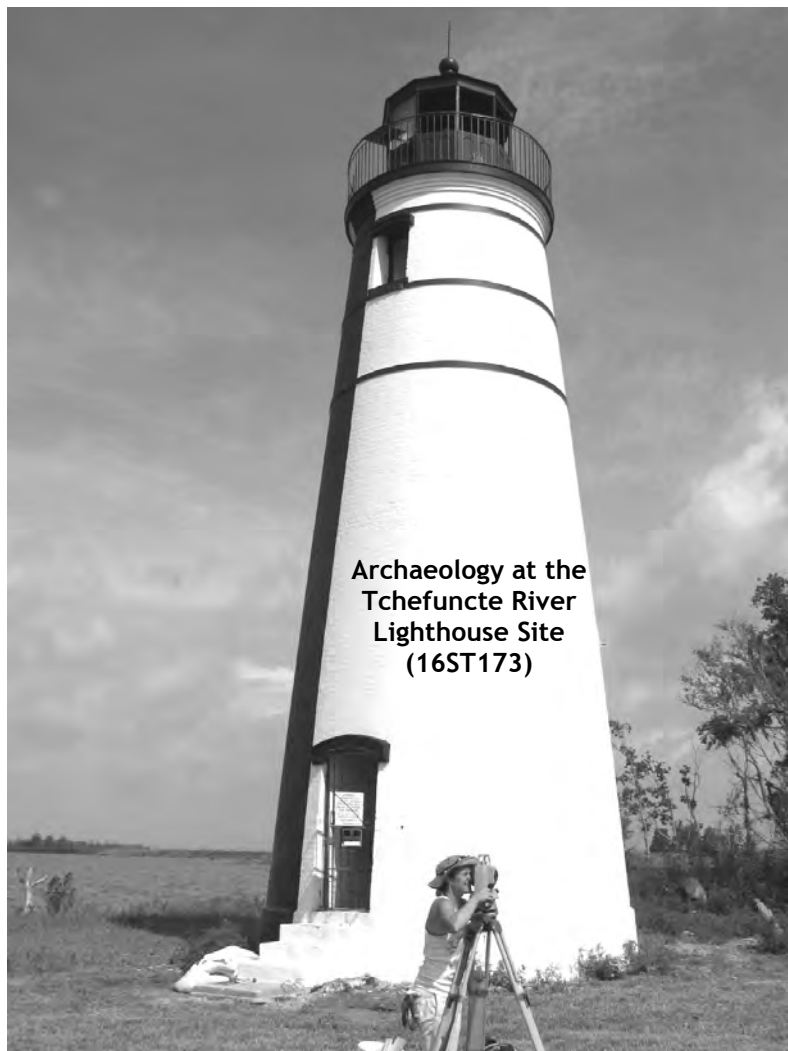




# NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Fall 2010

Vol. 38, No. 2



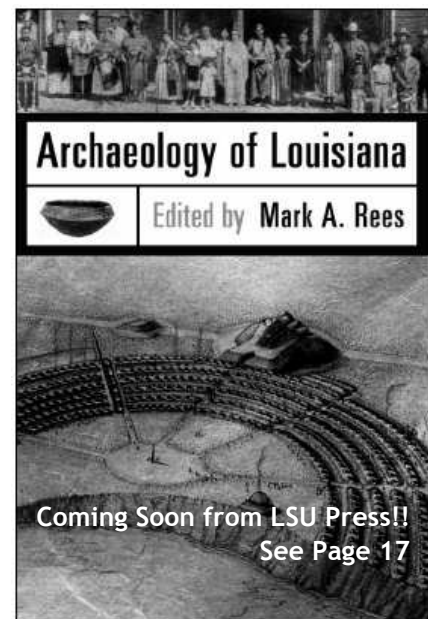
Archaeology at the  
Tchefuncte River  
Lighthouse Site  
(16ST173)

**OCTOBER 2010 IS LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH  
SEE PAGE 7**

**LAS Newsletter printed courtesy of  
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New Orleans, LA**

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Coming Soon from LSU Press!!  
See Page 17



**Published in Leesville  
Daily Leader  
June 29, 2010**

### **Mary Cleveland**

Long time manager of the Museum of West Louisiana, Mary Cleveland, has died after complications following heart surgery. She was 79.

Friends were invited to a memorial celebration of her life during an open house beginning at 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Thursday, July 1 at the Museum of West Louisiana. Mary Avice Brink Cleveland was born Nov. 11, 1930 and passed away at 11:11 a.m. on June 28, 2010 in Covington.

Cleveland worked for 30 years at the Vernon Parish Office of Family Security and Office of Human Development Agencies, retiring as director on Oct. 3, 1984. She was honored for her service to the state by then President of the Louisiana Senate, Bryan Poston, Sr.

After her retirement, Cleveland volunteered for a number of community service organizations, including Head Start, the Human Resources Council and the Vernon Council on Aging. According to her family, Cleveland was instrumental in establishing the Vernon Parish Sheltered Workshop. She volunteered for the Museum of West Louisiana for 25 years.

She is survived by her son and his wife, Ed and Beth Cleveland, of Mandeville; grandson and his wife, Tom and Meg Cleveland, of Baltimore, Md.; and granddaughter, Catie Cleveland, of Mandeville. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requested that donations be made to the Museum of West Louisiana.

*The West Louisiana chapter of the LAS has its meetings at the Museum of West Louisiana and Ms. Cleveland was a longtime supporter of LAS and Louisiana Archaeology - Editor*

### **News from the Central Louisiana Chapter of the LAS**

Officers: President, Nancy Affeltranger; Vice President, Tommy Delrie; Secretary, Lillie Jeansonne; Treasurer, Charles Affeltranger; Executive Committee Representative, Jackie Edwards.

The chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at the Ball Municipal Building on Hwy. 165 north of Ball, La. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Recent Programs:

**May-** George Avery talked on magnetic anomalies at the Los Adaes Site.

**June-**no meeting

**July -**Dena Struchtemeyer talked about archaeology at an African-American school in Plaquemine Parish.

### **Acadiana Chapter of the Louisiana Archaeological Society**

The June 28 meeting was held at Alesi's Restaurant on Johnston Street in Lafayette, LA with 23 in attendance.

Rob Westrick reported on 13 members' visit to the Marksville Site with a picnic after. It was commented that how interesting it was that "Here we are eating fried chicken for lunch on the same grounds that 1500 years ago people ate at the same location. But they ate DOG". On the tour, Chip McGimsey had told us that the Marksville Indians sometimes ate dogs. Everyone had a great time.

Mark Richard, President-elect, gave report on the state LAS executive board meeting in Baton Rouge earlier in June.

Guest speaker - Kimberly Walden, Cultural Director of the Chitimacha Tribe, "Efforts of Maintaining Chitimacha Culture".

## NEXT ISSUE OF *LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY* TO BE OUT SOON!!!

As this newsletter was being assembled and printed, the next issue of *Louisiana Archaeology*, the LAS bulletin, is in production. This issue will be Number 30 for the year 2003. The articles included in this issue are:

LITHIC UTILIZATION STRATEGIES AT THE HOOVER SITE, 16TA5, TANGIPAHOA PARISH, LOUISIANA  
by Josetta A. LeBoeuf.

ANALYSIS OF BRICKS AND CLAYS ASSOCIATED WITH THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY MCILHENNY TABASCO SAUCE FACTORY ON AVERY ISLAND, LOUISIANA by Thomas Pesacreta, Ashley Dumas, and Lily Ann Hume.

THE WRECK OF THE *NECHES BELLE*: UNDERWATER REMOTE-SENSING AND DIVER INVESTIGATIONS AT THE U.S. HIGHWAY 84 BRIDGE OVER THE SABINE RIVER, LOGANSPOUT, DESOTO PARISH, LOUISIANA  
by Doug Jones and Amy Borgens.

This issue will be sent to all LAS members on record for the year 2003 and will be available for purchase to all others interested in the archaeology of the Bayou State!!

### PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDARS!!!

#### Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS)

#### Annual Meeting

#### January 21-23, 2011, Alexandria, LA

This year's meeting will be held at the **Alexander Fulton Hotel** in downtown Alexandria, Louisiana. A block of rooms will be available and plans are currently underway for the silent auction, field trips, keynote speaker, and banquet. Details will be forthcoming in the next LAS newsletter and on the LAS website [www.laarchaeology.org](http://www.laarchaeology.org).



Entrance to the Alexander Fulton Hotel  
in Downtown Alexandria, LA

### Christopher Michael Lee

An archaeologist and a resident of Baton Rouge, he died Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2010. He was 38 and a native of Beaumont, Texas. He is survived by his parents, Michael and Carolyn Lee; sister, Cindy Hooper, her husband, Brad, and their children, Brandon and Lauren Hooper; grandparents, George and Alice Hamilton; and other numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his uncles, Stan Hamilton and Stephen and Brian Lee; and grandparents, Robert and Patricia Lee. He was a graduate of Baton Rouge Magnet High School and LSU's Baton Rouge campus. Contributions in Christopher's honor may be made to the LSU Foundation, Humanities and Social Sciences, at [www.lsufoundation.org](http://www.lsufoundation.org).

Christopher Lee was a student worker for the Louisiana Division of Archaeology in the late 1990s when Nathanael Heller was collections manager. As a graduate student at LSU, Dr. Paul Farnsworth was his major professor and he regarded historic archaeology as his specialty. He worked for several cultural resource management companies including R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, URS, and Holman & Associates Archaeological Consultants (California), as well as for federal agencies such as FEMA and the National Parks Service.

## The Latest and Greatest in KNF

By Daniel A. Cain, USFS Heritage Resources Program

Kisatchie National Forest includes over 600,000 acres and extends across seven parishes in the state. The forest is divided into five ranger districts that provide recreational and educational opportunities to the citizens of Louisiana, as well as a major source of employment and economic opportunity in the form of an active timber industry. In addition, those 600,000 acres contain myriad recorded and unrecorded archaeological sites. As a Federal agency, the Forest is responsible to manage all cultural resources within its boundaries through identifying, recording, and evaluating sites, and protecting those deemed eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This responsibility falls to the staff of the Forest's Heritage Resource Program, a small but active bunch stationed in the various districts of Kisatchie.

The summer of 2010 has been busy in the Forest. A survey of approximately 1,000 acres was completed by the Kisatchie district archaeologist, with the assistance of four intrepid students employed by the Forest for the summer. The students hailed from several universities in the state, and all are in the process of completing their undergraduate studies in archaeology. For the students, the survey represented not only a summer job, but an opportunity to gain valuable field experience in the nuts and bolts of archaeology. The district archaeologist conducted the survey with the idea of a "mini field school" in mind, providing the students with instruction in systematic and reconnaissance survey, compass and mapping skills, as well as site identification and recordation. We're grateful to the students for their efforts, and wish them well in their future endeavors!

In the Caney Ranger District in NW Louisiana, a survey of several hundred acres produced a multicomponent Caddoan habitation site, pleasantly situated over Corney Bayou. Site 16CL172 includes both Middle and Late Caddo components, in fairly undisturbed contexts that include deposition over one meter in depth and extends over 3.5 acres. Preliminary lab analysis of the several hundred artifacts recovered is being conducted in the Winn Ranger District. As of this writing, sherds from a minimum of nine different ceramic vessels have been identified and include brushed, incised, and punctuated sherds exhibiting grog, bone, and shell tempers. Additionally, a chipped stone adze or celt was recovered. As a non-mortuary/ceremonial site, it has great potential to contribute to our understanding of Caddoan settlement, subsistence, and trade patterns in NW Louisiana. The site will be well protected by the Forest.

On the Winn District, a Forest archaeologist updated the Louisiana Division of Archaeology on the Spring Creek site (16WN31). The site was previously described as a low-density, undifferentiated prehistoric scatter. An opportunity to inspect the surface of the site yielded sherds from a minimum number of seven decorated vessels, as well as a single Albatype projectile point. The site may now be described as a

moderate-to-high density, habitation site with Coles Creek and Caddo components.

The Forest also conducted a Passport In Time (PIT) project, in the Calcasieu Ranger district, under the direction of the forest archaeologist. PIT is a U.S. Forest Service program whereby volunteers from around the country have an opportunity to participate in conducting archaeology on publicly-owned lands. Many of the volunteers are quite experienced, and have participated in numerous projects. While PIT projects typically involve field excavations at known sites, this summer's project was a lab endeavor. The ten volunteers enjoyed camping in the evenings, and working in the air-conditioned luxury of the Calcasieu Work Center during the days, identifying and cataloguing the lithic and ceramic assemblage recovered from the Horse Head Site (16VN1016) in Vernon Parish. Unfortunately, this important site had been looted in the past, and the recovered assemblage was the result of salvage excavations initiated by the Forest Service. More information about the PIT program is available at [www.passportintime.com](http://www.passportintime.com).

Finally, the Forest has been notified by the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism that the NRHP nomination for the Gum Springs Recreation Area will soon be considered by the State Review Committee. Gum Springs, located on Hwy 84 in Winn Parish, was constructed by the young men of Company 5407 of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) between 1936 and 1938, and represents one of the dwindling examples of intact CCC work left in the state. As the custodians of this remarkable piece of Louisiana's past, the folks in the Forest are hoping to hear good things from the Review Committee, and are excited about the prospect of the nomination's being forwarded to the Keeper of the Register!



*A field photo of some select diagnostic ceramics, from site 16CL172. All Caddoan goodies, several vessels represented.*

**Kisatchie Ranger District, Kisatchie National Forest, Natchitoches Parish**  
 Geoffrey R. Lehmann, Kisatchie Ranger, [glehmann@fs.fed.us](mailto:glehmann@fs.fed.us)

August 2010. This summer the District hired 4 archeological aides to assist in a dedicated field survey season. Saundra Manuel from LSU and Leslie Clements, Jennifer Hopkins, and Caleb Walls from ULL spent 10 weeks shovel testing in the longleaf pine uplands of Natchitoches Parish. Living quarters were provided in the form of several FEMA trailers, now known as “Dogwood Estates”.

We covered about 1000 acres, primarily in Compartment 34 on the west side of the District, but also in Compartments 50 and 51, as well. Our rate of site discovery was rather low; attributable, I think, mostly to our position in the uppermost headwaters of a tributary of Kisatchie Bayou. A surprise in Compartment 51 was a number of living trees bearing scars from turpentine collection. Prior to this I had seen only 1 living tree with turpentine scars, and attributed its existence to the red-cockaded woodpecker cavity in the tree.

We also surveyed about 7 miles of proposed firelines around the Kisatchie Hills Wilderness. Limited access meant hiking in and out in some pretty challenging terrain during a very hot summer. Feral hogs, turkey buzzard chicks, a bumper crop of spiders and some fairly large canebrakes kept us on our toes.

Many thanks to Saundra, Leslie, Jennifer and Caleb for a lot of fun while accomplishing a great deal of hard work.



**Leslie Clements, Jennifer Hopkins, Caleb Walls and Saundra Manuel enjoy a pause in the action during field work in the Kisatchie District.**



**A group photo from the Kisatchie National Forest’s Heritage Resource Program lab project analyzing the artifacts from the Horse head site (16VN499).**

**Photo by Tom Snodgrass**



**Kisatchie National Forest PIT Project  
Fullerton Mill October 15-24, 2010  
Volunteers Needed!!**

The Fullerton Mill (1907-1927) was arguably the largest and greatest lumber mill west of the Mississippi. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986 and is recorded as archaeological site (16VN499). S. H. Fullerton, an Irish immigrant had made his fortunes in retail lumber trade. He decided in 1906 to build his own mills, proceeding to construct what he touted as the most beautiful mill site. A mill town was built to house up to 3,500 people: 700 employees and their families. Its uniqueness included a grand trolley and conveyor system, water, sewer and electricity to each house, wages paid in U. S. currency, and a final mayor of the town who was female. Some of the former sawmill and town became a part of the Kisatchie National forest and some of the lands were incorporated into the Ft Polk military reservation. Sadly, the Forest allowed the army to use the vacant concrete mill structures as bombing targets in the 1940's, leaving behind only the structural footprints of where the massive mill buildings once stood. Since that time, little vegetation management has occurred. Although a trail passes by the ruins, they are barely visible for the thick mid-story and forest vegetation. The district recently has spent time and effort in mapping what is visible on the ground and has overlaid on the topographic maps where the buildings once stood. Plans are being made to interpret this unique site to give back and acknowledge the wonderful past of Fullerton Mill.

In order to begin vegetation management for this unique site, the Kisatchie National Forest has a need to assess the conditions of these ruins. Additionally, the area has never been surveyed for prehistoric sites. Plans for this project are to begin to document the current condition of the ruins and survey the area. This project will also coincide with Louisiana Archaeology Month 2010, so please join us!

Folks interested in participating with the project should contact the PIT clearinghouse at <http://www.passportintime.com> or Velicia Bergstrom at [vbergstrom@fs.fed.us](mailto:vbergstrom@fs.fed.us) or 318-473-7043

# LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

October 2010

The Tchefuncte River Light Station, on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain near Madisonville, was completed in 1838, rebuilt in 1867, and manned until 1939. Currently, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum manages the now-automated lighthouse. Andrea White, of UNO's Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program, in cooperation with the museum, led an archaeological project that gave glimpses into the prehistoric Indian use of the site, as well as the life of the lighthouse keepers during the 19th and early 20th centuries.



Early 20th century 4-hole and 18th century



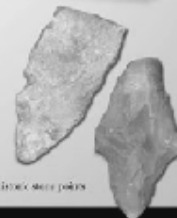
Copper alloy military buttons



Buttons and tool



Wetmore with Dackmire on boat



DeTroy's stone pipes

Photo design by Graphic Design, LLC. The Archival Book Service, the Archival Services Fund, and the Office of the Louisiana Governor, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development, Division of Archaeology sponsor Louisiana Archaeology Month. For more information, contact us at (225) 342-8164 or [www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology](http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology).

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Louisiana's annual Archaeology Month celebration provides an opportunity for residents to find out more about archaeological techniques and archaeological work in Louisiana. It also gives a chance for professional and avocational archaeologists to share their appreciation of the state's complex and diverse cultures and to encourage protection of archaeological sites. You are invited to lead, assist with, or attend Archaeology Month activities, such as guided tours, talks, demonstrations, and special events during the month of October.

For example, in the Baton Rouge and Shreveport areas, Archaeology Month participants can attend special family-friendly events with hands-on activities. Visitors also are invited to the Poverty Point State Historic Site, the Marksville State Historic Site, and other parks to find out about native peoples who lived here thousands of years ago.

Each year, the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, within the Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, prepares a schedule of events for Archaeology Month, as well as a poster that focuses on a specific aspect of Louisiana archaeology. These are sent in late September to LAS Chapters for distribution to members.

This year's Archaeology Month poster features the Tchefuncte River Light Station on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain. The lighthouse was completed in 1838, rebuilt in 1867, and manned until 1939. Currently, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum manages the facility. Recent archaeological work has given glimpses into prehistoric Indian use of the land, as well as the lives of lighthouse keepers and their families.

The schedule of events for Archaeology Month 2010 is available on-line at [www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology](http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology) or contact Nancy Hawkins at the Division of Archaeology, P.O. Box 44247, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225)342-8164; [archaeology@crt.state.la.us](mailto:archaeology@crt.state.la.us).

## NOTES ON BROKEN GLASS FOUND INSIDE WALLS OF LATE 19<sup>TH</sup>-CENTURY LOUISIANA HOUSE

Shane K. Bernard, Ph.D., Historian & Curator,  
McIlhenny Company & Avery Island, Inc.  
Archives, Avery Island, La.

In summer 2010, a McIlhenny family member gave me pieces of broken glass found inside the walls of her venerable two-story house on Avery Island, Louisiana (see below).

This residence had been built in 1899 by Mary McIlhenny Bradford, daughter of Tabasco sauce inventor E. McIlhenny. Later it served as the residence of Brigadier General Walter S. McIlhenny.

The homeowner and I found it puzzling that so much broken glass would have been placed inside the walls. Several explanations presented themselves, from the banal (trash disposal) to the metaphysical (voodoo or folk magic).

We eventually consulted several nineteenth-century home-and-garden books - made easy by the Google Books Web site at [books.google.com/](http://books.google.com/) - and soon found an explanation: Rat control.

According to these early do-it-yourself books, a common remedy for rat infestation called for placing shards of broken glass inside house walls. A sample of advice from these books follows:

“Then every hole in the walls was filled up with a cement made up with broken glass, and I have never heard of a rat in that house since.” Henry C. Barkley, *Studies in the Art of Rat-Catching* (1896)

“Where a rat-hole has to be stopped . . . [and] plaster must be used it is recommended to mix it with broken glass. . . .” *The Gardeners’ Chronicle* (1875)

“Furnace cinders, broken glass, tin scraps, and iron shavings, are also good materials to use in grouted walls or floors. In upper walls, floors, and ceilings, let the principal study of the builder be to stop all holes and rat harbors.” *The Plow: Monthly Chronicle of Agriculture and Horticulture* (1852)

“[F]ill up the interior space between the walls with a substantial masonry of stone and lime mixed with broken glass. . . .” Henry Stephens, *The Book of the Farm* (1852)

“The best method to stop up a rat-hole appears to be a mixture of broken glass and tar.” Alexander Wynter Blyth, *A Dictionary of Hygiene and Public Health* (1876)

“I would rather employ a professional catcher, and let him exterminate the pests. Then fill up every hole with broken glass and cement. . . .” Source: Doulting [*sic*], *Gardening Illustrated* (1887)

At the request of Southwest Regional Archaeologist Dr. David Palmer of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, I submit this finding to the Louisiana Archaeological Society newsletter. My hope is that this information will benefit archeologists who discover broken glass in walls or foundations.



## NSU gets grant to study Civil War battlefield

ALEXANDRIA TOWN TALK STAFF • JULY 22, 2010

NATCHITOCHEs -- Northwestern State University's Cultural Resource Office has received a grant of \$41,000 from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program to conduct an archaeological survey of Deloach's Bluff Battlefield in Rapides Parish.

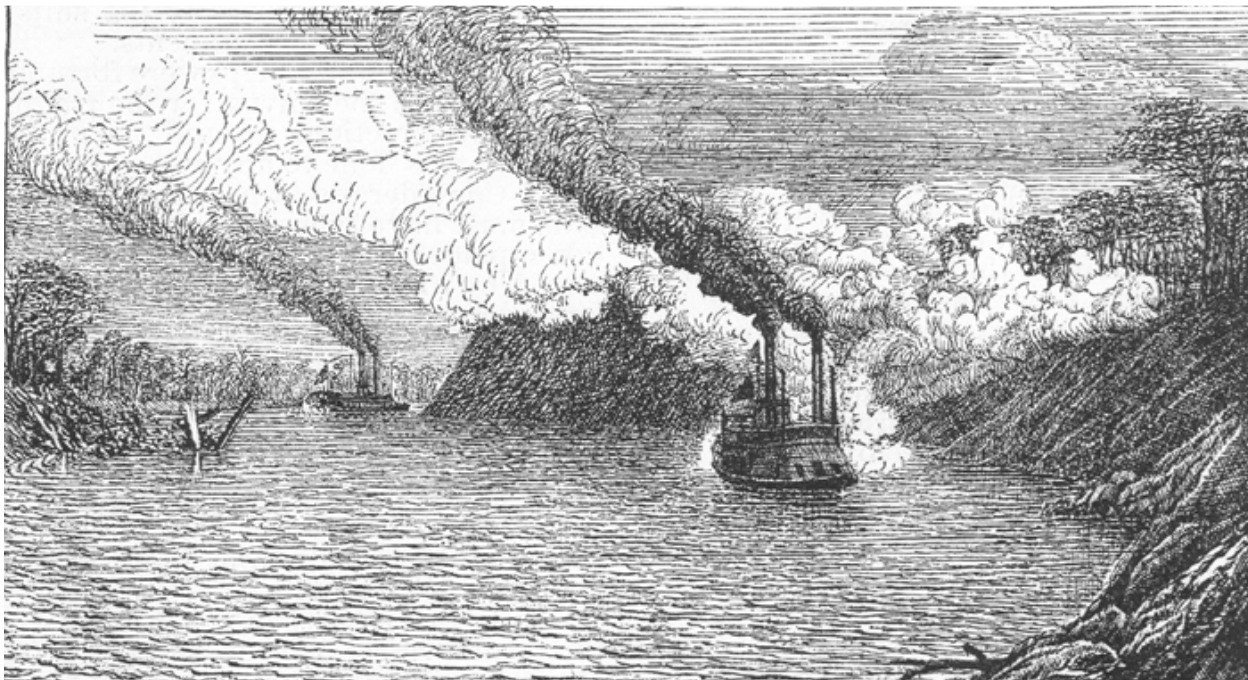
The main project objective is to identify the location of subsurface resources and to determine the geographic extent of the historic battlefield through investigative fieldwork including GIS/GPS work, remote sensing methods such as magnetometer and soil resistivity surveys and archaeological testing, according to principal investigator W. Ryan Smith of the Cultural Resource Office. He said final reports will include cultural landscape and military terrain regression models illustrated through the use of 3-D laser scanning, GIS and low-altitude aerial imagery technologies.

In 1864 during the Red River Campaign of the Civil War, a fierce engagement occurred between U.S. Admiral David Dixon Porter's fleet consisting of the gunboats Cricket (his flagship), Juliet, Ft. Hindman, and the support vessels Champion No. 3 and Champion No. 5 versus Confederate land batteries and several hundred sharpshooters along the banks of the Red River at Deloach's Bluff. In the ensuing battle, both Champions and hundreds of combatants were lost, including all but three crew members aboard the Champion No. 3. The remainder of Porter's fleet was badly damaged.

The battlefield is located in northwest Rapides Parish near Zimmerman.

"We are proud to support projects like this that safeguard and preserve American battlefields," said Jon Jarvis, director of the National Park Service. "These places are symbols of individual sacrifice and national heritage that we must protect so that this and future generations can understand the struggles that define us as a nation."

This grant is one of 25 National Park Service grants totaling \$1,246,273 to preserve and protect significant battle sites from all wars fought on American soil. Funded projects preserve battlefields from the Colonial-Indian Wars through World War II and include site mapping (GPS/GIS data collection), archaeological studies, National Register of Historic Places nominations, preservation and management plans.



**Newspaper illustration from Civil War era newspaper showing the Battle of Deloach's (Deloges) Bluff.**

[www.navyandmarine.org/DelogesBluffBattle.jpg](http://www.navyandmarine.org/DelogesBluffBattle.jpg)

## Sinking oil threatens historic Gulf shipwrecks

Cain Burdeau *The Associated Press*

Published: Sunday, July 4, 2010 at 6:01 a.m.

**TIMBALIER ISLANDS** — Not just flora and fauna are getting caked in oil. So is the Gulf of Mexico's barnacled history of pirates, sea battles and World War II shipwrecks.

The Gulf is lined with wooden shipwrecks, American-Indian shell midden mounds, World War II casualties, pirate colonies, historic hotels and old fishing villages. Researchers now fear this treasure seeker's dream is threatened by BP PLC's deepwater well blowout.

Within 20 miles of the well, there are several significant shipwrecks — ironically, discovered by oil companies' underwater robots working the depths — and oil is most likely beginning to cascade on them.

"People think of them as being lost, but with the deep-sea diving innovations we have today, these shipwrecks are easily accessible," said Steven Anthony, president of the Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society.

"If this oil congeals on the bottom, it will be dangerous for scuba divers to go down there and explore," Anthony said. "The spill will stop investigations; it will put a chill, a halt on (underwater) operations."

The wrecks include two 19th-century wooden ships known as the "Mica Wreck" and the "Mardi Gras Wreck." The German submarine U-166 and ships sunk by other German submarines during World War II are within the spill's footprint.

The Mica was a 200-year-old, two-masted schooner that sank sometime before 1850, according to a report by the Minerals Management Service. It was discovered about 2,500 feet deep in the Mississippi Canyon during work to lay a pipeline.

In 2002, the Mardi Gras wreck was discovered by oilfield workers in even deeper waters: About 4,000 feet down about 35 miles off the Louisiana coast. The wreck got its name from the pipeline project where the wreck was found: the Mardi Gras Gas Transmission System, a huge deepwater pipeline system.

Researchers with Texas A&M University believe the sunken ship may have been a gun runner or British trader during the War of 1812.

BP played a part in finding the U-166, a German U-boat sunk in World War II off the Louisiana coast. Then, as now, the Mississippi River was an important corridor for merchant shipping



**The sunken USS Oriskany's radar boom is shown off the coast of Pensacola, Fla.**

Crews surveying a pipeline project for BP and Shell in the Mississippi Canyon region came across U-166 in 2001. On July 30, 1942, the German submarine torpedoed the passenger-freighter Robert E. Lee, and then itself was sunk by depth charges from the Navy escort PC-566.

This week, oil washed ashore in the Florida Panhandle, where the USS Oriskany aircraft carrier lies off the coast of Pensacola, Fla. The Navy sank it in May 2006 to make an artificial reef. Sen. John McCain once flew bombing runs off the ship's deck.

The tedious task of examining the wrecks for damage is beginning, though it's uncertain whether BP will be held responsible for ruining underwater sites.

Dave McMahan, Alaska's state archaeologist and an Exxon Valdez oil spill veteran, said federal environmental surveys and the courts would likely decide the matter.

"I would say for the folks working on cultural resources — or any resource — document everything," McMahan advised.

Archaeologists are fanning out to assess the spill's effect. The Gulf shoreline is chock full of history and to a trained eye, the bounty springs out.

"This is like Christmas Day for me," said Courtney Cloy, an archaeologist mapping the Timbalier Islands, a barrier island chain on Louisiana's central coast. "I am finding ceramics all over the surface out here."

The origin of the ceramics was unclear. Perhaps they washed in from a shipwreck just offshore. Or they might have come from a hotel or home that once stood on the badly eroded barrier islands.

**Continued next page**

## Continued from previous page

For now, the Timbalier islands are safe: Oil contamination has been modest and cleanup crews are being kept at bay.

But archaeologists have grave concerns for other locations.

Oil has begun washing up on Pensacola's beaches, where in 1886, Geronimo, the Apache warrior, was imprisoned in Fort Pickens, the largest of four forts built to defend Pensacola Bay.

On the Mississippi coast, Ship Island was the only deep-water harbor between Mobile Bay and the Mississippi River for 300 years; thousands of Europeans first set foot in North America there, earning the nickname Plymouth Rock of the Gulf Coast.

During the Civil War, Ship Island was Union Adm. David Farragut's base of operations, where he successfully launched an attack on New Orleans in April 1862.

On Grand Terre Island, just west of the Mississippi River, archaeologists have found remnants of a colony set up by Jean Lafitte, the pirate who helped Andrew Jackson win the Battle of New Orleans.

Archaeologists hope to avoid the mistakes made during the Exxon Valdez cleanup.

"We learned from Exxon Valdez that there were incidents of looting by cleanup workers, equipment being brought in, destroying the ground," said John Rawls, marine archaeologist with Earth Search Inc., a firm hired by BP to do archaeological surveys.

In one incident, cleanup workers stumbled across a prehistoric Chugachmiut burial cave containing wooden artifacts.

"Cleanup workers found the cave, which was unknown to archaeologists, and removed some of the bones and then called a supervisor," McMahan said. He said Exxon security collected more of the bones and state troopers raked remains into a body bag and carted them away. "The site was pretty much trashed," he said.

McMahan said cleanup workers need to be trained to be aware of their surroundings and to tread lightly on the landscape.

Archaeologists worry the push to clean the BP spill as fast as possible is causing damage. Bulldozers and dredges are being used to build barrier islands and erect sand dams, and thousands of workers are raking tar balls and crude off beaches.

"Avoidance is No. 1," Cloy said. "We want to keep our footprint on these sites as minimal as possible."



*"Oil! We're rich!"*

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# From the Trenches

LATE-BREAKING NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF ARCHAEOLOGY

## Oil Spill Threatens History

**W**ith vast sheets of crude from the Deepwater Horizon spill inching closer to a coast that has been inhabited for thousands of years, archaeologists are racing to document its extensive shell middens, military forts, and historical fishing camps before they are mired in toxic gunk. "We have 20 guys working 15 hours a day," says Jeff Hokanson, a contract archaeologist hired by BP. "We are doing our best at making sure no sites are being impacted."

The Gulf of Mexico oil spill, which began on April 20 and is estimated by some to be growing by as many as 60,000 barrels per day, has already sidelined the region's shrimp boats, coated Louisiana's barrier islands—and their wildlife—with goeey tar balls, and polluted Florida beaches. The next potential casualty could be human history. Chip McGimsey, Louisiana's state archaeologist, says oil has swept past the booms and into the gunports of Fort Livingston, a red-brick structure built on Grand Terre Island after the War of 1812. A team from the National Park Service's National Center for Preservation Technology and Training are already assessing the damage and preparing a cleaning strategy.

Older sites are also at risk. Pre-Columbian shell middens are ubiquitous along the coast, but are poorly documented. McGimsey is particularly worried about the Toncrey site, which is a mile inland but sits below sea level. "You have to have hip waders on to walk between the mounds," he says. The site consists of three large mounds, a village midden, and a shell midden, which date to between A.D. 900 and 1500. If oil does make it to the site, it can be absorbed by the shells. Radiocarbon dating can be adjusted to take contamination into account, but stickier questions will arise if researchers ever want to excavate and store material from the site. "People may have to dress up in hazmat suits and wear ventilators," McGimsey says of the worst-case scenario.

The most significant damage may not come from the spill itself, but from cleanup efforts using heavy equipment and untrained volunteers. Richard Kanaski, a U.S.

Oil from the spill has reached Louisiana's 19th-century Fort Livingston and the beaches of Pensacola, Florida.



Fish and Wildlife Service archaeologist, says that's the lesson the agency learned from the much, much smaller 1989 Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska. At

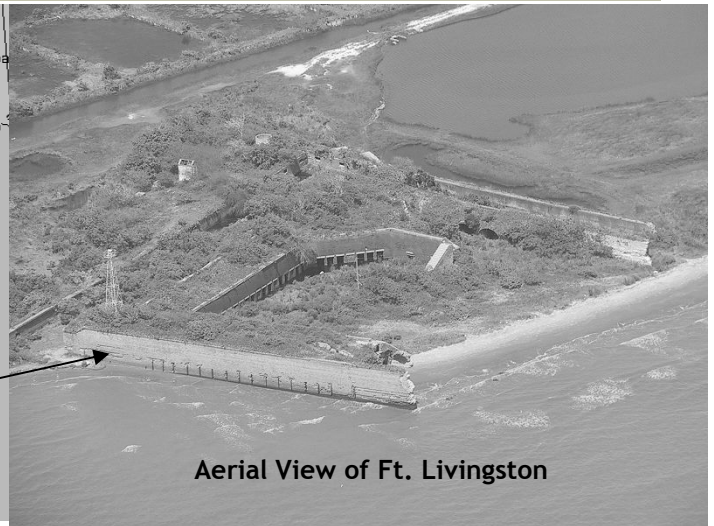
that time, 24 prehistoric sites up to 4,500 years old were adversely affected by cleanup, looting, and outright vandalism. "Everyone is in a 'hurry up and get it done' mode rather than a 'let's think about it' mode," Kanaski says. As part of the Trustees Cultural Resource Working Group, the interagency team overseeing the response effort in the Gulf, he hopes to include an archaeologist on every scout and cleanup team.

Unfortunately, there are some indications that the disaster response is already causing damage. Read Stowe, a retired archaeologist from the University of South Alabama, complains that the Coast Guard has been anchoring booms and airboats on significant shell middens on Bangs Island, Mississippi, and was storing equipment on sensitive areas of Fort Morgan—the site of some of the final battles of the Civil War—before the Alabama Historical Commission arrived to supervise. "There's 50 miles of beach," he says. "Why do they have to put it on an archaeological site?"

For its part, the Coast Guard says they respect archaeological resources, but don't believe surface staging is especially damaging. However, "sometimes you step on some stuff, and you don't mean to," admits Ernie Shirley, an environmental scientist with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, to whom the Coast Guard referred questions.

"Many of these sites have never been reported," says Stowe. "Those are the ones that we can ill afford to have destroyed."

—BRENDAN BORRELL



The photographs below were taken by Nicholas Neylon of the Office of State Parks who was part of a crew from that agency that visited the Ft. Livingston site (16JE49) in June 2010. They all show the oil impacting the remains of this U.S. coastal fort that dates to the 1840s.



## Oil Threatens Archaeology Research on Gulf Coast

Reprinted from WDAM.com, website for WDAM, Channel 7, Hattiesburg, MS.  
July 27, 2010

**HATTIESBURG, MS (THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI)**  
- As the nation's worst oil spill continues to unfold, a team of archaeologists from The University of Southern Mississippi worry about the future of their research along the fragile marshes of Grand Bay, east of Pascagoula, Miss.

Southern Miss archaeologists received a grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) to establish a timeline for cultural activities of the prehistoric Grand Bay area that Native American tribes called home.

The research site location, only a half-mile from booms picking up residual oil from the Deepwater Horizon explosion, could sabotage their efforts if oil continues to drift inland.

"It (oil) would pretty much shut down the ability to do archaeology in a place like this for a very long time," said Dr. Ed Jackson, team leader and professor of anthropology at Southern Miss.

Researchers are finding large deposits of shells or middens left by natives who fished, hunted and collected shellfish. Many of the sites were severely damaged by the storm surge of Hurricane Katrina and will be further endangered by oil. Much like many Gulf Coast residents today, the natives were heavily reliant on the Gulf of Mexico for food and survival, according to Jackson.

"(Hurricane) Katrina brought a renewed awareness of how fragile these resources are. The shell middens on Grand Bay are as fragile as the marshes that surround them," Jackson said. "Oil will contaminate the material in the middens, leaving them unfit for scientific investigation."

Jackson and his team of six anthropology students are especially distraught at the thought of losing the chance to learn about the Grand Bay area Indian culture.

His team includes Lynn Funkhouser of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Michelle Hammond of Wiggins, Miss., Barbara Hester of Gulfport, Miss., Sam Huey of Mobile, Ala., Nicole Musselwhite of Ocean Springs, Miss. and John Ladner of Kiln, Miss. They spend at least seven hours a day digging holes in the ground as airboats nearby tend miles of booms to protect the marshes of the Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge and Grand Bay National Estuarine Reserve.

"This research gives us another piece of evidence of how people adapt to coastal environments," Jackson stated.

While little to no archeology research exists on this area, Southern Miss researchers hope to completely excavate the site before the oil comes ashore.

In the meantime, researchers can only take it day by day, watching the water to see if they will have to vacate the site for good.

For more information on Grand Bay research, contact the Department of Anthropology and Sociology at 601.266.4306.



**Oil collecting boom offshore from Grand Bay, MS**

© Press-Register 2010

**The Archaeological Conservancy  
Purchases the Lower Jackson Mound  
(16WC10)**



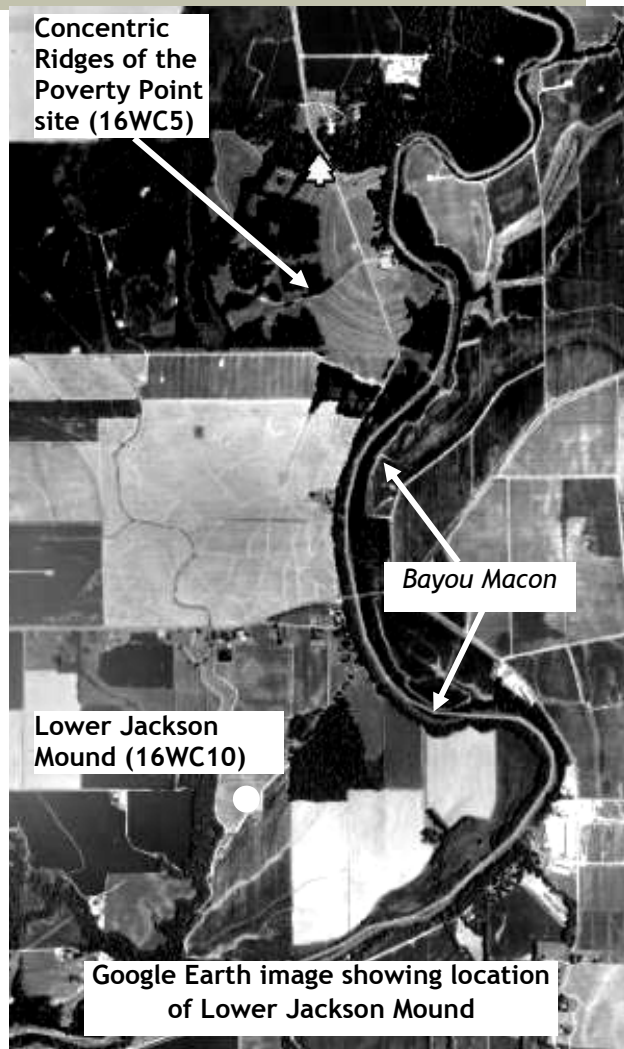
By Jessica Crawford, Southeast Regional Director

Louisiana is known for having more confirmed Archaic-period mounds than any other state. One of the best documented of these mounds is the Conservancy’s recent acquisition, the Lower Jackson Mound, located in the northeast part of the state. Lower Jackson sits close to Bayou Macon and is near Poverty Point, a large, complex site with mounds and a network of raised ridges that date to approximately 1700 B.C. For many years archaeologists assumed that the Lower Jackson Mound was related to Poverty Point because of their proximity and the fact that the same types of artifacts have been found at both sites.

But archaeologists discovered that Lower Jackson also has older artifacts. This evidence led Louisiana Regional Archaeologist Joe Saunders, United States Department of Agriculture soil scientist Thurman Allen, and Poverty Point State Historic Site manager Dennis LaBatt to reassess the age of Lower Jackson. They extracted soil cores from the mound in order to date it and to learn more about its construction. By radiocarbon dating the soil cores, they determined that Lower Jackson is approximately 6,000 years old, confirming their suspicions that it preceded Poverty Point.

**Culture and Time Period:** Middle Archaic to Poverty Point (3000-1700 B.C.).

**Status:** The owners are selling the farm on which the Lower Jackson Mound is located and the site is threatened by destructive agricultural practices.



*“It will take longer than we thought to go digital.”*



### **The Peabody Man: Jeffrey P. Brain**

Edited by Ian W. Brown and Vincas P. Steponaitis (2010)

Burgo Design, Tuscaloosa, AL. \$17.50 + shipping

[www.borgogirl@bellsouth.net](mailto:www.borgogirl@bellsouth.net)

Reviewed by Philip G. "Duke" Rivet

January 4, 2010 marked the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of Dr. Jeffrey P. Brain. In his honor, two of his erstwhile students at Harvard University, Dr. Ian W. Brown (University of Alabama) and Vincas P. Steponaitis (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), teamed up to edit a volume of recollections and anecdotes about Dr. Brain gathered from 22 individuals, including his wife. This delightful book will be of interest to anyone attracted to the archaeology of Louisiana and Mississippi because of Dr. Brain's long-running association with Harvard's Peabody Museum's Lower Mississippi Survey (LMS) and his work at the Bloodhound Hill and Trudeau sites in Louisiana.

Most of the contributors are former students of his at Harvard, many of whom also worked alongside him in the field, but they include others who had the good fortune of interacting with him during in his long career. Familiar names include Debbie Woodiel, formerly with the Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission, who writes of the excavations at the Bloodhound Hill site at Angola State Penitentiary in

Louisiana, and Tommy Birchett, currently with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, who recalls excavations at the Haynes Bluff and Russell sites in the Lower Yazoo Basin of Mississippi.

Ian Brown begins the volume with a nice biographical sketch of Jeff Brain, from his birth in New York City, to his early schooling in Massachusetts, to his entering Harvard University in the fall of 1957. There, he met Dr. Stephen Williams, a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology, who was planning a large field project in Mississippi, and as they say, the rest is history.

Jeff completed his Ph.D. in 1969, his dissertation being on the results of his excavations at the Winterville site in Greenville, Mississippi. Fate seems to have drawn him to the Lower Yazoo Valley, the Natchez Bluffs area in Mississippi, and West Feliciana Parish in Louisiana. Along the way, he and his crews made the acquaintances of such colorful local individuals as Stu Neitzel, Leonard Charrier, and Smokey Joe Frank.

The contributors to this volume share their reminiscences, including some of the antics from their days in the field and memories of Jeff as a teacher, mentor, and strict (but fair) taskmaster. Numerous humorous stories are related of interactions of the Harvard crew with the local culture of the "Cotton Patch" as Dr. Alan Toth, a Harvard graduate and Louisiana's second State Archaeologist, was fond of calling the Deep South. Fortunately, they survived them all. Their appreciation of Jeff's knowledge, insight, and unfailing sense of humor comes through in each and every recollection. This little tome, interspersed with numerous pictures of the people and places involved, is an enjoyable and entertaining read. I highly recommend it.

FORTHCOMING FROM LSU PRESS!

## ARCHAEOLOGY OF LOUISIANA

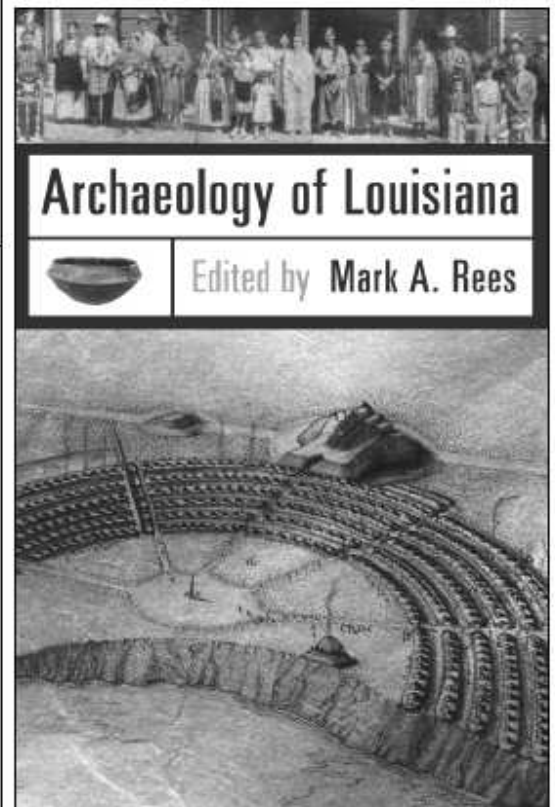
EDITED BY MARK A. REES

*Archaeology of Louisiana* provides a groundbreaking and up-to-date overview of archaeology in the Bayou State, including a thorough analysis of the cultures, communities, and people of Louisiana from the Native Americans of 13,000 years ago to the modern historical archaeology of New Orleans. With 18 chapters and 27 distinguished contributors, *Archaeology of Louisiana* brings together the work of some of the most respected archaeologists currently working in the state, collecting in a single volume a range of methods and theories to provide a comprehensive understanding of the latest archaeological findings.

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Accessible and engaging, *Archaeology of Louisiana* offers a complete and up-to-date archaeological reference to Louisiana's unique heritage and history.

**Contributors include:** George Avery, Ian W. Brown, Kathleen M. Byrd, Robert Cast, Shannon Lee Dawdy, Paul Farnsworth, Jon L. Gibson, Jeffrey S. Girard, Bobby Gonzalez, D. Ryan Gray, Christopher T. Hays, Aubra L. Lee, Rob Mann, Christopher N. Matthews, Charles R. McGimsey, Robert W. Neuman, David T. Palmer, Charles E. Pearson, Timothy K. Perttula, Mark A. Rees, Lori M. Roe, Allen R. Saltus, Jr., Joe W. Saunders, Timothy M. Schilling, Richard A. Weinstein, Laurie A. Wilkie, Jill-Karen Yakubik



**Mark A. Rees** is an archaeologist and associate professor of anthropology at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He has more than twenty years of experience in the archaeology of the eastern United States and recently completed research at Native American mound sites in Louisiana dating from A.D. 700 to 1800.

512 pages, 37 halftones, 12 line drawings, 10 maps

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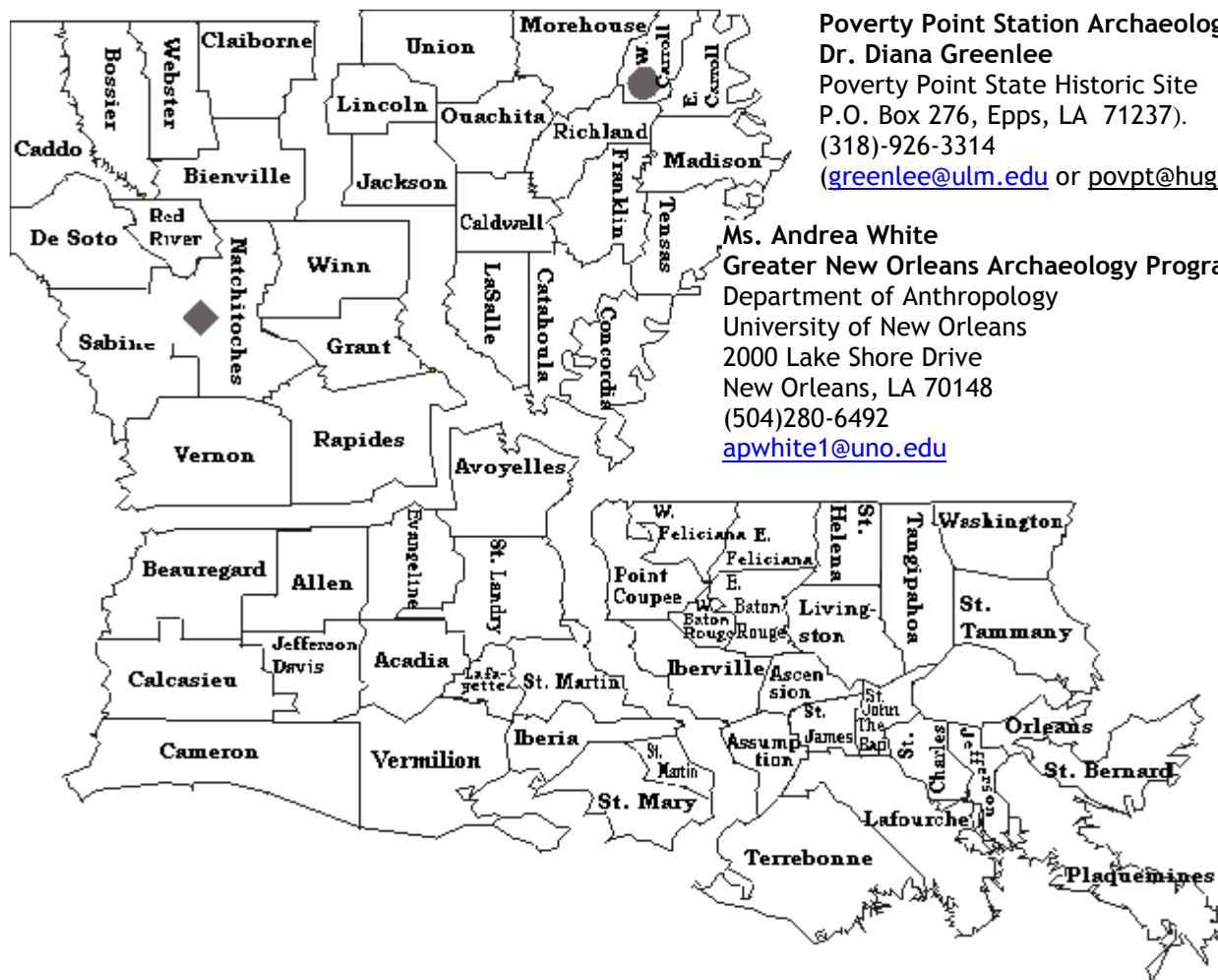
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## Mound A at the Gibson Mounds (16TR5): Recent Topographical and Bioarchaeological Studies.

Rob Mann, Southeast Regional Archaeologist  
Louisiana State University

The Gibson Mounds site (16TR5), located on the north bank of Bayou Black in Gibson, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana, is a multi-mound and midden complex that meets the criteria for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Gibson Mounds site has long been considered a key site in southeastern Louisiana. It consists of three earthen mounds built upon a pre-existing earth and shell midden. Mounds A and C have been impacted by the construction of buildings on their summits and flanks. Mound B is mostly undisturbed. Both the mounds and midden are known to contain human burials (McGimsey 2001:87).

The most recent summary of previous investigations at the site is provided by Houk and Young (2001:9-11). Only a brief summary is offered here. Professional archaeology at the site commenced in 1926 with the work of Henry B. Collins, an archaeologist with the U.S. National Museum (Smithsonian Institution). Collins, along with assistant J.J. Mullins and a small crew of laborers, spent 3.5 days excavating at the site. These excavations found that each mound exhibited multiple construction episodes. Human burials were present in Mounds A and B. At least some of the burials are from the historic period and may be either Euro-American or Native American (see McGimsey 2001:87). Collins's work suggested the presence of Marksville, Coles Creek, Plaquemine, and historic period occupations at the site. In the 1950s, McIntire placed four cores into the shell midden underlying the mounds (he did not place any cores into the mounds). He found that shell midden deposits extended over six meters into the subsurface and contained Marksville period ceramics (Houk and Young 2001:10). In the 1970s, Coastal Environments, Inc. undertook extensive surface collections at the site and profiled an exposed section of Mound C. A radiocarbon assay obtained from material from near the base of Mound C returned a calibrated median age of 965±60 BP (McGimsey 2001:119). In 2001, McGimsey (2001:87-89, 118-119, 137) revisited several of the sites, including the Gibson Mounds. In addition to providing many heretofore unknown details of Collins's 1926 work at the site, McGimsey (2001) also reanalyzed Collins's collections now housed at the Smithsonian Institution. In sum, the previous research at the site indicates a Late Marksville through Plaquemine pre-colonial occupation of the site. Intrusive historic period burials on Mound B may be related to a later Euro-American or Native American reuse of the site.

In November 2009 reports began to surface about human bones being found in the now abandoned house located atop Mound A at the site. In December 2009 I drove to Houma, Louisiana to pick up human remains that had been collected from the house on Mound A by local law enforcement. I picked up what turned out to be two large grocery-sized paper bags containing a mixture of human remains, faunal material, and aboriginal ceramics. I screened the contents of both bags and separated the bone from the cultural material. Any bone that was clearly non-human was further sorted from the bone pile.

On December 29, 2009, Dr. Chip McGimsey and Ms. Jessica Crawford, with the Archaeological Conservancy, visited the site. They met there with Mr. Mark Morgan, the owner of Mound A. The property is for sale and the Archaeological Conservancy is interested in purchasing the site. During their visit to the site additional bone and artifacts were recovered from the basement of the house. These were then turned over to me and added to the overall assemblage.

In general, the human remains from the site consist of heavily fragmented cranial and postcranial elements. A minimum of four individuals (three adults and one juvenile) are represented in the assemblage. A detailed analysis of the human remains recovered from the site (and thought to have originated from within Mound A), was undertaken by Ms. Michelle Whipp, a LSU graduate student, under the direct supervision of Ms. Mary Manhein and Dr. Ginny Listi, of the LSU FACES Laboratory. This analysis can be found in Mann (2010) and was done in consultation with the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana and the human remains will be repatriated to the Chitimacha for reburial at the site. A total of 186 ceramic sherds and two pieces of burned clay/daub (15.6g) were present in the artifact assemblage. The most prevalent decorated ceramic type in the assemblage is Pontchartrain Check Stamped, *var. unspecified* (n=32, w=417.2g), suggesting a strong Coles Creek component on Mound A.

In April 2010 Marc Massom, a LSU graduate student, and I visited the Gibson Mound site and met with the property owner, Mr. Mark Morgan. Our goal was to make a detailed topographical map of Mound A, where the human remains and artifacts analyzed were recovered (Figure 1). At the time of our visit Mr. Morgan was in negotiations with the Archaeological Conservancy to purchase the site. One stipulation of the sale is that the house atop Mound A will be removed (as of the writing of this article, the sale of the property containing Mound A to the Archaeological Conservancy has been finalized). It is important to map the mound as it currently exists so that we will have baseline data for monitoring the impacts to the site related to the removal and stabilization of the mound. We further discovered that a large, cinder block lined subterranean cistern is located on the summit of the

**Continued on next page**

## Gibson Mounds (continued from previous page)

mound (see Figure 1). Although covered over, the cistern remains unfilled and will also need to be addressed during any efforts to stabilize and preserve the mound.

The Gibson Mounds site (16TR5) is considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D and is clearly an important archaeological site. The site is likely to yield significant data concerning the pre-colonial history of southeast Louisiana. It contains intact stratified deposits, well preserved faunal remains, intact features and burials that may provide information about chronology, subsistence, settlement, and trade during the Marksville through Plaquemine periods.

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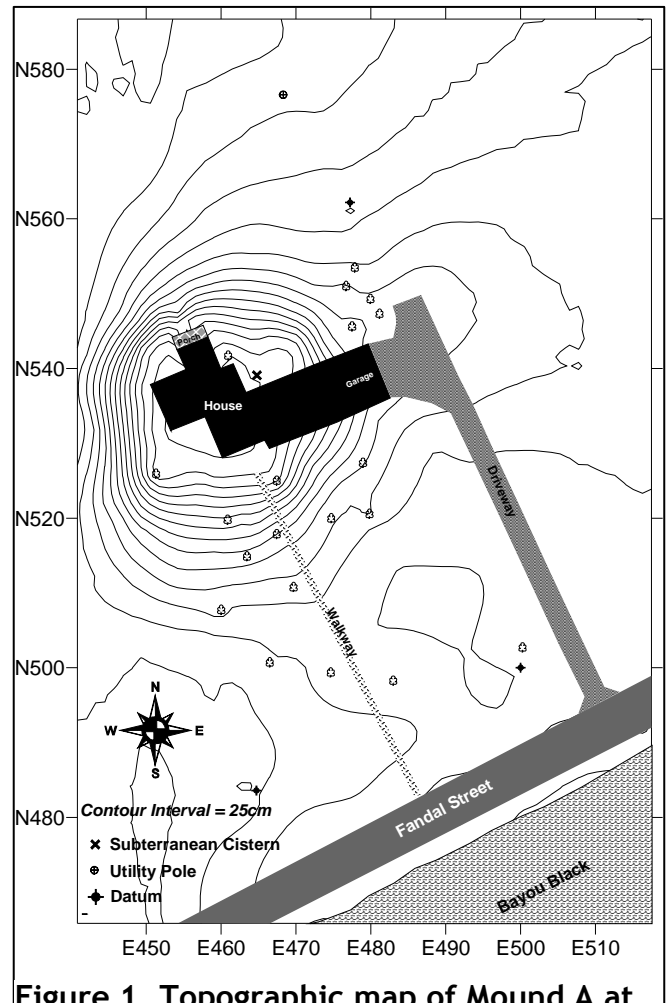


Figure 1. Topographic map of Mound A at the Gibson Mounds (16TR5).

This large lithic blade was found in a shrimper's net earlier this summer in the Calcasieu Ship Channel south of Lake Charles. It was possibly in a submerged shell midden and oysters have grown to it (not visible in this photo).

It seems to be best typed as an Oversized Benton point as described in Sam McGahey's *Mississippi Projectile Point Guide* (2000). It likely dates to 6500 to 5500 years ago and is an item that has occasionally been excavated as part of a ceremonial cache.

The grayish chert that the blade is made from most likely came from south central Texas (the Hill Country) and is called Edwards chert. The marine encrustations, in the form of the shell of an oyster and a small barnacle, occurred long after the artifact was deposited, as the coastline was c. 100 miles south of its present-day location at the time this type of artifact was made, used, and deposited.



The blade measures 25.1 centimeters in length, and its width ranges from 19 millimeters near the tip to 68 millimeters at 140 millimeters from the tip, tapering down again to 21 millimeters at the tang (where it is notched). Its thickness (along the centerline) likewise tapers from seven millimeters not far from the tip up to 14 millimeters at 120 millimeters from the tip, to eight millimeters near the base. - David Palmer, SW Regional Archaeologist, ULL.

## Artifacts Curated at UNO from Two Sites Excavated Long Ago

Andrea White, Regional Archaeologist  
Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program  
University of New Orleans

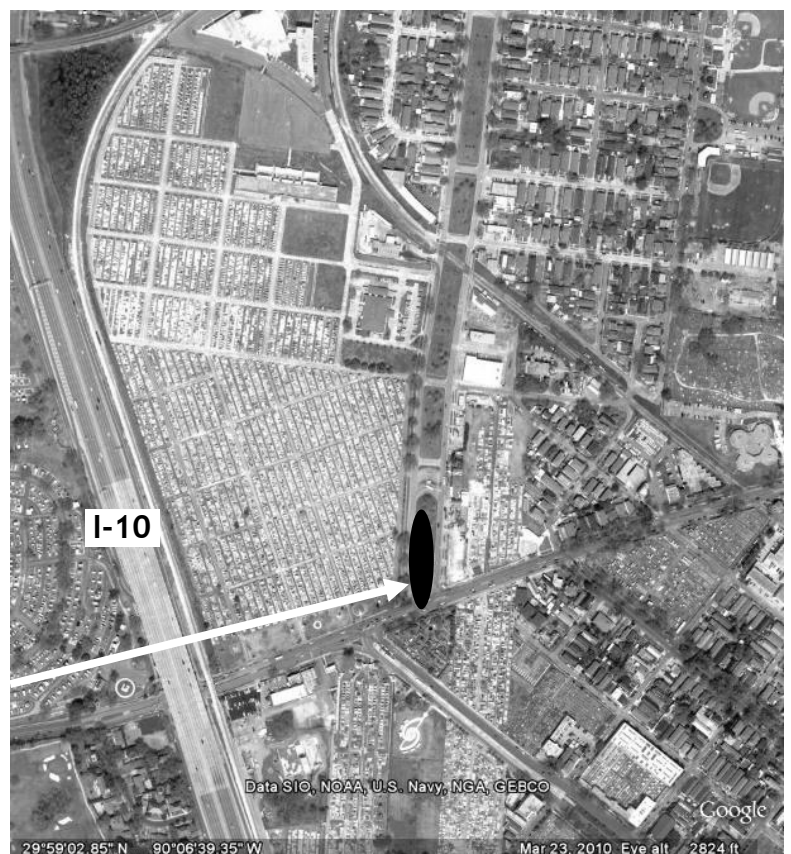
The Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program has been working on curating several collections from the UNO archaeology lab. The first collection is from Cypress Grove II Cemetery (16OR108) which was affiliated with Charity Hospital and was in use from 1853 until it was closed in 1923. Many individuals buried there were poor immigrants or visitors to the city, some whom were victims of yellow fever and cholera epidemics. The project was conducted in the 1980s when street repairs made it necessary to remove ca. 200 burials. The human remains were analyzed by LSU and the Smithsonian and the remaining collection was studied by UNO. Upon completion of the curation, the artifacts will be turned over to the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. Volunteers from Rhodes College, UNO, and Tulane were instrumental in processing the collection. A special thanks goes to Emily Andrews (Rhodes), Jordan Walker (Tulane), and Justin Townsend (UNO) for their hard work and volunteered time.

This summer, Juana Ibáñez led several students and volunteers on a second curation project involving the Fleming/Berthoud Cemetery site (16JE36) collections. The site consists of a prehistoric earthen and shell mound surrounded by a historic cemetery on the grounds of an antebellum plantation. A shell midden area on the banks of Bayou Barataria was excavated by Delta Chapter LAS members in the 1970s. Delta Chapter has graciously donated funds to cover the cost of curation material. Curation of both collections will continue at UNO through the fall. Interested volunteers should contact Andrea White at [apwhite1@uno.edu](mailto:apwhite1@uno.edu) / 504 280 6492 or Juana Ibáñez at [jibanez@uno.edu](mailto:jibanez@uno.edu) / 504 280 3103.



Location of Fleming/Berthoud Cemetery site (16JE36) shown on Google Earth image.

Location of the Cypress Grove II/Charity Hospital Cemetery site(16OR108) located in the median near the intersection of Canal Blvd. and City Park Ave. in New Orleans Google Earth image.



## Checking on the Theriot House (16CM166)

By David Palmer, Southwestern Regional Archaeologist,  
University of Louisiana, Lafayette (ULL)

In the spring of 2010 I had the opportunity to visit and conduct a limited survey of a historic home and ranch site on Chenier Perdue in Cameron Parish, which was occupied from antebellum times until recently. The site consists of the remains of a standing structure and a scatter of historic artifacts within an area of ca. 30-x-27 meters. The site was brought to my attention by Mr. Jim Delahoussaye, who had visited it on a tour of Cameron Parish given by local parish resident Mr. Bryant Domingue. Information about the house and her family's history was provided by owner Ms. Loretta Theriot. She grew up in the house and lived there until forced to leave by Hurricane Ike in 2008.

The house has been shown in two published books of photo essays on Louisiana's historic homes, and was featured in a local newspaper after its partial destruction, (Ross and Mangum 1997, 1999; Ross 2010). The site had been investigated prior to my visit by FEMA archaeologists who performed a systematic pedestrian survey and monitored hurricane clean-up related demolition activities in March 2009. The FEMA archaeologists noted (but did not collect) three *Baytown plain* sherds, decorated whiteware sherds, semivitreous earthenware sherds (aka ironstone sherds), porcelain, and glass, with recent materials mixed in. They recommended subsurface testing and further investigation of the site.

Ms. Theriot, a teacher, writer, and former offshore survey business owner, shared information about her family's history on Chenier Perdue with me. Ms. Theriot's great-grandfather, Jean Baptiste Velior Theriot (b. 1829 St. Martinsville, d. 1899 Chenier Perdue), a cattle rancher, moved from Palm-A-Royal (near Lake Arthur) to Chenier Perdue in order to have more room for cattle. When he moved to Chenier Perdue in 1847 he brought the parts of his former home with him to his new location by raft. He later expanded the home using local wood. Mr. Jean Baptiste Theriot had established himself as a major rancher, with more than 1,000 head of cattle and 4,000 acres to his name at the time of his death in 1899 (Ross 2010:2). He also raised Creole ponies, and sold these and cattle to the Confederate government during the Civil War. Stock sold to the government was branded with a "3+C" brand, according to Ms. Theriot, who also mentioned that her ancestor had several enslaved families working for him, among them a man named John January. The cattle were usually taken to New Orleans via Morgan City for sale.

The Chenier Perdue Theriots are also notable for their later involvement with waterborne transport and commerce, operating schooners and steamboats (the *Olive* and the *Winona*) during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, hauling

cotton, seed, automobiles, caskets, lumber, fuel and other cargo as well as passengers. Ms. Loretta Theriot's aunt Edna Miller earned her unlimited inland water license in 1919. Ms. Miller operated the steamboat *Winona* with her husband Nunez, hauling passengers and freight between Grand Chenier, Lake Charles, Lake Arthur, and New Orleans.

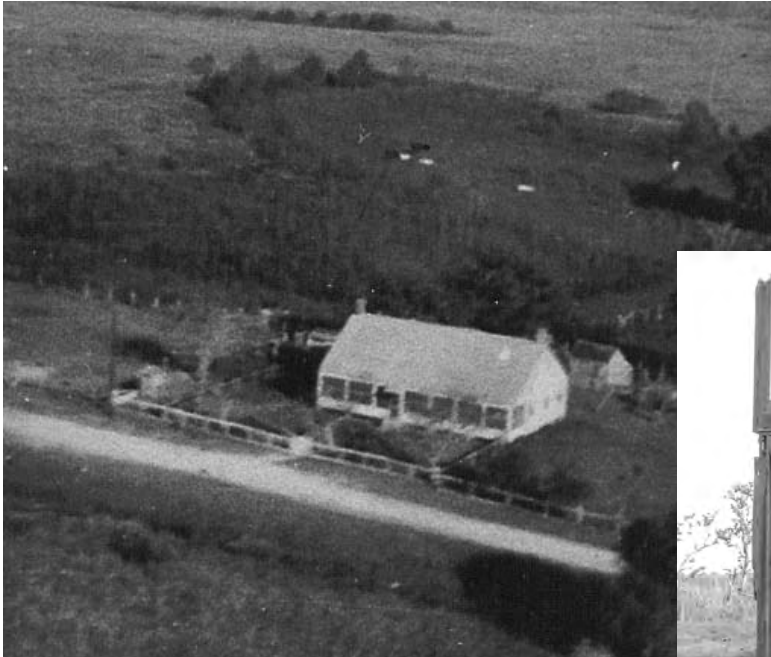
The remains of the house have visible post-in-beam construction with securing pegs, shiplap siding, center-match floors, and cut nails of a type dated to the period 1828-1847 (Type 8b/c in Edwards and Wells 1993). Mr. Domingue and I conducted a limited shovel test pit survey of the area around the house.

The recent hurricanes flooded parts of the site, and earthmoving to level the west side of the site after the storms was evident in the finding of mixed deposits of 19<sup>th</sup> century materials with materials from the 1960s and later on the west side of the house. These recent items most likely washed or were blown out of the house during the hurricanes. Site integrity was much better on the north, south, and east sides of the house. Artifacts recovered from these areas were consistent with an antebellum to early 20<sup>th</sup> century rural occupation. They included cut nails dating to the Antebellum period, brick, coal, flat and container glass including a thick kick-up fragment from an olive glass wine or liquor bottle, various-mostly undecorated-ceramics, a shotgun shell base dating to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, large oyster shells (which were distinct from the broken up shell hash matrix of the area), pig and other large mammal bones, and bone from gasper goo or drum. We did not find any prehistoric artifacts.

The site is currently unoccupied, but local residents and law enforcement keep an eye on the property to keep looters away. Although the western portion of the site appears to be disturbed, the other areas showed promise for providing data which could be used to learn more about Southwest Louisiana and its interaction with Eastern Texas, the archaeology of the Cheniers, and the development of the frontier town.

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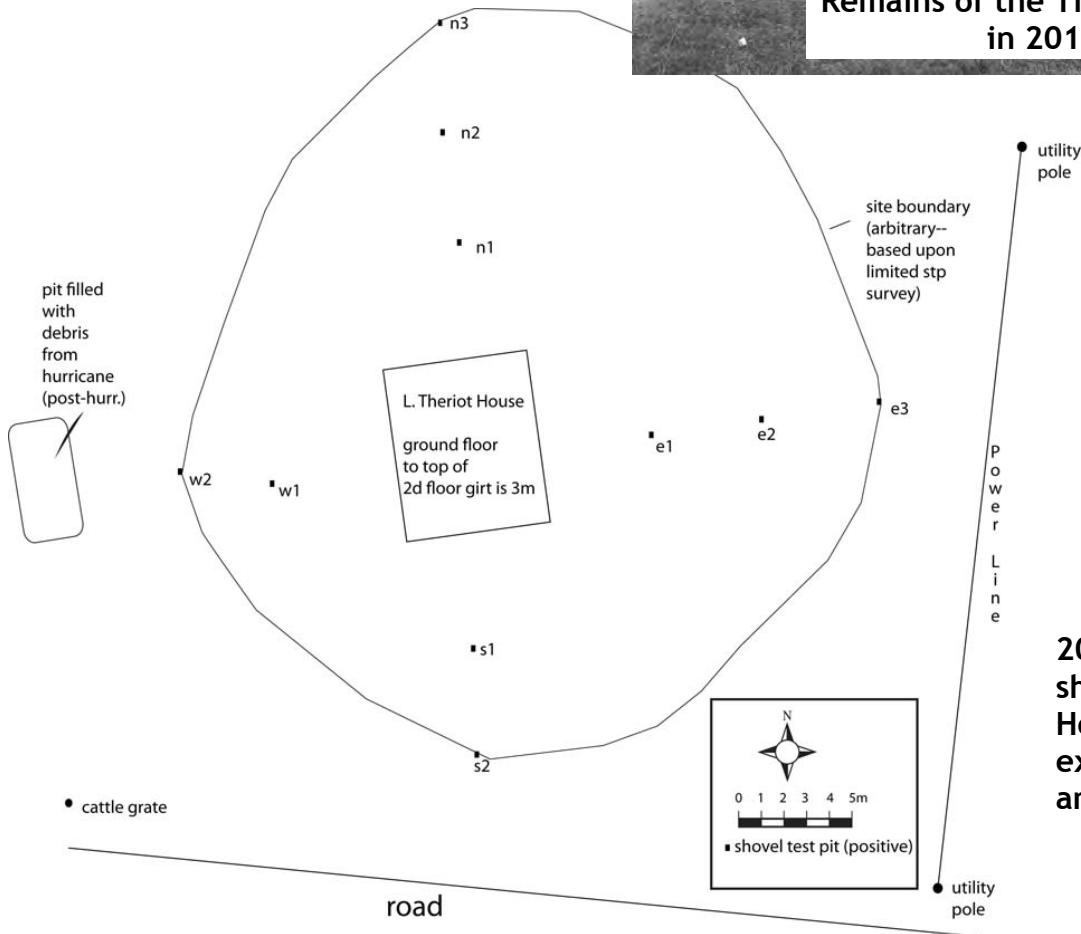
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2010 158 year old Theriot Home finally done in by H. Rita. In *The Cameron Parish Pilot*, pp. 2, 4, Cameron, Louisiana.
- Ross, Nola Mae Wittler, and Harold M. Mangum  
1997 *Louisiana Homes: If Walls Could Talk*. Lake Charles Print Service, Lake Charles.
- 1999 *Louisiana's Acadian homes and their history*. Lake Charles Print Service, Lake Charles



Aerial view of the Theriot House taken in the 1950s.



Remains of the Theriot House in 2010



2010 sketch map showing the Theriot House remains and extent of shovel tests and artifact scatter.

## Bamburg Ridge (16OU395)

By Marry Cool Bamburg

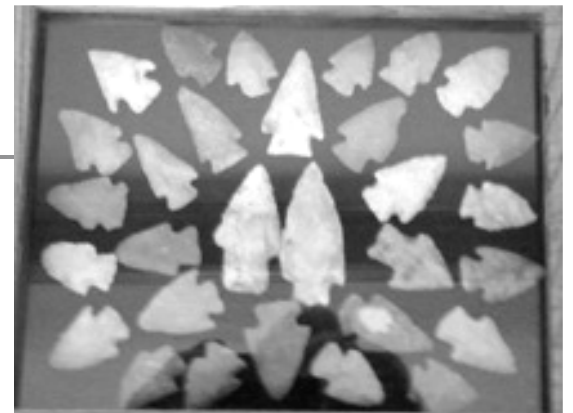
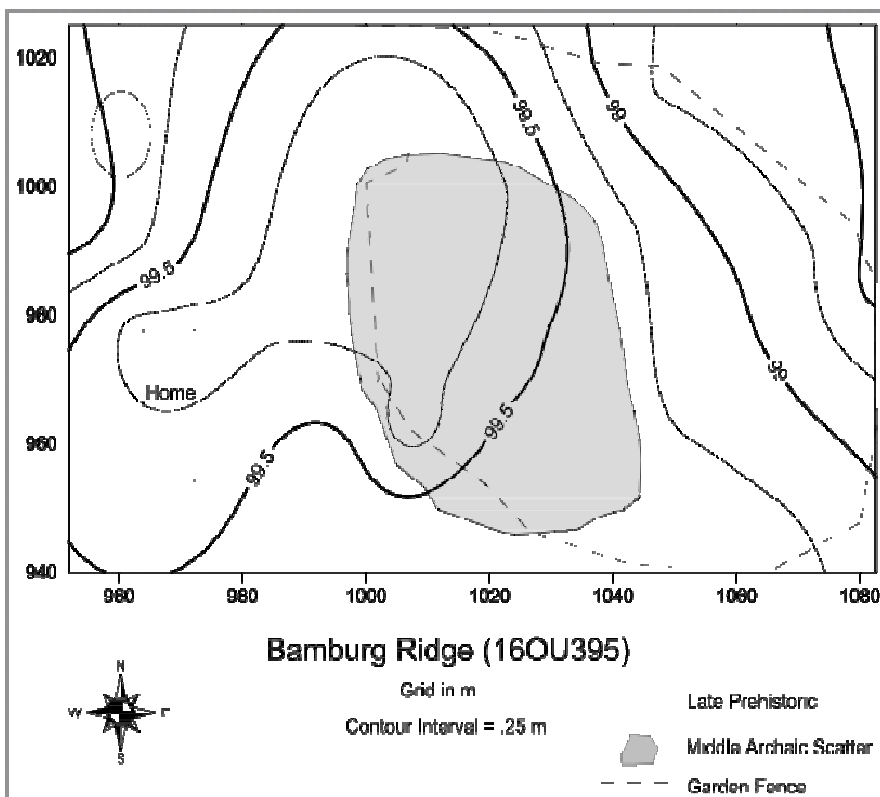
The sun sets each evening everywhere, but it seems extra special at Bamburg Ridge. You see this is the time of day that it is easier to spot the Indian artifacts scattered over our field where we plant our garden. It is so exciting to find the edge of a point sticking out of the soil under the squash plant of beside a corn stalk. My husband, Johnny, and I will hurriedly unearth it so see what amazing treasure we have found,

During the past 15 years we have found Paleo-Indian, Middle, and Late Archaic components on this site. The number of artifacts exceeds 100. These include Evans, corner/side notched and Bulverde points. We have also found nutting stones, a metate, ground stones, and drills. The most unusual item is a celt made of petrified wood. The collection includes side scraper, preforms, and lots of fire-cracked rocks. There is an abundance of rocks located on the site. A large collection of artifacts from this site was destroyed when our house burned.

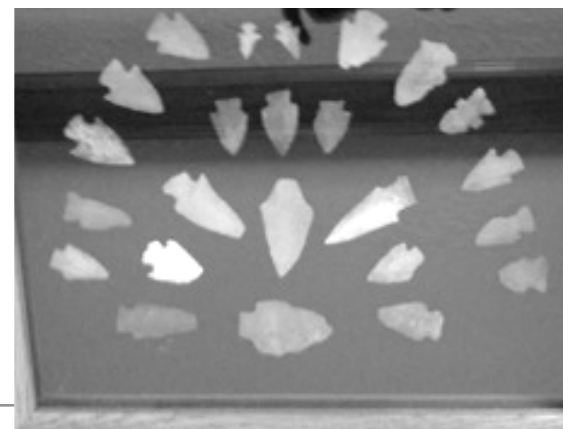
Each day we continue to look for our hidden treasures. There is no other place I would want to live except on Bamburg Ridge.

*Sent to the LAS newsletter by Joe Saunders, NE Regional Archaeologist, University of Louisiana-Monroe. Ms. Bamburg has long cooperated with Joe Saunders and Recca Jones and allowed them access to her property and collections.-Editor*

Sketch map of the Bamburg Ridge site (16OU395) done by Joe Saunders.



Examples of mostly Archaic projectile points collected at the Bamburg Ridge site (16OU395).



Louisiana Archaeological Society-Executive Committee  
 Capitol Annex Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
 Saturday, June 26, 2010

Attendees: Rachel Watson, Dennis Jones, Velicia Bergstrom, Jason Emery, Lynn Fontenot, Mark Richard, Rogers Serpas, George Riser  
 The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Velicia Bergstrom.

**Minutes:** Dennis Jones made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Lyn Fontenot seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

**President:** Velicia Bergstrom had no report specific to President's office. She did have information concerning the 2011 Annual Meeting. (See new business)

**Vice President:** John Guy was unable to attend. No report.

**Secretary:** No report.

**Treasurer & Membership:** Jason Emery reported the following for the treasury: \$1121.54 Checking, \$1029.95 Savings, \$2151.49 Total. LAS needs to move the money out of savings in Springhill Bank and look for opportunities for an interest earning saving account.

Current Membership Breakdown

Institution	29
Regular	154
Associate	12
Student	13
Lifetime	95
Sustaining	3
Total	306

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

**Bulletin & Newsletter:** Dennis Jones reported the next newsletter would be out in September. Dennis proposed that we could send an electronic newsletter out to those that are interested in receiving information in this format. Announcement for Archaeology Month in October is planned for the newsletter. If possible, there will be an update concerning the Division of Archaeology's role in the BP oil spill. The latest bulletin, *Louisiana Archaeology No. 29*, was mailed out to the 2002 members. Extra copies of the bulletin will be kept at the offices of Coastal Environments, Inc. in Baton Rouge. Dennis plans to have the 2003 Bulletin out in September. There is a possibility of having another bulletin out before the end of 2010.

Chapter Reports

**Acadiana Chapter:** Lyn Fontenot reported that the chapter has 54 members. The chapter is currently meeting on Mondays at 6:00 at a local Lafayette restaurant. They plan to vote on the charter at their next meeting.

**Northeast Chapter:** No report.

**Central Louisiana Chapter:** No report.

**Delta Chapter:** Lucretia McBride was going to email a report on behalf of Delta Chapter. The report had not arrived by the executive meeting date. Rogers Serpas reported on behalf of the Delta Chapter that the monthly meeting had not resumed. He suggested that the elected Secretary should take over duties of meeting announcements. The executive committee agreed that this might help the president of the chapter.

**Baton Rouge Chapter:** Dennis Jones reported on behalf of the Baton Rouge Chapter. The chapter meets on the last Wednesday of every month. Harry Brignac gave a talk on his thesis research at King George's Mound site in May. Rob Mann will speak about his research at Galveztown in June.

**Southwest Chapter:** No report.

**Northwest Chapter:** No report.

Old Business

Julie Doucet had agreed to explore the possibility of ordering t-shirts for sale for the LAS. She found a website, CafePress.com. The membership will be able to order one of the LAS designs on any item offered at the site. The LAS will receive 10% from each sale because of our non-profit standing. We hope to have 10 designs to show at the annual meeting for membership to vote on.

New Business

Velicia Bergstrom reported that there are two date ranges available to hold the next Annual LAS meeting. The date ranges are January 21-23, 2011 or February 25-27, 2011, based on hotel availability, other conferences, and holidays. The committee selected January 21-23, 2011.

She reported that there were several options available for meeting space. After discussion of rates and hotel layouts Rachel Watson made a motion to hold the meeting at the Fulton Hotel. Jason Emery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Velicia has spoken with David Palmer about arranging tours on Sunday. We agreed at the last executive meeting to have the guest speaker to focus on historical archaeology. Shannon Dawdy was discussed as a possible speaker. The poster session will be announced in the newsletter.

Dennis Jones made a motion to give the Regional and Station Archaeologists free annual membership in the LAS. This would recognize all the hard work the regional and station archaeologists do for the Chapters. George Riser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

To facilitate the free membership offer of the Regional and Station archaeologist the LAS will need to create a new category of *ex officio* membership. This will need to be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting in Alexandria. Dennis Jones made a motion to add this to agenda at the next annual meeting. Rogers Serpas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dennis Jones made a motion that we offer free newsletter to the sitting members of the Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission to encourage membership. Jason Emery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

George Riser informed the committee that Poverty Point has made the short list for listing to the UNESCO World Heritage sites. A fund has been created to help bring in members of the selection committee from around the world to Louisiana to see the site. Rachel Watson made a motion that LAS donate money to this fund to help support this important endeavor. The treasurer will review our funds to determine what would be an appropriate donation. Rogers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

We need suggestions for a new Vice President for LAS. Velicia Bergstrom will hand over the presidency to John Guy at the LAS Annual Meeting in 2011. We need names of professional archaeologists whom are interested in serving.

The Secretary term will be over as well. We will need to hold elections for Secretary at the next Annual meeting. Rachel Watson is willing to continue serving, however, if anyone else is interested please let one of the executive committee members know.

If individuals are interested in donating to the Poverty Point World Heritage Fund, please contact Nancy Hawkins at [nhawkins@crt.state.la.us](mailto:nhawkins@crt.state.la.us) for details.

Rachel Watson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 pm and Dennis Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



**Passport in Time (PIT) Project at Fullerton Mills (16VN499).**  
 October 15-24, 2010. Mapping and exploring the largest early twentieth century lumber mill west of the Mississippi River. The site is on Kisatchie National Forest. Contact Velicia Bergstrom at [vbergstrom@fs.fed.us](mailto:vbergstrom@fs.fed.us) or 318-473-7043

### Louisiana Archaeology Month 2010

Many programs occur all month. They include site tours, lectures, excavations, artifact identification etc.

Contact Nancy Hawkins at the Division of Archaeology  
 Check [www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/](http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/) for the full schedule of events.



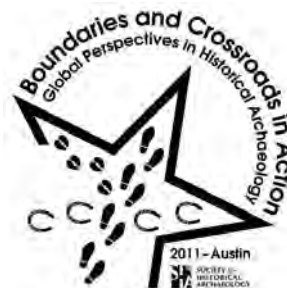
**Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC) 2010**  
 67TH ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 27-30, 2010

HILTON LEXINGTON / DOWNTOWN HOTEL – LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

[www.southeasternarchaeology.org/2010SEAC/seac2010.html](http://www.southeasternarchaeology.org/2010SEAC/seac2010.html)

**Society for Historic Archaeology (SHA) 2011 Conference on  
 Historical and Underwater Archaeology**  
 The Hilton Austin, Austin, Texas  
 January 5 - 9, 2011  
 Details available online at [www.sha.org](http://www.sha.org)



**Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) Annual Meeting**

**January 21-23, 2011, Alexandria, LA**

This year's meeting will be held at the **Alexander Fulton Hotel** in downtown Alexandria, Louisiana. A block of rooms will be available and plans are currently underway for the silent auction, field trips, and of course the banquet with a keynote speaker. Check LAS website for details later in 2010. [www.laarchaeology.org](http://www.laarchaeology.org)

**53rd Annual Caddo Conference, March 25-26, 2011**  
**Location: Fort Smith, Arkansas**

The 53rd Caddo Conference will be held on 25 and 26 March 2011 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Co-sponsors for the Conference are the Arkansas Archeological Survey and University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. Program Chairman is Arkansas Archeological Survey archeologist Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, who can be reached at [trubitm@hsu.edu](mailto:trubitm@hsu.edu), and PO Box H-7841-HSU, Arkadelphia, AR 71999-0001.

Arrangements Coordinator is Dr. Ann M. Early, who can be reached at [amearly@uark.edu](mailto:amearly@uark.edu), and 2475 North Hatch Ave, Fayetteville, AR 72704.



**LAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES RENEWAL**

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

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

**Back Issues of LAS Bulletins, \$15.00 each. Orders of 10 to 14 copies, \$13.50 each; orders of 15 or more copies, \$12.75 each. Available Bulletins are:**

- #1(1974), #7(1980), #8 (1981), #9 (1982), #10 (1983), #11 (1984), #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), #28(2001), #29(2002).

**Back Issues of LAS Special Publications:**

SP #1 Stone Points and Tools of Northwestern Louisiana (1981, Reprinted 2000)	\$4.00
SP #3 Louisiana's Archaeological Radiometric Database	\$4.00

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

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

Send payment to:  
Jason Emery, LAS Treasurer  
406 Tricou  
New Orleans, LA 70117

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

**Membership dues and other purchases can be paid for by using PayPal!!**

### 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 Editor

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

Email: [archaeoman2003@yahoo.com](mailto:archaeoman2003@yahoo.com); office phone: (225) 342-6932

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

### LAS Web Site

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

### LAS OFFICERS

President: Ms. Velicia Bergstrom, Pineville, LA

Vice President: Mr. Johnny Guy, Leesville, LA

Secretary: Rachel Watson, Baton Rouge, LA

Treasurer: Mr. Jason Emery, New Orleans, LA

Editor: Dennis Jones, Baton Rouge, LA

Webmaster: Junior Doughty, Tullos, LA

All officers can be contacted through the LAS website

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