

The Smithsonian Institution has long been one of the most important arenas for archaeological research in the United States and around the world. Through the Institution's Bureau of American Ethnology and later through its Department of Anthropology, the science of anthropology and archaeology have made great strides over these many years. However, it seems, the role of the Smithsonian Institution as a leader in the anthropological sciences is now being threatened by a planned reorganization program of Secretary Small, the new head of the Smithsonian Institution. Horror stories concerning the reorganization of the Smithsonian's Department of Anthropology, the future of its collections and archives, and the scientists there attending to anthropological and archaeological research are filtering out each day. There is the prospect that some of the research thrusts of the Department of Anthropology will be dramatically affected. There is the possibility that private funding sources and support will be solicited thus making the future of Smithsonian anthropological science beholden to the private sector rather than being supported by the Federal government which was one of its responsibilities. Colleagues have written and called about this eventuality. It is my hope that all will take this as a warning of the possibility that the anthropological sciences are now under attack by Smithsonian bean counters. I urge the readership of the BHA to write Secretary Small directly (Smithsonian Institution, Washington D. C. 20560) to indicate your opposition to the impending changes now expected.

Douglas R. Givens, Editor

II. Discourse on the History of Archaeology

The Man Who Came to Dinner, or, Hooray for Mr. Spaulding: A Peek at Historical Imagination Running Rampant.

by

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Dorothy Pond (nee Long, 1900-1987) married anthropologist Alonzo W. Pond (1894-1986) in July of 1926, little more than a month after they met. In the early years of their marriage she accompanied him into the field on excavations and helped him with his archaeological manuscripts (Pond 1930, Pond et al. 1928, 1937). Lonnie, after participating in the Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expedition of 1933, and working at Jamestown and Mammoth Cave, left archaeology, as a livelihood, in 1935 for a series of other jobs. The Ponds retired to northern Wisconsin in 1958. There, Alonzo, with Dorothy's help, turned out several popular natural history books (Pond 1962, 1965, 1969a, 1969b, 1972).

Although the Ponds married shortly after they met, they had been corresponding steadily for ten months before this meeting; Lonnie traveling in Europe and Algeria, Dorothy in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Mutual acquaintances knew them both by their letters and thought - astutely in light of the sixty-year marriage that followed from their matchmaking—that the two might make good pen pals...or more (For this story and further details on Alonzo Pond's career to 1931, see Tarabulski and Teicher 1986, Breitborde 1992, and White 1992).