Kansas State prof surveys area creek for buried treasures

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Brad Logan has found something of a summer home in the Tonganoxie area.

The Kansas State University professor has conducted two archaeological digs during recent summers along Stranger Creek, searching for evidence of long-gone residents.

And this summer, while he won't be digging, Logan will spend plenty of time looking for places to dig.

Logan and one or two KSU students plan to search the Little Stranger Creek area, looking for likely sites where artifacts might be covered with dirt.

Logan's interest in the area dates to 1979, when as a graduate student he worked on an inventory of Stranger Creek.

Logan is hopeful that this summer's looking will lead to several summers of digging.

During two recent summers, Logan conducted field schools, during which he and students unearthed a number of finds, including a late prehistoric house, dubbed the "Scott House," in honor of Tonganoxie resident Scott Demararville who first discovered evidence of it.

Two archaeological dig sites along Stranger Creek that Logan and his students worked on are on the National Register of Historic Places.

And two more recently were nominated to the national register by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review.

All four sites are along Stranger Creek, northeast of Tonganoxie.

"I've pretty much done all the four sites there by the cliffs," Logan said. "And I need to find some more."

So during the next several weeks, Logan will work along Little Stranger.

"For all I know, there are Scott Houses up and down that valley," he said.

Logan is hopeful he'll meet area residents on whose property Little Stranger flows.

"If they have collections or know of a site, they can give me a call and I can tell them something about their artifacts," Logan said.

To reach Logan, call his Kansas State University office, (785) 532-2419.