

FDGA Research Grant
AY 2014-2015
May 31st –June 30th

Anna Blume

American Indian Engineering and Monumental Architecture in the Mississippi River Valley
Phase One: Wisconsin, Illinois, Louisiana and Indiana

Report

During this first month of research along the Mississippi I have been able to visit over three major archeological sites and several unmarked forest sites where American Indians have left traces of monumental architecture and earthworks. Being at these sites at different times of the early morning, day and evening has given me a profound sense of the importance of the landscape and the mighty presence and effect of the Mississippi River. Colleagues from many different disciplines have been exceedingly informative and helpful in guiding me to obscure sites I would not otherwise have known about. These travels - from the monumental pyramids of Cahokia, Illinois to the massive earthworks at Poverty Point, Louisiana - have astounded me in regards the scale and magnificence of American Indian architecture along the lower Mississippi. During the last days of this Phase One of my travels and studies I have begun to look at bannerstones. American Indians as early as 5,000 BC pecked and carved and ground these stones into exceptional abstract forms. They placed these on their atlatls or spear-throwers. My meeting in Indiana with Dave Lutz, the foremost expert on bannerstones, has lead me to believe that these archaic forms will be extremely important to my understanding of the larger earthworks I will continue to visit, reflect upon and begin to write about in Phase Two of my project.

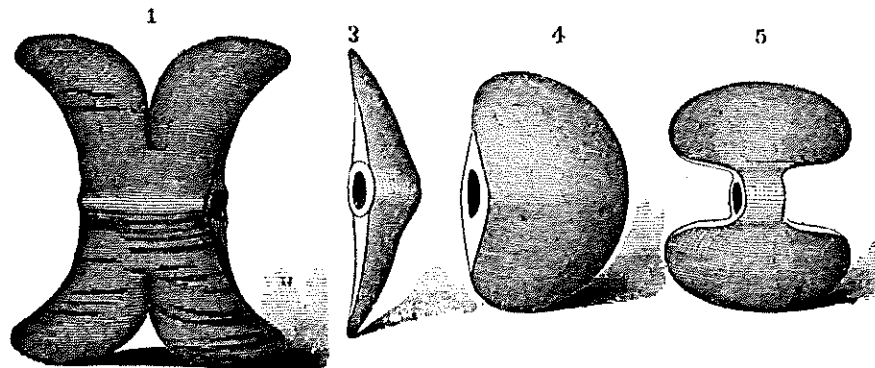


FIG. 114.

Squier and Davis Engraving of Bannerstones, 19th Century

Anna Blume Phase One Itinerary and Expense Report, 2015
 Archival Research at the University of Wisconsin Madison
 Memorial, College and Art Library, Wisconsin Historical Society
 Monument Site Visits

6/5	<i>Observatory Hill, Wisconsin</i> Still images of bird and anomalous mounds
6/6,8	<i>Governor Nelson Park, Wisconsin</i> Still and Video images of conical and panther mounds
6/10	<i>Aztalan, Wisconsin 6/10</i> Met with archeologists Sissel Schroeder (UWM) and Lynne Goldstein (MSU) Still images and video <i>Lake Koshkonong Effigy Mounds, Jefferson County Wisconsin</i> Still images of mounds and lake <i>Intaglio Effigy, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin</i> Still images
6/16,17	<i>Cahokia, Illinois</i> <i>Indian Knoll, Indiana</i>
6/18,19,20	<i>Poverty Point, Louisiana 6/18-6/21</i> Met with photographer Jenny
6/21	<i>Newburg, Indiana</i> Met with Bannerstone specialist David Lutz
6/22-6/30	Research in the Wisconsin Historical Society

RECEIPTS

1. Delta Flight Res.# F65J33	5/31	233.10
2. Car Service to the Airport	5/31	40.00
3. Delta Flight Baggage (research materials)	5/31	60.00

Hotel Receipts

4. Drury Hotel Cahokia, Illinois	6/16,17	271.18
5. Black Bear Delhi, Louisiana	6/18-20	362.61
6. Hilton Evansville Indiana	6/21	125.35

Travel by Car (57.5 cents per mile)

Madison, Wisconsin to Cahokia, Illinois	351 Miles
Cahokia, Illinois to Delhi, Louisiana	520 Miles
Delhi, Louisiana to Newburgh, Indiana	578 Miles
Newburgh Indian to Madison, Wisconsin	<u>443 Miles</u>
Total	1,314 Miles

1,314 miles X .57 (per mile)	<u>748.98</u>
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Total Expenses Submitted for Phase I	<u>\$1,841.22</u>
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