



Louisiana Archaeological Society

NEWSLETTER

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COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC. BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

Volume 32, No. 1

Spring 2005

FROM THE EDITOR

The Louisiana Archaeological Society held its annual meeting in Lafayette on February 11-13, 2005. On behalf of the LAS, I'd like to thank Chip McGimsey for all of his hard work in making the meeting a great success. Chip has written a summary of the meeting for everyone, which details the events of the weekend. As has become tradition, you will also find candid photos from the annual meeting in this issue (see pages 12 and 13). Thanks goes to Charlie "Shutterbug" Bollich for providing the pictures for your viewing pleasure.

The minutes from the November and February meetings of the LAS Executive Committee, the minutes from the November LAC (Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy) meeting and the minutes of the LAS Business meeting in February are presented. In addition, you will find an article submitted by the archaeologists of the Kisatchie National Forest which provides an overview of what is being done in the forest and details the work that each of them has been performing. James Green and Allen Saltus have provided an article on the discovery of a shipwreck on the Tickfaw River and an article on the Frenchmen's Bend Mounds (16OU259) details current research conducted to document the impacts to the site by residential and recreational development and provides a new map of the site created from these current investigations. Also, make sure to check out the "Announcements and News" section to find out what's happening in the LAS!

Cherie Schwab
Newsletter Editor

REPORT ON THE 2005 LAS ANNUAL MEETING

The 2005 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society was held at the Hilton Hotel in Lafayette, Louisiana, on Saturday, 12 February 2005. The meeting had a full slate of interesting papers ranging from changes in fish size between the Archaic and Woodland periods, to what folks were eating at the mid-1800s Royal Hotel in St. Francisville,

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to Middle Archaic zoomorphic beads from the Lower Mississippi River valley. The evening dinner keynote speaker was Dr. Robert Ricklis of Coastal Environments, Inc., in Corpus Christi, Texas. He talked about his recent work at the Buckeye Knoll site in Texas where one of the earliest cemeteries in North America was excavated. Buried with the people were a number of beautiful artifacts, including bifaces, points, shaped and grooved stones and shell pendants.

By the end of the meeting, 87 members had registered to attend and several other folks were also present for total audience of close to 95 people. This is slightly lower attendance than at some recent meetings but it is a measure of people's interest in the Society that over 40% of the members attended the meeting. Only one week before the meeting, the organizer was rather concerned because only 46 people had registered. This concern largely reflected financial issues, since the Society had contracted with the motel for room rentals and banquet participation and was required to pay baseline costs for each regardless of the number of people who came. Trying to guess how many folks would actually show up, and want to attend the banquet, made planning a bit more of guesswork than is comfortable. In addition, we ran out of programs and goody bags for late registrants because we guessed wrong on how many folks would show up. I apologize to those who did not get these materials or who did not get to attend the banquet. In future years, members could ensure that everyone would get the meeting materials, by pre-registering. This is also the best way to ensure that there will be a place at the dinner table for you.

The Silent Auction was a new fund-raising event this year and was a remarkable success. It came about because of an offer from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History to trade publications. They wanted a complete set of LAS publications, but didn't have the money to buy them, so they offered to trade their publications for ours. This was an excellent idea but the LAS Executive Committee didn't know what to do with the MDAH publications we got in trade, and so we decided on an auction where all the LAS members could have a chance to acquire one. Spreading the idea to the LAS membership and other folks resulted in donations from 10 institutions and individuals, including the Mississippi Department of

Archives and History, the National Park Service Southeastern Archaeology Center, the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Sherry Wagener, Allen Green, Mark Rees, Chip McGimsey, Marie Standifer, Josetta LeBoeuf and Jim Delahoussaye. Together, over 100 items were up for bid, including a birdhouse made of 301 year-old cypress, replica prehistoric vessels and pipes, art objects, and many, many books. All told, LAS members donated \$829 dollars to the Society via the Silent Auction.

In addition to the Silent Auction, there were also displays by Coastal Environments, Inc., of Baton Rouge, the Texas Archaeological Society, the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, and local artist Glenn Rechs. The author had also hoped to have an artifact display as well but there simply wasn't space in the book room. It also turned out that other folks had brought displays but had no place to set them up. In future meetings, we hope to have space for such displays. It will greatly aid planning for annual meetings if folks who want to display materials tell the organizer beforehand so that adequate space can be provided.

And finally, the meeting was a financial success. While the goal is simply to break even on the meeting, it is very important given the financial state of the LAS that the meeting not cost the LAS anything. Rental of the hotel rooms was free since enough people stayed at the hotel for the hotel to get its money back. As a result, the only expenses for the LAS were the banquet, rental of the audio and video equipment, bringing in the keynote speaker, and miscellaneous expenses such as printing the program. Excluding the Silent Auction, income from registration and banquet fees resulted in a "profit" of approximately \$420. These funds, in combination with the Silent Auction, will make a big difference in the coming year as we try to catch up on the printing of Bulletins from past years.

Thanks to all who came to the meetings and made it such a success. Particular thanks go to Josetta LeBoeuf for manning the registration table and taking care of all the financial matters, and to Junior Doughty for keeping the website up to date and for enabling the online registration and payment.

Chip McGimsey
LAS 2005 Organizer

MINUTES OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 13, 2004
Marksville, Louisiana

Reported by
Maureen Downey

The Executive Committee of the Louisiana Archaeological Society met Saturday, November 13, 2004 in Marksville, Louisiana. President John Polk called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

Members present were:

John Polk - LAS President
Ellen Ibert - LAS Vice President/President-Elect
Joe Saunders - Past President
Maureen Downey - LAS Secretary
Josetta LeBoeuf - LAS Treasurer
Chip McGimsey - LAS Bulletin Editor
Cherie Schwab - LAS Newsletter Editor
Junior Doughty - Web Editor
John Guy - LAS Representative at Large
Margarette Cheramie - CLAC Representative
Nancy Affeltranger - CLAC President
Lena Polk - Delta Chapter

MINUTES

Cherie Schwab made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2004 meeting of the LAS Executive Committee. Chip McGimsey seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Vice President

Ellen Ibert gave a report on activities of the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy. The Conservancy will be meeting directly after the LAS meeting. The main item on the agenda will be discussion of the three sites with servitudes under the protection of the LAC. The Board will be making plans for a visit to the sites. She informed the Executive Committee of the most recent grant that the LAC made. The grant was for radiometric dating at the King George Island Mounds site (16LV22).

Treasurer

Treasurer Josetta LeBoeuf reported that payment in the amount of \$737.75 for the new LAS brochures will soon be made. She explained the latest LAS income and expenditures.

Membership

Josetta LeBoeuf reported that the LAS presently has 212 members. John Polk again urged Commit-

tee members to recruit libraries and institutions in their parishes as members and to encourage professionals in their areas, or working in their areas, to join or to renew their memberships. Ellen Ibert said that the Vernon Parish Library was sending in an institutional membership. Discussion followed concerning the decrease in the LAS membership. Josetta LeBoeuf remarked that the LAS does still have three sustaining members and that she plans to contact them. She also reminded the Committee that the LAS By-Laws state that over one-half of the members of a chapter must belong to the LAS. John thanked Josetta for her report.

Bulletin Report

Chip McGimsey reported Bulletin No. 26, 1999, was ready for publication. He described potential articles for future Bulletins. John thanked Chip for all his hard work.

Newsletter Report

Cherie Schwab announced that the deadline for the next Newsletter is November 31. She again requested submissions. Cherie said that over 200 copies of the last Newsletter were mailed. Cherie brought the new LAS brochures. John Polk commented, and everyone agreed, that the brochures were excellent.

Web Site

Junior Doughty reported that the LAS web site was averaging around 65 hits a day. He stated that Annual Meeting information could be obtained from the web site and that registration for the meeting, as well as membership, could be done through the site. Junior emphasized the continuing need for articles and photos. John urged everyone to check the web site out often since Junior is continually updating and improving the site.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Delta Chapter

John Polk commented that Delta Chapter was in a reorganization phase and that one of the actions the Chapter was contemplating was a change in the meeting location.

West Louisiana Archaeology Club

John Guy reported for the WLAC. He said the WLAC meets the second Thursday of every month. He told of recent and upcoming Club activities including the investigation of the possible Atakapa site that may be a National Registry candidate. He stated that further testing is needed to help determine the site's eligibility. John will keep the LAS updated.

Central Louisiana Archaeology Chapter

Nancy Affeltranger talked about the Central Chapter's many activities, including Archaeology Week activities. She also described some of the excellent speakers that the Chapter has had recently.

Baton Rouge Chapter

Josetta LeBoeuf reported for Baton Rouge Chapter. She remarked upon the Chapter's participation in Archaeology Week and described local projects in which the Chapter has been involved. Josetta said that Baton Rouge Chapter has great speakers every month and she invited everyone to attend.

Northeast Chapter

Joe Saunders reported on recent activities of the Northeast Chapter and said that Northeast Chapter has monthly meetings with very interesting speakers. He announced volunteers were needed for field-work at Poverty Point. Chip McGimsey suggested Joe send the information to Cherie to be included in the Newsletter.

ONGOING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Profits

Nancy Affeltranger withdrew her motion, tabled from the May 15, 2004 meeting, stating that hosts of Annual Meetings be allowed to retain a percentage of profits over the amount given by LAS.

Guidelines for LAS Publications

After much discussion of the reevaluation of the motion passed at the September 20, 2003, Executive Committee meeting relating to the revision of guidelines for LAS publications, Joe Saunders suggested an one-hour open forum be held at the Annual Meeting to discuss the matter. Josetta LeBoeuf was to prepare materials for the forum and Cherie Schwab was to place an announcement in the Newsletter. Chip McGimsey will include a notice of the forum in the Annual Meeting program.

2005 Annual Meeting

The 31st Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society will be held February 11-13, 2005 in Lafayette, Louisiana. Donations for the silent auction were requested. Chip McGimsey added that papers were still needed. John Polk declared that the Meeting promises to be a really good one and encouraged everyone to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meetings

Discussions have been conducted recently regarding Louisiana, Arkansas and Mississippi perhaps holding some annual meetings in conjunction. This will be discussed further.

LAS Representative at Large

Because of Charles Parker recent resignation, a new Representative at Large must be appointed. John Polk will call for a volunteer at the Annual Business Meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Executive Committee meeting will be February 11, 2005 in Lafayette, Louisiana.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ellen Ibert and seconded by John Guy to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously and President John Polk adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 11, 2005
Lafayette, Louisiana

Reported by
Maureen Downey

The Executive Committee of the Louisiana Archaeological Society met Friday, February 11, 2005 at the Hilton Hotel in Lafayette, Louisiana. President John Polk called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Members present were:

John Polk -- LAS President
Ellen Ibert -- LAS Vice President/President-Elect
Joe Saunders -- LAS Past-President
Maureen Downey -- LAS Secretary
Josetta LeBoeuf -- LAS Treasurer
Chip McGimsey -- LAS Bulletin Editor
Cherie Schwab -- LAS Newsletter Editor
John Guy -- LAS Representative at Large
Reca Jones -- Northeast Chapter Representative
Nancy Affeltranger -- CLAC President
Lucretia McBride -- Delta Chapter President
Lena Polk -- Delta Chapter
Chastity Lanham -- Northeast Chapter

MINUTES

John Guy made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2004 meeting of the LAS Executive Committee held in Marksville, Louisiana. Chip McGimsey seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

REPORTS

President

President John Polk remarked that membership was his main focus. He explained his success with enlisting libraries as institutional members and encouraged others to do the same. He is also attempting to interest area schools in becoming members and

has contacted professional firms in the area to encourage their employees to become members or to renew their membership. John also reported that he has an upcoming meeting with Cytec to discuss sponsoring a field school at the Orange Grove Plantation site.

Vice President

Ellen Ibert gave a report on activities of the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy. The Conservancy Board will meet immediately after the LAS meeting. Ellen reported that she had recently attended a grant writing seminar where she learned of possible opportunities for the LAS to obtain grants for publication of Bulletins. She explained some requirements that would have to be met in order to obtain the grants.

Treasurer

Treasurer Joretta LeBoeuf gave the 2004 Financial Report. Income for the year 2004 totaled \$3,940.20 and expenses were \$1,817.60. The LAS savings account balance was \$8,706.81 and the checking account balance was \$5,918.24. Total assets of the LAS as of December 31, 2004 was \$14,625.05. Chip McGimsey reminded the Committee that no Bulletin expenses were reflected in the report. There was discussion regarding income exceeding expenses at Annual Meetings.

Membership

Joretta LeBoeuf reported that membership for 2004 was 215. This was an increase from 2003 when the LAS had 198 members. In 2000 the LAS had 252 members. Joretta remarked that she was receiving many renewals for 2005 and much earlier than usual. She said that many of the renewals were through the LAS website. Ellen Ibert thanked Stu Braud, a sustaining member of the LAS, for his generosity in donating memberships for a number of institutions in his area. Joretta will contact those institutions, acknowledging the memberships and encouraging them to promote interest in archaeology and the LAS. Stu had expressed the hope that his donations would encourage the institutions to continue their memberships. Joretta also thanked Earth Search, Inc., for their ten new memberships.

Bulletin Report

Chip McGimsey reported that the Bulletin, an interesting collection of miscellaneous papers, should be mailed by the end of March. He said that this Bulletin should give a better idea of publication expenses because there would be no "set-up" expenses – expenses that were included in the cost of the last Bulletin. He also described articles for the next Bulletin. However, these articles still need to be peer-reviewed. He would like to include articles from the present Annual Meeting in a Bulletin and asked that speakers submit their papers. It is Chip's intention to have the next Bulletin published by the end of 2005.

Newsletter Report

Cherie Schwab said that 221 copies of the last Newsletter were mailed. As was done in the past, Cherie plans to publish the membership list in a future Newsletter. Discussion was held regarding suggestions received for the Newsletter. Cherie announced that the deadline for submissions to the next Newsletter is March 15, 2005.

Web Site

Joretta LeBoeuf reported for Junior Doughty. She said that the LAS website was averaging 145 hits a day. John Polk urged everyone to check out the web site often since Junior is continually updating and improving the site.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Delta Chapter

Lucretia McBride, President of Delta Chapter, reported that Delta Chapter has 52 members, including 14 life members. She commented that Delta Chapter was attempting to reorganize and revitalize. In addition to reviewing the Chapter By-laws, part of this process was the consideration of a change in meeting location.

West Louisiana Archaeology Club

John Guy, President of the WLAC, said that the process of incorporating the Chapter was well underway. He added that the WLAC meets the second Thursday of every month at the museum in Leesville. The club has ten members, all members of the LAS. At present, the WLAC does not charge a membership fee. John related recent and upcoming club activities including the investigation of the possible Atakapa site.

Central Louisiana Archaeology Chapter

Nancy Affeltranger reported on the CLAC's successful participation in Archaeology Week. She added that the Chapter would soon be working at an old mercantile store and would appreciate help. She also described some of the excellent speakers that the Chapter has had recently.

Baton Rouge Chapter

Joretta LeBoeuf reported for Baton Rouge Chapter. She announced that Baton Rouge Chapter would again participate in Earth Day to be held on April 17, 2005 in downtown Baton Rouge. Joretta remarked that the Baton Rouge Chapter has regular monthly meetings with extremely interesting speakers. She invited everyone to attend.

Northeast Chapter

Joe Saunders reported that the Northeast Chapter has been meeting in conjunction with the Origin Series on the Prehistory of the Ouachita Valley funded through the LEH and being held at ULM. After the series the Chapter will resume their regular meetings.

Joe said that Claire Davis continues to work hard for the Chapter and regularly sends out a Newsletter.

ONGOING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Purchase of Digital Camcorder

The Committee agreed to purchase a digital camcorder. Ellen Ibert will investigate and report at the next Executive Committee meeting. John Guy has volunteered to help with recording the meetings.

Guidelines for LAS Publications

The reevaluation of the motion passed at the September 20, 2003 Executive Committee meeting relating to the revision of guidelines for LAS publications will be discussed at the Annual Business Meeting.

Representative at Large

The Committee accepted with regret the resignation by letter of Charles Parker as Representative at Large. He has moved out of state. John Polk will call for a volunteer for the position at the Business Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

2005 Annual Meeting

President John Polk, on behalf of the LAS, thanked Chip McGimsey for all his hard work on the 2005 Annual Meeting.

Houma-Terrebonne Chapter

Lucretia McBride announced that the Houma-Terrebonne area would like to begin a chapter. She asked for assistance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Social

Baton Rouge Chapter announced that they would be hosting a social in their hotel room beginning at 7:00 p.m.

2006 Annual Meeting

The 32nd Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society will be held in Monroe, Louisiana. President John Polk and the Executive Committee thanked the Northeast Chapter for volunteering to host the next Annual Meeting.

Next Executive Committee Meeting

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held in the new Louisiana State museum in Baton Rouge on May 14, 2005 at 10:30 a.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by John Guy and seconded by Ellen Ibert to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously and President John Polk adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

February 12, 2005

Lafayette, Louisiana

Reported by

Maureen Downey

The Annual Business Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society was held Saturday, February 12, 2005 at the Hilton Hotel in Lafayette, Louisiana. President John Polk called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. He then thanked Chip McGimsey for the great job he has done on the meeting.

MINUTES

David Jeane made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 7, 2004 LAS Annual Business Meeting held in Alexandria, LA. Tom Eubanks seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

REPORTS

President

President John Polk remarked that one of his main goals was to increase LAS membership. He stated that he believed one way to do so is by recruiting local institutions and libraries. He explained his strategy for enlisting libraries as institutional members. He said that he is also endeavoring to interest area schools in becoming members. In addition, he has contacted professional firms in the area to encourage their employees to become members or to renew their membership. He encouraged others to do the same in their areas.

Vice President

Ellen Ibert commented on her interest in the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy that has recently reorganized. One of her goals is to increase membership in the LAC. She said that the Conservancy Board would soon be visiting the three sites protected by LAC servitudes. Ellen reported that she had recently attended a grant writing seminar where she learned of possible opportunities for obtaining grants for LAS and LAC.

Treasurer

Treasurer Josetta LeBoeuf explained the 2004 LAS Financial Report. 2004 Income was \$3,940.20. Expenses were \$1,817.60. The LAS savings account balance was \$8,706.81. The checking account balance was \$5,918.24. Total assets of the LAS as of December 31, 2004 was \$14,625.05. Josetta encouraged all chapters to apply for the yearly \$100.00 speakers' fee.

Membership

Josetta LeBoeuf reported that LAS membership

was increasing. Membership in 2004 was 215.

Bulletin Report

Chip McGimsey reminded the membership that there were no Bulletin expenses reflected in the 2004 Financial Report. He announced that Bulletin Number 26 should be mailed by the end of March. He hopes to have two Bulletins published this year, the one in late March and one in late fall. He called for submissions and suggested that speakers submit their papers from this Annual Meeting.

Newsletter Report

Cherie Schwab announced that the deadline for submissions to the next Newsletter is March 15, 2005 and that the Newsletter should be mailed in early April. She called for submissions to the Newsletter and in particular requested some pictures. Cherie thanked everyone who made submissions to the Newsletter in 2004. She announced plans to publish the membership list in a future Newsletter. She asked that anyone still having problems with receipt of the Newsletter to please see her. Cherie also announced that she has copies of the new LAS brochure for distribution.

Web Site

Josetta LeBoeuf reported for Junior Doughty and said that the LAS website was averaging 145 hits a day. John Polk commented on the great job that Junior has done.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Baton Rouge Chapter

Josetta LeBoeuf reported that the Baton Rouge Chapter meets the last Wednesday of every month at the Bluebonnet Public Library. She remarked that the Chapter always has very interesting speakers and she invited everyone to attend. She described some of the recent activities of the Chapter including washing parties for Rob Mann's artifacts and helping Stephanie Perrault at the Angola Complex site. She announced that Baton Rouge Chapter would participate in Earth Day to be held on April 17, 2005 in downtown Baton Rouge.

Northeast Chapter

Joe Saunders reported that the Northeast Chapter is not holding regular meetings while the Origin Series was being held at ULM. After the Series the Chapter will resume their regular meetings. Joe said that all of the speakers during the Origin Series have been great, but Jon Gibson had the best turnout with over 150 people attending. He added that the response to the Series emphasizes the great interest in archaeology in Northeast Louisiana.

Central Louisiana Archaeology Chapter

Nancy Affeltranger reported that the CLAC recently held elections. She added that the local high school would soon be remodeled and that a nearby building thought to be from the late 1700s would be affected. The CLAC will be working with Jeff Girard

to investigate the site. She invited everyone to come and help. Nancy also requested speakers for the CLAC meetings.

West Louisiana Archaeology Club

John Guy, President of the WLAC, reported that the WLAC meets the second Thursday of every month at the museum in Leesville. The club has ten members, all members of the LAS. The club will be an official chapter of the LAS very shortly. He invited everyone to attend the meetings. John related activities including the investigation of the possible Atakapa site in Maryville, Louisiana. Chip McGimsey has helped them and the local Boy Scouts will also be helping probably beginning in March. John invited anyone who would like to participate to contact him.

Northwest Chapter

Jeff Girard said that he had little to report at this time. He said he had been attempting to revitalize the Northwest Chapter and would continue to try to do so this year. The biggest problem was getting people to serve as officers.

John Polk reminded all Chapters to send reports to the Newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

Representative at Large

John Polk announced that Charles Parker had resigned as Representative at Large because he has moved out of state. John called for a volunteer to fill the vacancy. There were no volunteers. John Polk recommended Rogers Serpas. Ellen Ibert made the motion that Rogers Serpas be appointed LAS Representative at Large. Geoffrey Lehmann seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Guidelines for LAS Publications

Chip McGimsey explained that at the September 20, 2003 Executive Committee meeting, a revision to the guidelines for LAS publications requiring that all sites reported on in LAS publications be recorded with the Division of Archaeology was proposed. At a later meeting, this proposal was questioned. Chip stressed he had no specific case in mind, but there were people who had concerns and for whatever reasons felt hesitant to record the sites. He explained that the Executive Committee had decided that this was a matter that should be decided by the membership. Discussion followed. Charlie Bollich motioned that a site must be recorded with the Division of Archaeology in order to be included in LAS publications. David Jeane seconded the motion. The motion passed – 23 members voting in favor of the motion and 16 members voting against the motion.

Purchase of Digital Camcorder

John Guy announced that the Executive Committee had approved the purchase of a digital camcorder and that he had agreed to help with recording the

meetings. He requested that someone volunteer to work with him. Joe Saunders volunteered to do so. Ellen Ibert is to investigate purchasing the camcorder and report at the next Executive Committee meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Social

Baton Rouge Chapter announced that they would be hosting a social beginning at 7:00 p.m.

2006 Annual Meeting

Joe Saunders announced that the Northeast Chapter would host the 2006 Annual Meeting. President John Polk thanked the Northeast Chapter.

Mississippi Archaeological Association's Annual Meeting

Sam Brookes invited everyone to attend the upcoming Mississippi Archaeological Association's Annual Meeting to be held March 4-6, 2005 at the Comfort Suites Riverfront in Vidalia, Louisiana. He described the interesting program.

UPPA

Ellen Ibert announced that the 5th Annual Gathering of the University of Poverty Point Alumni would be held at the Poverty Point Historic Site on the weekend of March 18, 2005. Norm Davis was to speak at the museum. Ellen invited all to attend.

Synoptic Collection Disk

Rebecca Saunders announced that she had the zooarchaeological synoptic collection disk and that if any institution wanted a copy to let her know.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Liz Davoli and seconded by Becky Saunders to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. President John Polk thanked all and said it was a great Annual Meeting. He then adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY

Marksville, Louisiana
November 13, 2004

Reported by
Maureen Downey

The meeting was called to order by President Ellen Ibert at 12:35 p.m. Board members present were

Ellen Ibert -- President
Kathleen Bergeron -- Vice-President

Maureen Downey -- Secretary
Marc Dupuy, Jr.
John Polk
Lena Polk

Minutes

Approval of the minutes was deferred until Board members could study the minutes.

President's Report

Ellen Ibert informed the Board that the West Louisiana Archaeology Club had begun testing the possible Atakapa site in Maryville, Louisiana, that she had reported on at the last meeting. Further testing is necessary to determine if the site could be eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Ellen will keep the Board informed on developments.

LAC Servitudes

Marc Dupuy supplied the Board with information relating to the LAC including funding, grants and archaeological servitudes. Discussion was held concerning proposed visits by the Board to the three sites protected by Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy servitudes. The three sites are Highland Stockade in East Baton Rouge Parish, Jake's Cabin in West Feliciana Parish, and the Conley site located in Bienville Parish. Since the first two sites are relatively close in location, they could probably be visited on the same day. However, the Conley site would have to be visited on a separate occasion. Instead of conducting a formal Board meeting in May, it was suggested that the Board visit the first two sites at that time. A date to visit the Conley site could be decided upon then. Ellen Ibert is to coordinate the arrangements for the visits.

At the August 14, 2004, Board meeting, discussion of the LAC Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation was reserved to give the Board time to become acquainted with the documents. At this meeting, discussion was held, and the Board gave approval of the Bylaws and Articles.

The next meeting of the LAC will be at the LAS Annual Meeting in Lafayette, Louisiana, on February 11, 2005.

John Polk made a motion, seconded by Marc Dupuy, to adjourn. Motion was passed unanimously and President Ellen Ibert adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

**Louisiana Archaeological Society
2004 Financial Report
December 31, 2004**

Account Reports 12/31/04	
Savings Account	8,706.81
Checking Account Balance	5,918.24

2004 Transactions

Income	
Membership Fees and Annual Meeting 2004	3,730.94
Publication Sales	490.75
Money Market Account Interest	159.51
Total	\$3,940.20

Expenses	
Newsletter (3)	876.63
Annual Meeting	500.00
Postage	110.97
Chapter Speaker Allowances	200.00
Pace Insurance (Bonding)	100.00
SAA Membership	30.00
Total	1,817.60

Total Assets LAS-12/31/04

LAS Savings	8,706.81
Checking Account	5,918.24
Total	14,625.05

Submitted by
Josetta LeBoeuf, Treasurer
February 11, 2005

**Louisiana Archaeological Society
Membership Report 2004
Submitted by Josetta LeBoeuf, Treasurer 2/11/05**

	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Institution	23	16	24		25
Regular	74	65	61		107
Associate	17	14	13		18
Student	5	6	7		12
Life	93	94	93		87
Sustaining	3	3	3		3
	215	198	201	249	252

announcements and news

COLLECTIONS IMPROVEMENT GRANT

In April, 2003, Rebecca Saunders, J. Van Remsen, and Mark S. Hafner of the Museum of Natural Science at LSU submitted a Louisiana Board of Regents Collections Improvement Grant for \$83,500 to upgrade the Vertebrate Zooarchaeological Comparative Collection in the Anthropology Division of the Museum. We proposed to identify and fill the gaps in the collection so that most or all of the species commonly recovered in archaeological sites were represented. Second, we proposed to create synoptic collections, which directly compare single elements from morphologically similar species, to aid in the efficiency and accuracy of identification. Third, we proposed to establish a synoptic collection website by posting a portion of the digital images created on the Museum website. The complete digital synoptic collection would be copied to CD to be distributed, at cost, to all interested parties. Finally, we requested funds to properly curate the extant and expanded collections.

The proposal was funded in September 2003 and we finished working on the project in December 2004. In that time, we acquired 1480 new specimens representing 162 new species. (Multiple specimens of single species are desirable because of morphological changes that occur in the separate sexes or in aging.) In our upgrade, we targeted otoliths (even without the rest of the fish) because they are common on archaeological sites, resistant to erosion, and are almost always diagnostic to species. Thus, the majority of the new specimens/species (1165/45) are otoliths; many of these were donated by various laboratories on campus at LSU. The remainder of the new species are complete or nearly complete skeletons from three classes: 46 new species of birds (total 94), 4 new reptiles (total 52), 4 fish (exclusive of the aforementioned otoliths; total 35), and 63 new mammals (total 134). Cartilaginous fishes and amphibians, poorly represented in archaeological sites in this area, were not emphasized during this project, but will be pursued in the future.

Synoptic collections have been developed for

amphibians (2 species, 5 elements); birds (25 species, 6 elements), mammals (21 species, 6 elements); fish (39 species, 6 elements [exclusive of otoliths]); otoliths (143 species); cartilaginous fish (2 species, 4 elements); and reptiles (7 species, 6 elements). Additional reptiles are in processing and will be incorporated into the synoptic collection in the spring.

Most elements in the physical synoptic collection have been photographed and the photograph mounted in the digital synoptic collection. At present, there are 863 digital photographs which can be burned to three CDs for distribution. Contact Steve Fullen at sfulle4@lsu.edu or 225.578.3952 for copies. Copies are free to non-profit institutions.

We would like to thank the Board of Regents for making it possible to upgrade our zooarchaeological collection. We would also like to thank other individuals who contributed to this project. These include: Dr. Ray Wilhite and Dr. Daniel Hillman of the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, who donated the use of their labs, cold storage, and collecting expertise; Dr. Robby Mann, Lorene Smith, and Steve Cardiff of the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science, who gave generously of their time and materials; Dr. Andy Fischer of the Coastal Fisheries Institute; and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Tim Schilling will be working in northeastern Louisiana this May at the Mott Site. The purpose of the fieldwork will be coring to establish a basic geological framework. Volunteer positions are available. For more information contact:

Timothy Schilling
Anthropology Department
Washington University
St. Louis, Missouri
tmschill@artsci.wustl.edu

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Kisatchie National Forest's Winn Ranger District is looking to hire three summer seasonal student as Archaeological Technicians (GS-0102-03).

These three positions will be seasonal and are authorized through the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP). These positions will be employed no earlier than May 16 and will end on your return to school date for the Fall 2005 semester, not to exceed September 30, 2005. These positions are full time (40 hours/week) and the pay grade is GS-3 (\$10.52/hour).

These positions will serve under the District Archaeologist and will be responsible for conducting

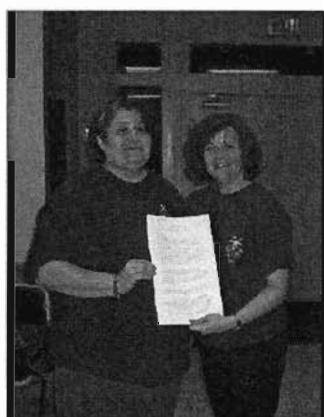
and assisting with Phase I field inventories, laboratory processing, entering archeological artifact and project data in appropriate forms and computerized databases, preparing site records and smaller-scale reports in the office, mapping areas using GPS (Global Positioning Systems), and archeological data management in support of district programs.

Contact:
 Lee H. Stewart
 Archeologist
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 (318) 628-2971 FAX
 leehstewart@fs.fed.us
 Hours: 7-4:30

5TH ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF POVERTY POINT ALUMNI MARCH 2005



Charles Parker blows the ceremonial UPPA conch shell.



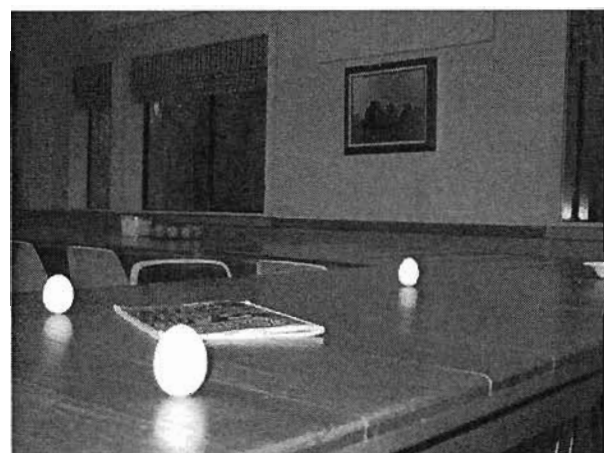
Kathleen Bergeron and Ellen Ibert show off the articles of incorporation for UPPA.



Volunteers help the park out by participating in "Operation Pick-Up Stick."



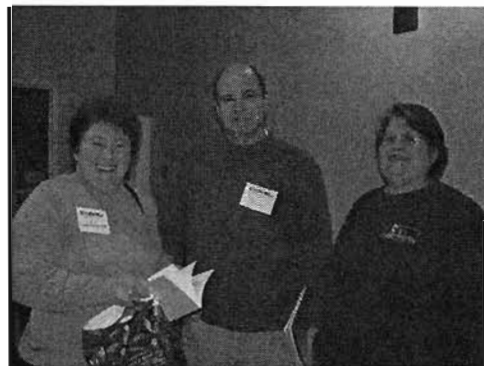
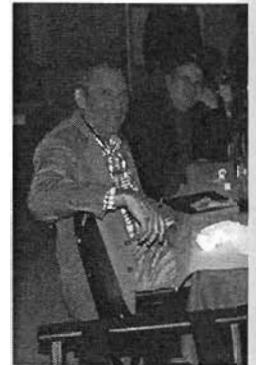
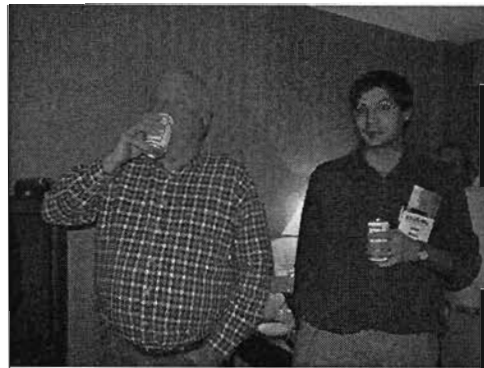
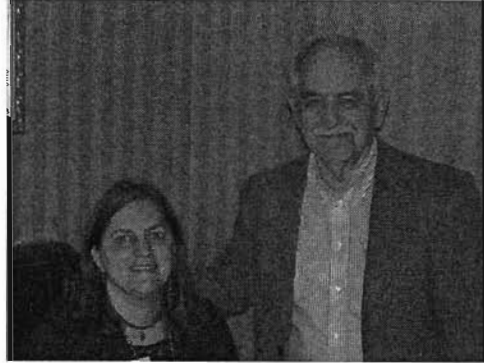
Lunatics on the loose . . .



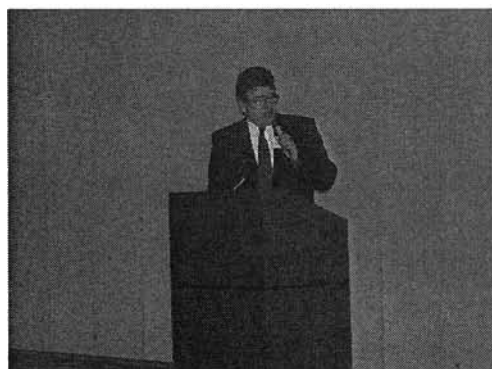
The mysterious balancing "equinox eggs" . . .

Photos courtesy of Skip Newfield and Jasetta LeBoeuf

31st Annual Meeting Louisiana Archaeological Society Lafayette, Louisiana



Meeting of the Biological Society Louisiana



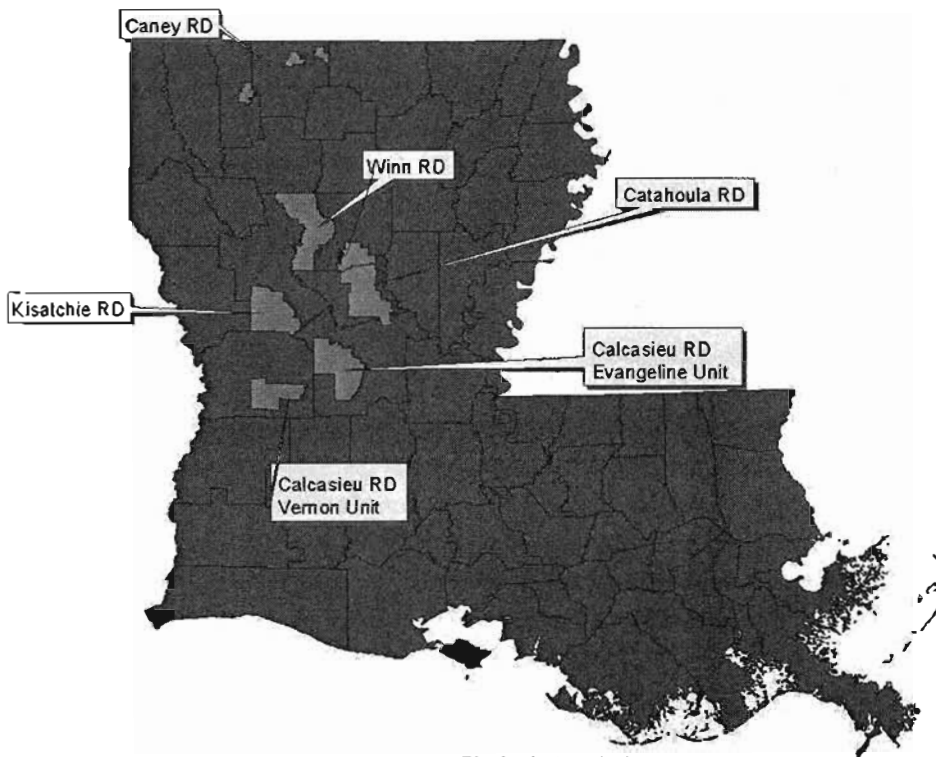
KISATCHIE NATIONAL FOREST: LOUISIANA'S ONLY NATIONAL FOREST

Velicia R. Bergstrom
Heritage Program Manager
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At the last LAS meeting, archaeologists from Kisatchie National Forest were approached by the LAS president, John Polk, to consider writing updates from the forest for the LAS newsletter. We are honored by this request and have put together the following:

I moved to Louisiana in 2002 and into the position of Heritage Program Manager. Prior to this I was the Assistant Forest Archaeologist in Texas. And I have to say that I have fallen for the archaeology, the forest, and the people of this grand state. Alan Dorian, my predecessor, is still in the area, but has moved on as Tribal Liaison for the southern states in the Forest Service. I feel fortunate to have him near and able to answer questions from past management.

The Kisatchie National Forest manages over 600,000 acres of our public lands here in Louisiana. We are divided into five Ranger Districts: The Calcasieu Ranger District is located between Alexandria and Leesville and



District Archaeologists
Caney RD: Brian Cockrell
Winn RD: Lee Stewart
Catahoula RD: Mark Gutzman
Kisatchie RD: Carrie Williams
Calcasieu RD: Geoff Lehmann



is divided into two units, the Vernon unit and the Evangeline unit. The Catahoula Ranger District is located north of Alexandria. The Kisatchie Ranger District is located to the west and south of Natchitoches. The Winn Ranger District is located west and south of Winnfield. The Caney Ranger District is located near Minden, Monroe and Homer (and not too far from Arkansas).

Iatt Lake Bluff Site (16GR591)

The Heritage program is preparing for our upcoming Passport In Time (PIT) project. This year we plan to return to the Iatt Lake Bluff Site (16GR591). We are anticipating 40 volunteers from across the nation to join us April 1. These good folks will help us in our project until April 10.

The U. S. Forest Service sponsors the PIT volunteer program. The primary focus of the archaeological and historical preservation of PIT is designed for individuals and families to work with professional archaeologists and learn the need for archaeological site protection and preservation.

The Iatt Lake Bluff Site (16GR591) is located in Compartment 21, Catahoula Ranger District, Kisatchie National Forest, in Grant Parish, Louisiana. Iatt Lake Bluff Site overlooks the floodplain of Iatt Creek, in north central Grant Parish. Grant Parish was created in 1869 and Colfax is the parish seat. Lake Iatt is depicted on the 1829 General Land Office (GLO) map and is obviously an important natural resource in both prehistory and history. This lake is originally a natural lake, however a dam was built in 1956 and the water raised three feet.

This site was discovered as a result of vandalism in 1996. Forest Service archaeologists conducted a damage assessment of this vandalism and determined that the site dates to the Late Woodland Period (A.D. 600-1000). Ceramic sherds recovered from this site suggest that prehistoric occupation was for an extended period of time and that food gathering, processing and storage took place. These attributes are critical elements in interpreting human value of life in the prehistory of central Louisiana. Although this site has been disturbed, it appears to retain undisturbed areas which may have attributes favorable to archaeological research.

According to the Louisiana Comprehensive Archaeological Plan this site fits into the Louisiana Cultural Resource Management Zone I. Data from this site can aid in adding information about the prehistoric utilization of the uplands and the prehistoric agriculture, especially when comparing the upland cultural resources to local streamside sites as well as an examination of the distributions of the sites within the upland areas themselves (Sundborg et al. 1998). According to Mayer (1996) the Iatt Lake Bluff site has a strong Coles Creek component. The Coles Creek Culture (A.D. 700-1200) succeeds the Troyville Culture (A.D. 400-700) and is interrupted by the Caddo Culture (A.D. 800-1750) in this area of Louisiana.

Environmental Setting

The site is located on a bluff at 100 ft msl, overlooking Iatt Lake at the outlet of the Hurley Branch to Iatt Creek watershed. The vegetation includes immature pine and hardwoods with a scattering of hollies, dogwood, black gum and winged elm. The site overlooks the Iatt Floodplain that has vegetation including oaks, water elms, tupelo gum and cypress. The Soil Survey for Grant parish maps this area as a Cadeville Series (very fine sandy loam, a moderately sloping to strongly sloping, moderately well drained soil on side slopes in the terrace uplands) soil with 2-12% slope. This soil is formed from Tertiary clayey sediments.

History of Archaeological Investigations

Vandalism to the site was reported on February 6, 1996. Archaeologists and Law Enforcement investigated the damage over the next few days. One person was apprehended. Four areas of unauthorized digging were noted and mapped. A total of fourteen holes in four areas across the landscape were documented. Due to the investigation, salvage work and data recovery were limited. Each of the holes were measured and soil stratigraphy was taken. The soil at the site is predominately a silty loam. At area four, midden deposits were noted. The soil at this midden is sandy loam and is mixed with charcoal, ceramics and lithic debris (Mayer 1996). The artifacts from the surface of the back dirt areas and those confiscated were collected and analyzed (Table 1 & 2).

The primary material exhibited in the lithic collection is the local varieties of chert (93%) and the

Table 1. Lithic Material.

Cores	3
Cobbles	4
Shatter	20
Primary Flakes	2
Secondary Flakes	13
Tertiary Flakes	2
Total	44

Table 2. Ceramics.

Undecorated	190
Decorated	31
Total	221

remainder is silicified wood and Catahoula sedimentary quartzite. No tools were in the collection. Thirty percent of the lithic material exhibits heat treatment (Mayer 1996). This collection suggests an early to late stage tool manufacturing concept.

Ceramic sherds are extremely valuable for their ability to show past human activities and time periods of occupation critical for interpreting the prehistory of Louisiana. Of the 221 ceramic sherds collected, 31 could be determined as to a specific type. A partial vessel was assembled from six of the sherds. The types represented are Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Blakely, Greenhouse, Mott, and unspecified*. The collection also has Mazique Incised, *vars. Kings Point and unspecified* and one sherd that is defined as French Fork Incised, *var. unspecified*. Many of the sherds exhibited fresh breaks (attributed to the hasty digging on the part of the vandals). Temper was also examined and determined that 97 percent had a clay/grog temper while the remainder were comprised of a sand/clay temper. Jars, beakers, simple and carinated bowls were the main vessel forms from this site. Ceramic vessel construction techniques and decoration styles changed more rapidly in prehistory than other types of artifacts.

After the damage assessment occurred, the vandal holes were backfilled. The Kisatchie National Forest heritage staff and law enforcement continue to monitor the site.

This site is located within Land Type Association 4 (alluvial, floodplains and stream terrace) of the National Forest lands. Under this land use classifica-

tion, no ground disturbing activities are allowed to take place, and consequently there would appear to be no opportunity in the future to authorize test excavations such as these under USFS normal project review and mitigation processes. The PIT program offers an excellent opportunity to pursue projects such as this. The site may yield information relevant to the local prehistoric settlement. There appears to be a general stratification of the prehistoric occupation and the site does retain sufficient undamaged areas for such studies. Further investigations are recommended to determine its potential eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.

In 2004, the Kisatchie National Forest hosted a PIT project at Iatt Lake Bluff Site. We opened up six 3X3m units: units 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Figure 1). In unit 6 was discovered a possible hearth. Charred material was recovered from floatation of this feature and C14

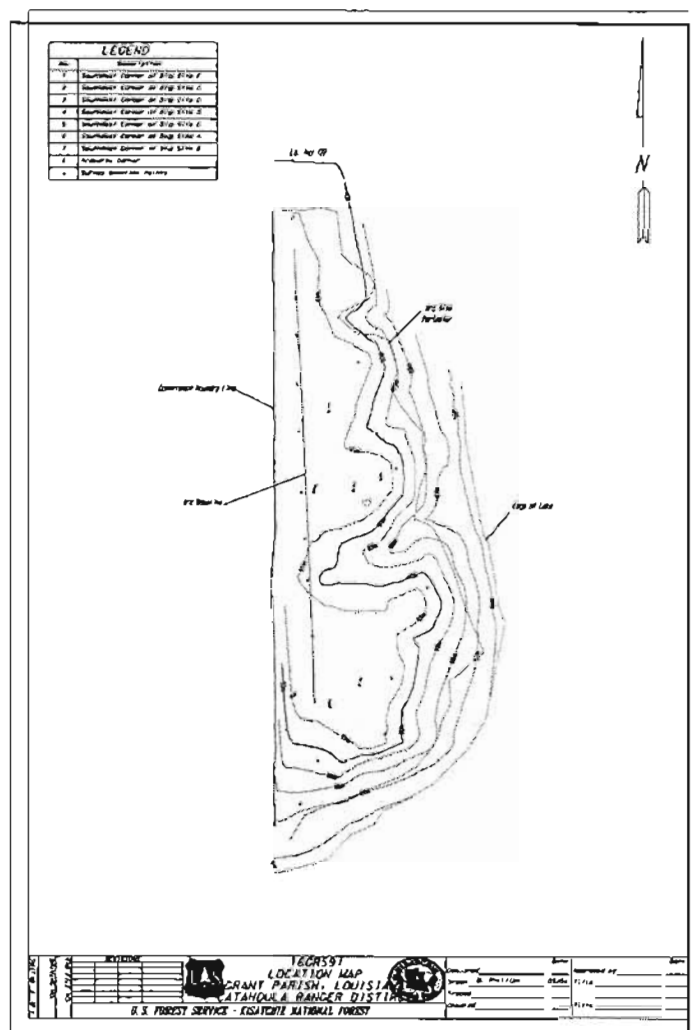


Figure 1. Site map.

dates were accomplished at Beta Analytic. The dates are AD 790-1030 +/- 60 years. In unit 3 post molds were discovered and again charred material was recovered from the floatation of this feature. Dates from Beta Analytic for C14 are AD 910-920 +/- 60 years. Not all units were fully excavated, nor were we able to explore the extent of the site onto the private land (to the west). In October of 2004 we hosted another PIT project. This was a laboratory to process the artifacts that we had recovered in the spring. We are still in the process of compiling this data.

The primary goals for this year's PIT project are to continue our efforts to preserve and stabilize disturbed areas of the site. We will also continue to define the vertical and horizontal aspect of this site, and construct a continuous chronological record of habitation at the site. We have gained permission to shovel test on the private land so that we may accomplish part of this mission. This information will aid in the determination of the site's integrity, temporal affiliations and potential for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. We will also have open a field laboratory at the nearby Ranger District work center. This will ensure that all the recovered material will be processed and stored until we have our fall laboratory project where we will finish the analysis of the artifacts.

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Geoffrey R. Lehmann

Calcasieu Ranger District Archeologist

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February 2005. A lot of patient effort is beginning to pay off at former Camp Claiborne (16RA373), a WWII training camp in Rapides Parish that operated from 1940-1945, trained over 500,000 troops, was the 3rd largest city in Louisiana at the time, and was completely dismantled in 1947. Inventory of structural remains and the hazard they represent was completed in 2004, and a contract to begin addressing the worst of these hazards (open manholes and water-holding structures) has been awarded by the Ft. Worth Corps of Engineers. Initial inventory and characterization of ordinance contamination is nearly complete. These important steps will allow us to begin interpreting the massive US military occupation in central Louisiana during the 1940s while providing a safe environment for visitors.

During the past year, archeological field survey was conducted on about 3500 acres of the Evangeline Unit of the Calcasieu Ranger District. I had the pleasure and distinction of receiving the able assistance of Lance Blanchard, Madelyn Hebert, Chip Lorio and Katie SanFilippo, all graduating seniors of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. We had such a successful field season that the folks around here are willing to consider making this an annual part of our operation, and we have begun recruiting for 4 students to work with me again this summer (mid-May

through mid-July). We see this as a great opportunity to efficiently organize our inventory needs into a condensed field session, reduce overall costs, provide training/experience needs to area students, and (for me, at least) to enjoy the camaraderie of a field crew. Contact me as listed above for further information.

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On November 1, 2004 I began my work here as the first full-time district archaeologist on the Caney Ranger District of Kisatchie National Forest. Previously I had served in several capacities ranging from field technician to staff archaeologist at Northwestern State University's Cultural Resource Office in Natchitoches.

After years of falling under the management of the Winn District heritage staff, it was felt the needs of the district required full-time attention. The Caney is the smallest of the Kisatchie's ranger districts, encompassing three separate units totaling 32,000 acres in Webster and Claiborne Parishes. This fact leads to some potential variety in the archaeology of the Caney District. Bayou Dorcheat, whose waters end up in Red River, drains the Caney Unit. However, Middle Fork Bayou D'Arbonne and Corney Creek drain the Middle Fork Unit and the Corney Unit respectively. Both of these eventually flow into Bayou D'Arbonne and finally to the Ouachita River.

My first task, of several on my plate, was to report on the shovel test survey of approximately 2,168 acres of the Middle Fork Unit in advance of a planned timber sale. A total of 16 sites and 16 isolated finds were found during this survey. Many of these appear to be early 20th century sites associated with the widespread logging of the area prior to its purchase by the federal government in the 1930s.

Another survey was performed in 2004 in the area immediately surrounding the north shore of the

Caney Lakes. A thinning is in the works to remove some of the understory and mid-story foliage in order to enhance the view of the lake from the surrounding camping areas. Four sites were located in the course of this survey.

In the summer of 2004, prior to my arrival, the Caney District turned what could have been a bad experience into a positive one, reflecting just how dedicated the Forest Service has become to protecting its archaeological resources. A thinning was underway in the Corney Unit when one of our forestry technicians recovered a small surface collection. The technician, Terry Martin, (also trained by the Forest Service to assist in heritage resource matters) immediately notified the current Winn District archaeologist, Lee Stewart, and heritage program manager Velicia Bergstrom. Velicia immediately began consultation with the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. The Caddo were also consulted as some of the sites located, as well as previously known sites in the area, have a Caddoan component. Work on the sale was halted temporarily and the Kisatchie pooled its heritage staff in order to properly record and assess the situation. As a result, nine new sites and 13 new isolated finds were found. Stewart, Martin, and Caney District Ranger Alvin Womack then consulted with the Forest Supervisor's Office and recommended the cancellation of the timber thinning (with the Forest Service incurring a financial loss).

I am currently in the process finishing these site delineations. Afterward, they will be properly reported and a damage assessment will be performed on those sites affected before the halt of the timber thinning. Though not the best of circumstances, the experience did show that the Forest Service is aware of the importance of protecting heritage resources. Additionally, the sites recorded will contribute a great deal to the knowledge of the prehistory of the Caney District and this portion of north Louisiana in general.

My work here has just started but it is already proven to be very interesting. I am intrigued by the underreported history of the area. Hopefully I can help change that fact and ensure the Forest's archaeological resources are protected for future generations.

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I began working on the Kisatchie National Forest in April 2004 as the District Archaeologist for the Kisatchie Ranger District. There was not much time to get myself organized and familiar with previous work and Forest Service procedures before Northwestern State University student, Josh Martin, came on board for the summer to help with archaeological surveys. The area was selected for survey for timber thinning and mid-story removal to maintain forest health and a healthy habitat for the endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker. Josh and I were unable to complete the survey during the summer, as it was more acres than the two of us could complete. This survey continued into the winter with help from people from my district. Some of these folks had previous training in archaeological survey techniques,

and others were quickly trained and paired up with experienced folks. These guys worked very hard to help complete the survey, for which I am very thankful. These "honorary archaeologist" are Jessica Blackwell, Al Brazzel, Charles Boles, Jason Garrett, Chris Neugent, Kenneth Penrod, and Marc Pons. I also had some help from my District Ranger, Tim Bond, and the Timber Management Assistant, Kelly Boles. What a great example of the Forest Service teaming up and working together for a common goal on the district!

I have also been conducting surveys for Fire Management, which includes prescribed burning, wildland fires, mechanical fuels reduction, and wildland urban interface projects. I have also gone through the training necessary to help Fire Management in conducting prescribed burns, and when necessary, wildland fires.

I have had plenty of learning opportunities encouraged by my District Ranger to increase my knowledge of federal laws and regulations that guide the Forest Service in the many endeavors to protect the land and serve the people.

TICKFAW RIVER WRECK

by

James Allen Green, Jr. and Allen R. Saltus, Jr.

In December of 2003 Rob Mann, Regional Archaeologist, was contacted by Barnum Construction concerning the possible discovery of a shipwreck on the Tickfaw River near Killian, Louisiana (Figure 1). Rob Mann, Allen R. Saltus, Jr., and James Allen Green, Jr. traveled to the site, where we met representatives from Barnum Construction (Mann 2004: 16).

Circumstances

Barnum Construction was under contract with the property owner to drive pilings in the Tickfaw River for the construction of a dock and boathouse. Equipment used for the pile driving consisted of a track hoe loaded aboard a small barge. During the placement of one the pilings the construction crew hit what they assumed was a log laying on the river bottom. Subsequently, they used the bucket of the track hoe to dislodge and remove the "log". The bucket brought up artifacts associated with a shipwreck, including an anchor, windlass, and articulated planking (Figure 2).

Recovered Materials

Materials recovered from the site (Figure 2) consisted of a yachtsman-style anchor, a windlass, a "through deck" fitting, a hawse fitting, a cleat, articulated planking with machine-cut spikes, and several feet of anchor chain.

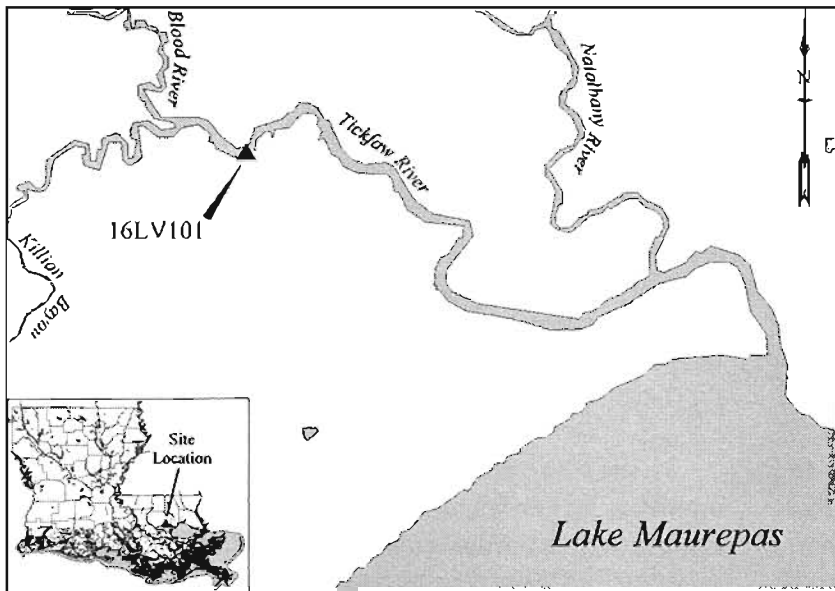


Figure 1. Location of Site 16LV101.



Figure 2. Overview of recovered materials.

The anchor (Figure 3) was identified as a yachtsman-style anchor. The stock of the yachtsman anchor was designed to collapse for convenient deck stowage. The anchor measured 4.81 feet (1.47 m) in length and 3.25 feet (.99 m) in width from fluke tip to fluke tip. The collapsible stock measured 4.83 feet

(1.47 m) long. The anchor shank had a maximum diameter of 3.0 inches (7.62 cm) and a minimum diameter of 2.375 inches (6.03 cm). When deployed the stock was held in place by a split ring washer that was possibly held in place with a tapered key. An 8-inch ring looped through the eye of the anchor's shank and was connected to the anchor chain by means of a shackle. The spade-like flukes showed very little wear.

Yachtsman anchors have been used on watercraft since the first half of the nineteenth century. A search at the United States Patent Office (USPO) failed to locate the original patent for this type anchor. An improvement in the method of locking the stock in position using a threaded wing nut or threaded stock was granted to C. O. Burbank on February 9, 1886 (USPO, Patent 335,561).

The anchor chain consisted of hand-forged links made from .75 inch (1.9 cm) round stock (Figure 4). Individual links measured 3.5 inches (8.89 cm) long and 2.5 inches (6.35 cm) wide. No attempt was made to measure the length of the chain, however it was estimated to be over 60 feet (18.29 m) long. A chain safety shackle and "end link" were noted within the run of chain, indicating that the chain had been extended from its original length.

The anchor chain passed through the bulwark by means of a hawse pipe fitting (Figure 5). The hawse pipe fitting was oval in shape; measuring 10.0 inches (25.4 cm) by 8.0 inches (20.32 cm) in size. The hawse hole measured 4.0 inches (10.16 cm) in diameter. The hawse pipe was still attached to the bulwark.

The anchor chain passed around a small windlass. The windlass measured 4.42 feet (1.35 m) in length (Figure 6). The windlass spindles were 13.2 inches (33.53) long and had a toothed gear cast on each end. The larger gear, which was on the inside edge of the spindle, measured 12.3 inches (31.24 cm) in diameter. The smaller gear on the outside of the spindle measured 7.0 inches (17.78 cm) in diameter.

Several sources were consulted in efforts to identify and date the windlass, including American Ship Windlass Co. and Hyde Marine, Inc., both longtime

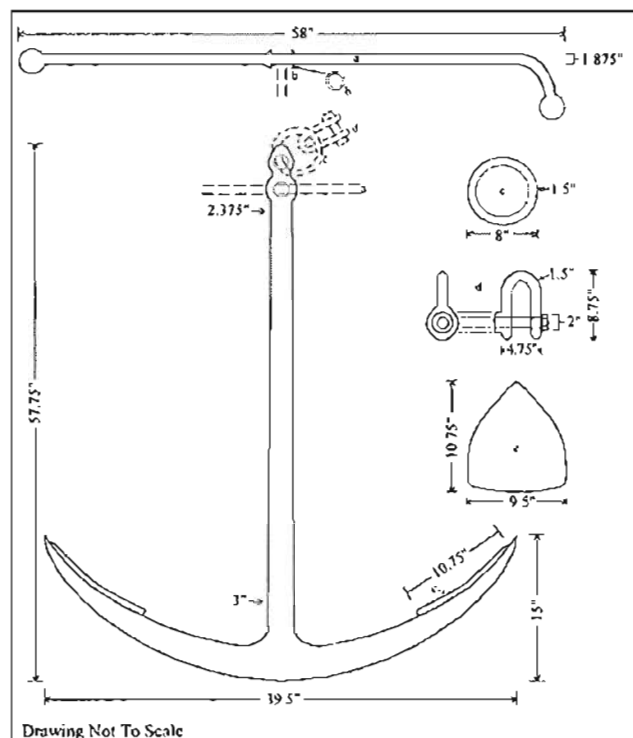


Figure 3. Drawing of anchor.



Figure 4. Anchor chain and through deck fitting.

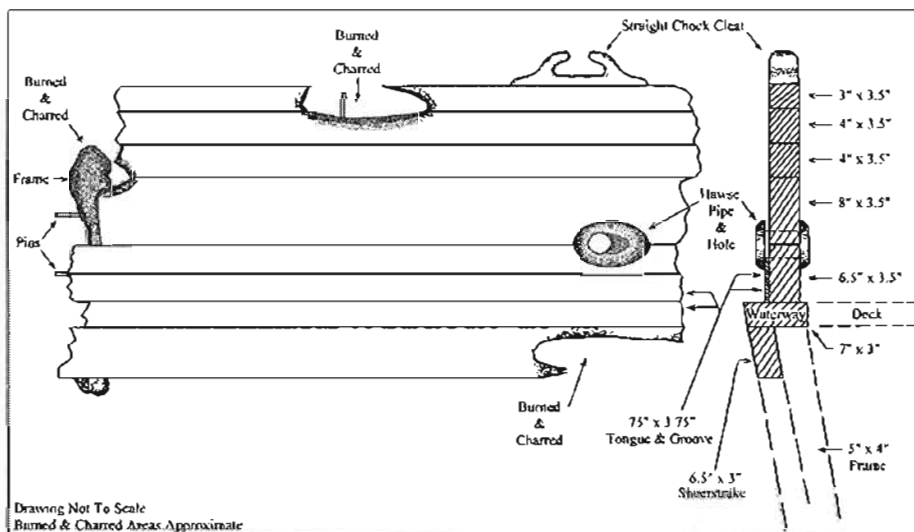


Figure 5. Drawing of bulwark.

manufacturers of windlass devices. No match for the windlass was found, although the Hyde "Ratchet Gypsy" windlass (ca. 1915) was similar (Hyde 1915).

The anchor chain passed through a "through deck fitting" for stowage below deck (Figure 4). This fitting measured 8.0 inches (20.32 cm) in diameter and had an opening 5.0 inches (12.79 cm) in diameter. A notch in the housing served as a chain-stop.

The articulated wooden section of structure ripped from the bow of the wreck consisted of a sheerstrake (first hull plank under the "waterway"), a waterway (outside deck plank), a framing timber, and five 3.5 inches (8.89 cm) thick bulwark planks of various widths (Figure 5). The frame and plank construction utilized iron pins. Additionally, two tongue and groove boards were affixed to the outside of the bulwark from the waterway board to the bottom half of the hawse pipe. A straight chock cleat was mounted on the top of the bulwark and a hawse fitting was installed with iron machine-cut spike nails (Figure 7) in the bulwark above the waterway. Several burned and charred areas were noted on the structure (see Figure 5). The interior of the bulwark and associated planking exhibited extensive signs of a fire onboard the craft. The sheerstrake and planking had been burned through from the interior of the vessel at various locations.

Remote Sensing

A 20.0 foot (6.1 m) section of small diameter aluminum pipe was used to probe the shipwreck from the metal work barge and a small boat. Probing suggested that the vessel is between 55.0 feet (16.8 m) and 65 feet (19.8 m) long and 12.0 feet (3.7 m) wide. Probing also revealed that at least 4.0 feet (1.2 m) of structural elevation exist, as determined by top of deck timbers to bottom of hold.

Greg Ryals, owner of the survey company Greg Ryals, Inc., volunteered to collect side scan sonar data in the wreck area. The side scan sonar images provided additional data concerning the configuration of the vessel (Figure 8). Based on these images

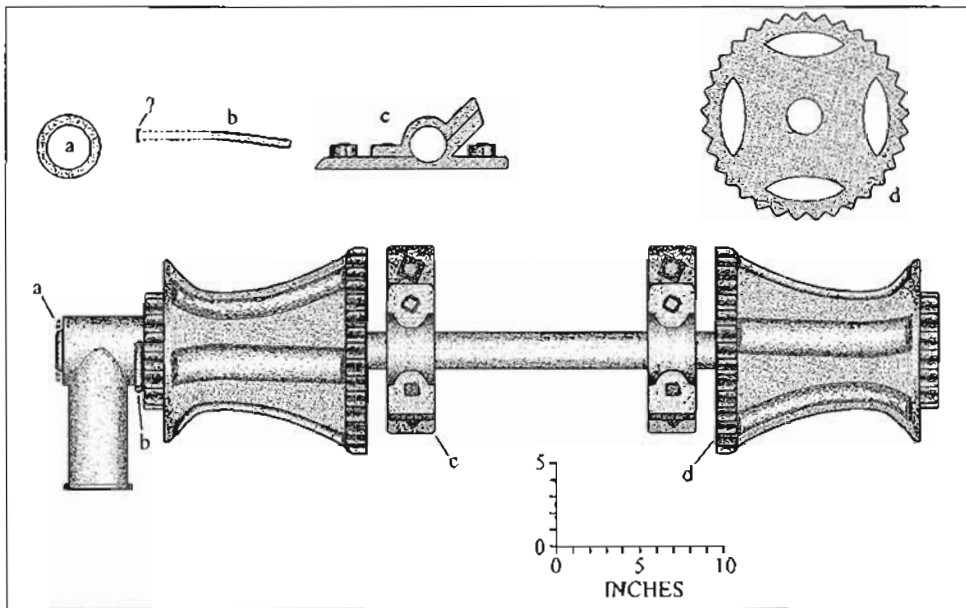


Figure 6. Drawing of windlass.

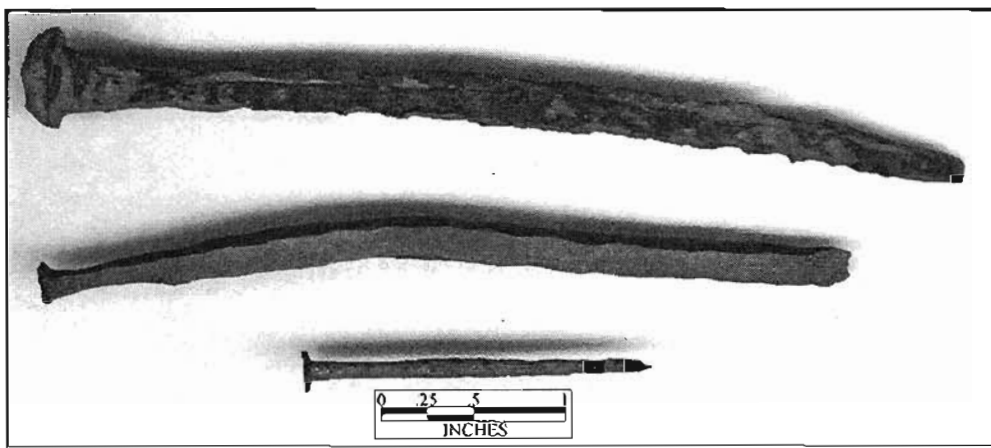


Figure 7. Machine-cut spike nails and wire nail.

the vessel is approximately 68.24 feet (20.8 m) long and 11.48 feet (3.5 m) wide. The vessel appears to be a rounded stern launch with the bow pointed upriver (Figure 8 Inset). No cabin could be discerned in the sonar image. A box-like feature in the stern section of the vessel could be the remains of a steam engine.

The sonar image of the wreck demonstrates the elusiveness of some wrecks in the river environment. The site could well have been missed if we did not know it existed and where it was located. From the physical wreckage, sonar data, and other revelations we could have identified several other potential submerged watercraft during the investigation of the

mile-long area Greg Ryals surveyed along the Tickfaw River in the area of Site 16LV101.

Interpretation

Based on physical and remote sensing data, the vessel appears to be a launch-shaped work boat similar to the steamer *Fox* (Figure 9) built in 1878. The thick bulwark planking indicates that the vessel was built to withstand the heavy demands placed upon it from working on the river. The burned and charred bulwark and sheerstrake indicates that an internal hull fire occurred, possibly from a boiler explosion. No accident report could be found in the historical records, thus it is unknown whether the fire caused the vessel to sink during use or if the fire happened after the vessel was abandoned. It was not uncommon for a vessel to be abandoned along a river a short distance from an activity area after it was worn out or no longer needed.

Evidence along the riverbank in the wreck's vicinity suggests that some form of

land-based activity could have been present around the time of the vessel's demise. Two cut and sloped areas along the bank could reflect either boat launch ramps or timber (log) handling areas (i.e., lumbering). Boat launch ramps can be associated with shipbuilding and repairs, however no evidence of shipways was seen in the sonar images. Loblolly pine trees (*Pinus taeda* L.) having diameters of approximately 26 to 32 inches (66 to 81 cm) were noted growing within one of these cut areas and on the adjacent spoil. Harlow and Harrar (1958; 96) noted that Loblolly pine trees 24 inches (61 cm) in diameter generally are at least 70 years old, but can be older depending upon growing con-

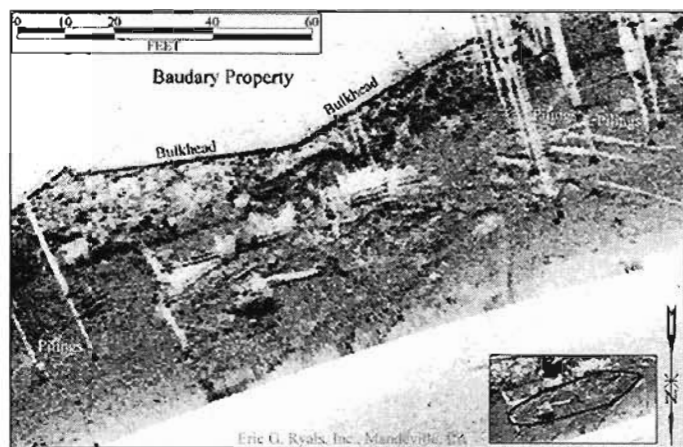


Figure 8. Side scan sonar image of the Tickfaw River Wreck (16LV101) area.

ditions. This would date the latest age of the cut and sloped areas to roughly ca. 1918.

Summary

The location of the Tickfaw wreck was determined to be within waters regulated and owned by the State of Louisiana. Materials recovered and documented from the site consisted of a complete anchoring assembly from a launch-form river steamer. River steamers played an important role in river commerce in Louisiana for over a century. The historical records indicate that it was not uncommon for an individual watercraft to be used or to last sixty or more years. Watercraft of this type were used to carry passengers and freight, as well as providing towing services along the river.

Additional historical research possibly could identify the name of the vessel and its years of operation. Unfortunately, historical records are sporadic or nonexistent for many of the watercraft that plied Louisiana's rivers. Historical port records, a main source for vessel name, owner, captain, place built, home port, and dimensions, exist only for those vessels that entered ports such as the Port of New Orleans. Vessels like the river steamer often spent their lives plying a single river system or several rivers within a given area, thus never appearing on the port



Figure 9. The steamer *Fox* built in 1878 (Jahncke Collection, Archaeological Research, Inc.).

records. Notwithstanding, the Tickfaw River Wreck (16LV101) is potentially significant and represents a cultural resource not well documented in Louisiana. Additional archaeological investigations is needed to determine whether the site is eligible for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places.

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NEW MAP OF FRENCHMAN'S BEND MOUNDS COMPLEX

by
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Reca Bamburg Jones
John Norris
Susan Hollis

Since the first map of Frenchman's Bend Mounds (16OU259) was published in 1994 (Figure 1; Saunders, et al), residential and recreational development continues to impact the site making it necessary to update the map as a first step toward additional research. In the fall of 2004, the site was remapped with a total station to document the changes.

Setting

The site is located to the east of Bayou DeSiard on the western-most edge of the Deweyville complex. It consists of five earthen mounds (Figure 2) ranging in size from ca. 0.5 m (Mds. D & E) to ca. 3.75 m (Md. A) in height. Mound A (Figure 3) is the largest with a diameter ca. of 35 m. Mounds B and C measure ca. 25 x 20 m and Mounds D and E measure ca. 20 x 15 m.

Eight radiocarbon dates indicate the site dates to ca. 5500 years ago (B.P.), about the same age as Watson Brake (16OU175). Although smaller than Watson Brake, the extensive evidence for permanent architecture under Mounds A, C, and possibly E make Frenchman's Bend Mounds extremely significant. The recent mapping reveals that some of these features may be endangered by future development. Likewise, the mapping also reveals that at least one possible feature (a ridge?) has been leveled by construction. The map below (Figure 4) highlights the encroachment of the residential (houses and roads) and recreational (golf fairways, greens, cart tracks, and related structures) developments at the site.

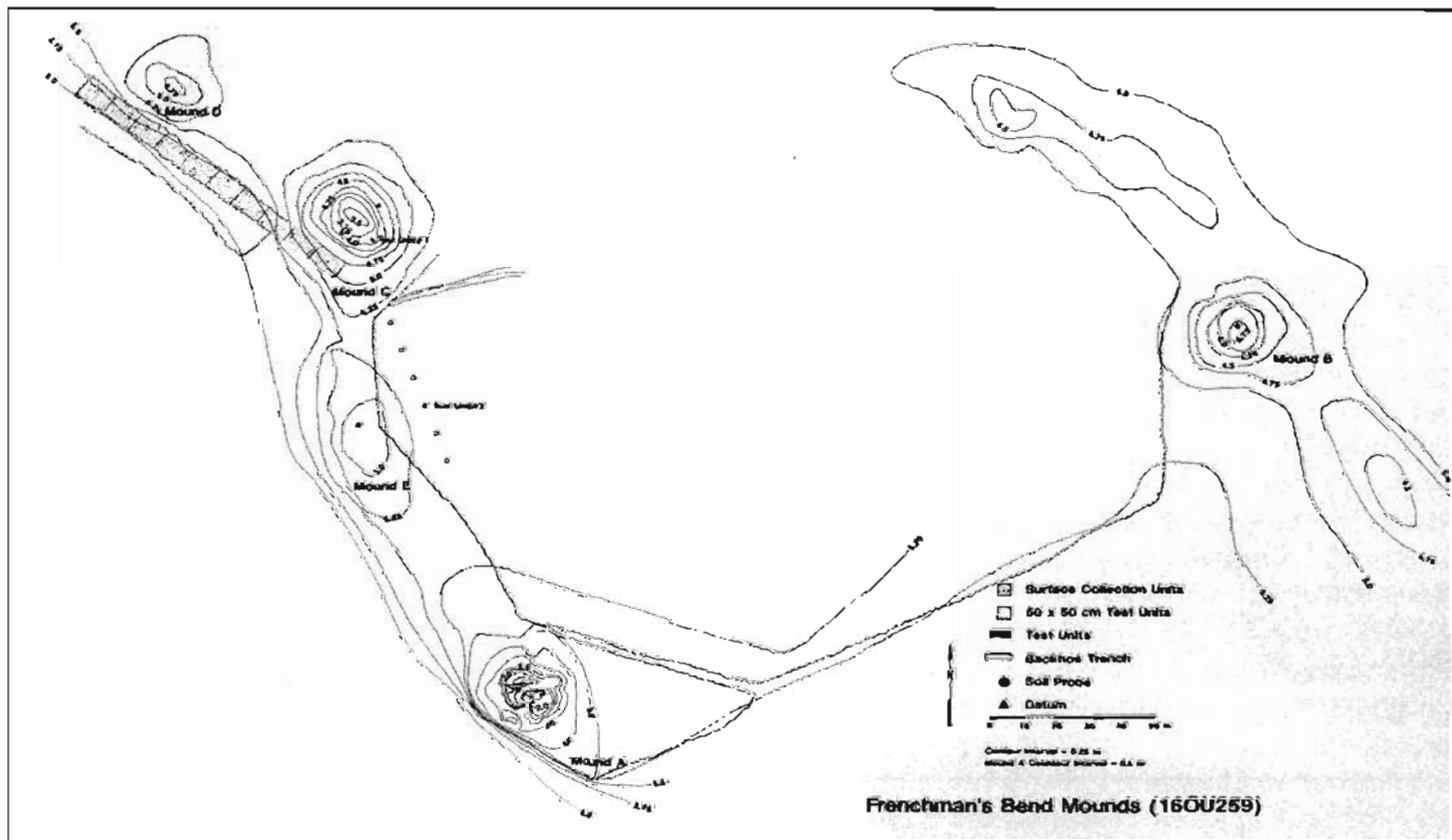


Figure 1. Redrafted 1994 map of Frenchman's Bend Mounds site.

Disturbances

Frenchman's Bend subdivision is a combination single-family residential/recreational golf course project with houses built both around and away from the course. Full-scale residential and recreational development has taken place on the site (see Figures 4-9). Of the five mounds, three are bounded by housing and golf course development on two sides (Mounds B, C, and D) and two are bounded by golf course development on one side (Mounds A and E).

Two drainage trenches have been excavated through the site (see Figures 2 and 9); Trench 1 between Mounds A and E is notably deeper, while Trench 2 has been transformed by the golf course development into a drainage depression. Golf course development includes a fairway south and east of Mound A, a green east of Mound B and one south of Mound C, fairway tee boxes south and west of Mound D, and a fairway west of Mound E. Golf course greens include notable "historic mounds" (i.e., golf course features) southeast of Mound B as well as south and southwest of Mound C. Smaller "historic mounds" are found on the fairways south of Mound A and southwest of Mound E (see Figures 2 and 8).

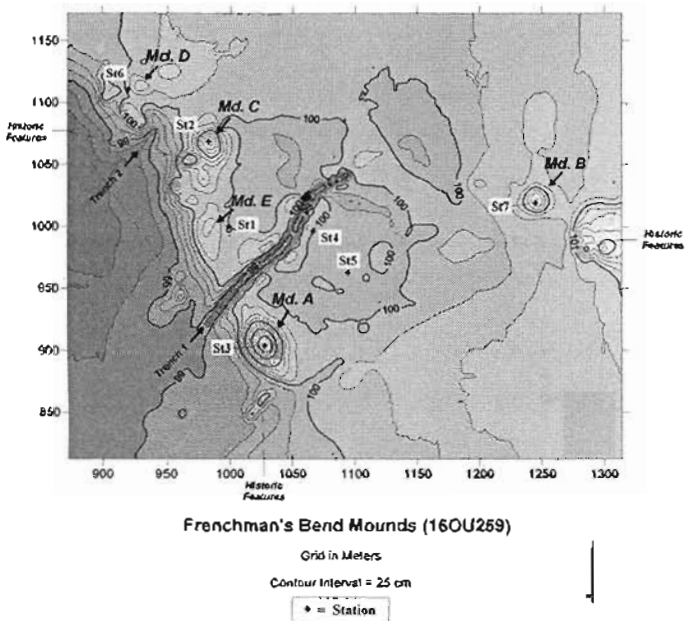


Figure 2. Map highlighting mounds, notable historic features, and topography.

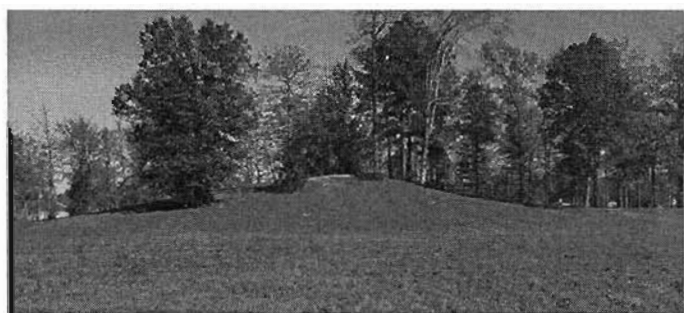


Figure 3. Mound A. Picture taken standing in a future residential area. Looking northeast.

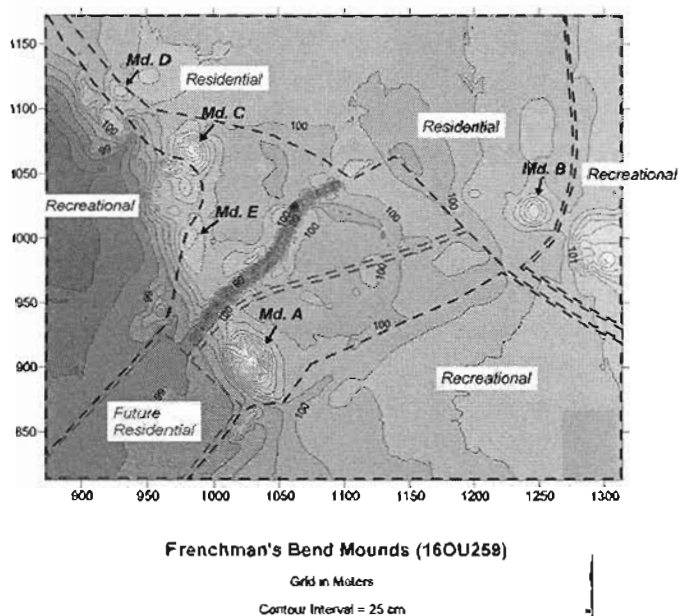


Figure 4. Map highlighting residential and recreational zones in relation to mounds.



Figure 5. Proposed road in proximity to Mound A base. Looking northeast.

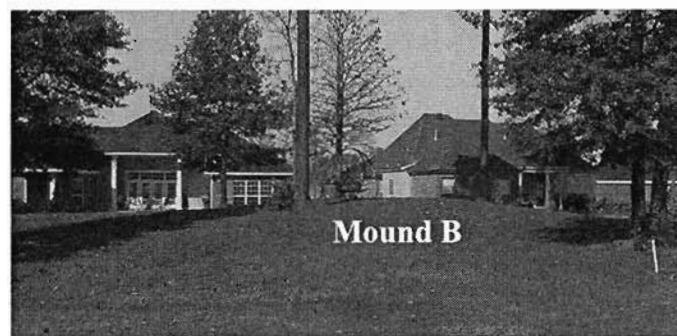


Figure 6. Mound B behind residential units. Structure on top is a yard swing. Picture taken standing on golf cart track. Looking northwest.

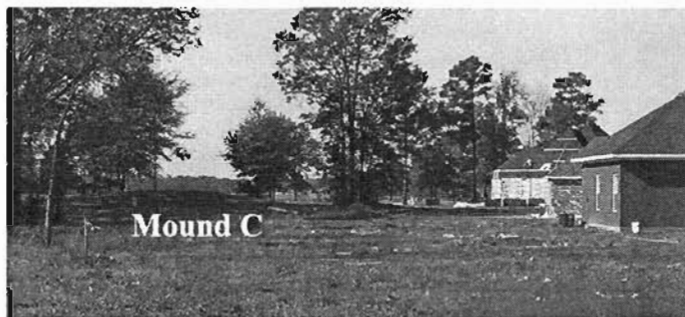


Figure 7. Mound C shown in proximity to current residential development. Picture taken standing in a "backyard." Looking west.



Figure 9. Trench 1 between Mounds A and E. Looking northeast.

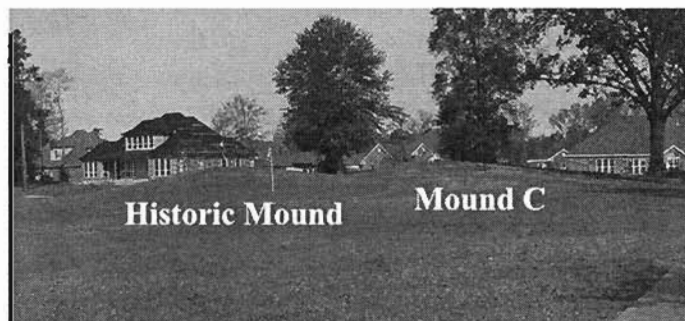


Figure 8. Mound C with recreational golf "mound" in left foreground and residential development in background. Picture taken standing on golf cart track. Looking north.

Housing construction has taken place northeast of the site on each side of a street that now separates mound B from the rest of the site. A possible prehistoric topographic feature (ridge?) running northwest and southeast from Mound B (see Figure 1) is no longer visible. Future residential development southwest of Mound A will require construction of a road that will encroach the northwest base of Mound A (Figure 5).

The management of Frenchman's Bend is interested in minimizing future impact and has agreed to allow monitoring of road construction near Mound A. Both management and developer will not allow the mounds to be impacted directly. Future archaeological research on the site is encouraged by management; the topographic map is the first stage.

The author greatly appreciates the advice from Dr. Joe Saunders, Regional Archaeologist, University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Reference

Saunders, J. W., E. T. Allen, and R. T. Saucier
1994 Four Archaic? Mound Complexes in Northeast Louisiana. *Southeastern Archaeology* 13:134-153.

Change in Guidelines for LAS Publications

At the September 20, 2003, LAS Executive Committee meeting, a revision to the Guidelines for LAS Publications requiring that all sites reported on in LAS publications be recorded with the Division of Archaeology was approved. At a later Executive Committee meeting it was proposed that this revision be studied further. The Executive Committee decided the matter should be placed before the membership. At the February 12, 2005, Annual Business meeting, the revision to the LAS Guidelines stating that all sites must be recorded with the Division of Archaeology in order to be included in LAS publications was approved.

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