



# NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Fall 2008

Vol. 36, No. 2

Marine archaeology and  
the *Mardi Gras* shipwreck-

See page 3.



This ship is a likely match for  
the early 19<sup>th</sup> century  
wreckage of the ship.



A Remotely Operated  
Vehicle (R.O.V.)  
used for the investigation  
and recovery of artifacts from  
the shipwreck.

The wreckage of the  
shipwreck found 4000 ft.  
underwater and 35 miles  
off Louisiana's coast.

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

2008 Louisiana Archaeology Month  
Schedule of Events Inside

# LAS CHAPTER AND MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**Northwest Louisiana Chapter**  
 Claire Davis-President

**Baton Rouge LAS Chapter**  
 Dennis Jones-President

On Sept. 13, the Northeast Chapter planned to visit the Starr Homoplace at Oak Ridge, LA for the Starr Homoplace Community Day where the theme is Native America. The group also hoped to have a caravan tour of archaeological sites on the west bank of the Ouachita River led by Joe Saunders and Recca Jones.

Rob Mann has been able to put together a great line-up of speakers for the BRLAS the past few months. Recent programs have consisted of the following:  
**August-** Jim Delahoussaye of Lafayette, LA, a retired biologist, gave a presentation on faunal remains from the Landerneau Mounds site (16CA87) in Caldwell Parish.  
**July -** Dr. Jack Irton, of the Minerals Management Service (MMS) presented on the marine archaeology of the Gulf of Mexico, including the Mardi Gras shipwreck.  
**June- Ms. Andrea White, Greater New Orleans Program** Archaeologist, gave the BR group a presentation about the remains of one of the earliest military structures in Louisiana and what remains of it.  
**May-** David Palmer, the new SW regional archaeologist spoke about plantation archaeology in Pointe Coupee Parish and other parts of Louisiana.

## Southwest Chapter of LAS

Submitted by Ann Wehner

The Southwest Louisiana Archaeological Society (SW-LAS) continues to meet the third Thursday of each month at the McNeese State University Library, Room C, at 6:30 p.m. In May '08, the group held a joint meeting with the Leesville Group at the War Museum in Deridder, Louisiana, graciously hosted by Mrs. Velmer Smith. The joint meeting was well attended. The two clubs hope to collaborate in the future on other activities. Attendees are pictured below.

## 2009 LAS/MAA Meeting

As proposed and approved during the 2008 LAS meeting in Metairie, there will be a joint meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) and the Mississippi Archaeological Association (MAA). A planning meeting was held on July 18, 2008 at the Interville State Park near Greenville, MS. In attendance were Jessica Crawford, George Riser, Sam Brookes, and Mark Howell.  
 The following schedule was proposed: the dates for the conferences are March 6-8, 2009.

### March 6 (Friday) - Meeting begins at 1 pm with papers or a workshop. Between 4 and 6 pm, there will be executive committee meetings, with each state's representatives meeting in different rooms. An informal dinner or bar gathering will follow.

**March 7 (Saturday) -** Book and crafts tables will be up by 7:30 am. 8 am - the official conference welcome, followed by presentations. Papers continue to 4 pm with lunch and other breaks. Business meetings for each state organization will take place, separately, at 4:30 pm. A dinner-banquet with keynote speaker will begin at 8 pm.

**March 8 (Sunday) -** 9 am guided tour of the Interville Mounds Park and Museum. Additional information will be forthcoming in the next LAS newsletter and eventually at the LAS website.



Left to right: Joe Toups; Billy Jones, Keith Lormand, Rick or Bill Reeves, and Don Worthy



Left to right: Annie Worthy, Scott Wehner, and Michael Kaogh.

## The Mardi Gras Shipwreck

*Editor's note - As a coastal state, with innumerable interior waterways, marine or nautical sites are an important element of Louisiana Archaeology. The so-called Mardi Gras shipwreck is one of the latest examples of this type of archaeology and is the theme for Louisiana Archaeology Month 2008. The cover of this newsletter contains elements of the poster for this event. Below are the introductory paragraphs describing this shipwreck and the archaeological project that investigated it from the website describing it. I urge everyone to check out the website at: <http://www.flpublicarchaeology.org/mardigras/>. This site also has a link to website for Nautilus productions, which produced an incredible video about the archaeological investigation of the shipwreck. The website address for Nautilus is <http://www.nautilusproductions.com/> where there is additional video footage and information about the Mardi Gras shipwreck.*

### Welcome Aboard!

The "Mardi Gras Shipwreck" sank some 200 years ago about 35 miles off the coast of Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico in 4,000 feet (1220 meters) of water. The shipwreck, whose real identity remains a mystery, lay forgotten at the bottom of the sea until an oilfield inspection crew working for the Okeanos Gas Gathering Company (OGGC) discovered it in 2002. The crew was surveying with video cameras mounted on a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) the proposed route of the Mardi Gras Gas Transmission System, the highest capacity deepwater pipeline system ever built. Until further research and study hopefully can identify the name and history of the vessel, it remains known simply as "the Mardi Gras Wreck" after the pipeline where it was found.

In May 2007, an expedition, led by Texas A&M University and funded by OGGC under an agreement with the Minerals Management Service, will be launched to undertake the deepest scientific archaeological excavation ever attempted in order to study the site on the seafloor and recover artifacts for eventual display in the Louisiana State Museum for the benefit of all. You are invited to follow the archaeologists, oceanographers, engineers, students, ROV pilots, and ship's crew as they explore this 200-year old time capsule 4,000 feet beneath the surface of the Gulf of Mexico.



Examples of some of the artifacts recovered from the Mardi Gras shipwreck. The item on the left is a cannon from the ship. The photo on the right shows the interior of an arms chest that has a cache of flintlock pistols showing next to the highlighted crab. These and many more photographs of recovered material are available in color at the website for the wreck:

<http://www.flpublicarchaeology.org/mardigras/>

## Recent Archaeology in New Orleans: St. Antoine's Garden 2008 (16OR443)

By Jason Ramsey and Shannon Lee Dawdy, University of Chicago

From June to July 2008, Shannon Dawdy, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago headed the St. Antoine's Garden Archaeology Project in association with the New Orleans Archdiocese and with financial support from the Getty Foundation. Nine University of Chicago students and over 15 local volunteers assisted with the excavation. The project consisted of archaeological investigations of the garden space between Royal Street and St. Louis Cathedral in the French Quarter. Project members collected phytolith and flotation samples to aid in the reconstruction of diet and planting practices in the space from the French colonial period through to the mid-20th century. Preliminary project highlights include: the earliest architectural structure ever identified in New Orleans (a ca. 1717-1726 simple hut, predating the street grid); a significant amount of aboriginal material culture, particularly a red-painted ware for the moment nicknamed "New Orleans Red;" the original street surface, ditch and banquette of Orleans street which cut through the space before it was converted to a public garden in the 1830s; and numerous small items associated with religious, recreational, and educational activities that took place on the site. The central location of the site also made it a perfect opportunity for project members to engage in public archaeology and interface with locals and tourists.

Photographs of archaeological work done this summer behind St. Louis Cathedral in the French Quarter of New Orleans. Below, a University of Chicago student excavates a brick feature, and the photo to the right shows the garden that composed the project area.



**Evidence of Early Natchitoches Found Under Front Street During DOTD Project**  
 By Elizabeth Davoli-DOTD Environmental Section

Back in 2005, DOTD committed to having archaeologists on-site during construction in downtown Natchitoches, as it is the oldest continually settled community in Louisiana. Before work started, it was hard to imagine just what might be under Front Street.

DOTD began construction in March 2008 to remove the bricks, replace city utilities, lay a new road base, and then relay the original brick surface. As many as possible of the original bricks were used in the reconstruction of the street. So far, three of the six blocks in the project area have been completed.

Archaeological monitoring by Coastal Environments, Inc. began in April. CEI's crew monitored the scraping of the road base, looking for features, or deposits of artifacts that may indicate a feature. Whenever possible, construction stopped in an area while CEI investigated and the crews worked elsewhere. Soil that was scraped while removing the existing road base was screened to look for artifacts. Also, archaeologists shovel tested the exposed area after the existing road base was removed to look for features and to examine areas with high artifact concentrations. When possible, identified features are being recorded and preserved in place.

At the northern end of the project area, near the Natchitoches Visitor's Center, a utility trench was excavated where the stratigraphy revealed several historic archaeological features. One, a brick chainwall, may be associated with an early 19th century house. Artifacts from the area around these features included historic ceramics (creamwares, pearlwares, faience, and coarse earthenwares), bottle fragments, glass seed beads, faunal remains (primarily cow and pig bones), and contact period aboriginal ceramics.

Building foundations dating to the early twentieth century were also uncovered at the northern end while the construction crew scraped the road base. CEI also documented concrete slabs and brick piers. Archival research showed that many of the foundations were related to commercial structures. Additional colonial era artifacts were recovered during excavation and monitoring: French gunflints, trade beads, faience, and coarse earthenwares.

Monitoring and excavation are expected to continue through October 2008 and a session on the Front Street construction in Natchitoches has been planned for DOTD's 2009 Engineering Conference where Thurston Hahn of CEI will be one of the speakers. Papers on the archaeological investigations on Front Street in Natchitoches are also planned for the 2009 Society For Historical Archaeology meeting in Toronto, Canada. *[Check the Louisiana Archaeology Month 2008 schedule in this newsletter or online at <http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/homepage-Editor>]*



**Robin Spain and Nikki Leon of DOTD's Environmental Section screening and recovering artifacts.**



**Portion of the Front St. DOTD project area in Natchitoches, LA.**

south.

## ULL Field School at the Hayes Sugar House (16IB76), Avery Island, Iberia Parish, Louisiana

Dr. Mark A. Rees-University of Louisiana-Lafayette

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette held an archaeology field school at Avery Island in Iberia Parish on June 2 through July 3, 2008. Among the goals of the field school were to locate and identify the remains of a nineteenth-century sugarcane mill known as the Hayes sugar house (16IB76). The site was first visited and recorded by the author in January of 2003 as part of a UL Lafayette field school at a nearby building known as the “old barn” (Rees 2003). Brick fragments thought to be associated with the no longer extant sugar house were recovered at that time. Site 16IB76 was consequently recorded as the Old Barn - Hayes Sugar House.

Avery Island is located between the coastal Chenier Plain and lower Atchafalaya Basin in southwest Iberia Parish. Since 1868 it has been the home of the world famous Tabasco pepper sauce. One of five salt domes in south Louisiana, Avery Island is about two miles across and rises over 150 feet (46 m) above the surrounding marsh. Previous studies have shown that people have been drawn to Avery Island for its incredibly diverse and plentiful resources beginning as early as the Paleoindian period (Babson and Orser 1989; Brown 1999).

African and European Americans came to Avery Island during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Elizabeth Hayes and her five children were among the first to settle there, arriving from Pennsylvania and moving to Avery Island around 1790. As early as 1844, her son, John Hayes, built a sugar mill, which he subsequently operated with the assistance of his nephews. The “Hays Sugar House” is shown on an 1871 map of Petite Anse (Avery) Island compiled by E. W. Hilgard (Figure 1). Before his death in 1869 John Hayes had become a wealthy plantation owner. An 1850 census lists him as owning 375 acres of land, over 500 livestock, 350 gallons of molasses, 200 hogsheads of sugar, and 75 enslaved people (Taylor 1984; Wood 1984).

Daniel Dudley Avery purchased the Hayes sugar plantation on December 23, 1868 (Iberia Parish). Included in this transaction were the “sugar house, with the steam engine, sugar mill, kettles and other fixtures.” Also mentioned was the “old sugar mill on the place,” suggesting the existence of more than one sugar mill and indicating that sugarcane processing had already gone on for some time as of 1868. The Hayes sugar house might have also become obsolete with the expansion of the Avery sugar house after the Civil War. Rock salt mining and the production of pepper sauce surpassed sugar as Avery Island’s

principal export in the decades following the Civil War. Bricks from the Hayes sugar house were salvaged for pavement and other buildings, but were still visible at the site in the 1940s (Clarence “Beb” Barrilleaux personal communication, June 2008). Little else is known about the sugar house, the Hayes plantation, or the people who raised the cane and produced the sugar.

The 2008 field school was designed to identify and investigate buried features or remains associated with the Hayes sugar house, with the support of McIlhenny Company and in collaboration with Shane K. Bernard, McIlhenny Company historian and curator. Our investigations initially focused on areas where higher densities of brick rubble had been identified in excavation units during the 2003 field school, southwest of the “old barn.” Cesium magnetometer surveys were carried out in this area and in a large, vacant field extending to the west, just south of the present-day Tabasco plant. The results of the remote sensing appeared somewhat ambiguous, due in part to power lines and other magnetic interference. Subsurface anomalies could generally be associated with features subsequently discovered and described here.

Clarence “Beb” Barrilleaux, a long-time Avery Island resident, provided decisive information just as the field school began to investigate several apparent anomalies indicated by the magnetometer. Mr. Barrilleaux led the investigators to the remains of a brick foundation, still partially visible just beneath the grass and near a depression from which his father had removed bricks during the 1940s. Mr. Barrilleaux also provided crucial information identifying the “Old Well” (Site 16IB50) as a natural spring over which a brick structure had been built, an interpretation supported by a 1911 map of Avery Island (Shane K. Bernard personal communication, July 2008). The “brick cistern” and a 19<sup>th</sup> century artifact scatter were thought to be potentially associated with the Hayes sugar house (Babson and Orser 1989:34, 146).

Based on this information, the field school focused on the foundation remnant identified by Mr. Barrilleaux, as well as areas in the field south of the Tabasco plant. Just over 22 square meters were excavated, consisting of three separate excavation blocks, four 50-cm wide trenches, and two 30-cm diameter shovel pits. The first excavation block included six 1-by-1 m units placed over the brick foundation remnant pointed out by Mr. Barrilleaux (Figure 2). This feature (08-2) was a large brick footing or pier for structural

Hayes Sugar House (continued)

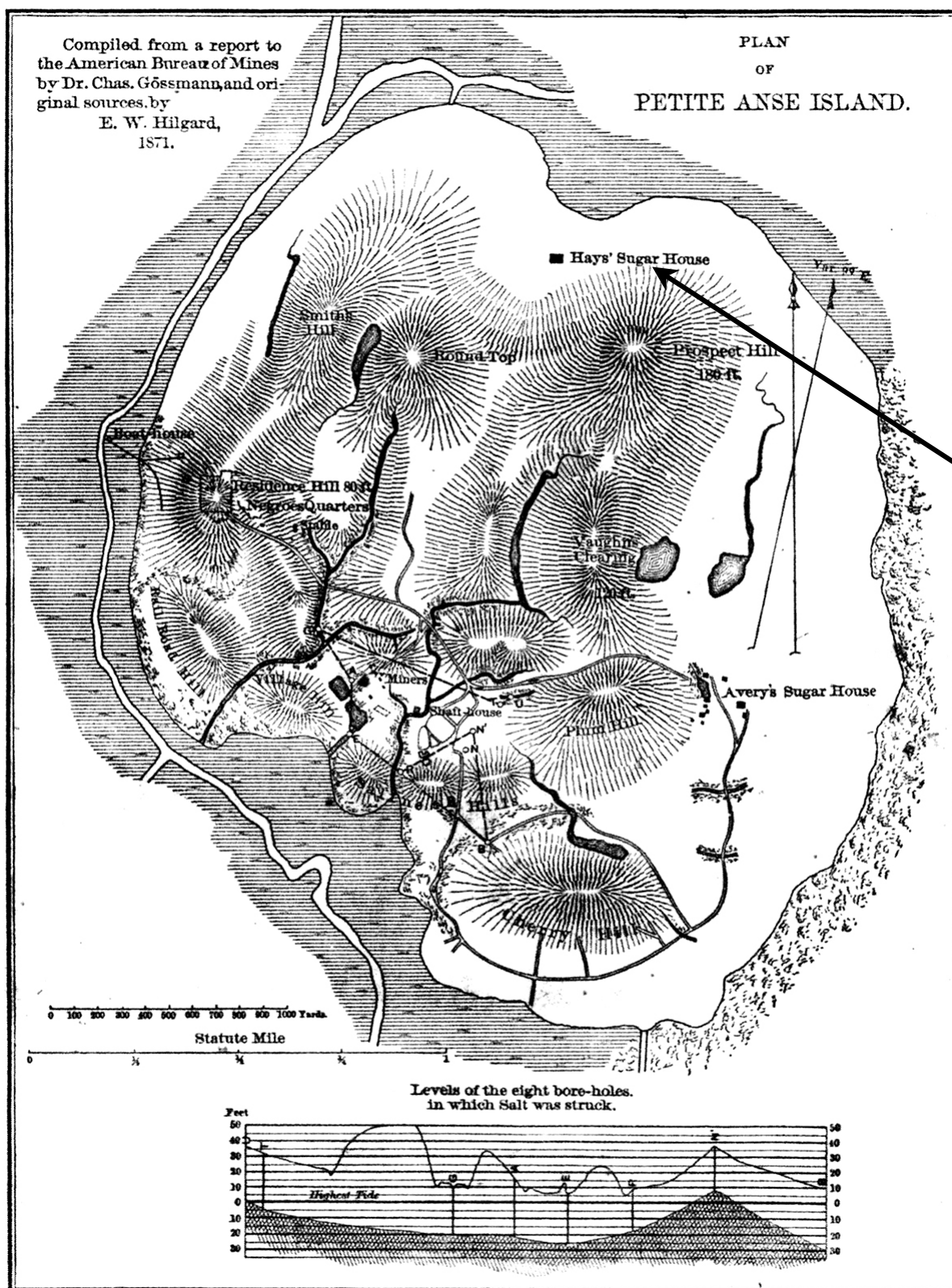


Figure 1. Map of Petite Anse (Avery) Island, by E. W. Hilgard (1871).  
 Courtesy of Shane K. Bernard, McIlhenny Company Archives.

### Hayes Sugar House (continued)

support, which had been built alongside an earlier brick foundation wall. The footing measured over 80 cm by 100 cm and the foundation wall was approximately 40 cm wide. All of the bricks examined in this feature appeared handmade and varied in dimensions. Large concentrations of brick and mortar rubble were encountered; along with machine cut nails and few other artifacts. The scarcity of ceramics and bottle glass right away argued against typical domestic activities of a residential site.

Based on the orientation of the foundation and footing in Feature 08-2 (approximately N 15° E), excavation trenches to the south were laid out at right angles (N 105° E) in hopes of intersecting additional foundation remnants. An additional architectural feature was discovered in one of these four 50-cm wide, 2-m long trenches. This also appeared to be a brick footing, but significantly smaller than Feature 08-2. In addition to large amounts of brick and mortar rubble, two defunct water lines were discovered in the trench excavations. These were unlikely to have been associated with the sugar mill and probably carried water from a reservoir located uphill to the southeast.

A 1-by-2 m block excavated one meter west of Feature 08-2 revealed a deeply-buried brick foundation and/or floor (Feature 08-3) 50 cm to 90 cm beneath the present-day ground surface. Due to the limited horizontal extent of the excavation, it was not possible to confirm whether or not Feature 08-3 had been a cellar floor or wall. Excavation of these two 1-by-1 meter units produced more recent, twentieth century refuse, along with large amounts of animal bone, particularly bird. A low spot, probably left behind after the removal of bricks, had been filled-in during the twentieth century. This may have been done by Mr. Barrilleaux's father, Bing Barrilleaux, who lived in the house next door (Clarence "Beb" Barrilleaux personal communication, June 2008).

What turned out to be one of the most interesting features (08-1) was uncovered while investigating a circular pattern of dry grass (Figure 3). Pieces of brick rubble were visible in this area, north of Feature 08-2. Systematic probing with metal pins suggested a 4.4-m (14 ft) wide ring of dried grass might cover the remains of a large cistern base or small circular building. Feature 08-1 was bisected and the southwest quarter excavated in a 9 m<sup>2</sup> block. An additional, contiguous 1-by-1 m unit was excavated to the south. These excavation units initially exposed concentrations of brick and mortar rubble, with little discernible pattern to confirm a circular cistern base or building. In the central and southernmost units however, excavation revealed linear arrangements of glazed brick, dense concentrations of charcoal, intensely heated plaster or mortar, and burned soil (Figure 3). A 42-inch long by 4

½ -inch wide iron grate, what was probably part of a boiler or furnace, was recovered from the units immediately to the north. Given the evidence for burning and intense heat Feature 08-1 was likely produced by a boiler or "steam engine" like the one mentioned in the 1868 conveyance record.

This investigation produced conclusive evidence for the location of the Hayes sugar house and identified buried features associated with nineteenth-century sugar production. As often happens during field schools, some of the most interesting features were not uncovered until the last few days. The full extent of the features mentioned here could not be fully examined before the field school ended. Five structures associated with the sugar house are shown on an undated map and other informants place buildings in the front yard of the house to the east (Gray Osborn, personal communication with Shane K. Bernard, June 2008). Future investigations might expand on this fieldwork and examine surrounding areas as well as the features identified here.

The field school provided an ideal opportunity for students to learn how to do historical archaeology firsthand, by participating in survey and excavation. On June 27 the field school hosted an "open house" and was visited by archaeologists from the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and Coastal Environments, Inc. in Baton Rouge, along with faculty and students from UL (Figure 4) Lafayette. News of the field school was also featured in *The Daily Iberian* (Martin 2008). Although fieldwork has ended for now, our research on the site has just begun. During the fall semester the artifacts and information collected during the field school will be analyzed and the results described in a technical report. Long-term goals of the project include understanding the Hayes sugar house in the context of Avery Island's unique history and Louisiana's developing sugarcane industry (e.g., Conrad and Lucas 1995; Follett 2005).

### Acknowledgements

This research has been made possible through the continuing support of McIlhenny Company. Paul McIlhenny and Tony Simmons have been generous and most gracious hosts, even treating seven hungry students and their instructor to lunch at the Tabasco Deli. Aimee Butler, Tshy Cross, Rachael Farris, Brooke Howell, Maggie Olivier, Daniel Reed, and Simon Wooster endured the heat and provided the field school labor. Shane K. Bernard, historian and curator with the McIlhenny Company, provided crucial archival information, interviews, insight and expertise. Gray Osborn shared his extensive knowledge of Avery Island history. David Palmer, Southwest Louisiana Regional Archaeologist, joined in the fieldwork and kindly agreed to teach the records course. Joanne Ryan with Coastal Environments, Inc. helped identify the iron grate. Took Osborn and personnel with Avery Island, Inc. relieved us in the end by backfilling the excavation units. Many other residents visited the site and volunteered information and assistance. The author is especially grateful for the assistance of Mr. Clarence "Beb" Barrilleaux. Thanks, Beb! Email for Mark Rees is [rees@louisiana.edu](mailto:rees@louisiana.edu)

## Hayes Sugar House (continued)



Figure 2. Feature 08-2, showing the brick and mortar footing and foundation wall



Figure 3. Feature 08-1, showing area of burned soil, plaster, charcoal, and brick.



Figure 4: Visitors and field school students (left to right): Sherry Wagener, Karen Richardson, Lucinda Freeman, Kellye Cummings, Jill Andrew, David Palmer, Rob Mann, Jim Delahoussaye, Chip McGimsey, Ray Brassieur, Joanne Ryan, Sara Hahn, Tshy Cross, Josh Giffin, Maggie Olivier, Rachael Farris, Simon Wooster, Aimee Butler, Daniel Reed, and Brooke Howell

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### Editor's Corner-Dennis Jones

From where I sit while putting this particular issue of the LAS newsletter together, there is a lot to report. Archaeology Month 2008 is certainly the largest single event to note. You should find a schedule of events inserted in this newsletter for the first Louisiana Archaeology Month that has ever been organized. Most of the organizing for it was done by Ms. Meta Pike of the Division of Archaeology staff, with help from the Regional and Station Archaeologists and others. The emphasis this year on the marine archaeological resources of the state brings forth a component of our state's cultural heritage that doesn't always get the attention it should. The material from the Mardi Gras shipwreck, recovered by some of the most advanced technology available. Is truly spectacular and it will eventually be on display at various Louisiana State Museum facilities.

Another development announced in this newsletter that warrants your special attention is the publication of *Indian Mounds of Northeast Louisiana: A Driving Trail Guide* [see pages 12 & 13]. This brochure will be available at many of the venues for the Louisiana Archaeology Month events, as well as various Welcome and Visitor Centers throughout the state. The achievements of prehistoric Louisiana's residents are very important to the archaeology of North America. The mounds trail is a wonderful way for everyone, visitor or resident, archaeologist or layman, to enjoy and recognize that importance.

# THE FBI NEEDS YOU!



*Editor's note: NAGPRA (The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) is a Federal law passed in 1990. NAGPRA includes provisions for unclaimed and culturally unidentifiable Native American cultural items, intentional and inadvertent discovery of Native American cultural items on Federal and tribal lands, and penalties for noncompliance and illegal trafficking.*

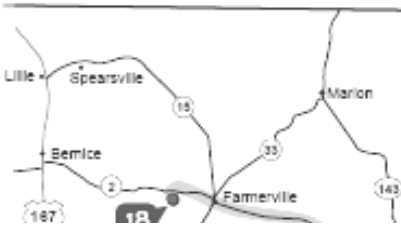
*The main focus of ARPA (Archaeological Resources Protection Act-1979) is on the regulation of legitimate archeological investigations on public lands and the enforcement of penalties against those who loot or vandalize archeological resources.*

Yes, the FBI needs you to help us fight NAGPRA and ARPA violations. The FBI's National Rapid Deployment Art Crime Team, formed in 2004, is coordinated through the FBI's Art Theft Program, located at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Art Crime Team agents receive specialized training in art and cultural property investigations and assist in art-related investigations worldwide in cooperation with foreign law enforcement officials and FBI Legal Attaché offices. The U.S. Department of Justice has assigned three Special Trial Attorneys to the Art Crime Team for prosecutive support. The FBI has also established an online tip line, located at <http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cid/arttheft/arttheft.htm>, where tips can be anonymously submitted.

The Art Crime Team representative for Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Mississippi and Kansas is Special Agent R. Lee Walters of the Little Rock, Arkansas, Division of the FBI. He can be contacted at (501) 221-9100 or via email at [r.walters@ic.fbi.gov](mailto:r.walters@ic.fbi.gov). Agent Walters is interested in hearing from anyone who has knowledge of any possible NAGPRA and ARPA violations.

# Indian Mounds of Northeast Louisiana: A Driving Trail Guide-Now Available!!



To celebrate Louisiana's prehistoric Native American achievements, the Division of Archaeology announces the publication of *Indian Mounds of Northeast Louisiana: A Driving Trail Guide*. The state of Louisiana has placed historical road markers at 46 Indian mound sites in northeast Louisiana. The trail guide provides driving instructions to each of the marked sites, which are organized into four segments.

The establishment of the Mounds Trail required countless hours of work by many individuals. The trail is possible due to the landowners and land managers who have offered to share their mound sites with the public. While most of the mound sites are on private property, three of the sites are located on state property: Poverty Point State Historic Site, Poverty Point Reservoir State Park, and Marksville State Historic Site. The Division of Archaeology encourages everyone to explore and learn about these magnificent earthworks representing over 5,000 years of Native American architecture.

Copies of the brochure are available at the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. Call (225) 342-8170 to obtain them. The brochure is scheduled to eventually be posted on the Louisiana Division of Archaeology's website at <http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology>.

Meta Pike-  
LA Division of Archaeology

*Editor's note: The black & white reproductions of the Mounds Trail brochure on this and the next page do not do justice to the multicolor version of the actual publication.*

## INDIAN MOUNDS OF NORTHEAST LOUISIANA

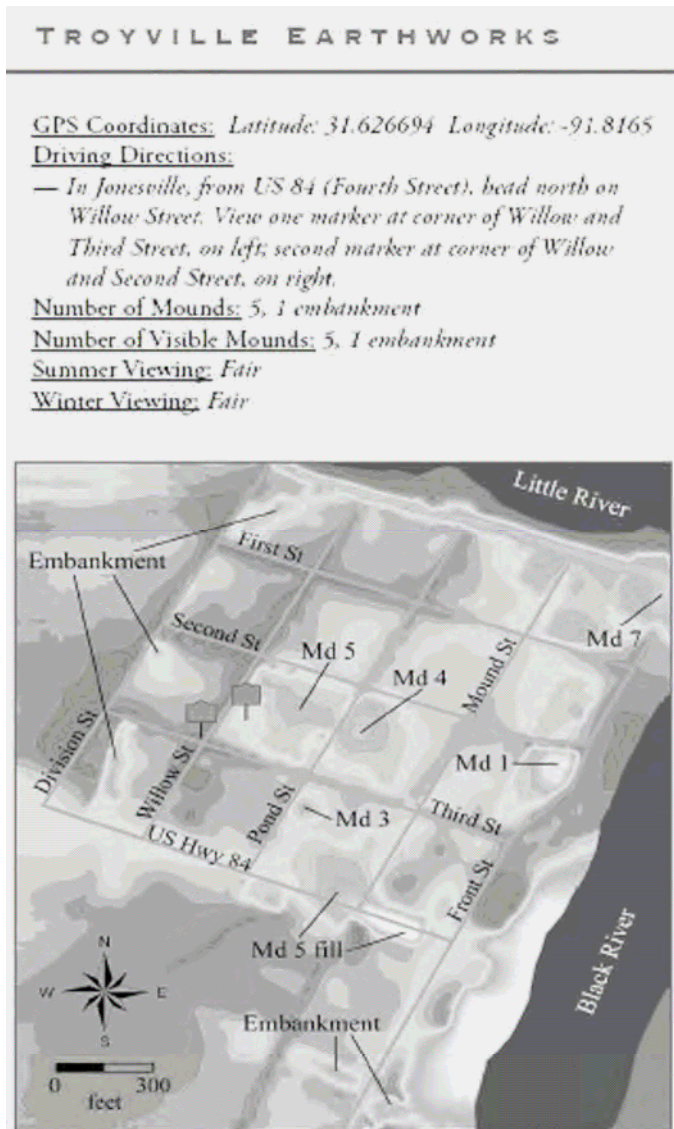
A Driving Trail Guide

**Mound Guide Legend**

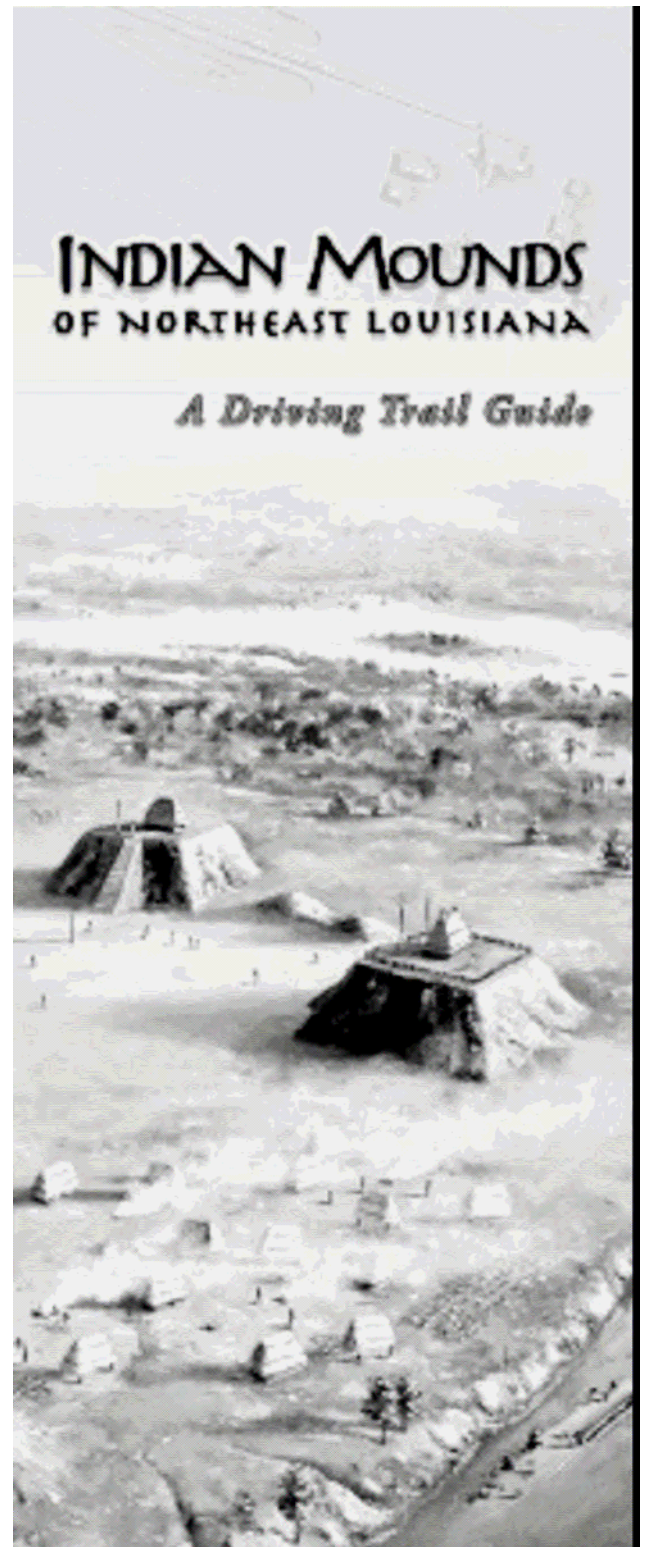
- Ancient Mounds Markers
- Lakes / Rivers
- # Page Number of Public Sites
- # Page Number of Private Sites
- Trail Route
- Connecting Route

Mound	Page	Mound	Page	Mound	Page
Poverty Point Earthworks.....	4	Filhiol Mound.....	19	Churupa Plantation Mound.....	34
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## Indian Mounds of Northeast Louisiana: A Driving Trail Guide-Now Available!!

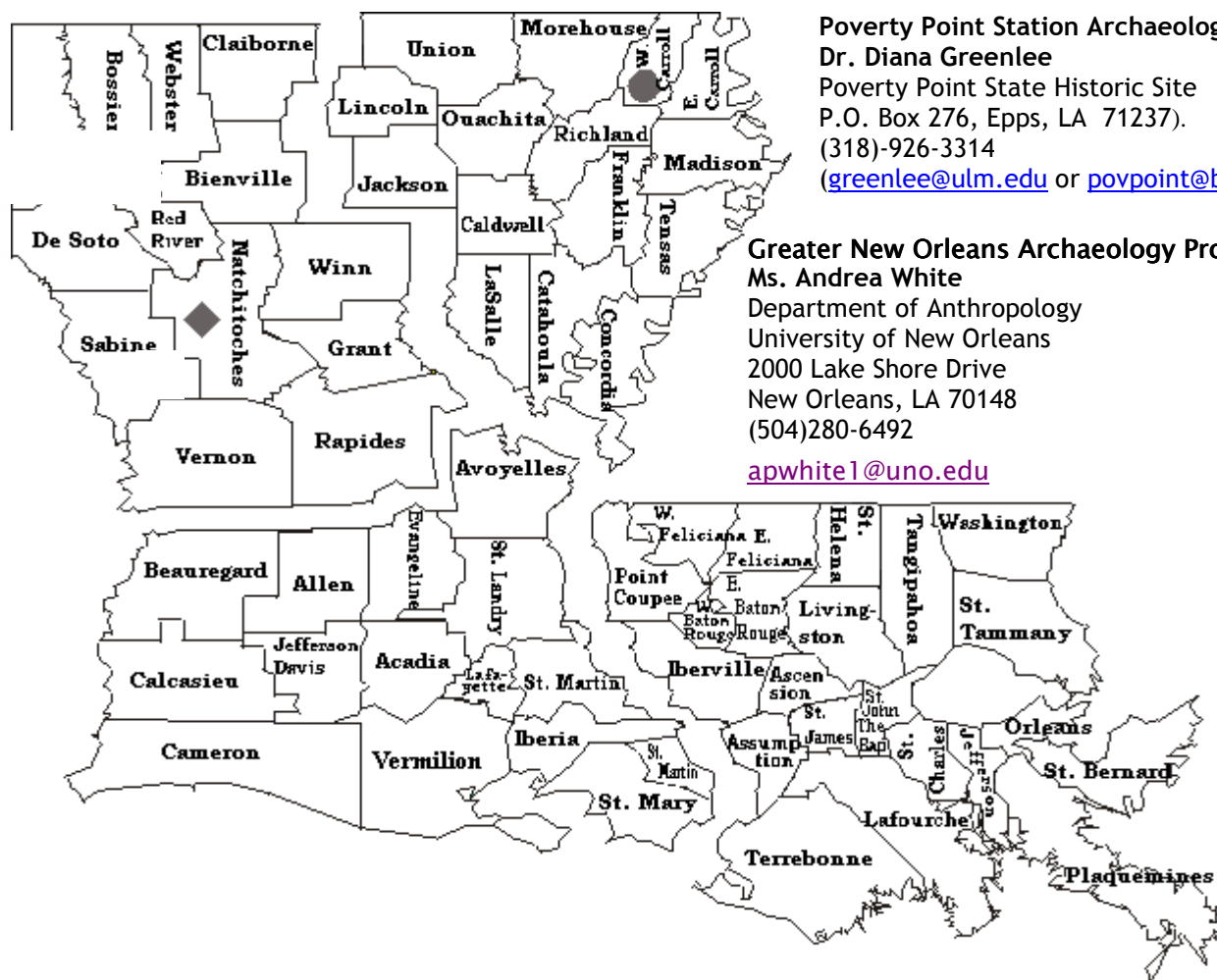


**B**efore it was destroyed for bridge approach fill in 1931, Troyville was one of the most impressive mound groups in North America. The site is at the confluence of the Ouachita, Tensas, and Little Rivers; it contained nine mounds and a perimeter embankment. William Dunbar (of the Hunter-Dunbar expedition sent out by Thomas Jefferson) described the site in its pristine state in 1804. A "Great Mound" (Md. 5), at 82 feet high, was the tallest mound in Louisiana and one of the largest in North America. Eight smaller platform mounds were about 12 feet tall and 150 by 60 feet at the base. The embankment was 10 feet high and 100 feet across. The Great Mound had been reduced to a height of 50 feet by Civil War times, and Smithsonian archaeologist Winslow Walker excavated it in 1931 and 1932. He uncovered woven cane matting, palmetto fronds, and wooden planks within the mound; evidence of the complex engineering used to build this AD 700 mound. Its modest remains are on Willow Street and Second Street. Another mound is visible near Front Street and Second Street, while the embankment can be seen at Willard Street and Front Street. Troyville is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. □



Above is the cover of the Mounds Trail brochure. Left is an example of the page describing each site on the trail. The brochure also contains an informative bibliography for people to use to further investigate Louisiana prehistory. Again, the actual brochure is an impressive multi color publication.

# 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 [povpoint@bayou.com](mailto:povpoint@bayou.com)),

**Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program**  
**Ms. Andrea White**  
 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**  
**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**  
**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)

## Northeast Louisiana Regional Status Report

By Dr. Joe Saunders

Northeast Regional Archaeologist-University of Louisiana-Monroe

Not a great deal to report on during this quarter. There is an active interest by the citizens of Jonesville to construct a scale replica of the "Great Mound" of the Troyville earthworks (16CT7). Mr. Bill Atkins has been working with the Mayor of Jonesville and the Catahoula Parish School Board to secure property where the reproduction can be constructed. Ideally, they plan to use the original mound fill to build the replica. Mr. Atkins has also been in touch with the Jena Choctaw for their council and advice. The proposed location is on Hwy. 84 in Jonesville, next to a building (photo of building on Hwy. 84) that they plan to develop into a museum celebrating the Troyville site and other mound sites along the Ouachita River between Jonesville and Columbia. Mr. Atkins will be presenting a program on the project in the Jonesville Library during Archaeology Month. [See *enclosed Archaeology Month schedule-editor*].

Photographer Mr. Glenn Gore of the Ouachita River Foundation has been photographing mound sites on the Ancient Mounds Trail. He has completed an initial survey of Wade Landing (16CA1), Hogan Landing (16CA14), Alexander Mound (16CT510), Boothe Landing (16CT31), and Harrisonburg Mounds (16CTCT30). He has discontinued the project until the late fall and early winter in order to have better visibility.

Last year, investigations at Hedgepeth Mounds (16LI7) identified four additional mounds and almost doubled the size of the site. About five years ago, the Thomas family (Mrs. Thomas is a Hedge-peth) donated 10 acres, and the two known mounds, to the Archaeological Conservancy. Last month, they agreed to sell 10 acres to the Archaeological Conservancy so that the entire site will be preserved.



**View of Highway 84 looking east toward the Black River Bridge.**

## The Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program Finds Remains of Fort St. Charles

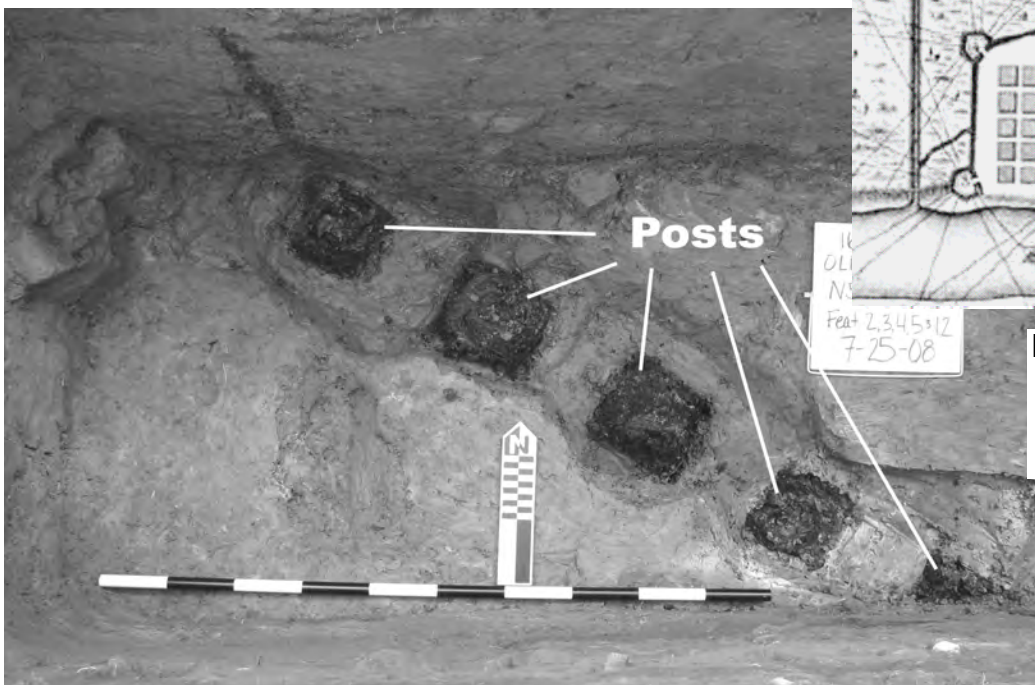
By Andrea White  
University of New Orleans

The Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program housed at The University of New Orleans (UNO), Department of Anthropology, has uncovered what they consider to be portions of the remains of Fort St. Charles located at the site of the Old U.S. Mint (16OR 52) in the French Quarter. Fort St. Charles, also referred to as Fort San Carlos during the Spanish colonial era, was one of five fortifications linked by ramparts and a moat that served as the defensive system for the city of New Orleans during the colonial and early American periods (Figure 1). While there is a fair amount of historic information about the forts, little is known archaeologically about New Orleans' early defense system. Historic documents indicate that the Fort St. Charles structure was the strongest and largest of the five forts and was in the form of a pentagon built of earth, wood, and brick.

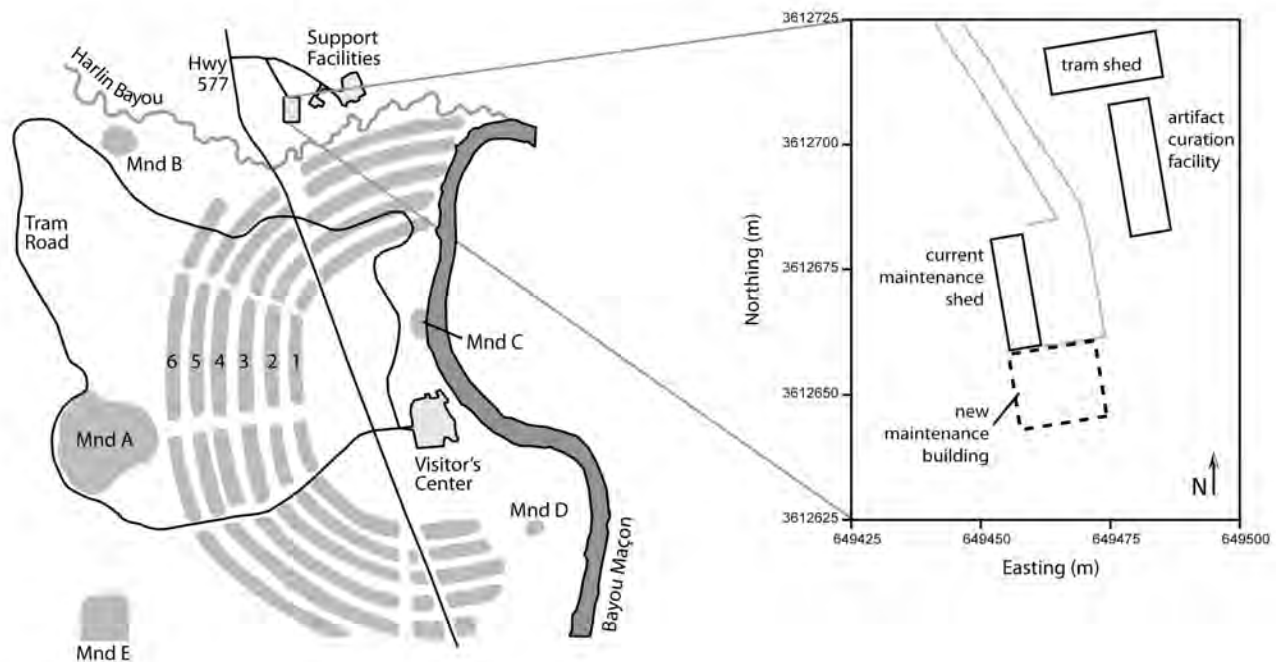
The summer excavation conducted by UNO students and Andrea White, the Greater New Orleans Regional Archaeologist, uncovered several 8-inch squared wooden posts (Figure 2). Evidence indicates that these large, tightly spaced posts probably formed one of the palisade walls of the fort. Two additional architectural features were uncovered running parallel to the wooden posts. The alignment of the wooden posts and other architectural features matches what archaeologists believe the orientation of Fort St. Charles would be based on historic maps and other documentation. Artifacts recovered from the soil of the features include a gunflint, several buttons, broken glass bottles, and ceramic fragments that were manufactured or in use during the known occupation dates of the fort. All of this further supports the hypothesis that the archaeological remains are associated with Fort St. Charles.

The project is being conducted in cooperation with the Louisiana State Museum and is supported by a grant from the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. Although the field work is over, if you are interested with helping in the archaeology lab with the artifacts please notify Andrea White at [apwhite1@uno.edu](mailto:apwhite1@uno.edu)

**Figure 2: Line of posts in excavation unit thought to be part of Fort St. Charles in French Quarter of New Orleans.**



**Figure 1: Fort St. Charles was part of the original defense for colonial New Orleans.**



## Poverty Point Update

Diana M. Greenlee

Poverty Point Station Archaeologist

University of Louisiana - Monroe

Drs. Mike Hargrave and Berle Clay expanded their magnetic gradiometry survey in April to the plaza area east of Highway 577. They found more circular anomalies in the southern sector of the plaza, similar to ones found previously west of Highway 577, but these appear to be larger. They will be returning to Poverty Point for more surface geophysical research 12-14 September 2008. Anybody interested in helping out should contact Diana (phone 318-926-3314 or email [greenlee@ulm.edu](mailto:greenlee@ulm.edu)).

Construction on the new maintenance building for LA Office of State Parks began in June 2008. The work is not yet complete, but relatively few prehistoric artifacts (mostly chert flakes and some tiny steatite fragments) have been recovered and no features have been located as a result of testing prior to construction, monitoring during earthmoving operations or sampling of the impacted sediments. Our understanding is that little in the way of prehistoric cultural activity occurred in this area of the park (north of Harlin Bayou and east of Highway 577) appears to be corroborated.

### SCREEN-A-THON 2008 !

We are planning a screen-a-thon (a screening marathon) for the weekend of 17-19 October 2008 as an Archaeology Month event. We await a decision from Guinness World Records about making this a world record attempt for the longest voluntary continuous archaeological screening marathon. Volunteers will work in 3-hour shifts to screen a big pile of dirt removed in 2006 from Ridge 4 by the LA Department of Transportation and Development. The LA Office of State Parks is making the dormitory at Poverty Point available for participants; please sign up with Diana (318-926-3314; [greenlee@ulm.edu](mailto:greenlee@ulm.edu)) to reserve your space. Additional activities will include watching the Mardi Gras Shipwreck documentary and a guided tour, led by Joe Saunders, of the nearby Mott site (described by Timothy Schilling in *LAS Newsletter* 34[3]:8-12); other activities to be announced shortly. Help us make history, get a lot of dirt screened, possibly recovering important artifacts, and have some fun in the process!

## A Historical and Archaeological Enigma in Pointe Coupee Parish: The Museum Site (16PC65).

Rob Mann, Southeast Regional Archaeologist

In November 2006 Mrs. Topyy Haag contacted me concerning artifacts eroding out of the bank of False River, behind the Pointe Coupee Parish Museum (16PC65). The bank had recently been cleared of vegetation, resulting in greater surface visibility. I visited the site twice in November 2006 and conducted a surface survey of the steep bank of False River behind the Museum building. As a result of this survey I conducted limited test excavations on the top of the natural levee overlooking False River, north of the Museum building (Figure 1).

The Pointe Coupee Museum is housed in a building built in a French vernacular architectural style known as *pièce-sur-pièce*, (log on log; literally, piece on piece) which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. This architectural style utilized hewn timbers or planks placed horizontally between vertical posts. The horizontal timbers were fitted with a tongue or tenon on each end. The tenons were slotted into grooves (*coulisse*) cut the length of the vertical posts, a method of tongue and groove retention called *en coulisse* (Edwards and Kariouk Pequet du Bellay de Verton 2004:167; Moogk 1977:30; Richardson 1973). In French colonial Louisiana, however, *pièce-sur-pièce* construction seems not to have been commonly used for housing (Edwards and Kariouk Pequet du Bellay de Verton 2004:167; Hahn 2005; Maygarden 2006:226; Wells 1973), making the Pointe Coupee Museum building somewhat of an enigma. Its potential association with French Canadians and the fur trade is intriguing. The core of the Museum building is thought to date to ca. 1800 (additions were made around 1840 and in the 1970s) and it could certainly be associated with the French Canadians who are known to have been part of the French colonial settlement at the Pointe Coupée coast (Mann 2008b).

It appears that the Museum structure has been moved from its original building site to its current location. In fact, it is possible that it has been moved more than once. Pointe Coupee historian Brian Costello has conducted oral history interviews with several elderly residents of Pointe Coupee Parish. One informant related to Mr. Costello that it has been moved at least twice, once from across the road (LA 1) to the bank of False River and was then setback further on the bank when LA 1 was improved sometime in the early twentieth century (Costello pers. comm., 2006). Previous archaeological investigations at the Museum seem to confirm that the building is not sitting on its original site. Chris Hays (1996:25-26) recorded the site in 1996 when he visited the Museum to examine artifacts from beneath the building, which was temporarily raised off the ground while the foundation was being repaired. Hays (1996:26) concluded that the artifacts dated from ca. 1850 to 1950, with no earlier artifacts. This suggested to him that the house had been moved to its present location sometime after 1850.

I was aware of Hays' investigation at the site and I did not anticipate finding artifacts that would predate the

early twentieth century. I was therefore surprised and somewhat baffled when I began finding diagnostic artifacts that certainly dated to the late 18th century and early 19th century. When I arrived at the site, visibility on the steep slope of the False River bank was excellent (Figure 1). During my initial survey I collected several sherds of creamware and pearlware as well as white clay pipe stem and bowl fragments. In addition to these Euro-American artifacts I also recovered several aboriginal pottery sherds, many of which were shell tempered. During subsequent surveys of the sloped area, I found several tin-enameled earthenware sherds, including French faience. There was also an abundance of olive green and other varieties of vessel glass. The early material seemed to be eroding out of the top of the bank and washing down the slope, suggesting that the original deposit remains buried on the top of the natural levee and that at least part of the deposit remains intact.

The aboriginal pottery was most unexpected, because it is not well documented around False River (Richard Weinstein pers. comm., 2006). A total of 31 surface sherds were collected, with at least three types of aboriginal pottery found. Some were classified as either Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* or Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*; Bell Plain, *var. unspecified*; and Old Town Red, *var. Rapides* or Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village* (Figure 2). The latter two types are particularly important since they are thought to be diagnostic of the historic period (e.g., Brain 1988; Hunter 1985; Waselkov and Gums 2000:130-131) and in association with Euro-American ceramics, including French faience. The faience surface styles are typical on sites in French *Louisiane* after ca. 1720, with some more common in contexts between 1760 and 1800 (Waselkov and Gums 2000:137-140). The only type of *faïence blanche* recovered from the surface was Normandy Blue on White, represented by a single rim sherd (Figure 3b). Types of *faïence brune* recovered from the surface include Rouen Plain and a rim sherd of Rouen Polychrome, possibly exhibiting what Waselkov and Walthall (2002) designate as Rim variety H (Figure 3a).

The clear association of historic aboriginal pottery and colonial/post-colonial Euro-American ceramics, prompted me to undertake subsurface investigations at the site. Lucinda Freeman, Buck Tucker, and Stu Braud assisted me. A grid was established over the yard area of the Museum building and we laid out five 1 m x .50 m units (Units 1-5) in the configuration of an east-west oriented trench measuring 5 m x .50 m (Figure 1). Unit 1 was eventually expanded to the south resulting in the excavation of a sixth 1 m x .50 m unit (Unit 6). The NE corner of each unit served as the unit designation and unit datum. Given the site's possible association with historic Native Americans and/or the Indian trade, all soils were water screened through 1/16<sup>th</sup> inch window screen mesh in hopes of recovering small items often associated with colonial period sites such as glass beads or lead shot. As expected, there was a fairly well developed plow zone (Ap) that was removed in each unit. Linear soil stains (oriented roughly north-south) were delineated at the base of Level 1 in all six units. Most of these are clearly plow scars, but two (in Units 1 and 6, and Units 3 and 5) are a bit more ambiguous and may represent trench features. Due to time constraints the possible features were not excavated and further testing

## Pointe Coupee Museum (Continued)

will be necessary to determine the nature of these linear stains.

We recovered 914 artifacts from the excavations, including many of the same types of artifacts recovered from the surface of the sloped bank. In particular, we recovered late eighteenth/early nineteenth-century British-made ceramics such as creamware, pearlware from every unit but relatively few pieces of later nineteenth century ceramic types such as whiteware or ironstone. We also recovered specimens of tin-enameled earthenware, most of which is likely French faïence—including Rouen-style *faïence brune* (Rouen Plain) and Moustier-style *faïence blanche* (Marseille Monochrome—a rouge or ointment pot rim). In addition, we also recovered a few sherds of Saintonge-style and Provence-style French coarse earthenwares. Our excavations also produced further evidence of historic period Native American pottery, including plain wares such as Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* and Bell Plain, *var. unspecified*, as well as more red slipped (or filmed) wares that have been classified as either Old Town Red, *var. Rapides* or Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village*. Unfortunately, the water screening methodology did not result in the recovery of an abundance of diagnostic artifacts that could have shed additional light on the nature of the site. For example, only one glass bead was recovered, a small (3.6mm diameter) Type IIA seed bead (Kidd and Kidd 1970). We did

recover some small artifact types that may have otherwise been missed, such as white clay smoking pipe fragments. The rest of the assemblage is equally enigmatic: relatively few nails and not much flat glass, which might be suggestive of a substantial Euro-American style building. However, a few pieces of fired clay with possible wood grain impressions may be *bousillage*—a mud and moss chinking used in many styles of French folk housing, including *pièce-sur-pièce*. Of course, the fired clay could also represent daub used in the wattle and daub construction of many aboriginal structures. In fact, one possibility is that this site represents a short-term Native American camp/village. Other categories of material culture, though, seem under represented if that is the case. Faunal remains, for example, are present, but not in the quantities that might be expected. Of course, this could be a function of preservation and/or sampling rather than absolute absence.

In conclusion, the Pointe Coupee Museum site (16PC65) appears to be the location of a late eighteenth-through early nineteenth-century occupation. At present, however, the identity of the site occupants remains unknown, as does the association between the late eighteenth-century or early nineteenth-century *pièce-sur-pièce* structure (the Museum building) currently located on the site and the material culture recovered from the site surface and subsurface.

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Pointe Coupee Parish Museum (continued)



Figure 1: Photograph of the Pointe Coupee Parish Museum with the area of the excavation units in the foreground.

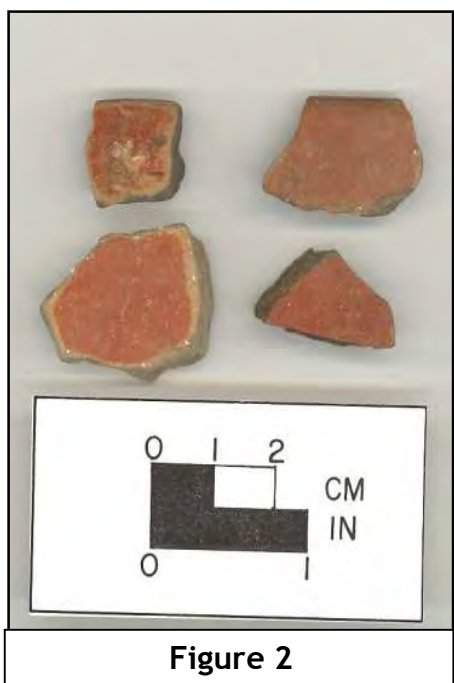


Figure 2  
Aboriginal Pottery

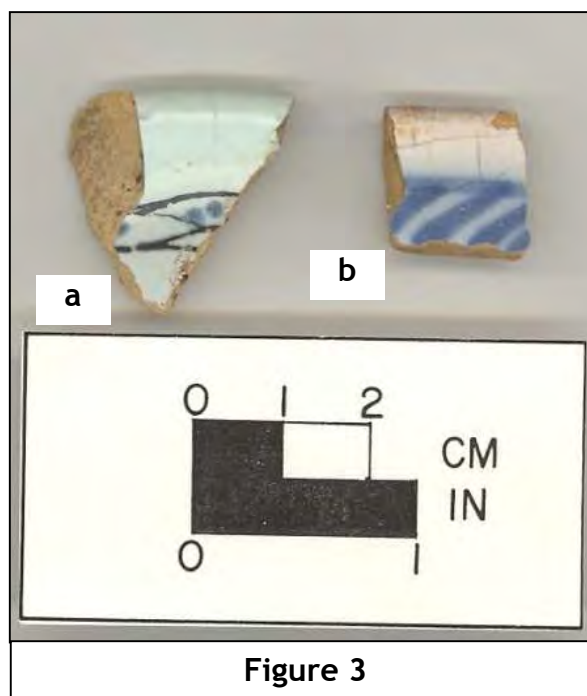
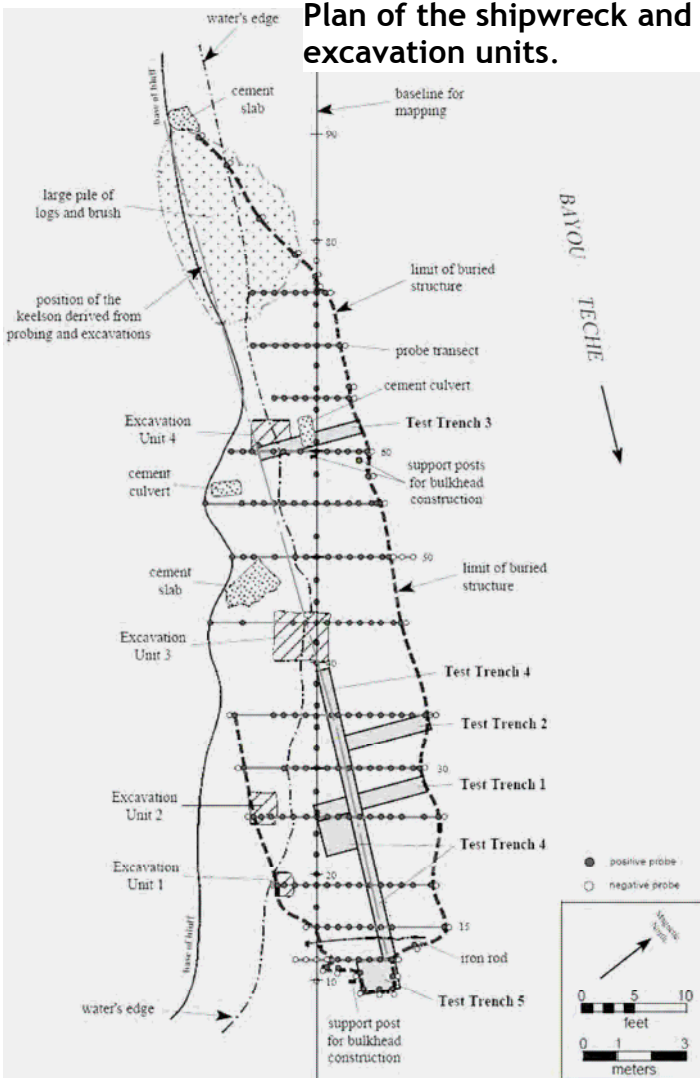


Figure 3  
Faience Pottery

**Plan of the shipwreck and excavation units.**



**The New Iberia Shipwreck - Now on the National Register**

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

On Thursday, 14 August 2008, Dr. David Palmer, regional archaeologist for Southwest Louisiana, of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at UL Lafayette, succeeded in getting the New Iberia Shipwreck (16IB80) accepted at the state level for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The New Iberia Shipwreck is the remains of a 19th century western river steamboat sunk in Bayou Teche in the city of New Iberia. Dr. Palmer prepared the nomination for the vessel, which is partly owned by New Iberia architect Mr. Paul Allain. Mr. Allain called upon cultural resources consultants Coastal Environments, Inc. (CEI), to have the remains of the vessel scientifically investigated after they were accidentally exposed during construction work in 2005.

The New Iberia shipwreck is considered to be historically significant because it is a rare surviving example of a shallow draft, western river steamboat. This type of vessel played a critical role in transporting goods and people throughout the southwestern region of Louisiana during the 19th and early 20th centuries, and the approval of the nomination by the state committee is recognition of this historical, economic, and cultural significance. Mr. Allain plans to protect and preserve the remains of the vessel in place, and to develop an interpretive exhibit to share information gained through investigation of the vessel.

The New Iberia Shipwreck (16IB80) was investigated by a team from Coastal Environments, Inc. led by Dr. Charles Pearson, Mr. Alan Saltus, and Ms. Becky Owens. Their report, *Cultural Resources Testing, Mapping, and Determination of Historical Significance of the New Iberia Shipwreck (16IB80), Iberia Parish, Louisiana*, was performed under a contract with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.



**Underwater archaeologists Charlie Pearson (on right) and Allen Saltus during their work at the New Iberia shipwreck in Bayou Teche.**

## Archaeology in Northwest Louisiana

By Jeff Girard- Regional Archaeologist,  
Northwestern State University of Louisiana

The Mounds Plantation site (16CD12) is the largest Caddo ceremonial center in Louisiana. Most of our information about the site comes from work conducted in the early 1960s in Mounds 3 and 5 (Webb and McKinney 1975). In January 2007, we conducted an archaeogeophysical survey of several portions of the site and identified areas where anomalies suggested the existence of prehistoric features (Lockhart and Girard 2007). In the winter of 2007-2008, we excavated two test pits (Four 1 x 1 m units in all) near Mound 2 in areas where anomalies were recorded using electrical resistivity. Members of the Northwest Chapter of the LAS assisted in the work.

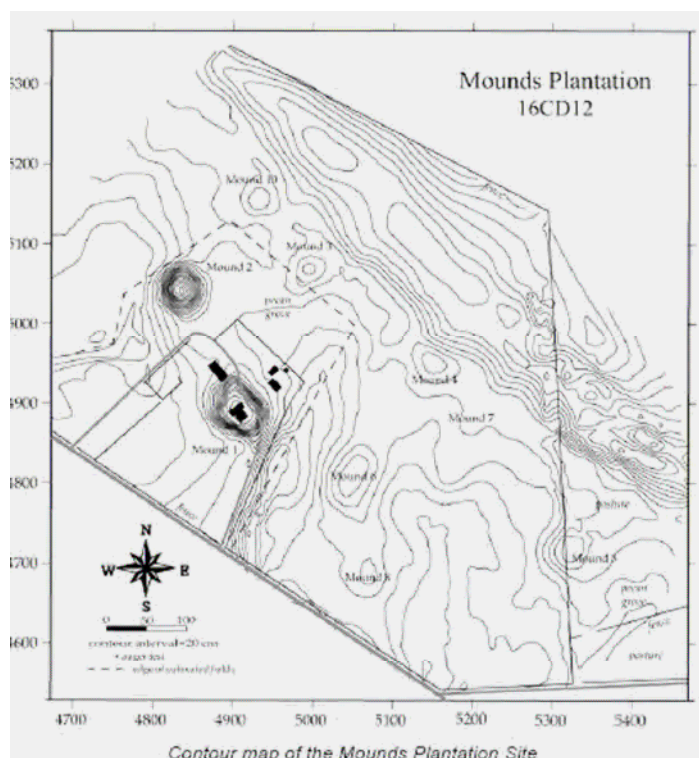
In Test Pit 1, the upper 20 cm consisted of sediments washed, or pushed off the top of the mound. Most recovered artifacts relate to an early 20<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse formerly situated at the mound summit. A 20 cm thick stratum of clay was present beneath these sediments. A buried soil containing only prehistoric materials was encountered approximately 40 cm below the present surface. The only cultural feature identified was a burned posthole. Based on the recovered pottery, we anticipated that the posthole might date before A.D. 1000, and might relate to an occupation that pre-dated construction of the mound and plaza. This does not appear to be the case, however, as charcoal from the feature yielded an age of 930 +/- 25 B.P. (UGA 3264; wood charcoal; [2 sigma, cal A.D. 1030-1160]). In test pit 2, no features were found and we recovered only four undecorated sherds and a few chert flakes, suggesting that this portion of the plaza was kept free of occupation debris.

Additional investigations in this area will help to clarify the timing and nature of occupations at Mounds Plantation, a key site for understanding Caddo cultural during the Early Caddo period (ca. A.D. 900-1200).

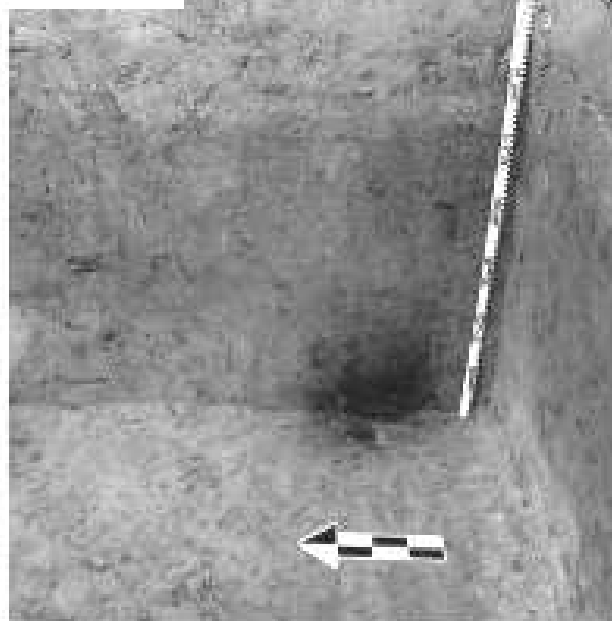
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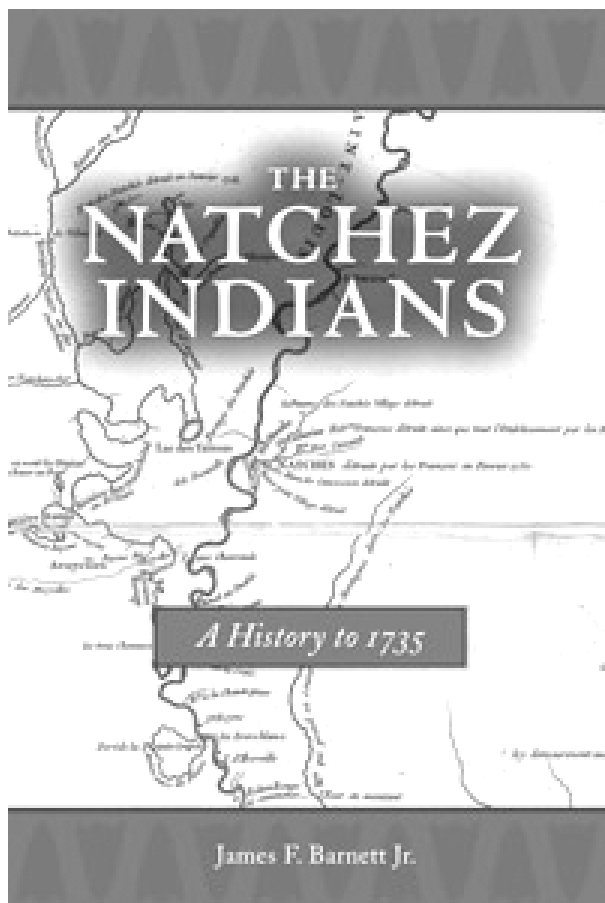
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**Burned posthole in southeast corner of Test Unit 1**





*The Natchez Indians: A History to 1735* is the story of the Natchez Indians as revealed through accounts of Spanish, English, and French explorers, missionaries, soldiers, and colonists, and in the archaeological record. Because of their strategic location on the Mississippi River, the Natchez Indians played a crucial part in the European struggle for control of the Lower Mississippi Valley. The book begins with the brief confrontation between the Hernando de Soto expedition and the powerful Quigualtam chiefdom, presumed ancestors of the Natchez. In the late seventeenth century René-Robert Cavalier de La Salle's expedition met the Natchez and initiated sustained European encroachment, exposing the tribe to sickness and the dangers of the Indian slave trade.

*The Natchez Indians* portrays the way that the Natchez coped with a rapidly changing world, became entangled with the political ambitions of two European superpowers, France and England, and eventually disappeared as a people. The author examines the shifting relationships among the tribe's settlement districts and the settlement districts' relationships with neighboring tribes and with the Europeans. The establishment of a French fort and burgeoning agricultural colony in their midst signaled the beginning of the end for the Natchez people. Barnett has written the most complete and detailed history of the Natchez to date.

James F. Barnett Jr. is the director of the Division of Historic Properties, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. He has published articles in *Journal of Mississippi History*, *Mississippi Archaeology*, *Southern Quarterly*, and other journals.

-Liner notes from the 2007 edition published by the University Press of Mississippi.

To the right is the cover for *San Patrice Technology and Mobility across the Plains-Woodland Border* by Thomas A. Jennings. This 70-page monograph is a 2008 publication by the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma. It describes the point's archaeological history (named after Bayou San Patricio in NW Louisiana) and the distribution of this unique Paleoindian projectile point, the significance of which was originally recognized by Dr. Clarence Webb. This work is not only a comprehensive account of just about everything that is known about the San Patrice point, it also contains a large array of some of the best color photographs of projectile points I've ever seen in an archaeological publication. Jennings also notes the importance of the recovery of San Patrice points for well stratified deposits at the Big Eddy site in SW Missouri that provided dates of 9800 to 10,500 years BP, thereby extending the distribution of this point type hundreds of miles to the north of its original "home" area.

-Dennis Jones

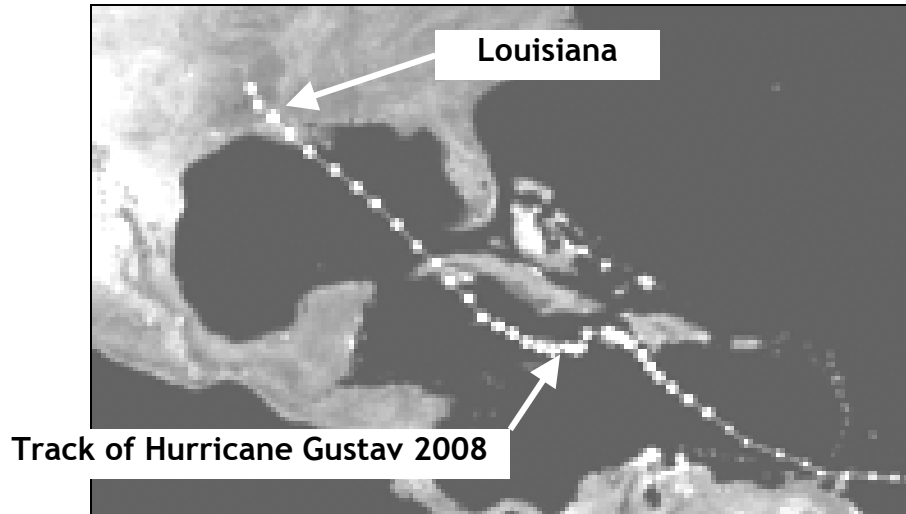
### San Patrice Technology and Mobility across the Plains-Woodland Border

Thomas A. Jennings



Memoir 12  
Oklahoma Anthropological Society

R.E. Bell Monographs in Anthropology No. 5  
Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History



*As no doubt everyone knows, Hurricane Gustav made landfall in Louisiana on September 1, 2008. This strong Category 2 storm impacted much of Louisiana's citizens and infrastructure, as well as archaeological sites. Chip McGimsey and myself met Doyle Jennings, the supervisor of the Marksville State Historical Site, on Friday, September 5, to have a first-hand look at what Gustav had done to the site that was built and occupied around 2000 years ago. There were numerous tree falls throughout the park, but fortunately none had seriously damaged the museum or other park structures. Several tree falls had exposed midden areas and uprooted some relatively shallow portions of the mounds and earthworks. A more thorough assessment of the damage is planned after fallen trees are removed and salvage excavations can be conducted around the disturbed areas. Dr. Diana Greenlee reports that Gustav's winds and rain mostly spared the Poverty Point site and did not inflict any significant damage. As of mid September, the Louisiana Office of State Parks and other state agencies are in the beginning stages of evaluating the storm's impact on state property - Dennis Jones.*



The photo to the left shows the fall of the Thomas Boyd live oak in the formal gardens of the State Capitol in Baton Rouge. Hurricane Gustav uprooted this 250+ year-old tree. In the photo above, state archaeologist Chip McGimsey (left) and site manager Doyle Jennings inspect the area around a tree at the Marksville site in Avoyelles Parish that was also toppled by the storm.

# Official Business

## Louisiana Archaeological Society 2008 General Business Meeting Metairie, LA, Saturday, February 9, 2008

Ellen Ibert called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

**Minutes:** Due to the transition of the Secretary position no meeting minutes were available for approval.

### Announcements:

George Riser became the new President of the LAS for the next two-year term.

Josetta LeBoeuf awarded Maureen Downey a plaque for her many years of service as Secretary on behalf of the entire LAS.

A special thanks was given to R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, LLC for all of their help to the LAS in printing out the newsletter by Dennis Jones on behalf of the entire LAS.

LAS gave a special thanks to the Division of Archaeology.

Dennis Jones is the new President of the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy.

Chip McGimsey announced that the silent auction would end at 5:15 pm.

UPPA is planning a gathering in April. Please contact John Guy or Josetta LeBoeuf.

After six years of service, Josetta LeBoeuf announced her resignation as the Treasurer. She indicated that she was willing to stay on through the summer until a replacement can be found. She also indicated that she would like to be considered for a member at large position. 9/08

Mississippi Archaeological Association (MAA) will be held at Percy Quinn State Park February 22-24, 2008.

Dena Struchtemeyer was the winner of Marie Standifer Award.

Lindsey Caldwell was the winner of the Student Paper Award.

### New Business:

Velicia Bergstrom was elected the new Vice-President of the LAS.

George Riser has continued to discuss the possibility of a joint meeting between the LAS MAA with Sam Brooks and Jessica Crawford. It has been proposed that we try a two-year trial period and see how the joint meeting works out. The 2009 joint meeting would be held at the Winterville

Mounds site in Greenville, Mississippi. Rich Weinstein thought that a joint meeting would require two days of paper session to accommodate all the presenters. Several LAS members agreed that the format would have to be two days. It was agreed that the details would still have to be worked out.

George Riser made a motion to try having a joint LAS/MAA meeting. David Jeanne seconded the motion. There were 22 votes in favor and no opposition votes.

The Executive Committee will need names and suggestions of a possible replacement for the Treasurer.

### Reports:

**President:** Ellen Ibert gave a general statement about the changes to the Executive Committee.

**Vice President:** No VP Report

**Secretary:** No Secretary Report.

**Treasurer & Membership:** Josetta LeBoeuf announced her resignation. As of December 31, 2007 the LAS checking account balance is \$10,267.57. The LAS savings account balance is 9,272.02. Current membership is at 230. There are five new institution members and twenty-two new regular members. The Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy (LAC) would like a copy of the LAS membership list. This motion passed at the Executive Committee Meeting.

**Website:** Junior Doughty was unable to attend. Josetta LeBoeuf reported on his behalf. The website is receiving an average of 120 hits per day. The website is currently only using 1/800th of our bandwidth capacity. Dennis Jones is providing a PDF of the newsletter to be posted at the site.

**Bulletin:** Chip McGimsey stated that there are time constraints on his schedule due to his position as State Archaeologist. He has been bulletin editor for four years and during his tenure there have been only two submissions. Nathaniel Heller is working on a volume for the Discovery Site, 16LF66. No time period for when the next bulletin will be published. The Petite Anse manuscript is still in draft.

Chip McGimsey suggested that we encourage non-professional and graduate students to submit more items for the bulletin. He suggested that many of the papers presented at the 2008 LAS Annual Meeting could be used for articles.

## LAS General Business Meeting 2/9/08 (continued)

**Newsletter:** Dennis Jones asked that he be notified if someone is not receiving the newsletter. The Regional Archaeologists have done a great job of submitting new items. He requested that other members submit items for the newsletter.

### Chapter Reports

**Baton Rouge Chapter:** Dennis reported that they were averaging 12 people per meeting. Rob Mann and Dennis Jones are working on speakers and activities for the meetings. The meeting is held the last Wednesday of every month at the Bluebonnet Library. Stephanie Perrault is the treasurer.

**Central Louisiana Chapter:** Nancy Affeltranger reported that they have had good speakers at their meetings. The chapter has helped Jeff Girard with his excavations. The chapter needs to recruit new members. Josetta has agreed to send the existing membership list as soon Nancy Affeltranger gets her the zip codes for the chapter area.

**Delta Chapter:** Rogers Serpas reported that the chapter has 27 members. They meet the last Thursday of every month on the UNO Campus in the Science Bldg. Room 101. They have 14 lifetime members. The need to hold elections for officers. The nominating committee is meeting in August. The nominees will be announced at the September meetings and elections will be held in October. The last election was held in 2004. They owe non-profit dues from last year. They have \$5,200 in the treasury.

**Northeast Chapter:** No representative in attendance.

**Northwest Chapter:** There are currently 30 people attending the meetings. They have a group of dynamic officers and the local NPR affiliate radio station has been announcing their meetings. The Chapter meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month in Shreveport.

**Southwest Chapter:** Scott Wehner reported that they have between 15-18 members. He reported that there is a large prehistoric midden at the Port of Lake Charles. They are looking for a grant to protect the site. Possibility that LAC can help with the preservation of the site.

**West Louisiana Chapter:** John Guy reported that the chapter meets on the third Thursday of the month except October and November. He also mentioned that Dustin Fuqua is starting a project at Peason Ridge. This is an old sawmill town in Natchitoches and if anyone is interested please let John know. John Guy mentioned that he is the new president of the West Chapter and that he is currently a member-at-large.

### Adjournment:

John Guy made a motion to adjourn and Velicia Bergstrom seconded with a unanimous passing.

### Louisiana Archaeological Society Executive Committee Meeting Pineville, LA - Saturday, June 14, 2008

#### Attendees:

1. Rachel Watson - Secretary
2. Reca Jones
3. Josetta LeBoeuf - Treasurer
4. Chip McGimsey - Bulletin Editor
5. Scott Wehner - SW Chapter
6. Ann Wehner
7. Johnny Guy
8. George Riser - President
9. Dennis Jones - Newsletter Editor
10. Margarete Cheramie
11. Nancy Affeltranger
12. John Kosko
13. Ellen Ibert
14. Velicia Bergstrom

George Riser called the meeting to order at 12:12 p.m.

**Minutes:** Chip McGimsey made a motion, seconded by Josetta LeBoeuf to accept the Executive Board Meeting minutes from February 8, 2008. The motion passed unanimously. Josetta LeBoeuf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Jones to accept the Business Meeting minutes from February 9, 2008.

#### Reports

**President:** The joint LAS/MAA meeting will be held at the Winterville Mounds site outside of Greenville, Mississippi. The meeting will be held in February at a date and time to be determined. George Riser is meeting with MAA to work on the details.

**Vice President:** No Report.

**Secretary:** Nothing to report.

**LAS Exec. Comm. Meeting 6/14/08 (continued)**

**Treasurer & Membership:** LAS had not received the savings statement at the time of the meeting. The checking account balance \$10,008.24. George Riser needs to be added to the online banking account. Josetta LeBoeuf suggested that another member be added to the PayPal account. There have been a few renewals. Membership is down in all categories, with a current total of 192, 30 less than 2007.

**Website:** Junior Doughty was unable to attend. Recca Jones reported on his behalf. The website is receiving an average of 102 hits per day. Website is still using very little of out the allotted bandwidth in spite of posted the Newsletters on the website. Newsletter Vol. 34#3 is averaging 42 hits per week. Newsletter Vol. 35#3 is averaging five hits per week. Junior recommends we add a new newsletter.

**Bulletin:** Chip McGimsey reported four articles have been submitted and are under various stages of review. Rick Shenkel has written a manuscript about Big Oak and Little Oak Island. Jon Gibson has a copy of the manuscript. Chip McGimsey suggested that we publish this manuscript. He suggested Jon Gibson and Bob Neuman as co-editors of the volume.

**Newsletter:** Dennis Jones reported the next issue should be out in September. Archaeology Month will be covered in the next newsletter along with Meta Pike's information. The Mardi Gras shipwreck will be the focus of the poster. Denis Jones suggested adding in a page about LAC in the LAS newsletter. Denis Jones also suggested adding an explanation of the LAC grants.

Johnny Guy made a motion to add the LAC information in the LAS newsletter. Ellen Ibert seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Chapter Reports**

**Baton Rouge Chapter:** The meeting is held the last Wednesday of every month at the Bluebonnet Library. David Palmer was the last speaker. Andrea White will be the speaker in June. Jack Irion will be the speaker in July. The chapter is averaging 12 members attending per month. Rob Mann is the program chair. Meeting notice is sent by email.

**Central Louisiana Chapter:** Nancy Affletranger reported that the chapter still meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month. David Palmer was their most recent speaker.

**Delta Chapter:** George Riser reported that the chapter had met and would hold elections for new officers. Juana Ibanez and Andrea White have been active in re-organizing the chapter.

**Northeast Chapter:** Recca Jones reported that the chapter was struggling. They still met on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month.

**Southwest Chapter:** Scott Wehner reported that the chapter had been holding joint meeting with the West Louisiana chapter and that this had been very successful. David Palmer was the Speaker in April. Thelma Smith with the War Room Museum was the speaker in May. Over 25 people had attended the talks. The chapter meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month.

**West Louisiana Chapter:** Johnny Guy reported that the chapter meets on the third Thursday of the month. He reported that the Southwest Chapter and West Chapter were planning to have a quarterly meeting at Fort Polk in August. He further reported that Jeff Girard was lined up as the speaker for August and they would like to have David Palmer speak at the next meeting.

**Northwest Chapter:** No representative in attendance.

**Old Business**

Ellen Ibert brought the VHS tapes to the meeting to transfer to the Division of Archaeology. Ellen made a motion that a copy, not the original be used to make the DVD. There was some discussion about the quality of making a copy from a copy versus a copy from the original. Ellen amended her motion that we still use the copy, however we form a committee to ensure the quality. The DVD would be reviewed at the next LAS executive meeting. Furthermore, that the DVD would be compatible for multiple medias. Johnny Guy seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

There was a further discussion of the LAS paper awards. There needs to clarification about the awards, when they should be given, and who is eligible.

Student Award- does not need to be awarded every year. The universities should be solicited for papers. Whether or not it must be Louisiana Archaeology is still under discussion. Student Award papers are eligible to both undergraduate and graduate students. The papers must be voted on following the presentation by a selection committee to determine the winner. The LAS executive committee selects the committee.

Maria Standifer Award - is available to students only. Nominations are taken from universities. The universities should be solicited for papers. The executive board votes on the award. This needs to be clarified and voted on at the next executive committee meeting.

LAS Exec. Comm. Meeting 6/14/08 (continued)

### New Business

Joint meeting between LAS and MAA has been agreed to however a specific date and time has not been set. George Riser will continue to meet with MAA to discuss the details of the joint meeting. We will have a further discussion of organization issues at the next Executive Committee meetings on September 20, 2008.

There was some discussion about the issue of fundraising at the joint meeting. Usually the chapter hosting the meeting is allowed to fundraise. Ellen made a motion that fundraising not be allowed at the joint meeting. Johnny seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Velicia is exploring the possibility of holding the 2010 LAS/MAA meeting in Marksville, Louisiana.

Dennis made a motion that all the regional and station archaeologists be given a free membership to LAS for all of their participation in the chapter meetings. Velicia Bergstrom seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### Announcements

Mounds Trail Brochure is being printed and will be out by the end June.

Ellen Ibert made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Recca Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

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

The Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in the Capitol Annex Building, 1051 North Third Street, Conference Room 238A, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### Members Present:

Dr. Chip McGimsey, Dr. Mark Rees, Dr. George Riser

### Members Absent:

Ms. Paige Ashby, Ms. Pam Breaux, Mr. Gregory DuCote, Mr. Marc Dupuy, Jr., Mr. James Fogleman, Dr. Heather McKillop, LTC Michael Tarpley

### Others Present:

Ms. Jill Andrew, Ms. Kellye Cummings, Ms. Nancy Hawkins, Mr. Dennis Jones, Dr. David Palmer, Ms. Stacie Palmer, Ms. Meta Pike, Ms. Karen Richardson, Mr. Duke Rivet, Ms. Sherry Wagener, Ms. Rachel Watson, Ms. Andrea White, Ms. Cheraki Williams

### Welcome & Introductions

Dr. George Riser called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Paige Ashby, Ms. Pam Breaux, Mr. Gregory DuCote, Mr. Marc Dupuy, Jr., Mr. James Fogleman, Dr. Heather McKillop, and LTC Michael Tarpley were unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Pam Breaux, Mr. Gregory DuCote, and Mr. Marc Dupuy authorized Dr. Chip McGimsey to vote their proxy.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the Commission Meetings held December 11, 2007 and February 9, 2008.

**MOTION:** *A motion was made by Dr. Chip McGimsey and seconded by Dr. Mark Rees, to accept the minutes of the December 11, 2007 and February 9, 2008, Antiquities Commission Meetings as written. The motion carried unanimously.*

Dr. Riser introduced two new employees of the Louisiana Regional Archaeology Program to the commission. Dr. David Palmer is the Southwestern Regional Archaeologist, and Ms. Andrea White is the Greater New Orleans Regional Archaeologist. Mr. Duke Rivet introduced Ms. Stacie Palmer as the new archaeologist working in Section 106 in the Division of Archaeology.

### Old Business

#### Update on Katrina Memorial Project

Dr. Chip McGimsey reported to the commission that the Katrina Memorial Project permit had been signed by the members of the Katrina Memorial Corporation and forwarded to Earth Search, Inc., for additional signatures. The Katrina Memorial Corporation is expected to begin construction on the memorial in late March 2008.

#### Recommendation from Commission on Filling Remaining Commission Vacancy

Mr. Duke Rivet reported that he had received one recommendation from Dr. Mark Rees to fill the last commission vacancy. Dr. Rees suggested Mr. Richard Weinstein for the position. Mr. Weinstein has been employed in cultural resource management for over thirty years and is currently the Vice President, Chief Coordinating Officer, at Coastal Environments, Inc. Dr. Riser asked if anyone else had recommendations. Ms. Sherry Wagener recommended Dr. David Morgan, Chief, Archaeology and Collections, with the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), Dr. Jack Irion, Supervisor, Social Sciences Unit, with Minerals Management Service, and Dr. Chris Horrell, Underwater Archaeologist, with Minerals Management Service.

## LASAC minutes (continued)

Dr. Chip McGimsey said that he would speak with each of them to determine if they would be interested in serving on the Commission.

### New Business

#### Limited Cultural Resources Permit Request for Dr. Chip McGimsey, Dr. David Palmer and Ms. Andrea White

Ms. Nancy Hawkins stated that each year the regional and station archaeologists with the Division of Archaeology are issued limited cultural resources permits. The permit allows the recipient to conduct fieldwork on state property, limited to surface collecting and minimal subsurface testing sufficient to establish the horizontal and vertical boundaries of archaeological resources and to determine their cultural and scientific significance. The permitted work is defined as Phase I and Phase II in "Investigations and Report Standards". Ms. Hawkins reported that permits had previously been issued for Dr. Joe Saunders, Dr. Rob Mann, Dr. Diana Greenlee, and Mr. Jeff Girard to run concurrently with their grant agreements. Ms. Hawkins asked the Commission to approve a request for a limited cultural resources permit for Dr. David Palmer, Southwestern Regional Archaeologist, Ms. Andrea White, Greater New Orleans Regional Archaeologist and for Dr. Chip McGimsey, State Archaeologist. Dr. McGimsey will report his fieldwork in the relevant regional archaeologist's annual report, so Dr. Palmer and Dr. McGimsey's permits would be through August 31, 2008, which is the end of the regular regional grant cycle. Ms. White's permit would be through December 31, 2008, which currently is the end of the funding for the Greater New Orleans Regional position. Dr. Riser entertained a motion to grant a limited cultural resources permit for Drs. Palmer and McGimsey and for Ms. White.

**MOTION:** *A motion was made by Dr. Mark Rees and seconded by Dr. Chip McGimsey; to issue a limited cultural resources permit to Dr. David Palmer, Dr. Chip McGimsey and Ms. Andrea White. The motion carried unanimously*

#### Cultural Resources Permit Request for Ms. Andrea White at US Mint

Ms. Cheraki Williams requested a cultural resources permit for Ms. Andrea White for coring and excavation and coring at the US Mint in New Orleans. Ms. White was approached by the museum staff to locate cultural deposits from the remains of Fort St. Charles,

which originally occupied the location in the late 1700's. The coring to locate intact remains would be scheduled for late March or early April. Test excavation to further test the intact cultural deposits discovered during the core sampling would be scheduled for June 2008 and last approximately three weeks. The excavation would be incorporated within a field school to be held by the University of New Orleans, which would provide students an opportunity to work in an urban archaeological setting and later in the laboratory assessing core samples and artifacts. Ms. White stated the excavation would be advertised and the public would be encouraged to attend. Dr. Riser stated this illustrates the importance of the Regional Archaeology Program as a tool to educate the public in the preservation of the State's cultural heritage. Dr. Riser entertained a motion to issue a cultural resources permit to Ms. Andrea White for coring and excavation at the US Mint.

**MOTION:** *A motion was made by Dr. Mark Rees and seconded by Dr. Chip McGimsey, to issue a cultural resources permit to Ms. Andrea White for coring and excavation at the US Mint in New Orleans. The motion carried unanimously.*

### Other Business

Ms. Rachel Watson reported to the commission a large number of buildings that had been damaged by Hurricane Katrina at Jackson Barracks had been razed and Katrina cottages would be erected in their place. Ms. Sherry Wagener said that she had almost completed the reacquisition of the Seminole Indians uncovered at Jackson Barracks and they would be reinterred this spring.

Ms. Wagener stated that based upon the known quantity of collections the Division of Archaeology would receive over the next two years; the curation facility would be at full capacity. Dr. McGimsey said the Division is mandated to curate collections from state land and a larger facility would be needed. He suggested the commission at some point in the near future draft a letter to our department's administration requesting support for a new curation facility for the Division of Archaeology.

Dr. Riser thanked everyone who presented papers at the Louisiana Archaeological Society meeting held last month in Metairie. He

**LASAC minutes (continued)**

reported Dr. Gould, the keynote speaker at the meeting, was interested in the papers being published in a combined format as a reference in disaster archaeology.

There being no other business to report to the commission, Dr. Riser entertained a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION:** *A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Chip McGimsey and seconded by Dr. Mark Rees. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.*

## Meeting, Fieldwork, Exhibits, Etc.

**October 2008.** Louisiana Archaeology Month. Numerous activities at numerous venues. Please check schedule enclosed in this newsletter or online at:  
<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/>

**October 3-5, 2008.** Annual meeting of the Arkansas Archaeological Society (AAS), Hot Springs, AR. Arlington Resort Hotel. Keynote address by Dr. Jenna Kuttruff of the LSU School of Human Ecology. Check the AAS website for details:  
<http://www.uark.edu/depts/4society/>

**October 17-19, 2008.** Screen-a-thon at the Poverty Point site. Attempt to set a world record of archaeological screening potentially important fill from Ridge 4. Contact Diana Greenlee at Diana (318)-926-3314 or [greenlee@ulm.edu](mailto:greenlee@ulm.edu) for more information.

**November 12-15, 2008.** 65<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC), Hilton University Place, Charlotte, North Carolina. Check the SEAC website for more information.  
<http://www.southeasternarchaeology.org/>

**March 6-8, 2009.** Joint 2009 Annual Meetings of the Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) and the Mississippi Archaeological Association (MAA). Greenville, MS and Winterville Mounds Site. More detailed information will be forthcoming soon.

**The Historic New Orleans Collection** has re-opened its History Gallery with a new installation, which covers the French Colonial period to the twentieth century. The exhibition, which is mounted in eleven galleries, is meant to tell a story of New Orleans and its history for almost 300 years. The Collection's newest guided architectural tour of the historic buildings and courtyards explores the history of French Quarter architecture and the history of the people who lived in the buildings. The Historic New Orleans Collection is located at 533 Royal Street, New Orleans and tours are offered on Tuesday-Saturday. Check the website, [www.hnoc.org](http://www.hnoc.org), for more information.



Regular Membership	Annually \$20.00
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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). #27 (2000)

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: <b>Louisiana Archaeological Society</b>	Send payment to: Josetta LeBoeuf, LAS Treasurer 9364 Rainford Baton Rouge, LA 70810
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## LAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES RENEWAL

### 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 TIFF format. Contact editor via email with all questions.

### LAS Web Site

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

#### LAS OFFICERS

**President:** Ellen Ibert, P.O Box 145, Anacoco, LA Tel 337 392 6104

**Vice President:** Dr. George Riser, Covington, LA.

**Secretary:** Rachel Watson, 725 Lakeland Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**Treasurer:** Joesetta LeBoeuf, 9364 Rainford Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70810

**Bulletin Editor:** Charles McGimsey, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, P.O. Box 40198, Lafayette, LA 70504 Tel. 337 482 6198

**Newsletter Editor:** Dennis Jones, 1801 Ormandy Dr., Baton Rouge, LA. Tel. 225 572 5464

**Webmaster:** Junior Doughty, 218 Major Doughty Road, Tullos, LA 71479. Tel. 318 534 6290

All officers can be contacted through the LAS website: [www.laarchaeology.org](http://www.laarchaeology.org)

## Louisiana Archaeological Society

9364 Rainford Rd.

Baton Rouge, LA,

70810



