

# Louisiana Archaeological Society

NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Clarence H. Webb

LAS President

The report on the State of the Society given by Dr. Jon Gibson, Vice-President and Editor, in the October Bulletin was an excellent one and should afford satisfaction to the members. The Society is alive and kicking (sometimes squalling, which every pediatrician knows is a sign of a healthy brat), has four good chapters and about 170 members. We anticipate reaching 200 members after the Annual meeting, about which there is an announcement in this Newsletter. I hope everyone can attend the meeting for a mixture of Society business and a good program of archaeology. I'll be there hoping to meet every member whom I haven't met as yet.

Now for the squalls, some of which are justifiable; again, as a pediatrician I know that these should be answered with substantial food and not with a pacifier. What should you, as a charter member or a new member, have gotten for your 1974 dues? Answer: your membership card, two quarterly Newsletters, the Annual Bulletin, assistance when needed in setting up local chapters, a free copy of the Arkansas publication "Indians of Arkansas", (charter members only), and the satisfaction of participation in getting the Louisiana Archaeological

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The newsletter of the Louisiana Archaeological Society is published quarterly by the Society from its editorial office at the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Department of Sociology-Anthropology, Lafayette, LA 70501. Unless otherwise indicated, opinions stated herein are those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect Society policy.

Society under way. You will get all of these but, for the officers, I must apologize for delays. The Newsletters were delayed because we were trying to save the Society money by getting postal rates appropriate for a non-profit organization. Difficulty was encountered because IRS did not consider the provision for dissolution in the Articles of Incorporation adequate and we must cure this at the Annual Meeting. The Newsletters went out anyway and I think they are darned good ones; the bulletin, LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY, also promises to be a good one and the Editor promises it soon after the first of the year. Jack Bonnin prepared a sample membership card but the Executive Committee made some changes; if you have not received your membership card by now, you will get it. Jon Gibson will have copies of "Indians of Arkansas" for the charter members for distribution at the Annual Meeting, and we are preparing charter member certificates. We hope the chapters liked their charter scrolls. Your officers are trying but we are new at the job and a long way apart; we beg your patience and indulgence while we are learning.

Now for some nitty-gritty about being good members and ethical members of L.A.S. This Society is established to help its members in deriving satisfaction in the profession or avocation of archaeology; to forward the science in the state; and to serve the citizens of the state by arousing an interest in its antiquities, knowledge about them and a desire to protect and preserve them. The Society and its officers have no intention of acting as a state-wide police body to ride herd on its members, but we also have no intention of condoning illegal and improper activities. We shall try to inform and encourage its members to practice good archaeology; I hope that all of you will read my article in the Annual Bulletin in which I express my ideas about being a satisfying kind of member of an archaeological society. The Society has its code of ethics and the state has laws dealing with antiquities; we expect our members to conform. There are rumors that individuals, including one or more Society members, have illegally entered onto state lands, which are protected by the Antiquities Act, to gather artifacts. The Chapter of L.A.S. in the area is concerned and the officers will be guided by their opinions, but the state society will certainly give support to its chapters and members who are attempting to practice good archaeology.

Cheers and a fine New Year to all of you.

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#### EDITOR'S PREFACE

##### About Society Publications.

Inaugurated in this issue of the newsletter is a section which is to become a permanent fixture in all subsequent issues. The section will be called "The Wonderful World of Poverty Point" and will feature brief notes on the Poverty Point culture and site by Clarence Webb. The first installment deals with dugouts and adzes. Featured in the April 1975 newsletter will be a note on jasperowls.

Also slated to become an integral, though occasional, part of the newsletter will be a section on LAS personalities. Brief biographies of Louisiana archaeologists, lay and professional, will be presented, beginning in April 1975, in the belief that through such a means the membership will become better acquainted and more aware of the contributions of many of their fellows to the advancement of archaeology in Louisiana.

Readers of this issue will also note that a separation has been affected between current research reports and substantive reports. This distinction will be observed in future issues. Current research reports merely describe recently completed or ongoing research activities; substantive reports contain the results of that research after it has minimally reached the finish of classification stage, or the comparative and interpretive stage.

Editor Appoints Regional Coordinators.

To insure the collecting and disseminating of newsworthy information, several regional editorial coordinators have been named: Joe Frank (Southwest), Hiram Gregory (Northwest), Bill Baker (East Central), Les Davis (Northeast), and Rick Shenkel (Southeast). These coordinators will be responsible for gathering information on local and regional activities and for ingesting and condensing this news into publishable form. LAS members in each region are encouraged to submit individual reports to their regional coordinator, who will in turn submit organized regional reports to the editor. Individuals may, however, continue to send news directly to the LAS editorial office at USL. This system should permit a more thorough, orderly, and accurate reporting of archaeological activities on a state-wide level.

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Well Wishes to Mr. Carl Alexander.

Mr. Carl Alexander, well-known LAS charter member and prime mover in the establishment of the new Poverty Point museum and in local, state, and national recognition efforts for the Poverty Point site, is convalescing in the Delhi Guest Home, 203 Rancher Street, Delhi, Louisiana. I know Carl would be delighted to hear from each of you. Carl, on behalf of the Louisiana Archaeological Society, we wish you a speedy recovery.

1974 LAS Membership List Recommended by Layton Miller.

As specified in the articles of incorporation, (Article VI, d), applicants for membership in the LAS must be recommended by a member of the Society. Layton J. Miller, charter member of the original 1961 Society, has examined our membership list and submitted the following statement (letter of December 14, 1974):

I have reviewed the names of the applicants for membership into the Louisiana Archaeological Society and recommend that all be accepted as full members of the Society.

Layton J. Miller  
Charter Member  
Louisiana Archaeological Society

All those people who paid dues during 1974 and whose names appear on the membership list in this newsletter are now fully accepted, official members of the Louisiana Archaeological Society.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING

After a close 5 to 4 vote of the executive committee, Lafayette was chosen as the site for the annual meeting. The meeting will be held in the USL student union on the USL campus on Saturday, March 1, 1975, at 8:30 A.M. The Department of Sociology-Anthropology will act as host, and Jon L. Gibson will serve as program coordinator.

We hope to have a morning and early afternoon session of archaeological presentations and a following business meeting to transact society business. Suggestions for program topics, symposia, and titles for individual papers should be sent to Jon L. Gibson, Department of Sociology-Anthropology, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana 70501.

Lafayette is easily accessible by any form of conveyance, save possibly boats. Quality motels are numerous and notable restaurants abound. The motel nearest campus is the Sheraton Town House. The Sheraton has generously offered us special convention rates: singles, \$10.00; doubles, \$14.50. It might be helpful to make reservations in advance by simply writing: Sheraton Town House Motor Hotel, 1020 Pinhook Road, Lafayette 70501. Indicate that you are attending the Louisiana Archaeological Society meeting. Other motels include: Holiday Inn (North I-10), Holiday Inn (South Highway 90E), Howard Johnson Motor Lodge (1421 Evangeline Thruway), Ramada Inn (Evangeline Thruway), Rodeway Inn (I-10 and another on Highway 167), Rowntowner Motor Inns (Evangeline Thruway), Travelodge Lafayette Oil Center (1101 Pinhook Road), and Travelodge North (Highway 167N).

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#### THE UPCOMING LAS BUSINESS MEETING

In our efforts to ease organizational efforts at the Jonesville meeting last May, we took advantage of an existing articles of incorporation created in 1961 by a Baton Rouge-based group. We also adopted by-laws which more closely defined the Society's structure and form. Now after about eight months of operation, we find that the Society's operations can be further streamlined and facilitated by making several changes in our governing documents. In order to conform to constitutional requirements, the following proposed amendments in the articles and by-laws are advertised below to be considered at the business session of the March meeting.

#### Proposals for Amendments in the Articles of Incorporation:

Our articles may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members (regular, life, fellow, and sustaining classes) present at the March meeting.

#### Article VIc. Amend this provision to read:

Membership is open to any individual who is in sympathy with the objectives of the society upon payment of the fees prescribed in the by-laws for the various types of membership.

#### Article VIId. Delete.

Article VIIa. Add, "and one representative from each of the Native Indian tribes of Louisiana who shall be a member of the Society". (Change period after "memberships" to comma.)

#### Article XIIa. Amend this provision to read:

"The annual meeting of the Society shall be held during the spring at a place and time to be decided by the executive committee."

Article XIV. This is the most important revision necessary in our articles; adoption of this amended article will qualify the Society as a non-profit organization and make us eligible for bulk mailing rates.

Amend present article to read:

"Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the corporation shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the

liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the corporation shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes."

Proposed Changes in the By-Laws:

Article II, Section 2. Delete, "Associate members may receive Society publications by payment of the difference between their reduced dues and active member dues."

Article III, Section 3. Add, "If president-elect assumes presidency because of a vacancy, he shall remain as president for the duration of the year for which he was elected."

Article III, Section 6. Amend this section to read: "The corresponding secretary shall maintain the Central Office of the Society, shall disperse notices of dues and time and place of annual meetings, shall receive and register all applications for membership in the Society, and shall issue to the membership a yearly report on membership status."

Article III, Section 8. Amend this section to read: "The treasurer shall receive and administer the finances of the Society subject to the regulation of the Executive Committee. He shall keep adequate records, shall make an annual financial report to the membership, and shall make these records available upon request of the Executive Committee. He shall maintain the membership list, shall keep a current mailing list for publications, and shall administer the sale and care of bulletin and newsletter surpluses. He shall be authorized to give bond. The treasurer shall sign all checks which shall be countersigned by the president or president-elect."

Article III, Section 11. Amend this section by adding the following to the end of the section, "He shall be authorized to effect exchanges of equivalent publications with editors of other societies. The exchanged materials shall become the property of the Society."

Article IV, Section 4. Amend this section to read: "Regularly elected officers shall assume their duties immediately after the conclusion of the annual meeting of their election and shall serve for the duration of their terms (including the next meeting) as specified in the by-laws."

Article V, Section 2. Delete this entire section. Change numbers of sections 3, 4, and 5 to 2, 3, and 4.

Article VII, Section 1. Insert the following between ". . . of the public in general." and "The membership of the Society . . .": "The Society shall respect and abide by all laws, state or federal, that concern archaeological and historical sites and materials."

Article VII, Section 2. Insert the following between ". . . types of activities:" and "the buying and selling . . .": "unauthorized and unlawful digging in or collecting artifacts from archaeological sites where such activities are prohibited, as on state-owned lands or on private property without permission of landowners."

These proposed amendments and changes should be carefully examined. Attend the business session and vote.

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LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Financial Statement

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures for period ending December 31, 1974.

Receipts:

Gross dues and assessments of members	\$1638.00
Total Receipts	1638.00

Expenditures:

Printing and Postage	\$141.12	
Miscellaneous Supplies	11.99	
Refund of dues	8.00	
Total expenditures		\$161.11

Balance Sheet

Assets:

Cash		
A. Interest-bearing accounts		-0-
B. Other		\$1476.89
Total Assets		1476.89

Liabilities:

Prepaid and other memberships	\$290.00
Total liabilities	290.00

Fund Balance or Net Worth

Total fund balance	\$1186.89
Net worth	1476.89

Respectfully submitted:  
Jack C. Bonnin, Treasurer LA'

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THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF POVERTY POINT

Dugout Canoes and Adzes in the Prehistoric Southeast  
 Clarence H. Webb  
 Shreveport, Louisiana

The August issue of Mississippi Archaeology has a description by the Editor, Sam O. McGahey, of a well preserved cypress dugout found in the Homochitto River and radiocarbon dated at A.D. 1465  $\pm$  60 years (UGA 803). The dugout, complete except for a recent break of the prow, was nearly 15 feet (4.45 m) in length, approximately 2 feet in width and 1.5 feet in elevation. McGahey quoted N. R. Stowe of the University of South Alabama concerning a dugout from the Tombigbee River, dated A.D. 1345  $\pm$  60, and Joe Frank in connection with a similar discovery near Lake Charles, Louisiana.

The oldest dating that I have found for a dugout in the Southeast was reported from Lakeland, Florida, by Ripley P. Bullen and Harold K. Brooks (Two Ancient Florida Dugout Canoes, Quart. JOUR. FLORIDA ACAD. SCI. 30(2), 1967). The radiocarbon date was 3040  $\pm$  115 years ago, or 1090 B.C. (I-1661). The dugout was in excess of 19 feet long, was 27 inches wide and 10.5 inches deep. Another from the same site, not dated, was 20 feet long and 18 inches wide.

McGahey notes of the Mississippi specimen that charring and adz marks indicate that it was manufactured by a combination of burning and adz cutting. The adz was probably the first of the wood-working stone tools - adzes, grooved axes, celts - to be widespread in the Americas. The report by Dan Morse that chipped adzes area part of the Dalton assemblage in northeastern Arkansas establishes this tool in the Mississippi Valley by 8000 - 6000 B.C. The ground stone adz was a circumpolar trait, appearing around the Great Lakes and in the Atlantic Northeast Archaic between 3500 and 2500 B.C. Adzes reached the Gulf Coast in Poverty Point times, with chipped and polished stone adzes being major traits in this culture. Diffusion further south was never very strong. The widespread trade and commerce of Poverty Point times, river-oriented, probably was conducted in dugout canoes and they remained in use until historic times.

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REPORTS

A Red Slate Claw From Magenta East, St. Martin Parish  
 Jon L. Gibson  
 University of Southwestern Louisiana

In the process of making contour maps and controlled systematic surface collections at the Magenta East site, St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, in the spring of 1974, a red claw effigy was found. Although similar objects have been reported from other sites in Louisiana, the cultural context of the Magenta East find seems to differ from previous discoveries.

The claw was made of a laminae of reddish-brown, lustrous slate (Fig. 1). It bears a cylindrical perforation near the proximal end, 3.0mm in diameter. The claw is 32.0mm in maximum diameter (length) and averages 2.5mm in thickness. Sawing striations are clearly visible around the periphery; a few scratches are evident on dorsal and ventral faces, but these have been largely obliterated by rubbing.

Other claw effigies derive from Poverty Point or Poverty Point-affiliated complexes. The Magenta East claw was recovered in a pure Tchefuncte context (Lafayette Phase; Jon L. Gibson, 1974, *The Tchefuncte Culture in the Bayou Vermilion Basin, South Central Louisiana: A Developmental Case Study*, BUL. TEXAS ARCH. SOC., Vol. 45). The presence of the claw, as well as several other items of exotic materials, at Magenta East and at several other Lafayette phase components stands in stark contrast to other Tchefuncte situations throughout the state, where it appears that the break between Poverty Point and Tchefuncte cultures was rather dramatic and complete. While it is possible that the Magenta figure and foreign materials were simply retrieved from nearby Poverty Point middens by Tchefuncte tribesmen, I rather suspect that the apparent holdover and retention of Poverty Point traits in some Tchefuncte situations is indicative of the not so complete deterioration of earlier Poverty Point chiefdoms. In other words, the schism between the two cultures seems to have been most extreme in the localized territories where Poverty Point chiefdoms were most highly developed and formalized--such as at the Poverty Point site and immediately surrounding interaction sphere. In the other distant territories, less-well integrated Poverty Point chiefdoms apparently did not collapse; they merely declined and transformed more gradually into Tchefuncte tribal societies, allowing some older traits and practices to continue. The overall and widespread placement of Poverty Point culture by Tchefuncte culture was, however, geared with the major changes that took place at the big site in northeastern Louisiana between 800 B.C. and 600 B.C.

Culture moves in strange ways. Progressive evolution is not always the outcome; retrogression oftentimes occurs, but less complex phases in cultural evolution always set the stage for ensuing periods of cultural florescence. The Tchefuncte culture was one of those retrogressed phases of Louisiana prehistory, but without the knowledge, skills, and equipment developed by Tchefuncte tribes between 600 B.C. and 200 B.C., the remainder of Lower Mississippi Valley aboriginal development would certainly not have transpired as it did.

The Strohe Site  
 Jack C. Bonnin  
 Welsh, Louisiana  
 and  
 Richard A. Weinstein  
 LSU, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

The Strohe site (16 JD 10) is located along an abandoned oxbow of the Bayou Chene in the south central portion of Jefferson Davis Parish. An earth midden, approximately 175 meters along the edge of the terrace, overlooks the abandoned channel. A low conical earth mound had reportedly been destroyed by bull-dozing operations.

The main area of occupation was located on the easternmost portion of the site and was excavated by Jack C. Bonnin intermittently from the fall of 1969 through 1972. Assistance was given in the excavation work by members of the Southwest Louisiana Archaeological Society.

A total of 27 five foot squares (675 sq. ft.) were excavated down to sterile clay at an average depth of 27 inches. Two distinct zones yielding

cultural material were noted below the plow zone. A dense, hard packed black midden containing pottery from Marksville to the Plaquemine Period overlaid a thin white to buff, silty sand containing chipped stones and projectile points which appeared to be archaic types.

Some of the more unique artifacts were: steatite bowl fragments, two folsomoid projectile points, and a clear quartz point.

Decorated ceramic ware exhibited design elements comparable to motifs encountered in the Yazoo Basin and Red River mouth region. However, paste characteristics differed markedly in that sandy paste ware was found in a great percentage of the sherds from all periods.

The sand tempered sherds in this area, as compared to clay tempered ware with similar design motifs from sites in the Mississippi Delta, are probably a local variation due to the sandy texture of the clay. It should be noted, however, that there is excellent clay tempered ware occurring on this site which may signify a cultural preference for sand tempering in some cases.

A percentage breakdown of all available decorated surface ceramics yielded the following: Marksville (24.7%), Troyville (9.4%), Coles Creek (36.2%), and Plaquemine (28.2%). One Tchefuncte Stamped sherd (0.03%) was also encountered, but was not sufficient to declare a Tchefuncte Period occupation. Linear Check Stamped (0.6%), and Complicated Stamped (0.3%) ware were also encountered, but as of yet have not been placed in a cultural period.

It is evident that definite similarities exist between the Mississippi Delta region and this site. However, the similar designs may not be of the same chronological periods as those defined in the Red River mouth sequence. Thus, absolute dating is needed for this area so temporal correlations can be determined.

The Springridge Site  
James H. Long  
Shreveport, Louisiana  
(condensed and abridged by the editor)

This site was found by Theus N. Armistead, M.D. and James H. Long in 1940. Dr. Charles C. Clark, petroleum geologist of Shreveport, Louisiana, aided in investigations and classification, and was one of the first persons I know to use microscopes in sherd matching.

The Springridge site is located near the Caddo-DeSoto parish line at the head of Cypress Bayou. The site is on a small terrace remnant in the floodplain, which at this point is about 5000 feet wide. It is about 600 feet long, 230 feet wide and covers about five acres. It is highest near the western end, where sherd accumulations point to the existence of a Neo-American midden.

Several periods of occupation are identifiable by projectile point analysis: Paleo-Indian, Archaic, and Neo-American. About 30% of the projectile points were Paleo-Indian types; these included unfluted Clovis (Plainview), Scottsbuff (Type I), Meserve, Meserve-variants, Dalton Greenbrier, Milnesand, Pelican, and San Patrice. Other Paleo-Indian artifacts included Cody "knives", Albany "spokeshaves" of brown chert wafers, end scrapers on flakes, and end scrapers made by reworking broken Clovis, Plainview, Meserve, Dalton, Milnesand, and other point types.

The Archaic component was represented by almost 65% of the point collection. Major types included Carrollton, Ellis, Yarbrough, Gary, Evans, Pontchartrain, and Williams. Other elements of the Archaic assemblage were a banded ax, pestles, mortars, abrading stones, hammerstones, side-scrappers, and fire-cracked rock.

The Neo-American component, the latest at Springridge, was represented by pottery and almost 5% of the points. Arrowhead types were Alba, Catahoula, Hayes, and Perdiz.

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Editor's Comment: In his accompanying letter, Mr. Long said that he hoped his report on the Springridge site might focus attention on the Paleo-Indian Era in Louisiana; a time period which has not had the attention it deserves. We can all hope that Mr. Long's report has had the desired impact. Mr. Long and others might be pleased to learn that work is currently proceeding on Paleo Indian problems and we hope to be able to report future findings in Society newsletters and bulletins. Mr. Wallace Stroud, Elton, has been digging a stratified Paleo-site in Allen parish. Several current surveys have turned up previously unknown Paleo-Indian sites (see Gregory's report on current activities). My own work in St. Landry and Avoyelles parishes has shown a large concentration of Paleo-Indian sites along the Late Pleistocene Lafayette meander belt and the Great Eunice Swamp in Lafayette, St. Landry, Evangeline, and Avoyelles parishes. The late, Mr. Bruce Sonnier of Ville Platte, had collected many of these old sites and his large holdings contain more Paleo-Indian points than I have ever before seen in one collection, including museum holdings. Dr. Woody Gagliano has been rethinking the settlement ecology of Paleo-Indians and has developed several new ideas concerning site distributions and changing riverine conditions. In light of new aspartic acid racemization ages of 48,000 and 44,000 B.P. on several human skeletal remains from California, we are certainly going to have to consider the implications for Louisiana's Paleo-Indian Era.

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LaFleur I, St. Landry Parish  
by Larry DuPont  
Lafayette, Louisiana

The LaFleur I site, an Archaic component near Prairie Ronde, St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, was investigated in the fall of 1974 as part of the requirements of an archaeology course at USL. The site falls in the Great Southwestern Prairie region about 15 km west of the Prairie Terrace-Mississippi alluvial floodplain escarpment. The site is on a low ridge, now in cultivation. In the immediate vicinity are several other large, productive Archaic sites, associated with the Bayou Grand Louis-Bayou Mallet drainage (i.e., Eunice Swamp).

The site has been extensively collected over the years and a large number of projectile points are in the private holdings of the landowner. I collected the site and with the assistance of Frank Sevello, SMU graduate student in anthropology and supervisor of LSU's Atchafalaya Basin project, have classified the materials in Table 1.

TABLE 1

CATEGORY	NUMBER	PROPORTION
Debitage:		
flakes	281	.46989
primary flakes	30	.05016
core trimming elements	<u>1</u>	<u>.00167</u>
TOTAL	312	.52172
Debris:		
chips	197	.32943
chunks	<u>24</u>	<u>.04013</u>
TOTAL	221	.36956
Cores:		
complete	19	.03177
fragments	<u>3</u>	<u>.00501</u>
TOTAL	22	.03678
Tools:		
unifacial	37	.06187
bifacial	<u>6</u>	<u>.01003</u>
TOTAL	43	.0719
GRAND TOTAL		
	598	

The present surface collection is probably biased because artifact hunters have removed many of the projectile points. Tools recovered are detailed in Table 2.

TABLE 2. TOOLS FROM LAFLEUR I

CATEGORIES	NUMBERS
Backed pieces:	
normal	2
sur-incule	1
Denticulates:	2
Notches:	
bilateral	1
distal	3
lateral	7
Perforator:	1
Scrapers:	
carinated	1
end	2
side	2
raclette and notch	1

Unifacially retouched pieces:	
distal	1
inverse	2
limited	4
unilateral	3
Bifacially retouched pieces:	6
Varia:	<u>1</u>
	TOTAL
	40

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#### CURRENT RESEARCH

##### Northwest Louisiana Archaeological News

Brent Smith (M.A., NSU) has finished excavating a late Archaic site with some traits which would seemingly relate it to the Poverty Point interaction sphere: steatite sherds, hematite and limonite plummets, a drilled slate gorget, and rare amorphous clay objects. The site was located on Young's Bayou on the Northwestern State University campus. Labor for the project was provided by the National Guard as part of the assessment and salvage connected to the building of the university's new recreational complex.

M. D. Regions, member of the State Commission of Indian Affairs and mayor of Pollock, Louisiana, is continuing archaeological survey with limited testing of the Little River drainage in Grant and LaSalle Parishes. Salvage of pot-hunted areas on the lower Little River has been a major concern in the last year. Mr. Regions, with Jackie Wise and Lee Woods, anthropology majors at Northwestern State University, salvaged profile and artifactual data from the badly "potted" Koins' Bluff Site on Little River.

Dr. Clarence H. Webb of Shreveport is continuing with his research on the Poverty Point Site, as well as his analysis of materials from Mounds Plantation excavated with Ralph McKinney.

Kenneth Lantz of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries biology section (Fisheries) is systematically visiting new and old areas of Toledo Bend Lake, an activity which has yielded several new Caddoan sites missed by earlier surveys.

Clint Pines of Natchitoches, Louisiana, is continuing his survey activities in southwestern Natchitoches Parish and has reported a number of new sites, ranging from Scottsbluff to Caddo IV times from that area.

Jackie Wise, undergraduate anthropology major, is conducting a survey of the southeastern portion of Natchitoches Parish, below the mouth of Cane River where land clearing, Corps projects and deep plowing are threatening sites. Sites now include late lithic (Dalton) through historic European and Indian sites.

Mrs. Henry Poland of Bienville, Louisiana, is continuing a survey of the Dugdemona Drainage, a number of sites ranging from San Patrice (late lithic) through Caddo IV have been located. A number of Coles Creek period sites are now identified in this area.

H. F. Gregory and H. K. Curry of the anthropology section of the Department of Social Sciences at Northwestern State University are continuing survey and ecologically-oriented testing in the Black-Clear-Saline Lakes area.

H. K. Curry and H. F. Gregory have completed a surface survey of the impact area for Project Essex for the San Francisco office of the U.S. Corps of Engineers. The survey located some 9 sites in the project area, ranging from late Archaic camps to one Neo-Indian midden. The Corps moved one of their detonation areas to protect the latter site. Some thirty sites were located in the Peason Range of Fort Polk as a by-product of this project.

The military base at Fort Polk, Louisiana, has agreed to protect all known and identified archaeological sites on the reservation. Army rangers have included mapped sites - mapped by John Guy, an undergraduate student at Northwestern State University - as part of their rounds on the base. All these sites fall under the protection of the National Antiquities Act and unauthorized digging can lead to prosecution.

Archaeology classes at Northwestern State University have completed testing at the location of the planned replication of the French fort, St. Jean Baptiste aux Natchitoches. An excellent midden profile resulted showing an Indian occupation (Caddo I) at about 1000-700 A.D. and after a hiatus a continuous European dumping pattern from 1790-1840 until the 1930's.

Mrs. Carolyn Wells, of the library staff at Northwestern State University, is continuing her long range survey of archaeological sites within the city. She is now engaged in an attribute analysis of feather-edged ware (Leeds ware) from the Natchitoches vicinity.

Hiram F. Gregory, Jr.  
NSU

#### Northeast Louisiana University.

Lorraine Greene, research associate at NLU, points out that Soil Conservation contract recently awarded the University was for a literature search on cultural history (aboriginal and historic) and/or settlement patterns in the Ouachita Valley and a survey of 6 watersheds in northeast Louisiana (not an archaeological survey of the Ouachita Valley as previously announced in the October newsletter). Additionally, James Goodson has taken over the position of digmaster of the Fort Miro project, recently vacated by Mitchell Hillman.

Lorraine Greene  
NLU

#### University of Southwestern Louisiana.

Mermentau Survey. The archaeological research facility of USL, under the direction of Jon Gibson, was recently awarded a contract by the Corps of Engineers to conduct an archaeological survey and testing of sites along the Mermentau River and Bayous Nezpique and Des Cannes in southwest Louisiana. The project will continue through April of 1975.

South-central Louisiana Survey. Jon Gibson has recently completed an extensive baseline survey of eastern Rapides, south-central Avoyelles parishes and Bayous Boeuf, Rapides, Cocodrie, and Outlets. About 2300 square miles were surveyed during a 4 month period and 108 sites, ranging from Paleo-Indian to Historic, were recorded. The final report has been completed and will be used by the Corps of Engineers in designing future work so as to avoid adverse impact on archaeological and historical resources.

Jon L. Gibson  
USL

Study of Prehistoric Aggression. Two USL students, Richard Sealy and Norman Breaux, are currently experimenting with the concept of aggression as it is transferred to design qualities of pottery. The concept of aggression has been thoroughly examined in modern psychology but its application to anthropology and archaeology has been quite limited. It is our belief, shared by Dr. Jon Gibson who is supervising the project, that aggression can and will be transferred to the pottery of various cultures, principally in the depth of incising. It is also our belief that aggression was displaced from the male members of a society to the female members, who, in turn, sublimated this tendency into design attributes.

The pottery under study comes from 3 sites; 2 of which are Tchefuncte -- Cross Bayou in Catahoula Parish and Magenta East in St. Martin Parish, and the third which is late Marksville-Early Issaquena--the Martin Baptiste site in Avoyelles Parish. We are operating under the premise, presented to us by Dr. Gibson, that aggression and its most obvious manifest form - warfare - is highly correlated with levels of socio-political complexity. Thus our experimental design was to bracket a "high" culture (Marksville) by studying aggressive tendencies from "less complex" cultures which were immediately antecedent (Tchefuncte) and subsequent (Issaquena-Troyville) to the culture in question.

Richard Sealy and Norman Breaux  
USL

Poverty Point Archaeology.

On the weekend after Thanksgiving I visited with Ted Brown and Carey Geiger, in Pascagoula, Mississippi, to review their collections from the Point aux Chenes, Applestreet, and Greenwood Island sites on the Gulf Coast between Biloxi and Pascagoula. I visited the Greenwood Island site with Brown; it has a deep midden at the junction of the bay and Mississippi Sound. The Point aux Chenes and Applestreet sites definitely have Poverty Point and Tchefuncte occupations; the Greenwood Island site is primarily Tchefuncte and Marksville in cultural affiliation, with the possibility of a late Poverty Point occupation. Baked clay balls are abundant at each of the sites, of several types; the major projectile point type is Pontchartrain, with most of the points made of yellow or tan chert. The affiliation of these sites seems largely to be with the Claiborne and Lake Pontchartrain area and they extend known Poverty Point and Tchefuncte occupations eastward along the Gulf Coast almost to Mobile Bay.

Clarence H. Webb  
Shreveport

Mitchell Hillman, James Goodson, and Dewey Robinson have been busy setting up an experimental, research design for the Copes Site, a small Poverty Point component, near the Poverty Point site. Statistical sampling procedures will be used to generate a representative sample and the site will be explored and recovered materials coded and keypunched in the field. Jon Gibson is serving as advisor on the project.

The Editor

Louisiana State University.

Atchafalaya Basin Project. Robert Neuman, curator of Anthropology at LSU, has been awarded a contract by the Corps of Engineers to conduct an archaeological survey of the Atchafalaya Basin. Frank Sevello, SMU Ph.D. candidate, is assisting with the work.

The Editor

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#### CHAPTER NEWS

##### Southwest Louisiana Archaeological Society

The Southwest Louisiana Archaeological Society recently elected new officers. Re-elected as president was Joe Frank. Joe is a graduate of Northwestern State University with a degree in anthropology and history. He was on the SLAS' board of directors in 1973 and is serving as corresponding secretary for the Louisiana Archaeological Society. He is a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the Louisiana State Department of Education. Other officers elected were Myrna Fleming, vice president; O'Neal Smith, secretary, and Frank Tuten, treasurer.

Appointees included: Mary Stafford and Edward Kibodeaux, librarians; Mrs. Chester Fronczek, scrapbook; Tim Dugas, publicity; R. Lafayette Coleman, programs; Myrna Fleming, education; and Roland Bodin, communications.

Elected to the Society's board of directors were: Roland Bodin, Lou Harris, Ralph Darnell, Dr. Joe Bruce, Mrs. Chester Fronczek, Terrell Woosley, and R. Lafayette Coleman.

The two major achievements of the Society in 1974 were the conduction of the Society's first cooperative excavation (Bellsite, reported in LAS newsletter, Vol. 1, No. 2) and the joining of the Louisiana Archaeological Society as a charter chapter. Three of the Society's members are on the Executive Committee of the LAS: Jack Bonnin, treasurer; Joe Frank, corresponding secretary; and Lou Harris, chapter representative.

The SLAS is assisting in the planning of a scenic nature trail for the 1976 Bicentennial Celebration. Jim Lester, local outdoorsman and sports writer, is coordinating the activities of the Calcasieu and Cameron parish police juries, the Greater Lake Charles Chamber of Commerce, and the Lake Charles-West Calcasieu Convention and Tourist Commission. The trail will start in Sulphur, meander through Cameron parish, and end in Lake Charles. Brochures and highway markers will depict points of interest along the trail, which will include: wildlife areas, marsh areas, cheniers, beaches, and prehistoric and historic archaeological sites.

The Society meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month in Frasch Hall Auditorium at McNeese State University. Guests are invited to attend.

Joe Frank

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## PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Publications.

- Gibson, Jon L.  
 1974 Prehistoric Diffusion in Southeast Mississippi: A Critical Review: Mississippi Archaeology 9(10):1-8.
- Smith, Brent W.  
 1974 A Preliminary Identification of Faunal Remains From the Claiborne Site. Mississippi Archaeology 9(5):1-14 (whole volume).  
 1974 Prehistoric Settlement Patterns: Method and Theory. Houston Archaeological Society Newsletter 46:5-7.  
 1974 A Bibliography of Mississippi Indians: Volume 1, Prehistory. Mississippi Archaeology (in press).  
 1974 Prehistoric Settlement Patterns of the Young's Bayou Drainage, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. Unpublished master's thesis, Department of Social Sciences, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, August.

Conference Presentations.

- Smith, Brent W.  
 1974 Excavations at the Young's Bayou Site, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. Presentation at the Caddo Conference, held at Arkadelphia, Arkansas, March 23-24.  
 1974 Faunal Remains From the Claiborne Site, Hancock County, Mississippi. Paper read at the Spring meeting of the Mississippi Archaeological Association, held at Clarksdale, Mississippi, May 18.

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## 1975 MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Joe Frank, LAS corresponding secretary, wishes to announce that 1975 dues are now payable. Sustaining members send \$300.00; regular, \$10.00; associate, \$2.00, to:

Joe Frank  
 1523 22nd  
 Lake Charles, LA 70601

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1974 LAS Membership List

The 1974 membership list is reproduced below. If you have paid dues and your name does not appear, or if your address is incorrect, please immediately notify Joe Frank, Corresponding Secretary, 1523 22nd Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601. Those people who joined the Society late in the year (after October) should also indicate whether they wish to be 1974 or 1975 members. If you wish to be 1974 members you will, of course, receive all Society publications for 1974. If you wish your dues to be for 1975, you will not be eligible to receive the first issue of Louisiana Archaeology, the Society's annual bulletin.

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