GOODWIN-BAKER (34RM-14): AN EARLY EDWARDS COMPLEX SITE IN THE SOUTHERN PLAINS

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The Goodwin-Baker Site is located on the south side of Sandstone Creek, a tributary of the Washita River. The site was excavated in 1970 by the University of Oklahoma Archaeological Field School under the direction of Don G. Wyckoff. Excavations uncovered two square (100 ft^2) wattle-daub house locations, each with centrally located hearths; an open arbor (14 x 20 ft), trash-filled pits and natural depressions, and sheet middens (Wyckoff, personal communication). The purpose of this paper is to present dates from archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon tests as well as the results of a preliminary analysis of the recovered artifacts. Also, I plan to present a discussion of the site's placement in the cultural sequence being developed for the Southern Plains.

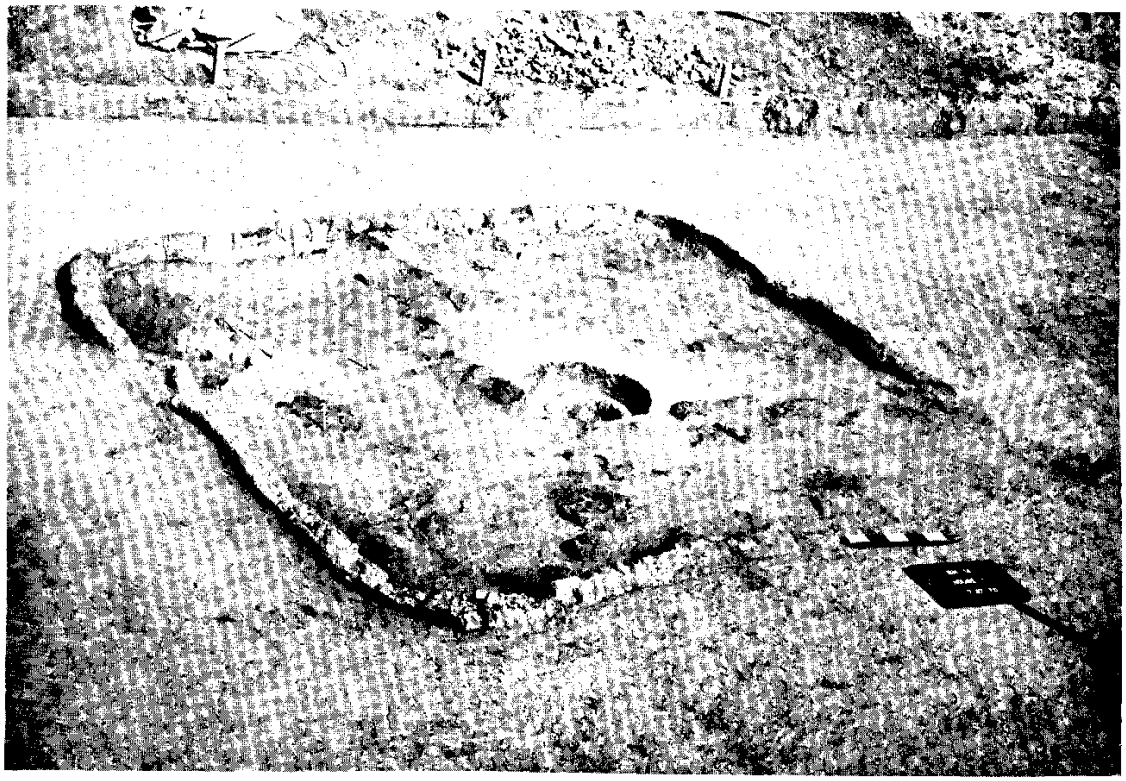

Figure 1. House #1 remains as viewed from the southeast, July 1970.

One archaeomagnetic and three radiocarbon samples from the Goodwin-Baker Site were submitted for dating. The radiocarbon samples were sent to Beta Analytic, Coral Gables, Florida. The archaeomagnetic date was provided by the Archaeomagnetism Laboratory at the University of Oklahoma. Results and provenience of these samples are provided in Table 1.

As can be seen from these results (Table 1), a range of A.D. 700 to A.D. 1800 can be interpreted for the occupation of this site. However, it should be noted that the earliest date (Beta-4719) is derived from only 0.2 grams of charred wood after cleaning.

Table 1. Radiocarbon and Archaeomagnetic Dates From the 1970 Excavations at the Goodwin-Baker Site.

Lab Number	Provenience and Sample	C-14 Years (B.P.)	Corrected B.P. Date*	Corrected A.D. Date* (mean and range)
Radiocarbon Dates				
Beta-4626	Sample #1. Square N34-W24. Post mold depth 6.6 in.	140 ± 50	144 ± 60	1750 ± 60 (1650-1800)
Beta-4718	Sample #2. Square N34-W25. Depth of post mold #9 unknown.	420 ± 85	432 ± 95	1455 ± 95 (1390-1520)
Beta-4719	Sample #3. Square N3-W6. Post mold #20 depth 5 in. House #2. Based on 0.2 grams after cleaning.	1060 ± 180	1091 ± 190	895 ± 190 (700-1090)
Archaeomagnetic Date				
Lab #451	House #1. Square S51-W19.	A.D. 1380 ± 32		

* To convert to half-life of 5730 years multiply original C-14 years by 1.029.

** Corrected dates are based on MASCA tree ring correlations (see Ralph *et al.* 1974). Reference point equals A.D. 1950. To interpolate corrected mean dates from the MASCA span see Rippeteau (1974).

Furthermore, the mean date (A.D. 895) for this sample is not consistent with the artifact assemblage recovered from near the charcoal collection spot. The Beta-4718 and the archaeomagnetic samples are relatively similar, with means of A.D. 1455 ± 95 and A.D. 1380 ± 32. Additional discussion of these dates will be provided after a brief presentation of the recovered material culture.

The recovered pottery types identified for Goodwin-Baker are listed in Table 2. Of the total sherds, 27.0% are Late Prehistoric types, with Nocona Plain being predominant (19.6%). Nocona Plain is commonly associated with the Henrietta Focus (A.D. 1200-1500) and the Washita River Phase (A.D. 1100-1450). In addition, Nocona Plain is present at sites in western Oklahoma that have been assigned to the Edwards Complex. Percentages of Nocona Plain at such sites include 8.0% at the Duncan (34Wa-2) Site and 1.9% at the Taylor Site (34Gr-8).

The remaining 73% of the Goodwin-Baker pottery is attributable to Protohistoric Period assemblages. Typical indigenous wares of the Edwards Complex include Plain and Decorated Sandy and Silty Paste Ware, Plain and Decorated Little Deer, and Perdido Plain (Baugh 1982:68-81). Another characteristic of Edwards Complex assemblages is the presence of Southwestern trade wares. At Goodwin-Baker, such exotic wares are present and they consist of smudge corrugated (5 sherds) and glazed wares (3 sherds). The three glazed sherds were examined by A. H. Warren (an Albuquerque pottery specialist) who identified them as a glaze on white (or polychrome ?) closed vessel, possibly a stirrup canteen with Picuris sandstone tempering. There is no specific time period for such canteens, but they appear as early as A.D. 1450 and continue into the late seventeenth century.

Table 2. Pottery from the Goodwin-Baker Site (34Rm-14).

Period	*Wares*	*# of sherds*	*% of group*	*% of total*
Protohistoric				
Indigenous	Plain & Decorated Sandy and Silty Paste[1]	1564	82.6	60.3
	Plain & Decorated Little Deer[1]	27	1.4	1.0
	Perdido[1]	106	5.6	4.1
	Miscellaneous sherds	15	.8	.6
Southwest Trade	Smudge Corrugated	5	.3	.2
	Glazed-- Picuris (?)	3	.2	.1
Southeast & Southern Plains Trade	Plain Nash Neck or Hudson	173	9.1	6.7
	Protohistoric subtotal	1893	100.0	73.0
Late Prehistoric				
Indigenous	Nocona Plain & Decorated	508	72.5	19.6
	Plain and Decorated Shell and Sand	24	3.4	.9
	Plain Shell and Limestone	168	24.0	6.5
Southeast Trade	Sanders Plain	1	.1	-
	Late Prehistoric subtotal	701	100.0	27.0
	Total	2594	-	100.0

[1]Described in Baugh 1982.

An inventory of lithic artifacts include various scrapers, knives, drills, pipe reamers, and modified flakes. In addition, there are numerous points. Of the point types represented among the identifiable specimens, 39.2% are Fresnos, 19.6% are Washitas, 24.9% are Harrells, 12.9% are small side-notched specimens, 1.9% are Scallorns, and the remaining 1.5% include a Cliffton, Perdiz, and unidentified corner-notched forms. As can be seen, the small side-notched points occur more frequently (57.4%) than the small unnotched triangular points (39.2%).

Table 3 presents the proportions of the lithic types identified among the stone artifacts and debitage. Alibates is predominant, followed by Obsidian, Kay County Chert, and Edwards Chert. These proportions compare favorably with those recorded for other Edwards Complex sites. Although it should be noted that there is some variation between sites. For example, at 34Wa-2 and 34Gr-8 Alibates constituted only some 40% whereas larger than expected quantities of Kay County (26.3%) and Edwards (9.1%) cherts were found at 34Wa-2 and more quartz (9.1%) at 34Gr-8.

A variety of trade or non-local items were found at Goodwin-Baker. In addition to the already mentioned pottery and stone, three olivella shell beads were present. Also, a pipe fragment of red pipestone was found. This material is similar to catlinite from Minnesota, but a source for red pipestone is also known to exist in the eastern Plains (Blakeslee 1981:766-767) and is probably the origin for the object from 34Rm-14.

The assemblage of worked bone includes such items as bison tibia digging stick tips, bison femur digging stick tips, bison scapula hoes, antler flakers, awls, spatulates, bone rasps, bone balls, and bone beads. Ground stone artifacts such as grooved abraders, grinding stones, and metates are also present.

In conclusion, I suggest the Goodwin-Baker Site represents an occupation by early Edwards Complex people. My interpretation is based on the character of the artifact assemblage and the two dates that fall during the early A.D. 1400s. I maintain that the presence of traits (Nocona Plain, clay cylindrical fragments) more typically considered characteristic of the Washita River Phase does not necessarily indicate that this is a multi-component site. Several reasons can be pointed out. First, the Edwards Complex has only recently been defined (Hofman 1979; Baugh 1982), which indicates we have much to learn about the sites and assemblages of this protohistoric culture. Also, much of our understanding has been confined to the information gained from multi-component sites, such as Edwards I and Taylor. But in 1981, the work at the Duncan Site (34Wa-2) revealed the presence of a single component Edwards Complex occupation which is greatly enhancing our understanding of this complex (Baugh 1983). The Duncan Site also has small quantities of Nocona Plain and clay cylindrical fragments like those from Goodwin-Baker. Lastly, it was postulated (Baugh 1982; Swenson and Baugh 1981) that the Washita River Phase and Edwards Complex represent a cultural continuum in western Oklahoma. If this is the case, then continuities in material culture would be expected. The importance of the Goodwin-Baker Site is that it may not only represent one of the earliest known single component Edwards Complex occupations, but that it also contains the only houses known for the Edwards Complex.

Table 3. Percentages of Lithic Material Types at the Goodwin-Baker Site.

Lithic type	Points	Other Tools	Debitage	Artifacts & Debitage
Alibates	71.9%	61.6%	61.6%	62.0%
Edwards	2.3	1.9	2.0	2.0
Kay County	3.5	2.3	2.1	2.2
Obsidian	5.6	13.1	.5	2.9
Other	16.7	21.1	33.8	30.9

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ON SPRING IN PREHISTORY by Kenneth Lowe

It was a new world. This particular landscape had never been seen before. Trees appeared as rainfall increased, and the glacial ice cap receded to the north. In the Middle East, Natufian hunters supplemented their diet of red deer and gazelle with grass. Wild grasses flourished as the climate changed 10,000 years ago, and hungry families and tribes harvested the grass seeds and ate them.

Two varieties of domesticated grass emerged from this, emmer and einkorn. At the oasis and spring that lie beneath uncounted layers of debris at Jericho, the Natufians camped for years, leaving behind polished flint knives they had used for harvesting grass. Eventually, a strain of grass developed where seed hulls did not shatter and blow away with the wind, and so wheat became a staple of their diet.

North of Palestine, in Turkey, at Hacilar and Catal, this revolution spread, and local population explosions radiated out across the Mediterranean to the islands and Greece. Round huts were built in Greece, and from these villages we have a premonition of towns that will be built thousands of years later.

Settlers moved up the Danube River. Here, the evidence is overwhelming that men were on the march. About 8000 years ago, these farmers were busy with a form of agriculture called slash and burn. They occupied the rich loess lands created by the glaciers. Wind-blown dust covers most of the river valleys in Europe. It is rich and easily worked. The first pottery resembles a gourd, having round or pointed bottoms. The Danube and its tributaries nourished this invasion by farmers for thousands of years. It is the only region in Europe that is dotted with tells, mounds where generations of Neolithic farmers lived for centuries.

From the Danube, the farmers spread out into Germany and Poland. They brough with them the concept of the long house. It was a peculiar looking house, one end being smaller than the other. Why it was shaped like this is still a matter of conjecture, but the narrow end of the house always faces north. By 7000 years ago, these farmers had reached most of the desirable farm land in Europe. We find them at Windmill Hill in England 5000 years ago. Curiously, some of the huge burial mounds in England are shaped exactly like that long house, narrow at one end. In France and Britain, early farmers erected stone megaliths in rows and in circles. What they mean is beyond any accurate guess these days. A great deal of nonsense has been written about Stonehenge, but the fact is that no one knows what the stones mean. The first ring at Stonehenge was erected about 4000 years ago.

There is strong evidence that central Europe was open to influences from pastoral and nomadic peoples living north of the Black Sea. Their custom of tumulus burial appears in Europe, and we have indications that local chieftains, or kings, were buried with great pomp and ceremony. They were provided with what amounts to burial houses. Carts and horses have been found in these burials.

One of the first identifiable peoples that emerges from the mists of prehistory is the Celts. From their homeland in central Europe, they spread out from Czechoslovakia and Austria into southern Germany and France. Eventually, they reached Britain and Ireland. They also moved through Romania into Greece, where they raided the temple at Delphi and pushed on into Turkey. We meet them in the Bible as the Galatians in their new home in Turkey.

Celtic burials were rich. In northeastern France, a Celtic princess was buried with grave goods that included a gigantic krater, or mixing bowl, and the wheels of her burial cart reflect an unprecedented craftmanship. They reached Spain and Portugal, and Celtic tribes were there to greet invading Roman legions centuries later.

These were some of the people who saw the new world that was to become Europe as it emerged from the last glacial period. We know very little about the people who clung to the old ways of hunting and fishing. One of their camps, however, is located at Star Carr in Yorkshire. They had the bow and arrow, and they lived there beside a lake and fished and hunted about 10,000 years ago. The earliest paddle carved by man has been found there.

These people did not change. They were there when the invading farmers appeared. In Holland, they lived along the coast and ate shell fish and created vast middens, or refuse dumps. There is no evidence of warfare between these hunters and the farmers, but after a few thousand years the old hunting economy faded and eventually disappeared. Perhaps they moved north. In southern France and northern Spain, it is just possible that the survivors and heirs of this earlier hunting tradition persist into modern times. These may be the Basques, and they are located exactly where Upper Paleolithic hunters flourished 30,000 years ago. Their language is related to nothing that we can find today. A mystery people, they remind Spanish authorities of their uniqueness constantly with bombs! They want local autonomy and complete independence. It is possible that this struggle has been going on for about 10,000 years.

It was a new spring time when men became farmers. Birch, pine, and mixed oak forest moved in where only tundra had grown for thousands of years. Nature had smiled, and each spring after that was a time for renewal. The origin of May Day is not hard to discover.

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SOME NOTES ABOUT PUBLICATIONS AND THINGS.....

Jill Elizabeth Sall writes that a new non-profit archeological research organization has been founded at Rock Springs, Wyoming: Western Prehistoric Research. One of its publications is *The Journal of Intermontain Archeology* which will contain articles about prehistory in the Rocky Mountains and adjacent regions. This journal is published twice a year and may be ordered for $7.50 a year. If interested, send your subscription to: Journal of Intermountain Archeology, P.O. Box 1761, Rock Springs, Wyoming, 82901.

And from Florida, Dr. Prudence M. Rice has advised us of a new publication, *Ceramic Notes*. This is an occasional publication series devoted to anthropological and archeological studies of pottery and related materials. CERAMIC NOTES #1 is ready for distribution and consists of an annotated bibliography on ceramic studies of all kinds from around the world. It contains over 1000 entries with publication dates through 1981. It is 75 pages in length and sells for $8.00 (pp.). Send your check made out to: Florida State Museum Associates Mailing address: Ceramic Technology Laboratory, Department of Anthropology Florida State Museum, Gainesville, Florida, 32611.

Note: The Oklahoma Archeological Survey's long range planning document is now available. $8.75 postpaid from Oklahoma Archeological Survey, 1808 Newton Drive, Norman, Oklahoma, 73019.

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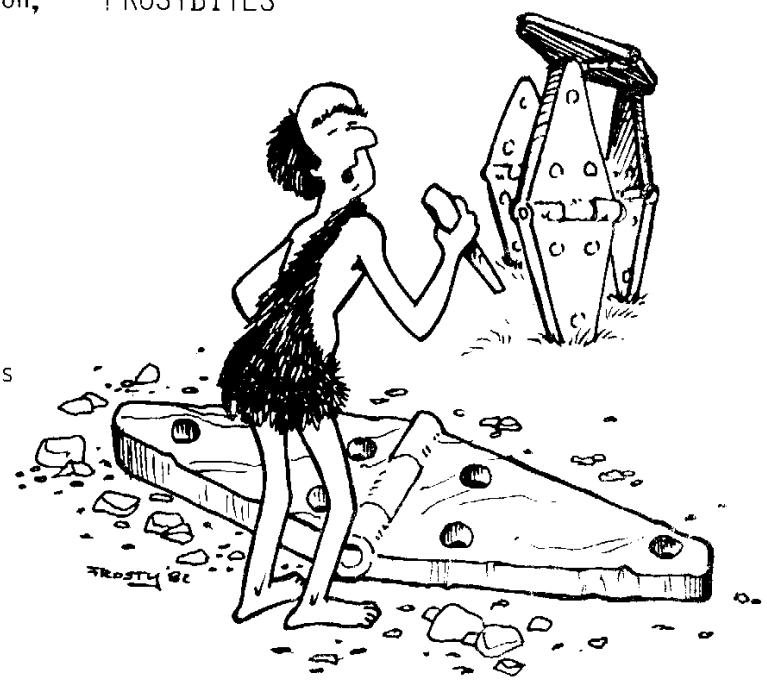

MY LEGACY