

Louisiana Archaeological Society NEWSLETTER

RICHARD A. WEINSTEIN, Newsletter Editor

COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC.,

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

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Summer 1988

FROM THE EDITOR

Included in this Newsletter are several interesting papers and important announcements which all L.A.S. members should enjoy reading and learning about. Particularly important is the information on the 1989 L.A.S. meeting in Lake Charles. Joe Frank and his crew from the Imperial Calcasieu Chapter are well on their way to making the meeting a spectacular affair. Please help them out by getting your registration forms in early, including those for proposed papers, hotel rooms, and the meeting in general.

Reca Jones has also organized a workshop devoted to ceramic and lithic analyses, along with information on physical anthropology. I trust many members will find this workshop of interest, and will make plans now to attend.

In regard to the Newsletter, this issue is blessed with several fine articles, two of which are devoted to the proper role amateurs and historians can play in the study of archaeology. The others bring to light new information on Fort Rosalie in Natchez and possible Caddoan influence in south-central Louisiana. I can only hope that L.A.S. members will continue to contribute to the Newsletter with such regularity.

Richard Weinstein
Newsletter Editor

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Acadian Mall, Lafayette
April 30, 1988

Reported by
Reca Jones
L.A.S. President

The meeting was called to order by the president, Reca Jones. The minutes, as printed in the last issue of the Newsletter, were approved on a motion by Dan Shipman, seconded by John Guy. The treasurer's report, as submitted by Linda Church, was read. A copy is included in this Newsletter. Although Linda was absent, she sent along word that she and Rich Weinstein still are working on clearing up past problems with the treasury.

A discussion was held on membership, with the decision reached that members should work within their chapters to increase membership. Nancy Affeltranger suggested that chapters should be provided with forms to obtain new members at special events, such as at the Catahoula Heritage Festival. If such forms are available with the current treasurer's address on them, then each chapter should be provided with some. The request for

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membership forms will be submitted to the treasurer.

Walter Randall reported on activities of the Central Chapter; John Guy reported on the Museum of Western Louisiana and Leesville, and promotion of Archaeology Week in September; Dan Shipman discussed the current excavations being undertaken by the Delta Chapter; and Maxine Spense of the Northeast Chapter reported on summer activities and planned speakers for that chapter.

A report on various summer field schools was given by the president. Jon Gibson invited L.A.S. members to attend lectures at Poverty Point during his field school there from May 25 to June 12. Kathy Joiner, a graduate student at LSU, said L.A.S. members will be welcome in assisting in the fieldwork at Cowpen Slough.

A discussion was held on the 1989 state meeting to take place in Lake Charles. The president will contact the appropriate person at the Imperial Calcasieu Chapter to make sure that all is going smoothly.

RETURNED BULLETINS

Bob Neuman, Bulletin Editor, reports that six copies of the recent issue of *Louisiana Archaeology*, Vol. 11, for 1984, have been returned due to a lack of forwarding addresses. If you are one of the people listed below, or if you know the whereabouts of any of these individuals, please contact Rich Weinstein, Newsletter Editor. The six individuals, along with the last known address of each, are:

Richard K. McCrocklin
507 Kossuth St.
Riverside, NJ 08075

John S. Belmont
6 Bickford Ave.
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dawn McCulley
28 Northgate Drive, #35
Monroe, LA 71201

Julia Barnes
935 Monet Dr., Apt. 6
Baton Rouge, LA 70306

Mrs. Gene A Little
9045 Kingston Road, #1801
Shreveport, LA 71118

Jim Womble
3400 Ocee, Apt. 2101
Houston, TX 77063

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING: CALL FOR PAPERS

The 1989 meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society will take place January 20 through 22, 1989, at the Chateau Charles Hotel and Conference Center, Lake Charles, Louisiana. Special meeting rates have been obtained, and are listed on the accompanying hotel registration form which needs to be returned by January 15, 1989. These rates are \$27.75 for a single and \$35.00 for double, triple, or quad occupancy.

Also included in this issue of the Newsletter is a form for meeting registration and paper presentations. (Please see the last issue of the Newsletter for details on paper and symposia abstracts.) All L.A.S. members who are planning to attend should send this form in before January 10, 1989. After that date the cost of registration increases by \$2.00.

There will be additional information on the meeting in the next issue of the Newsletter, particularly concerning proposed papers and symposia topics. The members of the Imperial Calcasieu Chapter want to make certain that everything goes as smoothly as possible, however, so they are getting a good jump on things by getting these forms out at such an early date. We need to take advantage of their hard work, and make sure that we return the forms as soon as possible. That will allow the Lake Charles folks to make the meeting a highly efficient affair. For further information, contact:

Joseph V. Frank III
2406 Norben Drive
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601

L.A.S. WORKSHOP

**Reported by
Reca Jones
L.A.S. President**

A one-day workshop on ceramics, lithics, and physical anthropology will be held Saturday, October 1, 1988, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Louisiana State University Museum complex annex in Baton Rouge. Dr. Ann Ramenofsky will host the workshop, assisted by other professional archaeologists.

The morning session will be devoted to ceramics. A ceramic workshop has been requested by many amateurs who are eager to learn how to determine the chronological sequence of sites where they surface collect. Items to be discussed will be paste, method of manufacture, temper, surface finish, decoration, and vessel shape.

Dr. Charles Orser will assist in the workshop on historic ceramics. Those attending are urged to bring any pieces of European pottery or any other historical object about which they would like to learn more. Even if it is only a small piece of a plate, bring it to be examined. It might be possible to learn more about its age and place of manufacture.

The afternoon session will be reserved for lithic artifacts, and a lecture by Mary Manhein on human skeletal remains.

Lithics to be discussed will not be limited to projectile points, but will include tools and ceremonial objects. Again, we would like to stress that this will be a "bring and ask" workshop, as well as a "come and learn" meeting.

For more information, contact Reca Jones at:

1713 River Road
West Monroe, LA 71291
(318) 323-7055

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK

**Reported by
Nancy Hawkins
Division of Archaeology**

Archaeology Week is just around the corner: September 18-24. By September 1, all L.A.S. members should receive from the Division of Archaeology a schedule of

activities taking place throughout Louisiana. The communities hosting events are Alexandria, Bastrop, Baton Rouge, Epps, Homer, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Leesville, Marksville, Natchitoches, New Iberia, New Orleans, and Shreveport.

All L.A.S. chapters have been invited to participate in Archaeology Week activities in the communities closest to them, and have been offered Archaeology Week posters for all chapter members. The Central Chapter has responded most enthusiastically, and it will be participating in Archaeology Week in several ways.

The chapter is printing a flyer about its activities that will be distributed at Alexandria Archaeology Week events. The chapter also arranged special activities that will be held at the Rapides Parish Library at the same time as the artifact identification session. These include artifact displays, a flint-knapping demonstration, a bead-drilling demonstration, and Indian crafts demonstrations. The monthly chapter meeting is scheduled following these Saturday afternoon activities.

Other chapters also plan to attend the events in their communities, and to provide information about their chapters to the public attending.

It is not too late to plan to represent your chapter at Archaeology Week activities. If you want to have a table or to hand out printed information, it is important that you contact the Division of Archaeology ahead of time. Call Nancy Hawkins at (504) 342-8170, or write to her at P. O. Box 44247, Baton Rouge, LA 70804.

Nancy will then contact the Archaeology Week coordinator at the host organization in your community, and let him or her know that your chapter will be an official participant. You will also be given the name of the coordinator, who will let you know where to go when you arrive at the museum or library.

If you have any questions about Archaeology Week, or if you failed to receive a schedule listing the week's activities, write or telephone the Division of Archaeology.

TREASURER'S REPORT
January 29, 1988 - April 4, 1988

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	\$4346.42
ASSETS:	
L.A.S. Annual Meeting registration, Bossier City	\$846.00
Dues collected at Annual Meeting	\$680.00
Dues collected since the Annual Meeting	\$518.00
Sale of L.A.S. Publications	
\$137.00 sold by Rich Weinstein at the L.A.S. Annual Meeting	
\$219.00 sold by David Kelley at the Mississippi Archaeological Association Annual Meeting	
\$356.00 sold by David Jeane at the Caddo Conference	
\$129.00 sold by mail order	\$841.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7231.42
EXPENSES:	
Annual Meeting expenses (see Vol. 15, No.1, for breakdown of meeting expenses)	\$1092.41
National Bank of Commerce (deposit slips)	\$7.00
Bank of St. John (research)	\$150.00
Postage	\$22.00
Telephone expenses (Rich Weinstein)	\$11.01
USL Printing Service (printing of <i>Louisiana Archaeology</i> , Vol. 11, for 1984)	\$1950.00
Sprint Print (printing of L.A.S. Newsletter, Vol. 15, No. 1, Spring 1988)	\$231.55
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3463.97
NEW BALANCE	\$3767.45

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Church,
L.A.S. Treasurer

**A CADDOAN OUTPOST IN
CENTRAL LOUISIANA**

By
Bill Leutze
Lafayette, Louisiana

While collecting at a site in the northeast quarter of St. Landry Parish, I was surprised to find an unusual piece of worked flint (Figure 1). It was rectangular, 43 mm long, 37 mm wide, and 8 mm thick. The color and texture were quite unlike artifacts normally found in this part of the state. It was a dense grey, with a waxy luster. Small, lighter flecks evidently represented silicified microfossils. Both sides were skillfully flaked, and three of the edges were delicately retouched. Although the specimen resembles the base of a large paleo-point, potsherds and small arrow points at the site made such an interpretation

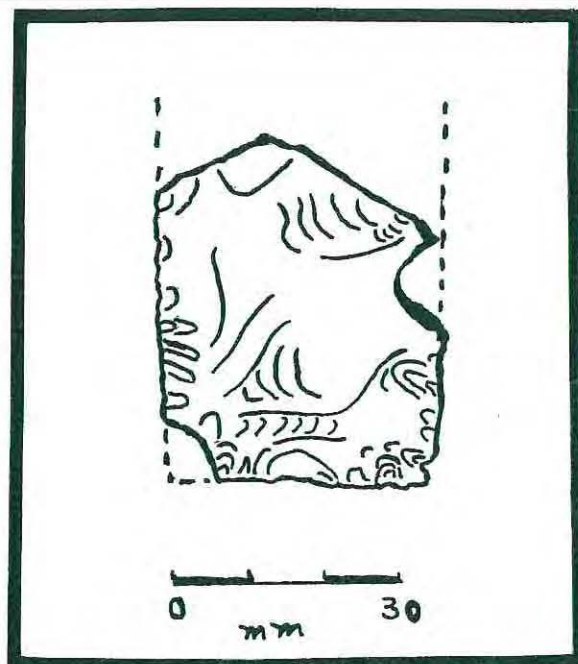


Figure 1. Portion of a Gahagan Knife from St. Landry Parish.

improbable. In a discussion with James Fogleman of Morrow, Louisiana, Mr. Fogleman promptly identified the piece as the base of a Gahagan knife. Professor H. F. "Pete" Gregory subsequently confirmed this identification. To the best of my knowledge, all prior finds of these knives have been along the Red River in the northwestern portion of the state. Based on dimensions of complete Gahagan knives found by Dr. Clarence H. Webb at Mounds Plantation (Webb and McKinney 1975), the original length of this knife would have been about 15 cm.

Fogleman and Leutze have since undertaken a careful review of collections from the same St. Landry Parish site, and have identified other artifacts which seem to be Caddoan, as is the Gahagan knife. These items are foreign to this part of Louisiana. We believe that the site represents an outpost or trading station far removed from the Caddo heartland to the northwest. It is located on what was probably an important canoe route linking the Red River to the lower Mississippi River around A.D. 1000.

The present Red River turns east at Alexandria and flows north of the Marksville uplands to join the Mississippi. Red soils along Bayou Boeuf, from Alexandria to Washington and thence along Bayou Teche at least as far south as Cecilia, mark an older channel directly aligned with the upper Red River. Other trains of red sediment diverge from Bayou Boeuf at Bunkie, and lead to Bayou Rouge (and Bayou des Glaises). Bayou Rouge eventually joins the Atchafalaya River south of Elba. In order to travel by water from the present city of Alexandria to the Mississippi in the vicinity of Baton Rouge or Bayou Manchac a thousand years ago, a logical route would have been along Bayou Boeuf to Bunkie, then to Bayou Rouge near Evergreen, and thence south and east. An alternative route would be to continue on Bayou Boeuf to Washington and then up Bayou Waukesha. If channels did not actually join into Bayou Rouge around Palmetto, only a short portage would have been required. It was on Bayou Rouge that the broken Gahagan knife and other Caddoan artifacts were found.

References

Webb, Clarence H. and Ralph R. McKinney
1975 Mounds Plantation (16CD12),
Caddo Parish, Louisiana. *Louisiana Archaeology* 2:39-127.

FORT ROSALIE: A MISSING CHAPTER

By
Joseph V. Frank III
Imperial Calcasieu Chapter

There have been volumes of information written about Fort Rosalie, Natchez, and the old Southwest over the years. Only on rare occasions does new and informative information appear. This brief note is intended to make the reader aware of such information concerning Fort Rosalie.

Fort Rosalie was constructed in 1716 by Jean-Baptiste LeMoyne, Sieure de Bienville, at Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi, in the heart of the Natchez Indian domain. It is a recorded fact that in November 1729 the Natchez Indians surprised and destroyed the fort and most of its inhabitants. Three years later, additional narratives place the French and their Indian ally forces at the Grand Village of the Natchez in face to face conflict and siege with two Natchez forts, Farine and Valour, on either side of St. Catherine Creek just downstream from the Grand Village. During this siege, in February 1730, the Natchez tribe evacuated their forts and most retreated across the Mississippi River into Louisiana and into other areas away from present-day Natchez.

After the Natchez retreat, most of the available narratives sporadically reference the Natchez area primarily concerning re-establishing Fort Rosalie and attempts in hunting down the remaining Natchez Indians.

Recently, two bits of information have come to light. Separately they are informative, but combined they help form a new chapter on the Natchez and Fort Rosalie.

Thanks to Patricia K. Galloway (1984), who discusses events at Natchez after 1731,

and a map entitled "Plans figurez du Grand et Petit Forts des Francais en la Province de la Louisiane entourez de Paniers de Cannes Plains de terre a la Nouvelle-Orleans le 4 decembre 1731" (Louisiana--Fort des Francais 1731) (Figure 2), the story unfolds.

Apparently, with the retreat of the Natchez from their tribal lands, M. Perier de Salvert, Governor of Louisiana, sent Baron de Crenay and a garrison of men to reoccupy the fort at Natchez in 1731. According to Galloway (1984), Crenay was under siege in the old fort by a remnant group of Natchez, and, had there been a few more Indians, the entire garrison would have been destroyed. According to the translation of the description accompanying the 1731 map, kindly supplied by Dr. H. F. Gregory, there actually were two forts. One was the "Petit Fort" (Fort Rosalie) which housed Crenay's barracks, powder magazine, and other military wares. The other fort was the "Grand Fort" (apparently the parade ground) that had been burned, probably during siege, and had once housed tents or bivouac areas. There are also Indian encampments near both forts.

Thus, a new chapter has emerged about Fort Rosalie and the Natchez Indians: a new and rare opportunity for the devoted graduate student to earn a stripe on his sleeve.

References

Galloway, Patricia K. (editor)
1984 *Mississippi Provincial Archives: French Dominion*, Vol. 4. Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge.

Louisiana--Fort des Francais
1731 Map on file, Archives Nationales De France, Paris Section Outre-Mer Atlas Moreau De Saint-Mery.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL TECHNIQUES FOR THE AMATEUR

By
James A. Green, Jr.
DeRidder, Louisiana

Interest in Indian artifacts has increased at an alarming rate in the past decade. In the west-central part of Louisiana this is evident along the ridges bordering medium and large streams. Diggings can be found nearly anywhere a road comes close to these streams. Even places seemingly inaccessible yield holes to mark the visit of arrowhead hunters. There is a right way and a wrong way to delve into the past. Persons who dig and destroy potential archaeological sites, for the sole purpose of finding artifacts, are not archaeologists. Archaeology should be left to experts.

Amateurs have contributed a great deal to archaeology in Louisiana. They have aided in surveys and reported the existence of many sites. The amateur archaeologist is usually concerned with the preservation and study of the past. He wants to learn more about Indian life, both historic and prehistoric. To do this he might join a local or state archaeological group; almost every state has at least one such organization. In this group he will learn how the professional excavates a site. Often, field trips offer him the chance to work side by side with the professional.

Pothunters, on the other hand, care little about archaeology, except for the arrowheads. Pothunter is a term coined by archaeologists in Arizona for a person who destroys a site to find pots to sell. The term spread rapidly, and is now used across the United States. Most pothunters discard flint tools, large stones, broken points, chips, and so forth. They are not interested in when or how these were made. They are searching for perfect points to add to their pile of rock trophies, or to sell. Few want to learn how to properly excavate a site and catalogue its material. In fact, the first thing they usually ask is if it is illegal to dig for arrowheads. (At this time it is not illegal, as long as the digging is done on private land with the owner's permission.)

In order for the amateur archaeologist

O. Vieuxes Terres des Sauvages a une Lige de Fort
 Francis, les Natchez les ont abandonnez depuis
 deux ans. P. Habitans devenus.

PLANS Figurez du Grand
 et Petit Forts des Français
 en la Province de la Louisiane
 entourrez de Paviers de Cannes
 Plains de Terre, a la Nouvelle
 Orleans le 2. decembre 1731.

Explication du Petit Fort.
 A. Cuiri. A a pas du Corps de Gardes ou il y en Ste.
 Soldats Blessez. B. Autres Cuiri
 C. Magazin a Poudre. D. Corps de Garde, d'ime
 les Natchez Semparement apres avoir esjoye la
 garde, ce pris cinq Fusils. E. Magazin des Viures
 F. Logement de M. de Crenay Commandant.
 G. Baraque du St. Inzan aide Major.
 H. Baraques des Autres Officiers, ce des Soldats
 I. Renrenchemens fait avec des Sacs de Frines.
 Explication du Grand Fort.
 K. Cuiri. L. Baraque ou un Bivaque monnie la Nuit.
 M. Pre. Compensent des Natchez a 150. Pas du Fort.
 N. Tours ou on Construit le Nouveau Fort.

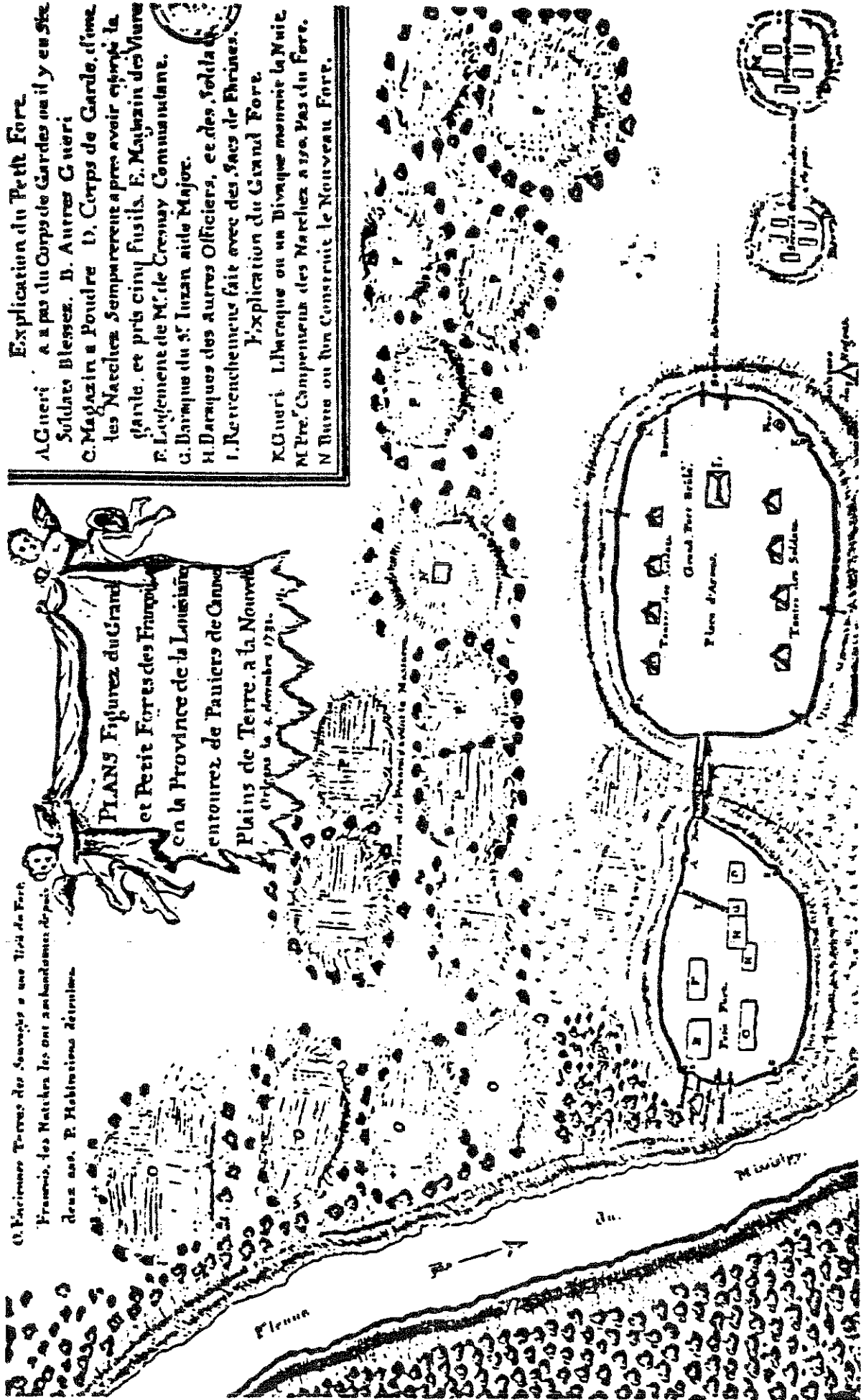


Figure 2. Fort Rosalle in 1731.

to dig a site properly, and not as a pothunter would do, he must follow several simple steps. The first step is to get permission to dig from the landowner. If the owner is not known, then find out who he might be from the local courthouse. Always respect the owner's wishes.

Next, draw a detailed map, starting at a major highway intersection and ending at the proposed place to be excavated. By detailed, I mean that the mileage should be precise and all landmarks and streams should be shown. Once this is done, draw a map of the site showing physical things, such as a grove of trees, a creek, or the slope of the land. Mapping is one of the most important jobs in archaeological research. With a good map, other archaeologists can go right to the site for further work.

Once the site is mapped, select a permanent landmark or a distinguishable tree. Mark this with paint for identification. This will be the datum point. All measurements are to be calculated from it. Show the location of the datum point on your site map, and give a description of it. Now measure, using the grid system, from the datum point to where your excavation will be. Identify individual points on the grid by distances related to the datum. Thus, 5N3E is five increments (either feet, yards, or meters) north of the datum and three increments to the east.

The excavation unit should be square or rectangular in shape, usually one yard or meter wide by one or two yards or meters long. It should be dug with the sides kept straight and oriented with grid north. Choose one corner of the unit as the unit identification number. For example, if you choose the northeast corner, and that point is 5N3E on the site grid, then the unit would be identified as Unit 5N3E. A square-pointed shovel, trowel, measuring tape or ruler, hand ax, screen sieve, small bags, and a notebook are then needed. The screen should be made, at a minimum, of 1/8 th-inch wire mesh stretched over a wooden frame. It will be used to sift the dirt to find small artifacts.

Mark off the edges of the excavation unit at this time. Now follow the marked edges with the shovel, cutting straight down. This will

cut most of the small roots that might be there, but larger roots will have to be removed using the hand ax. You are now ready to excavate. Using the shovel, take out no more than four inches or 10 centimeters of dirt at a time. The idea is to take out the dirt in layers. This enables the archaeologist to keep the material in chronological order, since older material should occur at deeper levels. Place the dirt on the sieve and work it through the screen. (Be sure to wear gloves.) Put all of the chips, rocks, potsherds, arrowheads, and whatever else is found, into a bag. Write the excavation unit number (for instance, 5N3E) and depth (0-4 inches) on the outside of the bag.

If you hit something while digging, take a trowel and carefully expose it. If it is a projectile point, a flint tool, a stone, or any other distinguishable object, measure the depth of the object from the top of your unit. Next, measure from the sides of the pit to the object, so that its exact location within the unit will be known. Write down the measurements and descriptions in the notebook.

Write down other observations as you dig, such as a dense concentration of chips the color of the soil. You should also be aware of soil discolorations that might indicate postholes, fire pits, house walls, or other features. To do the job right, a drawing of the base of each excavation level, along with each wall of the completed excavation unit, should be made. The drawings should show all soil changes, features, artifacts, etc.

Dig in this manner until either culturally sterile, usually oxidized, clay is encountered, or until four levels have been dug without finding any type of material. It is now assumed that there is nothing of archaeological value below this point. The unit should be filled back in now. Always try to leave the land as it was before the excavation began.

There is more to excavating an archaeological site than what I have just described. Most people will not go to the trouble to dig properly. The fact is, it should be left to the professionals. An amateur using the above method, though, is much better than a pothunter who keeps no records. The amateur, through an archaeological society, can inform the proper persons of the excavation,

and of the materials available for study. Archaeologists can only hope that an amateur will realize when he has found an important site, and, instead of digging, will let the professional archaeologist perform the task.

SOME REFLECTIONS ON HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

**By
Jerry Motherspaugh
Northeast Chapter**

During June of 1985, I participated in an on-the-ground cultural resources survey in eastern Texas. Our job was to locate and record as many of the prehistoric and historic sites as possible within the designated study area. We were disappointed with the amount of prehistoric material that was recovered, but did manage to locate and record a moderated number of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century historic sites.

I recall one in particular. We were informed by the present landowner, that, as a young boy, he would walk or ride in a wagon to the local store on Saturdays with his family. While his parents did the necessary shopping, the children would eat candy and play on the front porch of the store. We were also told by the landowner that the old Carthage-to-Marshall stageline passed a few yards west of the store. This was an obvious feature, since, after years of heavy usage, the ground surface was depressed to a depth of about two feet along the old road bed. The gentleman also stated that an inn was once present near the store to provide lodging for the stagecoach travelers. The inn is gone now, along with the store and the stagecoaches. Only the memories of an elderly gentleman remain, who, as a child, frequented that place so long ago.

As archaeologists, we should do everything within our means to preserve and use oral and written testimony at our disposal. We must remind ourselves that history must not necessarily be several hundred years removed in order to receive attention. Sadly, some archaeologists are turned off by historical archaeology since they feel that it is not old enough. This is a tragedy.

While attending Northeast Louisiana University, I had a very special opportunity to participate in the excavations of the Autrey House site (16 LI 33). This was my first real experience in historical archaeology, and one I will never forget. It was during the spring of 1981 that Dr. Glen S. Greene and his archaeological field school conducted the excavations. Prior to actually excavating the site, however, extensive historical research was conducted in order to provide the investigators with as much background information as possible. This information proved invaluable to the excavators since it aided Dr. Greene in selecting his excavation strategy. The methodology that was adopted enabled us to locate the well, the cellar, and a trash pit containing several hundred artifacts. We were also aided by the fact that the original house structure, which was constructed in 1848, was still intact.

Absalom Autrey had fifteen children and several of them were already grown when he migrated to Louisiana from Alabama in 1848. However, the oral history of the family states that the whole family moved to Louisiana with him. Upon arriving in the area now known as Dubach, he began work on his new home, which would be a structure referred to as a dog-trot cabin. The parents and the girls lived in the downstairs rooms while the boys used the upstairs loft.

I have returned to the Autrey House on several occasions since that spring of 1981, and each visit enhances my awareness of the historical significance of that place and the countless other thousands like it. For instance, when I am alone and it is very quiet, I can still hear the soft southern winds blowing through the nearby oak trees. I can also sense the presence of that family that lived, toiled, and died there so many years ago. The laughter of the children and the sadness of death are still there. The anguish that Absalom and his family must have felt when they were informed that their beloved son and brother, Syra, had died from wounds sustained while fighting for the South during the War Between the States. Still, there would be more grief; for another son, James Jackson, would also die during that terrible conflict.

Of course, there were happy times also.

Christmas, for example, was the time when all family members would participate in the Christmas "pass around". This involved having the whole family sit in a circle and pass around a large bowl of hard candy and oranges, with everyone helping themselves to the goodies.

Obviously, much of what I have written here is not the result of the archaeological excavations that were conducted. This is precisely the point. Excavation and analysis can never tell us everything there is to know concerning a site. Likewise, the historical record is incomplete. Therefore, the historian and the archaeologist must work together to integrate the available data into a coherent and more complete picture of the past.

[This is a slightly revised version of a paper appearing in the Northeast Chapter's newsletter. Thanks go to Claire Davis for sending it to the L.A.S. -- The Editor.]

CHAPTER NEWS

Northeast Chapter Reported by Claire Davis

Dr. Ed Whatley, retired Biology professor at NLU, presented an excellent program on the natural history and archaeology of northeast Louisiana at the March meeting of the chapter. Jerry Motherspaugh also contributed a paper to the chapter newsletter on the Autrey House site (16 LI 33). [For those L.A.S. members who are not members of the Northeast Chapter, this paper has been included in the present issue of the L.A.S. Newsletter -- The Editor.]

The April meeting of the chapter featured David Jones, who presented a report on a site he has been working on along the Tensas River in Madison Parish. David's presentation included a slide show, poster displays, artifacts, and a scale model of the site. His presentation was well researched, carefully planned, and a joy to witness.

The May meeting entailed a "Sweep the Club" program, in which each member was asked to present a brief, five-minute discussion on a topic of his or her interest.

On June 4 members of the chapter traveled to Poverty Point for a picnic and tour

of the USL and NLU field school excavations. The park and the site are always exciting, and this trip was no exception.

The Northeast Chapter meets on the next-to-last Thursday of each month, at 7:15 pm, on the first floor of the NLU Chemistry Building. If you're in the area, come on by.

Delta Chapter Reported by Marjorie Friedman

The Delta Chapter has recently completed the excavation of a privy at a house built in 1840. We were working under the auspices of the Preservation Resource Center, and had only a few days available before the installation of modern plumbing would destroy the feature. We uncovered many whole bottles, some for aspirin, and a lot for hair dye. There were covered chamber pots, spittoons, ink bottles, old pens, and a lot of miscellaneous ceramics. Most of the finds appear to be from the late nineteenth century, so we speculate that an older privy must lay undetected nearby.

The chapter also had several interesting programs at its monthly meetings. In January, Bill Fogaly, curator at the New Orleans Museum of Art, spoke on his six-week trip to Africa, and showed fascinating slides. Stan Walling was interesting in February, showing slides and giving details of a dig he recently completed.

In March, Professor Cole, of the Baptist Seminary, spoke on his recent discoveries in Israel, while Bob Manning showed slides of the famous exhibit of Scythian gold. In May, Sally Reedwell discussed a proposed dig in City Park

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Southeastern Archaeological Conference

The forty-fifth annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference will take place October 19 through 22, 1988, at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana. The meeting is being hosted by the Department of Anthropology, University of New Orleans, with Malcolm C. Webb serving as program chairman and J. Richard Shenkel as arrangements chairman.

Special rates of \$69.00 flat for single through quad occupancy have been negotiated, and the hotel is holding a block of 175 rooms for the conference. Room reservations must be received by September 27, 1988. The Marriott Hotel is at Canal and Chartres Streets, immediately outside the French Quarter, and within easy walking distance of almost everything.

This meeting marks the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of SEAC, and it is expected to be packed with both archaeologists and papers. All L.A.S. members should make a concerted effort to attend. For more information, contact either Dr. Webb or Dr. Shenkel at:

Department of Anthropology
University of New Orleans
Lakefront
New Orleans, Louisiana 70148
(504) 286-6294

Texas Archeological Society

The 1988 TAS Annual Meeting will be held October 28 through 30, 1988, at the Doubletree Hotel, Houston, Texas. Several special events are planned for the meeting, including sessions on physical anthropology, the archaeology of the upper Texas coast, and a tour of the new archaeological museum. L.A.S. members, particularly those from west and southwest Louisiana, should find the TAS meeting to be highly interesting. After all, the archaeology of the upper Texas coast and southwest Louisiana is very similar, and one should be familiar with the research conducted in both areas.

For more information, contact:

Beth Ogden Davis
TAS Newsletter Editor
2916 Stoneway Drive
Austin, Texas 78285-0658
(512) 691-4462

Arkansas Archeological Society

The AAS will hold its 1988 annual meeting October 7 through 9, 1988, at the Lodge at DeGray State Park, just outside Arkadelphia, Arkansas. A reception is planned for Friday evening, the 7th, with papers and activities scheduled for all day Saturday and Sunday morning. You may stay

at the Lodge or camp in the park. The weather should be beautiful for camping.

Bob Cooper of Crossett, Arkansas, will be the program chairman, and has requested that anyone who would like to give a talk or display artifacts should get in touch with him soon. He may also be contacted for additional information on the meeting at:

100 Unity Lane
Crossett, Arkansas 71635

Arkansas De Soto Symposium

A one-day symposium on the De Soto Expedition and its experiences in Arkansas and adjacent states will be held in the theater of the Arkansas Student Union, on the campus of the University of Arkansas, on October 3, 1988. Several prominent De Soto experts, including Jeffrey P. Brain, Charles Hudson, and Samuel D. Dickinson, will attend and present their views on the expedition. For anyone interested in the De Soto entrada or early Spanish contact in the New World, this meeting should prove extremely interesting. For more information, contact:

Gloria Young
University Museum
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701
(501) 575-3555



