



# Louisiana Archaeological Society NEWSLETTER

RICHARD A. WEINSTEIN, Newsletter Editor

COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC.,

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

Volume 21, No. 1

Spring 1994

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you Delta Chapter for hosting a very successful 20th Annual Meeting! My special thanks go to John Polk, Maureen Downey and the entire committee for all of their hard work. And thank you Carl Kuttruff for planning a very enjoyable program! Next year's Annual Meeting will be held the first week in February in Natchitoches, Louisiana, on the campus of Northwestern State University. Kass Byrd, Pete Gregory, Jeff Girard, and Bob Neuman will be the principal folks organizing the meeting. With their planning, I am sure we will have a great meeting to look forward to. Please try to make it!

Your Executive Committee is planning a full year of exciting accomplishments: (1) We will be working with the Division of Archaeology in Baton Rouge to set up a permanent Archives designed to house the many historic L. A. S. documents that have been accumulating over the last 20 years. (2) We will be working more closely with the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy. Jim Fogleman (L. A. S. Vice-President/President Elect) has agreed to serve as a liaison for the two groups. I think it is essential for us all to work together in the interest of Louisiana archaeology. (3) Dennis Jones and Carl Kuttruff are planning a summer publication focusing on past excavations at the Marksville site. Plans are in the works for a field workshop at Marksville, possibly in late October. (4) The Executive Committee, in the interest of supporting the individual L. A. S. chapters, is initiating a Speakers Bureau designed to

publish a list of speakers to stimulate interest in each chapter's monthly meetings. The L. A. S. plans to reimburse up to \$100.00 to each chapter per year to help defray expenses incurred by the speakers. (5) Bob Neuman will be concentrating on gathering articles, allowing the L. A. S. to "catch up" on the publication of our bulletins. Catching up is essential for maintaining current memberships and possibly resurrecting former ones. (6) Plans are underway for the 1995 Mardi Gras trip to Mexico. Dr. Joe Miller, from Delta Chapter, is finalizing the plans. Information on the trip appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

This should be a productive year. Your input into this organization is needed. Please share with us any ideas you have on making the L. A. S. the best it can be. Let's work together to ensure that the L. A. S. will prosper and continue to maintain its purpose: To investigate the prehistory, history, and cultures of the state of Louisiana, and to be a viable source of information and education for both amateurs and professionals; an organization which upholds the ethics of archaeology and one which is dedicated to ensuring the future of archaeology throughout the state.

Linda Jackson  
L. A. S. President

## FROM THE EDITOR

First, let me apologize for the lateness of this issue of the newsletter. I have been working in coastal Texas since September of

last year, and had hoped to finish my project there by early February. As often happens, however, we did not finish our fieldwork until the last week in March, thereby delaying my return to Baton Rouge and publication of this newsletter.

Despite the delay, I believe the membership will find the revised newsletter format, appearing here for the first time, much more appealing than the old. It is now similar to other national and regional newsletters, and, what's even better, it costs less money to publish. This means we probably will have enough money saved to include a few half-tone photographs in upcoming issues. Any author wishing to include black-and-white photographs of artifacts, excavations, etc., that are pertinent to his or her article, may now do so.

If the membership has any comments or suggestions regarding the new format, please send them to me.

Rich Weinstein  
Newsletter Editor

### **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE L. A. S.**

Please check your address label on this issue of the newsletter. If you are a regular member and the label still says "1993," then you need to renew your membership in the L. A. S. If you do not renew between now and publication of the next newsletter (in August or September), this will be the last newsletter you receive. Your name also will not appear on the mailing list for the 1994 bulletin when it is published. Therefore, please take a minute and send your dues to David Jeane, L. A. S. Treasurer.

### **L. A. S. SPEAKERS BUREAU**

The L. A. S. plans to institute a Speakers Bureau consisting of those individuals who are willing to attend local chapter meetings to present papers, slide shows, dis-

cuss their latest finds, etc. Both professional and amateur archaeologists will be included, along with anyone else who might have an interesting topic to discuss relevant to archaeology. As noted above, the L. A. S. will reimburse local chapters up to \$100.00 per year for travel expenses incurred by their speakers.

If you would like to have your name added to the bureau's list, please contact Donita Burton, L. A. S. Secretary. Please provide Donita with the topic(s) that you are willing to present, along with any travel or time restrictions that you might have.

### **L. A. S. ARCHIVES**

The L. A. S. plans to set up an archive of material collected over the years pertinent to the society. The archive will be housed at the Louisiana Division of Archaeology in Baton Rouge, where it will be preserved along with artifact collections and other archaeological data from Louisiana. Items for the archive will include, but not be limited to, copies of all L. A. S. publications (camera-ready and final versions), relevant correspondence, Treasurer's reports, Secretary's notes, minutes of Executive Committee meetings and Annual Business Meetings, photographs, and video tapes. Information acquired by local chapters while conducting relevant archaeological research also will be considered.

Linda Jackson will be sending a letter to all past L. A. S. officers requesting information on what they might still have that should be deposited in the archive. If you are a past officer of the society, you might want to get a head start by looking through your material before Linda's letter arrives. If you are not a past officer, but feel that you have material suitable for the archive, please contact Linda and let her know what you would like to contribute.

**MINUTES OF THE L. A. S.  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Holiday Inn Holidome  
Kenner, Louisiana  
January 14, 1994**

**Reported by  
Donita Burton  
L. A. S. Secretary**

The first 1994 L. A. S. Executive Committee Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Holidome in Kenner, Louisiana. Members present were:

Nancy Affeltranger — L. A. S. President, Central Chapter  
Linda Jackson — L. A. S. Vice-President, Delta Chapter  
David Jeane — L. A. S. Treasurer, Northwest Chapter  
Donita Burton — L. A. S. Secretary, Imperial Calcasieu Chapter  
Rich Weinstein — L. A. S. Newsletter Editor, Baton Rouge Chapter  
Robert Neuman — L. A. S. Bulletin Editor  
Dennis Jones — Baton Rouge Chapter Representative  
Dan Shipman — At-Large Representative  
Ward Zischke — Central Chapter Representative  
Maureen Downey — Delta Chapter  
Newt Jackson — Delta Chapter

Nancy Affeltranger called the meeting to order. Donita Burton read the minutes of the previous Executive Committee Meeting. Dennis Jones made the motion to accept the minutes as read. Newt Jackson seconded. Motion carried.

**Reports**

David Jeane presented the treasury and membership reports (see reports printed elsewhere in this newsletter).

David noted that sustaining members who are no longer in business should be stricken from the membership list. David then

made the motion that Gulf South Research Institute be removed from the membership list. Dennis Jones seconded. Motion carried.

An update on Brian Duhe was given by David. To date, Duhe has made payments totalling \$2040.00. He only made seven payments in 1993. David's last contact with Duhe's parole officer was in April 1993. David has been informed that Duhe has been assigned a new parole officer, Officer Ryan Faulk.

Dennis Jones made the motion that David contact Officer Faulk concerning Duhe's lack of payments. Donita seconded. Motion carried.

David has placed the \$2300.00 received from the L. A. S. Field School in a general account which will make it readily available for the 1994 L. A. S. Field School.

David has also requested a financial report on the 1993 L. A. S. Annual Meeting from the USL Sociology and Anthropology Department in Lafayette. As hosts of the meeting, the department is required to submit a report to the society.

Rich Weinstein presented the L. A. S. Newsletter report for Vol. 20 for 1993:

**Vol. 20, No. 1**

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 350 printed @       | \$449.23        |
| 322 mailed (bulk) @ | \$35.08         |
| 4 mailed (Canada) @ | \$2.40          |
| 2 returned (29¢) @  | \$0.58          |
| 1 returned (35¢) @  | \$0.35          |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>\$487.64</b> |

**Vol. 20, No. 2**

|                                      |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 325 printed @                        | \$405.40        |
| 267 mailed (bulk) @                  | \$29.13         |
| (also includes back copies of No. 1) |                 |
| 4 mailed (Canada) @                  | \$2.40          |
| 2 returned (29¢) @                   | \$0.58          |
| 1 forwarded (35¢) @                  | 0.35            |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>\$437.86</b> |

**Vol. 20, No. 3**

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| 325 printed @       | \$469.04 |
| 410 mailed (bulk) @ | \$45.36  |

(also includes back copies of No. 1 and No. 2)

4 mailed (Canada) @ \$2.40  
3 returned (29¢) @ \$0.87  
3 forwarded (35¢) @ 1.05  
**Total \$518.72**

**Bulk Mailing Fee \$75.00**

**Total Cost \$1,519.22**

Rich surmised that the major cost of the newsletter is printing. The cost has gone up considerably over the past two years. Rich will check the cost of other printing services before the next printing of the newsletter. He will also check on xeroxing. The quality of xeroxing has improved and this may be an alternative to printing. The next newsletter should go out by the end of March or early April.

The bulletin report was presented by Bob Neuman. Bob received Bulletin No. 20 before Thanksgiving. Bob returned it to the printers after the holidays because there were pages bound out of sequence. Bulletin No. 20 should be out in mid February.

The 1989 bulletin, No. 16, is at the printers and should be out in the spring.

### **Old Business**

Nancy asked for ideas, information or artifacts concerning Bailey's Dam which could be displayed or utilized in the new Pineville Museum.

Linda Jackson reported on the ad hoc committee results concerning the code of ethics issue. The report was published in the last newsletter, but will be read at the Annual Business Meeting and then opened for discussion.

### **New Business**

David provided Linda Jackson with the 1993 treasury report. As the 1994 L. A. S. President, Linda will have the report inspected by the L. A. S. auditing committee.

Linda announced that Dr. Joe Miller, President of Delta Chapter, is planning a

group tour to Mexico in 1995 during the Mardi Gras season. Additional information will be announced during the L. A. S. Business Meeting and will be printed in the L. A. S. Newsletter.

Linda asked for nominations from the Executive Committee for the office of Vice-President. Jim Fogleman's name was presented to the committee and accepted by acclamation. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor tomorrow during the L. A. S. Annual Business Meeting.

Linda requested ideas for enticing participation from those chapters which have become less active over the last few years.

Dennis Jones proposed that we help pay travel expenses to local chapters to assist their chapter representatives in attending Executive Committee meetings. After a brief discussion period, the issue was tabled until the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Other possible ideas were exchanged concerning rejuvenating interest from existing chapters and reactivating lost chapters. It was felt that more discussion is necessary and the subject will be presented to the general membership during the Annual Business Meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

## **MINUTES OF THE L. A. S. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**Holiday Inn Holidome  
Kenner, Louisiana  
January 15, 1994**

**Reported by  
Donita Burton  
L. A. S. Secretary**

The 1994 L. A. S. Annual Business Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Holidome in Kenner, Louisiana, in conjunction with the 1994 Annual Meeting.

New L. A. S. President Linda Jackson called the meeting to order.

Rich Weinstein made the motion that we exclude the reading of the minutes from last year's Annual Business Meeting, as they were published in the L. A. S. Newsletter. Newt Jackson seconded. Motion carried.

## Reports

David Jeane presented the Treasury and Membership reports. Linda made the motion to accept the reports. Rich seconded. Motioned carried.

Rich Weinstein presented the Newsletter report. Rich stated that the newsletter now costs between \$900.00 and \$1500.00 per year to produce and mail. He will check the cost of other printing services and also the possibility of xeroxing the newsletter. The quality of xeroxing has improved considerably and this may be an alternative to printing.

Linda made the motion to accept the Newsletter report. Newt Jackson seconded. Motion carried.

The LAS Bulletin report was presented by Bob Neuman. Bulletin No. 20 was received before Thanksgiving. Bob returned the bulletin to the printers, because there were pages printed out of sequence. Bulletin No. 20 should be out in mid February. Bob made the request to all contract archaeologists to submit any contract work that could be printed in the bulletin.

Chapter reports were given by the following chapters: Baton Rouge, Central, Northeast, Delta, and Northwest.

## Old Business

Skip Newfield presented the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations concerning the study of Article VII of the L. A. S. By-Laws.

The committee's studies, findings and recommendations were printed in Vol. 20, No. 3, of the L. A. S. Newsletter. Thus, the general membership was informed and aware of

the issue to be voted upon at the 1994 Annual Meeting.

Skip made the motion that the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations for Section I of Article VII and Section 2 of Article VII, as printed in the L. A. S. Newsletter, Vol. 20, No. 3, be accepted by the membership. Dan Shipman seconded. Motion carried.

## New Business

Linda presented the name of Jim Fogleman to the membership as the Executive Committee's nominee for L. A. S. Vice-President. Linda entertained nominations from the floor. As there were no other nominations, Jim Fogleman was elected by acclamation.

Linda brought to the attention of the society a problem which needs to be addressed. Over the last few years, several of our local chapters have become less active and others totally inactive. The Executive Committee discussed the issue and came up with several suggestions which may be effective in bringing these chapters back to active status. Linda requested ideas from the membership which also might entice local chapters to become more involved with the parent society and which may prompt the formation of new chapters. Discussion brought forth the suggestions listed below:

(1) More information regarding the Division of Archaeology's lending library be made available to all L. A. S. chapters.

(2) A Speakers Bureau could be formed and published in the L. A. S. Newsletter.

(3) Chapters hosting guest speakers, could send travel vouchers to the Executive Committee for review and reimbursement. Reimbursement should not exceed \$100.00 a year.

(4) Each L. A. S. chapter should send a chapter representative to all Executive Committee meetings at least once a year or lose society benefits.

(5) Problem-oriented research could be conducted by both a local chapter and the L. A. S. to achieve a common goal.

(6) Have groups with similar interests become affiliated with the L. A. S. Such groups do not necessarily have to become lo-

cal chapters. For example, the Louisiana Genealogical Society could become an affiliate of the L. A. S.

Marie Standifer made the motion that an ad hoc committee be formed to further investigate the details of involving affiliated groups with the society. Rich Weinstein seconded. Motion carried.

Linda will appoint a committee to research the affiliated group issue. All suggestions will be reviewed and discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Rich Weinstein broached the subject of the society's need to have a central depository for housing past L. A. S. records and memorabilia. Rich suggested that the Division of Archaeology might consider housing such information for the society.

Linda will contact Claudia Holland, who is with the Division of Archaeology, to discuss the possibility of having the L. A. S. records and memorabilia housed there.

Linda will also appoint an L. A. S. member to act as Society Archivist. This individual will be in charge of the curation of all L. A. S. records and memorabilia.

John Polk volunteered to donate video tapes which he has made of various L. A. S. events to the archives.

Bob Neuman suggested that we print an article in the L. A. S. Newsletter asking for any pictures or memorabilia which members may like to submit for curation with the society.

Linda then acknowledged Donita Burton who, representing the L. A. S. Executive Committee, read the following resolution by the Committee:

Whereas, Nancy Affeltranger has served for the past two years as President of the L. A. S., and

Whereas, during that time Nancy initiated and helped facilitate two L. A. S. Field Schools, and

Whereas, Nancy hosted numerous L. A. S. Executive Committee

meetings at her home in Pineville; therefore,

Be it resolved that the L. A. S. recognizes Nancy Affeltranger for her continued support and service to the society.

Rich Weinstein, speaking on behalf of all society members, then presented a resolution acknowledging Delta Chapter as host of the 1994 Annual Meeting:

Whereas, members of the Delta Chapter expended a considerable amount of time and effort in preparing, organizing, and hosting a most enjoyable and informative 1994 Annual Meeting, and

Whereas, organizational leaders, John Polk, Maureen Downey, and Carl Kuttruff were instrumental in finding meeting facilities and preparing the meeting's program; therefore

Be it resolved that the L. A. S. membership and Executive Committee extend their sincerest expressions of gratitude to Delta Chapter for holding the 1994 L. A. S. Annual Meeting.

Linda then asked for volunteers to host the 1995 Annual Meeting.

Kass Byrd, standing in for Pete Gregory, volunteered the Social Science Department of Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, to host the 1995 Annual Meeting. The meeting would be held the first weekend in February.

Linda accepted Kass' invitation, and noted that she looked forward to seeing everyone in Natchitoches next February.

With no further business, Nancy Affeltranger made the motion to adjourn the 1994 Annual Business Meeting. Linda seconded. Meeting adjourned.

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
 1993 FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
 JANUARY 14, 1994

Period covered by this report - 1/13/93 thru 1/13/94

ACCOUNT REPORTS JANUARY 13, 1993

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Louisiana Archaeological Society Savings "A"... | 5,483.00 |
| Louisiana Archaeological Society Savings "B"... | 3,668.00 |
| Checking Account Balance.....                   | 3,821.00 |
| Petty Cash.....                                 | 22.00    |

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| <u>TOTAL ASSETS</u> | 12,994.00 |
|---------------------|-----------|

TRANSACTIONS

INCOME

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Membership Fees and Publication Sales..... | 3496.00 |
| Checking Account Interest.....             | 121.00  |
| Conference Book Sales(LAS & MAS).....      | 371.00  |
| Field School.....                          | 2380.00 |
| Brian Duhe Payments.....                   | 1190.00 |
| Savings Account Interest.....              | 453.00  |

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| <u>TOTAL 1993 INCOME</u> | 8,011.00 |
|--------------------------|----------|

EXPENSES

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Treasurer Expenses(printing,phone,postage)..... | 304.00   |
| Secretary Expenses.....                         | 81.00    |
| President Expenses.....                         | 58.00    |
| Sprint Printing (Newsletters, dues reminder)... | 1264.00  |
| Bulletin Editor Expenses.....                   | 117.00   |
| ISF Check.....                                  | 17.00    |
| Society of American Archaeology.....            | 90.00    |
| USL Print Shop (Bulletin # 19).....             | 2,000.00 |
| Field School.....                               | 705.00   |
| 1994 Annual Meeting Advance(Delta Chap.).....   | 500.00   |

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| <u>TOTAL 1993 EXPENSES</u> | 5,136.00 |
|----------------------------|----------|

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| 1993 INCOME..... | 8,011.00 |
|------------------|----------|

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| 1993 EXPENSES..... | 5,136.00 |
|--------------------|----------|

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| BALANCE IN CHECKING ACCOUNT 1/13/94..... | 6,315.00 |
|--|----------|

TOTAL ASSETS LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| LAS SAVINGS "A".....    | 5,675.00 |
| LAS SAVINGS "B".....    | 3,795.00 |
| CHECKING ACCOUNT.....   | 6,315.00 |
| PETTY CASH ON HAND..... | 83.00    |

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| <u>TOTAL</u> | 15,868.00 |
|--------------|-----------|

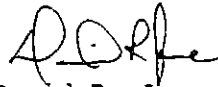
Account Information  
SAVINGS

- 1) LAS "A" - Certificate of Deposit #5017268  
Louisiana Archaeological Society - Citizens Bank and  
Trust Company, Springhill, La. 71075 - 12 Month  
Certificate matures 4/08/94. (3.30% interest)
- 2) LAS "B" - Certificate of Deposit #5016697  
Louisiana Archaeological Society - Citizens Bank and  
Trust Company, Springhill, La. 71075 - 12 Month  
Certificate matures 7/10/94. (3.40% interest)

CHECKING

Louisiana Archaeological Society - Account # 005-338-4  
Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Springhill, La. 71075  
Money Market Interest account

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Jeane  
Treasurer  
Louisiana Archaeological Society  
January 14, 1994

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

1993 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

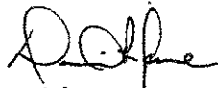
JANUARY 13, 1994

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| REGULAR MEMBERS.....       | 184 |
| ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.....     | 25  |
| STUDENT MEMBERS.....       | 10  |
| INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS..... | 19  |
| SUSTAINING MEMBERS.....    | 3   |
| LIFE MEMBERS.....          | 65  |

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| TOTAL 1993 MEMBERS | <u>306</u> |
|--------------------|------------|

Total membership for 1988 was 251  
Total membership for 1989 was 328  
Total membership for 1990 was 315  
Total membership for 1991 was 313  
Total membership for 1992 was 291

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Jeane, Treasurer  
January 14, 1994



**ONION ISLAND (16CD218):  
THE LOOTING OF AN IMPORTANT  
SITE ON CADDO LAKE**

**By  
Jeffrey S. Girard  
Northwestern State University  
Natchitoches**

Vandalism to archaeological sites located on state lands in Louisiana is against the law (La. R.S. 41:1605)—

It shall be unlawful for any agency, political subdivision, group, or person to take, alter, damage, destroy, or excavate on state-owned lands as herein described without first obtaining a permit or contract from the secretary.

Unfortunately, despite the law, state-owned sites located in remote areas not regularly patrolled by law enforcement agencies often are subject to destruction. Portions of an important archaeological site (Onion Island—16CD218) located on state land in Caddo Lake (Figure 1) recently have been demolished by treasure hunters. The situation is particularly sad as the site deposits contain archaeological data of exceptional importance for addressing research questions regarding the very poorly understood Early Ceramic period in northwestern Louisiana.

I first heard of the site approximately two years ago when Chris Hogan, a student at Northwestern State University, brought in several potsherds and pieces of chipped stone that he had collected there several years previously. However, I made no attempt to visit the site until the fall of 1993 when Harold Bryce, president of the Northwest Chapter of the LAS, informed me that he had recently visited the island and found that it was being pitted by treasure hunters on a regular basis. I visited the site in October and found that an area approximately 400 m<sup>2</sup> had been destroyed by pits of varying size and depth. Other pits were scattered across the island, but many undisturbed areas remained.

Attempts to identify the landowners of the island proved difficult. Records in the Caddo Parish Tax Assessor's office indicated that the land was owned by the parish school board or levee commission. However, neither agency believed that they were the owners—and they were correct. After several records checks, the State Lands office found evidence that Onion Island was state property.

By this time I had heard stories about the recovery of material ranging from Poverty Point objects to Gahagan bifaces to human bone. As little material was present on the surface at the time of my earlier visit, I decided to conduct limited test excavations to determine the nature of the deposits. A request for a permit was made and granted by the State Antiquities Commission early in December.

I assisted students from NSU and members of the Northwest Chapter of the LAS in making a topographic map of the site and excavating three 1x1 meter test pits in January of this year (Figure 2). The upper 20 to 30 cm consisted of fine sand that was patchy gray and grayish brown in color. Underlying the upper zone was a more homogeneous dark gray sand. The break between the two zones was sharp and it is likely that separate depositional events are represented. At approximately 40 cm beneath the surface, the sand was saturated with water. Attempts to excavate deeper were futile as the deposits essentially consisted of a sandy liquid that did not hold a profile.

Most artifacts recovered from the upper zone appear to relate to a late 19th or early 20th century occupation. Recovered were fragments of window glass, bottle glass, badly corroded wire and cut nails (and other unidentifiable fragments of iron), and a few undecorated whiteware/ironstone sherds. A small number of flakes and prehistoric sherds also were recovered in this zone. The underlying zone contained no historic materials, but prehistoric chipped stone and ceramic artifacts were numerous. Our excavations did not reach the bottom of the cultural deposits and so the depth of the site remains unknown.

Most of the recovered prehistoric sherds are undecorated and are tempered

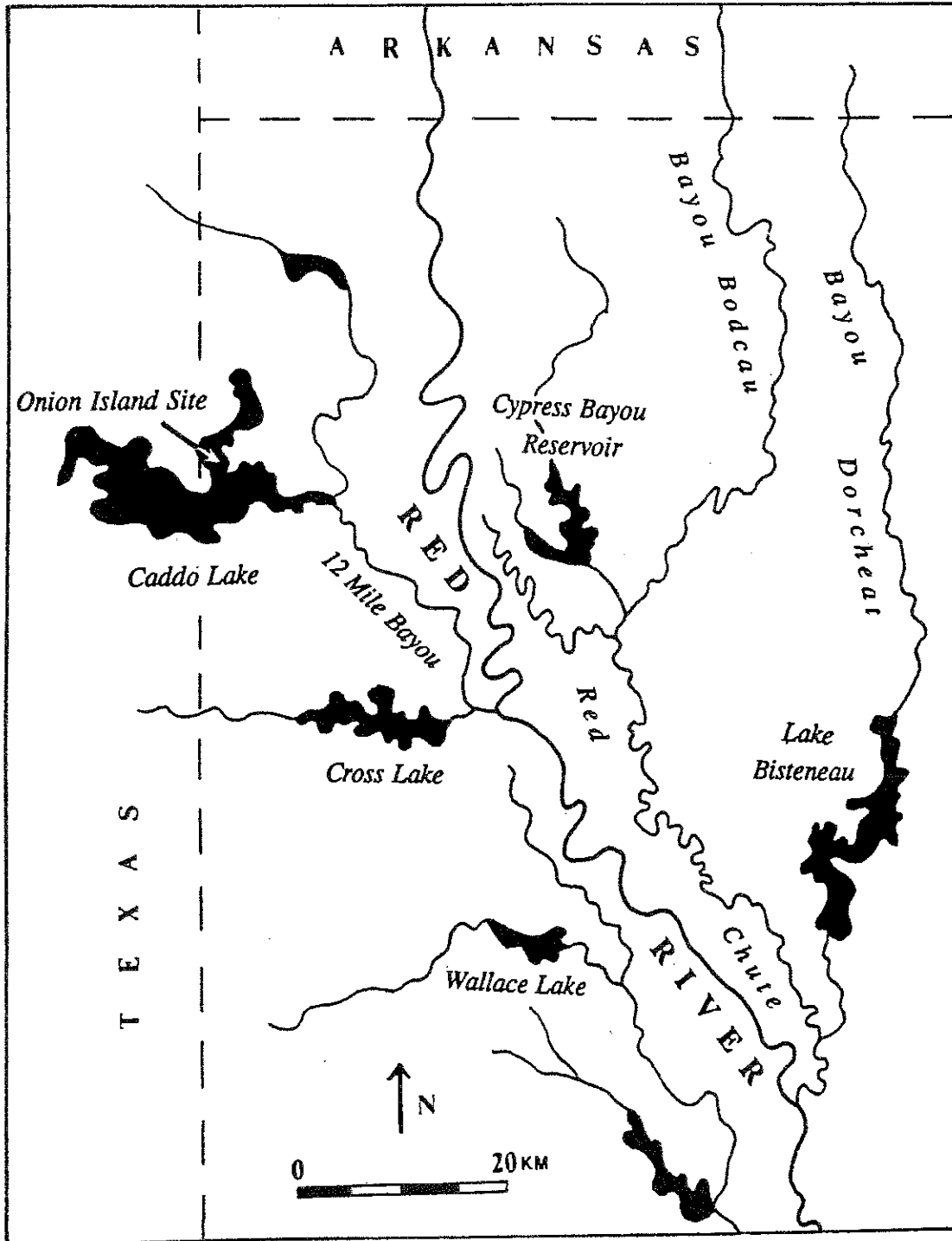


Figure 1. Location of the Onion Lake site.

with crushed bone and grog. One sherd has an incised line across the lip; a characteristic present in several varieties of Coles Creek Incised. This sherd, together with the almost complete absence of decorations on the vessel surfaces (two small sherds have incised

lines) and the presence of numerous Catahoula arrow points, suggest that an occupation dating somewhere in the A.D. 600-900 period is represented. This is an interval about which little information has been obtained in the region. As stated earlier, the

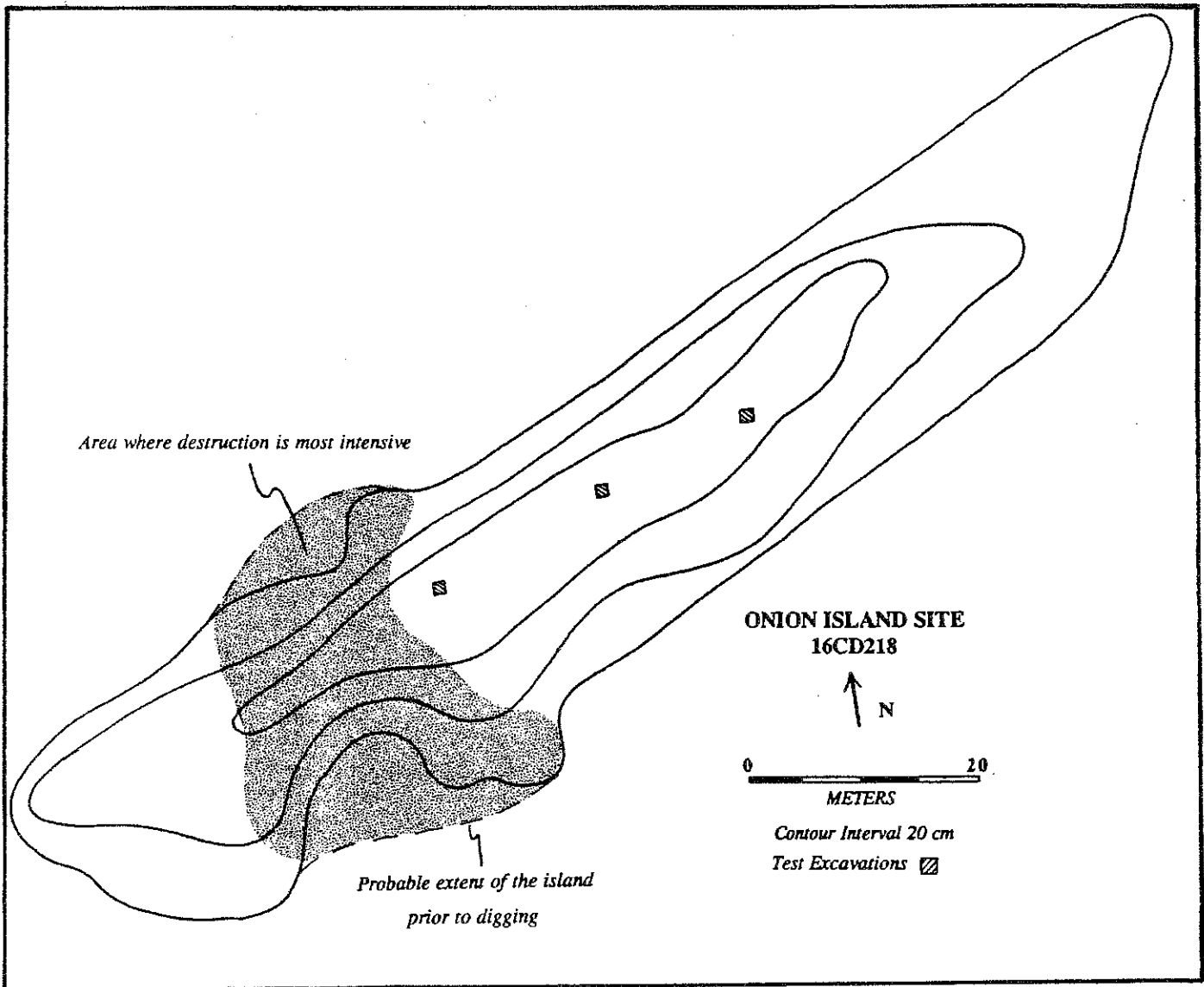


Figure 2. Map of the Onion Lake site.

depth of the deposits is unknown and there is a possibility that distinct depositional units containing earlier components are present.

The site undoubtedly contains significant information regarding prehistoric cultural developments in northwestern Louisiana and local law enforcement agencies will monitor the area on a regular basis. The site will be posted regarding its importance for studies of Louisiana's past and the penalties for damaging the deposits or removing artifacts. Because of the high water table, no additional research is planned until there is a significant drop in the lake level or means are devised for sampling the deeper deposits in a non-destructive manner. Materials recovered from

the investigations currently are being studied by Chris Hogan, a student at NSU.

In the long run, the fate of the Onion Island site rests in our (the Louisiana Archaeological Society and others interested in learning about the past) abilities to convey to others the critical need to record and preserve archaeological sites. Without broader public sensitivity and support, many gaps in our knowledge will never be filled.

## DAUB CHIMNEYS

By  
James A. Green, Jr.

Scattered across the southern United States, a cultural resource rich in folklore and tradition is rapidly vanishing. Mud-daubed chimneys have been a part of our culture since the first settlers hewed niches in the southern frontier. At a time when rural farmsteads were located many miles from the nearest brick-producing town, many of the first fireplace chimneys were constructed out of split heart pine and clay daub. The construction of a mud-daubed chimney was considered a social event, along with building the house and barn (Nelson Miles Green, personal communication n.d.). Inhabitants of the community would gather to lend a hand to their new neighbor. The spirit of helping was instilled in the fact that everybody knew that they would get help in return. Those that did not have a legitimate reason to abstain from the event usually received little help when they needed it.

One type of mud-daub chimney construction used in west-central Louisiana consisted of lattice framing (Nelson Miles Green, personal communication n.d.). The chimney was constructed in two stages. The first stage involved building a frame the shape of the chimney. Resin-rich heart pine logs, the soft exterior wood long rotted away, was gleaned from the countryside to make the framework. Heart pine is so rich in resin that some people say the durability of cypress pales in comparison. The logs were split with an axe and wedge into long, thin rails. These rails supplied the up-rights for the frame.

Next, cross braces were attached to the rails to supply structural support. Different techniques in attaching the braces were used in the south. The typical way involved "pegging" the braces onto the rails. Practices varied from mortise and tenon joints to hole and spindle construction. Holes were bored or chiseled through the rails at regular intervals, usually about ten inches apart. Small pieces, cut to the required length, were whittled-down at both ends until they would fit into the holes along the rails. The other way,

which was less complicated, involved nailing the cross braces to the rails. This way, however, was structurally weaker. Two rails would be "pegged" or nailed together to form a ladder-like section. After joining all of the necessary sections, the pieces would be raised into position against the house and nailed, wired, tied, or similarly fastened together. Boards temporarily lined the hearth area and flue, to be removed after the chimney was completed. Once the frame was finished, the next step involved making and applying the clay daub.

A shallow pit approximately five to ten feet across was excavated near the framework. Clay was brought in, usually from a nearby source, and thrown into the pit. Water was added and the children got the "privilege" of mixing the clay to the right consistency with their bare feet. Sometimes pinestraw or grass was thrown in the clay pit to be incorporated into the mixture. Once the clay was ready, the spaces between the frame were filled.

Some chimneys were made by somberly packing the lattice interior with the stiff mud. In most cases, however, applying the clay daub to the chimney was the highlight of the event, commonly termed "mud-slinging" (non-political). Adults and children would join in, throwing mud into the framework and having contests to see who was the most accurate. This activity would continue until the job was done. The finishing touch involved troweling the exterior of the chimney smooth while the clay was still wet. Once the clay dried, the chimney was sometimes painted with whitewash to seal the exterior. Two examples of daub chimney construction are evident in historic photographs published in *Beauregard Parish History* (Beauregard Parish Historical Society 1986).

Clay or mud-daubed chimneys were usually replaced by brick at some time during the history of the house, but not always (John Guy, personal communication 1993). Site 16BE82 in Beauregard Parish, Louisiana, is a good example of the old adage "if it isn't broke, don't fix it." The site consists of a historic house, barn, and associated features. The house is an upland dog-trot style originally built in the 1890s (Cora Miller, personal

communication 1991). The house incorporated a mud-daubed chimney on both ends. The house, its inhabitants still utilizing the mud-daubed chimneys, was deserted in the 1950s. One of the chimneys was relatively intact in the mid-1970s; however nothing remains today except for a pile of clay, fired clay daub, and scattered remnants of the framework, a testament to the eventual downfall of all things to Mother Nature.

### References

Beauregard Parish Historical Society  
1986 *Beauregard Parish History*. Curtis  
Media Corporation, Dallas.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Northeast Chapter

**Reported by  
Claire Davis**

The first meeting of the year was held on January 20, 1994, in room 100 of the Chemistry Building on the NLU campus. Dr. Joe Saunders, regional archaeologist with the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, presented a report on his recent work at the Watson Brake site, a mound complex in western Ouachita Parish. Dating of the site indicates that the locale was occupied as much as 2000 years before Poverty Point.

The February meeting featured the video entitled "Myths and Mound Builders," which was shown in conjunction with a program by David Jones on the mound builders proper.

The March meeting was organized around Les Davis, who presented a program entitled "Paleo Primer." Discussions of Paleo-Indian artifacts and sites in the area were most interesting.

Marcus Mapp, a local geologist, presented an interesting program on "Geology for Archaeologists" at the April meeting. Mapp is a member and faithful friend of both the Northeast Chapter and the L. A. S., and served as

the first Recording Secretary of the L. A. S. from 1974 to 1976.

Congratulations to Dr. Glen Greene on his upcoming retirement from NLU at the end of the first summer session this year. Dr. Greene has been at NLU for 25 years, and it is with mixed feelings that we see him and his wife, Dr. Lorraine Heartfield Greene, leave for Santa Fe, New Mexico. We are happy for them, and know that they will surely enjoy the new scenery, but feel a tinge of sadness at losing long-time friends and supporters of the Northeast Chapter and northeast Louisiana archaeology.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### 15th Mid-South Archaeological Conference

The 15th Mid-South Archaeological Conference, representing the 25th anniversary of the first conference, will take place June 11-12, 1994, at the Chucalissa Museum, Memphis, Tennessee. The theme of the conference will be "25 Years & More of Archaeology in the Mid-South." Mary L. Kwas and Camille Wharey will serve as organizers.

In 1969 the Mid-South Archaeological Conference was born with an informal meeting held in the laboratory at Chucalissa Museum. In celebration of the 25th anniversary of this event, the organizers are seeking papers with historical overviews. Papers may address many years of work on a particular site, in a geographic region, or throughout a state. Papers must be limited to 20 minutes. Titles and abstracts should be sent to:

Mary Kwas  
Chucalissa Museum  
1987 Indian Village Drive  
Memphis, Tennessee 38109  
Ph. (901)785-3160

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Best Western Riverbluff Inn, I-55 at the Memphis-Arkansas Bridge, just south of downtown Memphis. Rates are \$42.00 for a single and \$49.00 for a double. Reservations

should be made before June 1, 1994, by calling (901) 948-9005.

In addition to the conference, there will be a Friday night get-together at Camille Wharey's house in Memphis (no charge, but BYOB), and a grilled hot dog picnic (\$3.50 per person) at Chucalissa on Saturday afternoon. Saturday evening will feature a barbecue reception (\$6.50 per person) at the National Ornamental Metal Museum, situated across the street from DeSoto Park Mounds on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River. On Sunday afternoon there will be a tour of the Parkin site (no charge), located about 40 miles west of Memphis, led by Jeffrey Mitchem of the Arkansas Archeological Survey. If you plan to attend any of the above events, please send the appropriate money and/or number of persons attending, to Camille Wharey at Chucalissa Museum. Make checks payable to Memphis State University.

### **UPCOMING FIELD SCHOOLS**

Although the L. A. S. has conducted a number of small field schools and workshops in the past, and intends to do so again this fall, members of the society are encouraged to attend one of the upcoming field schools listed below. While the editor is not personally familiar with the Arizona field school, both the Arkansas and Texas schools are large, well-run, well-organized affairs that teach a wide range of archaeological techniques. Several members of the L. A. S. have attended these schools over the years and can verify the excellent instruction and opportunities afforded by such participation.

#### **Arkansas Archeological Society**

The Arkansas Archeological Society will conduct its 1994 Training Program in the Ozark Mountains, June 10-27, at Spradley Hollow. The society will be excavating a series of three bluffshelters near Nail, Arkansas. These shelters have yielded remains dating from the Archaic through Mississippi periods. One has suffered extensive damage from pothunters. There will also be testing conducted at a late-nineteenth-century homestead.

As last year, the society will be assisting the Forest Service by evaluating the condition of the archaeological deposits in the shelters, and trying to discover as much about the shelters as is possible. Once again, the excavations will occur in a shaded forest, near a wonderful swimming hole. The folks in Newton County are prepared to roll out the red carpet for field school participants. A barbecue is planned and ecotours, and float trips are available. There are numerous craft shops and antique stores to visit, as well.

Project headquarters will be at Deer, Arkansas. For those who do not want to stay at the headquarters, there are abundant motels and other camping facilities in the area, especially around Jasper, Arkansas. For more information, contact :

Charles R. Ewen  
Arkansas Archeological Survey  
P.O. Box 1249  
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72702-1249  
Ph. (501) 575-3556

#### **Texas Archeological Society**

The 1994 Texas Archeological Society (TAS) Field School will be held June 11-18 at the Lake Jackson State Archeological Landmark (LJSAL) in Brazoria County. The LJSAL contains hundreds of years of history and prehistory. The main focus of the field school will be the ruins of historic structures, but prehistoric investigations will also take place.

Prehistoric excavation will occur either at the Lake Jackson site (41 BO 172) or the Follett Lake site (41 BO 138). Work at the latter site will concentrate on salvaging information from the eroding portion of the prehistoric shell midden.

Historic sites at LJSAL consist of ruins of the major structures of Lake Jackson Plantation. Included are two structures that date before the Civil War.

Unfortunately, the TAS set a deadline of April 1 for registration in the field school. Thus, it is now too late to enroll as an official field school participant. However, it may still

be possible for L. A. S. members to visit the field school for a day or two during the excavations. If interested, you may find out more about the TAS Field School by contacting:

Joan Few  
4050 Dumbarton  
Houston, Texas 77025  
Ph. (713) 283-3318 or  
(713) 666-3496

### **Arizona Archaeological Society**

From June 12 to June 25, 1994, the Arizona Archaeological Society (AAS) will continue its fifth year of archaeological investigation at Q Ranch Pueblo. Q Ranch Pueblo is a 250-room, three-story, prehistoric ruin nestled in the cool, lush pine forests situated below the fabled Mogollon Rim in Arizona. A second pueblo of approximately 60 rooms forms another masonry compound adjacent to the larger site. Both ruins are situated within an historic working cattle ranch.

Q Ranch represents one of the largest and most important Mogollon sites within the region. Under the direction of Dr. John W. Hohmann, the AAS is continuing scientific investigation of this unique cultural resource during the summer of 1994. Various courses will be offered for both beginning and advanced students. Courses include archaeological excavation techniques, ruin stabilization, prehistoric architectural analysis, Mogollon prehistory, and a ceramic production workshop. Preeminent Southwestern guest lecturers from numerous institutions will participate in this variety of fascinating courses. Additionally, several field trips to surrounding prehistoric and historic sites will also be offered.

Interested individuals can join the AAS this summer for either one or two weeks beginning June 12. The interested student can either participate within the formally structured AAS courses, or apply for college credit. If college credit is desired, arrangements must be made in advance with your senior advisor and the Q Ranch project director.

For further information regarding any aspect of this archaeological program, please contact:

Mary Jo Aber  
AAS Q Ranch Field School  
Box 9903  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85252  
Ph. (602) 952-2648

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS**

The L. A. S. is pleased to include information regarding tours of archaeological sites in Mesoamerica and Europe. One of the tours, as Linda Jackson mentioned in her President's note, has been specifically designed for L. A. S. members by UNIGLOBE Hibernia Travel, with Joe Miller of Delta Chapter as organizer. Please see the accompanying announcement concerning this tour in this newsletter. The other, by Past Times Archeological Tours, is described briefly below. Unfortunately, the deadline for joining their tours is April 30, so this newsletter probably will reach most of you after the deadline. However, these tours occur every year, and interested members may wish to contact Past Times Tours for information regarding next year's itinerary.

#### **Past Times Archeological Tours**

Past Times Tours of Sacramento, California, has completed an impressive fourteen consecutive years of guided tours to the Lascaux-type caves of southwest France. The 15th year of tours, 1994, offers an expanded menu of delights. The tour provides a strong introduction to the importance of French Prehistory. We also study the valuable prehistoric artifacts at the St. Germain-en-Laye museum in Paris. Past Times Tours is the only group offering access to a dozen caves with prehistoric art. Of course, the most important caves are featured: Lascaux II, Font de Gaume, Niaux, etc. The itinerary is also rich in medieval castles and bastides, often with impressive vistas: Carcassonne, Beynac, Les Milandes, Domme, and others. The history of architecture, construction, the battles of the Crusades, the Hundred Years War, and the

heretic Cathar Rebellion are all discussed on site.

Two tours in June and July 1994 are scheduled June 6-19 and June 27-July 10. the price is \$1994 per person, double occupancy (does not include transatlantic airfare). For more information, please contact:

David Abrams  
Past Times Tours  
800 Larch Lane  
Sacramento, California 95864  
Ph. (916) 485-8140

### **BITS AND PIECES**

In the last newsletter (Vol. 20, No. 3) I published an archaeological version of the "Twelve Days of Christmas," and suggested that L. A. S. members might be able to provide other versions more relevant to Louisiana. So far, Marie Standifer of Baton Rouge is the only member to send in her version, and this will be published in the December newsletter. However, Marie also submitted an archaeological version of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic." This is included here—Editor.

### **Archaeology Forever**

**Words by Marie Standifer  
Baton Rouge**

**To be sung to the tune of the  
"Battle Hymn of the Republic"**

Begun at the L. A. S. Field School in 1981 and added to over the years.

*Verse 1. (L. A. S. Field School, Poverty Point, summer 1981)*

Mine eyes have seen great wonders,  
not so easily described—  
All the artifacts and fragments of a  
Late Archaic tribe.  
It built mounds beside the Maçon  
that until this day survive,  
A glory of the past.

### *Chorus*

Archaeology forever,  
Archaeology forever,  
Archaeology forever,

Our future is the past!

*Verse 2. (L. A. S. 10th Anniversary Meeting, Lafayette, January 1984)*

We have dug Louisiana and its secrets have unmasked.

We've found potsherds, points, and plummetts, too, the artifacts that last.

We have surveyed sites to excavate and answer questions asked,  
And still we seek the past.

*Verse 3. (Salvage of St. Peter's Street Cemetery, New Orleans, March 1984)*

On St. Peter's in the Quarter was a cemetery plot

Where the slaves and workers on the docks were buried and forgot.

It was up to us to excavate and salvage their poor lot  
To bring to light their past.

*Verse 4. (LSU Field School, Cowpen Slough, summer 1984)*

We have learned to sort concretions on the banks of Cowpen Slough.

We have water-screened and riffled soil and hydro-blasted, too.

We have dug midst ants and sweat bees in the early morning dew  
To learn about the past.

*Verse 5. (Archeobotany studies, 1984-1987)*

If you want to I.D. plant remains, and learn to flote the clay,

Then you must go learn from archeobots in places far away.

So I went off to workshops, labs, and studies in U.K.

To learn plants of the past.

*Verse 6. (In memory of Dr. Webb, L. A. S. Annual Meeting, Baton Rouge, January 1992)*

We are gathered to commemorate the work of Dr. Webb.

He has studied Pov'ty Point as well as sites along the Red.

His legacy continues in the papers that he read,

He helped us know the past.



# LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



## Maya & Mardi Gras 1995



Dates: February 27 - March 5, 1995

There has been some evidence and much speculation the Olmec culture of Mexico influenced our southwestern early inhabitants and even extended along the Gulf Coast of Louisiana and may have had a relation to the Poverty Point Culture. We know the Olmec Culture certainly influenced the later culture developments in Mesoamerica. This trip is planned to acquaint you with the lowland Mayan and Toltec cultures of the Yucatan. We will visit well-known and also some lesser-known sites and you will be surrounded by the descendents of these cultures.

This experience is open to all LAS members in good standing in any membership category as of January 1, 1994 on a first-come-first served basis as we are limited to 20 participants. The cost is figured on two persons sharing room. If the trip does not fill with members by July 1, 1994 non-member spouses will be considered for the vacancies.

### FEBRUARY 27 - MONDAY

7:30 am - 9:10 am  
10:10 am - 11:00 am

New Orleans to Cancun  
Cancun - Merida  
Transfer with Mayaland Tours  
Hotel Casa de Balam - 2 Nights  
Merida City Tour with stop at Archaeological Museum

LACSA flight 670  
AVIACSA flight 850

3:00 pm

### FEBRUARY 28 - TUESDAY

Day at Leisure to enjoy Carnaval

### MARCH 1 - WEDNESDAY

9:00 am  
6:00 pm

Motorcoach Tour of Puuc Region, including sites of Kabah, Sayil, Labna, Xlapak and Loltun  
Check-in at Hotel Hacienda Uxmal  
Dinner at Hotel

### MARCH 2 - THURSDAY

Day to Tour Uxmal  
Evening Sound & Light Show

### MARCH 3 - FRIDAY

8:00 a.m.  
4:30 p.m.

Depart Uxmal in Motorcoach for visit to Dzibilchaltun with stop at colonial city of Ticul enroute to Chichen  
Arrive Chichen Itza  
Checkin Mayaland Hotel - 2 nights  
Dinner at Hotel with presentation

### MARCH 4 - SATURDAY

Day Free to Explore Chichen  
Evening Sound and Light Spectacular

### MARCH 5 - SUNDAY

3:30 p.m.  
5:30 pm - 7:10 p.m.

Depart Chichen Itza for Cancun Airport  
Check in for flight  
Cancun - New Orleans

LACSA Flight 671

**Price per person -- \$1085 + 34.50 (taxes)**

*Cancellation insurance available for \$39.00 per person*

call Marcus at

**891-8800**

**1-800-486-7578**

**UNIGLOBE**

**UNIGLOBE**

I would like to attend the Louisiana Archaeological Society Yucatan Expedition.  
Please confirm my reservation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street/P.O. Box City Zipcode

Phone:( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Current LAS Member: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

I would like to share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

Current LAS Member: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If no designated travelling companion:

Please assign a rooming partner \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No (additional charge)

\_\_\_ Smoking \_\_\_ No Smoking Age : \_\_\_ Sex: M F

I would like to pay by: \_\_\_ Check (enclose deposit of \$200.00)

Bill to my Master Card / Visa : # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Full amount \_\_\_ \$200.00 deposit

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(please fold so that address is in window)

UNIGLOBE Hibernia Travel  
LAS Group  
5720 Magazine St.  
New Orleans LA 70115

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Send payment to:

David R. Jeane  
L. A. S. Treasurer  
305 Hickory  
Springhill, LA 71075

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Send all notes, news, and other communications to: Richard A. Weinstein, Newsletter Editor, Coastal Environments, Inc., 1260 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802. If possible, articles should be submitted on computer disk, preferably in Microsoft Word 4.0 or Word Perfect 5.1 or 6.0, although most other word processing programs can be translated. Style should conform to the guidelines published in *American Antiquity*, Vol. 57, No. 4 (Oct. 1992).

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