



# NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

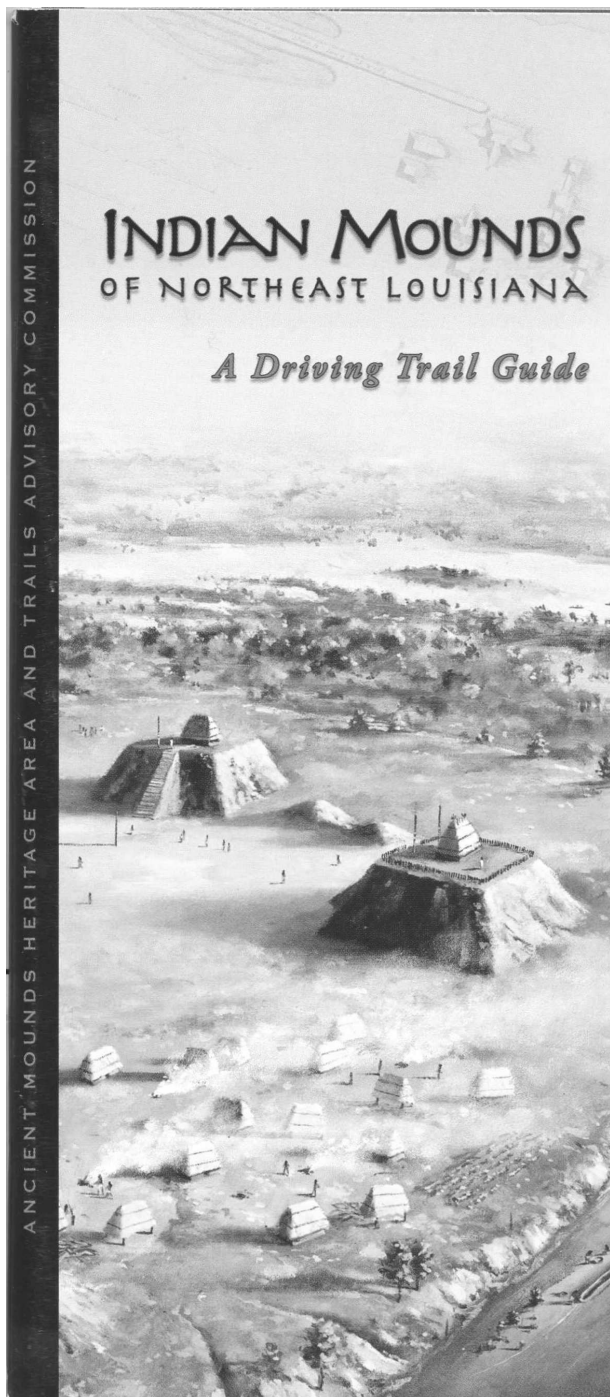
Fall 2009

Vol. 37, No. 2

## OCTOBER IS LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH 2009 WITH THE PREHISTORIC MOUNDS OF NORTHEAST LOUISIANA AS THE THEME

“Scattered across northeast Louisiana are the remnants of the state’s ancient Indian cultures—the great mounds that served as sacred spaces for observing the skies and burying the honored dead. The state government has worked with private landowners to help identify, preserve, and interpret these important monuments to human occupation of the lower Mississippi River Valley.”-From the Louisiana Archaeology Month 2009 poster.

**Find the Louisiana Archaeology Month 2009 program inside.**



### Check Inside for:

LAS membership news .....	2
Louisiana Archaeology in the News.....	3
Recent Books of Interest .....	8
National Park Service gets geophysical .....	9
Site Preservation News .....	11
Where was Port Jackson, LA? .....	13
Regional Archaeology Reports .....	14
Official Business.....	24
Meetings, Exhibits, Fieldwork etc. ....	30
Advice on how archaeologists can get rich and be better looking.....	33

LAS Newsletter printed courtesy of  
R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc.  
New Orleans, LA



## 2010 LAS/MAA meeting to be in Monroe, LA, March 5-7, 2010.

The second joint meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) and the Mississippi Archaeological Association (MAA) will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in West Monroe, LA, March 5-7, 2010. There will be paper presentations on Friday and Saturday, a banquet on Saturday with keynote speaker Dr. Mike Wiant of the Illinois State Museum Dickson Mounds Museum. Dr. Wiant will discuss his research on the Archaic mounds of the Midwest and the origins of the mound-building tradition in that area. A tour of significant sites in NE Louisiana is planned on Sunday. Room rates are \$99-109. Additional information about the conference will be in the next LAS newsletter and posted on the LAS website ([www.laarchaeology.org](http://www.laarchaeology.org)) as the conference date gets closer. Meanwhile information about the conference hotel is available at [www.westmonroe.hgi.com](http://www.westmonroe.hgi.com).

Dr. Chip McGimsey will be the program chair for this meeting. Contact him at [cmcgimsey@crt.state.la.us](mailto:cmcgimsey@crt.state.la.us) if you are interested in presenting at the meeting. As was the case last year, the number of presentations will be evenly split between Mississippi and Louisiana archaeologists. With this limited number, those who register first will be assured of being on the program.

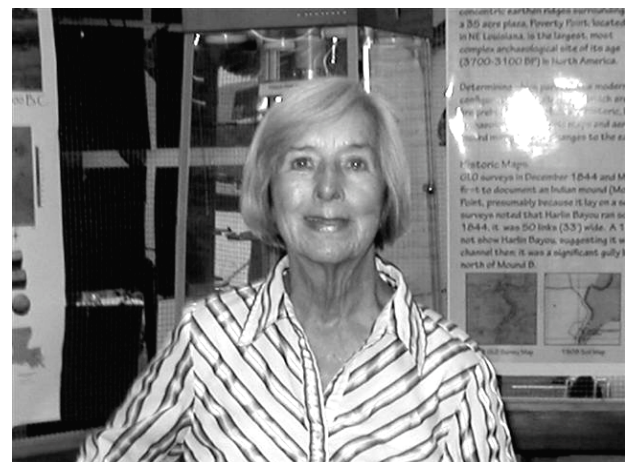
Reca Jones and northeast Louisiana archaeology have coexisted for 50 years. In her wake are some very prominent sites, the foremost of which is the internationally known site of Watson Brake (16OU175). Persistence and, well, more persistence, defines Reca. Without her determination, the configuration of mounds and ridges at Watson Brake would have been missed by many archaeologists, including me. She assisted in every test unit excavated at the site, and was wonderful at recruiting others to help.

She also played a vital role in contacting landowners for the Mounds Trail in northeast Louisiana. Landowner participation exceeded our expectations. A great part of her contribution to the Mounds Trail was running the prism pole in hot, cold (3 days in 3 years), dry, and wet weather.

She was a reporter for the News-Star, interviewer for the Federal Department of Commerce, a student at NLU taking classes in archaeology, first woman president of the Louisiana Archaeological Society, and the recipient of the Society of American Archaeology's (SAA) prestigious Crabtree Award. Not bad for someone from Ward 9.

She is local, she is real, and she has contributed in so many ways. Although she is retiring, she plans to stay involved. She

## WANTED!! FOR RETIREMENT RECA JONES



has been, and is, a good friend. - Joe Saunders, NE Regional Archaeologist.

## Digging Up the Past

By Sarah Smallwood, **Leesville Daily Leader**  
Fri Jun 19, 2009, Leesville, La. -

*The next four pages contain reprints from three newspapers in Louisiana about archaeological work in their areas of coverage: the Leesville Daily Leader, the Concordia Sentinel, and the Monroe Newstar- Editor*

Jeffery S. Girard, Northwestern State University's regional archaeologist and John Guy, president of the Vernon Parish Archaeological Society led a hunt for ancient artifacts along the dried portion of Vernon Lake, Thursday morning.

Girard, Guy and several volunteers searched the shoreline in an area known as Bevin's Landing near Seven Bridges in Anacoco where Guy had previously located a point made of petrified wood and a pottery fragment. The point, likely several thousand years old, said Girard, dates back to a time period long before written records. The pottery fragment, on the other hand, Girard said, was probably from a later time period. "It was probably a dart point or could have been used as a cutting tool or on a spear," said Girard of the point.

With a Global Positioning System, Girard mapped out the area where volunteers indicated, with blue and orange flags, they had found artifacts. The GPS will allow Girard to understand just how big the site is, he said.

The volunteers, meanwhile, meandered along the shore, heads down and covered for protection against a brutal sun, looking for tiny shards of pottery in the glaring white sand.

If other features common to an archeological site are also located, then the area will become protected by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, which has jurisdiction over the lake, Girard said. Features that might alert Girard to the site's importance include a dense scattering of artifacts, depressions or dark areas of ground called middens that contain a concentration of trash, usually food remains of a long-dead group of people.

In addition, Girard will try to assess what damage may have occurred to the site. Girard will record everything he and his volunteers discover on their cursory walk around this portion of the lake, he said. If they find something of significance, they may return in August for a more thorough search, said Guy.

In any event, the information collected on Thursday will help clarify the bigger picture of peoples who lived in the area thousands of years ago. If the site proves significant enough, it will be preserved for future generations, said Girard, "so others can understand more about the past."

Since Vernon Lake is state property, Girard said, it is against the law for anyone to damage or remove any artifacts found on the Lake bottom.



**Jeff Girard, the regional archaeologist at Northwestern State University, records information in a Global Positioning System (GPS) during an expedition of volunteers to the now-exposed bottom of Vernon Lake. The group took a cursory walk around a portion of the lake known as Bevin's Landing near Seven Bridges on Thursday morning to determine what, if any, archaeological sites might exist there. The group found scattered artifacts, among them points and potsherds that date to a time period several thousand years ago and long before written records, said Girard.**

## Jonesville Bridge Demolition Opens the Door for Troyville Indian Research

By Stanley Nelson  
July 2, 2009 from the **Concordia Sentinel**

Once the old Black River Bridge at Jonesville is demolished in an explosion later this month, archaeologists will have another opportunity to learn more about the Native Americans who built the 82-foot high Great Mound an estimated 1,400 years ago.

That's because part of that mound built by the Troyville Indians was used as an approach fill for the old bridge in the 1930s. After the demolition, tentatively slated for July 16th, archaeologists will sift through the dirt to see if any artifacts can be found which may shed even more light on this mysterious Indian culture.

Afterward, the dirt will be used to build a replica of the Great Mound.

In the meantime, the Archaeological Conservancy recently announced it has purchased property which was part of the Troyville mound group from C.R. Craddock. The property, located on Pond Street, was owned by the family of Craddock's wife for many years.

The Conservancy said that the old house located on the property was recently torn down and that it "will landscape and fence the site. Mound 4 will now serve as a research preserve that suggests the glory of the ancient Troyville."

Northeast Regional Archaeologist, Joe Saunders of the University of Louisiana Monroe, said the Troyville "earthworks were among the largest in North America. Very little is known about the Troyville culture. We presume that many of the more durable artifacts were incorporated in the mound fill used for the approach to the Black River Bridge. Excavations, hopefully, will recover many examples of how they decorated their pottery and made their projectile points. This will help archaeologists study the continuity of Troyville culture with the earlier Marksville culture."

Saunders said one thing is clear: "We can't afford to again miss the opportunity to recover artifacts from the Troyville Great Mound.

Bill Atkins, who is spearheading the effort to build a replica of the Great Mound, said 38 people attended a meeting with the James Construction Group LLC and the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development last week to discuss the demolition of the old bridge which was built in the early 1930s under the administration of Gov. Huey Long.

Also on hand were Saunders and archaeologist Aubry "Butch" Lee of Earth Search, Inc. Lee will examine the approach fill for artifacts.

"The Great Mound replica will be located on Hwy. 84 on Catahoula Parish School Board property, and the School Board is going to incorporate our Native American heritage into next year's school curriculum," Atkins said.

Raffle tickets are being sold for \$5 each. The winner will "press the button" firing the explosion to demolish the old bridge. Jonesville Alderman Jackie Rouse said the drawing is slated for July 10th and that "only a limited number" of tickets remain.

"Troyville was a thriving Native American site," said Atkins. "One of the mounds is referred to as the Great Mound because it was the second tallest in North America and the tallest in Louisiana before it was torn down for the bridge approach."

He said the Great Mound was "a three-tiered structure resembling the pyramids of Egypt. The archaeological importance of Troyville is made abundantly clear when a national organization, the Archaeological Conservancy, steps forward and purchases one of the Troyville mounds."

Archaeologists say the Troyville Indians stood about 5.6 inches on average as adults, and relied on fish, deer, small mammals, birds, reptiles, wild seeds, fruits and nuts for survival.

William Dunbar of Natchez, a planter and scientist, along with Dr. George Hunter of Philadelphia, provided the first detailed written description of the mounds, including The Great Mound, during their exploration of the Ouachita River in 1804-05. In the years to follow others visited and wrote about this site.

By 1852, the Great Mound had been reduced in height to 60 feet and was leveled even more during the Civil War to construct Confederate rifle pits. Jonesville was

### Bridge Demolition at Jonesville (continued)

founded in 1871 and utilized some of the mounds as the town grew, and the mounds were temporary homes to flood refugees for generations.

In 1931, the contractor who was building the bridge across the Black River needed dirt to construct the approach on the Jonesville side of the river and The Great Mound became the source.

At that time 78 years ago, Winslow Walker of the Smithsonian was excavating mound sites along the Red River at Natchitoches when he heard about the leveling of the Great Mound. Walker raced to Jonesville to excavate what was left.

Saunders of ULM said Walker was especially interested in the site because of "its exotic features, such as the cane dome, which was layered like an onion. There was a layer of split cane, covered with dirt. Then cane and more dirt. The builders were conscious of selecting different colors of dirt, too, such as blue clays and red clays."

Saunders also noted that there was "a palisade wall at the base of the mound," and "log steps up the corner of the mound."

Walker published a 103-page booklet on his work, noting that "the demolition work began during the early part of the summer in 1931 and continued for about a month. Day and night shifts were employed, requiring steam shovels, horses and scrapers, along with large gangs of laborers. The hard and closely packed clay which the aboriginal builders had used in their construction was removed."

For weeks, the people of Jonesville choked in a cloud of dust. The late Elinor Swayze said that mothers feared the dust caused tuberculosis. Many kept their children indoors for fear of catching the debilitating disease.

This Native American site in Jonesville was named Troyville after Troy Plantation, which, according to Walker, "formed part of a Spanish grant of 1,000 acres made to one John (Caddy) Hebrard in 1786, which included the site of a group of large mounds surrounded by an earthen embankment running from Little River around to Black River on the south."



**View of the swing span bridge over the Black River scheduled to be demolished at Jonesville. This will present a unique opportunity for archaeologists to recover prehistoric materials associated with the Great Mound at the Troyville site (16CT 7) that was destroyed by the bridge's construction in the 1930s.**

## Poverty Point Dig a Dirty Job

Magnetic fields provide students with exciting excavation

BY ROBBIE EVANS • MONROE NEWSTAR •

JUNE 15, 2009

EPPS — Centimeter by agonizing centimeter, Leah Sellers uses a miniature trowel to scrape away thousands of years of history contained in a small 2-meter-by-1-meter rectangular hole.

Kneeling, Sellers looks intently into the 2-foot-deep hole for the slightest color variations in the soil. If Sellers — along with more than a dozen fellow geology students from the University of Louisiana at Monroe and Mississippi State University — finds lighter colored soil in the red clay, it could signal her first geological find and the most significant discovery at the Poverty Point Commemorative area in decades.

The students are part of a joint project between the universities to excavate an area of the Poverty Point State Historic Site previously believed to be devoid of any significant features.

Poverty Point is one of the most significant archeological sites in the western hemisphere. It dates back from 1800 to 1400 B.C.

Scientists using state-of-the-art technology called magnetic gradiometry have detected small variations in the magnetic field and provided the universities with maps indicating the presence of earthen circles 80-to-160 feet wide beneath the surface of the ground.

"What we want to do here this month is to examine those circles and find out what is causing those kinds of differences in the magnetic field and whether they are structures," said Diana Greenlee, Poverty Point Station archeologist and ULM geosciences faculty member. "It's very exciting."

Central construction of the site consists of six rows of concentric ridges, which at one time were 5-feet high. The five aisles and six sections of ridges form a partial octagon and the diameter of the outermost ridges measures three-quarters of a mile. It is thought these ridges served as the foundations for dwellings

For years, scientists have hypothesized that the plaza area of the site was used as a community gathering place because it has yielded very few artifacts. The area is near the park's visitor center.

However, about seven years ago, Greenlee said archeologists Michael Hargrave and Burly Clay began mapping the entire site with magnetic gradiometers, a form of ground-penetrating technology that provides scientists with an

opportunity to look for magnetic variations in areas where ancient soils were disturbed.

However, about seven years ago, Greenlee said archeologists Michael Hargrave and Burly Clay began mapping the entire site with magnetic gradiometers, a form of ground-penetrating technology that provides scientists with an opportunity to look for magnetic variations in areas where ancient soils were disturbed.

"Those variations are underground, so they can develop a map that shows where there are perturbations in the magnetic field and they have identified several large circles in the plaza area, which is pretty unusual," Greenlee said. "We had no idea that they were there."

The use of the magnetic gradiometers to find possible clues beneath the surface allows excavations of the area to be pinpointed, reducing the amount of damage to the site.

Dirt that is taken from the four areas where the excavations are taking place is sifted for artifacts, dried and placed back in the holes.

"With limited testing in the plaza, we haven't found any features that have suggested activities," said park manager Dennis LaBatt. "By nature, you wonder what they were doing in the plaza; it's really exciting in that these features on a much larger scale appear to be great big circles,"

LaBatt theorizes that the inhabitants may have used the circles to, in a sense, direct traffic into the area from Bayou Macon. Scientists already know that a sloped area leading from the bayou to the site was a major access point.

Evan Peacock, associate professor of anthropology at Mississippi State University, said data gained from the excavation could take months to sift through. The excavation project has been planned for more than year.

"Poverty Point is easily one of the most important archaeological sites in North America and one of the most important sites in the world because of its scale for hunters and gatherers," Peacock said. "Obviously, it's a privilege to be here.

"We're hitting pristine archaeology from 3,000-plus years ago. We're breaking new ground, there's no question about that. Finding those features was a complete surprise."

Earlier in the week the excavations began to reveal what may have been the first signs of the circular structures just over a foot below the ground's surface.

**Dirty Job (continued)**

And as a future archaeologist, Sellers said participation in such an important excavation is thrilling, even though she spent the better part of four days crouched uncomfortably over a hole in a grassy field.

"I thought it was going to be pretty mundane, but it turned out to be something pretty cool," Sellers said. "You can't go finding mummies on your first dig."

**For more information about the Poverty Point field school, see Diana Greenlee's article about the field school in Regional Archaeology news.**



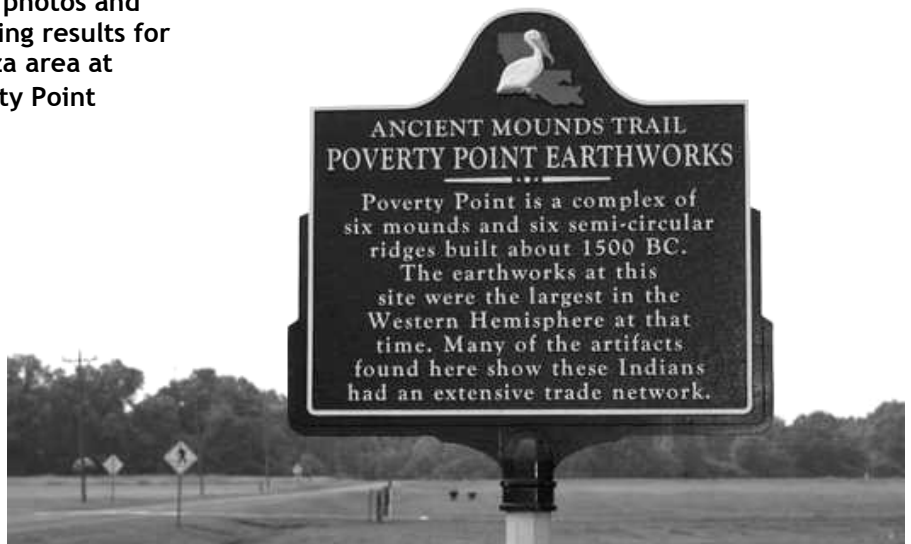
Water screening in the plaza at Poverty Point.



Field school directors Evan Peacock (l) and Diana Greenlee (c) advise a student on her unit.

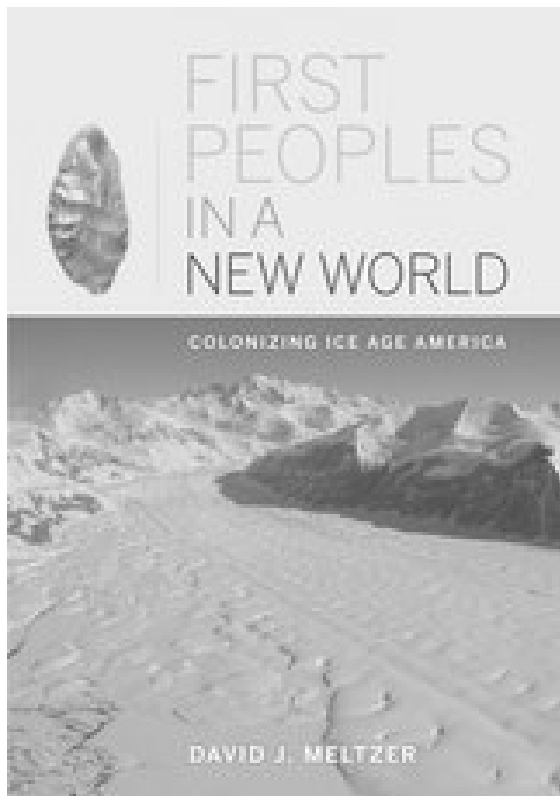


Directors and students alike frequently consulted the aerial photos and remote sensing results for the plaza area at Poverty Point



**ANCIENT MOUNDS TRAIL  
POVERTY POINT EARTHWORKS**

Poverty Point is a complex of six mounds and six semi-circular ridges built about 1500 BC. The earthworks at this site were the largest in the Western Hemisphere at that time. Many of the artifacts found here show these Indians had an extensive trade network.



**First Peoples in a New World: Colonizing Ice Age America** by David J. Meltzer. University of California Press. <http://www.ucpress.edu/>

More than 12,000 years ago, in one of the greatest triumphs of prehistory, humans colonized North America, a continent that was then truly a new world. Just when and how they did so has been one of the most perplexing and controversial questions in archaeology. This dazzling, cutting-edge synthesis, written for a wide audience by an archaeologist who has long been at the center of these debates, tells the scientific story of the first Americans: where they came from, when they arrived, and how they met the challenges of moving across the vast, unknown landscapes of Ice Age North America. David J. Meltzer pulls together the latest ideas from archaeology, geology, linguistics, skeletal biology, genetics, and other fields to trace the breakthroughs that have revolutionized our understanding in recent years. Among many other topics, he explores disputes over the hemisphere's oldest and most controversial sites and considers how the first Americans coped with changing global climates. He also confronts some radical claims: that the Americas were colonized from Europe or that a crashing comet obliterated the Pleistocene mega-fauna. Full of entertaining descriptions of on-site encounters, personalities, and controversies, this is a compelling behind-the-scenes account of how science is illuminating our past.

### **The Headpots of Northeast Arkansas and Southern Pemiscot County, Missouri** (Rare and mysterious pottery from the Mississippian Culture)

James F. Cherry,

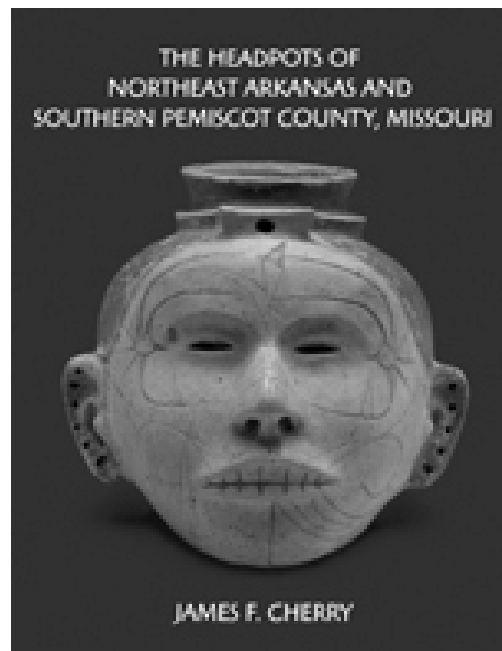
Foreword by Robert C. Mainfort Jr

In 1981, James F. Cherry embarked on what evolved into a passionate, personal quest to identify and document all the known headpots of Mississippian Indian culture from northeast Arkansas and the bootheel region of southeast Missouri. Produced by two groups the Spanish called the Casqui and Pacaha and dating circa AD 1400–1700, headpots occur, with few exceptions, only in a small region of Arkansas and Missouri. Relatively little is known about these headpots: did they portray kinsmen or enemies, the living or the dead or were they used in ceremonies, in everyday life, or exclusively for the sepulcher?

Cherry's decades of research have culminated in the lavishly illustrated *The Headpots of Northeast Arkansas and Southern Pemiscot County, Missouri*, a fascinating, comprehensive catalog of 138 identified classical style headpots and an invaluable resource for understanding the meaning of these remarkable ceramic vessels.

**James F. Cherry** is a retired physician who has been researching headpots for over twenty-five years. He lives in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

**Robert C. Mainfort Jr.** is an archaeologist with the Arkansas Archaeological Survey, a professor of anthropology at the University of Arkansas, and the author of *Sam Dellinger: Raiders of the Lost Arkansas*.



University of Arkansas Press.  
<http://www.uapress.com>

## The National Park Service's 2009 Archaeological Prospection Workshop at Los Adaes (16NA16)

by Steven L. De Vore, Midwest Archaeological Center, National Park Service

During May 18-23, 2009, the National Park Service (NPS) conducted a workshop on the application of archaeological prospection techniques at the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training facilities in Natchitoches. The workshop, in its nineteenth year, was designed to provide a practical application of geophysical equipment and aerial photographic techniques available for the identification, evaluation, and ultimately, the conservation and protection of cultural resources. The workshop consisted of morning lectures devoted to the theory and application of techniques to the archaeological investigations. Topics included basic survey design, geophysical survey techniques including magnetic, resistance, conductivity, magnetic susceptibility, and ground penetrating radar survey techniques along with aerial photography, ground truthing geophysical anomalies, processing geophysical and aerial data, and the interpretation of such data. Throughout most of the week the field exercises were held at the Los Adaes Site Historic Site. Additional time on Friday was spent at the Fort Jesup State Historic Site. The field exercises associated with the course concentrated on the application of the archaeological prospection techniques to archaeological investigations. Evenings were spent downloading and processing the geophysical data. In addition to the software packages from the manufacturers and software developers, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers introduced its ArchaeoMapper software to the participants and instructors of the workshop.

Geophysical techniques provide a means of non-destructive investigations for archaeological site surveys. These techniques utilize physical principles to study the earth through indirect interpretation of the earth's physical properties. Geophysicists interpret the Earth's physical characteristics using physical, electrical, and/or chemical measurements. Active geophysical techniques are based on responses from an induced signal used to detect contrasts in different material properties. Such techniques include **electromagnetic induction (EM) or conductivity, ground penetrating radar (GPR), metal detectors, electrical resistivity, and seismic**. Passive techniques are based on responses from the natural conditions. These techniques include **magnetics, gravity, and self potential (SP)**. The course provides an opportunity to learn about non-destructive geophysical techniques for archeological investigations including advantages and disadvantages of such techniques.

Twenty individuals participated in the workshop. The students consisted of university graduate and undergraduate students, university professors and staff archaeologists, private contract archaeologists, tribal historic preservation staff, and state archaeological program staff members. The instructors for the workshop represented major practitioners in archaeological prospection in the United States, as well as manufacturing company representatives. In addition to the American instructors, other instructors came from the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Canada, and Germany. The twentieth annual archaeological prospection workshop is planned for May 2010 at Acadia National Park in Maine.



Dr. George Avery, former station archaeologist at the Los Adaes site tells the students and instructors at the NPS workshop about the site.



Participants, Andrea White and Dennis Jones, take advantage of the shade to listen to Dr. Thomas Himmler of Foerster Co. explain the benefits of the latest developments in magnetometry.

## Los Adaes (continued)



*The poster for Louisiana Archaeology Week 2005, designed by Sergio Palleroni, depicted an aerial view of the Los Adaes presidio (fort) site (16NA16) with a scaled drawing of the known plans for the structures. This military installation was built by the Spanish in the 1720s to protect the contested eastern border of the Spanish province of Tejas. The French Fort St. Jean Baptiste, only 12 miles to the east, was built in 1716 in present day Natchitoches to establish a French presence along the Red River and challenge the Spanish claim for the region. While details are forthcoming in a detailed report from the NPS, the geophysical investigations found that the outer palisade and many of the structures inside were very close to the locations shown above. Soil probes also indicated that a ditch around the outer palisade was filled with debris from the colonial period occupation consisting of Caddo and European pottery, as well as animal bones and other remains-Editor.*



### The Archaeological Conservancy

Jessica Crawford, Southeast Regional Director

The Archaeological Conservancy has been busy this summer, in spite of the bad economy. Much of our time has been spent working on sites we own- getting them mowed and cleaned up. Financially, things aren't too good, but that is not surprising. We're hoping things will start looking up soon. We had our summer board meeting in Albuquerque in July and we discussed measures we may have to take if things don't improve, but none of them involved halting acquisitions. We're still plugging away.

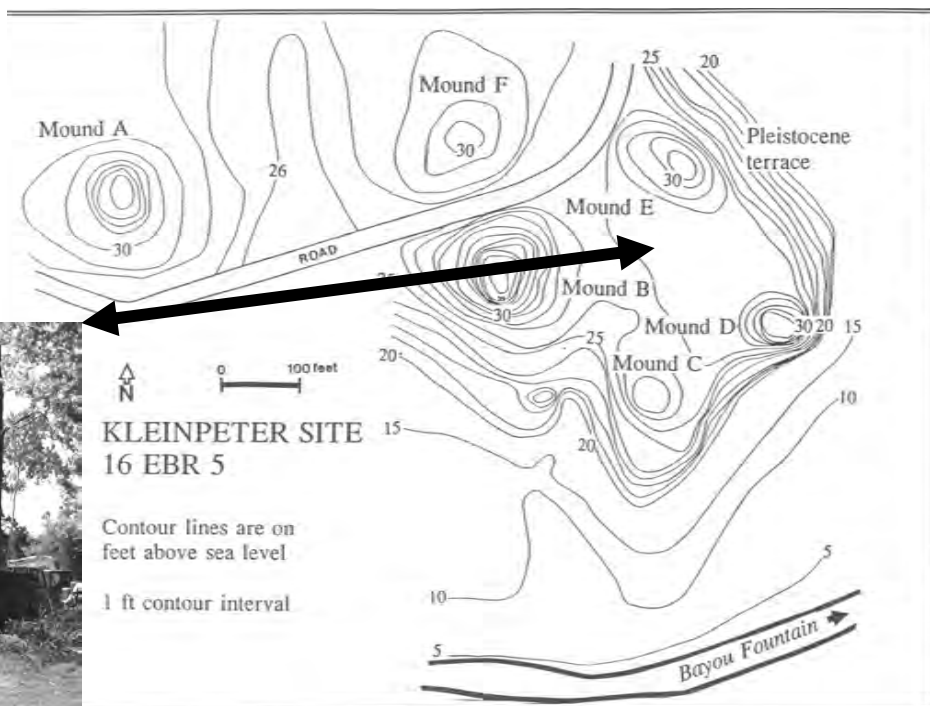
George Lowry and I have spent a lot of time in Jonesville lately cleaning up the small lot that is Mound 4 of the Troyville site. It's been exciting to be a part of all that is going on with the old and new bridges and the fill from the Great Mound (*see reprint of newspaper article on page 4*). Bill Atkins and Joe Saunders have been working hard on that and we're looking forward to helping out and seeing how things go.

We have a few other projects in the works in Louisiana but I'm hesitant to go into them before we are sure of funding. We are still hoping to push through the State's promised purchased of our tract at Marksville and the Mott Site and if we can get those two taken care of, we'll have plenty of money to spend on our new potential acquisitions in Louisiana.

One project I'm glad to have completed is that we finally closed on another 10 acres of the Hedgepeth Mound Site (16LI7) in Lincoln Parish. We bought another 10 acres that includes 3 more Archaic mounds.

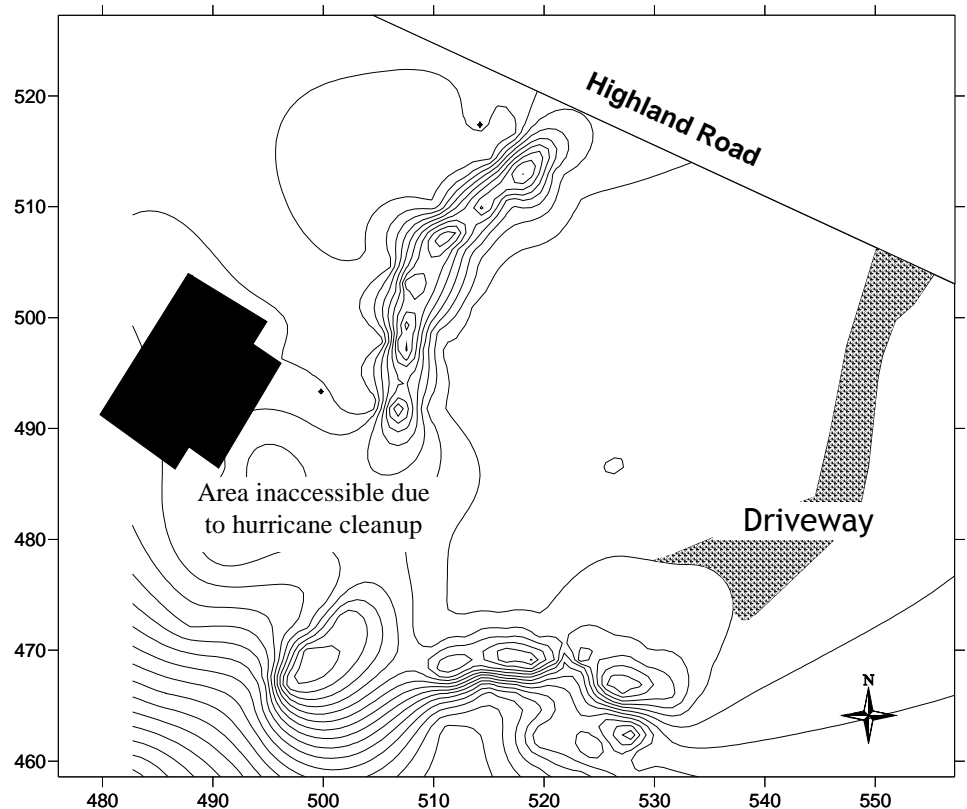
I want to say a quick congratulations and thank you to Reca Bamberg-Jones as I hear she will be retiring at the end of the summer (*see page 2*). I'm still finding it hard to accept! I can't say enough about what a great friend and help Reca has been to the Conservancy and to me personally. She has played a major role in many of our acquisitions and is a wonderful ambassador for Louisiana's archaeology when we bring our tour groups to Watson Brake. I remember one year when I took a group of about 30 people there, and they were so impressed with the site and the devotion that both Joe and Reca had to the site, that when we left and were about an hour down the road, everyone got together and collected over \$600 for radiocarbon dates. I really shouldn't have been surprised, because when you are around Reca, you can't help but share her enthusiasm. She's an extraordinary woman and I know I don't have to tell any of you how lucky Louisiana archaeology (and Joe Saunders, too!) has been to have someone like her. Thanks for everything, Reca!

The Kleinpeter site (16EBR5) was the scene of excavations sponsored by the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy (LAC) in 1990. Located in the Country Club of Louisiana in Baton Rouge, most of the mounds at the site have survived amid the construction of numerous upscale houses. Currently a structure is going up in the plaza area of the site as seen in the photo below.

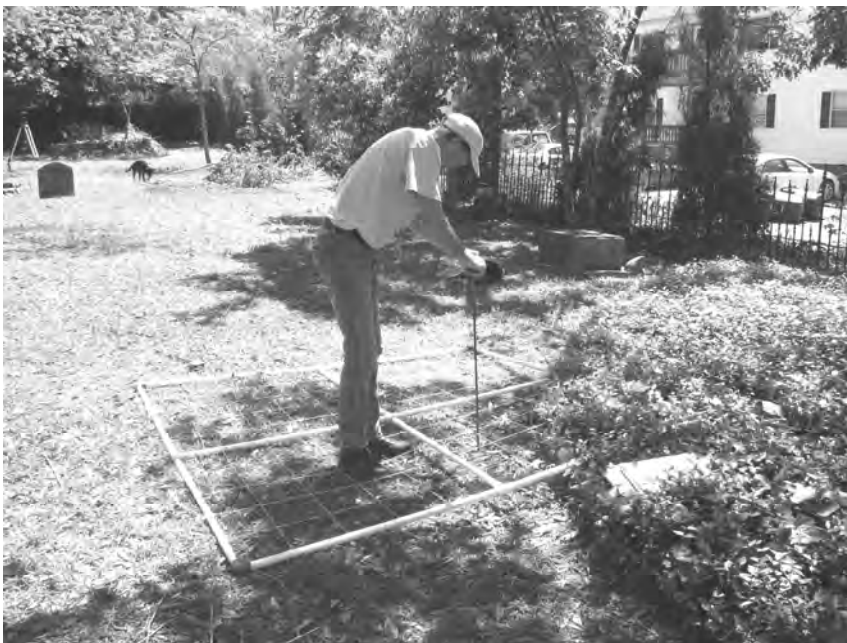


### Highland Road Stockade (16EBR89)

Dr. Rob Mann and Dennis Jones recently mapped the portion of the Highland Rd. Stockade site (16EBR89) that was included in a preservation servitude acquired by the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy (LAC) in the 1990s. Built in 1862, this is a remaining section of an earthwork that Union troops built to control access to Baton Rouge via Highland Rd. during the city's occupation. The garrison, manned by eight officers and 383 men, was attacked by a force of Confederate guerillas on July 29, 1864. Currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the feature was somewhat damaged from tree fall resulting from Hurricane Gustav, Sept. 1, 2008.



### Historic Highland Cemetery (Baton Rouge) 16EBR190



**Mr. Kenny Kleinpeter working with a probe to locate unmarked burials within the Highland Cemetery.**

Ryan M. Seidemann is directing intermittent and small-scale investigations in Historic Highland Cemetery in Baton Rouge. The investigations began as small test excavations in advance of beautification work outside of the cemetery fence. These excavations, conducted in 2008, were intended to ensure that the work would not disturb any unmarked graves. Although no unmarked graves were identified, several lithic flakes were found below the historic-period deposits, adding a Native American component to the history of Baton Rouge's oldest existing cemetery. The 2009 investigations have been a combination of surveying and ground probing in search of sunken grave markers. This work serves two purposes: ground-truthing of a 2003 ground penetrating radar survey of the site and (hopefully) the identification of long-lost demographic and historic data regarding the individuals interred at the site. These investigations, largely undertaken by caretaker, Kenneth Kleinpeter, and Ryan Seidemann, are expected to last into 2010. As excavations for the sunken markers begin in 2010, volunteers will be welcomed in the field.

## Where was the Town of Port Jackson?

James A. Green, Jr.

Inasmuch as places of bygone eras get forgotten by the passage of time, one of our greatest responsibilities as archaeologists and historians is finding these lost chapters of history. Be it delving through often obscure historical manuscripts and maps, or gleaning information through oral histories, more than a few live for the challenge. Thus stated, I have a question. Where was the Town of Port Jackson and related wharf?

In Skipwith's 1892 *East Feliciana, Louisiana, Past and Present: Sketches of the Pioneers* he notes that "East Feliciana had before 1832 scarcely enough front on the Mississippi river to afford a wharf for an ordinary sized flat boat." He further states that goods and supplies arrived "at the 'Landing' at the foot of the Bluffs, on top of which at a late date was built the 'Town of Port Jackson'..." The Town of Jackson, some 13 miles north-northeast of the mouth of Thompson's Creek, was established ca. 1816 and named in honor of Andrew Jackson after he passed through the area. Thus the Landing and, subsequently, the Town of Port Jackson must have been established after 1816 when it was realized that the Town of Jackson needed access to the Mississippi River in order to import and export goods.

That the Town of Port Jackson and the Town of Jackson are two separate locations can be clearly derived from Skipwith's writings. Not only does he mention the Mississippi River frontage, but he also notes "the clumsy old Wabash 'Broad Horn' would leave behind her the Bluffs of Port Jackson and soon be wafted out of sight by the ceaseless currents of the great river..." Skipwith (1892) states that by circa 1832 Port Jackson could no longer handle the volume of goods going to and coming from the area. In response, a railroad from the Mississippi River to Clinton was planned and in 1832 an Act of Legislature "wiped out famous old Port Jackson and a landing more commodious, with a larger front was captured by Statue from East Baton Rouge in anticipation of the vast streams of commerce..." thought to be coming there after the railroad was built. By 1834 the newly established Port Hudson had three regular steam packets calling on it.

The 1832 Act of Legislature regarding the demise of the Town of Port Jackson and the establishment of Port Hudson could not be found during archival research in Baton Rouge. A perusal of dozens of maps dating from circa 1806 to 1852 also failed to find any mention of the Town of Port Jackson, or even the "Landing". However, by 1839 Port Hudson was prominently shown on maps of Louisiana.

The East Baton Rouge Parish line currently is just north of Port Hudson, with Thompson's Creek being the division between East and West Feliciana Parishes. Figure 1 shows the area around Thompson's Creek and Port Hudson in 1852. The Town of Port Jackson had to have been located on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River near the mouth of Thompson's Creek. It is possible that the town was located on Thompson's Creek north of Abner Green's property. However, this does not fit Skipwith's description of East Feliciana having barely enough river frontage for a wharf.

So where was the Town of Port Jackson and why have we not found it yet? The lack of definable and even verifiable data concerning this important slice of regional history is disconcerting. That such a busy port and associated town could vanish so thoroughly that the most mention we have of them is in Skipwith's 1892 accounts of the area. Volumes have been written about Port Hudson, but it was a latecomer to the area.

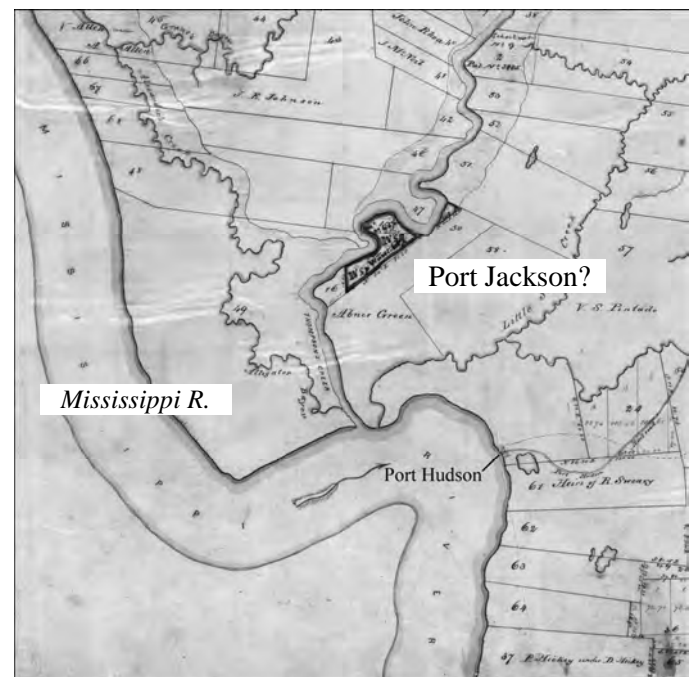
### References

Skipwith, H.

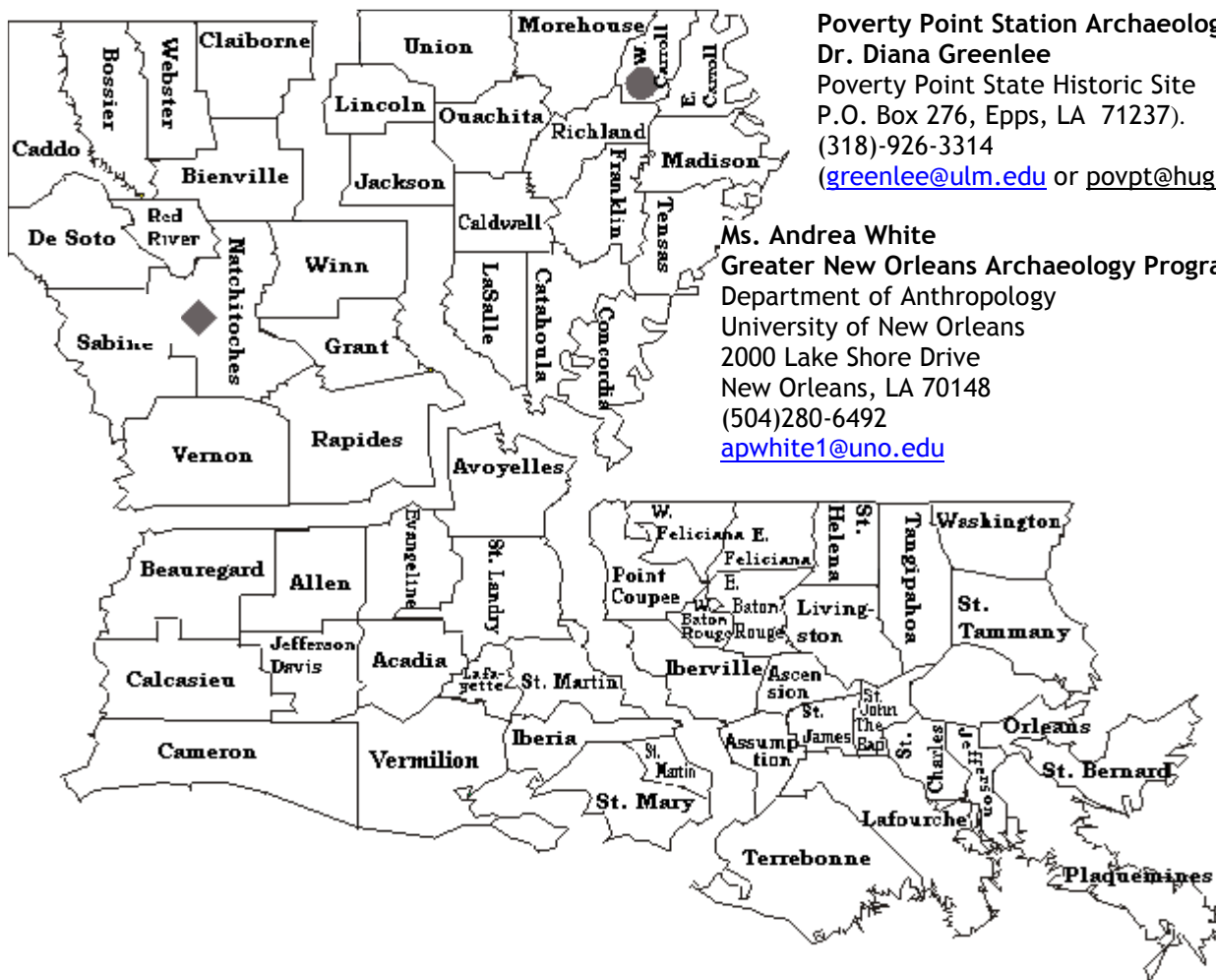
1892 *East Feliciana, Louisiana, Past and Present: Sketches of the Pioneers*. Hopkins Printing Office, New Orleans, LA

Louisiana State Land Office

1852 Plat Map of T4S, R1W, St. Helena Land District, Louisiana.



# Regional Archaeology News



**Poverty Point Station Archaeologist**  
**Dr. Diana Greenlee**  
 Poverty Point State Historic Site  
 P.O. Box 276, Epps, LA 71237.  
 (318)-926-3314  
[greenlee@ulm.edu](mailto:greenlee@ulm.edu) or [povpt@hughes.net](mailto:povpt@hughes.net)

**Ms. Andrea White**  
 Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program  
 Department of Anthropology  
 University of New Orleans  
 2000 Lake Shore Drive  
 New Orleans, LA 70148  
 (504)280-6492  
[apwhite1@uno.edu](mailto:apwhite1@uno.edu)

**Northwest Region**  
**Mr. Jeff Girard**  
 Regional Archaeology Program  
 Department of Social Sciences  
 Northwestern State University  
 Natchitoches, LA 71497  
 (318) 357-5471 [girardj@nsula.edu](mailto:girardj@nsula.edu)

**Southwest Region**  
**Dr. David T. Palmer**  
 Regional Archaeology Program  
 Department of Sociology and  
 Anthropology  
 University of Louisiana Lafayette  
 Lafayette, LA 70504  
 (337) 482-5198  
[dtpalmer@louisiana.edu](mailto:dtpalmer@louisiana.edu)

**Northeast Region**  
**Dr. Joe Saunders**  
 Regional Archaeology Program  
 Department of Geosciences  
 University of Louisiana - Monroe  
 Monroe, LA 71209  
 (318) 342-1899  
[saunders@ulm.edu](mailto:saunders@ulm.edu)

**Southeast Region**  
**Dr. Rob Mann**  
 Regional Archaeology Program  
 Museum of Natural Science  
 Louisiana State University  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
 (225) 578-6739  
[rmann1@lsu.edu](mailto:rmann1@lsu.edu)

## A “Missing” Mound found at the Lake Verret site (16AS6)

Dr. Rob Mann, Southeast Regional Archaeologist

In 1912 an agent of Clarence B. Moore visited two earthen mounds on the eastern shore of Lake Verret in Ascension Parish. The mounds were described as being about “6 feet in height and 60 and 40 feet in diameter, respectively” (quoted in Kelley et al. 2000:196). The site was not visited again until 1963 when a small surface collection was made by Sherwood Gagliano. Additional surface collections were made at the site by Robert and Ellen Murry during LSU’s Atchafalaya Basin Survey in 1975, René Bergeron in 1978, and T. M. Ryan in 1967 (Kelley et al. 2000:196, 198).

Despite these earlier investigations, the exact location of the Lake Verret site was still imprecisely known when Coastal Environments, Inc. undertook a brief survey of the site in 1998. As a result of this visit the site was described as

...two distinct scatters...on the eastern shore of Lake Verret. The southern-most locale [Locale A] is a large, wave-washed scatter of *Rangia cuneata*, bone and historic and prehistoric artifacts on Fausse soils that extends 100 meters up either bank of Ploton Bayou as it heads away from the lake, and 50 meters along the lake shore to the south of this junction...

The second locale [Locale B] lays 250 to 300 meters to the north along the lakeshore, and consists of a 175 meter-long heavily eroded, wave-washed, and mechanically-disturbed scatter of shell and artifacts. Large portions of this area have been bulldozed into a large bulkhead to protect a fishing camp against erosion, and the northern end of the locale has been bisected by a large canal [Little Williams Canal] that cuts through Ploton Bayou to drain into the lake [Kelley et al. 2000:196].

Figure 1 shows the positions of Locales A and B as defined by Kelley et al. (2000:197). Note that they recorded two “Low Mounds” at Locale A, but upon augering and shovel testing they determined that these were most likely “spoil piles that have been deposited on intact shell midden” (Kelley et al. 2000:196). They make no further mention of the two earthen mounds originally reported as being located on the site. Based on analysis of their own and previous surface collections from the site, Kelley et al. (2000:206) suggests that the site was occupied over a “continuous span between the late Coles Creek and the protohistoric periods.

In November 2008, I accompanied Ginger Rushing, Jim Delahoussaye, and Dr. David Palmer on a tour of archaeological sites on Lake Verret in southern Louisiana. Ms. Rushing owns and operates Attakapas Adventures, an

ecological swamp tour service. She has made note of several archaeological sites during her excursions on Lake Verret and the surrounding waterways. During our visit to the Lake Verret site (16AS6) we examined both locales recorded by Kelley et al. (2000). At Locale A we collected a few decorated sherds on the south side of the mouth of Ploton Bayou, including Coles Creek Incised, *var. unspecified*, Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac* and *unspecified*, Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Harrison Bayou*, and Evansville Punctated, *var. Lasalle* (Figure 1).

Historic artifacts collected include a piece of olive green vessel glass and a sherd of Provence-style coarse earthenware. We observed, but did not collect, faunal bone. We did not investigate the two spoil piles identified by Kelley et al. (2000). Instead, Ms. Rushing took us up to Ploton Bayou to examine a possible mound. Approximately 150 meters up the bayou, Ms. Rushing pointed out a low, flat-topped earthen mound on the north bank. The mound is approximately 14 meters (45.9 ft) in diameter, which roughly corresponds to the diameter of the smaller of the two mounds reported in 1912. We observed some shells on the surface of the mound, but saw no artifacts.

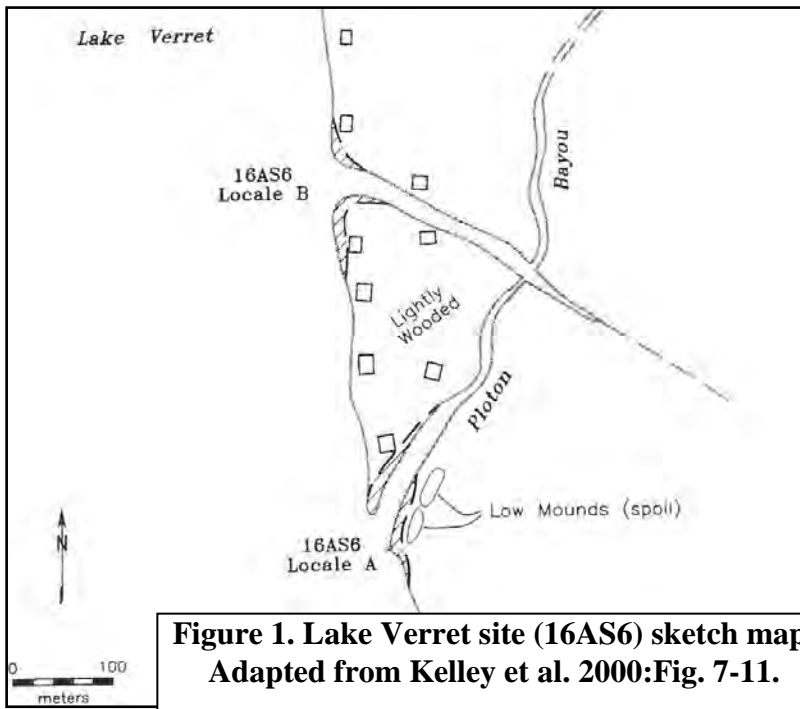
The present flat-topped appearance of the mound is likely due to the fact that a structure (possibly a restaurant or bar) was located on the mound sometime in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. A logging camp, the F.B. Skidder Camp, was located nearby between ca. 1922 and 1928. An undated photograph entitled “Attakapas Indian Mound, Lake Verret” shows a structure on what appears to be a low earthen mound (Figure 2). This mound is likely one of the two mounds originally reported to be present at the site in 1912. Ms. Rushing mentioned to us that a second possible mound was located nearby, but we did not attempt to visit the second mound.

The Lake Verret site (16AS6) appears to consist primarily of a Coles Creek period shell midden located along the shore of Lake Verret and the banks of Ploton Bayou. The earthen mound reported here is perhaps one of two mounds originally reported to be located on the site. It remains unclear whether the second mound is still extant. Furthermore, it is not known if or how the mound is associated with the shell midden. Also unclear is the nature of the historic occupation of the site, which may include a proto-historic/historic Native American component as well as later a Euroamerican component or components. These and other questions provide an excellent excuse for another excursion on picturesque Lake Verret.

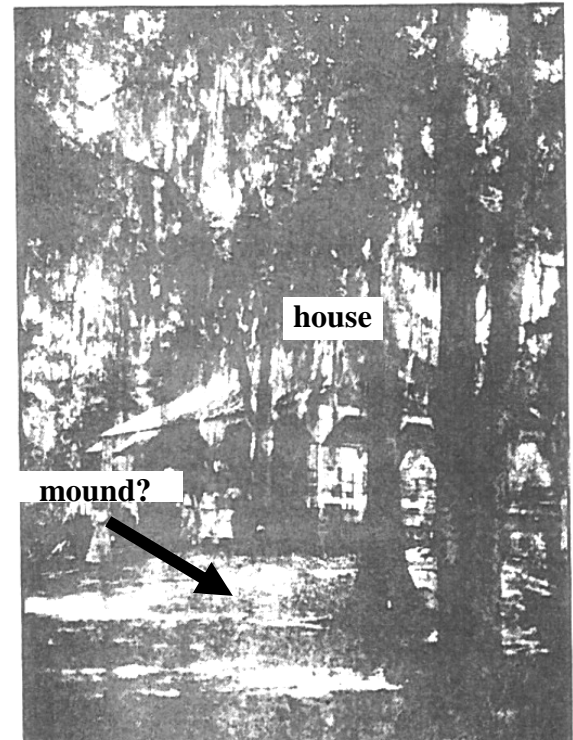
### Reference Cited:

- 2000 Kelley, David B., Douglas C. Wells, Dana Bowker Lee, Richard A. Weinstein, and Joesetta LeBoeuf  
*Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Lower Atchafalaya Backwater Area, South Louisiana*. Coastal Environments, Inc. Report on File. LA Division of Archaeology. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Missing Verret Mound (continued)**



**Figure 1. Lake Verret site (16AS6) sketch map. Adapted from Kelley et al. 2000:Fig. 7-11.**



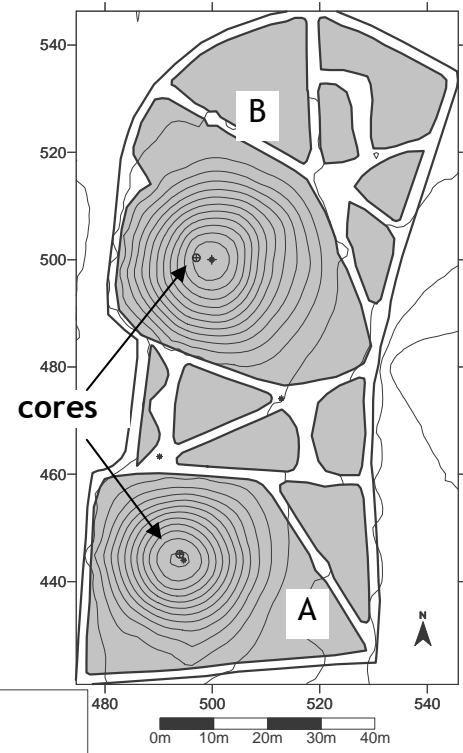
**Figure 2. Undated photograph of house atop a possible mound at 16AS6. Courtesy Ginger Rushing.**

**LSU Campus Mounds 16EBR6 – Rob Mann, Southeast Regional Archaeologist**

Recently the LSU Campus Mounds were the subject of a geoarchaeological investigation undertaken by Dr. Brooks Ellwood of the LSU Geology and Geophysics Department (*see last issue of the LAS newsletter*). Dr. Ellwood’s study indicated that a subsurface anomaly was present near the summit of Mound A. In order to investigate this potential anomaly, I was joined at the site by Dr. Joe Saunders, NE Regional Archaeologist, soil scientist Thurman Allen, Dr. Rebecca Saunders, LSU Museum of Natural Science, to extract cores from both mounds using a Giddings Soil Coring Rig. At Mound A we extracted a core (Core 1) from the summit near where the geophysical survey indicated the presence of a subsurface anomaly. Allen also recorded saturation zones in Mound A, Core 1 at 106-100cm, 125-132cm, 215-218cm, 290-315cm, 383-391cm, 408-445cm, and 495-527cm. For comparative purposes, a single core was also extracted from the summit of Mound B.

Both cores were also analyzed by Dr. Ellwood; the results of these analyzes are still pending. Core 1 in Mound A yielded a rich, charcoal flecked zone at approximately 160 cmbs that may correspond to the subsurface anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. This zone was removed and submitted to Beta Analytic, Inc. for radiocarbon analysis. This sample returned a date of 5330±40 B.P. (Beta-259546; organic sediment; δ=-14.8‰) [cal B.C. 4320 to 4290 and cal B.C. 4260 to 4040, 2 sigma]. This corresponds well with other published dates from Mound A.

It is not clear, however, if the sediment dated corresponds with the possible subsurface geophysical anomaly. Furthermore, the exact nature of this anomaly remains unknown. Plans are underway to further investigate these questions. During the 2009-2010 grant cycle, I plan to conduct limited test excavations at the LSU Campus Mounds site (16EBR6). The goal will be to ground truth the geophysical data and gain a better understanding of the internal structure and construction history of the mounds at the site and thence gain a better understanding of mound building practices during the Archaic period. No artifacts were recovered during the 2009 investigations.



**Contour map of LSU Campus Mounds site (16EBR6).**

## The Longlois Site (16NA657), a Buried Early Caddo Period Site in Natchitoches Parish

Jeffrey S. Girard, Northwest Regional Archaeologist

The Longlois site (16NA657) is located north of the city of Natchitoches in the floodplain of the Red River near the confluence of Bayou Pierre with the modern channel. In July 2008, the landowner discovered pottery, chipped stone artifacts, and faunal remains while digging two sewage lagoons for a proposed RV park. The materials came from a stratum buried a little over 1.5 meters below the present surface. With the assistance of Joe Saunders (University of Louisiana at Monroe), Pete Gregory (Northwestern State University), and Julie Ernstein (Northwestern State University), several profiles within one of the lagoon pits were recorded prior to its completion and filling in the summer of 2008. I was notified by the landowner in the spring of 2009 that additional artifacts had been found on the eroding cut bank of Bayou Pierre west of the sewage lagoons. There I found a dark reddish brown stratum with artifacts and animal bone exposed at approximately the same depth below the top of the cut bank as artifacts were found in the lagoons. Erosion on the cut bank has produced 40 to 50 cm deep gullies across an area that stretches approximately 50 meters from a deep drainage on the south to the southernmost of two boat ramps.

A one meter long segment of the exposed stratum was particularly dark in color and contained a high concentration of sherds, charcoal, and animal bone. Some of the deposits clearly had slumped down slope, but it appeared that a portion of a pit feature remained in place. Jameel Damlouji of the Northwest Chapter of the LAS, and Joe Evans, NSU graduate student, helped excavate a test unit in this area in order to obtain a sample of artifacts and faunal remains within a context that had the potential to be dated by radiometric analysis. We were able to uncover the remains of a small pit feature, approximately 1 meter in diameter and 70 cm deep. The feature contained a dense concentration of sherds and faunal remains, along with a few chipped stone artifacts and mussel shells. We subjected all fill to flotation processing and appear to have recovered small botanical remains as well. Woody charcoal from the feature was submitted for radiocarbon analysis and a corrected age of  $960 \pm 25$  B.P. (UGAMS-04658, wood charcoal,  $\delta^{13}C = -24.0$ ) was obtained, suggesting that the feature dates to the late 11<sup>th</sup> or early 12<sup>th</sup> century.

Pottery decorations from the site relate to types that date primarily to the Early Caddo period, such as Dunkin Incised, Kiam Punctated Incised, and Pennington Punctated Incised. However, a few brushed sherds (more common in later periods) were recovered as well. Polished, fine-line engraved pottery, usually found on Early Caddo period sites,

sherds that we recovered. Nevertheless, the pottery appears to relate more closely to assemblages from the Caddo area to the north, than to Late Coles Creek assemblages to the south and east. Arrow points present at the site relate to the types Friley, Catahoula, and Bonham or Alba. Faunal and botanical remains have not been analyzed at this time. Not surprisingly, however, fish and deer bone appears to dominate the faunal collection, and charred nutshell fragments are numerous.

With additional work we hope to better delineate the spatial extent of the site and to locate other features for dating. (See a map of the Longlois site on next page.)

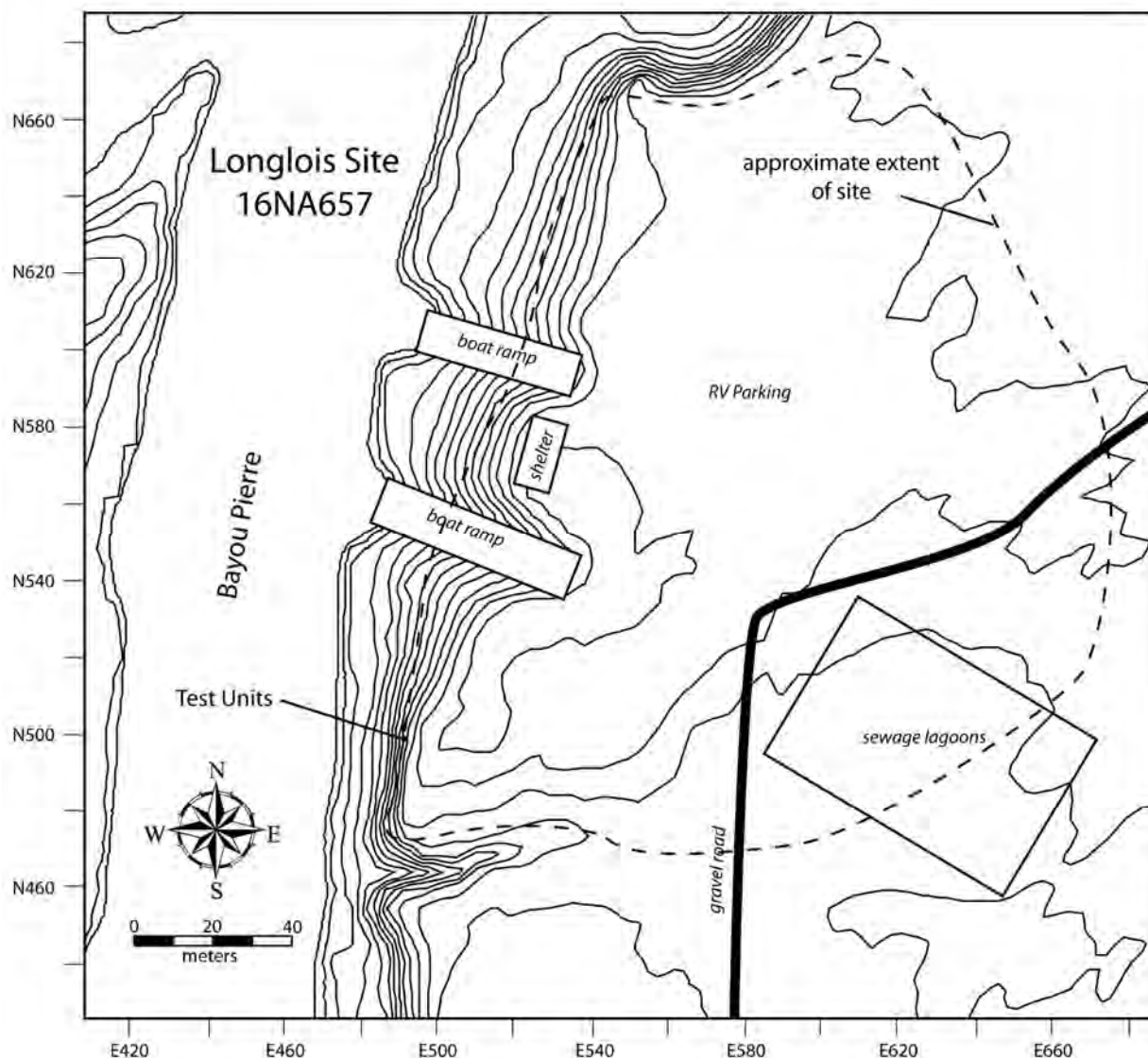


**Pete Gregory (left) and Joe Saunders (right) record strata in the excavation for a sewage lagoon in 2008 at a new RV park near Natchitoches.**



**Jameel Damlouji (left) and Joe Evans (right) excavating fill of the pit feature along the Bayou Pierre cutbank in 2009.**

### The Longlois Site (16NA657) (continued)



**Contour map of the Longlois Site (16NA657) showing location of test units. LIDAR contour data distributed by "Atlas: The Louisiana Statewide GIS." LSU CADGIS Research Laboratory, Baton Rouge, LA, 2006, <http://atlas.lsu.edu>**

### Southwest Region Update

By David T. Palmer, Southwest Regional Archaeologist  
University of Louisiana-Lafayette

### Remote Sensing Workshop

This spring, along with colleagues Andrea White and Dennis Jones, I had the opportunity to participate in a workshop on geophysical remote sensing techniques for non-destructive archaeology, sponsored by the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT). The workshop was led by experts in archaeological remote sensing from the United States and abroad, and participants included graduate students, an Ivy League archaeology professor, private sector archaeologists, tribal and other government archaeologists.

### **Southwest Regional Update (continued)**

We split our time during the week of intensive classroom and field training between the conference room of the NCPTT on the campus of Northwestern State University in Natchitoches and Los Adaes State Historic Site. During the week we all got to try out ground penetrating radar, magnetometers, resistivity and related instruments that are used for finding evidence of archaeological sites beneath the surface without excavating. The need to excavate is not completely eliminated, but with the information gained through remote sensing, digging can be minimized, reducing the impact to the site. With the information gained from remote sensing instrument surveys, time and money can be used more effectively for research. In a planning context, time and money can also be saved by rerouting a project to avoid a site and costly mitigation. If you get a chance to watch the PBS program "Time Team America", you will see archaeologists using some of the remote sensing instruments.

### **Archaeology Month**

We have a number of events scheduled for the southwest region, including talks by Mark Rees, Jim Delahoussaye, Chip McGimsey, your southwest regional archaeologist, and Jamie Brandon of the Arkansas Archaeological Survey. Check the Division of Archaeology Website (<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology>) for the full schedule!

### **SCHAC!**

The South Central Historical Archaeology Conference (SCHAC) will be held at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette November 13-15. The conference is open to all interested. See full announcement in this newsletter on page 30.



**Remote Sensing in Action: Dr. Mark Rees of ULL using a single detector magnetometer at the Hayes Sugar House site (16IB76) in Iberia Parish in the summer of 2008.**

**Shedding Light on the Past: Recent Work at the St. Tammany Lighthouse site (16ST173)**

By Andrea White, Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program, University of New Orleans

In August, the Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program, in partnership with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum (LPBMM), spent two weeks working on the Tchefuncte River Lighthouse site (16ST173). This lighthouse is a well known symbol to the communities on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain in St. Tammany Parish. This area has been important to maritime cultures in both prehistoric and historic times and the site has multiple occupational components. While a known site for years, no archaeology had been conducted at the site and it remained poorly documented. In order to better ascertain the nature of the archaeology, a shovel testing survey and three 1 x 1 meter units were excavated at the site.

Prehistoric people apparently utilized the peninsula the lighthouse is located upon as a seasonal procurement location for the harvesting of shellfish. An extensive Rangia shell midden extends across the entire site and has been affected by environmental and more recent human impacts. One of the project's goals was to better understand the Native American component and date site's use. Pottery and lithic material have led archaeologists to tentatively attribute the prehistoric occupation to the Coles Creek and Mississippian cultures (A.D. 1000-1700).

In the nineteenth century, the location was suitable for the placement of a navigational aid to guide mariners to the mouth of the Tchefuncte River. The lighthouse was built in 1837, but was destroyed by Union troops during the Civil War. The current structure was rebuilt on the original base and served as a home to several lighthouse keepers and their families. A keeper's cottage and numerous outbuildings dotted the landscape and were affected by frequent storms and high water. The light was automated in the 1930s. The site was eventually abandoned and the keeper's cottage was moved to Madisonville. Current archaeological investigations mapped the historic portions of the site and sampled a privy deposit to understand the historic landscape and lifeways of the keepers' families.

Over 35 professional and avocational volunteers of all ages contributed to the two week project and were an invaluable resource. The site is owned by the City of Madisonville and is managed by LPBMM. Further support was provided by the University of New Orleans and Southeastern Louisiana University.



**Historic photo of the Tchefuncte River Light Station showing the house and other structures for the keeper's family.**



**Volunteers screening during recent investigations at 16ST173.**

Shedding Light on the Past (continued)



Volunteer Crew. Back: Justine Townsend, Don Lynch, Charlotte Jones. Front: Abe Santa Cruz, Debby Pellegrin, and Andrea White.

Aerial view of archaeologists and volunteers working at the Lighthouse site (16ST173).



Profile of test unit into portion of the Native American shell midden at 16ST173.

## Poverty Point Update, Dr. Diana M. Greenlee

### Poverty Point Station Archaeologist, University of Louisiana – Monroe

This summer, Poverty Point State Historic Site (SHS) was the site of a joint University of Louisiana-Monroe and Mississippi State University field school (Figure 1) under the direction of Drs. Evan Peacock and Diana Greenlee. Four 1 x 2 m units were excavated in the southern half of the plaza, targeting four different ring-shaped magnetic anomalies documented by Drs. Mike Hargrave and Berle Clay in their earlier magnetic gradiometry surveys of this part of the site. Just as the magnetic anomalies differed in character, the features and sediments within the excavation units differed in terms of shape, fill material, and surrounding matrix. Surprisingly (or not surprisingly, to those familiar with Dr. William Haag's XU2 and XU4 plaza excavations in 1973 and 1975), we encountered some large diameter, deep pits consistent with postholes that had been filled with nearly sterile sediments. One of the postholes, flat-bottomed, measured 65 cm x 70 cm at its base, and extended 2.2 m below ground surface (Figure 2). The post had apparently been pulled and later reset farther north within the hole. A radiocarbon sample from this feature returned a 2 $\sigma$  calibrated age of 1440-1280 cal years B.C. (Beta 260708; 3100  $\pm$  40 BP), suggesting that the plaza was not a flat, empty space at the time of the major construction and occupation at Poverty Point. The results of our investigations will be reported in greater detail at a later date.

### Volunteer Activities

As time permits, the Station Archaeology Program continues to process fallen trees. In early August, three enthusiastic volunteers (Figure 3) worked with us to complete backfilling one root hole in Ridge 5 West and to begin cleaning dirt off another root ball on Ridge 4 West.

### Screen-A-Thon 2009!

The Station Archaeology Program is sponsoring its 2nd annual screen-a-thon, a screening marathon, as an Archaeology Month event this year. Last year, 13 volunteers water-screened, in shifts, continuously for 48 hours straight and we made a huge dent in "Mound G." This year, we're upping the ante, shooting for 50 hours of screening, from noon on Friday, October 16 to 2 pm on Sunday, October 18. After the marathon, we will hold our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Screen-A-Thon atlatl/spear-throwing contest; let's give last year's winner, Jerod, a little competition and get out there and practice, practice, practice! Other activities are still being planned... Please call (318-926-3314) or email ([greenlee@ulm.edu](mailto:greenlee@ulm.edu)) for more information.



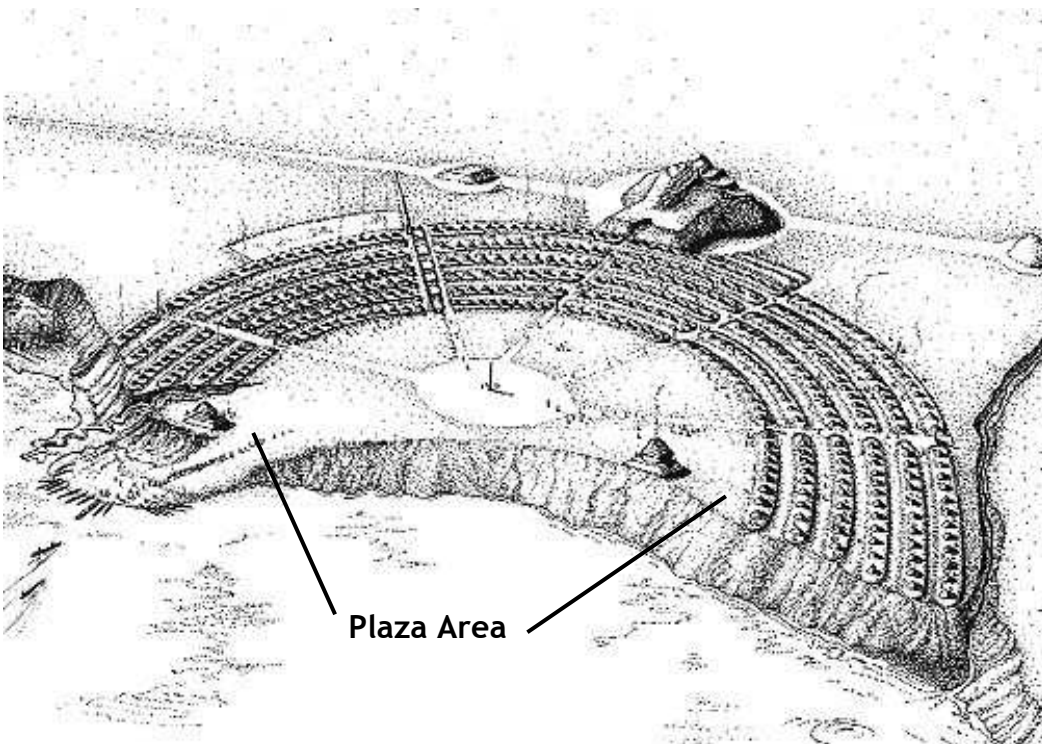
Figure 1: Field school participants: 1) Joseph Smith, 2) Amanda Keeton, 3) Joseph Mitchell, 4) Michael Davis, 5) Jared Wilson, 6) Kim Millsaps, 7) Amanda Wilson, 8) Erin Scheaffer, 9) Joe Collins, 10) Leah Sellers, 11) Evan Peacock, co-director, 12) Zachary Ware, 13) Diana Greenlee, co-director, 14) Bradley Carlock, field assistant, 15) Genevieve Jones, 16) Ben Neff, 17) Joseph Greenleaf, field assistant, 18) Casey Odum, 19) Kate Manning, 20) Janet Rafferty, 21) James Baker, and 22) Jonathan Nagle.



Figure 2: Base of post feature in Block 3, excavated this summer at Poverty Point. The round cap in the upper center of the photo is a sample collected later for potential luminescence analysis.



Figure 3: Volunteers (from left to right) Myrna Arroyo, Virginia McAnelly, and Pam Melder working on a root ball at Poverty Point SHS.



Artist's reconstruction of the central ridged enclosure at the Poverty Point site as it may have appeared in 1350 B.C. *Drawing by Jon Gibson*

Posts such as the one depicted in the center of this illustration may have existed in greater number and more elaborate patterns than formerly thought. Analysis of the data gathered this summer and additional research in the future will help archaeologists better understand the form and function of the Poverty Point site.

**Louisiana Archaeological Society Executive Committee Meeting,  
LAS/MAA Joint Annual Meeting, Natchez, MS  
Friday, February 27, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm by President Velicia Bergstrom.

**Minutes:** John Guy made a motion, seconded by Jim Fogelman to accept the Executive Board Meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

## Reports

**President:** No Report.

**Vice President: (vacant)** No report

**Secretary:** No report.

**Treasurer & Membership:** Velicia Bergstrom has signed the paper work for Jim Fogleman to be added to the LAS bank account. At the time of the meeting, Jim could not receive statements from the bank. No balance information was available. Velicia will also be added to the account.

**Website:** Junior Doughty was unable to attend.

**Newsletter:** Dennis Jones reported he expected the next newsletter to go out in April and then another in September.

**Bulletin:** Chip McGimsey reported due to constraints on his time and a lack of submissions he may have to resign as bulletin editor. He suggested possible "guest editors" could take on a bulletin. Chip spoke with Nathaniel Heller, R. Christopher Goodwin, about binding cost for the bulletin. Perfect binding for 400 copies would cost \$2000. The next bulletin will be around 200 - 300 pages. Chip hopes to get the Petite Anise manuscript printed by the end of the year. There have been no other submissions for the bulletin.

Dennis Jones suggested the possibility of using some of the CRM reports as bulletins. At some

point we will have to address the issues of mailing out backlog bulletins and updating addresses.

## Chapter Reports

**Northeast Chapter:** Recca Jones reported the chapter is still holding regular meetings. They meet on the third Thursday of every month at the Museum of Natural History. Diana Greenlee was their last speaker.

**West Chapter:** John Guy reported that the club would be hosting a Folk conference at the end of March. Jeff Girard is their February speaker and Ellen Ibert would be the March speaker. The club was planning to participate in a Pit Dig with the US Forest Service.

**Central Louisiana Chapter:** Nancy Affeltranger reported that Velicia Bergstrom spoke to the group about her remote sensing work in Italy. The club meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Ball Community Center.

**Delta Chapter:** Skip Neufield reported that Lucretia McBride is still the chapter president. They meet monthly at the UNO Science building.

**Baton Rouge Chapter:** Dennis Jones reported that Chip McGimsey spoke about his trip to Pompeii, Italy. Rob Mann gave a talk about his recent work at Galvez Town. The site is an early Canary Island settlement circa 1700's. David Chicoine will be the next speaker. David is new archaeology faculty member at LSU. His research is in coastal Peru. The chapter meets the last Wednesday of the month at the Bluebonnet Library.

**Southwest Chapter:** Ann Wehner reported that they had lost some membership. The club plans to purchase items from Circuit City to develop some artifacts displays. Scott Wehner helped the Imperial Calcasieu Museum re-work their exhibits. The local paper covered the event.

**Northwest Chapter:** No report.

**LAS Executive Committee Meeting (continued)****Announcements**

Betty Pendley has been selected to receive the Roger Saucier Award at this year's Annual Meeting. The award presentation will be made at the LAS Business meeting.

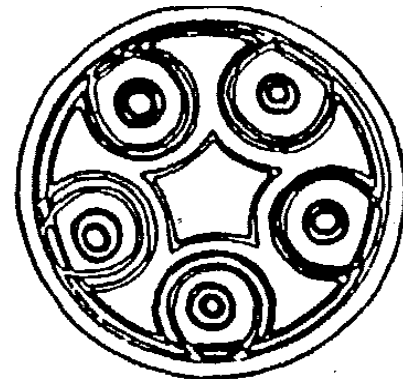
**New Business**

Dennis made a motion for the LAS to offer \$200 sponsorship to the Ethnohistory Conference that will be held this fall in New Orleans. John Guy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

Next meeting will be held June 15, 2009 in Baton Rouge.

Rachel Watson made a motion to adjourn and Jim Fogleman seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy  
Pineville, LA  
January 10, 2009

**Attendees:**

1. Dennis Jones
2. Velicia Bergstrom
3. Marc Dupuy, Jr
4. Stu. Braud
5. Rachel Watson

President Dennis Jones called the meeting to order at 11:35.

**Minutes:** Marc Dupuy motioned to accept the June 14, 2008 meeting minutes, and Dennis seconded. The minutes were accepted:

**Old Business**

Nothing new to report on 16TR38.

**New Business**

Discussion on the King George Island mounds that were excavated most recently by Fiona Vasbinder. There are two additional mounds that have been noted and are owned by a lumber company which has the land leased out. This site would be a good candidate for the National Conservancy to purchase or we should at least see if the owners would consider placing it in servitude. Dennis will get the owners name by the annual meeting.

Velicia Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 am and Marc seconded with a unanimous passing.

## The Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission (LASAC) Meeting

The Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission met on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. in the Capitol Annex Building, 1051 North Third Street, Conference Room 238A, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### Members Present:

Mr. Gregory DuCote, Mr. Mark Ford, Dr. Heather McKillop  
Dr. Mark Rees, Dr. George Riser, Dr. Nina Muller-Schwarze, Dr. Jack Irion, Dr. Chip McGimsey, Mr. Stanley Nelson

### Members Absent:

Mr. Scott Hutcheson, LTC Michael Tarpley

### Others Present:

Ms. Jill Andrew, Mr. Ray Berthelot, Ms. Kellye Cummings  
Ms. Lucinda Freeman, Ms. Nancy Hawkins, Mr. Dennis Jones, Ms. Amy Mann, Dr. Rob Mann, Dr. David Palmer  
Ms. Stacie Palmer, Ms. Karen Richardson, Mr. Duke Rivet  
Mr. Daniel Stoute, Ms. Sherry Wagener, Ms. Cheraki Williams, Ms. Cory Sills, Mr. Jeff Girard, Dr. Joe Saunders  
Dr. Rebecca Saunders, Mr. Bill Atkins, Ms. Rachel Watson  
Ms. Agnes Fogleman, Mr. James Fogleman.

### Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Heather McKillop called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Scott Hutcheson and LTC Michael Tarpley were unable to attend the meeting.

Dr. Heather McKillop made several welcoming announcements. First, there was recently some interdisciplinary and inter-institutional work at the LSU Campus Mounds site. Dr. McKillop had a poster made with pictures of the work which is posted in the Anthropology Department. Work had developed from a Geoarchaeology class taught by Dr. Brooks Ellwood in the Department of Geology. The original work was permitted by the Commission and Dr. Elwood. He contacted Dr. Joe Saunders and Thurman Allan to help core both mounds with the Division of Archaeology's ATV-mounted coring rig. Numerous LSU and Division of Archaeology staff visited the project and a nice article resulted in the Baton Rouge Daily Advocate as well as the LSU student newspaper, the Daily Reveille. This project was an excellent example of multi-disciplinary cooperation to explore Louisiana's archaeology.

Dr. McKillop also announced that the LSU Department of Geography and Anthropology just received a Digital Imaging and Visualization in Archaeology Grant to start a new lab with 3D imaging software and 3D printer. They have also applied for a grant for a 3D laser scanner.

All of the people in attendance introduced themselves and their affiliation. Dr. McGimsey introduced the new Commission members. He noted that earlier this spring the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions asked the four permanent members of the Commissions to submit recommendations for the seven appointed positions. From these lists, the Office retained four of the current members (Dr. Mark Rees, Mr. George Riser, LTC Mike Tarpley, and Dr. Heather McKillop), and appointed three new members: Dr. Jack Irion, Dr. Nina Muller-Schwarze and Mr. Stanley Nelson.

Dr. McGimsey also noted that two long-time members of the Commission, Mr. Marc Dupuy, Jr. and Mr. James Fogleman, were not reappointed to the Commission. Mr. Dupuy served the Commission for 25 years, being first appointed in 1984, and was a longtime advocate of archaeology in Louisiana. He has also served with the Louisiana Archaeology Society and was a founding member of the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy. Mr. James Fogleman was twice a member of the Commission, from 1992-1995 and from 1999 to 2009. He is a strong advocate of Louisiana archaeology and has also served as an officer with the Louisiana Archaeological Society. The Commission wanted to take this opportunity to thank both members for their long service and dedication to the Commission. Dr. McKillop and Dr. Riser both offered their thanks for the efforts of Mr. Dupuy and Mr. Fogleman.

Dr. McKillop offered comments concerning the pending abolishment of the Commission in the State Legislature.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the Commission Meeting held March 10, 2009.

**MOTION:** *A motion was made by Dr. George Riser and seconded by Mr. Gregory DuCote, to accept the minutes of the March 10, 2009, Antiquities Commission Meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.*

### Old Business

#### Permit updates

Ms. Sherry Wagener summarized the status of the permits approved by the Commission at the March 10, 2009 meeting. Dr. TR Kidder and Dr. Tony Ortman declined the permit for work at the Poverty Point site. When reviewing their permit request, the Commission had asked that their excavations be processed through 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch screens. Dr's Kidder and Ortman believed that this requirement would significantly hinder their ability to meet their excavation goals for their project, and so they chose not to pursue their work at the site at this time. Dr. McKillop expressed her belief that the Commission acted appropriately in this instance and was disappointed that Dr. Kidder and Dr. Ortman did not pursue their project.

Dr. Greenlee's project at Poverty Point with the combined UL-Monroe and Mississippi State University field schools is underway and features have already been encountered.

The permit for ground-penetrating radar survey at Mansfield State Historic Site is awaiting approval of the research design from the American Battlefields Commission. Approval is expected soon and hopefully the fieldwork will begin shortly.

Dr. Rob Mann was granted a permit for work at Port Hudson, searching for a Union sap trench, as part of an LSU student's MA thesis. Dr. Mann stated that they have begun the fieldwork but have no results yet.

**LASAC minutes (continued)**

.A class on ground-penetrating radar has been conducted at the Marksville State Historic Site. The class was taught by Dr. Kent Schneider of Athens, Georgia, for the U.S. Army National Guard. Via letter to Ms. Wagener, Dr. Schneider indicated that they found a number of interesting anomalies that will be detailed in a forthcoming report, and that he is very excited about the potential of this site for further remote sensing. Ms. Wagener showed some images from the survey, with discussion by Dr. McGimsey and Commission members.

No new permit requests have been received since the last Commission meeting. Dr. McKillop asked if there were any overdue reports for permits issued by the Commission. Dr. McGimsey noted that Dr. Kidder had just turned in the final report of his 2008 excavations at Poverty Point, and that Dr. Brooks Elwood of LSU had requested an extension for turning in his report on the remote sensing class at the LSU Campus Mounds. Ms. Wagener noted that a permit issued to Dr. Rinita Dalan for work at Poverty Point had also been extended because Dr. Dalan was continuing to work with Dr. Greenlee during the current field school project at the site. This is also true for the permit issued to Dr. Mike Hargrave for remote sensing at Poverty Point; the extension will allow him to submit one report containing the results of all of his work over the last two years.

Ms. Wagener asked Mr. Dennis Jones to summarize the results of the National Park Service class in remote sensing just held at Los Adaes State Historic Site and Fort Jesup State Historic Site. The Commission had issued a permit for the work at this site. Mr. Jones noted that in addition to himself, Ms. Andrea White, Regional Archaeologist at UNO, and Dr. David Palmer, Regional Archaeologist at UL-Lafayette took the class. This was the 19<sup>th</sup> year this NPS class has been held. Mr. Jones provided a brief history of the site and a summary of the class, including the six types of remote sensing techniques employed at the site. The results indicated that our current understanding of the site layout is largely correct, with a number of new features being found. The instructors included numerous experts from the US and other nations, and the student body included individuals from around the country. Mr. Jones noted some of the limitations of remote sensing, included open ground and its primary importance for Phase II and III investigations. Dr. McKillop noted that LSU now teaches remote sensing techniques through a class offered by Dr. Brooks Ellwood.

Dr. McKillop asked that the Commission be informed when permit reports are completed and submitted to the Division. She noted the opportunity for these projects to be promoted to the press and the public. She asked if the press had come to the Los Adaes project. Mr. Jones replied that a video had been shot while the class was ongoing, that he, Dr. Palmer and Ms. White had been interviewed for the video, and it was now available on YouTube and website of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.

Mr. Duke Rivet noted that the final report had been submitted for the permit at the E.D White site concerning construction of a replica kitchen and garden. No significant deposits were found during this project.

Dr. Rees asked Dr. Mann about the context of the radiocarbon date obtained from Mound A at the LSU Campus Mounds. Dr. Mann noted that the date came from a magnetic anomaly identified by Dr. Ellwood during his remote sensing survey of the mound, but that there was not yet an interpretation of what the anomaly represented.

**New Business**The Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and History Museum

Dr. McGimsey reported that it has always been the position of the Division of Archaeology that if there are going to be excavations on state land, that a permit must be obtained from the Division, under the provisions of R.S. 41:1605. This has always been a problematic issue when it comes to state agencies constructing buildings on state lands, particularly with the Office of Facility Planning and Control (FP&C) within the Division of Administration which is responsible for building and maintaining all state buildings and facilities. FP&C has never acknowledged a responsibility to obtain a permit from the Division. FP&C is presently constructing the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and History Museum in downtown Natchitoches, in an area with a high probability of early historic archaeological deposits. When the project was first being developed, the current director of the State Museum, David Kahn, contacted Rachel Watson about the archaeological concerns. As there are no federal funds or permits involved in this project, there is no Section 106 involvement. Rachel, however, did persuade the director that a history museum should consider its impact upon the historic resources of the town of Natchitoches. When site clearing began, Earth-Search, Inc. was contracted to monitor the removal of slabs and foundations from the project area. The monitoring effort identified a number of potentially significant late 1700s and early-mid 1800s historic deposits across the project area, including midden deposits, at least one cistern and building foundations. The Division of Archaeology held several discussions with FP&C concerning further archaeological investigations at the property. From the Division's perspective, FP&C was required to obtain a permit from the Secretary of CRT because they were impacting a known archaeological site on state land and we would issue a permit without an agreement on further work. FP&C was concerned about the time and cost associated with such an effort. The Division worked closely with the archaeological firm to come up with a minimum proposal for additional work, addressing what we felt were the most significant deposits that would be impacted at the site. FP&C asked what statutory authority required them to undertake this additional archaeological work. The Division cited the relevant statute, R.S. 41:1605, in this discussion, but FP&C did not interpret the statute the same way the Division did. The debate eventually went to the Lt. Gov discussing it with Mr. Jerry Jones, the second ranking member at the Division of Administration. The legal staffs of both agencies agreed that while the statute required FP&C to obtain a permit, it did not authorize the Division to attach any stipulations (such as a requirement for additional work) to that permit. The Division lost this battle with FP&C and this interpretation of the statute has implications for any future projects on state lands. The Division may consider addressing this issue in the next legislative session. There was discussion of this issue, including elaboration of the nature of the archaeological deposits present on the property; Mr. Jeff Girard commented on the historic maps and previous archaeological investigations in the area of this project. It was noted that a formal opinion on the interpretation of the statute was not

## LASAC Minutes (continued)

requested from the Attorney General. Dr. McKillop asked that the text of the relevant statute be provided to each Commission member; it was noted that all legislation is available online. It was also noted that four local organizations have written letters to FP&C, the SHPO, and local legislators with their concerns about this project, however, there is no indication any of these groups would pursue legal action to stop the construction. It was noted that State Historic Sites are very good about contacting the Division concerning construction projects on those properties.

### Update-Northwestern Regional Archaeologist

Mr. Jeff Girard reported to the Commission on the activities from the previous grant year. He showed several slides of Division staff replacing the timbers at Los Adaes State Historic Site following the NPS remote sensing training class. He reported on his work at Mounds Plantation site (16CD12), a major Caddo Indian mound site located north of Shreveport. It has seven mounds scattered around a plaza, with at least three more on the periphery. Most of the earlier work at the site was done by Dr. Clarence Webb at Mound 5, a burial mound. In 2006, Mr. Girard arranged for Dr. Jamie Lockhart, University of Arkansas, to come to the site and conduct some remote sensing on and around Mound 2. Resistivity data showed some interesting results, and Mr. Girard has been following up with ground-truthing to assess some of the anomalies. In 2008, he tested one anomaly and found a burnt post hole and some dark deposits adjacent that were examined this year with a 2x3 m test unit. The landowner used his backhoe to remove the overburden from the unit. The profiles exhibit slopewash from the mound, flood deposits and a Caddo midden. One possible posthole was found at the base of the midden, along with some unusual slag deposits that may indicate a structure was in this area. Some soil staining in the midden may be associated with a historic road to the tenant house that once stood on the mound. Charcoal from the possible post has been submitted for dating. Pottery looks more like early Coles Creek than Caddo and may suggest this area is at the beginning of the site's occupation.

Mr. Girard also worked just north of Natchitoches in the area of Grand Ecore. A landowner in this area is developing a camping area, and excavated a sewage pond where artifacts came up. About 1.5 m below surface found pottery and chipped stone; a radiocarbon date from this deposit came back modern. Earlier this year, the landowner noted erosion along the Bayou Pierre cut bank and notified Mr. Girard. The cut bank is eroding and one area had a dark deposit with lots of animal bone. He cut back into the slope and exposed a probable pit feature and was eventually able to come down on the top of the feature. The base of the pit remained in situ and contained an abundance of charcoal, animal bone and artifacts. From this feature and collections along the eroding surface, a very large artifact collection is available for analysis. The ceramic collection looks very similar to that recovered from the Fish Hatchery site near Natchitoches several years ago that dated to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The material from this new site may be slightly earlier. All of the feature fill was retained for flotation analysis. Lots of fish bones were found in the flotation samples. Another excavation unit was also placed nearby in an effort to find the original ground surface associated with this feature. Another pit feature was in this second unit, but it is not clear what this feature is and it had a much lower artifact density.

There was some discussion among attendees about the landowners at Mounds Plantation and their interests in protecting the site and areas where excavations can and cannot be conducted. There were additional questions about the archaeology at Mounds Plantation concerning the age and context of the deposits found in the excavations.

### Update – Northeastern Regional Archaeologist

Dr. Joe Saunders reported on recent faunal studies of Frenchmen's Bend, Plum Creek and Watson Brake sites, and the need for additional samples from these sites. Each site is located on an old channel of Arkansas River, suggesting an emphasis on freshwater fish for diet (drum, buffalo, and catfish). When compared, the faunal assemblages from each site suggest Plum Creek and Watson Brake are very similar, while Frenchmen's Bend has too small a sample for adequate comparison. His plan for this year was to return to Plum Creek to get a larger sample and to revisit Frenchmen's Bend to get another sample for comparison. He ran a ULM field school at Plum Creek during the winter intersession and found the site heavily impacted by tree farm activities since the original testing. The site was very overgrown, which made it impossible to relocate the original midden and it may have been destroyed. The crew then moved to Frenchmen's Bend in hopes of better luck there. Previous excavations (1993) had identified a midden deposit with lots of shell in Mound A that was the focus of this year's investigation. A series of augers were placed across the mound to determine the location of the midden for excavation. Since the original investigation, there have been significant impacts to the site with new houses being constructed nearby. Some augers hit a midden up to 2 m below surface, while others encountered it much closer to the modern surface. Dr. Saunders' team excavated two units down through the midden using 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch screen for greater recovery of faunal elements. Nearly 2,000 bone fragments were recovered in this recent work. Another test unit was also excavated in Mound A, but the results do not add to the interpretation of the mound.

Dr. Saunders also conducted survey in the upland areas around Watson Brake this past year. He is very interested in the economic structure of the communities during the Middle Archaic period. He has data on diet (the sites noted above), and now is interested in where these foods were acquired. It appears that sites like Watson Brake were not locations where multiple bands gathered at certain times of the year; rather they were used year-round, although perhaps not occupied year-round. The upland sites around Watson Brake are small, typically with a few flakes, a few fire-cracked rocks, and occasionally stone tools and points. The same pattern is starting to emerge at Plum Creek where he has been surveying the area over the last couple of years. One site has produced 50 Archaic points, more than at all the rest of the sites recorded in this area. This was a manufacturing site that fits into the settlement system. This site also has a number of Late Archaic points and he noted that the Late Archaic point chronology for this region is poorly understood.

## LASAC Minutes (continued)

Dr. Saunders believes that during the Middle Archaic, each of the major mound sites are independent communities that exploited the main river valley and adjacent streams entering the valley. The resources are rich enough that they can concentrate within this localized area almost year-round. Surveys of areas well back from the main channels have produced few sites.

Dr. Saunders also noted that Recca Jones is retiring at the end of this grant year.

### Limited Cultural Resource Investigation Permits

Dr. McKillop asked Nancy Hawkins to give a brief overview of the Regional Archaeology Program for the benefit of the new Commission members. Ms. Hawkins noted the program began 20 years ago as a cooperative effort between the Division and four universities, one in each quadrant of the state. Dr. Saunders (University of Louisiana – Monroe) and Mr. Girard (Northwestern State University at Natchitoches) were the first two regional archaeologists hired and are still with us, Dr. Rob Mann is at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, and Dr. David Palmer at University of Louisiana – Lafayette. The universities partner with the Division to provide an archaeologist to interact with the public, school groups, and civic groups, visit landowners about sites on their property, and pursue relevant research in their region. It has been a very, very successful program combining federal historic preservation funds, state funds and university funds. She congratulated Dr. Saunders and Mr. Girard on being with the program for 20 years. Dr. Jack Irion asked about the regional program in New Orleans. Ms. Hawkins replied that this was where the Division first tried to establish a program, including not only New Orleans but the greater New Orleans area. The Division is currently using temporary federal hurricane recovery funds to support a position at the University of New Orleans filled by Ms. Andrea White, but the funding will only continue through the end of 2009. The position will continue for at least a couple of years beyond 2009, but under a slightly different funding source and job responsibilities.

Ms. Hawkins presented the regular permit requests for each of the four Regional archaeologists, the Poverty Point Station archaeology and the State archaeologist. These permits allow these individuals to conduct limited archaeological investigations on state lands. Ms. Hawkins requested the Commission approve these permits, noting that they apply only to small projects and a more intensive project requires a project-specific permit.

**MOTION:** *A motion to approve the annual limited permits for the Regional archaeologist, Poverty Point station archaeologist, and the State archaeologist was made by Dr. Greg DuCote and seconded by Dr. George Riser. The motion carried unanimously.*

### **Other Business**

Dr. McGimsey noted that recent staff cuts for the Division of Archaeology will have a significant affect on the Division. Currently the Division has nine permanent staff and six temporary staff members. Due to the budget cuts proposed by the Governor, the Division will be losing four of its nine permanent staff members. This will significantly affect the Division's ability to do its tasks, and will require considerable revision and reorganization of tasks. In addition, several of the temporary staff will be leaving within the year

as the federal funding supporting their positions runs out. There was considerable discussion and commentary on this situation.

Dr. McKillop inquired about the status of the 2009 Archaeology Month. Ms. Hawkins will be coordinating this event, but it will be scaled back considerably from past years. A poster will be available and a schedule will be posted online, but not printed this year. The various State Parks often host events, and the Regional and Station archaeologists will also undertake events. Dr. McKillop noted that LSU will host some events.

Dr. McKillop initiated a discussion on the future of the Antiquities Commission, based upon the proposed HB 852 that would eliminate the Commission as well as the Unmarked Burial Sites Board. It was noted that the Unmarked Burial Sites Board was eliminated last year in a similar bill. Rep. Smiley drafted HB 852 to eliminate various state boards and commissions: his bill provides that all duties and obligations of the Commission will be transferred to the Secretary of CRT. As of 1:15 this afternoon, the House has approved the bill 99-0; it has been read twice in Senate committee and is awaiting a hearing by the Senate committee. Dr. McGimsey indicated that it was likely to pass. There was some discussion of the proposed bill and the context in which it was developed. Several members commented that the Commission has been a very active body, acted as an important sounding board for the Division, and had not cost the State a dime since its inception. There was discussion that members could contact their Senators, and if the bill passes the Senate, then corresponding with the Governor might help. The Secretary of CRT would assume the Commissions responsibilities, and those could be delegated to the SHPO or the Division. It was also noted that Sen. Francis Thompson has often supported the Division of Archaeology and may be interested in addressing this issue. The membership of the Senate Committee hearing this bill was brought up on the computer and made available to the Commission members. Dr. McKillop encouraged the Commission members to contact their Senators, and attend the hearing tomorrow if at all possible. One visitor noted that the entire bill did not need to be killed, only that the Commission be amended out of the bill. If it is abolished, the Commission could be reconstituted as an advisory committee for the Division. It could have the same duties and membership and perform whatever duties the Division and the Committee deemed appropriate.

*Motion: Dr. McKillop moved that if the Commission is abolished, that it be reconstituted as an advisory committee to the Division of Archaeology with its current functions. It was seconded by Dr. McGimsey. Motion passed unanimously.*

Dr. Greg DuCote expressed his appreciation for the service of Mr. James Fogleman and Mr. Marc Dupuy, Jr., to the Commission over the many years each served.

*Motion: Dr. Riser moved that the Commission meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Dr. McKillop. The Motion passed unanimously.*

### **Update!!**

**The Louisiana Legislature removed the Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission (LASAC) from HB 852 and the LASAC will continue to convene at its scheduled quarterly meetings.**

## Meetings, Fieldwork, Exhibits, Websites, Etc.

### Annual meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory (ASE)

Sept. 30-Oct 4, 2009, Hotel Monteleone, New Orleans, LA.

The theme of the meeting will be **“Bridging the Gulf: Connecting the Ethnohistories of the Americas”**.

This year’s conference theme builds on the history of New Orleans as a nexus between North America, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. Just as New Orleans has combined these worlds into a cross-cultural city, this year’s meeting focuses on the ethnohistorical ties throughout the Americas and seeks to bring these seemingly distinct scholarly worlds together in collaborative fashion. The ASE encourages panel and paper proposals that combine work being done in more than one geographical area and/or that seek to draw comparisons between ethnohistorical research and methodology developed in diverse American settings, although any panel or paper on an ethnohistorical topic will be considered.

The Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) will be co-sponsoring this event and all members are urged to attend. More information about the meeting and the ASE can be found at: <http://ethnohistory.org>.

### Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC) 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting!!!

November 4-7, 2009, Renaissance Riverview Hotel – Mobile, Alabama

The newly renovated Renaissance Riverview Hotel is located in the revitalized Mobile downtown entertainment district. Rising majestically over the sparkling waters of Mobile Bay and located just off of I-10, near the I-65 and I-10 connection. The room rate is \$124 plus tax (ca. 14% currently) or a Bayview Parlor from \$189 plus tax. Deadline for the submission of papers, posters, symposia, and special events is August 21, 2009. For more information go to [www.southeasternarchaeology.org/](http://www.southeasternarchaeology.org/) and click on Annual Meeting.

October 2009, in addition to being Louisiana Archaeology Month is also **EXPERIENCE ATCHAFALAYA DAYS**. The Friends of Atchafalaya group is sponsoring it. This series of events includes musical events, nature hikes, exhibits and other activities, some of which are related to the history and prehistory of this important area in Louisiana. More information is available at <http://www.basinbuddies.org/EADays/>



### South Central Historical Archeology Conference

The 2009 annual meetings of the **South Central Historical Archaeology Conference (SCHAC)** will be held at the University of Louisiana at **Lafayette November 13-15<sup>th</sup>, 2009** with accommodations at the nearby Hilton Garden Inn. Friday afternoon and Saturday are reserved for paper and poster presentations, with an optional tour on Sunday

Please submit a title and an abstract of 150 words (maximum) if you are interested in presenting a paper and/or poster at the conference. Any research relating to historical archaeology in the South Central region would be welcome, and students and new presenters are encouraged to participate. Submissions should include the author, author affiliation, title and abstract, and need to be received by September 15, 2009. Send abstracts to: [dtpalmer@louisiana.edu](mailto:dtpalmer@louisiana.edu). A digital projector and screen will be provided, but if you have other AV needs, please contact the conference organizer, David Palmer. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn, just across from the Cajun Dome and the LITE Center, for a special conference rate of \$89 per night. If you wish to register online, a link for the conference has been established which already has the discounted rate:

<http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/LFTCDGI-SRAPAC-20091112/index.jhtml> If you prefer to register by telephone, (337-291-1977), you must mention that you are participating in the SCHAC conference to receive the conference discount rate.

**LAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES RENEWAL**

Regular Membership	Annually \$20.00
Associate Membership	Annually \$5.00
Life Membership	\$200.00
Sustaining Membership	\$300.00
Student Membership	Annually \$12.00
Libraries & Institutions	Annually \$20.00

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (optional)\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

Names of Associate Members\_\_\_\_\_

All memberships are for the calendar year, January 1 through December 31. Regardless of the time of year during which you join the society, you will receive all publications for the year specified.

Back Issues of LAS Bulletins, \$15.00 each. Orders of 10 to 14 copies, \$13.50 each;

orders of 15 or more copies, \$12.75 each. Available Bulletins are:

#1(1974), #3(1976), #7(1980), #8 (1981), #9 (1982), #10 (1983), #11 (1984), #12 (1985), #13 (1986), #14 (1987),#15 (1988), #16 (1989), #17(1990), #18(1991), #19(1992), #20(1993), #21(1994), #22(1995), #23(1996), #24(1997), #25(1998), #26 (1999).

Back Issues of LAS Special Publications:

SP #1 Stone Points and Tools of Northwestern Louisiana (1981, Reprinted 2000)	\$4.00
SP #2 LAS 10th Anniversary Issue (1984)	(out of print)
SP #3 Louisiana's Archaeological Radiometric Database	\$4.00

Optional Donation: Roger T Saucier Memorial Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_ -

Make checks payable to:  
**Louisiana Archaeological Society**

Send payment to:  
 Jim Fogleman, LAS Treasurer  
 P.O. Box 118  
 Morrow, LA 71356

### Information for Subscribers

The Newsletter of the Louisiana Archeological Society is published three times a year for the society. Subscription is by membership in the Louisiana Archeological Society (LAS). Annual membership dues are \$20 for individuals, libraries, and institutions. \$5.00 for associates (relatives of individual members) and \$12 for students. Life membership dues are \$200 for individuals. Sustaining membership dues for individuals or institutions are \$300. In addition to the newsletter, members receive one issue per year of the bulletin Louisiana Archaeology. Membership requests, subscription dues, changes of address, and back issue orders should be directed to the Treasurer. Unless otherwise indicated, opinions stated herein are those of the Newsletter Editor and do not necessarily reflect society policy

### Information for Contributors

Send all notes, news, graphics and other communication to:

Dennis Jones-LAS Newsletter Editor

Snail mail: 1801 Ormandy Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Email: [archaeoman2003@yahoo.com](mailto:archaeoman2003@yahoo.com)

If possible articles should be submitted on computer disk or by email, preferably in Microsoft Word. Digital images are encouraged. Please send in JPG or Word format. Contact editor via email with all questions.

### LAS Web Site

[www.laarchaeology.org](http://www.laarchaeology.org)

#### LAS OFFICERS

President: Ms. Velicia Bergstrom, Pineville, LA

Vice President: Mr. Johnny Guy, Leesville, LA

Secretary: Rachel Watson, Baton Rouge, LA

Treasurer: Mr. James Fogleman, Morrow, LA

Bulletin Editor/Newsletter Editor: Dennis Jones, Baton Rouge, LA

Webmaster: Junior Doughty, Tullos, LA

All officers can be contacted through the LAS website

## Louisiana Archaeological Society

P.O Box 118

Morrow, LA

71356

NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Description	Count
Flakes	1184 (24 novaculite)
Angular fragments	217 (1 novaculite)
Bifaces and biface fragments	387 (3 novaculite, 1 indeterminate chert)
Drills	9
Adzes (polish on the bits)	2
Cores and core/hammerstones	3
Retouched pieces	15 (1 novaculite)
Early Archaic lanceolate	1
Archaic side-notched point reworked into scraper	1

Dr. Greg DuCote expressed his appreciation for the service of Mr. James Fogleman and Mr. Marc Dupuy, Jr., to the Commission over the many years each served.



**World of the Pharaohs: Egyptian Masterpieces from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**  
**Presented by the Arkansas Arts Center, 501 E. 9th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas**  
**September 25, 2009 – July 4, 2010**

This exhibit consists of more than 200 objects and includes a wide range of art and artifacts spanning more than 3,000 years of dynastic history. Significant customs and daily life were selected for their characteristics of one of the world's greatest civilizations.

