Youthful Boone Countians Find Bones of Mammoth and Mastodon

Glenn Doolin and his cousin Wanetti Doolin know that the big elephants once lived in Boone County. Glenn, aged 11, lives on Binder Road and Wanetti, aged 5, lives nearby. Big Bone Creek is their playground and in it they recently found some bones of the mammoth and mastodon that lived and died in the area more than ten thousand years ago.

Glenn is holding a piece of mastodon jaw bone with one of the large teeth still imbedded in the bone. Wanetti has a cap of a mastodon tooth and a portion of a mammoth tooth. The mammoth teeth have a serrated surface. The mastodon tooth has round knob-like projections on the top. President Thomas Jefferson thought that, because of the tooth formation, the mastodon was a flesh-eating animal and believed that some of the huge animals still lived.

The bones of these prehistoric animals will be preserved and displayed in the museum to be built at the Big Bone Lick Historic Shrine and State Park.

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