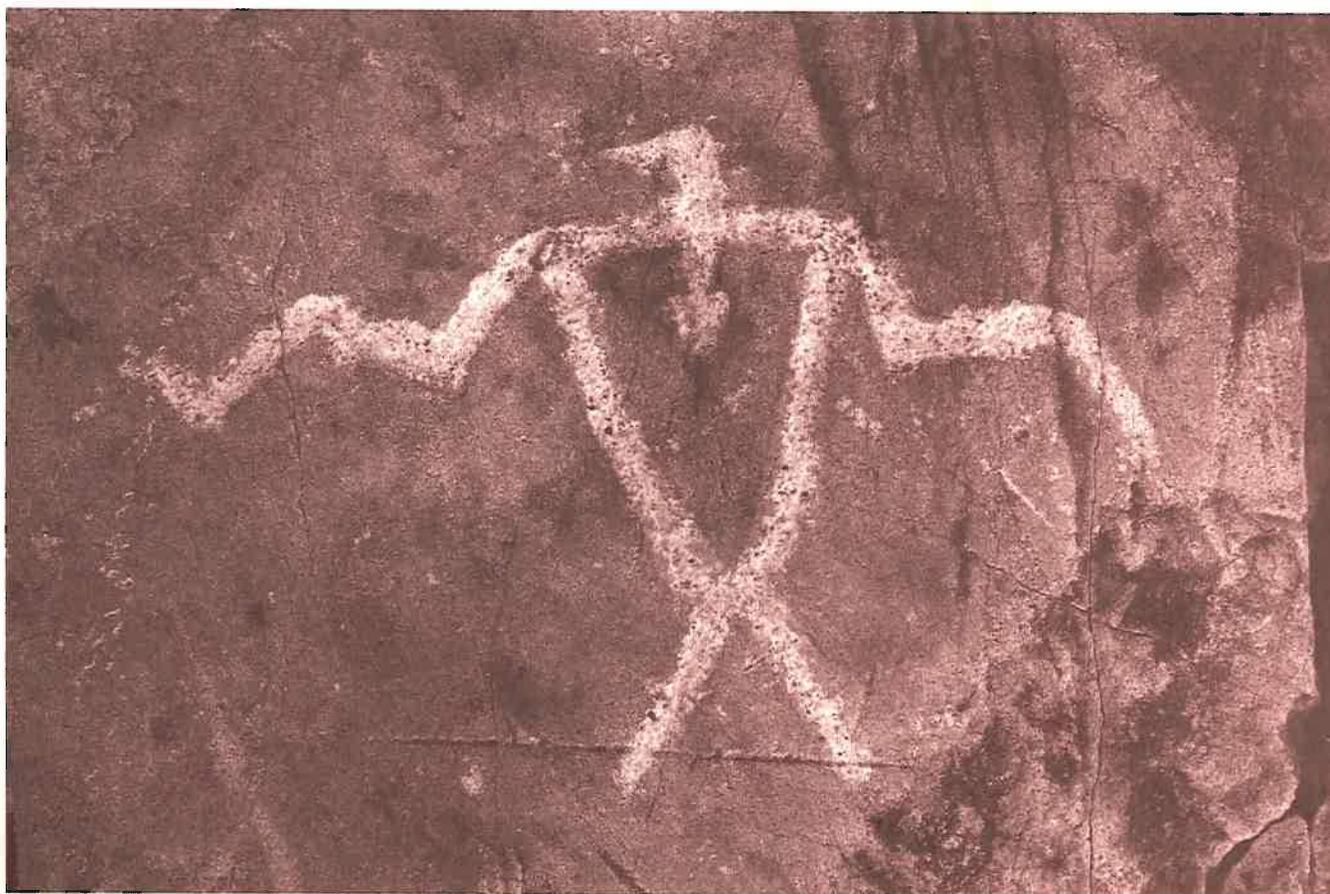


ANNUAL REPORT, FISCAL YEAR 1999

OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST



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Office of the State Archaeologist, St. Paul

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PROJECTILE POINTS OF MINNESOTA



Clovis,
ca. 10,000 - 8000 BC



Raddatz,
ca. 3000 - 1000 BC



Duncan,
ca. 2500 - 800 BC



Madison Triangular,
ca. 800 - 1700 AD

INTRODUCTION

This report describes the twelve-month period of operations for the Office of the State Archaeologist beginning July 1, 1998, and ending June 30, 1999 (fiscal year 1999).

Archaeological sites evidence the physical remains of peoples and cultures from the distant as well as the recent past. Comprised of tools, remnants of structures, refuse, and other evidence of past activities and human occupation, these remains are generally buried by natural processes or later human activities. *The study of archaeological sites, by excavation and other techniques, is critical to an understanding of Minnesota's heritage because it is our main source of knowledge about the prehistoric past, and because it provides information on aspects of the more recent past which are not otherwise recorded.* The State's archaeological resources are non-renewable.

The story of Minnesota's past spans thousands of years, from a time when the area's first peoples hunted elephants along the margins of continental glaciers, through the historic period of logging, farming and milling. This fascinating story continues to this today.

The State of Minnesota has supported efforts to identify, protect and interpret its archaeological resources for over 100 years. Beginning with surveys to identify American Indian earthworks and campsites in the late 1800s, this involvement continues today as an element of both private and public construction processes; in support of State archaeological sites such as Grand Mound, the Jeffers rock art site, and Fort Snelling; in university-level archaeology education; via Legislative Commission

on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) grants in support of archaeology projects; and other means.

The Legislature created the Office of the State Archaeologist in 1963.

PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of the State Archaeologist's mission is to foster, among its diverse public, an appreciation of the State's archaeological resources through research, stewardship and education; to provide quality technical information, support and service to individuals and agencies; and to promote, among archaeologists, the very highest standards of professional conduct.

PROGRAM PROFILE

The Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) is charged in statute with sponsoring, conducting and directing research into the prehistoric and historic archaeology of Minnesota; protecting and preserving archaeological sites, objects and data; disseminating archaeological information through the publication of reports and articles; identifying, authenticating and protecting human burial sites; reviewing and licensing archaeological fieldwork conducted within the state; and enforcing provisions of MS 138.31-138.42.

OSA clients include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ local, state and federal agencies;
- ▶ cultural resource management firms;
- ▶ professional and avocational archaeologists
- ▶ representatives of Minnesota's tribal communities;
- ▶ county historical societies;
- ▶ the State Historic Preservation Office;
- ▶ private homeowners;

- ▶ local heritage preservation commissions;
- ▶ educators and academic institutions;
- ▶ other public and private agencies and individuals.

MN STATUTES 138.31-.42: THE "FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY ACT"

Under provisions of MS 138.31-.42, the review of archaeological projects and qualifications of prospective licensees is one of the central functions of the office. The following indicates the number of licenses issued for each of the past four calendar years (*note: the convention of reporting license figures on a calendar year basis rather than a fiscal year basis has been adopted since it better reflects activities during the annual "archaeological field season" which, in Minnesota, extends from approximately April through November of any given year*); figures include the number of project proposals reviewed (the number of project reviews exceeds number of licenses since, in some instances, projects are bundled onto one license via the "Multiple Project" licensing process):

- ▶ 1998 93 licenses / 283 reviews
- ▶ 1997 125 licenses / 361 reviews
- ▶ 1996 128 licenses / 494 reviews
- ▶ 1995 183 licenses / 491 reviews

Only one individual was identified as having initiated field investigations without having first obtained licensure required under provisions of the Field Archaeology Act during the 1998 field season.

Project Reports and Site Forms

Timely review and processing of site forms and

related project reports are crucial to the development of a coherent and comprehensive state site database. All members of the archaeological community as well as the clients they serve depend on an up-to-date system.

During FY99, a total of 937 archaeological site forms were reviewed, approved and entered into the State's archaeological site database by the OSA; this figure includes 235 newly-recorded sites, 81 form updates for previously identified sites, and final review and correction of 621 previously-submitted National Forest Service archaeological site forms. Of these, the OSA completed 20 forms for newly-identified sites and completed an additional 12 site updates for previously recorded sites. Scores of other site forms were also reviewed, but the materials or features reported on these forms did not meet criteria for inclusion in the State's archaeological site database.

MN STATUTES 307.08: THE "PRIVATE CEMETERIES ACT"

The "Private Cemeteries Act" includes provisions for the protection of burials 50 years and older which occur outside of platted cemeteries on either public or private lands. Activities conducted under provisions of MS 307.08 include the investigation of burials and burial areas, and the recovery of human remains unearthed by natural or cultural activities. Under provisions of MS 307.08, investigation and authentication of burial sites is conducted under the sole auspices of the State through the OSA.

Prompt assessment and resolution of such cases is critical to the timely completion of public and private development projects.

Investigations conducted during the period included

PREHISTORIC CERAMICS OF MINNESOTA



*La Moille Thick,
ca. 500 - 300 BC*



*Laurel,
ca. 100 BC - AD*

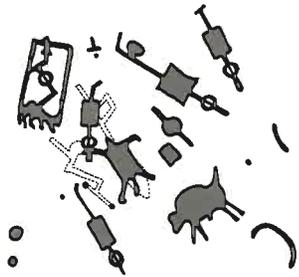


*Blackduck,
ca. 800 - 1400 AD*

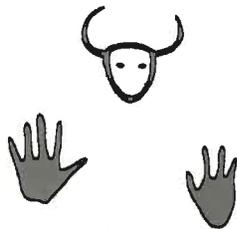


*Orr Phase,
ca. 1300 - 1800 AD*

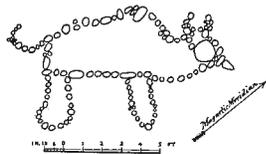
MINNESOTA ROCK ART



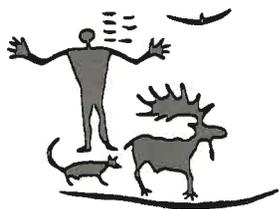
Jeffers petroglyphs,
ca. 3000 BC - 1750 AD



Iverson pictographs,
ca. 1000 - 1500 AD (?)



Bison petroform,
ca. 1600 AD (?)



Hegman Lake pictographs,
ca. 1000 - 1500 AD (?)

identification and assessment of reported American Indian and EuroAmerican remains and / or burial sites. The OSA provided related technical information, support and service to members of the public; Federal, State and local agencies; private developers; tribal communities; archaeologists involved in issues potentially impacting burial sites; and others.

Of 100 outstanding (i.e., no follow-up initiated) burial cases as of February 1995; 15 remain outstanding at this time. These cases, inactive for six years or more, are considered non-urgent and are reconciled on an "as-able" basis, incidental to other OSA fieldwork in the area. The current breakdown of outstanding cases by fiscal year is as follows:

▶ 1993	9
▶ 1992	2
▶ 1991	3
▶ 1990	1

The bulk of the OSA-managed cases have focused on resolution of more urgent and / or complex investigations, which typically require more intensive and long-term case management. In the past 12 months, the OSA has been directly involved in 62 burial site authentication / investigation cases; eight of these cases are on-going. In all such investigations, the OSA relies on methods and techniques which are objective, replicable and definitive. *Significantly, many such cases result in negative findings, i.e., the reported burials are determined to have been destroyed, or are determined to not represent burials or related features.*

During this period, the OSA has additionally responded to hundreds of requests for burial site information by landowners, developers, tribal interests, agencies of government, CRM professionals, legislators, and other interested parties.

The Native American Graves Protection Act (NAGPRA) and MS 307.08

Enactment of the Federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) in November of 1990 effectively superseded state law, precluding repatriation (i.e., return) and reburial under provisions of MS 307.08.

In a January of 1998, the OSA presented an innovative proposal before the NAGPRA Review Committee, National Park Service, in Washington, DC (Dudzick 1998). This proposal described a model for repatriating Minnesota's "culturally unidentifiable" Native American remains and associated grave goods to the tribal communities presently residing in the geographic areas from which the remains and materials originated (cf. National Park Service 1998). In November of 1998, the Review Committee advised the OSA that it had endorsed the proposed model, which established a national precedent for repatriation efforts (McManamon 1998).

RECENT LEGISLATION

During the 1999 legislative session, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC), representing tribal interests, unilaterally proposed legislation (SF406; no House companion file) which would have effectively negated the pre-eminent role of the State in the process of burial site investigation by eliminating the State Archaeologist's oversight function. Per this proposal, only MIAC could investigate and identify Indian

burial sites. Like similar legislation proposed by MIAC in the 1998 legislative session (SF2361 / HF2383), this legislation did not advance in the face of the broadest opposition.

Upon recommendation of the Department of Employee Relations (DOER), the Department of Administration proposed legislation affecting the appointment of the State Archaeologist. Passage of SF1920 / HF1975 brought the State Archaeologist appointment process in line with DOER's established hiring practices by changing the position from an unclassified to classified position (like similar positions such as the State Epidemiologist, State Demographer, etc.), and by transferring the appointment authority from a non-state agency, the Minnesota Historical Society, to the Department of Administration, OSA's parent agency.

HIGHWAY 55 / HIAWATHA AVENUE

OSA had a central role in resolving archaeological issues related to the Highway 55 controversy. Upon OSA's recommendation, the Minnesota Department of Transportation implemented a geoarchaeological assessment of a portion of the corridor which included a grove of four trees alleged to be "ancient and sacred" by interests which oppose the planned development. The area of the trees was further claimed to be the location of pre- or protohistoric American Indian burials.

Recent forestry investigations indicate that these trees are relatively young (less than 130 years old). The geoarchaeological investigations demonstrate *unequivocally* that the trees were established in historic times in soils used to in-fill an existing wetland. An assessment of historic maps and other

records suggests that the fill episodes occurred in the early 1900s. These lines of evidence effectively preclude any possibility that these trees are "ancient" and, further, obviate the potential for prehistoric or early historic Indian burials at this location.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

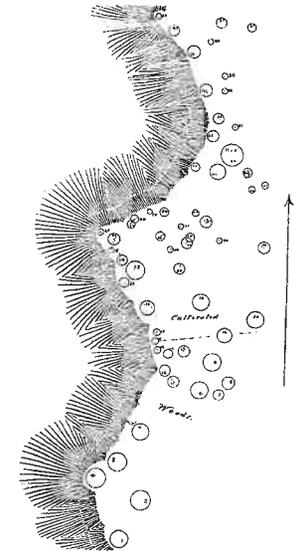
The OSA provides interested groups and individuals with information about the State's archaeological past and the process of archaeological research.

OSA presentations during FY99 included:

Professional

- ▶ *Prehistoric Mortuary Practices in Minnesota: A Comprehensive Review of Excavated Sites.* Paper presented in the symposium "Midwestern Mounds: Past, Present, and Future"; 64th Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Chicago.
- ▶ *Visions in Stone: An Overview of Minnesota's Rock Art.* Lecture, Archaeological Field School, the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Archaeological Research Program, Minnesota Historical Society, Jeffers, MN.
- ▶ *Case Study 21-HE-0064: the Role of the Office of the State Archaeologist.* Hamline University Field School, the Office of the State Archaeologist, St. Paul.

EARTHWORKS AND BURIALS IN MINNESOTA



Earthworks site 21-SC-0003, Scott County



1882 headstone, abandoned cemetery, Le Sueur County

**STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
LEGISLATION**

MS 138.51: "It is in the public interest to provide for the preservation of historic sites, buildings, structures, and antiquities of state and national significance for the inspiration, use, and benefit of the people of the state".

The "Field Archaeology Act of 1963" (MS 138.31-.42): "The state of Minnesota reserves to itself the exclusive right and privilege of field archaeology on state sites, in order to protect and preserve archaeological and scientific information, matter, and objects".

The "Private Cemeteries Act" (MS 307.08): "... all human burials and human skeletal remains shall be accorded equal treatment and respect for human dignity ... (t)he state archaeologist shall authenticate all burial sites for purposes of this section ...".

The "Outdoor Recreation Act of 1975" (MS 86A): "... the unique natural, cultural and historical resources of Minnesota provide abundant opportunities for outdoor recreation and education, and ... should be made available to all the citizens of Minnesota now and in the future".

The "Minnesota Environmental Rights Act" (MS 116B) "... each person is entitled by right to the protection of air, water, land and other natural resources within the state ..."; natural resources are defined to include historical resources.

Interagency

- ▶ *Developing the Last Fragments of a Suburb: Habitation and Earthworks Site 21-HE-0021.* The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Summer Tour, Eden Prairie.
- ▶ *Cultural Resources in Minnesota and State Laws.* "Protecting America's Past - Archaeological Resources Crime", the Cultural Resource Law Enforcement Institute; sponsored by the Minnesota Recreation & Park Association and the Park Law Enforcement Association, St. Paul.
- ▶ *The OSA Program.* Presentation to staff of the Fort Snelling History Center, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.
- ▶ *OSA Program Overview and NAGPRA Update.* Fourth Annual Cultural Resources Management Seminar for Federal and State Agencies, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, St. Paul.

Public Outreach

- ▶ *The Jeffers Petroglyphs.* Site visit and discussion (joint presentation); field trip sponsored by the Minnesota Archaeological Society, Jeffers, MN.
- ▶ *An Overview of Minnesota's Archaeology and Minnesota Statute 307.08 - The Private Cemeteries Act.* Presentation to the Cultural Resources Awareness Training Program, USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Deep Portage, MN.
- ▶ *Overview of Minnesota Archaeology.* South

Middle Alternative School, Edina, MN.

- ▶ *Archaeological Method and Techniques* (three presentations). Park Elementary School, Hutchinson, MN.
- ▶ *Culture Through Artifacts.* Thomas Lake Elementary School, Eagan, MN.
- ▶ *Archaeological Method and Techniques* (five presentations). Hanke Elementary School, Elk River, MN.

Other OSA public education initiatives during the year included:

- ▶ *Minnesota Archaeology Week;* poster design and production; coordination of state-wide events (cf. Appendix).
- ▶ *Burial Sites Preservation Program;* design and production of public education brochure describing legal and preservation issues relevant to burial site protection and preservation.

PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

In addition to the activities described above, OSA activities during the year included the following:

- ▶ A state-wide pre- and protohistoric mortuary practices and patterns study (per interagency agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation). This on-going research has already proven useful for anticipating, identifying, and avoiding potential burial areas in advance of construction / development projects. The research-to-date was presented as a professional paper in the

symposium *Midwestern Mounds: Past, Present, and Future*, at the 64th Annual Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Meeting, Chicago (Dudzick 1999).

Status: research on-going.

- ▶ The development of an interactive website which provides local governments / land managers direct access to burial site location information (per interagency agreement with the Land Management Information Center, Minnesota Planning). Access to such information will provide enhanced protection of these sensitive areas.

Status: prototype nearing completion; anticipated implementation: FY2000.

- ▶ OSA, as Conference Chair, is hosting the joint Plains and Midwest Archaeological Conferences in November of 2000 (per interagency agreement with the Office of Special Events Planning, DOER). Minnesota's archaeological community has not hosted a regional conference since 1977.

Status: planning is on-going.

PROGRAM CHALLENGES

OSA's personnel resources (division head; one support staff position) are presently insufficient to fully meet legislative mandates. As Division Head, the State Archaeologist is necessarily involved in major tasks such as program development, budgeting, licensing, and project review and implementation. Too frequently, the State Archaeologist is involved in routine technical or clerical tasks while essential, legislatively-mandated program issues are not fully

realized.

As in past years,

- ▶ *the public's growing interest in heritage issues brings increasing requests for assistance in developing archaeology education programming;*
- ▶ *the State's academic community is urging that the OSA become more directly involved in sponsoring and conducting fundamental research into the prehistoric and historic archaeology of Minnesota;*
- ▶ *the development community (both public and private) is demanding more aggressive responses to burial investigation issues potentially impacting construction processes;*

and

- ▶ *State agencies and other units of government are requesting more direct and on-going involvement by OSA in archaeological issues which impact on agency activities (e.g., Highway 55).*

Additional staff and program operations support are required to better meet these needs.

PROGRAM INITIATIVES

Public Education

Public education initiatives for the year will focus on:

- ▶ enhancement of the OSA website, with a commitment to establishing it as a "one-stop" clearinghouse for access to information on state,

FEDERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION

The "National Historic Preservation Act of 1966" (PL 89-665): *Established a national historic preservation policy; created the National Register of Historic Places and the Cabinet level Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and established the Section 106 process, which requires a consideration of cultural resources for undertakings that are federally funded, licensed, or permitted.*

The "National Environmental Policy Act of 1969" (PL 91-190): *Requires that archaeological and other historic resources be considered during the environmental assessment process and in environmental impact studies.*

The "Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979" (PL 96-95): *Established criminal and civil penalties for disturbing prehistoric and historic archaeological sites on Federal and Indian lands, and for sale, transport or receipt of archaeological resources excavated or removed from public lands or Indian lands or in violation of State or local law.*

The "Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act" (PL101-601): *Mandates the repatriation (return) of Native American or Native Hawaiian human remains, associated funerary items, or items of cultural patrimony held by agencies receiving Federal funds.*

HISTORIC ARTIFACTS OF LATE 19TH CENTURY MINNESOTA



Shaving mug



Bone dice



Clay pipes



Toothpaste jar and lid

(Artifacts from the Washington St. Residential
District site [21-RA-0032], St. Paul)

regional, national, and global archaeology;

- ▶ development of an interagency public education initiative;
- ▶ Minnesota Archaeology Week (MAW), with the OSA assuming the central role in identifying, organizing and promoting MAW 2000 events.

Research

Planned activities for the year include:

- ▶ continuing research on the mortuary practices and patterns of prehistoric and protohistoric Indian peoples.

Publications

Publication efforts during FY 2000 will include:

- ▶ publication of the article *Burial Practices and Patterns in Prehistoric Minnesota: A Comprehensive Review of Excavated Mound Sites*, in a volume commemorating the 50th anniversary of Effigy Mounds National Monument;
- ▶ work on a planned volume describing prehistoric projectile points will continue;
- ▶ publication of a volume summarizing public archaeology projects in Minnesota.

REFERENCES

Dudzick, M.J.

1998 *Repatriation of Minnesota's Culturally Unidentifiable Remains and Funerary Objects*. Proposal presented to the NAGPRA Review Committee, National Park Service, on behalf of the State of Minnesota, Washington, DC.

1999 *Prehistoric Mortuary Practices in Minnesota: A Comprehensive Review of Excavated Sites*. Paper presented (with Kathy Stevenson and Constance Arzigian) in symposium "Midwestern Mounds: Past, Present, and Future"; 64th Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Chicago.

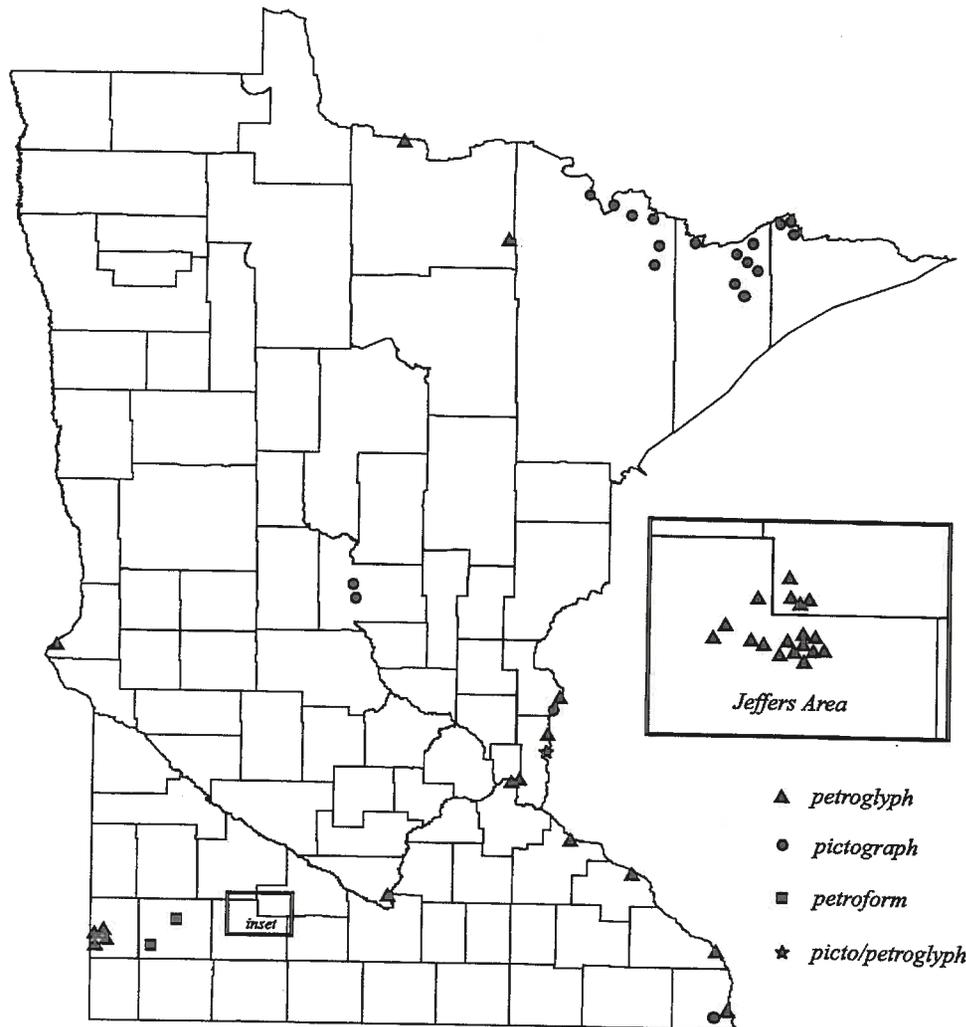
McManamon, F.P.

1998 Letter to the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist; National Park Service correspondence W42(2275)

National Park Service

1998 NAGPRA News: Implementing the Native American Graves Protection Act. *Common Ground* 3(1):44-46.

APPENDIX B



DISTRIBUTION OF RECORDED ROCK ART SITES IN MINNESOTA, 1999

To date, only 55 prehistoric to protohistoric American Indian rock art sites have been identified in the state and many of these, since destroyed, were first identified at the turn of the century. Reported rock art sites in Minnesota include *petroglyphs* (images produced by incising or pecking the rock surface) and *pictographs* (painted images) appearing on exposed outcrops or in caves, as well as open-air *petroforms* (boulder outlines).

Minnesota's aboriginal rock art appears to have been produced from Archaic (ca. 6000 - 1000 BC) through Protohistoric (ca. 1600 AD) times, and was probably produced in PaleoIndian (ca. 10,000 - 6000 BC) times as well. The iconography of rock art has a unique potential to yield insights into the character and evolution of prehistoric and protohistoric American Indian ideation, subsistence practices, technology, aesthetics and other cultural elements which are difficult or impossible to elucidate by other means.

Statewide, these generally unprotected sites are increasingly vulnerable to destruction as a consequence of vandalism, natural processes and construction. At the same time, the potential for identifying numerous other, unrecorded rock art sites in the state remains quite high.

APPENDIX C

MINNESOTA ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK - 1999 Events

Cottonwood County

Jeffers, *Jeffers Petroglyphs Site*.

Jeffers Petroglyphs Grand Opening celebrated completion of the new Visitor Center with activities such as learning to use an atlatl, pack a travois, dancing by the Cansa'yapi Oyate Dancers, and guided tours of the surrounding prairie.

Faribault County

Winnebago, *Winnebago Area Museum*.

The museum hosted an **Open House** to view current displays.

Goodhue County

Nansen, *Huysen Farmstead*.

In the program "**Harvesting the Past**", professional archaeologists used volunteers to help recover, identify and record information about an historic farmstead south of the Twin Cities.

Hennepin County

Minnetrista, *Lake Minnetonka Regional Park*.

The program "**Dig into History**" included visits to archaeological sites in the park, corn grinding with traditional grinding stones, atlatl demonstrations, bow drill firemaking, crafts and games.

Minneapolis, *Historic Fort Snelling*. **Archaeological Excavations at Historic Fort Snelling** provided an opportunity to view on-going excavations outside of the walls of the historic fort.

Minneapolis, *Coffman Memorial Union*.

Minnesota Archaeology Week's annual Elden Johnson Memorial Lecture featured **Olmec Legacy: The Evolution of a Cultural Landscape in Southern Veracruz Mexico**, a discussion of a survey of the "Olmec Heartland" of Mexico by Dr. Thomas W. Killion of the Smithsonian Institution.

Maple Grove, *Loucks & Associates*.

Under the supervision of professional archaeologists, the **Analysis of Rush Lake Artifacts** provided interested avocationalists with a hands-on opportunity to learn about the process of analyzing archaeological materials.

Mahnomen County

Mahnomen, *Shooting Star Casino*.

Prehistoric Aboriginal Arts Exhibit and Archaeological Conference, focused on Minnesota's 10,000 + year prehistory, with demonstrations of prehistoric technology and lectures by professional archaeologists about regional sites.

Nicollet County

St. Peter, *Treaty Site History Center*.

Hosted a variety of events including:

- ▶ demonstration and lectures on flintknapping, stone age technology and flute making;
- ▶ presentation of the films, "**Bones of Contention**", "**The Iceman's World**" and "**Frozen Tombs of Siberia**";
- ▶ opening of the new exhibit "**Prehistoric Life in Southern Minnesota**";
- ▶ lectures on "**Prehistoric Corn Agriculture in the Upper Midwest**", "**Geology, Ecology, Prehistory and History of Traverse des Sioux**"; and "**Virtual Archaeology**".

Olmsted County

Rochester, *Olmsted County Historical Society*.

12,000 Years of Minnesota's Past, a presentation on the prehistory and archaeology of Southeastern Minnesota, included opportunities to have artifacts identified and to view recent archaeological materials recently recovered from sites in southeastern Minnesota.

Pine County

Hinkley, *St. Croix State Park*.

In the program **Foundations of the Past - Historic Building Tour**, the Park Naturalist led a walking tour to examine log and stone structures constructed in the 1930s by the CCC / WPA while building Minnesota's largest state park.

Ramsey County

St. Paul, *Science Museum of Minnesota*.

The lecture **Maya Astronomy and Cosmology**, described the classic Maya culture's advanced knowledge of astronomy and how their celestial observations were associated with mythological figures.

St. Paul, *Hamline University*.

The workshop **Mayan Hieroglyphic Writing: Classic Maya Mythology and World View**, introduced beginners to the classic Maya writing system by analyzing texts from a variety of media: carved stone monuments, wooden and bone objects, polychrome ceramics and the Maya codices.

St. Louis County

Duluth, *Stone Ridge Mall Barnes & Noble*.

Archaeology Night included demonstrations of flintknapping and pottery making.

Boulder Lake Reservoir, *Boulder Lake Environmental Center*.

Archaeology Festival events included atlatl demonstrations, flintknapping, pottery making and copper tool making.

Duluth area, *Lake Superior College (Superior, WI)*.

A **Reception and Poster Session** was hosted by the Northern Lakes Archaeological Society.

Wadena County

Wadena, *Wadena County Historical Society*.

View and Do: Archaeology for Kids, featured a video presentation "Pre-Historic Minnesotans", the chance to examine prehistoric pottery sherds, and the opportunity to create coil pottery from clay to take home.

All illustrations are by the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist unless noted otherwise below.

Cover: Jeffers site "thunderbird" petroglyph, photo by Robert Clouse

Page 4: Jeffers petroglyphs and Bison petroform, Minnesota Historical Society

Page 5: Earthworks 21-SC-0003, Minnesota Historical Society

Page 8: Historic artifacts of Late 19th Century Minnesota, photos by The 106 Group, Ltd.

