TROWEL AND PEN

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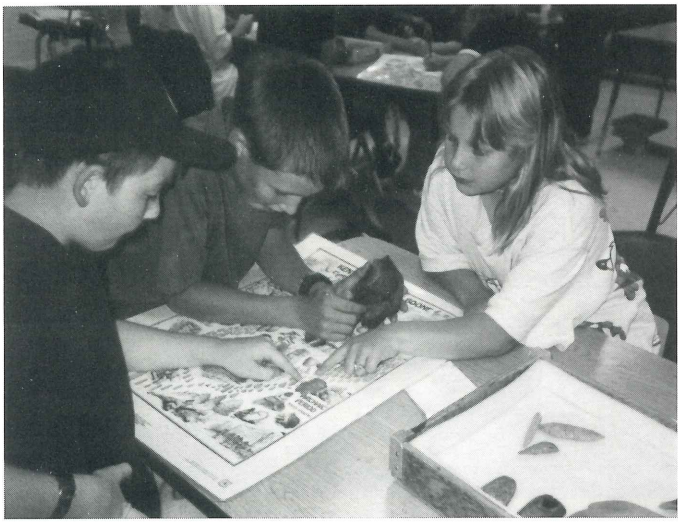
JACKSON COUNTY COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

What happens when you combine Jackson County writer-in-residence Judy Sizemore and Jackson Countians of all ages and walks of life who are interested in local prehistory with archaeologists from KAS and the Daniel Boone National Forest? Lots of learning and enriching experiences for everyone!

The Jackson County Community Archaeology Project began in the summer of 1997, funded by the Jackson County Development Association, the Tyner and McKee Family Resource Centers, and the Kentucky Arts Council. Fueled by the deep local interest in Jackson County prehistory, Sizemore developed a multi-faceted archaeology education project and enlisted KAS archaeologists to help her carry it out.



Jackson County students analyze prehistoric artifacts as part of a hands-on classroom activity.

The Project has a number of goals. Foremost is to introduce elementary school children, adult literacy students, teachers, and interested citizens to the diversity of Jackson County's prehistoric cultures and to raise their awareness about the need to preserve and protect what remains. But perhaps just as important is the goal of using archaeological methods and artifacts to challenge students' interpretive skills and the goal of using archaeological field trips, hands-on activities, and in-class demonstrations to provide varied learning opportunities and memorable personal experiences for student creative writing projects.

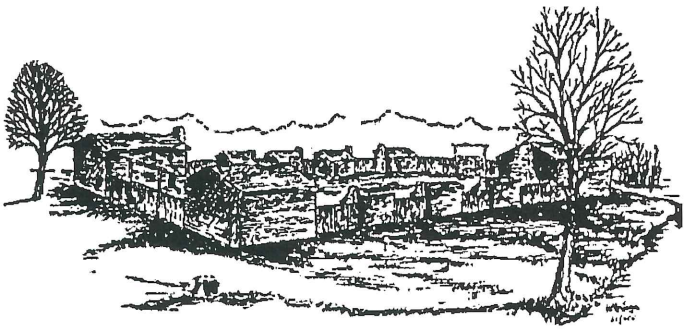
A wide range of activities, including a field trip to a prehistoric rockshelter site, excavations, laboratory work, and in-class hands-on activities furnished students from McKee and Tyner Elementary Schools with information and personal experiences that served as the source material for their writing projects. The project sponsored a workshop for teachers and provided them with activity packets and classroom resources.

The Jackson County Community Archaeology Project is a wonderful example of how archaeologists, local educators, and resource people working together can make the past come alive for the citizens of our Commonwealth.

The Kentucky Archaeological Survey is jointly administered by the Kentucky Heritage Council (State Historic Preservation Office) and the University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology. It is located at 1020A Export Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40506-9854. Phone: 606/257-1944; Fax: 606/323-1968; Website: *http://www.state.ky.us\agencies\khc\kas.htm*

IN SEARCH OF LOGAN'S FORT

In the fall of 1997, KAS archaeologists, the Logan's Fort Foundation, and the Daughters of the American Revolution investigated Logan's Fort, a late 1776 Euro-American pioneer settlement in Lincoln County. Logan's Fort provided housing and protection to large numbers of people who passed through on their way West during the early years of Euro-American settlement in central Kentucky. This research was supported by a grant from the Kentucky Heritage Council, and the University of Kentucky contributed the services of a graduate student. Thanks also go to the Camenisch family, who graciously allowed this study to take place and who also assisted in the research efforts.



An artist's reconstruction of what Logan's Fort may have looked like.

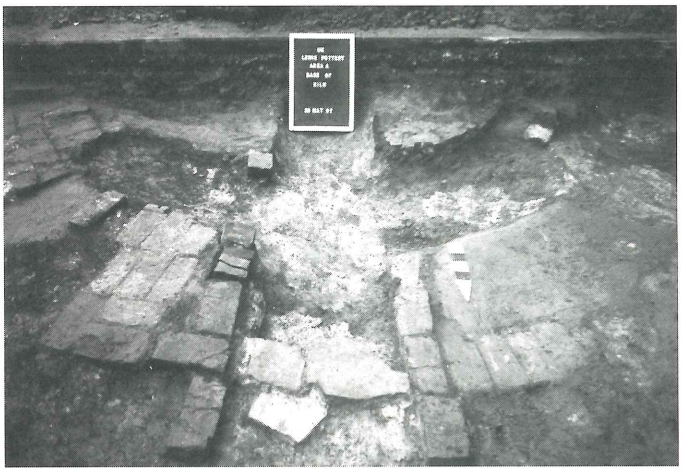
KAS investigations confirmed that Logan's Fort was located not far from Buffalo Springs, as had been suspected by local historians. Eighteenth century artifacts were recovered, including delftware and white saltglazed stoneware. Cellars and trash pits related to the Fort also were documented. One of the most interesting discoveries was the remains of a young Caucasian male who had been scalped. To learn more about the scalping victim, check out the following web site - *http://funnelweb.utcc.utk.edu/~herrmann/logan/logans.htm*

More than 250 citizens and school children assisted KAS archaeologists in the field as well as in the laboratory. Many more visited the site and learned about history in their own backyard. KAS archaeologists also offered a variety of educational opportunities for elementary school children both at the site and in the classroom.

Get the latest news about Logan's Fort on the Web at *http://www.logansfort.org* Learn more about frontier life at the 1998 Kentucky State Fair.

LOUISVILLE'S FIRST COMMERCIAL POTTERY

In May 1997, KAS archaeologists and Bob Genheimer of the Cincinnati Museum Center investigated what may have been Louisville's first commercial pottery. Ceramic historians Gary and Diana Stradling initiated this research, which was funded by a number of private donors. The pottery, which is now located beneath layers of asphalt, was established by Jacob Lewis in 1815. By around 1828, Lewis was in partnership with master potter Jabez Vodrez, intending also to produce fine "cream-colored" dinnerwares like those made in England. But their experiments failed. By the early 1840s, the pottery was once again making stoneware, and by circa 1850, production ended.



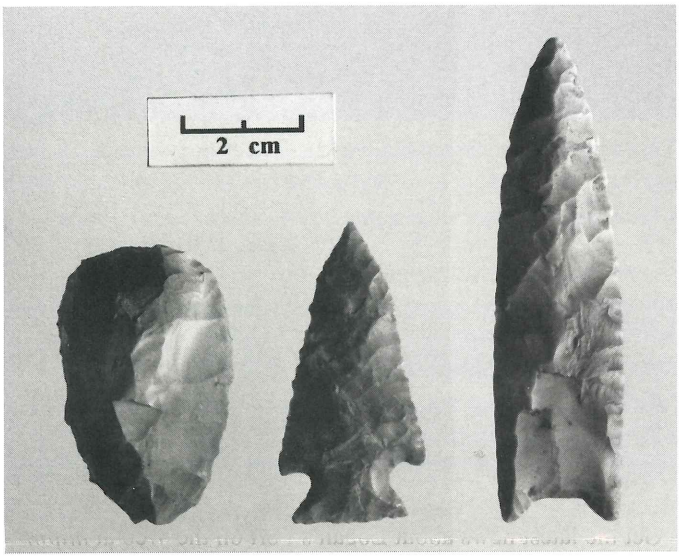
Lewis carried out his cream-colored pottery experiments in this nineteenth century kiln.

The investigations found the base of a circular brick firing kiln. Over 200 stoneware smoking pipes still remained in the kiln, the last items fired in the late 1840s. The soil around the kiln contained hundreds of kiln props and rejected broken ceramic vessels. Among these were some fragments of very delicate cream-colored ceramics, evidence of Lewis' dinnerware experiment.

To learn more about this pottery, visit the exhibit installed at the *Louisville Stoneware* showroom, 731 Brent St. (M-F 8AM-7PM; ph 502/582-1900).

THE NOLIN RIVER PROJECT: HART COUNTY'S EARLIEST CITIZENS

Last fall, the Louisville District Corps of Engineers requested KAS archaeologists investigate the Red Sand site in Hart County. This site contains important information about people who lived in this area during the Late Paleoindian/Early Archaic transition. These early hunters and gatherers lived in small mobile bands and used a specialized tool kit for their hunting and gathering way of life some time before 8,500 to 6,500 B.C.



Shown here (from left to right) is a scraper and examples of the earliest kinds of spearpoints found in Kentucky: Kirk Serrated and Clovis.

The recovery of spearpoints, scrapers, and knives from the Red Sand site show that they hunted game, using these animals for food and hides. Chert (or flint) nodules and cores, primarily of locally available materials, were found at the site, as were tool preforms and flakes. These artifacts show that the people also made and repaired tools at the site for future use. Of particular interest was the recovery of tools and flakes made of non-local materials, which suggests that these people traveled at least 30 miles to the north to get stone for some tools.

KAS archaeologists also studied the soil layers at the site for what could be learned about the local environment. The soil layers showed that the site was periodically flooded during the spring and early summer. Therefore, the people probably lived at the site for short periods of time in the summer or early fall.

KAS hopes to do more work at this rare and important early campsite. It can provide us with a better understanding of how Kentucky's first inhabitants made their living thousands of years ago.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the Kentucky Heritage Council announce the opening of a permanent exhibit on March 6 at the James C. Salato Wildlife Education Center at No.1 Game Farm Rd., Frankfort. Based on the book, *Kentuckians Before Boone,* this exhibit is about the prehistoric farming peoples of central Kentucky.

Make your plans now to attend the **15th Annual Kentucky Archaeology Conference**, February 27-March 1, 1998, at Murray State University, Murray, Ky. For more information, contact the Kentucky Heritage Council at 502/564-7005.

DID YOU KNOW...

that place is important? That artifacts are not the only things that matter? Archaeologists study the objects (artifacts) that people made, and record where they left them (context) to learn about past human lifeways.

Think of a rockshelter that a family lived in 10,000 years ago along the Kentucky River. Through the study of artifacts and their contexts, we can reconstruct how these people lived in the rockshelter, what they ate, the tools they used and how they made them, and much more.

If the rockshelter is looted, even if some of the artifacts remain, we will forever lose the opportunity to learn about how this family lived, because the context has been destroyed.

Because cultural resources are fragile and irreplaceable, we must care for them. Each of us has a responsibility to help preserve and protect the rich cultural heritage of Kentucky for the future.

To learn more about Kentucky's past, we invite you to volunteer on KAS projects to do fieldwork or laboratory work. Call 606/257-1944, or check us out on the Web: *http://www.state.ky.us\agencies\khc\kas.htm*

SHAKER OUTDOOR WORSHIP AREA LOCATED AT PLEASANT HILL

Like most Shaker villages, Pleasant Hill near Harrodsburg contained an outdoor worship area called Holy Sinai's Plain. For 30 years, various locations for this sacred spot had been suggested, but it wasn't until KAS combined forces with University of Kentucky architect Philippe Chavance that the actual location was discovered. Guided by the results of a preliminary survey, the Holy Sinai's Plain was rediscovered in the spring of 1997, and restoration is underway.

For more information, including tour dates and a calender of events, contact Pleasant Hill at 606/734-5411 or Dr. Kim McBride at KAS. The first tours are scheduled for April 11 at 10:30 AM and April 12 at 2:30 PM, as part of an Archaeology Weekend.

This aerial photo shows the oval outline of the plank fence that enclosed the worship area and a short section of an inner oval, which was the most sacred part of the Holy Sinai's Plain.

In 1997, KAS published its second volume in its continuing Education Series: *Mute Stones Speak:Archaic Lifeways of the Escarpment Region in Jackson County, Kentucky*. Authors Sharp and Henderson describe the lifeways of the Archaic peoples who lived in Eastern Kentucky 8,000 years ago and explain how chipped stone tools were made and used. The booklet is available from KAS for $3.00.

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