

REPORT CONCERNING THE SPIRO MOUND COLLECTION - April 2, 1942

On April 1, 1942, Mrs. Kingman and I inspected that portion of the Spiro Mound collection allocated to the University of Tulsa, and discussed with Dr. Forrest C. Clements the shipping and cataloguing of the collection.

Dr. Clements has agreed to arrange for the packing and shipping to Philbrook Art Center of the University of Tulsa's portion of the Spiro Mound collection. The packing will require a checker, at 75¢ an hour, and three packers, each at 50¢ an hour. Dr. Clements said that the packing would take not more than one day and should take less. The collection will be packed in heavy cardboard boxes furnished by Mr. Clark Field, and will be sent to Philbrook on or about April 6th, via Mistletoe Express collect. Dr. Clements will notify Philbrook when the shipment is made and send a statement of the packing charges. A nominal insurance to cover any breakage is to be placed on this shipment. Most of the collection allocated to the University of Tulsa will be sent at this time. There remain a few pieces of pottery which will be shipped as soon as their restoration has been completed - probably within a few months.

Each item in the collection bears the University of Oklahoma catalogue number. This is to remain on each object, in addition to any numbering system Philbrook may wish to use. Copies of the main catalogue file will have to be made at Norman. Dr. Clements will also permit the preparation of a photographic record of the catalogue on a bank check photographing machine. He prefers that this be done in Norman, and suggested the Security National Bank. The cards are 4 x 6 inches and if they fit the machine and arrangements can be made to do this work, Dr. Clements is to be notified so he can have the catalogue taken to the bank. He will also supply Philbrook with the necessary key to the symbols used.

Dr. Clements will be glad to furnish, at cost, photographs of the excavation operations at Spiro Mound; also photographs of any items of the collection not allocated to the University of Tulsa. Because of certain restrictions, he is not authorized to distribute any cast reproductions of the collection. He said that Philbrook has access to the field notes and such charts, maps and other material as may be necessary to complete the study and exhibit of the Spiro material at Philbrook.

The collection will be checked upon arrival at Philbrook, but cannot be completely unpacked until suitable storage shelving is installed. When this has been arranged, it will be possible to study the collection so that a distinctive exhibit can be prepared.

EK/my

Eugene Kingman  
Director

February 25, 1942.

Mr. Forrest E. Clements,  
University of Oklahoma,  
Norman, Oklahoma.

Dear Dr. Clements:

I am enclosing a letter from Dr. Pontius, President of Tulsa University, which he had transmitted to Philbrook with the request that Philbrook arrange as early as possible to place the University of Tulsa's portion of the Spiro Mound Collection on permanent display.

Since you are familiar with the collection and we are not, we would ask that you write and tell us if we should come down and arrange to take care of our own packing and shipping or if you have the means to do the packing at our expense.

Secondly, we are interested in seeing how we can reproduce your catalog and would ask you to let us know when it would be convenient for Mr. Hulings and myself to come to Norman to see you, as it probably will be necessary for us to come down even though you arrange for the packing and shipping. But in the event we must look after these arrangements we would like to be prepared to start the packing when we come down to see you, to avoid the necessity of a second trip.

Yours truly,

Eugene Kingman.

EK:G







January 28, 1942

Dr. C. I. Pontius,  
President, University of Tulsa,  
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Dr. Pontius:

This is a rather belated reply to your nice letter of January 17th. I had not given it more prompt attention for the reason that it was necessary for me to familiarize myself with the present situation.

The Indian Collections, including those on loan from the University, have not been cataloged along the program that would bring it to a prompt conclusion. I am taking steps to get the organization changed around so this cataloging may proceed properly and as early as possible.

I wish to have a discussion with you as early as convenient in regard to the Spiro Mound recoveries as the program should be set out for the immediate cataloging of this collection. I am not familiar with the arrangement that has been made with the University regarding the Spiro Mound Collection, other than to know that it is on loan, and I refer particularly to the question of the obligation involved for the cataloging of the loan. If there has been no understanding regarding the cataloging of the Spiro Mound Collection, I wonder if you have any views on the subject, and more particularly, if you have funds to take care of the classifying and cataloging.

To give you an insight into my line of thought, I believe that in the case where we were acquiring an outright gift of a collection that it would be appropriate for us to allocate funds that have been set aside for acquisition to be used in the expense of the initial cataloging of the collection, and I do not think it proper to use funds from the acquisition account to catalog a borrowed collection.

As I mentioned earlier in this letter, I will make an appointment to come out and talk with you further at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Norman M. Hulings.

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Norman, Oklahoma

January 31, 1943

We, the representatives of the University of Oklahoma, of the University of Tulsa and of the Oklahoma Historical Society have today completed the allocation of all the anthropological and other material from the Spiro Mound excavated by Dr. Forrest E. Clements, of the University of Oklahoma.

We hereby attest that to the best of our ability a fair and equitable distribution has been made.

Cesar B. Jacobson  
University of Oklahoma

Willard G. Park  
University of Oklahoma

Clark Field  
University of Tulsa

C. J. Duncan By Clark Field  
University of Tulsa

Jamett Sadler  
Oklahoma Historical Society

J. J. Milam  
Oklahoma Historical Society

MINUTES  
OF

MEETING OF THE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE OF THE SPIRO MOUND MATERIAL

January 30, 1943

Jacobson: The meeting is called to order. After several delays we have succeeded in bringing the personnel of this committee together. The committee members are:

Mr. James Gardner - Oklahoma Historical Society  
Mr. J. B. Milam - Oklahoma Historical Society  
Mr. Clark Field - University of Tulsa  
Mr. C. I. Duncan - University of Tulsa  
Mr. Willard E. Park - University of Oklahoma  
Mr. Oscar B. Jacobson - University of Oklahoma

You have heard Mr. Clements' informal report. Is it the wish of this committee to accept this mimeographed report with the verbal statement as follows: The initial contribution of the Historical Society was \$450.00. The contribution of the University of Tulsa for Spiro and other digs was \$5,000.00. The total contribution of Mr. Field and others for the University of Tulsa was in excess of \$1,000.00. From Mr. Frank Phillips a total of \$12,000.00 was contributed, \$12,000.00 of which was directly assigned to Spiro, and \$2,500.00 was contributed by the University of Oklahoma for this particular project. Is there a motion that we accept this report?

Park: I move that we accept this report.

Duncan: I second.

Motion carried.

Jacobson: Discussions are now in order on what basis the allocation should be made.

Discussion followed.

Field: I move the total allocation to the University of Oklahoma be 55% of the bulk of the material, aside from the representative basis.

Gardner: I second.

Motion carried.

Jacobson: Is there discussion regarding the other 45% for the University of Tulsa and the Oklahoma Historical Society?

Discussion followed.

Park: I move that 30% for the University of Tulsa and 15% for the Oklahoma Historical Society be our guiding principle for allocating the material.

Milam: I second.

Motion carried.

MEETING OF THE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE OF THE SPIRO MOUND MATERIAL

January 21, 1942

Jacobson: The meeting will come to order. In closing up this affair, I would like to have any discussion regarding any dissatisfaction concerning the allocation of the material.

Gardner: Mr. Milan and I are very well satisfied.

Park: The University of Oklahoma is very well pleased over the results of the allocation.

Field: The University of Tulsa is thoroughly satisfied.

Milan: I move that the committee goes on record as being entirely satisfied with the distribution and wish to thank the University of Oklahoma for their cooperation.

Field: I second.

Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned.