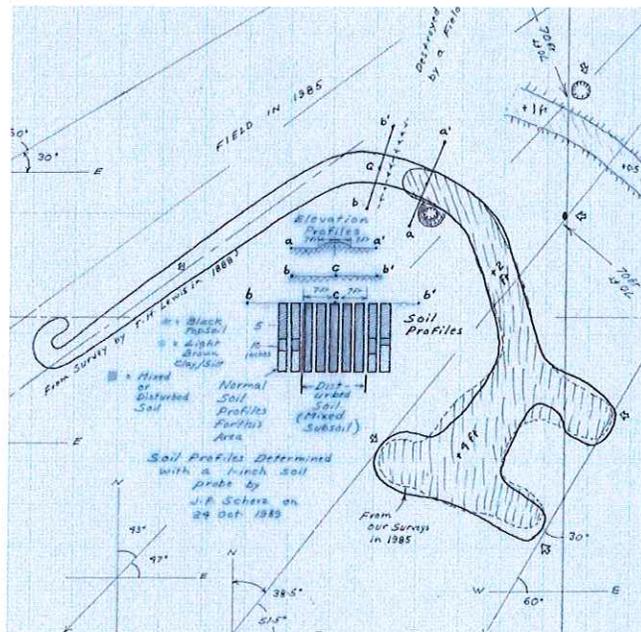


FDGA Research Grant
FY 2015-2016
July 1st- August 16th, 2015
Anna Blume

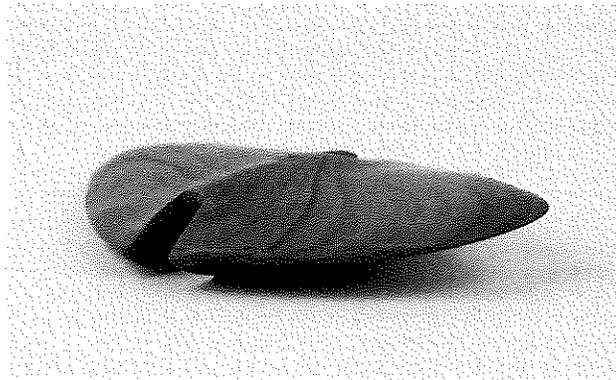
American Indian Engineering and Monumental Architecture in the Mississippi River Valley
Part Two: Wisconsin and Iowa
Report

During the last six weeks of the summer I studied and collected images of maps and land surveys of the mounds around Lake Mendota, especially those of the Mendota State Hospital site. I was able to meet with Professor James Scherz and to discuss with him his surveying methods dating back to the 1980's. We looked at several of Theodore Lewis's late 19th century calculations together to determine the size of the effigy mounds at the site. Amy Rosenbough, State Archeologist at the Wisconsin Historical Society, gave me access to copies of Lewis's unpublished surveys that opened up an entirely new way of looking at and experiencing these earthworks. I was also able to return to and photograph the Borchers Beach mound site that is all but consumed by the summer forest. This site has proven to be additionally important because of the trace of garden beds that reflect another treatment of the land parallel to mound-building. Given what I am able to see of the mounds today in relation to historical and cartographic material, I will continue to focus on the Mendota State Hospital and Borchers Beach sites along Lake Mendota. These two sites, along with Poverty Point Louisiana and Serpent Mound Ohio will be very important to my study of monumental American Indian Earth works in the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys In addition to the essay I will write on the effigy mounds I have been invited to return to the University of Wisconsin Arboretum to give a lecture on the mounds in October, 2015. I very much look forward to this opportunity to discuss with my colleagues here in Madison my thoughts and ideas. I also look forward to this lecture as an opportunity to give something back to the community and the landscape itself, both of which have been immensely generous to me of these past ten weeks.



James Scherz detail of Zoomorph body 87': tail: 295' (1000 AD) Lake Mendota, Madison Wi., 1985

Throughout the past month I have also been able to study collections of bannerstones at the Logan Museum in Beloit, the Milwaukee Public Museum, and the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison. These stone carvings, made between 6,000 BC – 1,000 BC are amongst the most expressive, aesthetically complex objects made by American Indians found in the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys. During my many hours with these objects I began to experiment with ways to photograph them to help reveal and communicate their unique shapes and forms especially in regards to the natural, complex striations in the stone. I have been amazed at how little has been written about these stone carvings and have begun to consider a future in-depth study of them. This ten-week period of travel and research regarding effigy mounds and bannerstones has been fruitful beyond my expectations.



Double Notched Butterfly Bannerstone 5000 BC, Logan Museum Collection Beloit, Wisconsin

Anna Blume Part Two Itineraries and Expense Report, 2015

Archival Research at the University of Wisconsin Madison

Memorial, Robinson Map, Geology and Art Library, Wisconsin Historical Society

Focus - Woodland Mounds Around Lake Mendota, Wisconsin

Observatory Hill bird, a zoomorph

Willow Drive conicals, zoomorphs

Eagle Heights conical, linears

Governor Nelson Park conicals, a zoomorph

Farwell's Point conicals, zoomorphs

Mendota State Hospital Group conicals, birds, zoomorphs

Heim Mound, zoomorph

Mounds along the Upper Mississippi

Wyalusing Park, Wisconsin

Effigy Mounds, Iowa

Meetings with Colleagues

7/7 Professor Sissel Schoeder UW/ Madison Skare Site Visit

7/8 Professor Robert Birmingham

7/14 Adam Mandelman, Department of Geography UW Madison
 7/16 Professor Sissel Schoeder at Skare Archaic Archeological Site, WI
 7/21 Amy Rosebrough, Wisconsin State Archeologist, WHS
 (Theodore Lewis Surveys of Mounds)
 7/22 Professor James Scherz, UW Engineer (surveys of Lake Mendota Sites)
 7/29 Molly Fifield-Murray, UW Arboretum

Museum Bannerstone Collections

7/9 and 7/30 Logan Museum, Beloit College (Nicolette Meister, Curator)
 7/17 Wisconsin Historical Society (Denise Wiggins, Curator)
 7/20 Art Institute of Chicago Museum, (Richard Townsend, Curator)
 7/22 Geology Museum and Library UW (Toby Lathrop)
 7/27 Milwaukee Public Museum (Dawn Thomae Scher, Curator)

Archives and Special Collections

Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison Wisconsin
 Robinson Map Collection, Madison Wisconsin

RECEIPTS

1. Chicago, Illinois	Westin Hotel	7/19,20	148.04
2. Americinn, Prairie Du Chien, WI		8/3	167.13
3. Wisconsin Historical Society Image Scans		8/5	135.00
4. Wisconsin Historical Society Image Scans		8/5	202.50
5. USPS shipment of boxes to NYC		8/15	70.69
6. Delta Flight Res.# F65J33		8/16	233.10

Travel by Car (.57 cents per mile) [See Maps Attached for Mileage and Route]

Madison, Wisconsin to Beloit, Wisconsin	108 Miles r/t
7/9	
Madison, Wisconsin to Chicago, Illinois	294 Miles r/t
7/19,20	
Madison, Wisconsin to Milwaukee WI	158 Miles r/t
7/27	
Madison, Wisconsin to Beloit, Wisconsin	108 Miles r/t
7/30	
Madison, Wisconsin to Effigy Mounds, Iowa	218 Miles r/t
8/2,3	

Total Miles	<u>884 Miles</u>
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XXX miles X .57 (per mile)	884X.57 =	503.88
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Total Expenses Submitted for Phase II	\$1460.34
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