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1975 SOCIETY FIELD WORK: AN OVERVIEW

by Phil Evans

At the WAS meetings during 1974, the membership decided to adopt an on-going effort towards increased professionalism within the structure of the Society. The program which the WAS has undertaken, with the assistance of interested professionals, is the attempt on the part of an amateur group to carry out a major excavation and research schedule. After consultation with various individuals, a decision was made to attempt to complete a research project based on the 45SN100 site in the Snoqualmie Valley. Few sites have been located, but there is evidence for others of equal antiquity relative to the 45SN100 site. Due to the small size of the active membership, we envision a four to five year project of survey and excavation in the Valley.

The field work has been broken into several major components, with the first being an intensive educational effort to provide well-trained core personnel making an expanded field schedule possible. These training activities are currently underway at Seattle Central Community College.

The second major portion of the field activities will be the survey work necessary to locate other sites in the Snoqualmie Valley suitable for excavation and of a nature that will contribute to overall knowledge of the Snoqualmie people. This segment of the program will be carried out in 1975 and into 1976.

The third and final segment will be the field excavations and report preparation and presentation which will be finalized in 1977 and 1978.

This is an ambitious program for an amateur group to undertake, but as we progress through the various phases, we are certain to obtain more and more help, enabling us to carry out the full program. The final result, of course, will be a report on the Snoqualmie Valley people of which we will have been proud to be a part and which will demonstrate our professional competence in the field of Northwest archaeology.



DUVALL OR BEIDERBOST, OR WHAT'S IN A NAME?

by Del Nordquist

On April 5, 1974, the members of the Washington Archaeological Society took cognizance of the 45SN100 naming dilemma by officially establishing the name of this Washington Archaeological Society site as the BEIDERBOST SITE.

The reader may wonder at such action, and at the implications of some controversy over the naming, since to most members 45SN100 was known as the "Snoqualmie Site". Our own publications have usually carried the state survey designation of the numerical-alphabetical code for positive indication. At the time of first excavation there was not a central clearinghouse for site numbers, hence it was determined to follow the scheme of giving the state number (45), the county's initials (SN) and a sequenced site number. We were unable to get any indication of how many sites were catalogued in Snohomish County, therefore "100" was selected. It was felt that 100 was a safe overestimate.

As 45SN100 became reknown as the first important site excavated in the state that yielded otherwise perishable materials in good quantity and degree of preservation, it was identified in literature as the Duvall site (first by Robert Kidd). Kidd visited the site, travelling from Seattle to the excavations via Duvall; hence in his need for a name in subsequent writing he attached the name of the town. At a time when the renown of this Snoqualmie site is being noted in publications across the nation (example: Smithsonian series) it is important that the continued use of what we believe to be an improper designation be ceased and that a more appropriate name be given. It is hoped all readers will henceforth refer to 45SN100 as

THE BEIDERBOST SITE

Archaeological site names are often the bane of the scientist who would be as happy with a numerical designation. There is, however, considerable romantic attachment to archaeology so that most sites get a second and popularizing name as well as a coded designation. Geographic and owner's names fulfil the need in most places, viz. Marmes (owner's name), Ozette (geographic location and Indian reservation), Fishtown (location) and Burke (owner) sites.

There had been discussion of the naming through the years. Some names suggested bordered on the romantic and some on the grim

circumstances of excavating a drowned site. All these names were rejected, but some of the suggestions may bear repeating here: "Hog-wallow Site", "Cedar Snag Site", "Sunday Diggers' Site", "Up to Your (deleted) Site", and "Oh My Aching Back Site". It would have been easy to name 45SN100 after the small stream that enters the river there, except that no one could find a name for the tributary. Finally, and with little deliberation, the name of the present landowner was chosen. This was felt a suitable honor to give to Mr. Beiderbost since he had permitted incursions on his land over the years and rightly deserved to go down in history for his generosity and interest in archaeological research.

For those who feel the Duvall designation might just as well have continued, the chief arguments against it are two:

First, the town of Duvall is about 3 miles distant. It seems rather presumptuous to believe that there are no sites nearer, and hence better designated the Duvall Site. In fact, strong evidence supports this possibility from the discovery of a unique wooden bowl found on a farm just south of the Duvall-Woodinville Road near the River in 1959 (see Nordquist: "A Carved Bowl Found in the Snoqualmie River Valley", Washington Archaeologist, Vol. IV, No. 3, March 1960);

Second, Duvall is in King County and not in Snohomish County, therefore inviting confusion in relation to the survey numerical designation.

Site names need some degree of logical application. Sufficient confusion may still arise when duplication or similarities may exist as seen from a national level. In a recent visit to the famed Koster Site in Illinois (near Kampville), I identified myself as from Washington. It seemed unnecessary to say more and in this I, a former midwesterner, erred in judgment. Thinking no more about the attention I got by those on site and in the Northwestern University Laboratory near by, I went around taking pictures and visiting laboratories. The museum was closed so I asked if I might leave my name that the curator might send me information about photographs and slides of museum displays. The kind attendant to whom I gave my name and address shocked me into the good old midwestern reality by saying "Oh, you are from the State of Washington." By quiet omission what had not been stated was "You aren't really from Washington, after all--D. C. that is." To date, nothing has been heard further from Kampville.

So what is in a name? Washington isn't Washington, and Seattle. Yes, isn't that some town close to Alaska? I've heard it rains there the year around and it smells awfully fishy most of the time.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1975

Jan.	12	Officers Organizational Meeting	2-5 PM
Feb.	9	Officers Planning Meeting	3-5 PM
March	3	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ³ & PROGRAM	7-9 PM
	24	TRAINING ¹ --Site Survey	7-9 PM
	31	TRAINING ¹ --Preparation for Excavation	7-9 PM
April	7	TRAINING ¹ --Methods of Excavation	7-9 PM
	14	TRAINING ¹ --Recording Excavation Data	7-9 PM
	21	TRAINING ¹ --Burials, Stratigraphy, & Photography	7-9 PM
	28	TRAINING ¹ --Preservation	7-9 PM
May	5	TRAINING ¹ --Artifact Study & Care	7-9 PM
	12	TRAINING ¹ --Artifact Laboratory Session	7-9 PM
	19	TRAINING ¹ --Sampling Techniques	7-9 PM
	26	TRAINING ¹ --Reports & Their Preparation	7-9 PM
	31	DINNER MEETING & PROGRAM (Cocktails 6:30-7:30)	6:30-10 PM
June	1	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
	15	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
	29	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
July	6	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
	20	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
Aug.	3	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
	17	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
	31	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
Sept.	14	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
	28	EXCAVATION ² 45SN100	Noon-5 PM
Oct.	8	ANNUAL DINNER MEETING (Cocktails 6:30, Dinner 7:30, Meeting 8:30) ³	
Nov.	17	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ³ & PROGRAM	7-9 PM
Dec.		No Meetings	

NOTES

¹The WAS TRAINING Sessions are a prerequisite to the summer excavation activity. Only persons successfully completing the course will be assigned an excavation area or pit. All others must dig under supervision of WAS Training Course graduates or society officers. In some cases, University training or experience may be substituted for this training. Contact Phil Evans for details--783-9846.

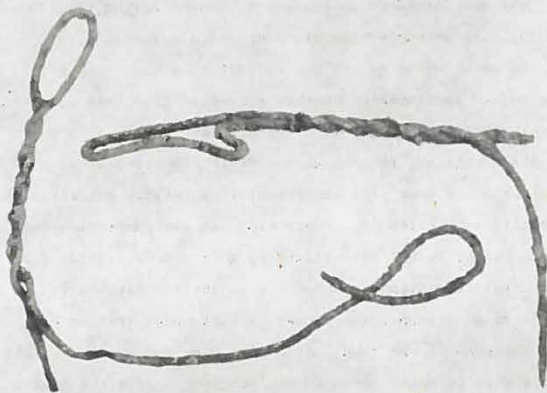
²EXCAVATION will be done only during "good" weather. On questionable days, contact Phil Evans for additional information--783-9846.

^{1&3}TRAINING Sessions and REGULAR MEETINGS will be at Seattle Central Community College, 1718 Broadway, Broadway-Edison Building, Room 420. Parking is available nearby.

Forester Woodruff

Forester Woodruff, President

WHAT IS IT?



C. METERS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Several pieces of rusty wire like these were recovered from 45SK33B. If you know what they may be, please contact Lee Bennett, c/o Washington Archaeological Society.