



Louisiana Archaeological Society

NEWSLETTER

CHERIE A. SCHWAB, NEWSLETTER EDITOR
COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC. BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

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Fall 2004

FROM THE EDITOR

The 31st Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society will be held in Lafayette February 11-13, 2005. The meeting announcement, a call for papers, and pre-registration forms are included in this issue. This year's guest speaker will be Robert Ricklis, archaeologist with Coastal Environments, Inc., Corpus Cristi. The topic of his talk will be the 2000-2001 excavations at the multicomponent Buckeye Knoll site (41VT98). (See page 6, this issue, for more information on the Buckeye Knoll site.) There will be a reception on Friday night and a banquet on Saturday. Register now and reserve your room to make sure you get a spot!

The minutes from the May Executive Committee Meeting held in Baton Rouge are included as well, along with some good articles submitted by our members. The first article, by Chip McGimsey, presents a study of the vessel assemblage at 16CM114, a discontinuous scatter of *Rangia* shell and ceramic sherds on the Cameron Parish coast. In addition, Jon Gibson has provided a touching tribute to Steven Carricut, one of our members who lost his battle with hepatitis in February of this year.

Josetta LeBoeuf has provided a report on this year's Earth Day activities in Baton Rouge and the participation of the LAS. Josetta has also been busily working on making sure that Archaeology Week, September 26th -October 2nd, is a great success. Visit www.crt.state.la.us and click on "Archaeology"

to find a schedule of events and general information on Louisiana Archaeology Week.

Also, check out the "Chapter News" on page 4 and some important announcements on page 5. Thanks goes out to the LAS Chapter representatives for providing reports on their chapters.

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter (Winter issue) is November 31st. If anyone has anything they'd like to see in the newsletter, please send it along. Thank you for your continued contributions and participation in the LAS.

Cherie Schwab
Newsletter Editor

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**MINUTES OF THE
LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**May 15, 2004
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

**Reported by
Maureen Downey**

The Executive Committee of the Louisiana Archaeological Society met Saturday, May 15, 2004, at the Old State Capitol, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. President John Polk called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

Members present were

John Polk - LAS President
Ellen Ibert - LAS Vice President/President-Elect
Maureen Downey - LAS Secretary
Josetta LeBoeuf - LAS Treasurer
Cherie Schwab - LAS Newsletter Editor
Chip McGimsey - LAS Bulletin Editor
Charles Parker - LAS At Large Representative
Margarette Cheramie - CLAC Representative
Nancy Affeltranger - CLAC President
Lena Polk - Delta Chapter

MINUTES

Chip McGimsey made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 2, 2004 meeting of the LAS Executive Committee held at the Louisiana Convention Center, Alexandria, Louisiana, as published in LAS Newsletter, Volume 31, No. 1, Spring 2004. Ellen Ibert seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Vice President

Ellen Ibert reported that one of her main objectives would be the reorganization of the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy. She then proposed that the Executive Committee reevaluate the motion revising the guidelines for publishing in LAS publications passed at the September 20, 2003 meeting. That

revision required that sites reported on be recorded with the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. John Polk asked her to present a report regarding this revision at the next committee meeting.

Treasurer

Treasurer Josetta LeBoeuf reported that the LAS checking account balance was \$4,714.00. She stressed the necessity, because of the decrease in income, to produce a less expensive Bulletin. Cherie explained the expenses involved in publishing the Bulletins. Discussion followed on ways to produce a quality bulletin at a more economical rate. Cherie will continue to check publishers and to explore other options for the Bulletins.

Membership

Josetta LeBoeuf reported that the LAS now has 187 members. Many old members have not renewed. Cherie stated that it is the policy to send both 2003 and 2004 members the first Newsletter of the year. She will continue to include dues reminders in the Newsletters. Other methods to remind people to renew their membership were discussed. Josetta clarified the "sustaining" membership category and noted that the LAS has received only three sustaining memberships. John Polk reviewed his work regarding enlisting libraries and other institutions as members of the LAS. He encouraged committee members to check with the libraries and institutions in their parish.

Bulletin Report

Chip McGimsey reported that LAS Bulletin No. 26, 1999, will be completed shortly. He discussed possibilities for the next Bulletin, which he said could possibly be published before the end of the year. He added that contributions for the Bulletin are always needed. John Polk pointed out that at least one Bulletin must be published each year. He also expressed his desire to bring the Bulletins up-to-date. Securing grants to cover publication costs was discussed.

Newsletter Report

Newsletter Editor Cherie Schwab reported that 240 copies of the Spring 2004 Newsletter were mailed. She reiterated that copies of this Newsletter were mailed to both 2003 and 2004 members, but that future copies will be sent only to 2004 members. She explained that the LAS saved significantly by using

the bulk rate to mail the Newsletters. She also said that contributions are still needed for the Summer Newsletter. Discussion followed on what information about members should be included in the Newsletters. This will be discussed further at a future meeting. Cherie said that LAS Chapters should be reminded that they should send reports to be included in the Newsletters. The deadline for submissions for the summer issue is August 15.

Web Site

Junior Doughty was unable to attend the meeting. However, he had previously reported that the use of credit cards to pay membership on-line was working well. The Committee agreed that Junior has done an excellent job with the web site.

ONGOING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

LAS Brochures

It was agreed that the new brochures were needed as soon as possible. Cherie Schwab will report by June 15 to President John Polk on costs to publish the brochures. A decision will then be made on the amount to publish.

Revision of the LAS Logo

Cherie included an announcement in the last Newsletter about the contest to revise the LAS logo. As indicated in the announcement, entries are to be emailed or mailed to President John Polk. It was suggested that voting for the best design be conducted on the web site.

2004 Annual Meeting

Nancy Affeltranger reported on the 2004 meeting. She gave particular thanks to the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities for the grant that they awarded to CLAC to cover some costs of the Annual Meeting. She plans to forward the information to the hosts of future meetings. John Polk made a motion to express the LAS's appreciation for the great job done by CLAC at the 2004 Annual Meeting. Ellen Ibert seconded the motion. The Committee approved this motion unanimously. Nancy Affeltranger then made a motion that the host of the Annual Meeting be allowed to retain a percentage of profits, if any, above the amount given by the LAS. Action on this motion was deferred until further discussion.

Signatures on LAS Checks

The amendment requiring two signatures on LAS checks was adopted at the 2004 Annual Business Meeting. Josetta reported that the system was now in place.

NEW BUSINESS

2005 Annual Meeting

The 2005 Annual Meeting will be held in Lafayette, Louisiana. The date will be February 11 - 13, 2005. As reported in the last minutes, a silent auction is to be held at future Annual Meetings. Chip McGimsey informed the Committee that the Missouri Department of Archives has offered to exchange a set of their publications for a set of LAS publications. He suggested that the Missouri publications could be used in the silent auction at the 2005 Annual Meeting. Josetta LeBoeuf made the motion that the Committee approve the exchange of publications and Chip's suggestion to use the Missouri publications in the silent auction. Ellen Ibert seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Earth Day

Josetta LeBoeuf reported that the Baton Rouge Chapter took part in the Earth Day celebration in Baton Rouge. They volunteered in the Louisiana Culture and the Native American pavilions. She plans to submit an article to the Newsletter about the event and to encourage others to become involved next year. She believes the LAS would gain good publicity from participation in Earth Day and could acquire new members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Executive Committee meeting will be August 14, 2004, in Lafayette, Louisiana, time and place to be announced.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Charles Parker and seconded by Chip McGimsey to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously and President John Polk adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

chapter news

BATON ROUGE

The Baton Rouge Chapter meets at 7:00 pm on the last Wednesday of each month at the Bluebonnet Public Library.

All are welcome!

For more information contact:

Josetta LeBoeuf

225-767-4974

josieaz@bellsouth.net

September 29 Program (also in conjunction with Louisiana Archaeology Week):

"Does the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development do Archaeology?"

By Elizabeth Davoli, LADOTD

Lectures this year included topics such as "Maya Archaeology, Identifying Archaeological Sites in Louisiana Marshes Using Spatial Information Technologies" by Ben Goodwin, "Forensic Anthropology at LSU: Details on Creating the Biological Profile, The Plaquemine Mounds Archaeological Project" by Mark Rees, "Excavations at the Bayou Grande Cheniere Mounds" by Tim Schilling, and "The Gold Mine Site" by Chip McGimsey.

The Chapter also helped with Earth Day Baton Rouge (see page 8, *this issue*) and the washing of artifacts recovered from the Royal Hotel, 16WF175, in St. Francisville by Rob Mann, Regional Archaeologist.

Josetta LeBoeuf

Baton Rouge Chapter Treasurer

CENTRAL LOUISIANA

At the regular meeting of The Central Louisiana Archaeological Chapter officers remained the same by acclamation, although Charlie Affeltranger has asked someone to replace him.

President-Nancy Affeltranger

Vice President-Fran Gucherau

Secretary-Ellis Denning

Treasurer-Charles Affeltranger

State Representative-Margarette Cheramie

Librarian-Tommy Delrie

In April, Caitlin Connor, a new member 13 years old, talked on her experience uncovering mammoths in Texas with Texas A&M. Both Caitlin and her

mother are new members of the LAS. The CLAC voted Caitlin to be historian and contact for the newsletter. Also in April, Charles Neal spoke on the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill and left us with a request for support for friends of the Mansfield battlefield, much of which is being stripped for lignite, a low grade coal.

At the January meeting, Dr. Pete Gregory talked on the "finding of the Rattlesnake lady" on the Reed property, by Mrs. U.B. Evans. In the 1930s, soil from the garden at the Reed site, located in Deville, was sifted in an ordinary flour sifter in order to locate all pieces of a remarkable clay pot which held seeds. Dr. Gregory is also looking for pottery with "kill holes" a marker for the Hopewellian culture.

Our May paper was given by the former mayor of Dry Prong, Glenn Maxwell. He spoke of the battles of Henderson Hill and Monett's Ferry, local Civil War battles. Glenn suggested that the chapter help locate the Union cemetery which was hastily dug as Northern forces retreated from Monett's Ferry.

Our paper in June was given by Terry Merchant, who spoke on Forts Randolph and Buhlow, located near the Red River.

Caitlin Conner

CLAC Historian and Newsletter Contact

WEST LOUISIANA

The West-Louisiana Archaeology Club hosts monthly meetings in Leesville, Louisiana on the second Thursday at the Museum of West Louisiana. Recently, the club visited the War Room Museum in DeRidder, Louisiana. There we discussed future plans to test an Atakapa site in Merryville, Louisiana. The club members, with cooperation of Chip McGimsey, and Ellen Ibert as the principle investigator, will search for intact cultural deposits and determine the eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. This site is being proposed as another site for the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy's protection.

This project is expected to begin in mid-September. Anyone interested in participating in should contact the club president, John Guy, (337) 238-3277 or the club secretary, Ellen Ibert, (337) 392-6104.

Ellen Ibert

Club Secretary

announcements

LAS Annual Meeting Silent Auction

This year the LAS will hold a silent auction as a fundraising event. A number of items, including numerous reports on Mississippi and Lower Mississippi Valley archaeology provided by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and four of the C.B. Moore volumes recently reprinted by the University of Alabama Press (including the two reporting his 1910s work in Louisiana), have already been donated. Please consider donating something for this auction (authentic artifacts are not acceptable but replicas would be great) and bring your money to the meeting!

Items can be brought to the meeting or sent to Chip McGimsey at the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, PO Box 40198, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA. 70504.

If you are intending to donate an item, please let Chip know before the meeting so that we can have the appropriate table space, bid boxes, and forms available.

An Important Question for the Members

Over the last year, the Executive Committee has been wrestling with the issue of professional standards and the publication of archaeological data. The By-Laws of the LAS state that the purpose and objectives of the Society include 1) the scientific study, investigation and interpretation of archae-

ology, and 2) the publication and distribution of information concerning archaeology. If an article is submitted for publication in the Newsletter or Bulletin containing important information on the archaeology of Louisiana, BUT the sites described in the article have not been recorded with the state, should it be published? Is the recording of sites with the State part of the scientific standards the Society wishes to uphold? Should the Society encourage individuals, in particular avocationalists, to participate in the Society by publishing their data if they choose to withhold the site locations? How should the Society balance the two objectives cited above?

A manuscript exploring the different aspects of this issue has been posted on the LAS website: www.laarchaeology.org. PLEASE read this report, consider the issue, and make your opinion known to a member of the LAS Executive Committee. We plan to vote on this issue at the November meeting.

**Newsletter
Submission
Deadline
Winter Issue
November 31st**

31st Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society

February 11-13, 2005

**Hilton Hotel
Lafayette, Louisiana**

The 2005 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society will be held at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Center in Lafayette, Louisiana on February 11, 12 and 13.

A block of 50 rooms has been held for the conference participants at a rate of \$72 for a room with two double beds and \$82 for a room with one king bed. The rooms will be held for members of the LAS until 21 January 2005. Reservations can be made by calling **1-800-445-8667**; to get the meeting room rate you must identify yourself as a member of the LAS.

The meeting will begin on Friday afternoon with various committee meetings and an evening reception. Papers will be presented Saturday with a banquet and keynote speaker on Saturday evening. A cash bar will follow the evening presentation. A variety of tours will be available on Sunday morning, including a visit to the A.D. 1300 Bayou Portage Guidry site and Acadian cultural attractions in Lafayette. More information will be available on the LAS website (www.laarchaeology.org) in December.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Robert Ricklis of Coastal Environments, Inc., in Corpus Christi, Texas. The topic of his talk will be the 2000-2001 excavations at the stratified, multicomponent Buckeye Knoll site (41VT98), sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Galveston District). Time-diagnostic artifacts found within the various strata indicate occupations spanning the late Paleo-Indian, Early, Middle and Late Archaic and Late Prehistoric periods. Two prehistoric mortuary components have been identified at Buckeye Knoll. The larger is an Early Archaic cemetery dating to ca. 7,000 years ago. This cemetery, one of only three large mortuary sites known for this period in all of North America, contained flexed, semi-flexed, and sitting primary interments. A wide array of lithic, bone and shell artifacts were associated with the individuals buried in the cemetery.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the meeting, contact Chip McGimsey at 337-482-5198 or mcgimsey@louisiana.edu.

Call For Papers

31st Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society
February 11-13, 2005
Hilton Hotel
Lafayette, Louisiana

To submit a paper for presentation, you can:

1) submit a title and abstract electronically via the LAS website; go to www.laarchaeology.org and click on 2005 Annual Meeting

2) submit a title and abstract via email to mcgimsey@louisiana.edu;

3) mail your title and abstract to:

Chip McGimsey
Department of Anthropology and Sociology
PO Box 40198
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Lafayette, La. 70504

Presentations should be no longer than 20 minutes. A slide projector and digital projector with laptop will be available for participants use. Speakers wishing to use Powerpoint must load their presentations before the session or bring their own laptop.

Abstracts are due February 1, 2005

Name _____

Address _____

Affiliation _____

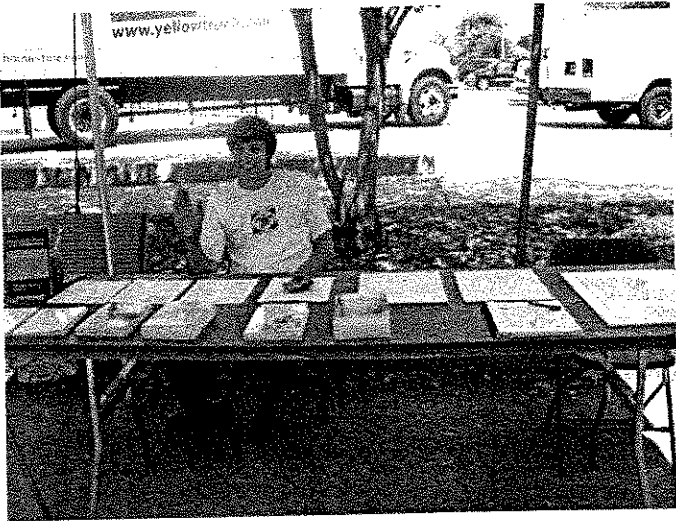
Abstract _____

EARTH DAY 2004

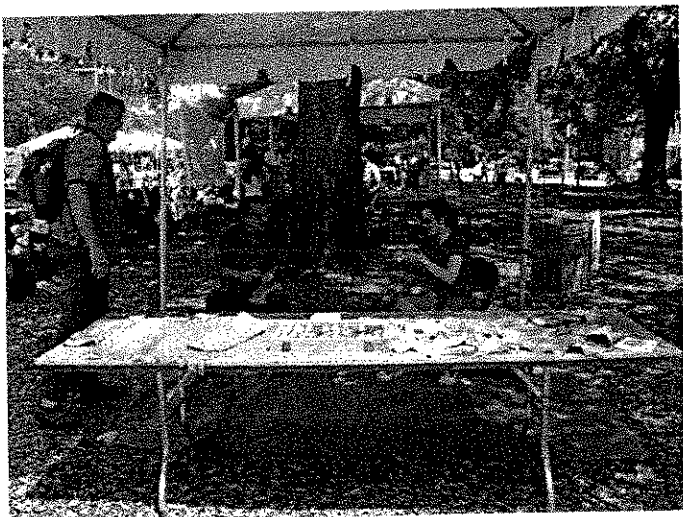
The Baton Rouge Chapter participated in Earth Day Baton Rouge on April 18, 2004. Featured events included a flintknapping demonstration by Jerry Hutchinson (BR Chapter), Prehistoric Textile Display and discussion by Dr. Jenna Kuttruff and Dr. Marie Standifer (LSU Faculty and longtime LAS members), and palmetto hut building for audience participation



day and did an excellent job in promoting the society as well as answering general questions about Louisiana archaeology. The Chapter also hosted John and Scarlet Darden (Chitimacha Tribe) who displayed information on the tribe and their art of basket making, and The Native American Student Association (NASA, LSU). The Division of Archaeology also provided information on site preservation and the importance of studying the past as well as literature on Louisiana Archaeology available through their office. The Division also provided activities for the children including making pottery rubbings and beaded necklaces. The festival was tremendous fun, and thanks again to everyone who helped to make it a success! The Chapter hopes to participate again next year. Anyone interested in volunteering for next year, April 17, 2005, should contact Josetta at 225-342-8170.



(special thanks to Bob Rackley, Lloyd Pine, Kitty Roberts, and Martie Lane for their help with the palmetto collecting). The Chapter promoted the LAS by displaying past bulletins and newsletters and information about the organization including how to become a member. Dr. Rebecca Saunders (LSU Faculty and LAS member), Josh Boutwell and Charlsa Moore (BR Chapter members) manned the booth all



Pre-Registration Form

31st Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society

February 11-13, 2005

Hilton Hotel

Lafayette, Louisiana

You can register online at the LAS website (www.laarchaeology.org) or by sending the following information to:

Chip McGimsey
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
PO Box 40198
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Lafayette, La. 70504

Name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ email _____

Pre-Registration Fee: _____ @ \$25.00 per person

Student Registration Fee:
(with ID): _____ @ \$15.00 per person

On-site Registration Fee: _____ @ \$30.00 per person

Banquet _____ @ \$20.50 per person

Total _____

Please make checks payable to the Louisiana Archaeological Society

The 16CM114 Vessel Assemblage

Chip McGimsey

Site 16CM114 consists of a discontinuous scatter of *Rangia* shell and ceramic sherds on the Cameron Parish coast. This section of coast is eroding rapidly, having lost over 1,800 m in the last 250 years, and up to 200 m in the last 20 years. Consequently, the original site location is completely gone and it is represented only by the wave-washed remnants that move with the retreating shoreline. The original shell midden(s) was probably located along a channel of what is today Constance or Little Constance Bayou. It may also have been the location of the survivor's camps from the *El Constante* shipwreck in 1766. The ship ran aground directly south of this area (Pearson and Hoffman 1998) and artifacts from the vessel have been found amongst the *Rangia* scatters.

The site was first reported by Richard Weinstein in 1981 and described at the 1983 LAS meetings (Weinstein 1983). In subsequent years, Robert Cole of Lafayette has occasionally collected the site and recently took the author to see it. The three collections from the site (Weinstein's, Cole's, and the author's) total nearly 1,000 sherds. The collections are notable for 1) the large size of the sherds (many are 10 cm or more in size) and 2) the uniformly late prehistoric decorative assemblage. These collections presented an excellent opportunity to characterize a late prehistoric vessel assemblage from Louisiana's western Gulf Coast.

An AMS radiometric assay was obtained from charcoal adhering to the interior surface of a large base sherd in the Cole collection. It returned a conventional age of 370±50 BP ($^{13}\text{C}=-23.06$; UGa-13390), which calibrates to a median age of AD 1486 with a 2-sigma range of AD 1436 - 1645. While all the sherds (including the dated specimen) at this site are redeposited, there is no reason to believe it does not derive from the same assemblage as the decorated materials discussed in this paper. This age is supported by the geomorphic position of the original site. It lay at least 3 km seaward of Front Ridge, which dates to approximately AD 1100 (Gould and McFarlan 1959; McBride et al. 1997). In this context, the site must postdate the construction of the ridge, indicating the radiocarbon age is a reasonable estimate of the site's age.

The Analysis

This study included all of the decorated sherds in the three collections, as well as the plain rim sherds in the Cole collection. A total of 361 decorated sherds were identified, of which 128 were included in the rim analysis. This study used the identifications provided for the Weinstein collection (Weinstein 1983), all other identifications are by the author following Brown (1998) and Phillips (1970). The study also measured 260 Baytown Plain rims from the Cole collection. The analysis recorded seven vessel and rim attributes (data on file at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette) for every rim sherd containing more than 5 cm of rim. Rim attributes follow Girard (2000:Figure 13) and vessel types follow Ryan (2004:Figure 7-2). Vessel profiles were drawn for every rim sherd that extended more than 10 cm below the lip. Vessel paste was not characterized; it ranged from very silty to very sandy with varying amounts of grog inclusions. No shell-tempered sherds were noted, although two bone-tempered sherds were seen. In his original analysis, Weinstein identified a number of sherds as San Jacinto paste (Aten 1983) with the remainder Baytown Plain.

The Decorated Assemblage

The assemblage includes several late prehistoric types (Table 1), with Coles Creek Incised being the most numerous (41.0%). These are nearly all *var. Hardy* (Plate 1), although seven specimens with only two or three lines were included here. Most examples exhibit four to seven incised lines, although six specimens exhibit 10 or more lines. One unusual vessel had 26 lines spaced more-or-less evenly along the entire vessel wall from rim to flat base (Figure 1d). Almost all of the lines are rough and irregular.

The second-most abundant type is Leland Incised. These sherds typically exhibit a broadly U-shaped, 3-4 mm wide incised line (Plates 2 and 3). The Leland Incised, *var. Ferris* sherds in this collection are stylistically

Table 1. Inventory of the 16CM114 Decorated Assemblage. Number in Parentheses is Total Included in Attribute Analysis.

Type	Rims	Body sherds	Total
Avoyelles Punctated, var. Dupree / unspecified	2 (2)	1	3
var. Tatum	1	-	1
Anna Incised, var. Evangeline	1 (1)	-	1
Carter Engraved, var. unspecified	1	2	3
Coleman Incised, var. unspecified	-	2	2
Coles Creek Incised, var. Hardy	79 (50)	23	102
var. Pecan	6 (4)	-	6
var. Mott	-	1	1
var. unspecified	2 (2)	1	3
Fatherland Incised, var. Bayou Goula	1 (1)	-	1
var. Fatherland	3 (2)	1	4
var. Nancy	5 (5)	-	5
var. Stanley	-	3	3
var. Bayou Bourbe	1	-	1
var. unspecified	3 (3)	3	6
Goose Creek Incised, var. unspecified	-	1	1
Harrison Bayou Incised, var. Harrison Bayou	4 (1)	5	9
var. unspecified	-	1	1
Hollyknowe Ridged Pinched, var. Patmos	-	1	1
L'eau Noire Incised, var. L'Eau Noire	2 (2)	1	3
var. unspecified	6 (3)	7	13
Leland Incised, var. Ferris	5 (3)	1	6
var. Foster	4 (4)	-	4
var. Leland	6 (6)	8	14
var. unspecified	8 (8)	10	18
Maddox Engraved, var. Emerald	1 (1)	-	1
var. Silver City	1 (1)	-	1
var. unspecified	5 (5)	5	10
Mazique Incised, var. Manchac	8 (6)	16	24
var. unspecified	1 (1)	-	1
Plaquemine Brushed, var. Plaquemine	6 (5)	14	20
var. unspecified	-	3	3
Pontchartrain Check Stamped, var. Pontchartrain	-	1	1
type indeterminate	24 (12)	64	88

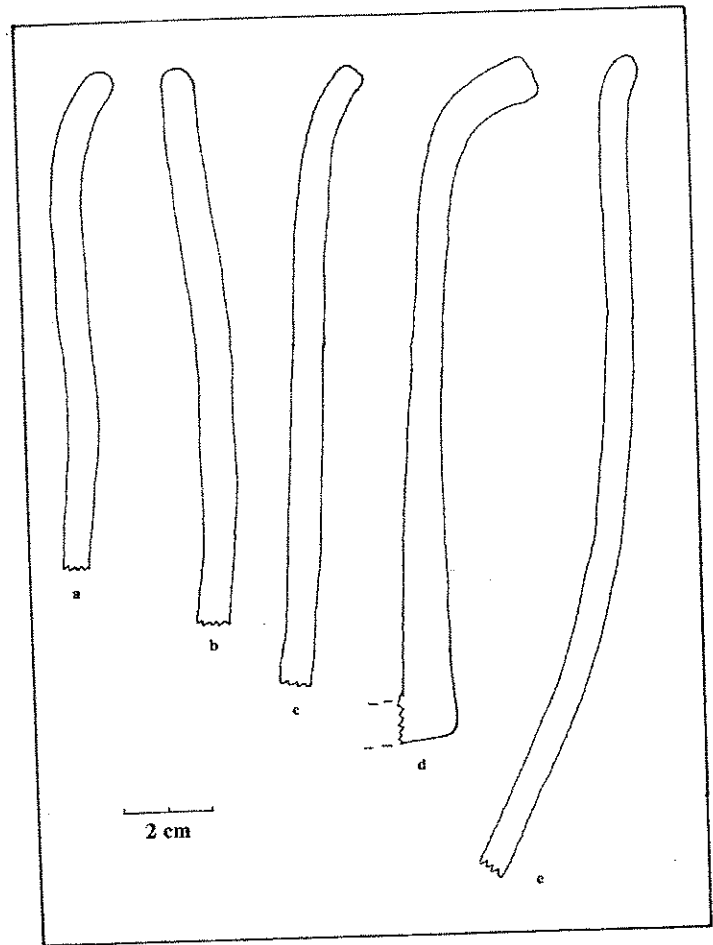


Figure 1. Beaker rim profiles. a, Plaquemine Brushed, var. Plaquemine (Weinstein collection); b and e, Baytown Plain (Cole and Weinstein collections); c, Mazique Incised, var. unspecified (Cole collection); d, Coles Creek Incised, var. Hardy (Cole collection).

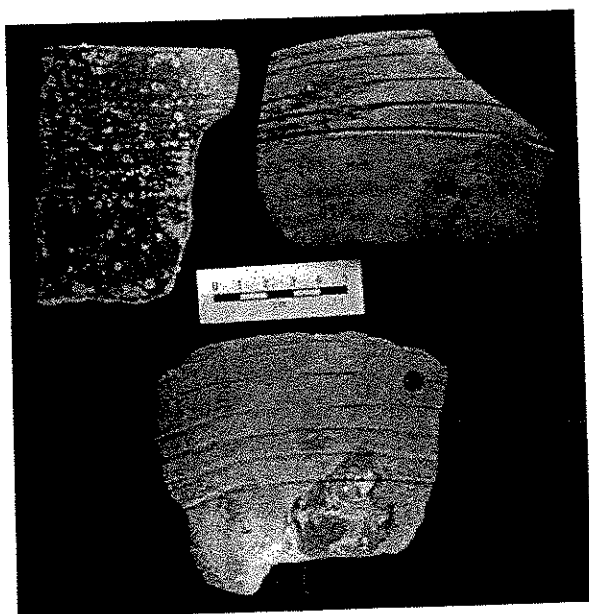


Plate 1. Coles Creek Incised, var. Hardy. Robert Cole collection.

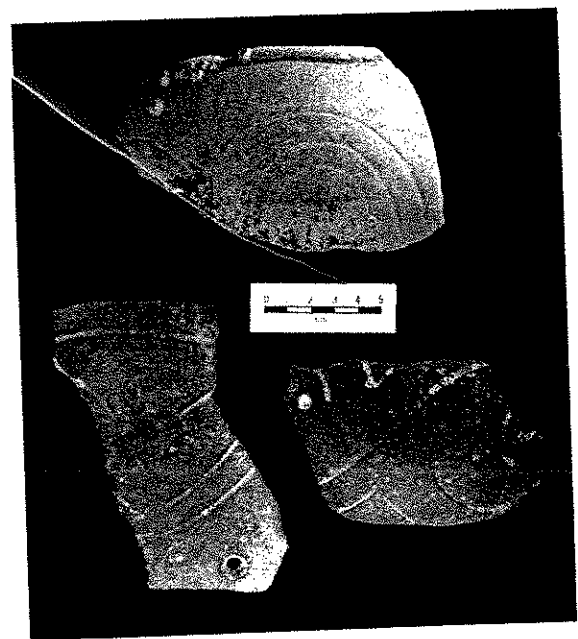


Plate 2. Leland Incised, var. Leland. Robert Cole collection.

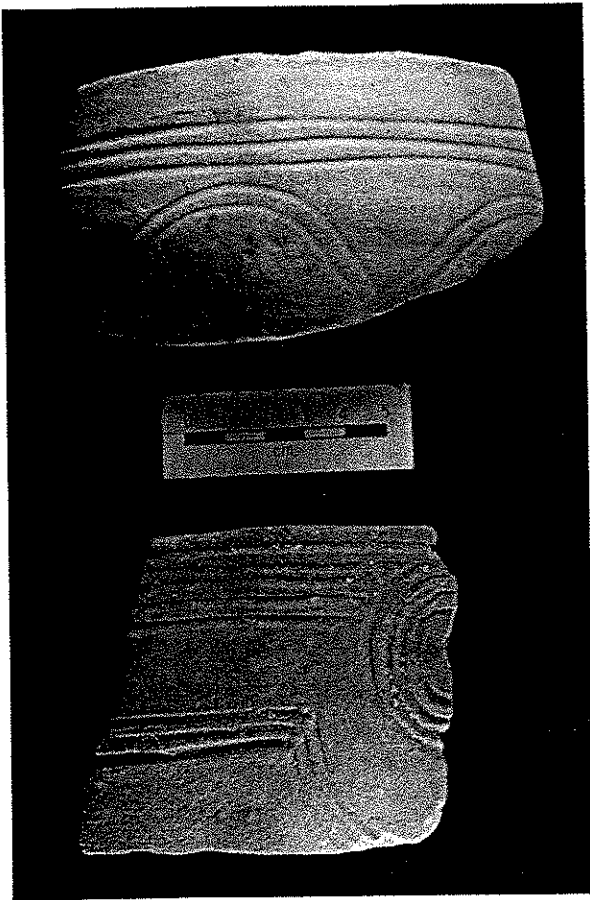


Plate 3. Leland Incised, *var. Ferris*. Robert Cole collection.



Plate 4. Fatherland Incised, *var. Nancy*. Robert Cole collection.

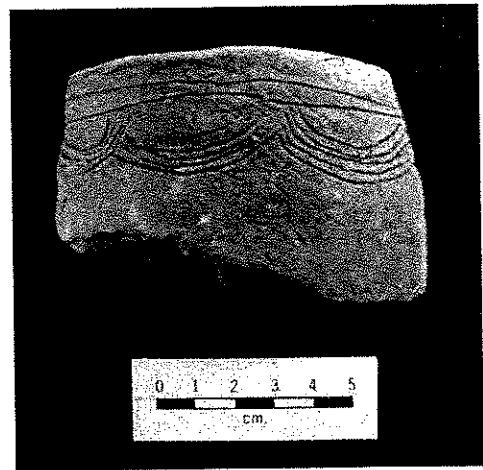


Plate 5. Fatherland Incised, *var. unspecified*. Robert Cole collection.

identical to the Fatherland Incised, *var. Nancy* specimens (Plate 4) and are segregated out solely on the basis of line type. The specimens from either group could easily be included in the other. The Fatherland Incised examples typically have thinner, rarely U-shaped, more irregularly drawn lines (Plates 5, 6 and 7).

Six other types comprise between three and ten percent each of the assemblage (see Table 1), including Mazique Incised (Plate 8) and Maddox Engraved (Plates 9 and 10). Finally, seven other types each comprise less than 1 percent of the total decorated assemblage. A number of sherds are classified as type indeterminate as they exhibit combinations of decorative styles (Plate 11). Included among these examples are one sherd exhibiting two parallel lines of very thick, 2-ply cord impressions and one sherd with widely spaced, irregular zig-zag incised lines oriented vertically on the vessel.

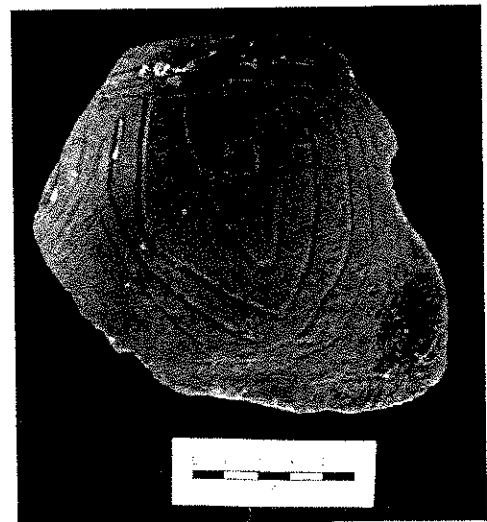


Plate 6. Fatherland Incised, *var. unspecified*. Robert Cole collection.

All of these types are common late prehistoric decorative styles, except perhaps the four Avoyelles

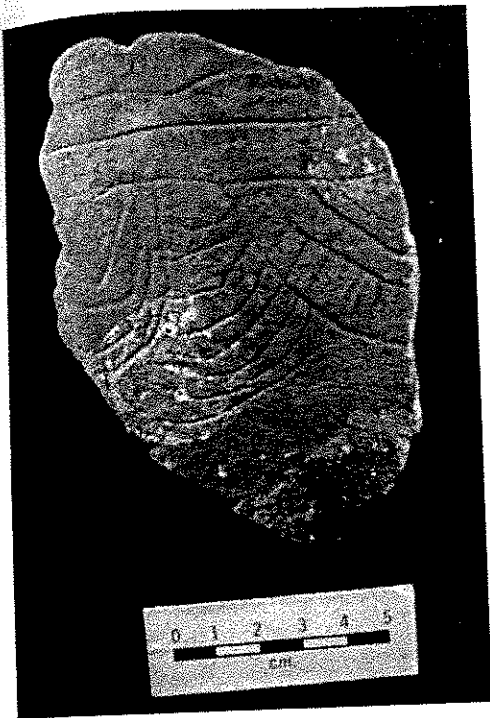


Plate 7. *Fatherland Incised, var. unspecified.* Robert Cole collection.



Plate 8. *Mazique Incised, var. unspecified.* Robert Cole collection.

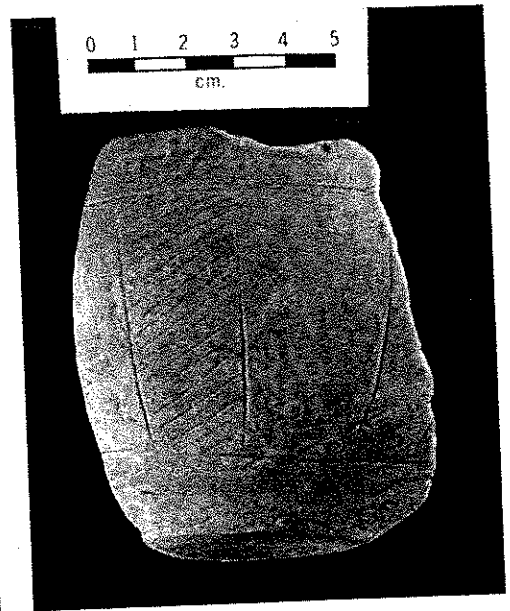


Plate 9. *Maddox Engraved, var. unspecified.* Robert Cole collection.

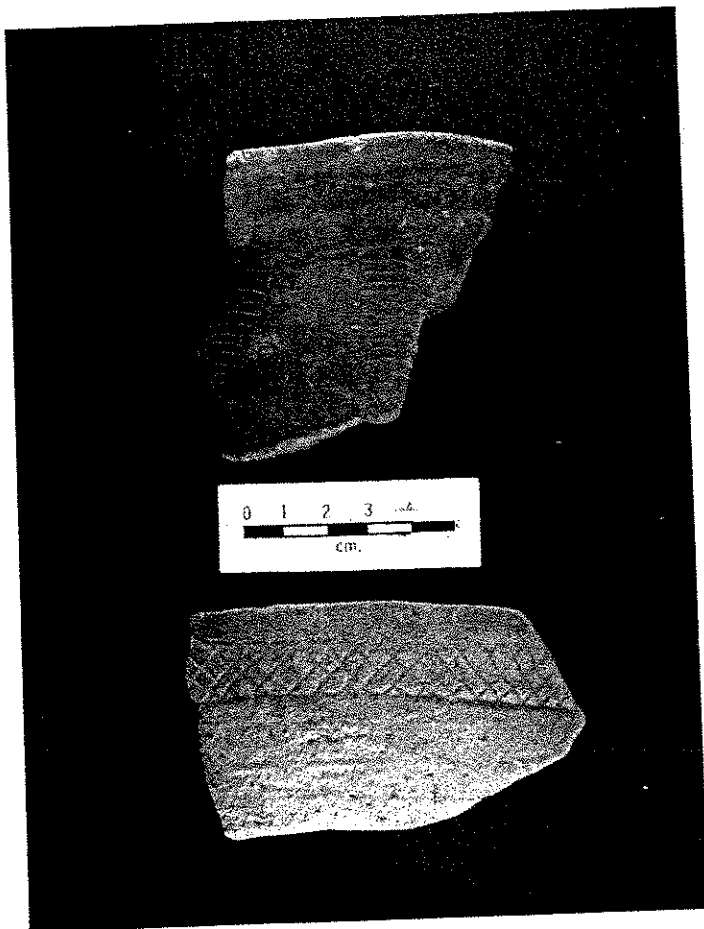


Plate 10. *Maddox Engraved, var. unspecified.* Robert Cole collection.

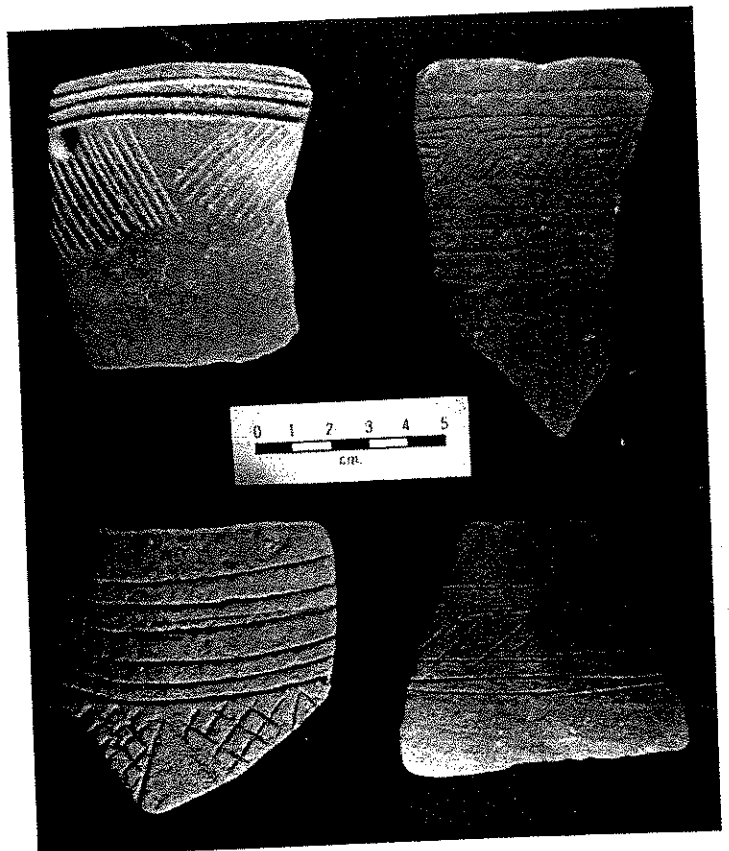


Plate 11. Type indeterminate sherds. Robert Cole collection.

Punctated sherds. Also interesting is what types are not present in the collection. Pontchartrain Check-stamped (n=1) and Plaquemine Brushed (n=23) are poorly represented, suggesting these styles have largely died out by AD 1500. Pontchartrain Check-stamped is common at the AD 800-1100 Morgan Mounds site (16VM9; Fuller and Fuller 1987) and at 16CM43 (apparently dating after AD 1200; McGimsey et al. 1999). The presence of Plaquemine Brushed on the western Louisiana coast appears to be rare as it is also absent from the AD 1200 assemblage at Morton Shell Mound (16IB3) in Iberia Parish (McGimsey 2003), and is a minority type at Morgan Mounds (Fuller and Fuller 1987). Conversely, other types such as Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*, and Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*, are present at Morgan Mounds, indicating they have a long history in the western coastal region. Fatherland Incised, Maddox Engraved and Leland Incised vessels were recovered from several historic Native American burials on Little Pecan Island just north of 16CM114 (Hebert et al. 2004), providing support for the late prehistoric age of the 16CM114 assemblage.

Vessel Morphology

The vessel assemblage is dominated by beakers and deep bowls (91.0% of the collection; Table 2). Beakers have vertical rim/necks for at least the upper 7-8 cm of the body, although many of the larger sherds begin to curve inward below that measure (Figure 1). As a result, the distinction between some beakers and deep bowls is rather arbitrary. Deep bowls have vertical to nearly vertical upper rims but begin to curve inward noticeably within 5 cm of the lip (Figure 2). Other vessel types each represent less than 3.5% of the assemblage. Most of them are generally similar to the beakers and bowls (Figure 3), with only one carinated bowl and one plate distinctly different.

Beakers are generally larger than bowls (Figure 4). The 42 cm size category represents all those vessels

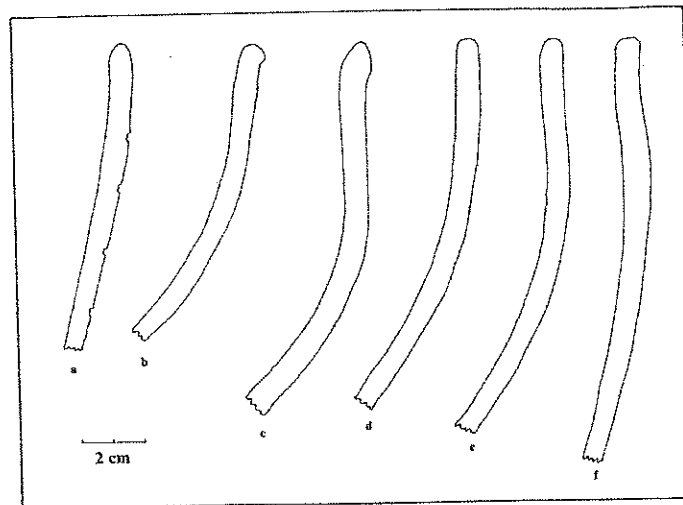


Figure 2. Deep bowl rim profiles. a, L'Eau Noire Incised, *var. unspecified* (Weinstein collection); b-d, Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy* (Cole, UL and Weinstein collections respectively); e, Leland Incised, *var. Leland* (Cole collection); f, Baytown Plain (Weinstein collection).

with an orifice diameter greater than 40 cm. Beakers have an average diameter of 30.9 cm (which is underestimated due to those larger than 40 cm being arbitrarily assigned a value of 42 cm), while bowls have an average diameter of 27.4 cm. This difference in vessel diameters is significant ($t=3.49, p>.001$). Other vessel forms have small sample sizes but all have average diameters less than 27.0 cm. Although any particular vessel type can vary in size, not surprisingly there is a clear trend for beakers to be larger than other vessel forms.

A greater size difference is evident between plain vessels and decorated vessels. Decorated vessels are considerably smaller than their plain counterparts (Table 3), regardless of the vessel type. Both of these differences are significant (beakers, $t=9.76, p>.001$; deep bowls, $t=2.99, p>.002$). Plain vessel forms other than beakers and deep bowls range between 27.0 and 30.0 cm in average diameter while decorated forms

Table 2. Cross-Tabulation of Vessel Type and Decorated Type; Vessel Types (from Ryan 2004:Figure 7-2).

Type	Beaker	Bottle	Deep bowl	Restricted jar	Globular bowl	Necked jar	Shallow bowl	Carinated bowl	Plate
Baytown Plain	193	-	47	8	3	-	7	1	-
Coles Creek Incised	34	1	17	1	-	1	-	-	-
Fatherland Incised	2	-	6	2	-	-	-	-	-
Leland Incised	5	-	12	-	2	-	1	-	-
Maddox Incised	1	-	3	2	-	-	1	-	-
other decorated types	20	-	8	1	2	1	-	-	1

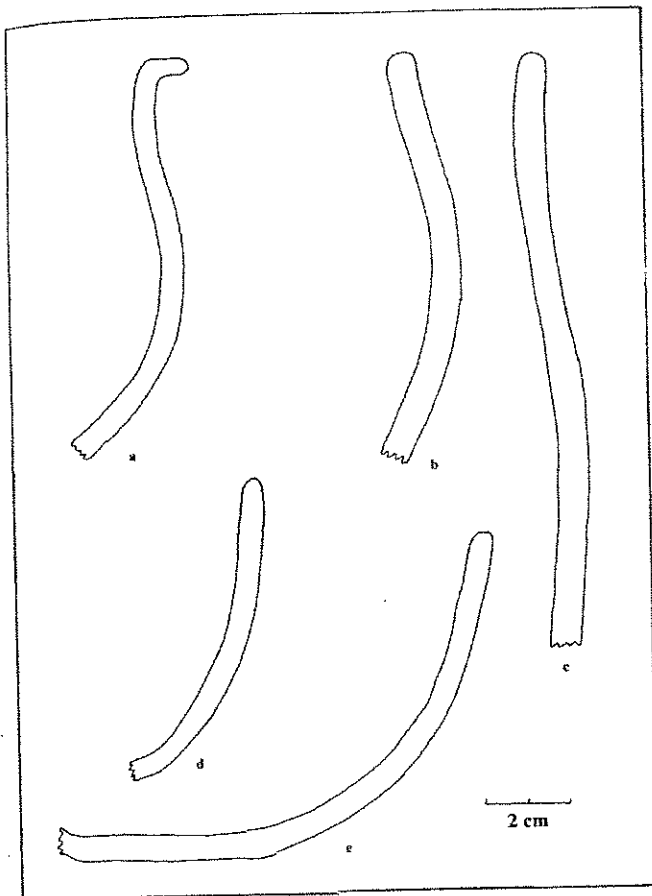


Figure 3. Other vessel form rim profiles. a, Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy* (Weinstein collection); b, Baytown Plain (Weinstein collection); c, Baytown Plain (Cole collection); d, Baytown Plain (Cole Collection); e, Maddox Engraved, *var. unspecified* (Cole collection).

other than beakers and bowls range between 16.0 and 23.0 cm in average diameter. Curiously, decorated bowls are larger on average than decorated beakers, while the opposite pattern is evident among the plain vessels.

Coles Creek Incised is the only decorated type with a large enough sample size ($n=55$) to examine vessel size within a type. Overall, their average diameter is 22.8 cm (std. dev. = 7.78), considerably smaller than the average for all decorated vessels. This type includes 34 beakers (avg. diameter = 21.1, std. dev. = 7.44) and 17 deep bowls (avg. diameter = 27.6 cm, std. dev. = 7.04). This again illustrates the pattern of decorated bowls being larger than decorated beakers. It is not clear what, if any, significance this difference has.

Table 3. Comparison of Average Vessel Diameter of Beakers and Deep Bowls for Plain and Decorated Vessels.

	Vessel type	mean	Std. dev.	n
Baytown Plain	beaker	33.39	5.96	193
all decorated vessels	beaker	23.13	8.62	62
Baytown Plain	deep bowl	29.19	8.00	47
all decorated vessels	deep bowl	25.56	6.62	45

The vessel rims exhibit minimal variation. The vast majority (89.4%) have rounded, vertical lips, while 5.9% have rounded, everted lips and 3.3% have squared, vertical lips. Very few of the squared or everted forms are distinctly shaped; they are simply variation around the common theme. Similarly, 84.0% of the rims are simple, while 10.8% exhibit an exterior fold-over, and 2.6% have a rolled/flared form. All of these lip forms are evenly distributed across plain and decorated vessels, nor are any of them associated with a specific vessel shape. Only ten sherds exhibit lip decoration, including one with diagonal incisions, three with perpendicular incisions, and six with small rim tabs. Six of these ten decorated rim sherds are plain vessels, while only four (all rim tabs) occur on decorated vessels.

An interesting note is that only 25 of the 383 sherds (6.5%) exhibit repair or suspension holes; three specimens had two holes present. They occur slightly more frequently on plain sherds (7.7%, 20/259) than on decorated sherds (4.0%, 5/124).

Summary

Site 16CM114 was once a *Rangia* shell midden situated along a bayou in the marshes south of Front Ridge in western Cameron Parish. Today, the coast has retreated almost 2,000 m and destroyed the site. But, the site contents are continually washing onshore and several extensive collections have been made from the wave-washed remnants. Although more than one site may have originally existed off-shore, today the materials are mixed together into one discontinuous scatter along the modern shore.

This site has produced a late prehistoric ceramic assemblage associated with a date of approximately

AD 1500. It represents the only documented assemblage from this time period in western coastal Louisiana. The assemblage is composed almost entirely of beaker and deep bowl vessel forms. Decorated examples of these vessels are consistently smaller than their plain relatives. This assemblage exhibits very little variation in rim characteristics, as nearly all plain and decorated specimens have undecorated, simple, vertical lips.

This brief study provides a first look at the substantial artifact collection from 16CM114. It provides a significant datum in understanding the culture history of the Louisiana's western Gulf Coast, and helps to fill in the gap between sites such as Morgan Mounds and Morton Shell Mound dating to around AD 1100-1200 and the historic assemblage from 16CM43. The assemblage from 16CM114 is distinctly different in its type composition from the earlier sites but is stylistically quite similar to the historic assemblage. The 16CM114 and 16CM43 assemblages characterize late prehistoric and contact period ceramic assemblages in this region.

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Soaring with the Red Owls

STEVEN S. CARRICUT
(1953-2004)

Jon L. Gibson

Lake Claiborne, Louisiana



Steven overseeing plane-table mapping near Poverty Point's Bird Mound, 1998.

There are many who come to Poverty Point and are touched by it. There are a few who come and dare touch it back. Steven Carricut was one who dared.

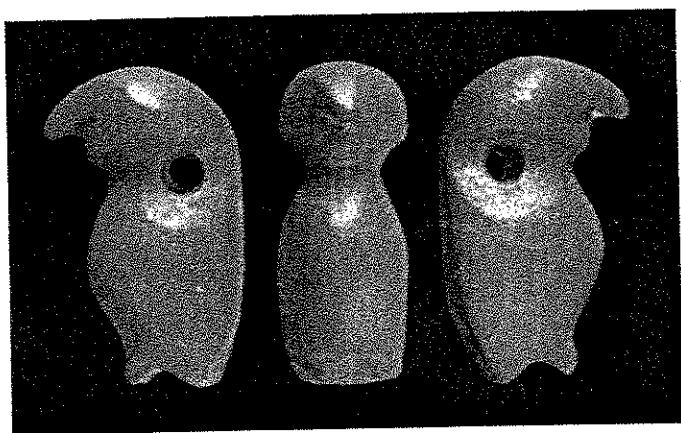
When hepatitis stilled his earthly life March 21, 2004, I could just imagine Steven being carried aloft on the wings of Poverty Point's Red Owls while Red Foxes barked a jubilant chorus. You see of all days, Steven started his heavenly journey on the spring equinox, a day memorialized in mounded earth by Poverty Point's Old Ones and celebrated thousands of years later by bands of pilgrims who annually chose this time to pay their respects to the Old Ones and their monumental accomplishments. Steven was a member of the extended Poverty Point family. He entered officially in the late spring of 1998, when he participated in UL Lafayette's archaeological field school and left his personal imprint upon the old hallowed grounds. Now, Steven knows the whole Poverty Point family, ancient and modern, and is privy to all their stories.

Actually, Steven's family ties to Poverty Point started long before. Between 1830 and 1840, Jacob Walter who lived on Bayou Ramos in South Louisiana rode his steed to Poverty Point to investigate reports of a lead mine thereabout, only to find out that the lead was galena brought in from the upper Midwest during the extensive trade thirty-five hundred years ago. Walter kept a journal and penned the first known written account of Poverty Point in clear language untainted by the mound-builder myth, which gripped America at the time. Steven was a direct descendant of the Walter family. I remember his excitement when Walter's hand-written journal recounting his relative's long-ago Poverty Point trip came to light in the late 1990s. He instantly turned into an avid genealogist running down little known Walter cousins and relatives even further removed. I think the Walter revelation proved what he already felt—that his ties to Poverty Point were old and honored.

He stilled the beauty of the world through the lens of his 35-mm camera. With artist's eye, he welded arrangement and composition, light and shadow, color and tone, intensity and subtlety, and meaning and emotion into his photographs creating dramatic works without relinquishing realism or accuracy. Steven did all the off-site photography for the book entitled the *Ancient Mounds of Poverty Point: Place of Rings* (University Press of Florida) and worked directly with Florida's graphics people on matters of presentation and camera readiness. He

understood and spoke their specialized language. He even cleaned up many older pictures taken by us unskilled “shutter clickers.” His images of a Poverty Point red owl and the Lower Jackson frog deserve to hang in the Metropolitan Museum of Art (see below), but thankfully they adorn the Poverty Point “Wall of Memories” in my inner sanctum. There, I can appreciate them every time I step in the door. For my benefit, he wrote a manual of his photographic methods and secrets entitled “A Manual of Archaeological Artifact Photography.” It ought to be published. No need to change a single word or period. He was as adept with words as with pictures.

Steven’s representational talents really showed forth during the 1998 Poverty Point Field School. After taking turns at doing all the things required on an away-from-home dig, including digging, screening, counting clay ball fragments, cooking, and cleaning toilets, the excavators-in-training gravitated to those jobs they liked or were better at for the remainder of the school. One piece of equipment that all excavators had to master was an ancient device called an alidade. Primarily a historical curiosity today, an alidade had been used by Stu Neitzel and Jim Ford to map Poverty Point earthworks back in the 1950s, and I had not forgotten that moment or bothered to learn how to turn on our new laser transit. Steven took his turn with the alidade and at the end of the day came to me with a not-unexpected request.



Unfinished red jasper owl from Poverty Point. Photography by Steven Carricut.



Red jasper frog bead from Lower Jackson Mound. Courtesy of Dennis LaBatt. Photography by Steven Carricut.

“Doc,” he said, “Reckon I could stay on the mapping crew a few more days? I really like doing that stuff.”

He stayed on for the remainder of our time at Poverty Point, training all others who rotated on and off the mapping crew and producing the most refined contour maps ever of the western rings. Like his photography, accurate representation was in his nature. I think a map like a photo helped still the fast-paced world and its inevitable conclusion.

Steven was good at everything he did. I’m not sure he ever made less than perfect on any anthropology test or research paper or gave less than maximum effort on any job. Striving for the best was what Steven Carricut was all about. I never heard him complain about the hard life dealt him, never once heard him use his condition as an excuse.

How many lives did he touch as a counselor with the Lafayette Hepatitis Support Group, as a certified registered minister, and by just being himself? Steven found his inner peace. He left his mark indelibly on all of us privileged to walk in his circle and on the ancient land of Poverty Point, and now, his spirit is free to soar eternally with Poverty Point’s Red Owls.

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