

Recent Guyana Research

During the past four years Mark Plew has led archaeological expeditions into the south Rupununi Savannahs to conduct archaeological surveys of the Shiriri Mountain, Sawariwau, Moco-Moco and Shulinab areas. In December 1999 and January 2000 Kristen Mercer and Tanya Sundell, anthropology students, participated in a field survey of the Moco-Moco area with support of the Undergraduate Research Initiative program of the Boise State University College of Social Science and Public Affairs. These projects trained local scholars in archaeological methods and recorded a number of archaeological sites, which suggest a greater range of variation in sites types than previously noted. In the vicinity of Moco-Moco, a large 19th century village was located. The recovery of Rupununi Plain ware sherds support Evans and Meggers' (1960) assertion that the Rupununi Phase of southern Guyana extends into the historic period. In addition, an unusual cairn burial was discovered in a rockshelter near the Moco-Moco trail. On the Sawariwau River near Imprenza, the survey recorded two of the largest concentrations of pollisoirs yet described for the Rupununi area. In December and January 2001, the survey recorded sites in the area of Shulinab and Mariwau Villages. In addition to rock alignments similar to those reported in the Amapá region of Brazil and in the Parú savannahs of Suriname, a large cemetery consisting of some nineteen burial urns was documented. The cemetery is associated with pictographic rock art and is similar to the Shiriri Mountain cemetery recorded in 1999. Near the Mariwau Village, burial urns were excavated which had been recessed into pits placed in an open saddle above the savannah floor. The findings of these projects have greatly enhanced our understanding of the range of archaeological sites in the Rupununi savannah.

In addition to cooperative projects with the University of Guyana and the Walter Roth Museum, the department is also working cooperatively with the National Trust of Guyana. During the past summer Tamika Boatswain, a University of Guyana graduate student working with the Guyana National Trust, attended the Boise State University Archaeology Field School and will work with a UG/WRM/Boise State research team in a survey of the Toka Village area in January 2002.

Desert Studies Institute A Success

Since its inception in 1998 the Desert Studies Institute has been one of Boise State University's most successful summer programs. As a cooperative effort between the Anthropology Department and Celebration Park, operated by Canyon County Parks, Recreation and Waterways, the Institute provided workshops on archaeology, biology, history, ecology and politics of Idaho's deserts. The Institute, which is presented to enrich the understanding and appreciation of the Idaho's desert ecosystems and foster their preservation as educational resources, includes workshops consisting of one-day classroom instruction and one-day field investigation. Workshops have been well attended and feedback very positive. The summer 2001 program included: Fire Ecology

Symposium (Robert McCarl), History of the Oregon Trail (Larry Jones and Glenda King), Minidoka, A Japanese American Camp in the Idaho Desert (Robert Simms), Fish and Aquatic Resources of the Snake River Basin (Samuel Lohr), Bighorn Sheep of Southern Idaho (El Roy Taylor), Historical Geography of the Snake River Plain (Todd Shallat), Prehistoric Archaeology of the Northern Great Basin (Mark Plew), Ecology of Raptors of the Snake River Birds of Prey Area (Karen Steenhof), Vertebrate Paleontology of East-Central Idaho (William Akersten) and Volcanic Geology of the Snake River Plain (Craig White).

***Archaeology of the Snake River Plain* Published**

Mark Plew's *Archaeology of the Snake River Plain* was published by Boise State University in December 2000. The volume represents the first major synthesis of the archaeology of the Snake River Plain. The work includes consideration of Idaho's early and unique Paleoindian occupations, the increasing variability of the Archaic and the archaeological record of the Protohistoric and Historic periods. Described by *Antiquity* as "substantial and critical" the book is available through the Department of Anthropology, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725-1950 (\$21.95 plus \$3.00 postage and handling).

Department Participates in Idaho Army National Guard "Wings and Roots" Program

Mark Plew, representing Boise State University, has assisted in the preparation of the Idaho Army National Guard's Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) management plan for the State of Idaho. Mandated by the Department of Defense, the Management Plan provides a broad overview of training areas utilizing GIS data layers as the basis for developing a long-range resources management strategy. Most importantly, the Idaho plan is unique in that representatives of the Shoshoni-Paiute tribes were included in all stages of the development of the document. This was facilitated through the "Wings and Roots" Foundation Tribal consultation program. In April 2001, participants in the ICRMP "Wings and Roots" process participated in a training workshop for National Guard personnel from across the United States. During the program Plew was honored with a *Certificate of Appreciation* from the Idaho Military Division for his efforts in facilitating tribal consultation.

Plew Named 2001 University Foundation Scholar in Research

Dr. Plew was recognized as the 2001 University Foundation Scholar in Research. As the university's most distinguished research award, the Foundation Scholars program honors individuals who have excelled in areas of research and creative activity. Dr. Plew has conducted 185 archaeological and ethnographic projects throughout the United States, in

Australia and in South America where he has worked in Brazil and Guyana. His research has been supported by receipt of 140 grants and contracts totaling nearly \$1,000,000.00. He has published 118 technical reports and 145 books, monographs and journal articles.

McCarl Conducts Sabbatical Leave Research

Robert McCarl used his spring 2001 sabbatical to work on a number of important research projects. One of the primary projects completed during his sabbatical was editing of a volume of essays on Latinos in Idaho for the Idaho Humanities Council. Entitled *Latinos in Idaho: Celebrante de Cultura*, the work contains essays by Erassom Gamoa, Alicia Maria Garza, Norma Cantu, Errol Jones and Kathy Rubinow Hodges, Jody Ochoa, Terri Schorzmann and Maria Carmen Gambliel, as well as by Robert McCarl and Eva Castellanoz. The volume is part of the National Endowment for the Humanities Community Outreach Project and was conducted with the cooperation of the Hispanic Cultural Center of Idaho and the Idaho Commission on the Arts. The publication is scheduled for early 2002. McCarl also reviewed materials for the Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, edited a volume entitled *Lessons of Work: Contemporary Research in Occupational Culture* (currently under review by the University of Illinois Press), and is completing a manuscript based on more than twenty years of fieldwork in occupational culture entitled *Work/Identity/Community: Cultural Research as Community Action*.

Professor Cox Assists with Hewlett-Packard World Showcase Display on Japan

Virginia Cox, assisted by students Stephanie Lyle and Dean Staack, researched and developed displays on Japanese history, geography, landscapes and religions for the HP World Showcase on Japan during the 2001 Boise River Festival. An estimated 30,000 persons visited the event during the festival. The effort was an extension of Professor Cox's participation in the HP Showcase on Canada in 2000.

Archaeology Field School Investigates Site Near King Hill

The Boise State University 2001 Archaeology Field School was conducted at a Late Archaic site near King Hill, Idaho. The site, which is situated on property owned by Harry Knox and Pam Swenson, was the location of the 2000 field school and provided important insights regarding manufacture of basalt tools, varied resource use and multiple uses of large stone-lined fire pits. BSU students were joined by students from the University of Idaho, Idaho State University and the National Trust of Guyana in the six-week program, which ran between May 21 and June 29. Students included Andrea Green, Shane Wilson, Adam Hult, Ashley Konoske, Wayne Crans, Susan Hunt, Jan Coles, Lisa Pieper, Tanya Johnson, Cameron Hogin and Tamika Boatswain. Field Assistants included Richard Benedict and Cameron Hogin. Dr. Plew was assisted by the school's project director, Pamela Huter, University of Wyoming. A summary of the excavations

will be completed by spring 2002. The investigation will provide the data for Huter's Masters Thesis at the University of Wyoming.

Dr. Betty J. Meggers 2001 Distinguished Lecturer

The Department's 2001 Distinguished Lecture was presented by Dr. Betty J. Meggers on 19 April 2001. Dr. Meggers' lecture entitled "Reconstructing Prehistoric Cultural Adaptation in Amazonia" presented an overview of her research and its implications for current research in the Amazon.

Dr. Virginia Cox continues in her leadership role as Director of Canadian Studies. She has substantially broadened the number of Canadian Studies workshops offered by the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs.

Dr. Robert McCarl continues to digitalize the Duck Valley "pakkiata" project and complete the archive of materials for the Shoshoni-Paiute Tribes. He presented papers at the Northwest Meetings and at the American Folklore Society Meeting.

Dr. Mark Plew was selected to represent Boise State University in the Canadian Consulates Summer 2001 Alberta Institute. The Institute, which included 10 faculty representing universities across the northwest, was designed to increase an understanding and appreciation of the natural and cultural heritage of Alberta.

Dr. Virginia Cox and Dr. Kendall House have developed ANTH 102, Cultural Anthropology, as an online course for Spring 2002.

Dr. Max Pavesic resigned effective 1 July 2001. Pavesic had taught anthropology at Boise State for 28 years.

2001-2002 Departmental Lectures

Elizabeth Cartwright, "Binational Ethnographic Research on Farm Workers Living in American Falls and Aberdeen, Idaho and their Home Communities in Guanajuato, Mexico" October 18, 2001.

Kenneth Reid, "Plateau Archaeology" is slated for November, 2001.

James Loucky, "Globalization: Border Issues in Canada and the U.S." is slated for April, 2002.

Anthropology Club

The officers for the 2001-2002 year are:

Richard Benedict--President
Sunshine Magee--Vice President
Tara Wisher--Secretary
Bill Christensen--Treasurer

Dean's List Spring 2001

The following students made the College Dean's List for Spring 2001: Joni Bartlett, Brian Glassic, Sunshine Magee, DeAnna Ball, Molly Garner, Niki Gorrell, Brenda Mann, Christa Thiel, Tricia Webb, Tara Wisher, Danielle Graveley, Anthony Hadley, Robert L. Hood, Kristen Mercer.

2001-2002 Scholarships

Christopher Carlson, Nichole McDonald, Josi Keys, and Sally Jo Deweese received departmental scholarships. Kristen Mercer received the Roderick Sprague Archaeology Award and Isla Stevenson the Liljeblad Cultural Anthropology Award. The Native American Scholarship was awarded to Sharon McGrath. Sunshine Magee received the Single Parent Scholarship from the Dean's Office, College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs.

Recent Graduates (2001)

Clyde Bradburn, Brian Glassic, Danielle Graveley, Tammy Gray, Jennifer Haijro, Jennifer Hopkins, Kristen Mercer, Isla Stevenson, Taya Sundell and Christa Thiel, Trish Webb and William White.

Student News

Members of the Anthropology Club taught a Boise Community Education course on "Idaho Archaeology" in Fall 2000.

Kristen Mercer (B.A. '01) and Taya Sundell (B.A.'01) participated in the archaeological survey of the West Flank of the Kanuku Mountains, Guyana. Sundell co-authored with Mark Plew "Archaeological Occurrence of Bison on the Snake River Plain" in *North American Archaeologist*.

John Kennedy is serving as a cultural resources intern with the U.S. Air Force, Mountain Home Air Force Base.

Richard Benedict served as a field assistant for the 2001 Boise State University Field School and is working as a Laboratory Supervisor in the Archaeology Lab.

Isla Stevenson (B.A. '01) has accepted an archeological position with AMICK in Boise.

Brian Glassic (B.A. '01) is teaching English in Japan beginning Fall 2001.

Stephanie Lyle assisted Dr. Virginia Cox in researching and preparing displays on Japanese history geography and religion for the Hewlett-Packard World Showcase on Japan.

See web page updates at: www.anthro.boisestate.edu

Alumni News

Tommi White (B.A. '98) received her M.A. from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. **Jake Fruhlinger** (B.A. '98) is in the graduate program at the University of Idaho and is conducting an experimental use-wear analysis of lithic assemblages from southwestern Idaho. **Robert Graff** (B.A. '97) was recently passed to Ph.D. candidacy at Southern Methodist University. His research focus is in medical anthropology. **Jody Young** (B.A. '97) received her graduate degree from the Department of Institutional & Performance Technology at Boise State and is employed by Hewlett-Packard. **Kim Stout** (B.A. '00) received an assistantship in the Department of Institutional and Performance Technology at Boise State. **Wendy Nelson** (B.A. '90) completed her Ph.D. at the University of California, Davis.

Upcoming Meetings

October 19-20, 2001 Idaho Archaeological Society Meeting, Twin Falls, Idaho.

Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2001 59th Plains Anthropological Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 2001 American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

April 10-13, 2002 44th Annual Western Social Science Association Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico

April 10-13, 2002 Northwest Anthropological Conference, Boise, Idaho.