



# Louisiana Archaeological Society NEWSLETTER

RICHARD A. WEINSTEIN, Newsletter Editor

COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC.,

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

Volume 18, No. 2

Summer 1991

## FROM THE EDITOR

The L.A.S. membership should take note that this issue of the Newsletter contains the first, and perhaps only, call for papers regarding the 1992 Annual Meeting of the society, to be held in Baton Rouge at the end of January. Because of a tight mailing schedule at the end of the year, it is necessary that paper titles and abstracts be submitted to the program chairmen by the 15th of November. So, if anyone is thinking of giving a paper at the Annual Meeting, please fill out the attached form and send the appropriate information to Dennis Jones who will serve as program chairman while I am away in Texas over the next several months. Similarly, because of the relatively early cut-off date for reserving hotel rooms, it is suggested that reservations be made as soon as possible.

This Newsletter also contains a review of an article and several rejoinders that I feel compelled to comment upon. First, the review of Dennis Jones' article by Bob Neuman was accepted for publication since it concerns an article previously published in the Newsletter, and the Newsletter has a long-standing policy of accepting reviews from its membership. Second, because of the strong criticism contained in Neuman's review, I felt it only equitable that Dennis Jones be allowed to offer a rejoinder. Malcolm Shuman, who is briefly mentioned in the Neuman review, also was allowed to submit a short rejoinder.

There is nothing particularly new or significant about either reviews or rejoinders in professional archaeological literature, but some may find these inclusions new to the L.A.S. Newsletter. For those who may have reservations about the publication of such items, please rest assured that, on the whole, the discipline of archaeology is strengthened by such exchanges. It is hoped that Louisiana archaeology will benefit as well.

Rich Weinstein  
Newsletter Editor

## MINUTES OF THE L.A.S. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Piccadilly Cafeteria  
Alexandria Louisiana  
May 4, 1991

Reported by  
Donita Burton  
L.A.S. Secretary

Assisted by  
Nancy Affeltranger  
L.A.S. Vice-President

The L.A.S. Executive Committee meeting was held at the Piccadilly Cafeteria in Alexandria, Louisiana. Members present included:

Harry Tanner -- President

The NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY is published three times a year for the Society by Coastal Environments, Inc., Baton Rouge. Send all notes, news and other communications to: Richard A. Weinstein, Editor, Coastal Environments, Inc., 1260 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802. Unless otherwise indicated, opinions stated herein are those of the Editor and do not necessarily reflect Society policy.

Nancy Affeltranger -- Vice-President  
David Jeane -- Treasurer  
Richard Weinstein -- Newsletter Editor  
John Guy -- At-Large Member  
Walter Randall -- Central Chapter Representative  
Fran Guchereau -- Central Chapter  
Charlie Bravinder -- Central Chapter

Harry called the meeting to order. John Guy made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Walter Randall seconded. Motion carried.

David Jeane presented the treasury report. David noted that Linda Jackson's old CD in the National Bank of Commerce in New Orleans had matured in the amount of \$2,402.46 and was transferred on April 8, 1991, to the Citizens Bank in Springhill. David then transferred \$2,597.54 out of the L.A.S. checking account and opened a new 12-month CD in the amount of \$5,000. As of May 3, 1991, the L.A.S. had assets of \$4,018.13 in its checking account, \$3,221.89 in its initial CD in Springhill, and \$5,000.00 in its new CD in Springhill, for a total of \$12,240.02. John Guy made the motion to accept the treasury report. Walter Randall seconded. Motion carried.

David also gave the membership report. Through May 3, 1991, there were 165 regular members, 25 associate members, 7 student members, 20 institutional members, 2 sustaining members, and 61 life members, for a total of 280. This is down somewhat from last year, when the total membership for 1990 was 315. However, David expected the membership to increase throughout the remainder of the year.

Rich Weinstein gave an update on the L.A.S. Newsletter. Rich has held off printing until he receives the obituaries for Dr. Clarence Webb and Joe Manuel.

Rich also presented the L.A.S. Bulletin report for Bob Neuman. Two hundred forty-six copies of Bulletin No. 13 (for 1986) have been mailed. Bulletin No. 14 (for 1987) will be published as soon as material has been collected and reviewed for publication.

Rich stated that when a bulletin weighs over 15 ounces it cannot be mailed at the regular book rate. Postage will cost more, possibly \$200 to \$300 more per publication. Also was brought up for discussion that we possibly add postage and handling for distribution of back issues. No decision was reached.

It has been brought to the attention of the Executive Committee that the Southeastern Archaeological Society (now the Southeastern Chapter of the L.A.S.) had joined the L.A.S. as a life member several years ago. Only individuals may hold life memberships in the society. The collection of a life membership from an institution was in opposition to the L.A.S. By-Laws. The L.A.S. recognizes its error and apologizes.

Rich made the motion that we credit the Southeastern Chapter with seven years of past membership, that being the total number of years that their \$100 life membership would have purchased if the money had been used for yearly dues. Now the chapter members may join the L.A.S. as individuals or the chapter may join as an institution on a yearly basis. John Guy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Harry reported that, as a representative of the L.A.S., he was unsuccessful on several occasions when he tried to set up meetings with key officials concerning the transfer of Poverty Point from state control to Federal management. Legislation has gone through, and Poverty Point has just about been formally transferred to the National Park Service.

The L.A.S. vs. Brian Duhé case was given a brief update. Ray Fredlund and Rich Weinstein have stayed in contact with officials in St. John the Baptist Parish concerning the case. It was noted that a pretrial hearing had been postponed. More information will be provided as it is received.

The annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology was held in New Orleans in April. A Council of Affiliated Societies has been formed, and held its first meeting in conjunction with the SAA meetings. Representatives from 22 different societies

attended, including David Jeane and Rich Weinstein from the L.A.S. David is the L.A.S. representative and Rich is the L.A.S. alternate. David also was chosen as Newsletter Editor for the Council and will send out copies periodically. One concern of the Council is the formation of a central library to house publications from each society. The next meeting of the Council is slated to be held in Pittsburgh in conjunction with the next SAA annual meeting.

Preparations are already under way for the 1991 L.A.S. annual meeting. Rich reported that the Baton Rouge Chapter has selected the Sheraton Hotel in Baton Rouge to host the meeting. Friday evening will include a welcoming wine and cheese social. A dinner is scheduled for Saturday evening with a keynote speaker. Carl Kuttruff will serve as facilities chairman and Rich Weinstein and Dennis Jones will act as program chairmen.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

### **1992 LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING**

The 19th Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and hosted by the Baton Rouge Chapter of the L.A.S. It will be located at the Sheraton Baton Rouge Hotel. The meeting dates are set for January 17 through 19, 1992. Planned sessions include contributed papers (20 minutes), research reports (10 minutes), and a possible symposium of invited papers on a particular topic. At least one session on historic archaeology is also planned. There will be a banquet on Saturday evening, followed by a keynote speaker.

An abstract form is included in this Newsletter for your convenience. Paper titles and abstracts are due November 15, 1991. Any special requests concerning logistical requirements, extra space, or audiovisual equipment needs, should be submitted in writing with the abstracts. Abstracts should be sent to:

Dennis Jones  
Louisiana Geological Survey  
P.O. Box G

University Station  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70893-4107

For those interested in making reservations at the Sheraton Baton Rouge, these can be obtained by calling (504) 925-2244. It is recommended that reservations be made as early as possible, as the cut-off date for the hotel is January 3, 1992. After that date, the hotel cannot guarantee availability of rooms. The L.A.S. has been given a special convention rate of \$58.00 per night per room. This includes either single, double, or multiple occupancy. Please tell the hotel personnel that you are affiliated with the Louisiana Archaeological Society.

### **LOUISIANA'S DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY\***

By  
Kathleen M. Byrd  
State Archaeologist  
Louisiana Division of Archaeology  
Baton Rouge

The Division of Archaeology operates under two main legislative mandates: The National Historic Preservation Act and Louisiana's Archaeological Resources Act.

The federal National Historic Preservation Act was enacted in 1966 and amended in 1980. This act directed federal agencies to expand and accelerate their historic preservation programs and activities. This included the protection of archaeological resources under federal control and the development of state-federal partnership programs. This act resulted in the formation of a State Historic Preservation Office in each state and provided matching funds to the states to implement the federal program.

The state Archaeological Treasure Act was originally passed in 1974 and was amended in 1989. Now known as the Archaeological Resources Act, this legislation

---

\* Revised version of a paper presented at the 16th Annual Meeting of the L.A.S., Monroe, Louisiana.

outlines the responsibilities of the Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission and the Division of Archaeology. The purposes of the commission are to promote the goals and objectives of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and to advise the department on matters relating to antiquities, archaeology, and other cultural resources. The Division of Archaeology is responsible for initiating and promulgating a program in archaeology as listed in this act and for administering those portions of the National Historic Preservation Act that relate to archaeology.

In total, the division has responsibilities in twenty different areas. After an analysis of the needs of Louisiana and a review of the legislative authority given it, the Division of Archaeology in 1983 developed a five-year planning document. This document outlined eight major program areas for the division:

- Planning
- Site Records Management
- Preservation
- Grants
- Environmental Review and Compliance
- Technical Assistance
- Outreach
- Curation

Since 1983, two new program areas have been added:

- Regional Archaeological Program
- Underwater Archaeology

I would like to describe each of these programs and mention some of the things we have been able to accomplish in them over the last five years.

### **Planning**

The aim of the planning program is to identify needs, suggest solutions, and set priorities, thereby making the most effective use of the limited resources available to the division. I think a few examples will illustrate our efforts in this area.

Our initial analysis showed that only about 15% of Louisiana was owned by the

state or federal governments. 85% of it was in private ownership. Although some protection is given to archaeological sites on government lands, there is very little protection afforded sites on private lands other than what the landowner himself wishes to provide. Therefore, some program had to be developed to encourage the protection of sites by private land owners. We quickly realized that our principal problem was the lack of realization by many people in Louisiana that the state had important archaeological sites that should be protected. Therefore, we decided to develop an active outreach program to increase the awareness of the importance of Louisiana's archaeological sites. We felt that this was so important that we devote 25% of our staff effort to its implementation. Some of the materials developed by this program include our booklet series, newsletters, and exhibits. Over five years have passed since our original plan was developed and we are now in the process of evaluating our successes or failures over the first five-year period, and identifying our goals and setting priorities for the next five years.

One of the priorities we set in the initial archaeological plan was the development of a plan for the identification and preservation of underwater archaeological resources. This has now been completed and the results will be discussed further under the underwater archaeological program.

### **Site Records Management**

The second program area within the division is Site Records Management. The aim of this program is to maintain all information on archaeological sites in Louisiana in an efficient and readily retrievable form. Currently, the division has information on over 10,000 archaeological sites distributed throughout the state and representing a time span from 12,000 B.C. to A.D. 1940. Much of this initial information was provided by the various universities located throughout the state. More recently sites have been recorded because of federal projects, grant work, or the efforts of L.A.S. members. Some of the more detailed site forms have been submitted by non-professional archaeologists. The division also maintains a library of all the archaeologi-

cal reports resulting from federal or state projects with currently over 1500 titles. It also stores copies of all field notes, maps, profiles and other field information resulting from work on state land or done in connection with a grant from the division.

With assistance and funds provided by both the Vicksburg and New Orleans Districts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the division has been able to complete a four-year effort to computerize the archaeological site records. It is now possible to conduct computer searches for a wide variety of data including: cultural features, cultural affiliation, site function, material found, degree of disturbance and National Register status.

## **Preservation**

The purpose of the preservation program is to recognize and preserve sites that are representative of the whole range of Louisiana's past cultures. The division currently has four subprogram areas: Permits, National Register of Historic Places, Registry of State Cultural Resource Landmarks, and Site Protection. Most recently the division has been concentrating its efforts in the areas of permits and site protection.

The division is involved in the review of all requests for permits to conduct archaeological investigation on state lands to ensure that good field techniques are used and that a final report is produced. Recently the division has issued permits for work at the Cabildo in New Orleans, Poverty Point, Port Hudson, the state capitol grounds, Oakley House, and around Lake D'Arbonne and Toledo Bend.

Another area, where we have been spending a great deal of our time, is site protection. The division has been working with the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy to obtain conservation easements on some of Louisiana's most important sites. To date the LAC has obtained easements on part of the earthworks at the Marksville site and on the Philip Nick Farm site. Recently, we have met with the new owner of the Los Adaes mission site to discuss an easement on that property. The Archaeological Conservancy, a national organization dedicated to the preservation of

archaeological sites, has been in contact with both the division and the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy to investigate joint efforts to obtain several extremely important archaeological sites in Louisiana. I believe that these three organizations, the Archaeological Conservancy, the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy, and the Division of Archaeology, working together, can have a positive impact on site preservation in Louisiana.

One other area relative to site preservation should be mentioned here. Last year the U.S. Congress entertained several bills dealing with the protection of burial sites, mainly American Indian sites, and the repatriation of human skeletal remains. At the same time the Louisiana legislature passed a resolution to create a committee to study and make recommendations for the protection of prehistoric and historical unmarked human burial sites. Last summer this committee was formed. It includes several members of the Louisiana legislature, representatives of the various Indian groups in the state, archaeologists and physical anthropologists. The full committee has met seven times and a subcommittee has met three times to develop recommendations for an unmarked burial protection bill to be introduced in this session of the legislature. We will keep the L.A.S. membership informed on developments of this bill.

## **Grants**

The National Historic Preservation Act established a program of matching grants to the states to fund, in part, the programs resulting from the act. These grants are administered by the National Park Service. In Louisiana, part of our grant goes to operating expenses of the division and the regional archaeological programs and part to a competitive matching grants program for the survey of archaeological sites and for the testing of sites for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Each year we fund between 5 and 10 grants. Grants are chosen based on how well they fit the priority list of needs as established in the State Plan and on a ranking system which considers past performance and archaeological and management value of the project. Recent recipients include:

Northwestern State University, for a survey of the upper Dugdemona drainage in Winn parish. Pete Gregory located over 80 new sites in this area including sites of the Archaic, Marksville, and Caddo cultures and the antebellum historic period.

Louisiana State University, Department of Geography and Anthropology, for archaeological testing and assessment of the state capital grounds. Mary Manhein and Ann Whitmer located the remains of the old post cemetery.

University of Southeastern Louisiana, for additional underwater survey of the Tchefuncte River. Allen Saltus is developing a model for relating on-shore facilities and stream geomorphology with density of submerged shipwrecks.

Louisiana State University, Museum of Geoscience, for another volume in the cartographic atlas of Indian mounds. This time Malcolm Shuman is concentrating his efforts in Acadia, Lafayette, and St. Landry parishes.

It appears that the division has funds to support the following research projects during 1991:

Louisiana State University, Department of Geography and Anthropology, for testing at Oakley Plantation. Here Paul Farnsworth will concentrate on testing the slave cabins area.

University of Michigan, for an archaeological survey in the Upper Tensas Basin. Henry T. Wright and project leader Alex Barker will be surveying to locate small non-mound sites of the late prehistoric cultures.

Tulane University, for an intensive survey of the area around the Osceola site in Tensas Parish. This is part of T.R. Kidder's long-term study of the settlement and subsistence patterns of the Coles Creek culture.

Foundation for Historical Louisiana, for delineation of the Confederate burial area in Magnolia Cemetery in

Baton Rouge. Coastal Environments, Inc., will be doing the work for the foundation.

### **Environmental Review and Compliance Assistance Program**

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, federal agencies are directed to take into account the potential effects of their projects on cultural resources. Our office is given an opportunity to comment. This is by far the most time consuming activity of the division. More staff time is spent on this program than any other in the office. We review over 2500 projects each year from 25 different federal and state agencies.

Early in the project planning, a federal agency or its applicant will send a project description to us for review. If the project is in an area that has recorded archaeological sites or is likely to contain archaeological sites, we recommend that a survey be undertaken. After the survey is completed, we review the report to see if any significant archaeological remains were located. If significant remains are located and if the project will have an effect on important sites, then our office and the federal agency will try to develop a plan to avoid or minimize any impact on the sites. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is involved in this process.

Examples of recent environmental review projects include:

Archaeological testing of the remains of Beca Plantation in lower Orleans Parish. Here remains of the great house, slave quarters, and sugar mill were identified. This plantation complex dates from the early to the late 1800s. As the result of the recommendations, the archaeological remains of this plantation will be set aside and protected from development.

The mitigation of the impact of the new Federal Building in Baton Rouge. Here remains of the first state prison precursor to Angola, were found. Artifacts dating from 1830 to 1900 were uncovered and included

sewing machines used in the garment factory, one time part of the prison operations.

Test excavations at 16 VN 491. At this site a large number of artifacts were recovered most of which were chipped stone remains. The site dates primarily to the late Archaic although several San Patrice artifacts were recovered. Data recovery was undertaken at the site since it was located in an active training area at Fort Polk and could not be protected.

### **Technical Assistance**

The fifth program area of the division is Technical Assistance. The purpose of this program is to act as a conduit for information on cultural resource management in Louisiana and to provide a mechanism for meeting private and corporate cultural resource management needs. Here we handle all requests for information of a technical nature.

### **Outreach**

The seventh program area is outreach. The purpose of this program is to increase awareness in the importance and value of archaeological remains. This is accomplished through publications, exhibits, audiovisual productions, and assistance to teachers. Publications now include eight booklets in the Anthropological Study Series and a newsletter, which is published twice a year.

Two types of exhibits have been developed as a part of the outreach program: those for libraries or small museums and those for teachers to use in the classroom. Audiovisual productions distributed by the Division of Archaeology now include slide/tape shows about *El Nuevo Constante*, Poverty Point, Louisiana Archaeology, and How to Record a Site.

Through the Outreach Program, the division assists a large number of teachers each year. In addition to providing the materials I have just described, we also distribute a guide to archaeology activities, and we hold work-

shops at the annual social studies conference and in-service training sponsored by various parishes.

Another thrust of our outreach efforts is the annual Archaeology Week. With the financial support and assistance of a number of organizations, including the Louisiana Archaeological Society, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy, the division has organized three annual Archaeology Week programs. At the most recent Archaeology Week, more than 7,700 people attended the programs at 24 different locations around the state. Programs include lectures, demonstrations, artifact identification sessions, and excavations. This year Archaeology Week will be September 22 through 28.

### **Curation**

The eighth program area is curation. The division is responsible for all material recovered from state lands. Our collections are currently housed in the basement of the Old State Capitol. Duplicate copies of all records will eventually also be stored at this facility. We hope to be able to computerize our inventory in the next few years.

### **Regional Archaeology Program**

The regional archaeology program is one of our new program areas. It was started a year and a half ago with two of Louisiana's northern universities: Northeast Louisiana University and Northwestern State University. Programs at Louisiana State University and at the University of Southwestern Louisiana will be starting soon. The goal of the regional program is to provide an archaeologist in each section of the state whose primary responsibility is to locate sites and to work with local landowners to protect important sites. By meeting with university administrators it was possible to work out a cooperative program with the universities whereby the universities provided partial funding, office and lab space and the division, using federal funds, funded the rest of the program. This program has proved very successful. We hope eventually

to have regional programs for the urban New Orleans area.

## Underwater Archaeology

Our newest program is our underwater archaeology program. The federal Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987 transferred to each state title to the abandoned shipwrecks on its submerged lands. The federal government has developed guidelines to implement this act. These guidelines direct states to establish programs to manage and protect historic shipwrecks and to acquire adequate staff, facilities, and equipment to carry out these responsibilities.

Last year with a grant from the Department of Natural Resources—Coastal Management Division, the Division of Archaeology initiated the state's underwater archaeology program. Our first year efforts were directed toward developing an underwater management document. This year, with another grant from the Coastal Management Division, we will begin our shipwreck data base program. We plan to have eventually a fully developed underwater archaeology program.

The above provides a summary of the various program areas of the Division of Archaeology. As you know, much more needs to be done. But with the efforts of the Louisiana Archaeological Society, the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy, university and industry archaeologists, private citizens and landowners, I feel that much can be done to protect Louisiana's past while providing opportunities for the public to enjoy the knowledge that can be gained from its archaeological study.



## ADDENDUM TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE AVOYELLES PRAIRIE

By  
Robert W. Neuman  
Museum of Geoscience  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge

Ever so often in a great while there appears in print an article so inept that it causes wonderment about its intention if for no other reason than to aggrandize the author's bibliography. Take, for example, the article "The Avoyelles Prairie Terrace — Concentrated Archaeology" which was scraped together by the geographer Dennis Jones (1991) who, incidentally is no longer associated with the LSU Museum of Geoscience. Upon reading the text of this article one finds immediately that the title is whittled down to the *eastern edge* of the Avoyelles Prairie Terrace about which Jones (1991) writes "If any one area of Louisiana can be considered the heart of prehistoric archaeology, it would be the eastern edge of the Avoyelles Prairie Terrace in Avoyelles Parish." This is a most profound statement, one that I had not seen before in the regional literature, and so I continued to read. I was most anxious and curious to learn if there were more sites per acre here than in comparable areas in Louisiana, what is the ratio of mound sites to non-mound sites, and if there are archaeological manifestations other than earthworks that signal Indian presence and activities predating and postdating the mound building periods. Fortunately, Jones' narration is brief so I did not have to read too far to see that such inquiries are outside of his field of interest, or perhaps his knowledge. So soon I realized that the subject about which Mr. Jones writes is whittled down even further to mound sites of the Marksville period and later in a most limited area of Avoyelles Parish. When professionally studied and addressed, that area is without doubt a most interesting subject and it has been an item of serious discourse in the literature throughout much of the century. Admittedly, Jones and Shuman (1989, 1990) discuss the history of mound exploration in Avoyelles Parish more comprehensively. It would seem that whatever element of success was achieved in those reports may be due, to a large measure,

to Malcolm Shuman, a successful and talented novelist. Lack of training and ignorance of sources of primary data account for omissions and errors in the above reports. On the other hand, errors in the assignments of the mounds at the Baptiste site (16 AV 25) might cause one to puzzle about Jones' surveying ability (Jones and Shuman 1989:141).

In the present article, authored by Jones (1991), the reader is not even told whence he obtained his information related to the geology of the area under consideration. We are told, oddly enough, that Clarence B. Moore "...did not show interest in the archaeological richness this area provided (Jones 1991:10), whereas Moore's explorations in Avoyelles Parish are lauded in Jones and Shuman (1989, 1990). Moore's publications are not cited in the Jones (1991) references. Even more exasperating is the complete omission of reference to three of the most comprehensive archaeological reports of the study area by Alan Toth (1974, 1979, 1988). Parenthetically, I might add also that Alan Toth compiled computer graphic maps of the Lake St. Agnes mound in Avoyelles Parish more than a decade before Mr. Jones began his field investigations of mounds in Louisiana. Nor does Mr. Jones cite the article by Thomas M. Ryan regarding explorations into one of Gerard Fowke's "Lodge sites" (Fowke 1928; Ryan 1975). Mr. Jones was made aware of such omissions, but he chose to ignore the counsel (R. A. Weinstein, personal communication, June 27, 1991). All of which would cause one to lose the clue as to the purpose of Jones' article. Assuredly, geographers have contributed, and continue to contribute, mightily to the archaeological record of Louisiana; unfortunately, Mr. Jones has not bothered to follow their example. Without doubt, the people of Louisiana and particularly the residents of Avoyelles Parish deserve a better hand.

It is not in the least pleasurable to criticize published articles, but in certain instances, unless their delinquencies are addressed, comparable attempts will rise up through the cracks in the floorboards only to cloud important issues in the field of archaeology. It is hoped that the article by Jones (1991) will fade from the record, in all but his vita.

## References

- Fowke, Gerard  
 1928 Archaeological Investigations — II. In *Forty-Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, pp. 399-540. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- Jones, Dennis  
 1991 The Avoyelles Prairie Terrace — Concentrated Archaeology. *Louisiana Archaeological Society Newsletter* 18(1):10-15.
- Jones, Dennis, and Malcolm Shuman  
 1989 *Archaeological Atlas and Report of Prehistoric Indian Mounds in Louisiana, Vol. IV, Avoyelles Parish, Part 1*. Museum of Geoscience, Louisiana State University. Submitted to Division of Archaeology, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Baton Rouge.
- 
- 1990 *Archaeological Atlas and Report of Prehistoric Indian Mounds in Louisiana, Vol. V, Avoyelles Parish, Part 2*. Museum of Geoscience, Louisiana State University. Submitted to Division of Archaeology, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Baton Rouge.
- Toth, Alan  
 1974 *Archaeology and Ceramics at the Marksville Site*. Anthropological Paper No. 56. Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- 
- 1979 *The Lake St. Agnes Site*. Mélanges No. 13. Museum of Geoscience, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.
- 
- 1988 *Early Marksville Phases in the Lower Mississippi Valley: A Study of Culture Contact Dynamics*. Ar-

archaeological Report No. 21. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, in cooperation with the Lower Mississippi Survey, Harvard University, Jackson.

Ryan, Thomas M.

1975 Semisubterranean Structures and their Spatial Distribution at the Marksville Site (16Av-1). *Southeastern Archaeological Conference Bulletin* 18:215-225.

### DENNIS JONES' REPLY TO NEUMAN'S ADDENDUM

By  
Dennis Jones  
Louisiana Geological Survey  
Baton Rouge

It is unfortunate that Robert Neuman has chosen these pages to pursue a personal animosity. I will try to avoid this. Instead, I intend to deal with specific issues that he has raised concerning my article in the Spring 1991 issue of the L.A.S. Newsletter: "The Avoyelles Prairie Terrace — Concentrated Archaeology." I must say that Neuman seems confused: confused in matters general and in matters specific. I will attempt to rectify his confusion and hope that others have not been misled.

In matters general, an article in the L.A.S. Newsletter is *not* an article or monograph in a professional archaeological journal. Space limitations preclude extensive citations or exhaustive description. Rather, the Newsletter is regarded by me and most of its other readers as a "bulletin board" of archaeological news and developments. The editor, Rich Weinstein, has often called upon people in the archaeological community to give news concerning projects, sites, interpretations, etc. In that vein, my article was written to inform members of the L.A.S. about Malcolm Shuman's and my recent work in a special part of Louisiana, not to "pad" my vita.

On matters specific, I will reply as best I can to criticisms that refer to documents most readers do not have; that are personal attacks; that are irrelevant; and that are just plain

wrong. I don't believe, however, that there is space to discuss them all, so I will address the most egregious ones. To wit:

1) Neuman questions the role of the eastern edge of the Avoyelles Prairie terrace in Louisiana archaeology. I stand by my statement that this area is the "heart" of archaeology in this state. My article noted pioneer scientific archaeological studies, especially WPA-era work, that largely defined or significantly contributed to our knowledge of prehistoric culture history in the state. I know of no other area that has received such intense study. Neuman has apparently confused archaeology, the science, with archaeological site concentration. But while we're at it, what other area in the state has such a concentration of earthen architecture and such a complex array of cultural development? Neuman questions such statements on my part about the nature of the sites on the edge of the terrace, but offers no alternative examples.

2) Neuman claims that my article "whittled down" its focus to the Marksville period occupation of the terrace edge. Even cursory reading of my article shows this not to be the case. I very clearly noted sites that have been attributed to occupations during succeeding culture periods.

3) Neuman claims that "lack of training" and "ignorance" accounted for "errors and omissions" in reports that Malcolm Shuman and I have written concerning Avoyelles Parish (1989, 1990). He does not cite these mistakes, nor does he seek to correct them. I would like to assure the readers of this Newsletter that these reports, done under a grants program through the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, were fully reviewed by that office and found to be worthy contributions to the archaeology of this state. Moreover, and more important to me, many professional colleagues have complimented Malcolm Shuman and me on these projects and have cited them in some of their own reports or articles where relevant. Additionally, many members of the L.A.S. have heard numerous presentations of Malcolm's and my work on mound investigations over the years and are able to judge the quality of our work for themselves.

4) Neuman claims that I committed errors in mound designations on maps of the Baptiste site (16 AV 25) in our 1989 report and impugns my cartographic abilities. The mounds at the Baptiste site were levelled by the WPA project and obviously not available for me to map in 1989. Furthermore, a look at the maps and computer graphics in our report shows no mistake in mound "assignments." I have absolutely no idea to what Neuman is referring.

5) Neuman criticizes me for not citing the source for the geological age of the Avoyelles Prairie terrace. For the readers of these pages, this geological information was primarily gleaned from H. N. Fisk's *Geology of Avoyelles and Rapides Parishes*. This is a 1940 geological bulletin from the Louisiana Geological Survey. The citation for this is on page 6 of Jones and Shuman (1989) if Neuman would care to look it up. It was not mentioned in my article in the Newsletter in an effort to hold down on citations for what I felt was a peripheral concern.

6) Neuman seems confused by my statement in the article that the steamboating antiquarian C. B. Moore did not visit the sites on the edge of the Prairie terrace and takes that as a contradiction of "praise" for Moore in other places. No criticism of Moore was intended and the simple fact is that he did not visit the area in question. Why Moore did not do so is still a mystery to me, because he did visit other sites such as Belledeau (16 AV 6) which is at least as far from the Red River as the sites on the terrace edge. Also, Neuman takes me to task for not citing Moore's publications. As Moore did not visit the area, or produce any data, I would think such a citation unnecessary.

7) He is "exasperated" by my omission of Alan Toth's work in my article. There was no slight intended to Toth from this. As Neuman surely knows from reading Shuman's and my 1989 and 1990 reports, we are very familiar with Toth's scholarship and have nothing but the greatest respect for it. My intention in writing the L.A.S. Newsletter article, however, was to note the pioneer archaeology done on the edge of the terrace and to present some of the maps and computer graphics for

some of the sites. Toth's 1974 study of the Marksville ceramics and archaeology was an analysis and reorganization of past archaeology, and did not include any new maps or excavations.

Toth's (1979) work at the Lake St. Agnes site *did*, however, involve maps, new excavations, and the presentation of new data. The reason I did not mention it in the Newsletter article was because the site is in a floodplain setting seven miles northeast of the edge of the Avoyelles Prairie terrace and well out of the area I was discussing. I thought Neuman had been to the site, but he is apparently confused as to its location. Parenthetically, Toth did indeed produce a computer graphic of the mound at the Lake St. Agnes site, but it was a computerized contour map and not the three-dimensional graphics produced by my projects.

8) Neuman feels the residents of Avoyelles Parish "deserve a better hand." Perhaps so, but I am not exactly sure what he means here. Neuman seems to imply that it is his hand that is to be extended. However, his name is conspicuous by its absence as the author of any study of sites in Avoyelles Parish. If he had produced any relevant works in the past, I am sure they would have been cited in his "addendum."

Some readers of these pages may wonder if I feel particularly put upon by Neuman's criticisms. I don't. Instead, I am hopeful. My short article in the L.A.S. Newsletter caused him to be productive. Perhaps this newfound productivity will have Neuman finally writing comprehensive reports on excavations done under his direction many years ago at the Mt. Nebo, Weeks Island, and Bayou Jasmine sites. Or maybe this burst of energy can be sustained so that he can produce more editions of the L.A.S. Bulletin, *Louisiana Archaeology*, that has fallen five years behind under his editorship.

Finally, Neuman notes that I am no longer with the LSU Museum of Geoscience. Although that affiliation was in place when the Newsletter article was written, that is happily no longer the case. Malcolm Shuman and I are now affiliated with the Louisiana Geologi-

cal Survey on the campus of LSU. All future research by our archaeological team will be done under the auspices of that fine organization.

### References

Fisk, Harold N.

1940 *Geology of Avoyelles and Rapides Parishes*. Geological Bulletin No. 8. Geological Survey, Louisiana Department of Conservation, New Orleans.

Jones, Dennis, and Malcolm Shuman

1989 *Archaeological Atlas and Report of Prehistoric Indian Mounds in Louisiana, Vol. IV, Avoyelles Parish, Part 1*. Museum of Geoscience, Louisiana State University. Submitted to Division of Archaeology, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Baton Rouge.

---

1990 *Archaeological Atlas and Report of Prehistoric Indian Mounds in Louisiana, Vol. V, Avoyelles Parish, Part 2*. Museum of Geoscience, Louisiana State University. Submitted to Division of Archaeology, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Baton Rouge.

Toth, Alan

1974 *Archaeology and Ceramics at the Marksville Site*. Anthropological Paper No. 56. Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

---

1979 *The Lake St. Agnes Site*. Mélanges No. 13. Museum of Geoscience, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

## THE NOVELIST SHUMAN COMMENTS ON THE MUSEOLOGIST NEUMAN'S ATTACK ON THE GEOGRAPHER JONES

By

Malcolm K. Shuman  
Louisiana Geological Survey  
Baton Rouge

I am flattered that my old friend Bob Neuman, in his recent criticism of Dennis Jones, refers to me as a talented novelist who contributed the more valuable portions to several Jones and Shuman mound mapping reports. I, for my part, am an avid admirer of Neuman who is, I hear, an eminent world traveler and museologist.

Regarding the relative contributions of Jones and me, I would ordinarily be delighted to take credit for all our projects, but, alas, the truth prohibits. The inspiration for the mound mapping project was Jones' and, accordingly, he has done the major part of the research and writing, and virtually all of the map production, while I have written the proposals and handled the administrative duties. We have, of course, both participated in the fieldwork and have constantly conferred throughout the duration of the projects. With regard to the Avoyelles work in particular, I should point out that our discussions frequently touched on the investigations of Toth, Ryan, and others whom Neuman feels Jones has slighted.

I am sure that Jones will respond to Neuman's silly diatribe in more detail. Let me simply say that Neuman's characterization of Jones the "geographer" (and, thus, by implication, not an "archaeologist") cannot help but evoke an image of Medieval relic-mongering on the part of one who sees himself as the anointed custodian of the True Cross.

Jealousy is an unseemly emotion in a person of Neuman's years, but I think that is the most reasonable explanation for this pompous polemic against a junior colleague. For, in the end, an objective reading of Neuman's piece must bring one to the conclusion that it says far more about the museologist Neuman than it does about the geographer Jones.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Baton Rouge Chapter

**Reported by  
Wiley Parsons**

The Baton Rouge Chapter was treated to several presentations on the Kleinpeter site (16 EBR 5) during its February, March, April, and May meetings. In February, Dr. Malcolm Shuman of the LSU Museum of Geoscience presented a review of the history of land ownership, historic occupation, and archaeological investigations at the site. In March, Dennis Jones, also of the Museum of Geoscience, related the results of the 1990 field season at the site, including the finding of a Tchefuncte trash pit. Carl Kuttruff then discussed in detail the excavations into Mound C at the April meeting. Particularly interesting was the discovery of a circular structure at the base of the mound, probably related to the St. Gabriel phase of the late Coles Creek period. The May meeting featured Joe Stephenson, a graduate student at LSU, who reviewed the faunal remains recovered from late Coles Creek and early Plaquemine contexts at the site.

The June meeting featured Joan Exnicios of the Division of Archaeology, who presented a review of archaeological excavations recently conducted at several Louisiana cemeteries. Rich Weinstein of Coastal Environments, Inc., provided a summary of his recent investigations along the lower Guadalupe River in Texas during the July meeting. The August meeting featured Jim Fogleman of Morrow, Louisiana, who gave a presentation on his work over the past few summers with James Deetz on historic sites on the James River in Virginia.

One of the chapter's members, Ben Kleinpeter of Kleinpeter Dairies, Inc., was recognized by the Foundation for Historic Louisiana at the foundation's May banquet. Ben's restoration of the old Kleinpeter house near Baton Rouge, and his patronage of archaeology at the Kleinpeter site were cited as prime reasons for such recognition.

The Baton Rouge Chapter now has 38 members for 1991, and our membership grows a little at each monthly meeting. We meet on the last Thursday of every month, ex-

cept December, at 7:00 pm at the main branch of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library on Goodwood Boulevard.

### Northeast Chapter

**Reported by  
David Jones**

The April meeting of the Northeast Chapter featured Jeff Girard, Regional Archaeologist with the Division of Archaeology in Natchitoches. Jeff gave a presentation on sites and their distribution within the Sabine River drainage of western Louisiana.

In May, John House of the Arkansas Archeological Survey presented a program entitled "Protohistoric Archeology on the Lower Arkansas River." John discussed several aboriginal sites that have yielded glass beads and other early Colonial trade items. Slides of the Menard-Hodges, Noble Lake, and Goldsmith Oliver sites were presented.

A meeting was held on May 20th in Winnsboro as part of the efforts to found an L.A.S. chapter in that area. David Jones gave a slide presentation on the 1989 excavations at the Caldwell site, a Coles Creek period locale situated in southwest Ouachita Parish.

A field trip to the Poverty Point site was taken on June 2nd, to view the work then taking place at the field school directed by Dr. Jon Gibson of USL. There were no monthly meetings during June and July.

The August meeting featured Sam Brookes of the U.S. Forest Service in Jackson, Mississippi. Sam gave a slide talk on prehistoric exchange in Mississippi from ca. 4000 B.C. to A.D. 1500.

Also in August, David Griffing, Park Ranger at Poverty Point, offered a slide presentation at Winnsboro on the Insley site situated in the northeastern portion of Franklin Parish.

Archaeology Week is scheduled for September 22 through 28, and several lectures and programs are to take place in northeast Louisiana. On September 23rd, Dr. Marvin Jeter of the Arkansas Archeological Survey will present a lecture in Winnsboro on the "Taylor Mounds Project" in Arkansas. The following day, September 24th, Dr. Frank Schambach, also of the Arkansas Archeological Survey, is scheduled to present a slide

show at NLU entitled "The Spiro Site and the Great Mound Robbery."

On September 27th, Dr. Joe Saunders will conduct an artifact identification session and give a lecture on the archaeology of northeast Louisiana at Columbia. The next day at Farmerville, September 28th, Dennis Jones of the Louisiana Geological Survey will give a lecture on the "D'Arbonne State Park Archaeological Study." There will also be a hands-on program of "Caddo Indian Lore" by Dr. George Shannon of the Louisiana State Museum.

## **NEW PUBLICATIONS**

### **National Park Service Technical Brief No. 11**

National Park Service (NPS) Director James M. Ridenour recently announced the issuance of a new report, entitled "Legal Background of Archeological Resources Protection." The report, also called Technical Brief No. 11, is the latest in a series of technical information reports the the NPS Archeological Assistance Division (AAD) publishes.

Protection of archaeological resources on federal lands is examined in its legal context, both historically and current. Laws that shape preservation, such as the Antiquities Act of 1906 to the most recent 1988 amendments to the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) are listed and examined in detail. Other legislation that indirectly benefit the protection of archaeological resources also are described; for example, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA).

Once given legal context, the author examines the effectiveness of the law in efforts to curb the looting and vandalism that occurs on federal lands. In doing so, the author discusses the issues related to looting and the process by which cases are prosecuted under these various statutes. The Listing of Outlaw Treachery (LOOT), which is a clearinghouse of case-specific information maintained by AAD, provides a final and informative framework with which to understand the success and frustration of the federal government in pro-

tecting the irreplaceable archaeological resources located on its lands.

Technical Brief No. 11 is available free of charge by writing to:

Publication Specialist  
U.S. Department of the Interior,  
National Park Service,  
Archeological Assistance Division,  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

### **Southeastern Archaeological Conference**

The 1991 Southeastern Archaeological Conference will be held in Jackson, Mississippi, on November 6th through 9th. In addition to the always-excellent set of papers, there will be several special programs and a barbecue honoring the 450th anniversary of the introduction of pork into Mississippi by members of the De Soto expedition in 1541. Please see the accompanying flyer for more information.

### **Texas Archeological Society**

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society will be held on October 25 through 27, 1991, at the Airport Hilton in Austin, Texas. The meeting is being hosted by the Travis County Archeological Society. As many of you know, the TAS always provides an excellent set of papers and programs and offers an outstanding keynote speaker at their annual banquet. For more information, contact:

Elton R. Prewitt  
Program Chairman  
Prewitt and Associates, Inc.  
Suite 104  
7701 N. Lamar  
Austin, Texas 78752-1012