Archaeological Society of Alberta, 38th Annual Conference, Medicine Hat

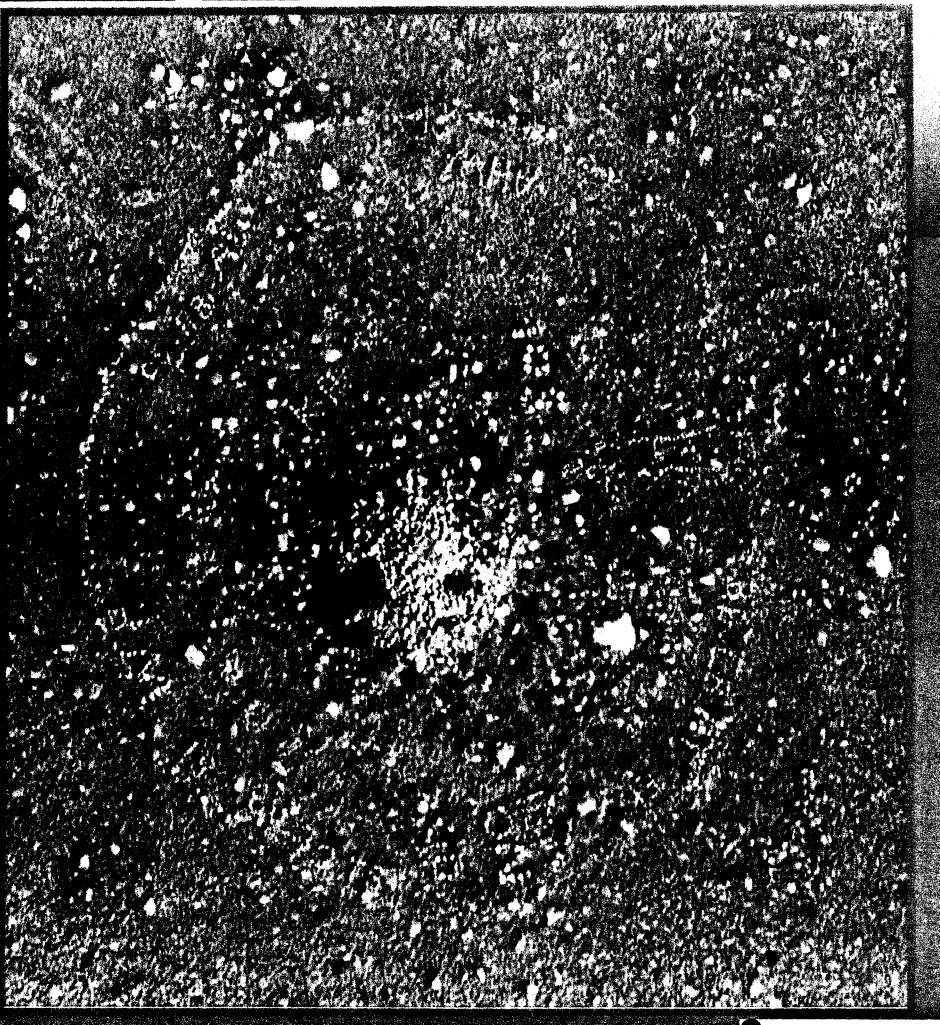
Field Trip, May 12, 2013

Canadian Forces Base Suffield Medicine Wheels:

British Block

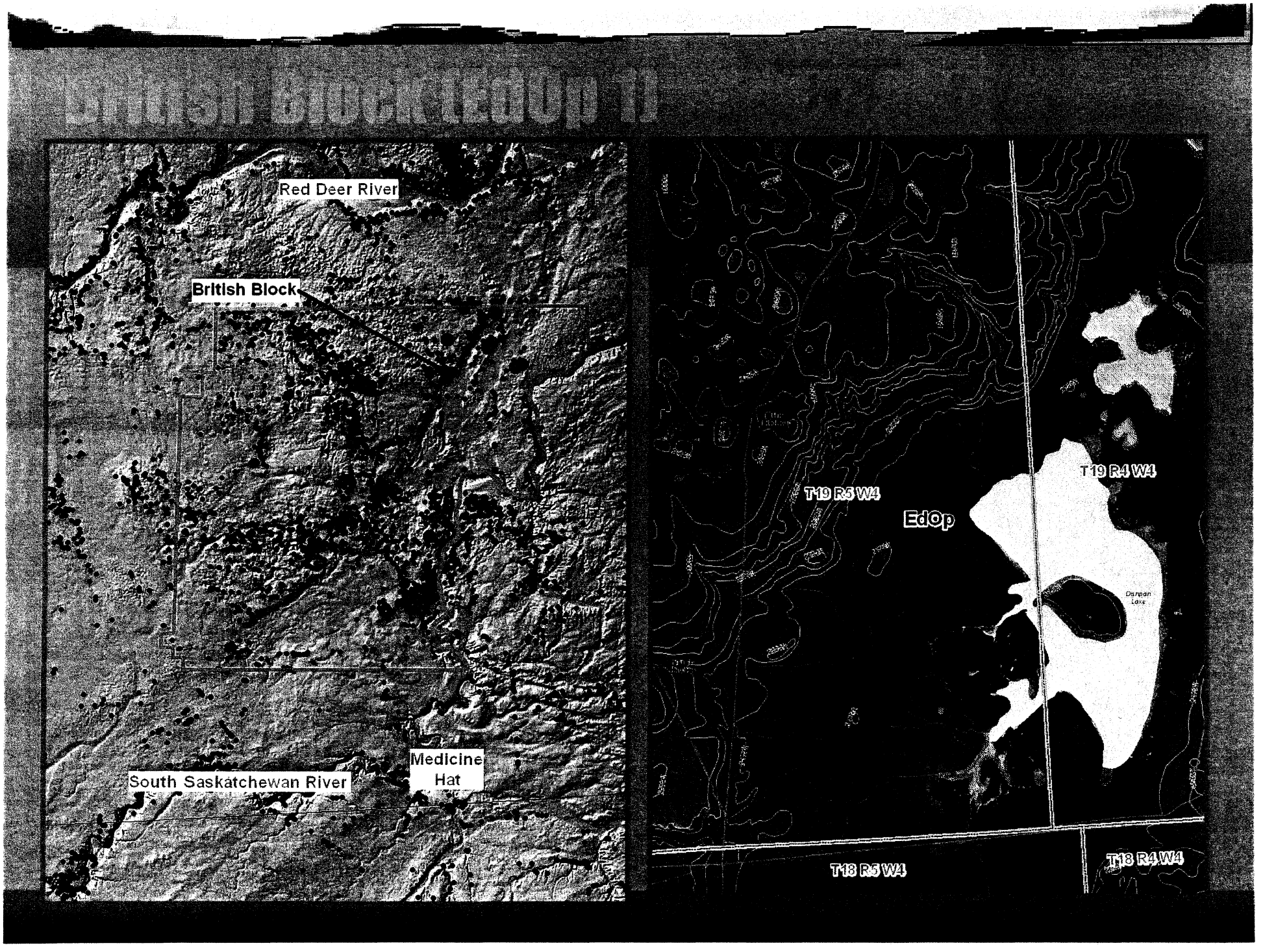
Dark Horse

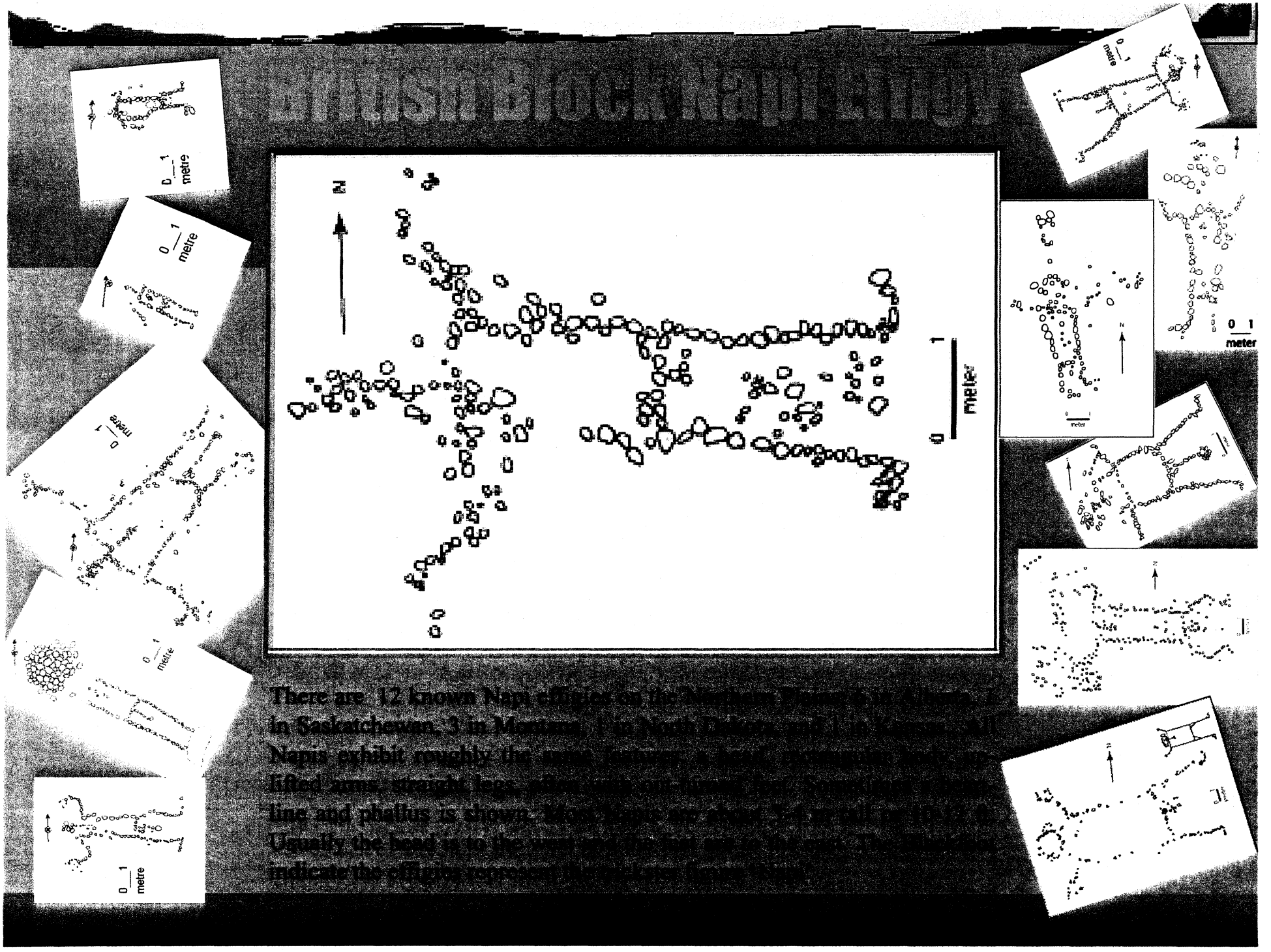
Lone Antelope



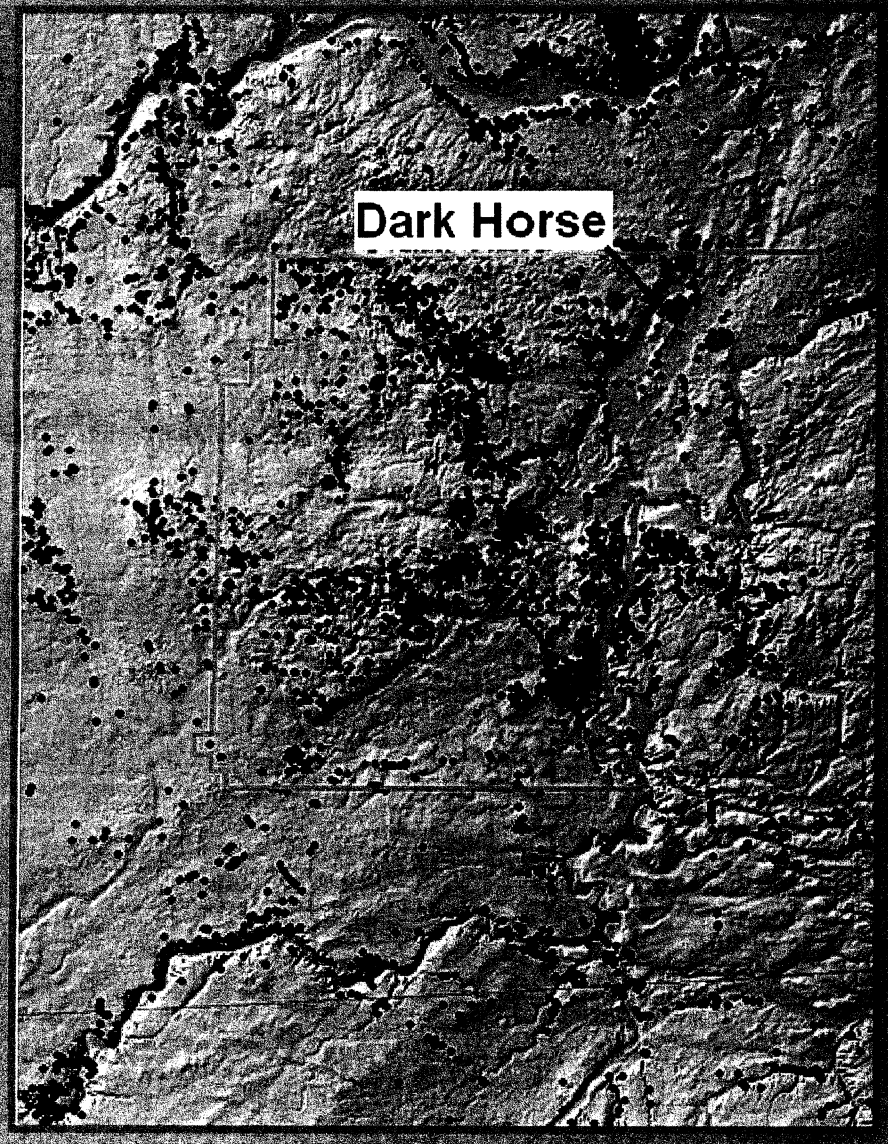
Government of Alberta

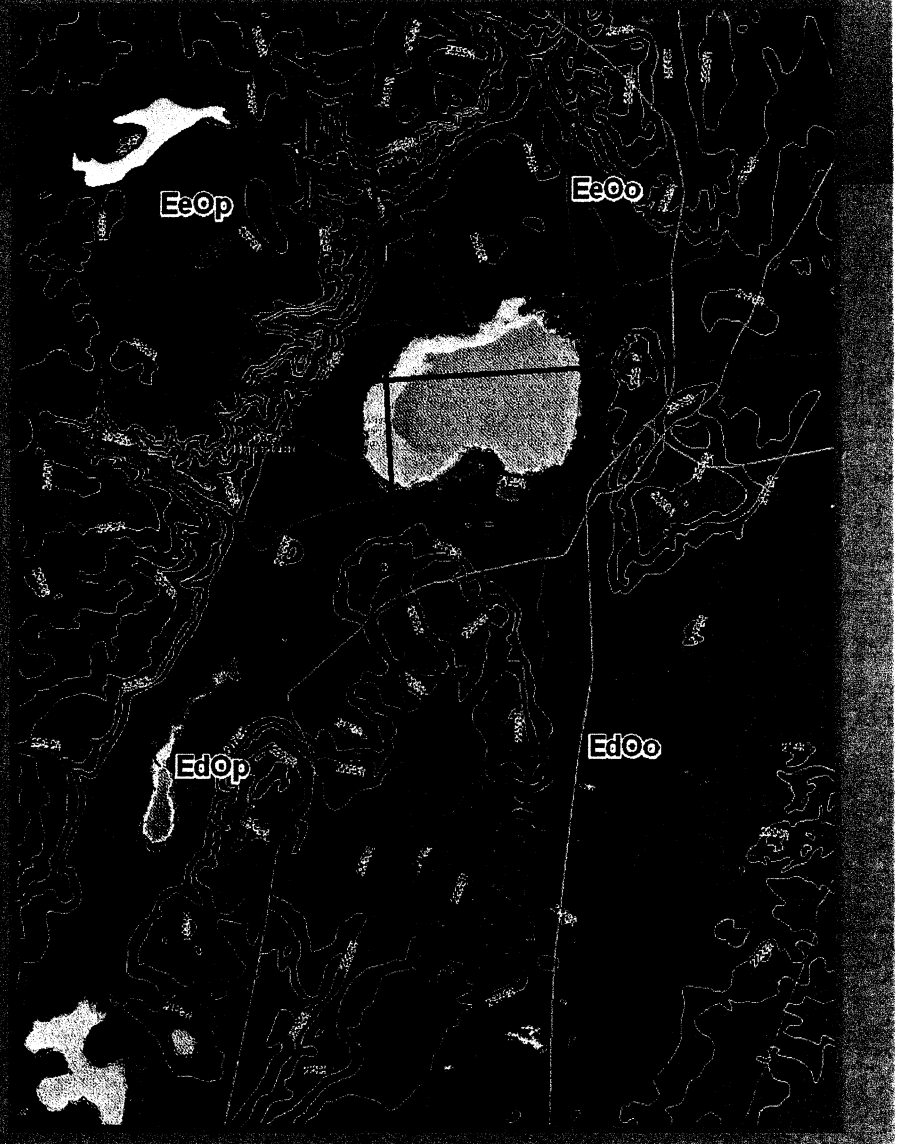
Culture

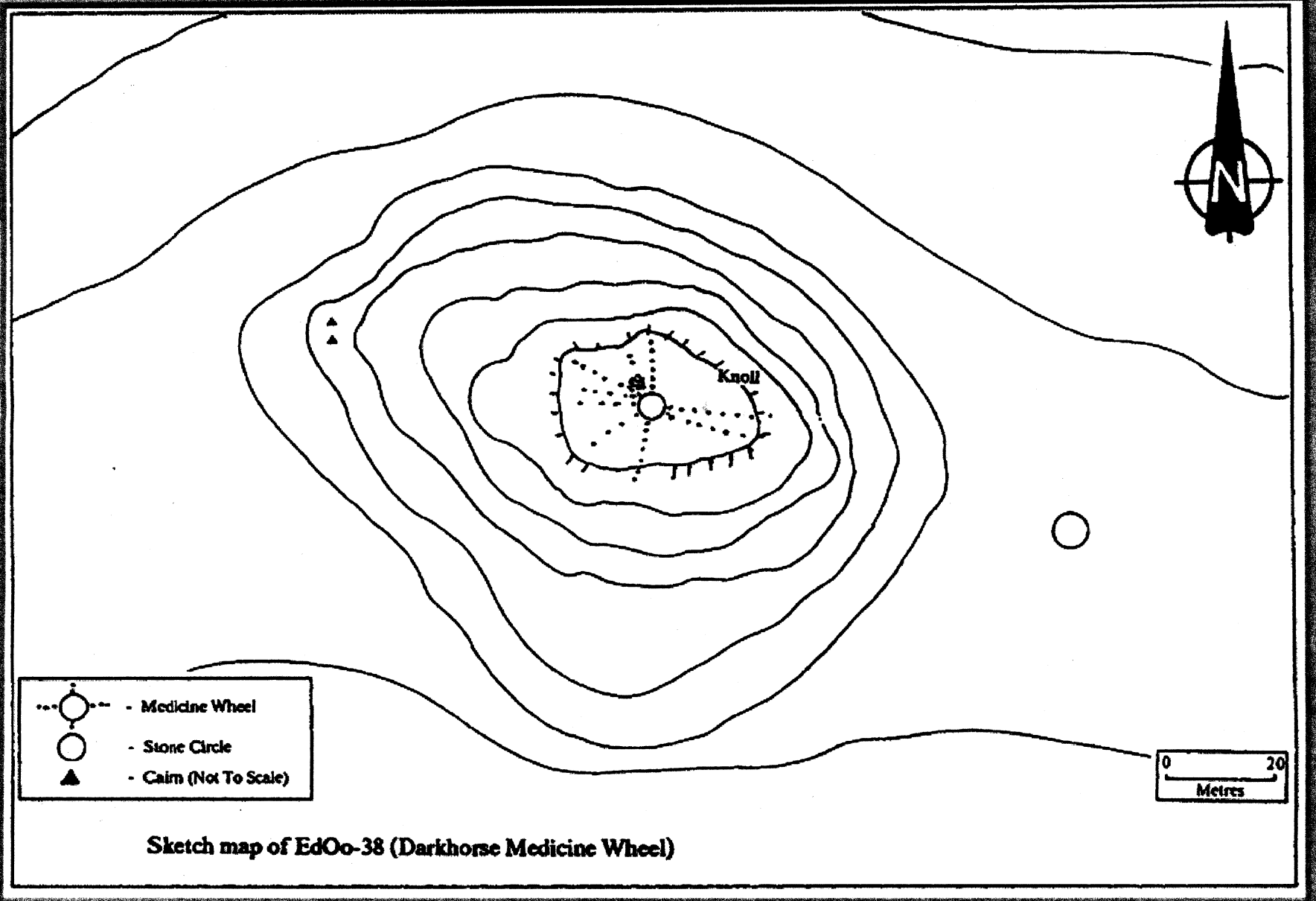

Red Deer River
British Block
Medicine Hat
South Saskatchewan River
T19 R5 W4
EdOp
T19 R4 W4
Dunman Lake
T18 R5 W4
T18 R4 W4



There are 12 known Napi effigies on the Northern Plains, 8 in Alberta, 1 in Saskatchewan, 3 in Montana, 1 in North Dakota and 1 in Wyoming. All Napis exhibit roughly the same features: a head, outstretched arms, upraised arms, straight legs, often with outstretched fingers and toes, a penis line and phallus is shown. Most Napis are about 2 m tall. Usually the head is to the east and the feet to the west. The arrows indicate the effigies represent the setting sun.

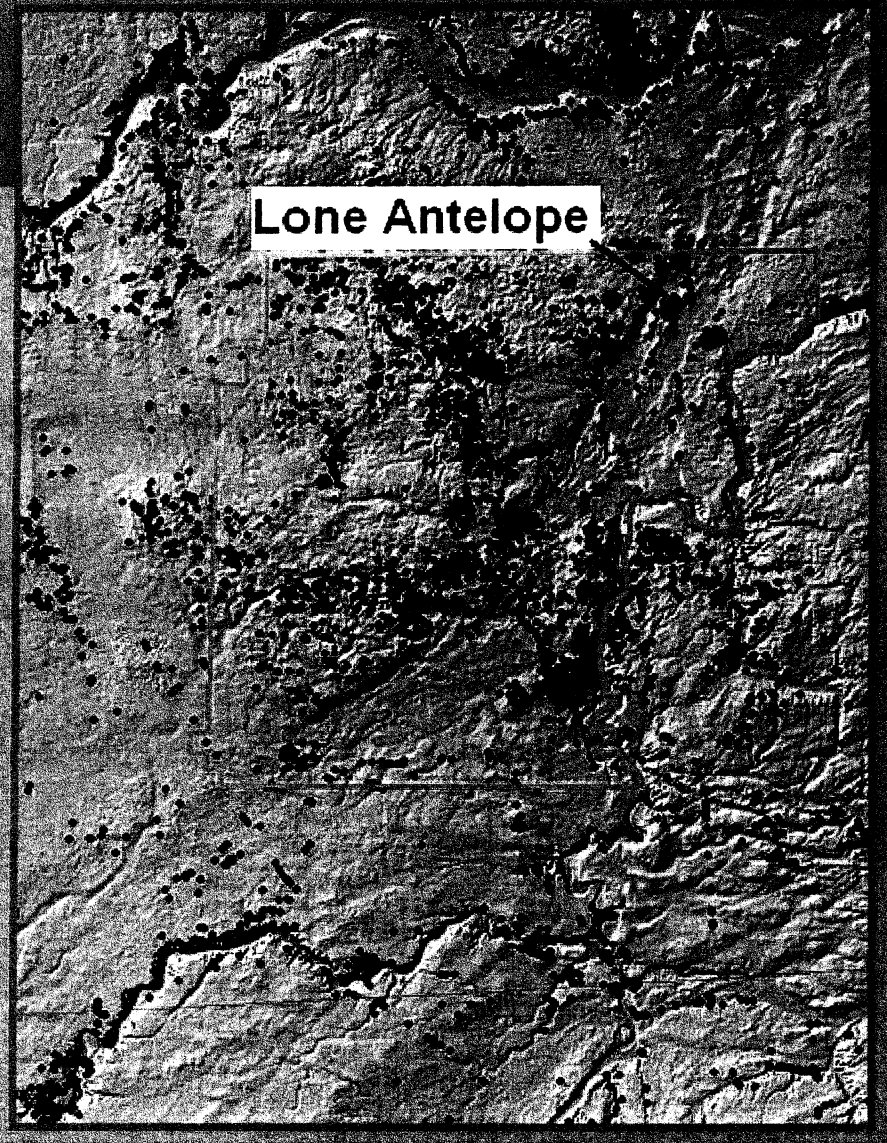

Dark Horse

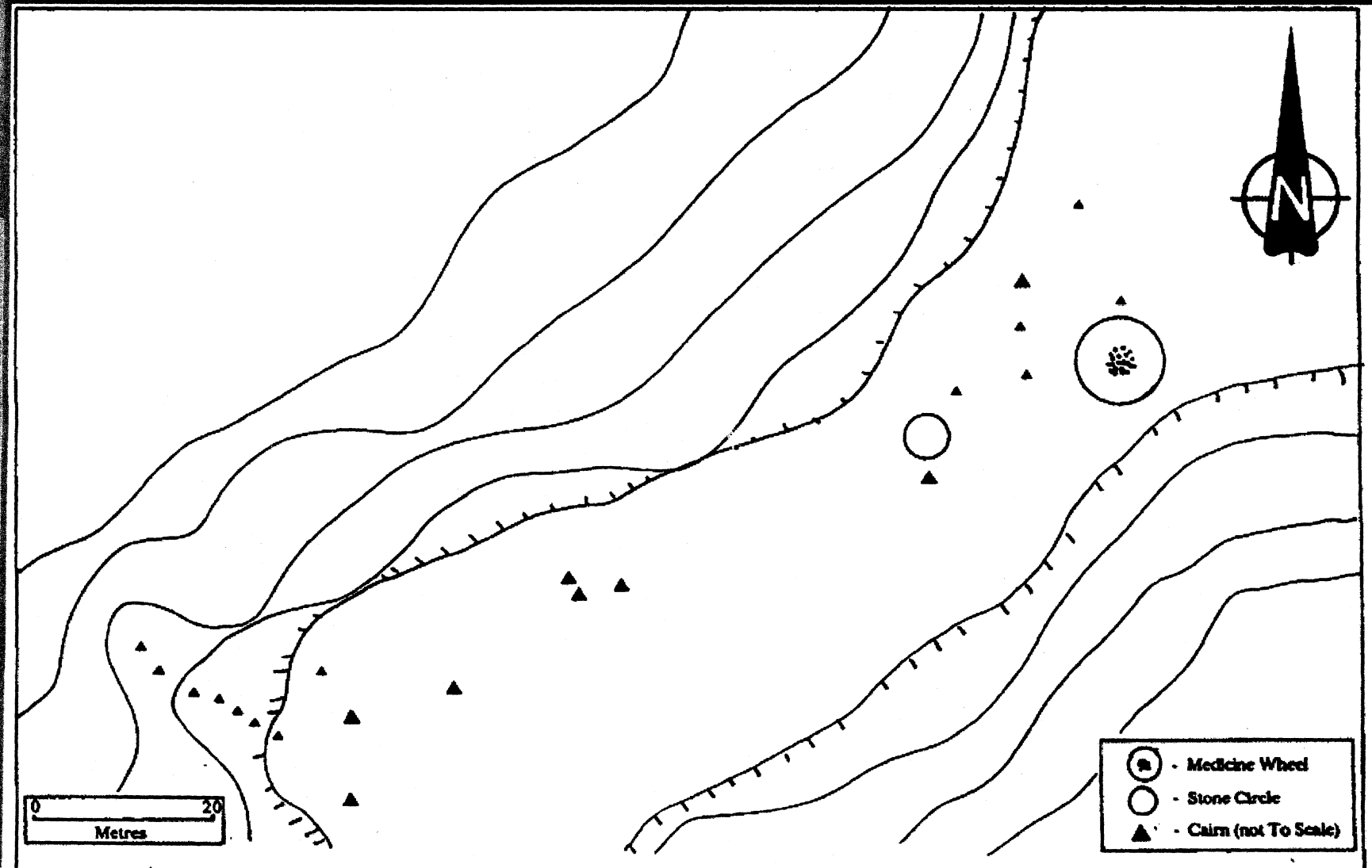

EeOp
EeOo
EdOp
EdOo



Sketch map of EdOo-38 (Darkhorse Medicine Wheel)

Lone Antelope (1100 391)





Sketch map of EdOo-39 (Lone Antelope Site)

PRELIMINARY CALL FOR PAPERS

The 36th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Society of Alberta will be held May 2011 in Edmonton. We are now accepting abstracts for presentations or posters.

All topics relating to the heritage, archaeology, and history of Alberta or Canada are welcomed. Proposed sessions include:

- A session in honour of Rod Vickers, retired Plains Archaeologist for the Province of Alberta. Suitable topics would include stone features, plains cultural history, and migration of cultural groups.
- Site reports from recently discovered or excavated sites. We particularly wish to encourage presentations from the consulting community of interesting new sites documented in the course of CRM projects.
- Papers and posters from undergraduate students and avocational archaeologists. In keeping with the ASA's mandate, we wish to encourage active participation by the public.

Please contact Kurtis Blaikie-Birkigt at ASAconference2011@gmail.com to submit an abstract or proposal. Visit www.arkyalberta.com for further information on the society.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

2011 Conference and Annual General Meeting

May 13 to 15, 2011

Program & Abstracts

hosted by the Strathcona Archaeological Society at Fort Edmonton

General Information

Welcome to the 36th Annual Archaeological Society of Alberta Conference and Annual General Meeting

The 2011 ASA meetings and conference are hosted by the Strathcona Archaeological Society, which is the Capital Region Centre of the Archaeological Society of Alberta. The conference events occur May 13th to 15th, 2011.

Locations

The Friday evening reception and registration are being held at historic Rutherford House on the University of Alberta Campus, 11153 Saskatchewan Drive. Parking is available at meters on Saskatchewan Drive, or in Parking Lot U East of HUB Mall.

The conference and banquet are being held in Reed's Bazaar at Fort Edmonton Park, Edmonton, Alberta. All events on Saturday May 14th are at this location.

The East Central Alberta Historic Site Driving tour, led by Dr. Heinz Pyszczyk, will depart from the Royal Alberta Museum main parking lot, 12845-102nd Avenue, Edmonton, AB.

Registration

Registration is required to attend conference events. On-site registration is available at the Friday evening reception and at the Saturday conference sessions from 8:15 AM to Noon.

Exhibits

Exhibits at the conference will include a submitted poster presentation, book table and silent auction.

Acknowledgements

The 2011 ASA conference would not have occurred without the efforts of the members of the Strathcona Archaeological Society. Many volunteers have contributed to the conference, but members of the SAS executive conference committee, including President George Chalut, Vice President Angela Green, Secretary Kathy Gadd and Kurtis Blaikie-Birkigt, deserve particular recognition. Dr. Heinz Pyszczyk also deserves particular thanks for guiding the 2011 field trip.

Generous contributions to the conference have been made by:

- Arrow Archaeology Limited
- Beta Analytic Limited
- Bison Historical Services Ltd.
- Bodo Archaeological Society
- Circle CRM Group Inc.
- Golder Associates
- Historic Places Stewardship Section, Historic Resources Management Branch
- Provincial Archives of Alberta
- Provincial Museums and Historic Sites
- TERA Environmental Consultants
- Treetime Services Inc.
- Western Heritage

Event Schedule

Friday May 13th, 2011

Reception and Registration

19:00 to 21:00 at Rutherford House on the University of Alberta Campus

11153 Saskatchewan Drive

Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2S1

Parking at meters on Saskatchewan Drive or in Parking Lot U east of HUB mall

Saturday May 14th, 2011

2011 Archaeological Society of Alberta Conference and Annual General Meeting

All events at Reed's Bazaar on 1905 Street in Fort Edmonton Park

- 8:30 Registration & Paper Sessions: Current Research in Alberta Archaeology
- 11:30 Lunch and Poster Session
- 12:30 Archaeological Society of Alberta 36th Annual General Meeting
- 13:30 Paper Sessions: Papers in Honour of Rod Vickers
- 18:00 Pre-Banquet Reception
- 18:30 36th Anuual ASA Banquet

  Keynote Speaker: Dr. William J. Byrne, former Director of the Archaeological Survey of Alberta and former Assistant Deputy Minister and Deputy Minister of Alberta Culture. **"Reflections On My Life In Archaeology"**

Sunday May 15th, 2011

Capital Region Archaeological Field Trip

Departure: Royal Alberta Museum, main public parking lot. 9 A.M.

Tour Leader: Dr. Heinz Pyszczyk, Parkland Archaeologist, Government of Alberta.

Lunch: Bring food and water with you. We will have our lunch at Ft. Victoria. They will serve us oatcakes and tea but no other food is available at the site and you should bring a lunch with you.

Tour Destination Points (in order of tour):

1. HBC/NWC Forts Edmonton /Augustus sites;
2. HBC Fort Victoria/Victoria Mission/Pakan;
3. The Viking Ribstones;
4. The Original Location of the Iron Creek Meteorite site(s), if time permits.
5. Hardisty Buffalo Pound Site Complex, if time permits.

Sessions

Archaeological Activities at the University of Alberta 2010-2011

8:30 **Archaeological Activities at the University of Alberta, 2010-2011**; John W. (Jack) Ives, Executive Director, Institute of Prairie Archaeology

8:50 **Identification of a Palaeoindian Occupation in Compressed Stratigraphy: A Case Study From Ahai Mneh (FiPp-33)**; Matt Rawluk, Aileen Reilly, Peter Stewart & Gabriel Yanicki

9:10 **Early Prehistoric Sites in Alberta and How They Relate to Ahai Mneh (FiPp-33)**; Jo-anne Schenk and Gabriel Yanicki

9:30 **Interferometry as an Objective Measure of Heat Treatment in Swan River Chert**; Peter Stewart

9:50 **Seeing Through Walls: XRD Testing on Chihuahuan Ceramics and its Application on the Plains**; Pauline de Grandpre

Coffee Break 10:15 to 10:45

Public Archaeology

10:45 **Medalta Pottery Factory: Uncovering the Historic Kiln Room, Medicine Hat, Alberta**; Talva Jacobson, Medalta Potteries National Historic Site

11:05: **The Glenbow Town and Quarry A Hundred Years On**; Brian Vivian, Lifeways of Canada Limited

Poster Session & Lunch 11:30 to 12:30

- **Twenty-Five Years In A Two-By-Two: Archaeology and Palaeoecology at the Fletcher Site (DjOw-1) In Southern Alberta;** Alwynne Beaudoin, Royal Alberta Museum
- **The Quarry of the Ancestors**; Janet Blakey, Barney Reeves, and Christy de Mille, Lifeways of Canada Limited
- **Artificial Cranial Modification Among First Nation's Populations of British Columbia**; Stephanie Halmhofer and Amanda Maharaj, University of Alberta
- **Identification of a Palaeoindian Occupation in Compressed Stratigraphy: A Case Study From Ahai Mneh (FiPp-33)**; Matthew Rawluk & Aieleen Reilly, University of Alberta
- **Sexing of Bison bison Metapodials from the Muhlbach Site (FbPf- 1) and Implications for Seasonality**; Sara Tiegen and Rene Studer-Halbach, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

Annual General Meeting 12:30 to 1:30

Papers in Honour of Rod Vickers

1:30 **Introduction**; Jack Brink, Royal Alberta Museum

1:40 **Ronaghan's Ridge: Raw Material, Radiocarbon date and Righteous Results**; Laura Roskowski and Morgan Netzel, Stantec Consulting

2:00 **Excavations at the Hardisty Bison Pound**; Matthew Moors, Stantec

2:20 **The More Things Stay the Same, the More They Change: Life at EgPn 442**; Dale Elizabeth Boland, Stantec Consulting

2:40 **Coffee Break**

3:00 **The Antelope Hill Tipi Ring Site**; Alison Landals, Stantec

3:20 **The Old Man Giveth, the Oldman Taketh Away**; Gabriel M. Yanicki, University of Alberta

3:40 **Disappearing Dreams at the Zephyr Creek Rock Art Site**; Jack Brink, Royal Alberta Museum

4:00 **"Assembling" the Paleoindian Assemblage at the Peace River Crossroads**; John W. (Jack) Ives, Executive Director, Institute of Prairie Archaeology

Abstracts

Beaudoin, Alwynne B., Royal Alberta Museum

Twenty-Five Years in a Two-By-Two: Archaeology and Palaeoecology at the Fletcher Site (DjOw-1) in Southern Alberta

The Fletcher Site (DjOw-1) is situated on the Northern Great Plains (NGP) in southern Alberta. Originally excavated and published by R. G. Forbis in the 1960s, it has long been one of the best-known Paleoindian sites from this region. New excavations in the late 1980s by staff from the Archaeological Survey of Alberta, under the capable direction of J. R. Vickers, resulted in the collection of over 200 clay-rich matrix samples from the Cody-complex levels at ca. 220-270 BD. Bison remains are abundant in this clay layer which is overlain by predominantly sandy sediment. Fine-fraction analysis of the matrix samples has been on-going through the last (almost) 25 years, but is now complete. The matrix has yielded remains of seeds, plant fragments, molluscs, bird's egg-shell, insects, ostracodes and mammals. With more than 33,000 seeds and 79,000 mollusc remains identified, this is arguably the most intensively sampled and exhaustively (and exhaustedly) investigated matrix from a two-by-two excavation unit in the history of Alberta archaeology. The material from the Cody-complex level provides a detailed picture of the flora and fauna in and around a prairie lake about 9,300 years ago. The seeds are predominantly from wetland and aquatic plants and indicate perennial, if slightly brackish, water, rather than a seasonal slough. Gradual lake drying is shown by the changing proportions of seeds from emergent and aquatic plants before transition to overlying sands. There is considerable variability in the macrofossil assemblages within the same level, between quadrants of the excavation unit, and between levels. This may reflect differing positional characteristics (e.g., distance from shore, water depth) as well as an indication of inherent sample variability, something that has hitherto been little explored in palaeoecology. The record from the Fletcher site and other macrofossil sites of similar age in southern Alberta suggest that the NGP probably had more permanent water sources in the early Holocene than at any time since. After these sites dried up, moisture inputs have not been sufficient, even in the wetter Little Ice Age, to allow such lakes to reform. The macrofossil record from the Fletcher Site therefore provides a snapshot of a critical interval in postglacial environmental history that is still not well known from the NGP. The fact that this record is available and has yielded so much quality information is a tribute to the meticulous excavation techniques and far-sighted sampling strategy implemented by Rod Vickers in his work at this site.

Blakey, Janet, Barney Reeves and Christy de Mille, Lifeways of Canada Limited

The Quarry of the Ancestors

In 2003 archaeologists discovered the Quarry of the Ancestors, a bedrock source of fine-grained toolstone used for the manufacture of stone tool artifacts in the Oilsands region. This toolstone is known as Muskeg Valley Microquartzite (also called Beaver River Sandstone). The identification of this ancient quarry and associated workshops/campsites, now collectively known as the Quarry of the Ancestors, is one of the most significant archaeological discoveries in Northern Alberta.

Boland, Dale Elizabeth, Stantec Consulting

The More Things Stay the Same, the More They Change: Life at EgPn 442

Recent investigations at a buried campsite on the outskirts of Calgary revealed cultural deposits stretching back at least to Hanna times and forward into the Proto-Contact period. Cultural materials typically associated with camping or processing area activities were recovered at depths consistent with two of these occupations and include evidence for bison procurement and processing. Deposits from the later component, indicative of a changing economy, include metal tools partly replacing stone and an exploitation of a wider variety of food and fur-bearing species. As Euro-Canadian influences were felt across the West, associated changes to local economies occurred but only in tandem with long-standing, established, cultural practices.

Brink, Jack, Royal Alberta Museum

Disappearing Dreams at the Zephyr Creek Rock Art Site

Pictographs at the Zephyr Creek site, west of Longview, have been known and written about for more than 60 years. The site has been thought to be a fairly typical example of Plateau style rock art, similar to sites recorded in the mountains and plateau regions of Alberta, Montana and British Columbia. However, discovery of a set of photographs of Zephyr Creek rock art taken in 1965 have forced a complete rethinking of this interpretation. The photo collection shows amazingly fresh-looking images, suggestive of having been painted extremely recently, perhaps only a few years before 1965. Clearly, rock art has been made very recently at Zephyr Creek, which in itself is a significant discovery. In addition, it seems likely that the paintings were done by local contemporary groups of Stony (Nakoda) people from the nearby Eden Valley reserve, and not by "Plateau" Native groups as previously suggested. Finally, photos of the images over time document extremely rapid fading of the images. This paper reviews the history of the Zephyr Creek site, presents the 1965 photographs and compares them with more recent images, and presents some new interpretations.

de Grandpre, Pauline, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

Seeing Through Walls: XRD Testing on Chihuahuan Ceramics and its Application on the Plains

To study the paste composition of ancient ceramics, archaeologists often employ traditional procedures such as thin sections, which are long, tedious, and not always feasible for large samples. The process of X-ray diffraction (XRD) is an analytical method commonly employed by geologists but its use in the archaeological study of pottery is now quickly being realized. X-ray diffraction can identify the complete mineralogical structure of a rock, soil sample, or pottery sherd by recording the reflective readings of x-rays off the mineral's crystalline structure. This relatively inexpensive testing method can reveal massive amounts of information in a quick and efficient manner, even from something as simple as an undecorated sherd. XRD allows for the identification of local and exotic vessels, can be used to assess the interrelatedness of samples, can provide accurate estimates of the length and temperature of firing, and may help investigators identify potential sources of clay and temper materials. This paper will summarize XRD testing that has been done as part of a larger body of work on a Viejo period site in Chihuahua, Mexico. This study of Viejo period materials shows the incredible potential XRD has for regions such as the Northern Plains, where its use could significantly advance the understanding of the region's ceramics.

Ives, John W. (Jack), Institute of Prairie Archaeology

"Assembling" the Paleoindian Assemblage at the Peace River Crossroads

With the Alaskan record now yielding fluted points in dateable contexts slightly younger than the Clovis age range, Early Prehistoric Period data from western Canada will come to have even greater significance in continent-wide discussions of how fluted point technology spread in the Americas. The prairie provinces have yielded a variety of fluted points significant for such considerations, but many of them come from contexts in which it is difficult to know which other artifacts might be associated with them. Le Blanc and Wright (1990) reported on one other telltale sign of fluted point era technology in the Peace River Country, elegant macroblades. As Paleoindian research becomes more refined in the Americas, we can also detect other signs of early presence in the Peace River country, most particularly very large bifaces, Paleoindian projectile point preforms, and systematic use of outrepassé flaking. These instances compare favourably in their details with classic Paleoindian materials from the United States, and come from a critical region situated midway between eastern Beringia and lower latitude North America.

Ives, John W. (Jack), Institute of Prairie Archaeology

Archaeological Activities at the University of Alberta, 2010-2011

University of Alberta staff and students enjoyed a productive year for field school and related activities, for which this presentation will provide a context. The 2010 offering of the University of Alberta Field School took place at a large prehistoric campsite situated near Lake Wabamun. We worked closely with Transalta officials and Paul First Nation representatives for excavations at FiPp-33, which has received the Stoney name Ahai Mneh. Occupation of this site

began in Early Prehistoric Period times, a topic reviewed briefly here. Through careful analysis of microstratigraphy and diagnostic artifacts, we were able to identify relatively discrete components at Ahai Mneh. This site also yielded new obsidian use data linked to the Bear Gulch, Idaho source. Other University of Alberta activities involved new radiocarbon dating results and additional faunal analyses concerning the Muhlbach site (FbPf-1) (see poster session), and ceramic analysis concerning Viejo Phase ceramics from the Casa Grandes region of Northern Mexico, with applications that could be helpful for studying pottery on the Canadian prairies.

Jacobson, Talva, Medalta Potteries National Historic Site

Medalta Pottery Factory: Uncovering the Historic Kiln Room, Medicine Hat, Alberta

Recent excavations at the Medalta Potteries National Historic Site between September and December 2010 in Medicine Hat, Alberta, recovered structural remains and material culture from three different industrial periods of manufacturing history and technological change. The Historic Kiln Room was a large compartmentalized space with brick walls, steel-sheeted roof, and trusses. Industrial features uncovered during excavation included: the structural remains of five circular down-draught kilns; one Harrop tunnel kiln foundation; two chimneys and an external flue system; waster dumps; two cultural soil layers associated to historic construction activities; and artefacts, such as conduit piping, hardware, joinery, tools, and thousands of use-related ceramic artefacts. The artefacts, features, and structures found were used from 1912 to 1954, with the remains of the last industrial occupation later dismantled and covered with a concrete cap. Medalta Potteries was a substantial industry eventually employing 300 people and producing functional, utilitarian wares that were shipped across Canada. The results of this excavation will be presented, addressing three fundamental objectives: identification of how Medalta fits into the North American ceramic industrial history; legitimization of the manufacturing process based upon the structural remains and artefacts found, in context; and, creation of a visual and descriptive inventory of the ware and kiln furniture, identifying use and style, creating opportunities for further research.

Landals, Alison, Stantec Consulting

The Antelope Hill Tipi Ring Site

The Antelope Hill Tipi Ring Site is a large, Contact Period camp located on Mosquito Creek in southern Alberta, excavated in 2001. Like many tipi ring sites, it yielded a sparse artifact assemblage. Nevertheless, the site offers a fascinating glimpse into changing patterns in stone circle size and intra site patterning just prior to the Historic Period. The retrieval of a representative sample from the site, and the theoretical insights that this sample provides, is very much owed to the intellectual curiosity of Rod Vickers, the Plains Archaeologist at the time. The site will be discussed relative to ring diameter, spatial patterning, Blackfoot oral history regarding variability in ring size, past theoretical approaches to tipi ring size analysis and the numerous pitfalls of ethnic identification in southern Alberta sites, even those dating to the very recent past..

Maharaj, Amanda and **Stephanie Halmhofer**, University of Alberta

Artificial Cranial Modification Among First Nation's Populations of British Columbia

Intentional artificial physical modifications has been documented archaeologically and ethnographically in many populations around the world and has arisen independently in several cultures. The Pacific Northwest Coast is no exception to this unique practice. In many of the First Nations groups of British Columbia, two different styles of physical modification are present: labrets in the north, which are small discs placed inside the lower lip, and artificial cranial modification in the south.

In British Columbia, cranial modifications have been found predominantly amongst the southern First Nations populations of the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuu-chah-nulth, and Coast Salish. Cranial modification has also been noted amongst the Chinook of the Columbia River area and the Helitsuk and Nuxalk of the mid-coastal area, though not extending any further north to the Haida. We present here a collection of previous studies on cranial morphologies of the Pacific Northwest Coast of Canada to highlight the complex relationships between cultural groups, sites of occupation, and modification styles. Our aim is to present a cohesive picture of artificial cranial modification in British Columbia throughout prehistory.

Moors, Matthew, Stantec Consulting

Excavations at the Hardisty Bison Pound

In the fall of 2008 FMA Heritage Inc conducted an archaeological assessment of a pipeline resulting in the identification of a bison pound (FdOt 31) and associated campsite (FdOt 32) along the pipeline right-of-way near the Battle River valley. The Hardisty bison pound at FdOt 31 is one of the very few identified within the aspen parkland of central Alberta. This site along with the associated campsite (FdOt 32) provide a rare opportunity to explore this aspect of the culture of the people 1000 years ago.

Matt Rawluk, Aileen Reilly, Peter Stewart & Gabriel Yanicki, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

Identification of a Palaeoindian Occupation in Compressed Stratigraphy: A Case Study From Ahai Mneh (FiPp-33)

The 2010 University of Alberta Institute of Prairie Archaeology field school produced thousands of artifacts including diagnostic projectile points that provide evidence of multiple occupations spanning a 10,000 year period. As is typical of archaeological sites with limited surface deposition, a lack of visible stratigraphy makes it difficult to associate the assemblage with these temporal and cultural diagnostics, or assess changing occupation patterns over time. The authors present here a method reliant upon diligent attention to three-point proveniencing and analysis using low-cost, easily accessible software to complement the otherwise weak stratigraphic record; the resulting empirically segregated data show multiple components, the earliest of which correlates with an Agate Basin/Hell Gap complex occupation.

Roskowski, Laura, Stantec Consulting and **Morgan Netzel**, Stantec Consulting

Ronaghan's Ridge: Raw Material, Radiocarbon date and Righteous Results

Since 1980 HhOv 87, more affectionately referred to as Ronaghan's Ridge has been the focus of eight HRIA studies and 539 square meters of systematic excavation. The studies conducted at this site have yielded almost 200,000 artifacts including several diagnostic projectile points. The variety of projectile points collected indicates the site has witnessed multiple occupations dating from the Palaeoindian Period to the Late Precontact Period. Activities conducted at this site include core reduction, biface production for the transport of lithic raw material, tool production and tool use. Evidence of food procurement and processing, as well as other campsite activities (eg. woodworking, manufacture of microblades etc.) have also been observed. Well-defined activity areas, rare in the Athabasca Oil Sands region were recorded during the excavation of this site. It is clear based on the artifact assemblages recovered from the multiple mitigations, that site HhOv 87 was considered important to Precontact people inhabiting the area. The site appears to have been used as a place to obtain plant and animal resources, lithic raw material, and was likely used as a travel corridor to other sites in the region. An overview of the sites' significance will be discussed during this presentation.

Schenk, Jo-anne and Gabriel Yanicki, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

Early Prehistoric Sites in Alberta and How They Relate to Ahai Mneh (FiPp-33)

A number of projectile points found in the basal cultural deposits at Ahai Mneh are representative of the Early Prehistoric period. In addition to confirming a cultural presence previously only tentatively identified at this hilltop site near Wabamun Lake in central Alberta, these findings add to our understanding of the range of the Agate Basin/Hell Gap phase, a period that is very poorly represented in Alberta archaeology. Further, two fragmentary specimens that are basally concave and possibly fluted appear to be Early Prehistoric in origin; these bear some resemblance to stubby points of the little-known Sibbald phase, although they could also be representative of a later occupation. While only the most tentative of identifications can presently be made, they serve as an indicator of multiple Early Prehistoric occupations at Ahai Mneh and highlight a key area of interest for future research at the site.

Stewart, Peter, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

Interferometry as an Objective Measure of Heat Treatment in Swan River Chert
Though widely accepted as a phenomenon affecting lithic materials, the study of heat treatment has been largely qualitative in nature. Quantitative techniques used in other disciplines can, however, be applied to see if they have applications to the study of heat treatment. Interferometry, a technique applied in Materials Engineering, is commonly used to scan the microtopography of precision-made materials for defects. It may also have archaeological applications: by scanning Swan River Chert samples that are unmodified as well as samples that have been heated in accordance with ethnographic accounts, the author is attempting to develop objective criteria for recognizing and determining the effects of heat treatment in Swan River Chert.

Tiegen, Sara and **Rene Studer-Halbach**, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

Sexing of Bison bison Metapodials from the Muhlbach Site (FbPf- 1) and Implications for Seasonality
Poster presentation

Vivian, Brian, Lifeways of Canada Limited

The Glenbow Town and Quarry A Hundred Years On
Located within the recently created Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park west of Calgary, the Glenbow Quarry is a well know historical sandstone quarry dating to ca. 1909 –1912. Subsequently, through connections with Eric Harvie the Glenbow name has become one of the most recognizable in Alberta whilst the village became a ghost town. In 2009 the Archaeological Society's Calgary Centre initiated a multi-year project to map what remains of the town and quarry, document the site and further understanding of this early historical settlement. This paper aims to report on the success of this project by means of an update on how this public archaeology program has progressed over the last two years.

Yanicki, Gabriel M., University of Alberta

The Old Man Giveth, the Oldman Taketh Away
At the likeliest location of Old Man's Playing Ground, a site reported on the headwaters of the Oldman River by Hudson's Bay Company surveyor Peter Fidler in 1792, no traces of this sacred First Nations meeting place remain. Geomorphic evidence for recent catastrophic flooding is abundant, however; the site has presumably been obliterated by the Oldman. Despite indications of the site's destruction, materials excavated from the adjacent prehistoric campsite DlPo-8 by Richard Forbis in 1960, and by the author in the summer of 2010, do point to this area's significance as a locus for ceremony and long-distance trade, drawing peoples from either side of the continental divide. The author presents here a summary of the archaeological data from the Oldman Gap and their implications for the long-term management of a locale which remains significant to many First Nations today.