

ELAINE BLUHM HEROLD: A RENAISSANCE WOMAN OF ILLINOIS

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ABSTRACT

Elaine Bluhm Herold (1925-2015) was one of Illinois's earliest professional female archaeologists at a time when women's participation in Illinois archaeology was limited. Her participation in the University of Chicago field school at Zimmerman site (1947) was the start of her love of archaeology and led her to positions at the University of Chicago, Field Museum of Natural History, and the University of Illinois. Elaine's many accomplishments included engaging both professional and avocational archaeologists in salvaging threatened archaeological sites, educating students and the general public about Illinois archaeological heritage, becoming the sole female founding member of the Illinois Archaeological Survey (IAS) in 1956, and IAS Treasurer-Secretary and Editor until 1967. The IAS bulletins she produced were a critical resource for the development of regional chronologies throughout Illinois. Elaine's diverse interests, concerns for endangered sites, and enthusiasm for public education provides a role model for many subsequent generations of female archaeologists.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Elaine Bluhm is the recorder for a total of 340 pre-historic and historic sites in the Illinois Site Files.

Some of Elaine's larger site projects:

Illinois
Hoxie Farm
Huber
Oak Forest
John Deere Blacksmith Shop (need Grand Detour)
Crawford Farm - Rock Island
Anker
Rock River Survey
Sinnissippi Site
Caterpillar
Schlegel Fritz AHO site
Bealie (Bean Field?)
Sipple

Charleston, South Carolina:
Heyward-Washington House
The Exchange building



Elaine Bluhm, Schlegel Fritz AHO site -1962
(Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)



Elaine Bluhm and William Beeson, Caterpillar Site - 1957 (Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)



Elaine Bluhm, Hoxie Farm Site - 1953 (Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)

AVOCATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Elaine Bluhm was a leader in having both professional and avocational archaeologists on her field crews. She objectives were to salvage threatened archaeological sites, and impart a deep appreciation of the past in her crew. The success of her projects is due in large part to these dedicated field crews-- some of whom are still involved in regional archaeology.



Elaine Bluhm, Hoxie Farm Site - 1953 (Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)



Elaine Bluhm, Bealie (Bean Field?) Site - 1961 (Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)



Digging out steamed clams (Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)



Stone boiling with limestone (Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)



Elaine Bluhm, Como Survey Site - 1963 (Image owned by Sterling/Rock Falls Historical Society)

TEACHING

University of Illinois

College of Charleston

The Citadel (Charleston)

University of Buffalo

KNOWN FOR:

Her passion for archaeology and learning about the past

Her ability to instill enthusiasm in undergraduate and graduate students and avocational archaeologists

Her patience in training people in all aspects of archaeology - fieldwork, analysis, and curation

Her unceasing efforts to preserve the past

Her ability to multitask with unending energy

Plane table surveying skills



Sinnissippi Park Survey Site - 1963.
Front L-R: Dr. Elaine Bluhm, Margaret Hoffman, Carolyn Sands, Dan Casey
Back L-R: Michael Hoffman, Gunnar Benson, Ferrel Anderson, Jerry Anderson, John Washburne, Lloyd Jr., David Casey (Image owned by Sterling/Rock Falls Historical Society)

PUBLICATIONS

Bluhm, Elaine

- 1951 Ceramic Sequence in the Central Basin and Hopewell Sites in Central Illinois. *American Anthropologist* 16:324.
- 1957 *The Sawmill Site, A Reserve Phase Village, Pine Lawn Valley, Western New Mexico*. Fieldiana: Anthropology 47.
- 1960 Mogollon Settlement Patterns in Pine Lawn Valley, New Mexico. *American Antiquity* 25 (4): 538-546.
- 1970 Who Were the Moundbuilders. *Palimpsest* 51(12):497-503.
- 1970 Middle Woodland Indian Life. *Palimpsest* 51(12):504-516.
- 1970 Hopewellian Indians in Iowa. *Palimpsest* 51(12):517-523.
- 1970 Artifacts from Iowa Mounds. *Palimpsest* 51(12):524-528.

Bluhm, Elaine A. and William J. Beeson

- 1960 The Excavation of Three Hopewell Mounds at the Caterpillar Tractor Company. In: *Indian Mounds and Villages in Illinois*. Illinois Archaeological Survey, Bulletin 2, pp. 1-24. Urbana.

Bluhm, Elaine A. and Gloria J. Fenner

- 1961 Oak Forest Site. In: *Chicago Area Archaeology*. Illinois Archaeological Survey, Bulletin 3, pp. 138-161. Urbana, IL

Bluhm, Elaine A. and Allen Liss

- 1961 Anker Site: In: *Chicago Area Archaeology*. Illinois Archaeological Survey, Bulletin 3, pp. 89-137. Urbana, IL

Bluhm, Elaine and David J. Wenner

- 1956 Prehistoric Culture of Chicago Area Uncovered. *Chicago Natural History Museum Bulletin* 27(20): 5-6.

Herold, Elaine Bluhm, editor

- 1971 *The Indian Mounds at Albany, Illinois*. Davenport Museum Anthropological Papers, 1. Reviewed AA 76#4.

Herold, Elaine Bluhm

- 1975 *Report on Historical and Archaeological Survey of Ashletowne Landing Development*. Unknown publisher, Charleston.

1981 *Archaeological Research at the Exchange Building, Charleston, South Carolina*. Charleston Museum, Charleston.

- 2003 Recollections of the Department of Anthropology in the Mid-Twentieth Century. In *Curators, Collections, and Contexts: Anthropology at the Field Museum, 1893-2002*, Fieldiana: Anthropology 36: 17-187.

Herold, Elaine B., Patricia J. O'Brien, and David J. Wenner, Jr.

- 1990 Hoxie Farm and Huber: Two Upper Mississippian Archaeological Sites in Cook County, Illinois. In *At the Edge of Prehistory: Huber Phase Archaeology in the Chicago Area*, edited by James A. Brown and Patricia J. O'Brien, pp. 1-120. Center for American Archeology, Kampsville, IL.

Lippincott, Kerry A., Elaine A. Bluhm.

- 1963 *Report On Archaeological Investigations Along the Henderson Creek Drainage Project in Henderson County, Illinois*.

Martin, Paul S., John B. Rinaldo and Elaine Bluhm

- 1954 *Caves of the Reserve Area*. Fieldiana: Anthropology 42.

Martin, Paul S., John B. Rinaldo, Elaine Bluhm and Hugh C. Cutler

- 1956 *Higgins Flat Pueblo, Western New Mexico*. Fieldiana: Anthropology 45.

Martin, Paul S., John B. Rinaldo, Elaine Bluhm, Hugh C. Cutler, Roger Grange, Jr.

- 1952 *Mogollon Cultural Continuity and Change: the Stratigraphic Analysis of Tularosa and Cordova Caves*. Fieldiana: Anthropology 40.

Orr, Kenneth G., J. Joe Bauxar, Elaine A. Bluhm, Ruth Howard, Charles E. Gillette, William H. Sears, Robert L. Shalkop, and Sara J. Tucker (James A. Brown, editor)

- 1961 *The Zimmerman Site: A Report on Excavations at the Grand Village of the Kaskaskia, LaSalle County, Illinois*. Reports of Investigations 9, Illinois State Museum, Springfield.

Rinaldo, John B. and Elaine Bluhm

- 1956 *Late Mogollon Pottery Types of the Reserve Area*. Fieldiana: Anthropology 36 (7): 149-187.

Winston, Jon H., John C. McGregor, and Elaine Bluhm

1963 *Report on the 1962 Survey of the Sny Basin Project*. Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois, Urbana.

For more information about Elaine Bluhm Herold, please see her obituary:

Brown, James A.

2015 Elaine Ann Bluhm Herold: 1925-2015. *Illinois Archaeology* 27:1-5.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to extend my deep appreciation for all the people who have been so generous in sharing their memories and photographs of Elaine Bluhm Herold over the past few years- Jennifer Chaos Herold, James Brown, Gloria Fenner, Arthur Jelinek, Pat O'Brien, Martha Zierden, and Ferrel and Jerry Anderson. She truly was a pioneer in so many areas of archaeology and influenced so many people. I also would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mary Hynes in finding the images used in this poster and suggestions by Kristin Hedman. Thank you to the Illinois State Archaeological Survey for allowing me to use many of the images here. I also thank the organizers of this symposium 'Women at Work: Acknowledging Women's Legacy in Archaeology' for inviting me to participate. We need to always appreciate the women of early archaeology who paved the way for us - they are amazing. The contents of this document reflect the view of the author who is responsible for the facts and accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or the policies of the Illinois Department of Transportation.



Elaine Bluhm with George Talbot, George Rich, and John McGregor (Courtesy of Jennifer Chaos Herold)

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

1948-1957 - Assistant in the Department of Anthropology, Field Museum, Chicago

1956-1957 - Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana

1957-1959 - Research Associate, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana

1959-1962 - Instructor in Anthropology, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana

1962-1964 - Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana

1964-1968 - Research Associate at the Davenport Museum, Davenport, Iowa

1971-1982 - Research Associate at The Charleston Museum and Sullivan's Island, South Carolina

1982-2001 - Research Associate at the University of Buffalo, Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo State College, and the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society

1990-2001 - Director of the Archaeological Survey, University of Buffalo

2001 - retired

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Illinois Archaeological Survey

Midwest Archaeological Conference

New York Archaeological Council

New York State Archaeological Association



Students tasting boiled clams - 1963 (Courtesy of Illinois State Archaeological Survey)