

*Oklahoma Indian Antiquities*  
*Indian skeleton*

September 18, 1948

9-11  
Mr. Byron A. Ashley  
327 East 238th Street  
Wilmington, California

Dear Mr. Ashley:

I was much interested in your letter about the finding of the skeleton and I agree with you that your skeleton was that of an Indian killed or mortally wounded in battle and buried by his comrades. The fact that he was buried standing may indicate that it was freezing weather and he was too stiff to fold up in the sitting position or else they could find no convenient place to lay him flat in. Usually warriors put their dead in some place where they could cover them with rocks to keep wolves away. Many arrows were made without stems and people who could do no better than folsom points would hardly be able to make beads.

There were fights no doubt all over Oklahoma during the thousands of years of Indian occupation. Archaeology is a fascinating profession and I envy you your experience. Since you found the body in Southeastern Oklahoma I suggest that you write to Mr. Grant Foreman, Muskogee, Oklahoma who is our foremost expert on the Indians of that region. No doubt if you could find to what museum the bones were sent you could learn what the scientists made of them.

Cordially yours,

W. S. CAMPBELL

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