

Arkansas Archeological Society Training Program

Holman Springs/Lockesburg Mounds

June 8 – 22, 2019 De Queen, Arkansas

Where and When

The 2019 Training Program will begin Saturday, June 8, and continue through Saturday, June 22. It will be held in De Queen, Arkansas, in the southwestern part of the state. The Training Program is a collaborative project between the Arkansas Archeological Survey and the Arkansas Archeological Society. Our main base of operations will be at the University of Arkansas-Cossatot. The field lab and Headquarters will be on campus. The Society campground will be the Army Corps of Engineers Pine Ridge campground on Lake De Queen. **SEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE CAMPGROUND BELOW!** Beginners' Orientation, the seminars, and the evening programs will be held at the college. Dr. Carl Drexler, station archeologist for the Arkansas Archeological Survey at SAU, will direct the Training Program.

Directions

Training Program Headquarters will be at the Adams Agricultural Building on the UA-Cossatot campus located off of US-70 West (W. Collin Raye Dr.), 183 College Dr., De Queen. This is about two hours and 34 minutes drive (145 miles) southwest on US-70 West from Little Rock, about an hour drive (55 miles) north on US-71 North from Texarkana, or two hours and 39 minutes drive (138 miles) south from I-40 on US-71 South.

Facilities

The AAS Headquarters, field lab, and seminars will be located in the Adams Agricultural Building. Beginners' Orientation and the evening programs will be held in the Skilled Trades Building. Headquarters will be staffed each work day from 6:00am until 5:00pm. Everyone should come to Headquarters as soon as you arrive in the area to check in, pick up your information packet, and get a name badge.

Accommodations

Motels and Lodges

Call or visit websites for rates, amenities, and availability. Mileage noted below indicates the distance to Headquarters at the UA-Cossatot campus.

De Queen

De Queen Courtyard Inn, 111 Hwy 71, De Queen, (870) 642-2034, dequeencourtyardinn.com (2.3 miles)

Palace Motel, 607 W. Collin Raye Dr., De Queen, (870) 642-9627, palacemotel.us (1.4 miles)

The Lodge at De Queen Country Club, Club House Dr., De Queen, (870) 642-8800 (5.3 miles)

Western Plaza Inn, 110 Hwy 71, De Queen, (870) 642-6990, westernplaza.com (2.2 miles)

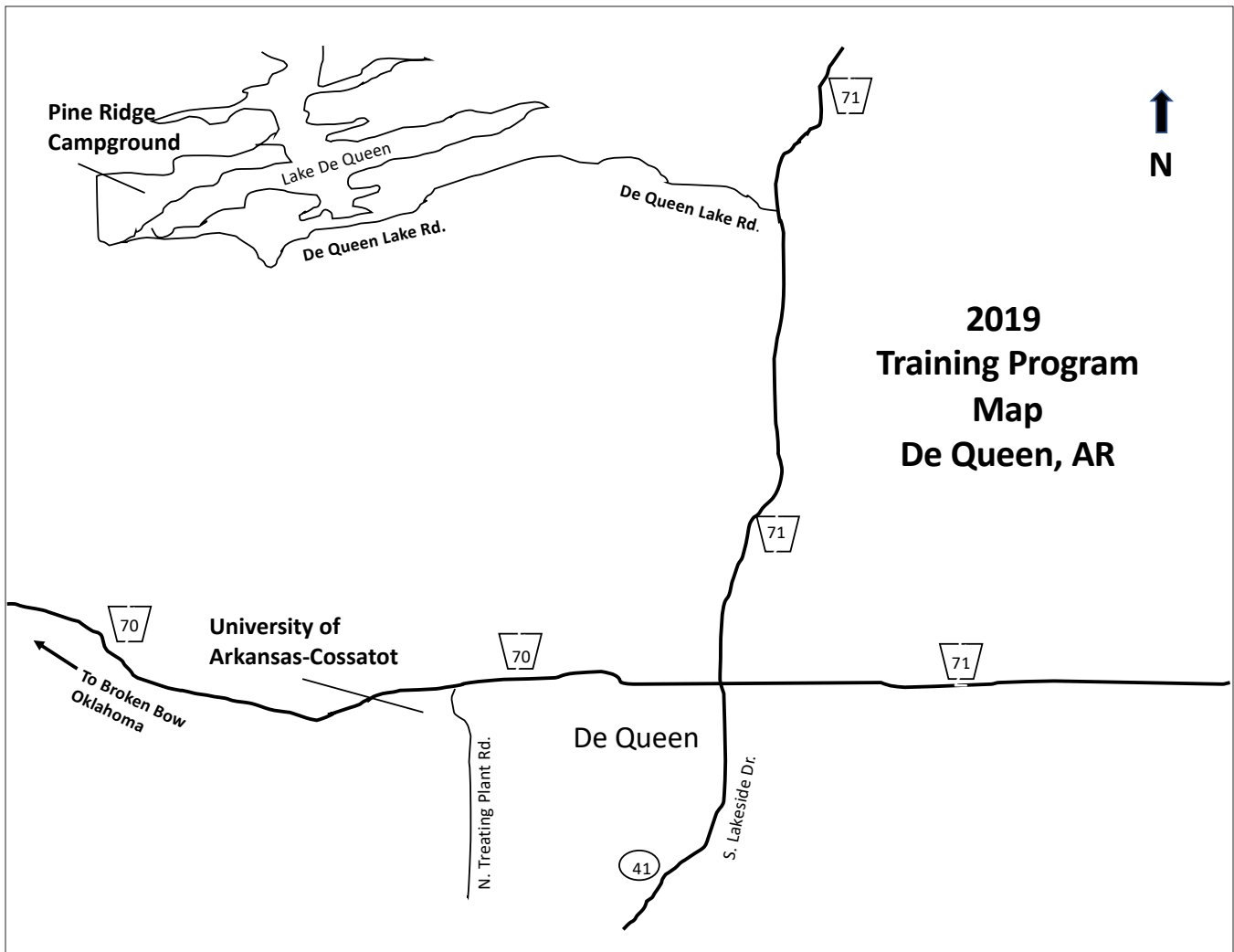
Society Campground

IMPORTANT – Please Read Carefully!!!

The Society campground will be at the US Army Corps of Engineers Pine Ridge campground, which is located on the shores of Lake De Queen. There are fire rings, picnic tables, electrical hookups (30 and 50 amp), and water at the camp sites. There are two new shower buildings, each with two showers for women and two for men. There is no designated swimming at the campground but campers can swim at their own risk.

10 RV sites have been secured and prepaid by the Society to keep all camping participants together as much as possible. Just like last year, we will be sharing RV sites with tent campers; a maximum of two tents per site with RV. This will enable us to share electricity with tent campers. Generators are not allowed. You must pay for every day that your RV or tent is set up, even if you are not there.

ALL SOCIETY CAMP SITES WILL BE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.



If you arrive and there isn't a spot in the Society campground, your payment for camping will be refunded to you and you will need to find a camp site at Pine Ridge in the non-reservable sites or non-electrical sites or other accommodations. The campground attendant and Society Camp Boss will work with you to locate a spot.

Refunds for camping will only be made available for those who arrive and are unable to secure a Society camp spot and need to camp in a non-Society spot at Pine Ridge. Non-Society camping spots are pricing around \$18 a night, depending on the spot.

The Society camping spots are reserved Wednesday, June 5, through Saturday, June 22. Check out for campers that are still there on Sunday, June 23, is 5pm. Payment to the Society is as follows: tents – \$9

per night; pop-ups – \$12 per night; RVs – \$15 per night. If you come early or stay longer, you will need to make your reservations through recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777. This is also true if you decide to camp in a non-Society camping spot, although most non-Society camping spots are “walk-up” only.

Food and Ice

Each person will be responsible for his/her own meals. There are several stores in De Queen to shop for food, ice, and other items you might need. You should bring lunch with you each day, regardless of whether you will be working in the field, in the lab, or attending a seminar. Vans will shuttle people back and forth between the site and the facilities at UA-Cossatot at lunchtime, but we will not go back to camp.

Check-In and Orientation

Our workday starts at 7:00 in the morning, so you should arrive the day before you intend to start your first day of work. When you get to De Queen, your first stop should be at Headquarters to check in and collect your 2nd Packet. Headquarters will be open from 6:00am to 5:00pm. If you are camping, check in with the Pine Ridge attendant and find the Camp Boss who will help you find a camping spot. Campground check in is 6:00pm ending at 9:00pm. No set up after 10:00pm. That is when quiet hours begin. Give yourself extra time to set up your tent or camper. Announcements and work schedules will be posted in camp and on the door at Headquarters.

You may come to the Training Program for as long or short a time as you like, but all first-time attendees must go to Beginners' Orientation prior to participating in any Training Program activities. Beginners' Orientation will be scheduled each morning, as needed, starting June 8, with the final Beginners' Orientation at 5:30pm on Monday evening, June 17th (our day off for rest, recreation, laundry, etc.). For "old timers," short orientation will be conducted at the site, as needed, through June 19.

Daily Schedule

We will start the workday at 7:00am when the vans will leave for the site from UA-Cossatot. For campers, the vans will leave the campground at 6:30am, heading to UA-Cossatot. Lunch break will be from 10:30–11:30am, and the workday ends at 3:30pm, allowing time to rest and relax before supper and attending any evening talk or other activity. A detailed schedule of all activities, seminars, evening programs, and special events will be in the 2nd Packet that you will pick up at Headquarters when you arrive. There are no seminars on Saturday and Sunday, June 8–9 and June 15–16. These are full days of work at the site and in the lab. The first week seminars run Monday, June 10, through Friday, June 14. There will be one day off on Monday, June 17, with no work at the site or in the lab. The second week of seminar classes runs from Tuesday, June 18, through Saturday, June 22.

Potluck and Special Meals

Sunday, June 16, we will have a potluck get-together at the Adams Agricultural Building, and there will be two special dinners on the Wednesday evenings at camp. Everyone is invited to attend. More details to follow in the 1st Packet.

Seminars

In addition to excavating and working in the lab, Training Program participants have an opportunity to register for seminars instructed by professional archeologists. They are open to all registrants, though class sizes may be limited. You must sign up for seminars in advance on the Registration Form. There are no registrations for seminars "at the door."

New participants are urged to sign up for one of the basic seminars: Basic Excavation or Basic Lab. Basic Excavation is especially recommended. Seminars are typically scheduled for 5 days.

Basic Excavation is a full-day seminar with fieldwork in the morning and class work in the afternoon. The Paleoethnobotany seminar is also a full-day class. Caddo Ceramics is a half-day class with lab work the rest of the day. Mapping and Basic Lab are half-day seminars. Those enrolled in half-day seminars will be assigned to work in the lab or field during the other half day, depending upon where the most help is needed.

Assignment of Activities

The assignment sheet will be posted as soon as possible each evening and all participants should be sure to check the assignment sheet each morning before heading to seminars, field, or lab for possible changes. All participants are responsible for adhering to the assignments given to them. The assignments given and any possible changes made reflect where workers are most needed in the lab and in the field in order to accomplish research goals. Any requests to be moved to another work area or to have time off must be done in advance and first brought to the Training Program Director for approval and then communicated to the Liaison (Marilyn Knapp) at Headquarters.

Tools of the Trade

You may want to build your own personal “excavation kit” and the Society will have for sale some of the small tools you will need. These include, for example, a 3-meter metric measuring tape, a Marshalltown trowel, and a string line-level. Also for sale will be textbooks for seminars, t-shirts, Survey and Society publications, and memorabilia. You will need to bring certain items with you from home: a clipboard to hold all your paperwork, sturdy gloves, and pencils. A list of recommended supplies will be in the 1st Packet that will be sent to registrants. We can take credit cards at Headquarters, but remember to bring your checkbook or cash as backup in case technology fails us!

Cancellations and Refunds

If you need to cancel your attendance at the Training Program, please be sure to contact Marilyn Knapp (mxj02@uark.edu or 479-575-3557) and let her know. All cancellations made by May 17 will receive a full refund. Cancellations after May 17 will not receive a refund. After May 17th, the only refund that is available is for pre-paid camping fees, for those campers who arrive on-site and are unable to secure a Society camp spot; registration and other fees are not refundable.

Weather and Wildlife

You can generally count on the weather to be hot and very unpredictable in Arkansas in the summertime. Come prepared for any kind of weather. Be sure to bring plenty of insect repellent for ticks, chiggers,

and mosquitoes. We will have sunshades out there to provide protection from the sun and lots of water. Be sure to bring lots of sunscreen and reapply often. A good hat with a wide brim and wearing long sleeves will help you too. There may be wildlife in the campground and at the site. Make sure you secure your food and tents at the camping areas in the evening and before going out to the field and pick up the trash at the site before coming in from the field each day. There will likely be rain, even some strong thunderstorms, so be prepared with rain gear and close up your tent before leaving for daily activities. Sturdy boots are also a good idea.

The Bottom Line

We have a great opportunity here to learn a lot about Arkansas’s past! This is the most inexpensive archeological training experience available within the United States. What better way to learn about Arkansas archeology and do archeology the right way? If you are reading this and considering registering for the Training Program, that means that you share the same interests as so many Arkansas Archeological Society members before you and currently! The love of the outdoors, the love of people, history, science, anthropology, archeology and learning, participating and contributing to something that will benefit more than just you. You are a volunteer! You matter. If you attend this dig you will find more than just dirt, sweat, and bug bites. You will find old friends, new friends, camaraderie and just plain fun!!! Come join the fun!!!!

