



*MVAC at the University
of Wisconsin-La Crosse*

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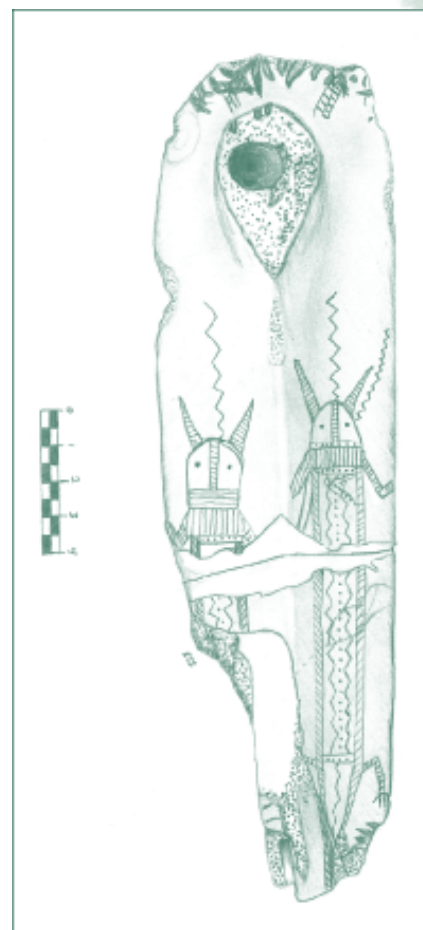
June 2006

An Etched Pipe from Southeastern Minnesota

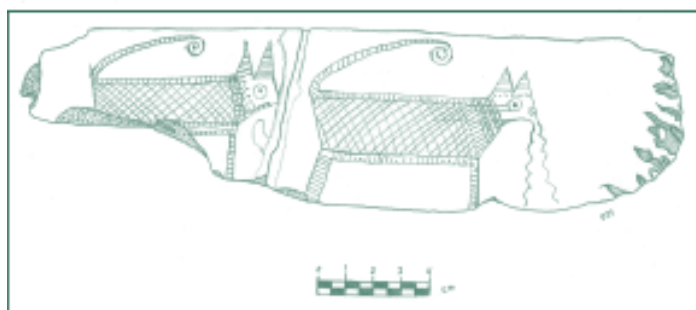
Robert F. Boszhardt, Associate Director

Each year, MVAC hosts an artifact show at Valley View Mall drawing approximately 20 displays and several thousand viewers. During the event, staff archaeologists also identify artifacts brought in by the public, and every year we see several rare artifacts. This year, Larry Dahl of Rushford, Minnesota brought in a large pipe that his uncle had found many years ago in southeastern Minnesota. The pipe is nearly 9 inches long and was made from a purple colored pipestone that probably originated in the Baraboo Hills near Devils Lake in Sauk County, Wisconsin. The pipe was broken and repaired, and appears to have been gnawed by a dog. The bowl is missing, and the break appears to have happened long in the past. The general shape of the pipe is a variation of a Hopewell monitor pipe, suggesting that it was manufactured between A.D. 200-400.

The most amazing aspect of this pipe is a series of four very detailed etchings, two on each side. The top etchings depict horned lizards with zig-zag "power-lines" emanating from the head. The bottom etchings are of two long-tailed "panthers," again with power-lines. Both lizards and panthers are associated with underworld spirits in regional Native American mythologies. Lizards and panthers, for example are represented in Late Woodland effigy mounds across eastern Wisconsin and in the northern portion of the Driftless Area. At least two small, elbow-shaped pipes were recorded



early in the 20th century from central Wisconsin that also have horned lizards etched on the bowls. One of these is very similar to those on the top of Mr. Dahl's pipe and is illustrated in the book *Indian Mounds of Wisconsin* by Robert Birmingham and Leslie Eisenberg (University of Wisconsin Press, 2000).



It is not known if the pipe was etched by the original Hopewell manufacturers or if it was found by the later Late Woodland (A.D. 700-1100) or even Oneota

See "Pipe" page 2

From The Director: Joseph A Tiffany



Joseph A. Tiffany

Hello, Everyone! We are swinging into our field season for 2006. There is lots going on as usual including Summer Youth classes in July, the Public Field School from July 17-21st at the Swennes Brother's farm (47LC333), and numerous contract archaeology projects including a data recovery project for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in the Prairie du Chien area. The University Archaeological Field School that I was to teach

did not make enrollment, so I will be around to help MVAC staff in the field, get in the way, or both! The teacher education grants that Bonnie and Connie have received will continue. This summer they will have Language Arts teachers in the field in August. The current crop of Math and Science teachers will finish up with us this June. Additionally, spring is when the MVAC board conducts our portion of the annual fund drive for UFAH (United Fund for the Arts and Humanities) in the greater La Crosse area. As a participating organization, we receive UFAH funds every year. If you are contacted, please consider donating.

We are busy as usual! Please take the opportunity if you can to participate in one of our public archaeological activities, visit us in the field, or stop by the lab. We are open daily Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MVAC's annual artifact show this March at Valley View Mall was another huge success. Over 14 local and regional collectors brought materials to exhibit last March 11. The Artifact Show is always a great event for us. We get an opportunity to catch up with old friends, meet new people, examine new finds brought for exhibition and help folks who stop by to identify artifacts they have brought along and dis-

cuss their collections with them. This is our most popular public event by far, and we are always excited to see the interest archaeology generates in the community and region. For more on the Artifact Show, see our digital newsletter at www.uwlax.edu/mvac.

If you have not visited the lab recently, there have been some important changes. We installed new shelving for the collections this year and re-organized the lab space. The place looks different, and it is a much more inviting and pleasant place to work. We are looking at the possibility of expanding the collections at MVAC through cooperative agreements with federal and state agencies. Collections management as a regional repository will provide a new revenue stream for MVAC in future years as the demand for contracted field studies decline.

Important! MVAC is organizing a bus trip to Chicago to see the King Tut exhibit at the Field Museum. The trip is planned for September 8th; please contact us by June 26th if you are interested in participating. And MVAC will host another Silver Mound Day this year on October 7th to commemorate designation of National Historic Landmark Status for Silver Mound. Lots of events are planned, and state and federal dignitaries will be on hand for the dedication ceremony. Mark your calendars for this special event.

Enjoy the newsletter; we certainly enjoy sharing with you the important work we do. MVAC is unique. MVAC provides comprehensive programs in public education and outreach, curation, site preservation and research for the university, the surrounding community and our broader service area. We can not do all these things without your help and continued support which is much appreciated. If you have not renewed your membership for this year or are thinking about gifting to MVAC in other ways, please take a moment and consider MVAC and the services we provide. Have a great summer!!



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Pipes, continued

(A.D. 1100-1700) peoples and the etchings added. Hopewell pipes often have geometric etchings on the bowl and basal edges, and some were carved into animal shapes such as beaver, bear, and birds. However, there are also several known instances of Oneota people having encountered Hopewellian artifacts during re-occupation of the same site, and re-depositing these in Oneota features. These include two Hopewell styled platform pipes (both also made of the purple Baraboo pipestone) that were found in mounds, which contained Oneota features at the New Galena group in nearby Allamakee County, Iowa (see *Woodland Complexes in Northeast Iowa* by Wilfred Logan, National Park Service 1976). Therefore, it is possible that late pre-European people encountered the Hopewell pipe, and added the horned lizard and panther etchings on the Dahl pipe. It is impossible to determine which scenario is the case without knowing precisely where the pipe was found by Mr. Dahl's uncle.

The accompanying illustrations of the Dahl pipe were drawn by UW-La Crosse Archaeology student Becky Sprengelmeyer.

Silver Mound, National Historic Landmark

In January 2006 Silver Mound, one of Wisconsin's oldest and largest archaeological sites, was designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service. To commemorate the designation, MVAC will once again host Archaeology Day at Silver Mound on October 7, 2006. A ceremony is scheduled for noon to commemorate the designation, with representatives from the National Park Service, the Archaeological Conservancy, and the Ho-Chunk Nation attending.

MVAC archaeologists will lead tours to two of Silver Mound's rockshelters as well as both a prehistoric and historic stone mine. In addition to tours, activities will include demonstrations of flintknapping and drilling of stone tools, atlatl (spear) throwing, arrow making, and traditional Native American cooking, basketry, beading, and Native American games. Traditional dancing and storytelling will be provided by Art Shegonee.

The event will be held at the Hixton-Alma Center KOA, on STH 95 north of Hixton. Committed sponsors of the event include the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce, the Black River Falls Foundation, Heller Farms, Richard & Beth Hilliker, Hixton-Alma Center KOA, MVAC, and the National Park Service.

Announcements

La Crosse School District's Archaeology Funds

Funding is available for La Crosse School District teachers to use MVAC resources in the 2006-2007 school year. Teachers interested in using the funds should contact Jean Dowiasch at 608-785-8454 to reserve materials.

Matching Funds Grant

A grant provided by the UW-La Crosse Foundation encourages teachers to use MVAC education resources. The grant allows MVAC to match a teacher's/school's cost dollar for dollar. For more information, contact Jean Dowiasch at dowiasch.jean@uwlax.edu or 608-785-8454.

In our Digital Newsletter:

The Artifact Show and the Public Field Survey are highlighted in the June digital newsletter. There will be a link to the digital newsletters on the MVAC Home Page: www.uwlax.edu/mvac

Estate Planning

Successful estate planning is a valuable way to continue your support for MVAC into the future. By giving a gift in your will or estate plan, you are providing for future programs in archaeological research, public education and site stewardship. Please consider MVAC when planning for trusts, gifts and bequests. Contact Marcee H. Peplinski, Development Director at the MVAC office for more information, (608)785-8463.

MVAC MEMBERSHIP FORM

Consider becoming a member of MVAC

MVAC's innovative public education program brings the excitement of archaeology to adults throughout the area. Become a member of MVAC and receive our newsletters, on programs, current research, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities. Also, you will receive reminders of special "members only" events. Please remember that your contribution is tax-deductible.

☐ Yes! I want to support the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center Programs!

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Please make checks payable to UW-L Foundation, Inc. for MVAC and send to MVAC, UW-L Foundation for MVAC qualify as charitable tax deductions to the full extent of each donor. You can increase your gift's value if your employer has a matching gift plan.



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Upcoming Events

Contact MVAC at (608) 785-8454 for more information
or visit our web site:

www.uwlax.edu/mvac

SUMMER YOUTH CLASSES

Register for classes with UWL Continuing Education & Extension at (608) 785-6508 or <http://www.uwlax.edu/conted/html/youth-programs.htm>. All summer classes meet in Room 311 Wimberly Hall, UW-La Crosse campus. Call Jean at (608) 785-8454 for scholarship information.

Introduction to Archaeology, grades 1 - 4

July 17-18, 2006; \$90

Introduction to Archaeology, grades 5 - 9

July 19, 2006; \$50

Middle School Field Experience, grades 5 - 9*

July 20-21, 2006; \$125

Temples and Tombs, grades 4 - 6

July 24, 2006; \$50

*Introduction to Archaeology class must be taken prior to taking the Middle School Field Experience.

PUBLIC FIELD EXPERIENCE: multi-age

Participate in an actual archaeological excavation working alongside professional archaeologists in the field. Test units will be excavated, lab work will be explored, and an experimental archaeology component will be included. Supervised dorm facilities are available for high school students at an additional cost. Register with UWL Continuing Education & Extension at (608) 785-6508 or <http://www.uwlax.edu/conted/> click on "Register Online Now!"

Three Day Experience

July 17- 19, 2006; \$300

Five Day Experience

July 17- 21, 2006; \$450

KING TUT EXHIBIT: Chicago Field Museum Bus Trip

The King Tut exhibition consists of more than 130 artifacts from King Tut's tomb as well as Egypt's Valley of the Kings (and other Field Museum exhibits). If interested please contact Jody Bruce at bruce.jody@uwlax.edu or (608) 785-8463, or send check to MVAC, 1725 State St, La Crosse, WI 54601 by **June 26**.

Date: Friday, September 8, 2006

Cost: \$75, includes bus fare and all
museum fees

Time: 6:30 a.m. - late that evening

Meet: UWL Archaeology Center & Laboratories

