 seasons.

Mr. Green has determined from the evidence unearthed that the house structure in mound 42U111 was of the Grantsville pit type with an outside fireplace. The house was constructed by first digging a shallow pit, about nine inches in depth, then erecting forked poles to support roof rafters which, in turn, supported wall timbers. The wall timbers were then interlaced with small poles or willows which were plastered over with adobe. The house apparently had a tunnel-like entrance in place of the conventional roof opening. The house measured 11 by 10 feet and was oriented northeast by southwest. Under the house the skeleton of a young male was found which was labeled burial I.

A fine chapter is presented by Mr. Green in describing and analysing the ceramics found over the years at the Hinckley Site. His main contribution here is a detailed description of the various wares found and their classification which will pave the way for future work in this area. He concludes that the wares found are in the Great Basin tradition of predominately grey types with occasional trade pieces. Other ceramic objects include what appear to be spindle whorls. The presence of spindle whorls suggests the cultivation of cotton or trade for cotton in the Provo area. However, it is not certain that these artifacts are spindle whorls.

Other interesting objects are the 20 clay figurines found on this site. These figurines are made of unfired or lightly fired clay and are mostly of the female type. There is only one complete figurine about 5 cm. high, and it is of the Fremont type. The eyes are applique

and placed near the top of the triangular head. The nose is of pinched clay with two small holes for nostrils. The mouth is merely a single round hole punched into the clay. Other figurines have only punched holes representing nose and mouth.

There is a good section on the animal remains that have been identified by zoologists. The list of identified fauna includes 46 different species. It is interesting to note that bison, mountain sheep, and black-tailed deer are listed and they no longer inhabit the area.

Mr. Green dates the Hinckley sites somewhere between A. D. 800 and 1300. More exact dating could not be obtained because the pottery and other artifacts of the area have not been correlated to a specific phase of Anasazi culture. Also radiocarbon dating was not attempted because of the expense involved.

All in all, Mr. Green's report is very good and reflects the fine training he has received. It is hoped that this and other interesting reports about the local scene can be published for wider dissemination. The publication is for sale from Mr. Green for \$3.00. Write Dee F. Green, 704 East Park Street, Box 21, Carbon-dale, Illinois.

77.11 An Archaeological Survey of Utah County, Utah, is the subject of a thesis by Carl Hugh Jones. Mr. Jones has brought together the efforts of many people over many years in this much needed publication. The thesis was written in partial fulfillment of a Master's Degree in Archaeology.

The survey includes 80 sites in Utah County, 43 of which have been visited personally by the author. In the 2,000 square miles covered by the survey, 34 pottery-bearing sites were recorded and the pottery from 17 of these is analysed in the survey.

The trinomial system of recording sites was followed in assigning numbers to the different sites. In this system the first number is the numerical position of the site in the alphabetical listing of the "old" 48 states. The letters are an abbreviation of the county and the last number is the site number within that county. Thus we have 42 Ut 111 as the designation given to the G. M. Hinckley Site which is located near the Provo Airport. It has been suggested by a number of people that this same trinomial system be adapted to suit the needs of archaeologists in foreign countries.

The term "puebloid" has been affixed to the major portion of the sites by Mr. Jones. This is based on the study of 406 potsherds. Of this number of sherds the majority (225) are classified as Great Salt Lake Gray. Other notable types represented are: Sevier Gray (79), Great Salt Lake Gray-Black (64), and Great Salt Lake Gray-Buff (20).

Six burials were recorded by the survey. Three of these were found in excavations for house basements in the city limits of Provo itself. Also included in the report are four caves, six petroglyphic and three pictographic sites.

Among the artifacts reported and described were: blades, drills, scrapers, worked flakes, projectile points, choppers, cores, grooved stones, and manos and metates.

Mr. Jones is of the opinion, along with Mr. Green, that a new variety of pottery, which is peculiar to the Provo area, should be classified as Great Salt Lake Gray-Black. This suggested new designation was based on an examination of: vessel construction, core color, temper, texture of core, surface finish, wall thickness, vessel shape, rim form, and decorative techniques.

Aerial photography was used to a limited degree in the survey and it is hoped that more work can be done in this direction. Two mounds were clearly seen on a series of photographs taken August 25, 1946. Recently, color photographs were taken of the area between Provo and the lake shore. The results of these latest photographs bear out Mr. Jones' belief that much work still remains to be done in the survey of this area.

The author suggests that as a designation for the culture we should use the term "Provo-Fremont" and that this area should be considered a northern extension of the Fremont culture. Mr. Jones feels that a date of A. D. 800-1300 should be assigned to the culture in the Utah Valley which he calls "Provo-Fremont".

It is hoped that many other students of the archaeology of Utah will take advantage of opportunities to make surveys of this kind, in this and other areas of the state, and thus help to draw together the pieces which will form the picture of Utah's past.

77.2 ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURES AT RICKS COLLEGE. Ten lectures on the archaeology of the Scriptures have been scheduled for the Ricks College Leadership Week, to be held at Rexburg, Idaho, November 15-18. Dr. Ross T. Christensen, chairman of the BYU Department of Archaeology, will deliver the lectures.

"Archaeology and the New World Scripture," "Archaeology and the Old World Scriptures," and "Latter-day Saints as Students of Antiquity" are the titles of three lecture series scheduled to run Wednesday through Saturday at the Idaho institution. According to Dr. Christensen, the content will be approximately the same as that of lectures delivered at five leadership weeks held during the past summer on the Provo campus and at BYU adult education centers in Ogden, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, and Oakland (Newsletter, 76.4).

Leadership Week officials have invited UAS members to attend all other activities, as well as the

archaeology lectures. A complete program may be obtained by writing to: Leadership Week, Extension Services, BYU, Provo, Utah; or to: Leadership Week, Ricks College, Rexburg, Idaho. Advance registration by mail is suggested so as to avoid standing in line upon arrival. The registration fee is \$2.50, which includes all activities.

77.3 DEPARTMENT RELOCATED. The Department of Archaeology has now completed its move from the Eyring Physical Science Center to its new quarters on the ground floor of the Carl G. Maeser Memorial Building.

The new facilities offer much needed space for the processing and storing of artifacts acquired through field work and private donations. Space is now available for large-scale map making, and plans for a photographic darkroom have been approved. Also provided is a museum preparation area which includes a seminar room and office space for graduate assistants.

A new Museum of Archaeology is taking shape on the ground floor of the Maeser Building. One whole section for example, will be dedicated to displays relating to the Tree of Life.

It is hoped that with these new and expanded facilities, for research and instruction, there will also come greater opportunities for students of archaeology at BYU.

77.4 ENROLLMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY MAJORS.

Eleven students declared archaeology as their major subject during first Semester registration at BYU. The newly-restored Bachelor's-degree program was detailed in the August 21 issue of the Newsletter (76.2).

Dr. Ross T. Christensen, archaeology department chairman, states that the group includes seven Freshmen, one Sophomore, one Junior, one Senior, and one graduate student. "This enrollment indicates an abiding student interest in the field of archaeology. It is an encouraging sign in view of our plans for the future of the Department."

According to Dr. Christensen, 20 Bachelor's degrees and five Master's degrees in archaeology have been awarded at BYU since the Department was founded in 1946. Between September, 1959, and August, 1961, the Bachelor's-degree major was eliminated by administrative decision. The Master's-degree major, however, has continued since 1946 without interruption.

77.5 THE QUESTION OF INDIAN ORIGINS. An article in Science by Man, (Aug. 1961) by Thomas E. Lee. Reviewed by Lawrence O. Anderson.

Although much has been said about the origin of the Indians of America, it is refreshing and thought provoking to examine Mr. Lee's hypothesis. He first illustrates the traditional view of migration into the Americas via the Bering Strait, then proceeds to show

that if we accept that view of migration we must do at least one of three things: "(1) contemplate considerable population movement into the Americas within the ceramic period of our Northwest; (2) advocate diffusion of ideas and/or materials across vast distances in which no trace of them has been found; or (3) chew upon the unpalatable fare of independent invention to account for what Spalding has called 'startling parallels' between the cultures of northeastern North America and northwestern Europe."

Mr. Lee's hypothesis is that the Bering Strait theory is "unrealistic" and that new evidence has come to light which supports the idea previously held by some that man came to America from northwestern Europe via Iceland and Greenland. The author cites Ridley's recent (1960) statements about the similarities between artifacts of northwestern Europe and northeastern North America. He also mentions Spaulding's (1946) and Gjessing's (1948) studies of the similarities between northwestern European and northeastern American stone work.

This theory also claims support from the fact that there is an interesting chain of islands along the 80th parallel of north latitude. The author points out that the greatest gap is between Spitsbergen and Greenland and is only 270 miles wide. It should be understood that these islands lie on the fringe of the polar ice and not in the polar ice pack.

When glacial conditions, lowering of the sea levels, and climatic changes are taken into account, the author feels that these migrations might even have taken place without the aid of water-craft. Of added note is the opinion that Irish monks discovered the Faeroes as early as the seventh century and were in Iceland when the Vikings arrived. Mr. Lee states that, "Historic and archaeological records show that, by whatever means, the passage from Greenland to Labrador was not insurmountable."

Two more authorities are cited to show that a dry land route was almost certain about 40,000 years ago. "Even without volcanoes in eruption, we are informed it is possible to see Greenland from the northwestern mountains of Iceland on a clear day, while both countries can be seen from a small vessel at midpoint."

For Mr. Lee, the question of food along this route is answered by Martha Phillips Gilson (National Geographic Magazine, Vol. 54, No. 2, pp. 227-246), who described the game in the bulging holds of the ships at Spitsbergen. Mr. Lee states that there is no evidence that this route was ever used, but then asks for an alternative explanation of, "... the almost unbelievable parallels across the Atlantic, through a great range of pre-ceramic and ceramic developments, which grow stronger as the Atlantic is approached from the Urals on the one side and from the plains on the other."