

FLOYD SCHULTZ, 1881 - 1951

FLOYD SCHULTZ died at Clay Center, Kansas, April 8, 1951. He was one of those rare amateur archaeologists who, without direct professional guidance, became aware of the necessity for the documentation of archaeological collections and of the close relationship between ethnology and archaeology. Born at Fort McKavett, Texas, November 21, 1881, and spending most of his youth in and about Fort Riley, Kansas, as the son of a member of the U. S. Army, he became steeped in the history and ethnography of the Great Plains through associating with men who knew the Indian as both a friend and as an enemy.

In his spare time during his varied career as machinist, businessman, and civic leader, and later in his retirement, he devoted himself to a study of the history and anthropology of the Plains. In the past twenty-five years he made an archaeological survey of the Republican River Valley in Kansas, locating innumerable sites and carrying on excavations at more than fifty of them. He was familiar with the characteristics of Upper Republican earth lodges before any had been dug by professional archaeologists. Notes were taken, maps were drawn. The specimens were carefully restored and catalogued according to location within excavations at each site.

He was senior author with Albert Spaulding of a paper entitled, "A Hopewellian Burial Site in the Lower Republican Valley, Kansas," published in 1948 (*AMERICAN ANTIQUITY*, Volume 13, Number 4, pages 306-313). That same year he gave his entire archaeological collection of over 3000 catalogue entries, complete with notes and maps, to the Museum of Natural History at the University of Kansas. As a result of his careful work it will be possible for the archaeology of the lower valley of the Republican River to be written with a minimum of additional field work.

Mr. Schultz also made an ethnographic study of the Pottawotomie and other tribes living in and near Mayetta, Kansas, collecting items of material culture, taking notes on various phases of their culture, and making motion pictures of their economic activities and the building of the last bark lodge.

Floyd Schultz was a sincere and likeable person whom I treasured as a friend and as an archaeological colleague. His collection remains as concrete evidence of what a self-trained man can contribute to archaeology through a painstaking study of a limited area.

— CARLYLE S. SMITH