



Louisiana Archaeological Society **NEWSLETTER**

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COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC.,

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

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EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of the Newsletter is largely concerned with the membership of the LAS. A list of current LAS members is presented, something which has not been done in several years. I ask that all of you check it and notify me or Brian Duhe of any mistakes, address changes and the like. I have also written a brief assessment of the membership based on what can be gleaned from the Newsletter mailing list. This was done mainly for fun but I think it is informative and I hope it will be of interest to you readers.

This issue also contains information on the membership at an individual level, specifically in reference to two members, Drs. Clarence Webb and Roger Saucier. In the last issue of the Newsletter, brief mention was made of the awards presented to these two individuals by the Society for American Archaeology. Additional information is provided in this issue.

Joe Manuel has provided information on the James Ford and the Governor's Awards which is presented later in the Newsletter. If you would like to nominate someone for these awards please send the information to the appropriate person. These awards should not be taken lightly and I ask that you carefully consider your nomination.

Joe has also asked that I include the questionnaire concerning the 1986 Annual Meeting printed inside the last page of the Newsletter. Please fill it out and return it promptly, even if you do not plan to attend the meeting. It is hoped the information provided in the questionnaire will minimize the problems for those organizing the meeting. Those who respond will receive special mailings from Covington area tourist organizations including maps and a guide to restaurants as well as information on the meeting.

Again, I urge all of you to submit brief articles, notes, reviews, comments, etc. for the Newsletter. Now that you are back from that relaxing summer vacation, I am sure you have the energy to sit down and write that article you have put off for so long.

LAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The LAS Executive Committee will meet on Saturday, September 14th at 1:30 in the afternoon at Tyrone Plantation near Alexandria. Colonel and Mrs. Donaldson have, again, graciously allowed the LAS to use their home for the meetings.

LAS ANNUAL MEETING CALL FOR PAPERS

The 1986 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society will be held in Covington, Louisiana, on January 25th and 26th at the Holiday Inn in Covington. The meeting coordinator is Dr. George Riser of the Northlake Chapter. If you wish to present a paper, send the title and an abstract which summarizes the main points to:

Northlake Chapter LAS
Rt. 7, Box 1426
Covington, Louisiana 70403

Subjects of papers can be related to any aspect of Louisiana archaeology and should be received by September 15, 1985. Notification of scheduling will be mailed out by November 1, 1985

THE JAMES ALFRED FORD AWARD

The James Alfred Ford Award was established by the LAS Executive Committee to be given occasionally to the person who has made outstanding contributions to archaeology in Louisiana. It recognizes major achievements in five areas: 1) devotion to Louisiana archaeology; 2) performance excellence and adherence to the highest standards in conduct of field work; 3) rapid and high quality presentation of completed field work through publication and oral presentations at meetings; 4) presenting and teaching, formally or informally, the archaeology of Louisiana to the archaeological community and to the general public and 5) a dedication to the organization and motivations of persons interested in Louisiana archaeology. The Ford Award is the highest recognition given by the LAS. The award is given only when candidates are judged to have contributed outstandingly in each of the five areas. There have been three recipients to date: Dr. Clarence Webb - 1976, Dr. William Haag - 1978, and Dr. Sherwood Gagliano - 1982.

You are now being asked to give serious thought to nominations for this award. Send your nominations to: Joe Frank, President LAS, 2406 Norben Drive, Lake Charles, LA 70601. The nominations will be reviewed and considered by the LAS Executive Committee.

THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR SERVICE IN ARCHAEOLOGY

The Governor's Award was established by the Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission. It is presented annually to a person who has shown, over many years, a sustaining interest in archaeology through one or more of the following activities: 1. educating children about the archaeological resources of the state; 2. helping preserve archaeological sites; 3. funding archaeological investigations at important sites; 4. sponsoring major legislation preserving archaeological sites; 5. assisting professional archaeologists in scientific recording and excavating of sites; and 6. advancing the goals of archaeology by promoting the discipline. Neither professional archaeologists nor Commission members while on the Commission are eligible.

There have been three recipients of this award: J. Ashley Sibley Jr.-1982; Michael Beckman-1983; and Paul L. Hodges-1984.

If you know of someone deserving of this award, send your nominations to: Dr. Kathleen Byrd, Division of Archaeology, P.O. Box 44247, Baton Rouge, LA 70804. If you submit a nomination, please include a description of the nominee's service to the discipline.

AWARDS TO LAS MEMBERS

In the last issue of the Newsletter we noted that two native Louisianans and charter members of the LAS had received important awards from the Society for American Archaeology. Dr. Clarence H. Webb received the First Annual Crabtree Award and Dr. Roger Saucier was given the Fryxell Award for Interdisciplinary Research. It is appropriate, here, to elaborate on the honors given to these two scholars and fellow LAS members.

The Crabtree Award

The following is extracted from the statement read by Dr. George Frison, President of the Society for American Archaeology, on the occasion of the first presentation of the Crabtree Award in Denver, Colorado on May 4, 1985:

"The Society for American Archaeology today makes its first presentation of the Crabtree Award, which recognizes persons who, not having received traditional academic training in archaeology, have made significant contributions to the field while gaining their livelihood from pursuits other than archaeological... Such a person is the recipient of the First Crabtree Award, Dr. Clarence H. Webb of Shreveport, Louisiana. Nationally known in the field of pediatric medicine, Clarence Webb has spent much of his spare time over the past fifty years establishing, pursuing, and furthering archaeological research in his home territory of northern Louisiana. In collaboration with Alex Krieger he pioneered in formulating the basic historical sequence of Caddoan-area archaeology, in which field he is also author of one of the most important site reports, that on the Belcher Mound. His long-continued leadership in studies of the Poverty Point complex have made him the authoritative figure in research on that striking prehistoric culture. He has provided a vital link between academic archaeologists and the public in Louisiana. To his co-workers he has been a model and an inspiration, thanks to the volume, quality and significance of his research and the promptness of his publications...

A member of the Society for American Archaeology since 1938, he served on the Executive Committee from 1957 to 1959 and was nominated for President-elect in 1964. In the Texas Archeological Society he served as Vice-President, Trustee, and Director, and was elected Fellow in 1959. He was a founder and first President of the Louisiana Archaeological Society and was honored by the society with a major volume of writings in 1980. Lastly, he was a founder and for many years a guiding light of the Caddoan Archeological Conference, as it grew to become one of the major regional conferences in the United States.

It is with particular pleasure, then, that the Society for American Archaeology recognizes one of its own. The selection of Dr. Webb for this first Crabtree Award is appropriate to the memory of Don Crabtree, sets a high standard for future Crabtree awards, and makes clear the admiration, respect, and affection we feel for Clarence Webb as colleague and friend."

From Dr. Webb's reply:

"President Frison; members of the Society:

I am grateful to the Society for American Archaeology for this award and for this expression of the ideals that prompted its establishment. I did not have the privilege of knowing Don Crabtree, but I greatly admired his work and I believe that I shared with him the concept that the search for truth, in this as in other sciences, counts devotion, knowledge and integrity to be independent of professional or amateur status.

I wish to express thanks, also, to my friends who nominated me, to the Award Committee of SAA, and to the Executive Committee who selected me as the recipient; I shall try not to disappoint any of them. Moreover, I am particularly grateful to my wife, who has tolerated my double life for a half century.

Longevity must have played some part in this selection. I go far enough back to have known some of the renowned leaders of the early 1900's; to have been stuck in a mudhole on Thanksgiving morning with John R. Swanton, trying to help him and Moscoso get de Soto's tattered army across Red River and into Texas; to have listened to Ales Hrdlicka's tale of shipping skeletal material out of Peru in packing cases labeled "Bone Fertilizer"; to have known Carl Guthe at Michigan and his brilliant student James B. Griffin; I became a member in 1938 and *American Antiquity* published my first short article in Vol. 4, January, 1939.

Meanwhile, I had met James A. Ford, Alex Krieger and Jimmy Griffin; these three were my mentors, friends and collaborators. To them I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude for acceptance and for the stimulus to change an avocation into a second science.... Later, Jim Ford and I enlisted the interest and assistance of many people in studying the supposed mystery of Poverty Point. After his untimely death, I continued in collaboration with friends like Bill Haag, Stu Neitzel, Harvard's Lower Mississippi Valley Survey, and the archaeologists of the oncoming generation in Louisiana and Mississippi....

Now, as I told my medical society when I semiretired some eight years ago, and repeated to my friends in the Southeastern Archaeological Society, I can admit to being a patriarch, if you will accept my definition of the term (given to you with deference to the Amazons): "A patriarch is that member of a tribe who, because of debility and old age, is no longer able to go on raiding parties with the warriors, but is safe to leave at home with the women and children". Again, I thank you."

Fryxell Award for Interdisciplinary Research

The following is extracted from American Antiquity, Vol. 50, 1985.

" While the effects of landforms upon human locational and land-use decisions have been staples of the professional and popular archaeological literature for a long time, the antiquity of the human ability to modify landforms by intent or inadvertence has become an issue in archaeological research only within the last few decades. Once archaeologists began working closely with geomorphologists in the field, the mutuality between human activity and landform evolution was demonstrated, and humans have been seen as actively involved with shaping and changing the face of the planet for at least as long as they have used fire. Roger T. Saucier is in the vanguard of the earth scientists who have contributed substantially to that insight in North America.

Trained at Louisiana State University, where he was early influenced by the Mississippi Valley archaeological research of William Haag, Saucier has worked with archaeological problems throughout his career, mainly in the Mississippi drainage and delta regions. He has worked with, and helped define, interdisciplinary teams focusing on the paleogeography and ecology of archaeological sites and occupations in Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas and Mississippi...

NEW EVIDENCE ON DE SOTO'S ROUTE TO THE MISSISSIPPI IN 1541

By
Richard A. Weinstein

For years, historians and archaeologists have speculated on the route taken by Hernando De Soto and his army of about 600 men through the Southeastern United States. One of the more extensively studied portions of the army's route centers on its approach to the Mississippi River in the spring of 1541.

Four pertinent hypotheses have developed over the years, each placing the army's crossing at or near four different points: Memphis, Tennessee; Commerce Landing in Tunica County, Mississippi; Friars Point in Coahoma County, Mississippi; and Sunflower Landing also in Coahoma County. Most nineteenth-century historians advocated the Memphis locale, while the U. S. De Soto Expedition Commission favored Sunflower Landing (Swanton 1939), Philip Phillips favored Commerce Landing (Phillips et al. 1951), and Jeffrey Brain and his associates basically favor the Coahoma County location but placed the crossing slightly north of Sunflower Landing near Friars Point (Brain et al. 1974). More recently, Dan and Phyllis Morse have supported the Commerce Landing crossing (Morse and Morse 1983).

Within the past few months, the author was involved in directing a cultural resources survey near Sunflower Landing for the Memphis and Vicksburg Districts of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. During the course of the survey a previously unrecorded mound group was located in a relatively remote area, about 1 mile northeast of Sunflower Landing and near a relict channel of the Mississippi which had previously been interpreted as dating to the 1500s (Fisk 1944:Sheet 22). Testing of the mound group, labeled the Sunflower Landing site (22 CO 713), indicated two major occupations dating to the Coahoma phase of the Baytown period and the Hushpuckena and/or Oliver phases of the Mississippi period.

While the discovery of a small village occupied during the Mississippi period is not particularly startling, the proximity of the Sunflower Landing site to both the 1500s course of the Mississippi and to two other large, late Mississippi mound sites, Alligator (22 BO 500) and Oliver (22 CO 503), located a few miles to the southeast, brings to bear the possible association of the sites with the De Soto entrada. These three sites are important in light of the various narratives related to the De Soto expedition, particularly

His professional interests are widely varied, so that he brings to his archaeological colleagues breadth of vision and many relevant skills. His research on alluvial and deltaic geomorphology, coastal sedimentation, surficial mapping, remote sensing, paleogeography, and Quaternary landforms has been made available to archeologists in the Lower Mississippi Valley to the significant benefit to their own work...

Colleagues speak warmly of his personal characteristics, noting that competence, commitment, insight, and professionalism are linked with modesty and friendliness.

Saucier's work and person exemplify those qualities that the Fryxell Award celebrates. In recognition of his many contributions to interdisciplinary work in archaeology, the 1985 Fryxell medal is presented to Roger T. Saucier"

YOU DID WHAT?

By
David R. Jeane

Ever washed a bag full of sherds, spread them out on newspaper or cardboard and waited for them to dry? Depending on the weather (especially in Louisiana) it sometimes takes three days. Or you can have the utility room covered in newspapers and your spouse needs in the freezer. Maybe you have sherds all over the spare bedroom, half dry, and your brother's family comes for a visit, with a three year old. Have you tried drying sherds with a cat in the family? You go out to check on them and find them all in a neat pile and wonder why.

Well, the other day I had just finished washing my fourth tray of sherds and was carrying them out of the kitchen when something caught my eye. A quick check showed my wife occupied elsewhere, so I took a couple of junk sherds and popped them in the microwave. It worked. With a little experimentation I found that a full tray of wet sherds with no overlaps, placed on the high setting, will come out ready for numbering in just six minutes. I've dried probably 1500 sherds and assorted artifacts with the microwave by now with the following results:

1. Sherds do fine, no problems. Real thick base sherds need to be turned over about half way through the drying cycle.
2. Bone does fine.
3. Flakes do fine.
4. Rocks get too hot—if they are sandstone they sometimes break apart. Don't do rocks.
5. Wives will eventually understand.

that of Rodrigo Ranjel (Bourne 1973), which describe the province of Quizquiz and its associated villages just prior to crossing the river:

Saturday, the last of April, the army set out from the place of the barricade [in north-central Mississippi] and marched nine days through a deserted country and by a rough way, mountainous [other scholars have suggested "wooded"] and swampy, until May 8, when they came to the first village of Quizqui, which they took by assault and captured much people and clothes; but the Governor promptly restored them to liberty and had everything restored to them for fear of war, although that was not enough to make friends of these Indians. A league beyond this village they came upon another with abundance of corn, and soon again after another league, upon another likewise amply provisioned. There they saw the great river [Bourne 1973:2:137].

Thus, after crossing the Yazoo Basin, the army came upon the first Quizquiz village, a league beyond that was the second Quizquiz village, and, lastly, a league farther was the third Quizquiz village situated near the Mississippi River. Assuming that the league distances noted were not very precise measurements, but rather indicate villages spaced evenly apart, it is postulated that the Oliver site is the first Quizquiz village and that the Sunflower Landing site is the third village by the river. Alligator, situated approximately midway between Oliver and Sunflower Landing, could be the second village. All three sites have substantial Mississippi period components which date them roughly to the time in question. Additionally, at the Oliver site there is archaeological evidence which seems to support a connection with the De Soto expedition.

Around the turn of the twentieth century, Charles W. Clark of Clarksdale, Mississippi, removed from one of the 19 prehistoric mounds at the Oliver site three small brass bells which have since come to be recognized as one of the few items that can be safely tied to mid-1500s Spanish exploration (Brown 1926:358; Brain 1975). Several years later, in 1901 and 1902, Charles Peabody of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University excavated at the Oliver site. Peabody (1904) uncovered two additional brass bells, plus cut quartz crystal beads and numerous turquoise beads that have been linked to the Spanish of the mid-sixteenth

century (Brain 1975). Overall, the artifacts from the Oliver site represent one of the largest collections of De Soto-related material in the southern U. S., and certainly the greatest concentration of the diagnostic brass bells.

These bells have been named "Clarksdale Bells" and, in the archaeological literature, several have been associated with the Clarksdale site, located about 10 miles north of the Oliver site (Brain 1975). As a result, the Clarksdale site has been suggested as one of the Quizquis villages visited by De Soto (Brain et al. 1974). In fact, no bells come from the Clarksdale site supporting the contention presented here that the Oliver site is the first Quizquiz village encountered by De Soto. (Perhaps "Oliver Bells" would be a more appropriate term.)

* Editor's Note: The above summary is based on a more detailed report presently being prepared by the author for the Vicksburg District.

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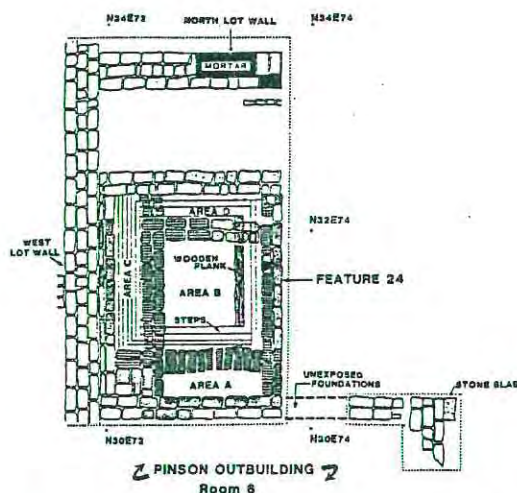
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HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY IN SHREVEPORT

David Jeane submitted this information on upcoming excavations in Shreveport.

For those interested in Historic archaeology there will be a dig in Shreveport this month. The Red River Revel Arts Festival Committee and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology are financing a public dig at an urban historic site of importance in the Cross Bayou area- somewhere around the McNeil Street Pump Station. Specific site selection will be made by the archaeologist-in-charge. Field work is scheduled to begin August 12 and run for three weeks. It will involve community volunteers for both field and lab work. Those interested should call the Division of Archaeology in Baton Rouge at (504) 925-3800.



Plan view of nineteenth century brick privy excavated in New Orleans by Coastal Environments, Inc.

CHAPTER NEWS

Delta Chapter reported by Bettie Pendley

Field work has been completed in Delta Chapter archeological survey in St. Bernard Parish, and writing of the report has begun. The project has been underway for 3 1/2 years under the leadership of Roger Baudier. Well over 2000 miles have been traveled in the marshes.

Excavations at Three Oaks Plantation continue, with Marjorie Friedman co-ordinating the project. The house foundations have been completely exosed and additional excavations are being planned for the kitchen area. A large number of sherds, mainly transfer printed wares dating from the early 1800's, have been recovered.

Delta Chapter has volunteered to assist in the restoration of ceramics found in three excavations at the Hermann-Grima House, located in the French Quarter in New Orleans. One of the second floor rooms in the house has been turned over to Delta Chapter for the work, and a ceramic display is being planned.

A field trip was recently made to the Pharmacy Museum, also located in the French Quarter. F. Bergeron, Delta member and volunteer at the museum, gave a most enjoyable and informative tour.

In July, Dr. William Stiebing, history professor at the University of New Orleans, presented an illustrated lecture on archaeological field methods using material from his excavations in the Near East. Other speakers have included Jill Yakubic, talking on excavations at Elmwood Plantation; Tom Emerson, telling of his archaeological research in Belize; and Joan Exnicios reporting on the Mississippi River Bridge archaeological project in New Orleans.

Delta Chapter welcomes new members and visitors. Meetings are held in Room 1053 of the Science Building at the University of New Orleans at 7:30 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month, except for November and December when meetings are held on the third Thursday.

Central Chapter reported by Walter Randall

In April Tim Phillips gave an excellent talk on lithic analysis and recording using examples of various lithic materials. We also had a reading of a transcript of the recent judgement in the

"Tunica Treasure" case. Marc Dupuy provided commentary on the various aspects of this case, and discussed some of the possible legal precedents which may be established.

Our speaker in May was Mr. Jim Allen, local paleontologist, who presented a talk on some of his experiences in this area, showing a collection of local fossils. In June Leroy Deselle, local Civil War enthusiast, exhibited and discussed a collection of Civil War materials.

The Central Chapter has an ongoing project involving investigation of site 16GR153, located near Pollock in Grant Parish. This site was originally discovered and recorded by members Nancy and Charles Affeltranger. Subsequently, the portion of the site in the highway right-of-way was investigated by Coastal Environments, Inc. and their report issued in August 1984. Our project is concerned with the portion of the site located on private property, off the right-of-way. We have made a careful surface survey and excavated two test pits. These are now down to 90 cm and artifacts are being recorded in 10 cm levels. A complete floral and faunal study is being made, as well as historical research of the site. We plan to issue a complete report in the future.

Southwest chapter reported by Joe Frank

In March, Dr. Margaret Wilhite, an anthropological linguist, spoke to the Chapter on her two years of research on the Mayan language. Dr. Frank Servello spoke at the May meeting on the toolkit of aboriginal occupants of the Fork Polk area.

In June the program consisted of an exhibit and slide-tape program about Poverty Point. The exhibit was sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism. At the July meeting the film "The First Americans" was shown.

The August meeting will be held on August 22 and the speaker will be T.R. Kidder of Harvard University's Lower Mississippi Survey discussing their work in northeast Louisiana.

North West Chapter reported by David Jeane

Last February members of the Chapter surveyed portions of the shoreline of Lake Bistineau and located and recorded and made a surface collection at a Caddo site.

Through the spring and summer members of the Chapter have been involved in a program of mapping and surface collecting at the Mounds Plantation site. Lead by Claude McCrocklin and Ruth Rainey we have made controlled surface collections of about 15,000 artifacts and developed a map of the site plotting in the locations of earlier collections. A drainage ditch at the site cut through a Coles Creek midden (house ?) producing large quantities of ceramics, lithics and faunal material. Post molds exposed in the ditch were recorded. Analysis of the approximately 9,000 sherds from the site is underway.

At the April meeting a slide show entitled "The Mississippian Cultures" was presented. This is one of the "Pictures of Record" slide sets which would be of interest to all LAS members.

The next Chapter meeting will be September 24.

Northlake Chapter reported by Steve Sieracki

The Northlake Chapter had an active second quarter in 1985. The April meeting featured Dr. Douglas Schwartz of New Mexico. Dr. Schwartz narrated a film on his field work at a Pueblo site.

In May Joe Manuel showed highlights of the Chapter's excavation on his VCR. Dr. Dave Davis of Tulane University presented a slide lecture on his work at the Sim's site at the June meeting. Dr. Davis has been studying the site for several years.

In July Steve Sieracki presented a preliminary report on his thesis site. The presented focused on the methodology of systematic surface collecting and its results.

The Northlake Chapter's mound excavation has produced some interesting results. The mound seems to contain at least one historic contact burial. Whether or not this is intrusive is yet to be determined. The Chapter works on this project

Saturdays and Sundays from nine in the morning until one in the afternoon. Contact the Northlake officers for more information. All are welcome to help.

The Northlake Chapter meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Delta Primate Research Center in Covington. All are welcome to attend.

A Book Review by Paul Newfield

Gold, Galleons and Archaeology: A History of the 1715 Spanish Plate Fleet and the True Story of the Great Florida Treasure Find. By Robert F. Burgess and Carl J. Clausen. Published by the Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc. New York, 1976.

This book details the history of the 1715 Spanish Plate Fleet and its destruction by hurricane on July 30-31, 1715. Eleven vessels of the treasure fleet were lost, along with more than 14 million pesos of registered treasure and seven hundred human lives. The travails of the survivors, and the tales of the early salvage operations and pirate raids are told.

As the global economic system that supported Spain in the early 18th century is described, the critical importance of the fleet's cargo to the Spanish Crown is at once evident. The authors trace the course of the Spanish fleet from Spain, south along the coast of Africa to the Canary Islands, thence across the Atlantic to Cartagena and Vera Cruz. Supplies were delivered to the colonies from Spain; trade fairs were held throughout the colonies; gold and precious trade goods from Peru, Mexico, and the Orient (via Manila) were assembled from warehouses and loaded aboard ship; thence to Havana for rendezvous with other ships for the return crossing to Spain. Ships from Vera Cruz usually followed the prevailing west winds around the northern Gulf (not far from Louisiana waters) to Havana. After long delays, the 1715 fleet finally departed Havana amid blessings and ceremony, following the Gulf Stream along the Florida Keys, up the east coast of Florida, to its final fatal destiny.

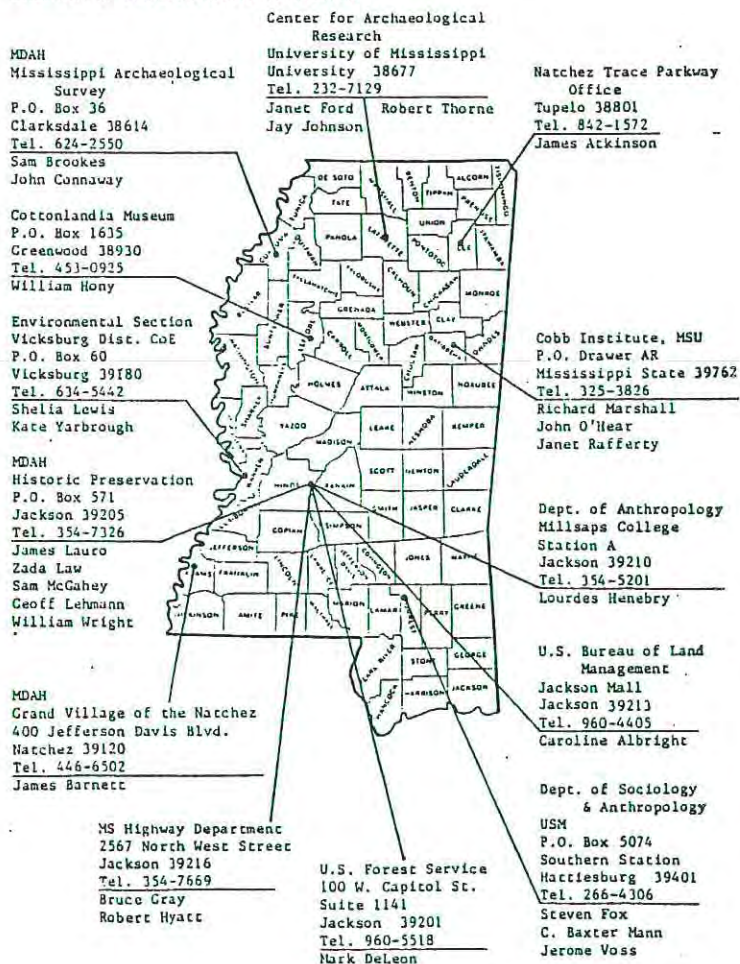
The story of the rediscovery of these wrecks and of their relationship to a previously known archaeological land site is told. The degree and depth of archival research to document the fleet is at once interesting and impressive. As the authors pose the question of the propriety of treasure hunting on archaeologically important sites, they remind us of the importance of relating our present to our past.

If you are interested in colonial Spanish political and economic history, ancient seafaring lore, underwater archaeology, gold and treasure hunting, international intrigue, archival investigation, pirates and Caribbean history, just a good detective story, this book is for you. If you are interested in knowing some of the things that were happening in the New World in the decade before the founding of New Orleans, this book is for you.

PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS IN MISSISSIPPI

John Connaway of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History asked that we publish the map shown below which provides a listing of professional archaeologists located in the state of Mississippi.

DIRECTORY OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS



Note: This directory is limited to a listing of archaeologists with institutional affiliations and North or Mesoamerican specialization.

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP LIST - 1985

James R. Adams
Box 1023
Jennings, LA 70546

Robert Adams
2245 Krist Lane
Pineville, LA 71360

Kathleen Adams
2245 Krist Lane
Pineville, LA 71360

Paul Adcock
220 Pine Lake Drive
Hughton, LA 71037

Charles E. Affeltranger
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Pineville, LA 71360

Nancy M. Affeltranger
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Caroline Albright
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Gretna, LA 70053

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509 Harwood
Jackson, MI 49203

Royce Anderson
4410 Oaklawn St.
Lake Charles, LA 70605

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Baton Rouge, LA 70815

Archeological Assessments
Box 1631
Nashville, AR 71852

University of Arkansas
Serials Section
University Library
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Irving Arledge
Rt. 1, Box 180-A
Lake Providence, LA 71254

Melissa G. Ashurst
6060 Orleans Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70124

Auburn University
Ralph Brown Draughon Library
Serials Dept.
Auburn, AL 36849

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Jew Orleans, LA 70122

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Rt 1, Box 59-1
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SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LAS MEMBERSHIP

By
Charles E. Pearson

Since a list of members of the Louisiana Archaeological Society is provided in this issue of the Newsletter, I thought it would be of interest to examine some of the characteristics of the membership. Admittedly, no earth shaking demographic or sociological conclusions can be drawn since the only information available to me are the names and addresses of members. But the exercise was fun and may eventually prove useful. All of the information presented has been drawn from the Newsletter mailing list.

At present there are a total of 383 LAS members receiving the Newsletter. This is an increase of

40 over the 343 members on the mailing list in 1984. Of this total, 345 or 90% are individuals, while 38 (10%) are institutions. Institutional membership includes 15 academic libraries; 7 local public libraries (including one junior high school); 4 Federal or state entities and 8 private institutions or firms. Although many of the state's colleges and universities subscribe to the Newsletter, there are notable exceptions. These include Tulane, Northeastern in Monroe and Northwestern in Natchitoches.

Outside of Louisiana, the geographic distribution of membership extends from Texas to New Hampshire, with the bulk of the 78 out-of-state members residing in states adjacent to Louisiana and in the southeast in general. Members are found in 17 states other than Louisiana. Texas has the largest outside-of-Louisiana membership

with 23 followed by Mississippi with 14 and Arkansas with 10. The remaining 14 states have 4 or fewer members.

The general southeastern distribution in membership certainly stems from the close association of Louisiana prehistory with the prehistory of the southeastern United States as a whole. Individuals or institutions involved or interested in southeastern archaeology have a good reason for keeping abreast with research in Louisiana. The several memberships in Massachusetts reflect the long standing interest in our area's archaeology by Harvard University. Two memberships in Nebraska are unusual in the distribution pattern, but can be explained by the fact that both members are associated with the Park Service and probably have a professional interest in Louisiana archaeology.

Most of the membership from Texas reside in East Texas, an area which prehistorically and historically is closely tied to Louisiana and the rest of the southeast. I know that several of the Texas members originally came from Louisiana and through membership in the LAS they are maintaining their interest in our state's archaeology. This may explain part of the large membership in Texas, but I think that the very active Texas Archaeological Society has also been a factor. The popular interest in archaeology instilled by the TAS has probably influenced their members to join other state societies such as the LAS.

Within the state, membership extends from Cameron to Springhill and from Benton to Bush. In order to look at the distribution of LAS membership across Louisiana, I divided the state into 6 areas and compared membership against actual population in each of the areas (Figure 1). The delineation of the 6 areas is arbitrary except that I tried to divide the state into areas of roughly equivalent size. As can be seen in the accompanying figure, proportional LAS membership and actual population are very similar in 4 of the 6 areas. In the northwestern segment of the state, membership is 6% ahead of actual population, which I hope we can contribute to the stimulus of the Northwest Chapter in Shreveport. In the south-central portion of the state, membership lags behind actual population by about 6%. This is the only one of the six areas which does not include an active LAS chapter. I am not sure if the lack of a chapter in this region is the cause or the effect of the lower than expected membership.

The city with the most members is New Orleans, with 38, followed by Baton Rouge with 34,

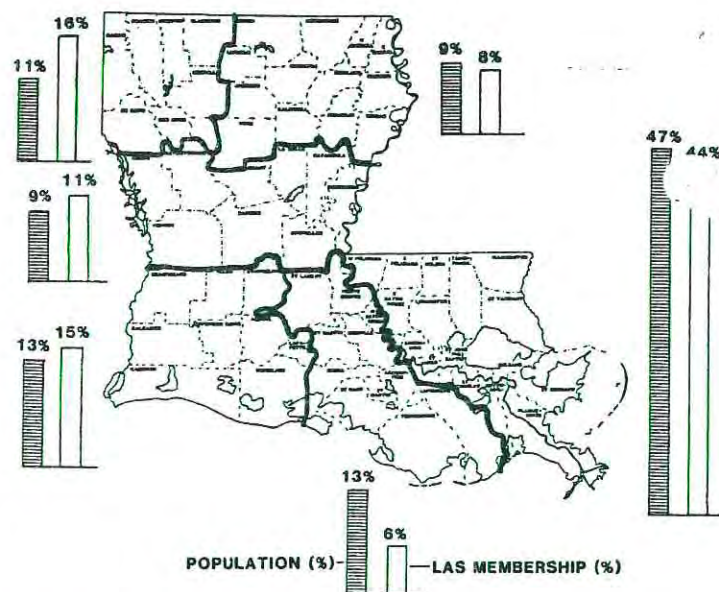


Figure 1. Relationship of LAS membership to population for six regions of the state.

Shreveport with 32 and Lafayette with 19. In general, LAS membership appears to be evenly distributed across the state in accordance with population.

I also attempted to look at LAS membership in terms of male/female and professional/nonprofessional. On the basis of names, I was able to distinguish between males and females for most, but not all members. On the basis of this identification the membership make-up is 31% female and 69% male.

I have also made an effort to identify "professional" members of the society. These are individuals who are employed in the field of archaeology (anthropology) or who are students in that field. This identification is based solely on who I can identify as a professional or student and it is certain that there are some I do not know and have thus underestimated their number. With this caution in mind, I can identify 69 persons as "professional", constituting 20% of the individual membership of the Society.

What all of this means I am not sure. Membership distribution seems to be pretty much as expected. How the make-up of the membership compares with other state societies is unknown since I have been unable to find comparative data. It does appear that the Society is healthy and enjoys steady growth. It also seems that we should encourage some in-state institutions to join the LAS and make the Newsletter and Bulletin available to those who use their libraries.

WELCOME TO

The Eleventh Annual Meeting of the
LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

January 25-27, 1984

Hosted by

The Department of Geosciences
College of Pure and Applied Science
Northeast Louisiana University

and

The Northeast Louisiana Archeological Society

with the assistance of

The Monroe - West Monroe Convention and Visitors Commission

Glen S. Greene, Coordinator

held at

The Chemistry and Natural Science Building (CNSB)

Northeast Louisiana University

WELCOME TO NORTHEAST LOUISIANA ONCE AGAIN!

We, the Geoscience Faculty and students and the membership of the Northeast Louisiana Archeological Society welcome you to the campus and to what we anticipate will be a good meeting. As we move into the second decade of the Louisiana Archeological Society, many of us fondly look back to 1976 when we played host to the Second Annual Meeting of the infant Society. The L.A.S. has certainly moved a great distance since then. The Tenth Annual Meeting in Lafayette last year proved that.

Four major archeological events have been planned for this weekend. Saturday morning, Jon Gibson has organized a symposium which will focus on defining the Poverty Point culture type. A large group of resource people have been invited to participate as discussants. Contributed papers covering a wide variety of subjects will be presented on Saturday afternoon. Recca Jones has organized a symposium on Plaquemine culture for Sunday morning. As an option for those interested in seeing the famous Poverty Point site, a bus will depart the auditorium for a morning tour of the area. The trip is free of charge (1st come, 1st serve). The social function will be a get-together at the Northeast Alumni Center on Saturday night.

We wish to thank the many members of the Northeast Louisiana Society for their planning and help, the staff of Heartfield, Price and Greene for streamlining the paperwork, the Geosciences Department for funding the bus trip, and Dean Daniel E. Dupree for arranging use of the splendid new facility for the meeting. A special thanks to the L.A.S. membership, whose continual participation will make it all possible.

Glen S. Greene
Monroe, Louisiana

INFORMATION

Registration

Registration is scheduled from 4:00-6:00 PM, Friday, January 25, and from 7:30-12:00, Saturday, January 26. Registration for LAS members is \$5.00, and for all non-members, \$10.00. This will be done just outside the auditorium.

Books, Maps and Handicrafts

Book sales tables from LSU and the Arkansas Archeological Survey will be available in the corridor outside the meeting auditorium. In addition, authentic New World maps and prints from the 1600's, 1700's and 1800's as well as handicrafts from Louisiana Native American groups will be on sale in the same area.

LAS Membership

Renew your LAS membership or join the LAS for the nominal dues of: Sustaining member - \$300.00; Life member - \$100.00; Regular member - \$10.00; Student member - \$5.00; and Associate Member - \$2.00. Someone will explain the benefits of each membership category, but if you join the LAS prior to registering, your registration fee will be less.

Meetings

The LAS executive committee will meet in the CNSB auditorium following the last of the contributed papers, Saturday, January 26. Everyone please attend. Your registration packets give full details on hotels, motels, restaurants, shopping and local places of interest in the Monroe-West Monroe area. The Ramada Inn, Highway 165 and Interstate 20, is the recommended "gathering place", although many other motels are available nearby.

Special Interest Area

Everyone is cordially invited to view the Geosciences Museum of Natural History on the third floor of Hanna Hall. It is a one room museum featuring archeological, ethnological, and geological exhibits. Featured are exhibits from Bolivia, Peru, and Nicaragua, the Poverty Point Site, the Pargoud Landing Site, the Breckenridge Mammoth Site, and the very outstanding collection of North American Indian artifacts donated by Dr. R. W. Dickenhorst. Please take the time!

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1985

4:00-6:00 PM REGISTRATION, CNSB Auditorium Corridor
7:00-8:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting, CNSB Auditorium
8:00-'til Bar, Ramada Inn, Junction Hwy 165 & I-20

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1985

7:30-12:00 AM REGISTRATION, CNSB Auditorium Corridor

8:30-8:40 AM Welcome to the membership and guests

8:40-10:30 AM

SYMPOSIUM: THE POVERTY POINT CULTURE TYPE
Moderated by Jon Gibson

Panelists (invited): Clarence Webb, Mitchell Hillman, Glen S. Greene, William Haag, Deborah Woodiel, Carl Kuttruff, Jan Campbell, Prentice Thomas, Hiram Gregory, Jr., Les Davis, Edwin Jackson, John Belmont, T. R. Kidder, Reca Jones, Dennis Price, Frank Schaumbach, Geoffrey Lehmann, Joe Frank, J. Richard Schenkel, James Bruseth, Bill Baker, A. F. Ramenofsky, James Fogelman, Woody Gagliano, Robert Neuman, Brian Duke, Vaughn M. Bryant, Scott Burns, Dan Wolfman.

10:30-10:45 AM Coffee Break

10:45-11:45 AM SYMPOSIUM: THE POVERTY POINT CULTURE TYPE, continued.

11:45-1:30 PM LUNCH (Coenan Cafeteria, NLU Campus, is nearby)

1:30-5:00 PM CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

1:30-1:50 PM Recent Excavations by the Arkansas State Highway Department. Burney B. McClurkan (AHTD)

1:50-2:10 PM Lithic Scatters and Longleaf Pine: Limited Activity Areas in Pyrogenic Environments.
John E. Keller (Alexandria)

2:10-2:30 PM A Reduction Analysis of Simple Bone Points.
Steve Sieracki (Metairie)

2:30-2:50 PM Possible Notching Flakes from the Florida Parishes.
Steve Sieracki (Metairie)

2:50-3:10 PM Archeological Investigations of 16CT147, Cowpen Slough. A. F. Ramenofsky (LSU/Baton Rouge)

1:30 time introduction

Paul Hodge

3:10-3:30 PM High energy stream cutting and in-filling on
Yazoo Bluff sites, Mississippi.
Lorraine Heartfield (HPG/Monroe)

3:30-3:50 PM Coffee Break

3:50-4:10 PM Drug and Mineral Water Suppliers in Nineteenth
Century New Orleans: Economic Interaction and
Archaeological Record.
Thurston Hahn and George Castille (Coastal
Environments)

4:10-4:30 PM Archaeological Investigation of Bailey's Dam,
Rapides Parish, Louisiana.
George Castille (Coastal Environments)

4:30-4:50 PM Archaeological Excavations at the Autrey House.
Jerry Motherspaugh (HPG/Monroe)

4:50-5:00 PM Questions and/or discussion on contributed papers

5:00-5:45 PM Business Meeting. CNSB Auditorium.

8:30-'til Cash Bar, Courtesy beer and soft drinks, snacks.
Northeast Alumni Center, NLU Campus

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 1985

Poverty Point Optional Field Trip

7:30-7:45 PM Bus loading for Poverty Point field trip

7:45-11:30 AM Poverty Point field trip

Scheduled Program

8:30-10:10 AM SYMPOSIUM: DEFINING THE PLAQUEMINE CULTURE
Coordinated by Recca Jones;
Moderated by John Belmont
Panelists: Martha Rolingson, Marvin Jeter,
John House, Frank Schaumbach, David Hally,
Lorraine Heartfield, T. R. Kidder, Hiram
Gregory, Jr., Richard Weinstein.

10:10-10:30 AM Coffee Break

10:30-11:45 AM Summary and conclusions of Symposium on Plaquemine

11:45-12:00 AM Final words from LAS President and adjournment

*see you in Corington 86
NO in 87*

