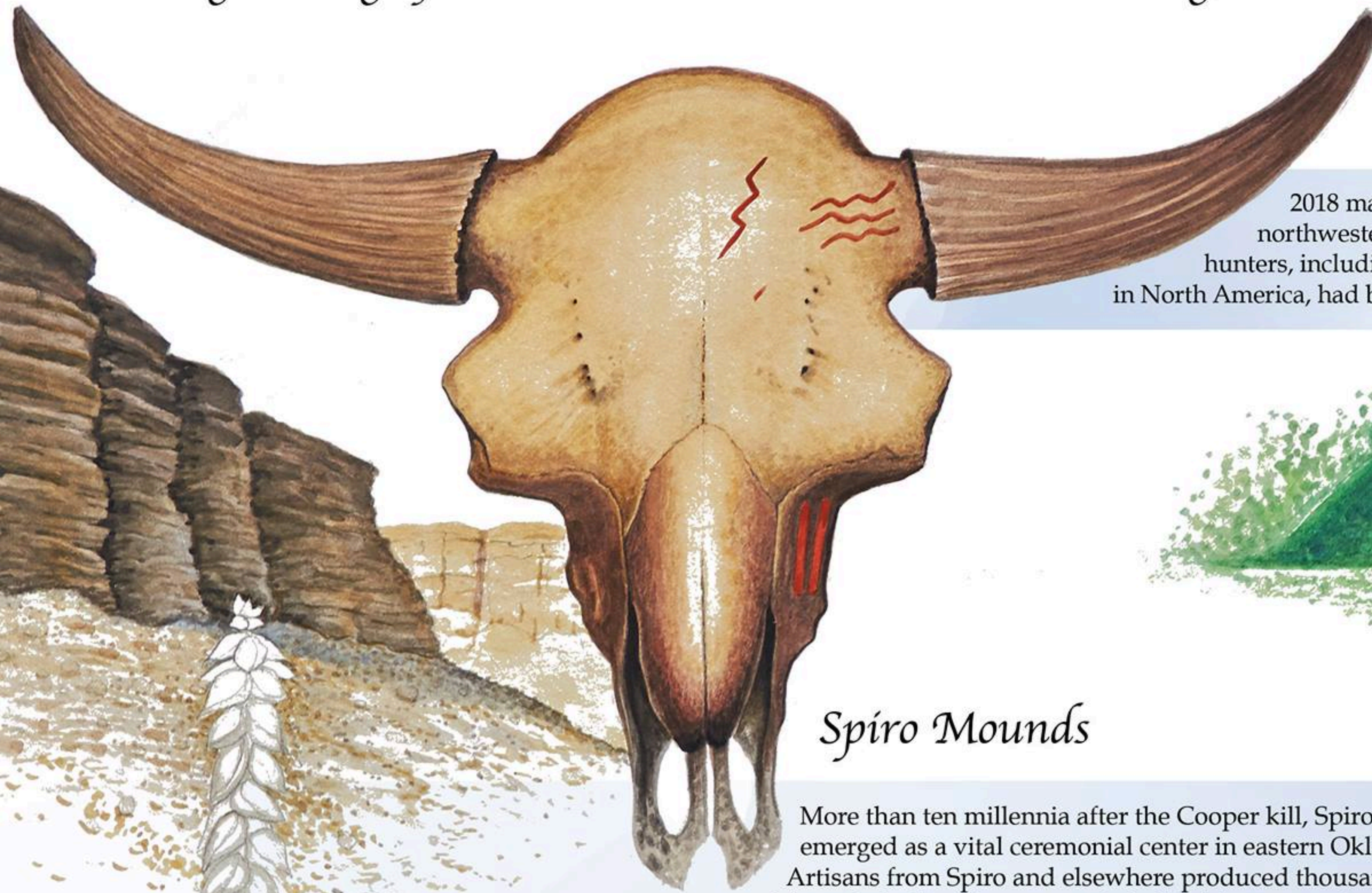


# OKLAHOMA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

*Honoring Two Significant Anniversaries in Oklahoma Archaeological Research and Preservation*

OCTOBER 2018



## *Cooper Bison Kill*

2018 marks the 25th anniversary of initial excavations at the 12,500 year-old Cooper site in northwestern Oklahoma. This remarkable Folsom bison kill included thousands of bones left by hunters, including a skull decorated with bright red zigzag lines. The skull, the oldest painted object in North America, had been placed at the head of an arroyo, perhaps to ensure a safe and successful hunt.

## *Spiro Mounds*

More than ten millennia after the Cooper kill, Spiro mounds emerged as a vital ceremonial center in eastern Oklahoma. Artisans from Spiro and elsewhere produced thousands of art objects, including the engraved-shell spider gorget depicted here, that were ultimately buried in Spiro's famous Craig Mound. In 1978, 40 years ago, Spiro became the only pre-Contact archaeological site in the state open to the public, and it remains its best known.



JON TIGER '18

For more information on Cooper and Spiro visit: <http://www.ou.edu/archsurvey> and <http://www.okhistory.org/sites/spiromounds>. OAM is sponsored by the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, & the Oklahoma Public Archaeology Network. Special thanks to L. Bement, A. Regnier, and S. Hammerstedt for content expertise.

Artistic images for this poster provided by Jon Tiger, a Muskogee (Creek) artist who has earned numerous awards and recognition for his craft over the course of his long career.