

4-2007

Legacy - April 2007

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Legacy

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

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Welcome to New Business Manager,
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APPLIED RESEARCH DIVISION

New Report on Fort Motte



The Paleoindian Survey and Geographic Database of Uruguay

By J. Christopher Gillam and Rafael Suárez

Similar to South Carolina, the archaeology of Ice Age/Pleistocene Paleoindian sites in Uruguay has seen many new discoveries in recent years. The Paleoindian Period of Uruguay is characterized by two early point types, Fishtail and Pay Paso, as well as by bifacial stone tools, preforms, blades, and formal uniface tools. The well-known Fishtail points, also known as Fell's Cave or Fell points elsewhere in the Southern Cone, occur with- or without-fluting and are widely distributed in Uruguay (Fig. 1: Suárez 2000, 2006). Pay Paso points, a recent point type from northwest Uruguay, have a triangular blade, a well-defined stem with concave base, and bilateral basal thinning (Fig. 2: Suárez 2003).

Located between 30- to 35-degrees south latitude, one would think that the Ice Age

environment of Uruguay would be similar to South Carolina, which falls between 32- to 35-degrees north latitude (Fig. 3). Yet, this is not the case at all. Uruguay's interior consists of gently rolling hills with low to moderate slopes, called *cuchillas*, dissected by numerous rivers and streams (Fig. 4). During the Pleistocene, this region was a

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Fig. 1: Fishtail point recently recorded in Uruguay (ca. 11,000 C-14 years B.P.). (Photo by Rafael Suarez)

Director's Note

By Thorne Compton
SCIAA Director

Legacy is the magazine of the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina. Legacy was published three times in 2006.

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SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

University of South Carolina
1321 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29208
(803) 799-1963 / 777-8170 / 777-8172
(803) 254-1338, FAX
<http://www.cla.sc.edu/sciaa>



Prof. Charles Cobb will be assuming responsibility for the direction of SCIAA in the next few months, and we are all excited about his coming and leading SCIAA into a new and exciting future. That prospect has led me to step back and take a look at what I have learned about this remarkable organization over the past year.

When I stepped in to help with SCIAA, I was already well aware of the contribution that SCIAA research had made to the understanding of South Carolina archaeology and history. I knew much of the work—but not many of those who had created it. Over the past year I have learned a great deal about the remarkably hardworking, creative, and committed people who work with SCIAA that is not in their articles, reports, and published work.

Within universities, research is often seen as an end in itself, and researchers feel that they have done their job when they publish their results. Their relationship to those outside their disciplines or off the campus is often tenuous and grudging. What is remarkable about SCIAA is that so many of our researchers understand that their work is in the context of a broader world and that there are a wide range of people from small farmers to amateur historians to Native American leaders to African American historians, to corporation CEOs to our neighbors on whom SCIAA's research has often had immediate and very important impact.

While perusing division reports may not be your favorite way to spend an evening, I have

found that process to be very rewarding this year. In reading the report of the research group at SRARP, what is immediately clear is that this is a group of outstanding scientific researchers who have spent a great deal of their time connecting their research to the people of their community. Under the leadership of Mark Brooks this group of young researchers have compiled a very impressive research record while developing educational programs that serve a wide variety of people in their community and across the state.

While most of us think of archaeology as being about old things and ancient times, I am struck with the excitement and energy of the young archaeologists that are transforming the work of SCIAA. They are developing new ways to explore, discover, and to present the past—and they are changing the future of their disciplines. Young scholars like Adam King, Chris Gillam, Chris Clement, Mike Stoner and so many others are doing



Thorne Compton, SCIAA Director

genuinely revolutionary work in the discipline for all of us.

One of the first things I did on coming to work with SCIAA was to read Stan South's wonderfully evocative autobiography, *An Archaeological Evolution*. Reading Stan South's work is a both daunting task and an enormous pleasure. There is a vast library of work—but it is endlessly fascinating and gracefully written. His iconic status in Historical Archaeology flows not just from his tireless research, but also from his ability to communicate his process of discovery. *An Archaeological Evolution* takes us on the full journey with Stan and lets us see a remarkable scientist who is engaged with almost everything

around him—but who is most fascinated by the anomaly of the human being—how humans have lived, grown and developed—whether in an early historic hunting party, an 18th-century fort, a post Civil War plantation, or on the farm next door. His fascination arises from a sense of commitment—like John Donne he is “involved in mankind,” and he cannot back away from it.

That is a quality I have found over and over this year in my colleagues at SCIAA. Whether it is Steve Smith's commitment to pursue not just the ghost of Frances Marion but also the lost history of African American soldiers, Chester DePratter's tireless work at Santa

Elena, Al Goodyear's determination to get everyone involved in discovering our deep history at Topper, Jon Leader's thoughtful and impassioned advocacy of the importance of archaeology as a means of building human understanding, Chris Amer and his crew searching for our history underwater, or Nena Rice's endless willingness to go anywhere, anytime, to engage South Carolinians of all ages in archaeology,—all of SCIAA is “involved in mankind.”

I intend to continue to be a friend of SCIAA long after Charles Cobb comes to take over—as much because I share their values as because of my interest in our common history as human beings.

Caldwell Conference, St. Catherine Island, Georgia

By Chester DePratter

On March 30-April 1, 2007, I was an invited participant in the 2nd Caldwell Conference, which was held on St. Catherine Island, Georgia. The conference, named for former University

of Georgia archaeologist, Joseph R. Caldwell, was hosted by Dr. David Hurst Thomas, American Museum of Natural History, and Dr. Kathleen Deagan, Florida Museum of Natural History. The topic of

this three-day meeting was “Indigenous Ceramics of the Late Pre-contact and Contact Periods from the Southeastern Atlantic Coast.”

The participants (listed and identified in group photo) were selected for their interest in and expertise relating to Native American pottery made between about AD 1500 and 1730 along the coasts of South Carolina, Georgia, and northeast Florida. The pottery in question would have been made by Guale, Mocama, Timucua, and Yamassee Indians over the course of more than two centuries. The Caldwell Conference was held to facilitate discussion about the Irene, Altamaha, and San Marcos pottery made by these several ethnic groups during the period after European contact. Participants were invited to present papers on their particular research areas and to bring samples of pottery for comparison. I spoke mostly about the Native American pottery associated with the Spanish occupation of Santa Elena (1566 to 1587), but I was also intimately involved in the discussion of pottery made by the Yamassee, who were resident in South Carolina between 1683 and 1715. The discussion during the conference was animated and enlightening, and we all came away knowing far more than when we arrived. Drs. Thomas and Deagan will edit a contributions by participants to be published in the Anthropological Papers series of the American Museum of Natural History.



Participants in the Caldwell Conference (l to r): Royce Hayes (Superintendent, St. Catherine Island), Dennis Blanton (Fernbank Museum of Natural History), Dr. Keith Ashley (Savannah College of Art and Design), Dr. Gifford Waters (University of Florida), Matthew Sanger (American Museum of Natural History), Lori Pendleton (American Museum of Natural History), Carl Halbirt (City of St. Augustine, Florida), Dr. David Hurst Thomas (American Museum of Natural History), Dr. Kathleen Deagan (University of Florida), Dr. Rebecca Saunders (Louisiana State University), Dr. J. Mark Williams (University of Georgia), Dr. John Worth (Randell Research Center, Pineland, Florida), Ginessa Mahan (American Museum of Natural History), Anna Semon (American Museum of Natural History), Elliott Blair (American Museum of Natural History), and Dr. Chester DePratter (SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina)

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more temperature grass- and shrub-land than today, with mixed deciduous forests bordering streams. This landscape would have provided diverse plants and animals for hunting and gathering by early people in an ever-changing environment. Unlike South Carolina, this landscape had more in common with the Plains Region of North America than the open boreal forests of our Atlantic Coast during the Ice Age. Similar to South Carolina, however, little is known about the coastal adaptations of these earliest cultures as the paleo-shoreline and coastal zone is now submerged over 60 miles (100 kilometers) east of the modern Atlantic coastline (Fig. 3). Including the mouth of the La Plata Basin, the subsequent land loss for Uruguay is over 25-percent of that available to early hunter-gatherers at 11,000 radiocarbon years before present (11,000 C-14 years B.P.: approximately -246 feet or -75 meters below mean sea level; Gillam et al. 2006).

A collections survey to further document site location and cultural component information throughout the region is currently underway. In the first week of survey, Rafael recorded 12 new sites and 21 Paleoindian artifacts, including 13 Fishtail/Fell's Cave points, five Pay Paso points, one bifacial tool, and two unifacial tools! These data will supplement 15 sites and five quarry sites previously on record and yield new data on the distribution and context of these early sites (Fig. 3). The data gathered in the survey are being integrated into a GIS database for analysis and modeling. The Geographic

Information Systems (GIS) includes environmental data from the Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) 90-meter DEM, the GLOBE, HYDRO1K, and GTOPO30 1-kilometer resolution DEM datasets, the ETOPO2 4-kilometer resolution DEM data (ETOPO2 also includes sea floor bathymetry), and VMAP. Numerous derivative datasets (e.g. slope, solar potential, and hydrologic



Fig. 2: Pay Paso point recently recorded in Uruguay (ca. 9,500 C-14 years B.P.). (Photo by Rafael Suarez)

models) have been developed from the SRTM 90-m DEM to enable GIS analyses of site location.

Statistical analysis and cartographic modeling techniques are being used to further examine the settlement systems and ecological niches of early hunter-gatherers and to explore potential interaction and exchange networks throughout the region. For example, least-cost paths

analyses are being used to examine potential trail networks within and between drainages and to and from key resources, such as stone quarries (e.g. Anderson and Gillam 2000; Gillam and Tabarev 2004, 2006). Likewise, results of the current collections survey will provide a statistically valid sample of sites that will be used for predictive modeling of site location and the identification of ecological niches exploited by early hunter-gatherers (e.g. Banks et al. 2006). This research is yielding new insights into early hunter-gatherer adaptations of the region and will be used to direct future field research in Uruguay and neighboring regions of South America.

Acknowledgements

This research is sponsored by the authors' institutions and grants from the Archaeological Research Trust Board of Trustees and the Paleolithic Research Fund of the University of South Carolina's Educational Foundation.

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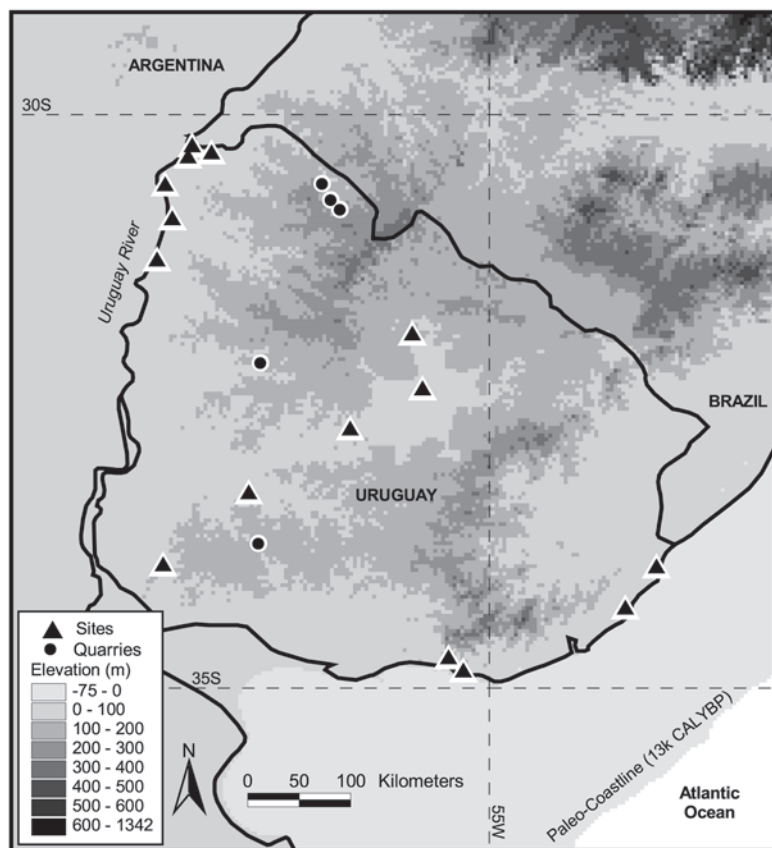


Fig. 3: Map of prior known Paleolandship sites and quarries in Uruguay on the reconstructed Paleolandship (ca. 11,000 C-14 years B.P.). (Map by Rafael Suarez)

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Fig. 4: View of grass- and shrub-lands near Cerros Azules in southern Uruguay. (Photo by Rafael Suarez)

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Authors

J. Christopher Gillam, Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, 1321 Pendleton St., Columbia, SC 29208. Email: gillam@sc.edu

Rafael Suárez, Museo de Historia Natural y Antropología. División Antropología. Coronel Raíz 1107, CP 12900 Montevideo, Uruguay. Email: suarezrafael23@gmail.com

Research Division

Santa Elena Pottery Kiln Revisited

By Chester DePratter

When I found the Santa Elena pottery kiln in 1993, I never imagined that I would still be working on that locality 14 years later. But sometimes in archaeology we have to go slower than we would like because much of what we do is driven by the availability of funds. That has certainly been the case with the kiln and surrounding area, but there have been other factors involved as well.

Santa Elena was a Spanish colonial settlement established on Parris Island near Beaufort in 1566. It was the capital of Spanish Florida from 1566 to 1576, when it was temporarily abandoned due to attack by local Native Americans. The town was reestablished in 1577, but it no longer served as the capital at that time. After another ten years of occupation, the town was abandoned again in 1587, and it was never reoccupied.

At its peak, the town contained approximately 40 houses, government offices, stores, warehouses, a church, and sundry other buildings. Over the 21 years of its occupation, there were four—and possibly five—forts built to defend the town and its residents.

The Spanish kiln was found through shovel testing in the area adjacent to the present golf course clubhouse. At the time, I was

looking for one of Santa Elena's forts, Fort San Marcos (I), which was built in 1577. Although I did not find that fort (and we have still not found it), one of our shovel tests penetrated the stoke hole of what turned out to be the kiln.

Stan South and I excavated the kiln (with the assistance of Jim Legg, Richard Polhemus, and Linda Carnes-McNaughton, among others) in the spring of 1993. The kiln consisted of a firing chamber about four feet square set in a shallow hole lined with bricks. There were two



Reconstructive drawing of Santa Elena potter's kiln. (SCIAA drawing by James B. Legg)

brick arches used to elevate the pots above the heat source on the floor of the chamber. There was also an arched firebox on one end where fuel was fed into the fire and through which coals were pushed beneath the pots. We found no remains of the superstructure, but we believe it consisted of a puddled clay/daub shell with pot fragments used to control airflow through the body of the kiln.

When we excavated the kiln, we found that it had been used only a few times before being abandoned. The entire firing chamber was filled with bricks from the collapsed arches and large fragments of nearly 50 pots that had been made in the kiln. None of these fragments showed any evidence of glazing, though many of the forms would have been glazed if made for everyday use. Based on our reconstructions of those pots in the kiln, we believe that it was mainly a test kiln, in which a potter was trying out local clays to see how they worked on the potter's wheel and how those vessels fired in a small, simple updraft kiln. We believe that the kiln was in use around 1586-1587 just prior to the final abandonment of Santa Elena. We found fragments of a few pots made in the kiln when we excavated on the two governor's lots in the town of Santa Elena in 1993.

In the years after those initial excavations, we went back to excavate more of the area surrounding the kiln. This work involved removal of cart paths and cart parking areas, so we had to proceed in coordination with the needs of golf course operations. In the spring of 1994, we worked in the area to the northwest of the kiln, and we found what we believe to be the potter's workshop. On the end of this structure closest to the kiln, we found the ballast stone on which the potter's wheel shaft rested; the turning of this shaft had worn a depression about 1/4-inch deep into this very hard stone. The ballast stone was held in place by a packing

of unfired clay, likely the same clay that the potter used to throw the pots we found in the kiln.

In the spring of 1997, we returned to the clubhouse area to conduct additional shovel testing in an effort to discover the location of the potter's waster dump, but we did not find it. In the fall of 1997, we excavated a large block to the north and west of the kiln with the expectation that we would find more structures associated with the kiln and perhaps the waster dump. Instead, we found a dense late 18th/19th century deposit with numerous associated features but very little material related to the kiln.

In 1999, we worked on a site (38BU1834) located about 100 yards north of the kiln. I was interested in that area because there was a small pond shown there on old maps, but today there is only a clump of trees in a small circle around the perimeter of the former pond. The pond stood open until it was filled with garbage by the Marines during World War I. We shovel tested and cored in and around the pond (likely a natural sinkhole), but we did not find any Spanish pottery or evidence that it was used in conjunction with the kiln. We did find a clay deposit on the edge of the pond, and preliminary testing suggested that the potter could have used that clay.

There was one more place we wanted to excavate before we finalized the kiln report, and that was beneath a concrete picnic shelter slab about 16 feet square located about 15 feet to the east of the kiln. Through the years we requested permission to remove this slab and excavate beneath it, and on more than one occasion we had permission to remove it. But at each

of those opportunities, we either did not have the needed funds to put a crew into the field or a new base commanding general would arrive and cancel our permission to dig there.

Finally, in the fall of 2006, we were able to dig beneath that concrete. With funds provided by the Marine Corps and assistance provided by Depot Archaeologist, Dr. Bryan Howard, we used a backhoe to lift that slab in August, 2006. As it turns out, our perseverance paid off.

Beneath the footprint of the concrete slab, we found both the potter's house and a well. The house was roughly 12 feet X 16 feet with



Removal of concrete slab to begin search for Santa Elena potter's house. (SCIAA photo)

postholes about two feet across holding posts approximately 0.8 feet in diameter. There was a shell/trash deposit on the floor at one end of the structure. The well was located several feet to the east of the house. Due to time limitations, we did not get to dig the well in the Fall 2006 field season. At some time in the future, we will return with a well point system and excavate this important feature. There is a good possibility that it will contain trash and waster material from the clean up that took place when the kiln was abandoned.

We also conducted additional excavations at site 38BU1834 in a continuing effort to determine if the potter had used that pond/sinkhole as a clay or water source or refuse dump. Our 2006 trenches did not encounter any Spanish artifacts in or around the pond. We did further expose the clay source on the pond's margin, and we took large clay samples for testing to see if this clay was indeed used by the potter. Those samples will be processed in the coming months.

So, all in all, the fall, 2006 field season at the Santa Elena pottery kiln was a great success. We found the potter's house and well for which we have been searching since 1993. We still did not find the waster dump, but we now have a new opportunity to continue our search for that feature.

Adjacent to the potter's house was the mounded tee of the old 7th hole on the golf course. That hole was closed in 2001 as part of the golf course remodeling, so the tee was no longer being used. In consultation with the golf course staff, I learned that they needed fill to remodel tees on other holes, so I suggested

they use the fill from the old 7th tee. After consultation with Bryan Howard and Valerie Marcil at the S.C. Department of Archives and History, workers were given permission to remove that tee, thereby exposing a large area adjacent to the kiln that had previously been inaccessible. I plan to take a crew back to Santa Elena this spring or early summer to conduct shovel testing at 10-foot intervals to see if there is any evidence of the waster dump in this area. A future article here in *Legacy* will let you know if we were successful.

Coastal Shell Midden Research

Chester DePratter

Over the past several months, I have been actively pursuing my coastal research interests. Although this work is not the main focus of my activities here at SCIAA, it is long-term research that I intend to continue in coming years as time and resources become available.

Spanish Mount

Late last summer, I visited the Spanish Mount shell midden at Edisto Beach State Park [*Legacy* 10(3):8-9]. I had never seen that site, though I was familiar with the research done there by Donald Sutherland back in the early 1970s. I was surprised by what I saw. In the years since Sutherland worked on the site, Scott Creek has continued to eat away at what must have been, at one time, a huge midden. Sutherland mapped a midden nearly three meters high covering approximately 186 square meters, and even at that



Chester DePratter, David Jones, and James Legg standing in front of Spanish Mount profile. (*SCIAA photo by Stanley South*)

point there had been extensive loss, since the creek had been cutting into the bank for decades or perhaps even centuries. By late 2006, that midden has been reduced by erosion to about 66 square meters, and the tallest

remaining portion of the profile is about two meters high.

Archaeologist David Jones of the S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) recognized the rate of loss and the need to halt erosion, and as

a result, there is now a wooden bulkhead in place that will prevent further erosion and allow the site to be viewed more readily by visitors.

I saw the exposed profile as an opportunity to easily collect data that would help to understand the occupational history of this important site. Jim Legg, Stan South,

and I spent three days in October mapping the site, recording the exposed profile, and collecting samples for radiocarbon dating. Housing was provided by PRT in a park cabin, so this was a totally

pleasant operation.

In the profile, we could see what we interpreted as living surfaces or perhaps house floors separated vertically by lenses of clean oyster shell. We carefully recorded the



James Legg standing on Sewee clam shell midden. (*SCIAA photo*)

details we observed in the profile, and in the process we took 16 samples of shell for radiocarbon dating. We already knew from Sutherland's work on this site and the work of other archaeologists at related sites, that the occupation of this midden dated to the Thoms Creek period (c. 3,000 to 4,000 years before present). With additional samples, I hoped to refine the Thoms Creek chronology as well as finding out the specific occupation dates for Spanish Mount.

Once we were back from the field, I applied to the Archaeological Research Trust (ART) Board for funds to obtain radiocarbon dates from 10 of our samples. The ART Board funded my proposal, and I subsequently found additional funds to obtain two more dates. The 12 dates, processed by Beta Analytic, Inc., fell between 3,480 to 3,980 years before present, well within the range for known Thoms Creek occupations. Unfortunately, the dates did not fall in good stratigraphic order, but finding the best explanation for that will be part of my ongoing research.

Sewee Clam Midden

In late February 2007, I traveled to the coast to see the Sewee Shell Ring (38CH45), which is located on the Francis Marion National Forest. That ring was mapped and tested by National Park Service archaeologists, Michael Russo and Greg Heide in 2003, and their report is available on-line. After visiting the shell ring, I walked over to a nearby point where interpretive signage said there was a clam shell midden (38CH44).



Irene/Pee Dee Complicated Stamped sherds from Sewee clam midden. (SCIAA photo)

Because I have been working on clam shell middens on the northern South Carolina coast [*Legacy* 9(3):12-13], I was immediately curious about this one. Pottery exposed on the surface was all Irene/Pee Dee period in age (c. 600 to 700 years old). This pottery was younger than what I have seen on other clam middens that I have mapped and tested, so I decided to map and test this small site.

I contacted Robert Morgan, U. S. Forest Service archaeologist, and he obtained the necessary permits and found housing for us. Jim Legg and I worked on the site from March 19 to 22. After making a detailed topographic map, we excavated a one-meter square test unit on the highest part of the 30 meter-long midden, which is ca. 75 centimeters

high at its highest point. The midden proved to be composed primarily of clam shells as anticipated. Pottery from all levels within the shell midden was Irene period, and we have submitted a carbon sample to provide a date for this occupation.

Once we were through the 65 centimeters of shell midden, we continued excavating into the underlying sand. We were somewhat surprised when we found first one, and then several, sherds of pottery in the upper ten centimeters of that sand. We continued to excavate deeper, and when we were done, we had a nice assemblage of Thoms Creek pottery, several flakes of various kinds of stone,

and fragments of a baked clay object that would have been used in cooking. This Thoms Creek deposit did not contain a single shell of any kind, despite the fact that the nearby shell ring was all shell.

We are in the process of completing our report on this clam midden excavation. In addition to the radiocarbon date we will obtain in the near future, we will submit samples of clam to the Florida Museum of Natural History as part of our study of duration and seasonality of occupation of such

middens [*Legacy* 9(3):12-13]. Because the Sewee midden is the most southerly and youngest of the clam middens we have so far tested, it should provide important information on the origin and history of these unusual sites.

Geological Society of America, Southeast Regional Meeting, Savannah, GA

At the Georgia Archaeological Society (GSA) meeting in Savannah on March 29, my colleague, Dr. Frank Stapor, geologist at Tennessee Technical University, and I presented a poster summarizing our work to date in the marshes west of St. Helena Island on the lower South Carolina coast near Beaufort [*Legacy* 10(3):8-9]. This poster provided our initial interpretations relating to shoreline progradation over the past 5,000 years, as well as results of the archaeological survey that we have used to identify shoreline positions. With the addition of our optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dates that we are beginning to receive from the lab, we should soon be able to further refine our estimates of shoreline positions through time in this extensive marsh ecosystem. Anyone interested in seeing this poster can come by SCIAA; it is hanging on the hallway wall outside my office.



Baked clay object and Thoms Creek sherd from beneath shell deposit at Sewee clam midden. (SCIAA photo)

Announcement of New Report by Stanley South

By Stanley South

In 1958, I went to Brunswick Town State Historic Site to begin clearing the jungle-like growth to locate the ruins of the people who once called the town home. Lawrence Lee had located some of the ruins before I got there, and he was instrumental in having the ruined town taken over by the state of North Carolina as an historic site in

their Department of Archives and History. I dug there for ten years among swarms of mosquitoes, chiggers (red bugs), and snakes that still called the place home. I killed 23 copperheads with a bush axe the first year I was there because I was trying to protect the children. I shot the head off a rattlesnake with a pistol one of my workers handed me and had a life-and-death encounter with a cotton-mouth moccasin so tough it kept showing me it's cotton-colored mouth

time and again as I struck it repeatedly with my bush ax, which I finally handed to Charlie Smith to finish the job I had given up on.

Well, I wrote 20 chapters of a book in 1960, about my archaeological adventures on that

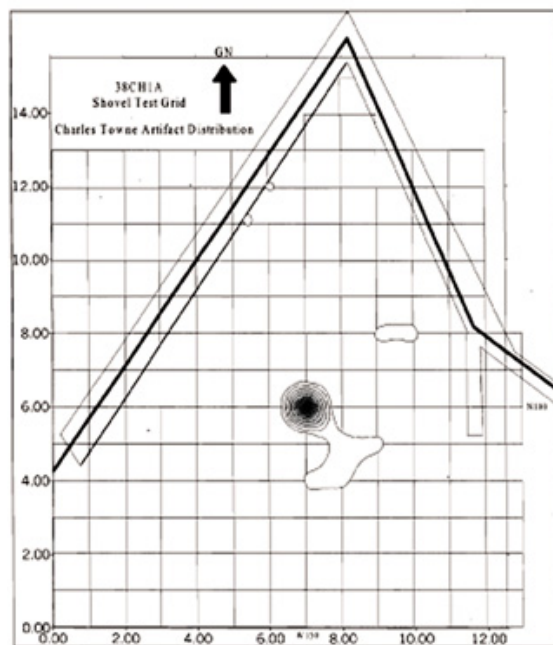
site, in the hope North Carolina Archives and History would publish it, but they weren't interested, saying they wanted to wait until I had dug more of the ruins before they got involved. I put it on the shelf beside me, thinking I would get around to finishing it sometime down the road

them. I pulled out my notes and Tommy Charles scanned the slides, and I wrote eight more chapters and submitted the 350-page monster entitled, *Colonial Brunswick: The Archaeology of a Colonial Town*, to the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Archives and History Section, for review and

consideration for publication. One of the reviewers said, "This is one we cannot afford to not publish." So, they sent me a contract, which I have signed, and for the next month or more I will be "zoned out," lost deep within the confines of that volume, editing it to greater perfection.

While waiting for that baby to come to term, I kept busy, with the help of Tommy

Charles, with designing a new cover for the Michael Stoner and Stanley South volume on our work at Charles Towne Landing, which we first published in 2001. I changed the title to: "1670 Charles Towne: The Barbadian Connection," SCIAA



Research Manuscript Series 230

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
College of Liberal Arts
The University of South Carolina
Columbia

Cover of 1670 Charles Towne: The Barbadian Connection, SCIAA *Research Manuscript Series 230*. (SCIAA photo)

when I had dug more ruins. There it remained for almost 50 years.

Finally, in 2006, I suddenly realized I wasn't getting any younger and if I was going to add more chapters, I had better get to writing

The Sullivan Tabby Point Ruin: Callawassie Island, South Carolina

Stanley South and Michael Stoner

With Contributions by:

William Behan
Colin Brooker
William Sullivan



South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
Research Manuscript Series 233

College of Arts and Sciences
The University of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

Cover of *The Sullivan Tabby Point Ruin: Callawassie Island, South Carolina*, SCIAA Research Manuscript Series 233. (SCIAA photo)

Research Manuscript Series 230, in recognition of Mike's identification of Barbadian artifacts we found there related to the production of sugar. That 2007 volume is just off the press and is available for \$20 from me, with the proceeds going to help reimburse my USC Educational Foundation, Historical Archaeology Research Fund, which paid for its republication.

Meanwhile, we completed editing the Stanley South and Michael Stoner report on the work we did at Callawassie Island in the yard at the home of Shanna and Bill Sullivan, who funded the project and

gave comments, suggestions, and corrections suggested by reviewers Bill Sullivan, Bill Behan, and Chester DePratter. The title is: "The Sullivan Tabby Point Ruin: Callawassie Island, South Carolina," SCIAA Research Manuscript Series 233). This volume is still in press, and we expect it from the printer soon. It will also be available for \$20 from me, with the proceeds going to reimburse the Historical Archaeology Research Fund, which paid for the publication. Please make checks payable to the USC Educational Foundation for the Charles Towne and Callawassie Island volumes.

The Return of Lisa Hudgins By Chester DePratter

Lisa Hudgins has been associated with the Santa Elena Project in various capacities off and on since 1994. She is a computer specialist and art historian with a strong interest in historical archaeology. Over the years she has been involved in preparation of report graphics, production of publications, designing the project webpage, and converting Santa Elena field maps and survey information to ArcGIS. She will resume those duties now that she is back on staff.

In 2000, Lisa completed a Masters of Arts Degree in Art History at USC; her thesis concerned maritime trade and ceramics in 18th century Charleston. In 2002, she received a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from USC. Along the way, she has worked on historic sites and collections in South Carolina, Maryland, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Maine. In recent months, she has contributed articles to the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Maritime History* and to American Library Association *Choice Reviews*.



Lisa Hudgins returns. (SCIAA photo)

The Topper Site Pavilion Celebration

By Albert C. Goodyear, Director
Southeastern Paleoamerican Survey



The October 21, 2006 tour of the new Topper Pavilion constructed in 2006. (SEPAS photo by Daryl P. Miller)

In the spring of 2006, after nearly a year of fundraising by many enthusiastic individuals and organizations, the permanent shelter over the deep Pleistocene excavation at the Topper site was finally built. Technically the structure is known as a pole barn as constructed by the well-known Hoover Buildings of Lexington, SC, owned and operated by Ted and Ron Hoover. The shelter, gloriously renamed the Topper Pavilion, is 50 X 70 feet and has successfully withstood the sun and rain for over a year. The building allows visitation of the deep and controversial portion of the Topper site excavation year-round with no damaging floods from rain. It functioned extremely well during the 2006 excavation season. Like the Topper site itself, the Pavilion is on Clariant Corporation land, and Clariant made the last big donation, which allowed the construction in time for the 2006 dig.

Clariant Corporation, at Martin, SC, offered to build a viewing deck inside the building where tours can safely see the excavations in progress. This deck was completed in April of 2007 and is a most helpful addition to the building. Thanks to Bill Hartford, Plant Manager, who spearheaded the project, and Jim Thompson, Mark

Freeman, Chris Lane, and Pat Hudson who helped design the deck. John Thompson, Jimmy Elkins, David Thomas, Vincent Aiken, Richard Williams, Warren Butterfield, Gene Freeman, and Mark Hutson ably put it together. Our great thanks to these employees who donated their time and talent to build it.

On October 21, 2006, there was a celebration at the Topper site commemorating the construction of the Pavilion. Over 200 invitations were sent to donors and friends to partake in a whole hog BBQ cooked by retired Clariant employee Al Stevens and catered by Carolina BBQ of New Ellenton, SC. Artifact displays from Topper as well as interesting private collections from the region were available at the picnic shelter along with t-shirts and coffee mugs of the Southeastern Paleoamerican Survey.

Approximately 150 people came for the tour and luncheon and witnessed the ceremonies down at the site.

The site tour included a few brief speeches by myself and Dr. Thorne Compton, Director of the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, recognizing the scientific importance of the Topper site and the role of the



Tom Pertierra, Rebecca Barrera, and Al Goodyear holding the newly installed permanent sign describing the significance of the Topper site. (SEPAS photo by Daryl P. Miller)

public in bringing us to this place of success. Two permanent outdoor signs were presented; one describes the significance of the Topper site in New World prehistory, the other lists the names of donors whose financial assistance helped build the pavilion. Signs installed down in the Pleistocene excavations show the stratigraphic position of Clovis and the pre-Clovis occupations in the upper Pleistocene sands and Pleistocene terrace including the location of the two 50,000-year old radiocarbon dates. The list of donors who helped make the pavilion possible is at the end of this article.

We also took the opportunity on this occasion to recognize several individuals for their efforts in the Topper site research as well as the Southeastern Paleoamerican Survey. Dr. Thorne Compton and myself presented a plaque to Clariant Corporation for their many years of support. Mr. Jeff Vitters, Head of Human Resources at Clariant at Martin, received this award on behalf of Bill Hartford. Those present receiving an award were Daryl P. Miller, John W. White, Elizabeth Stringfellow, Larry Strong, and David Anderson on behalf of himself and



Mr. Jeff Vitters receiving an award on behalf of Clariant Corporation from Dr. Al Goodyear and Dr. Thorne Compton. (SEPAS photo by Daryl P. Miller)

Jenalee Muse. Individuals receiving their awards at a later date were Bill Hartford, John Kirby, Tommy Charles, John Thompson, and Edward Cantey.

Given the quality of construction of the pavilion, we look forward to many more years of protected excavation in the ancient Pleistocene deposits. The building was purposely placed toward the hillside where previous testing has indicated several hundred more cubic meters of intact Pleistocene archaeology are yet to be excavated.

List of Donors Who Helped Make the Pavilion Possible

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(In honor of Donald P. and Helen M. Costello)

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Signs placed in the Clovis and pre-Clovis levels of the Topper site underneath the pavilion. (SEPAS photo by Daryl P. Miller)

Office of State Archaeologist

1726 St. Helena's Parrish Bell Conserved

By Jonathan Leader



St. Helena's Church Archivist, Bob Barrett, with the historic 1726 bell. (SCIAA photo courtesy of Jonathan Leader)

Every once in a while a project comes along that is both intellectually intriguing and fun. The St. Helena's Parrish Bell was one such project. St. Helena's Episcopal church was founded in 1724, making it one of the oldest continually active churches in the United States. The Parrish itself dates to 1712, and the church was supposed to have been built earlier,

but had to be delayed due to the problems engendered by the Yemassee war. This would not be the first time that a war interfered with the orderly running of the church.

The bronze church bell was special ordered from a firm in London, produced by a foundry in Amsterdam, and delivered to the church in South Carolina in 1726. It

is a relatively small bell with a mellow tone, the shape pleasing to the eye, and simple ornamentation. There is a dedicatory Latin phrase cast in relief around the upper portion of the bell "SOLI DEO GLORIA A° 1726." that translates as "To God Alone Be Glory," a commonly used phrase derived from Acts 4:11-12. The "A° 1726" refers to the date of the manufacture.

One part of the ornamentation that was not common was an applied silver sheet along the bell's lower edge. The very thin sheet of silver was bent into a "U" and was very carefully fitted by hand, fully encasing the edge. This affectation would lead to an unfortunate circumstance later in the bell's history.

The Parrish figured prominently in the American Revolution with several important people, including Thomas Heyward, Jr., a signer of the Declaration of Independence, being members. This brought a great deal of notoriety to the church from the British authorities. So much so, that the bell had to be removed from the steeple and buried to ensure that it would not be looted. Fortunately, this circumstance was short lived with no lasting harm to the bell.

Less than 100 years later, the entire congregation fled when Federal troops occupied Beaufort in November of 1861. Again, the bell was removed from the steeple and was said to have been buried. The church was converted to a hospital and stripped of its furnishings. Local history has it that even marble tombstones were brought in for use as operating room tables, and the



The CAT scan of the 1726 bell revealed a structural defect from the manufacture. (SCIAA photo by Jonathan Leader)

hand using a variety of techniques including stereomicroscopy and patina identification. A CAT scan was also conducted to assess the internal metallographic structures and to identify the inherent vices from the original foundry work that might jeopardize the re-use of the bell. It was fortunate that this was done, as a serious fault, invisible to the naked eye, was discovered. Nonetheless, the bell was determined to have sufficient structural integrity to be used.

The bell is now undergoing meticulous hand cleaning to remove foreign materials and to ensure a stable patina. A specially designed armature will be constructed to support the bell in a viable way. The result will be an historic artifact returned to use by the community that saw its birth nearly 300 years ago.

balconies were decked over to make a second floor.

Regardless of the facts, there is no dispute that the church was in a wrecked state by the end of the Civil War. The congregation returned and spent many decades rebuilding and refurbishing the church. This was done without apparent animosity. In fact, the present altar was a gift of the sailors of the U.S.S. *New Hampshire* stationed in Port Royal Sound during the reconstruction. The *New Hampshire's* sailors built the altar and carved it by hand, making it an important folk crafted object in its own right, not to mention a poignant object of reconciliation.

The bell's whereabouts were a mystery for many years. After the war, eventually a member of the Parrish returned the bell with the statement that it had been buried in a

barn. Amid great rejoicing for its return, the bell was placed in safe storage.

Recently, the church formed a committee to consider the possibility of restoring the bell to use. The committee members include Mr. Bob Barrett, Chair; Ms Molly Gray, Dr. Larry Rowland, Mr. Gerhard Spieler, Mr. Boogie Tudor, Mr. Jim Williams, and Mr. John Ballantyne. I was contacted to provide the metals analysis and conservation expertise.

The bell was very carefully examined by



Dr. Jonathan Leader engaged in metallographic analysis of the historic church bell. (SCIAA photo courtesy of Jonathan Leader)

ArchSites in Final Testing

By Jonathan Leader

ArchSites is the new name for the digital site file project funded by a grant from the S.C. Department of Transportation (SCDOT). The name was derived from the recognition that the database contains not only archaeological sites, but also built sites of the National Register for Historic Places. ArchSites combines both facets of archaeology and architecture into a single easily remembered acronym.

A great deal has been accomplished since the project was undertaken. We have gone through two teams of programmers at ESRI Charlotte, new software and code has

hired. All in all it has been a very focused, frenetic, and rewarding time. But all good things come to an end, and this project is no different. In this instance, it ended in the spring of 2007.

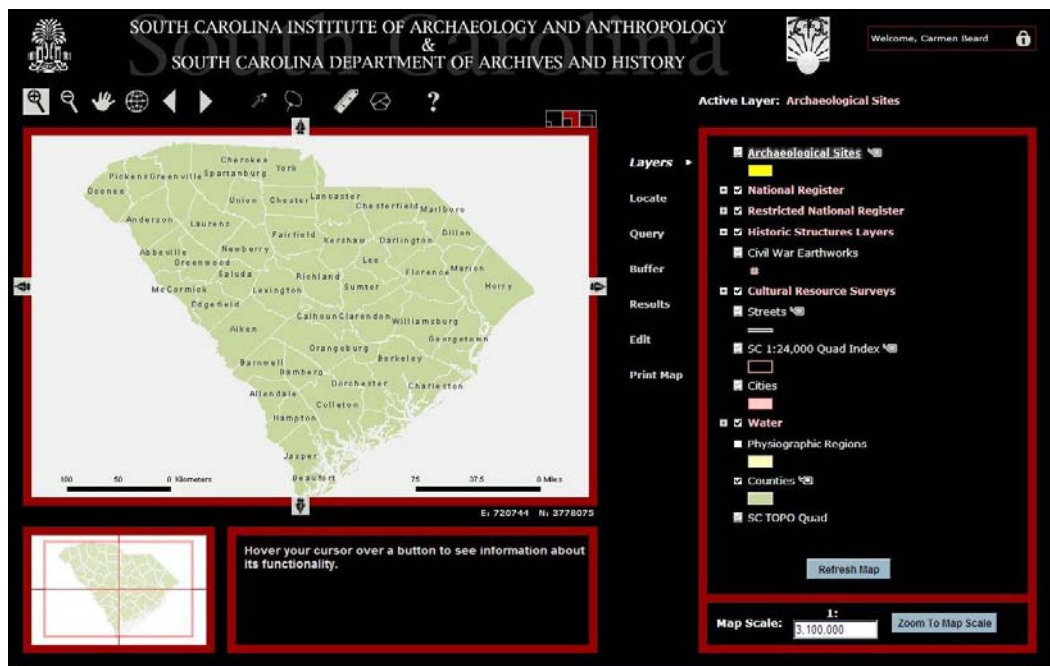
The project team comprised of Wayne Roberts and Chad Long of SCDOT, Chuck Cantley and Elizabeth Johnson of S.C. Department of Archives and History (SCDAH), and Carmen Beard from SCIAA, and I put in a great many hours working out the bugs and solving the contradictions that always crop up in a project such as this. The level of cooperation

the dogged determination of the team that we have reached this point.

The unique software program developed in conjunction with Paul Gallimore and Melanie Baker of ESRI of Charlotte, North Carolina has been placed on the University of South Carolina servers and is undergoing final debugging. The capabilities of the program, which have resulted in the production of the most interactive site file in the United States to date, were demonstrated live at the Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists (COSCAPA) meeting held December 8, 2006. In attendance were

archaeologists, city planners, engineers, federal agency representatives, the military, and others who will be benefited by our advance.

Three levels of user are supported by ArchSites. The first is the general public. Many people are curious about what type of archaeological or historical sites are to be found in and around the locations where they live. This level of data is



South Carolina map screenshot from ArchSites database. This is the starting point for level 2 and 3 researchers. (SCIAA photo)

been written specifically to deal with the advances called for by the project's unique specifications, equipment has been purchased and installed, partnership and user agreements forged, and new staff

between our three agencies on a project of such far-reaching importance that cross cut so many different lines of authority is unprecedented. It was only through

made available at the county level without compromising site locations. Nonetheless, the questions that can be asked even at this level are a cut above the ordinary. There is no cost for access to the general public.

The next level provides data and support to the professional consumer. These clients are identified as state and local professionals who need access for planning and stewardship activities. They will go through a more rigorous vetting procedure to ensure that their request for access of actual site location data is appropriate. These resources are both vulnerable and non-renewable. It is envisioned that county and city planners among others will fall within this category. The users of this level do not upload sites and documents. They are consuming the data generated and uploaded by others. Again, the level of query afforded this level is very advanced. It permits the user to ask very sophisticated questions and will help ensure that the best possible information is provided.

The last level comprises those professionals who are actively engaged in research and are producing the site forms, reports, and other materials that are all linked to the database. They will have the most rigorous vetting of all, as they will be uploading the data upon which everyone else will rely. As they upload the data the researcher will be providing electronic signatures attesting to the accuracy of what they provide. Any questions can and will be referred back to the professional who submitted it. A very important feature of this level is that the researcher can fill out the site form on line, draw the map boundaries on an appropriate topographic map, upload additional supporting documentation, and submit the site for it's site number. All of this can be done without specialized software or equipment beyond the normal PC or laptop already in use by most of us. The project's software is designed to

check the submitted site documentation and location against the entire database and determine whether or not this is a unique submittal or potentially a revisit. The software is designed to be able to deal with urban situations, the most difficult environment for this form of determination. If the researcher verifies that it is a new submittal, then they will receive their unique site identifying state trinomial number immediately. There should never be cause to use temporary field numbers again. The finished submittal becomes available immediately to the next researcher. Our normally very fine-grained QA/QC comes into play as the finished form is batched to the attention of the Site File Manager. Needless to say, contact will be made if the data is not accurate or lacks the required level of professional documentation.

In both of the professional levels it is possible to query the database, read the site form data, independently query the site form data, verify the data against the final report or other gray literature, see a complete history of revisits or corrections to the maps and data, and eventually to see the digital photographs of the diagnostic artifacts recovered from each site. We feel that the user is being provided the best access to the research database possible. Undoubtedly on a project of this complexity, as it is used intensively, we will encounter areas that need revamping. It is our intent to revisit the ArchSites on a routine schedule to ensure that the best possible program is in place.

Jim Scurry and Holly Gillam, SC Department of Natural Resources, Lynn Shirley and Kevin Remington, USC Geography Department, and Chris Gillam, SCIAA/SRARP, have

all assisted the project as primary testers. We appreciate their time and effort. Michael Stoner and Kathleen Quinn continue to assist in the population of the attribute databases. This will be a long-term effort that is well underway. Anyone wishing to sponsor a graduate student to assist in this necessary work is encouraged to contact the State Archaeologist.

Welcome Susan Lowe

SCIAA has a new Business Manager! She is Susan Lowe who was hired in March 2007. Susan and her husband arrived in Columbia in January following a move from Leesburg, Virginia, where she worked for the public school system. She has 18 years of office experience, and she is excited about taking on the new challenges of working at SCIAA. Susan's Bachelors Degrees in both Sociology and Spanish were received at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. She has a strong interest in Mayan Civilization; she quilts and makes jewelry in her spare time. Stop by and welcome Susan to her new job.



New SCIAA Business Manager, Susan Lowe. (SCIAA photo by Lisa Hudgins)

South Carolina Geophysical Initiative Launched

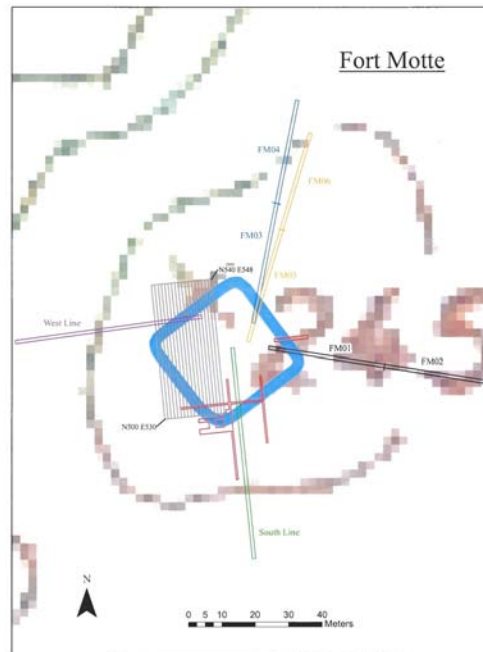
By Jonathan Leader

The Office of the State Archaeologist is launching a statewide archaeological geophysical initiative. The intent of the initiative is to systematically map archaeological and historical sites using multiple geophysical techniques following a standardized protocol of best practice and disseminating the results to landowners, land stewards, agencies, and researchers. The field research will be coordinated with other state agencies, university, nonprofit, and for profit groups engaged in geophysical investigations willing and able to implement multiple techniques and prepared to provide data in an open and transparent format.

Geophysical sciences study the earth using quantitative physical methods. The most common techniques focus on seismic reflection and refraction, gravity, magnetic, electrical, electromagnetic, and radioactivity methods. Within

archaeology this usually translates to the use of soil resistivity meters, magnetometers and gradiometers of various kinds, satellite or photographic imaging and ground penetrating radar (GPR). Each of these methods has strengths and weaknesses. By using multiple techniques the weaknesses of one are mitigated by the strengths of the others.

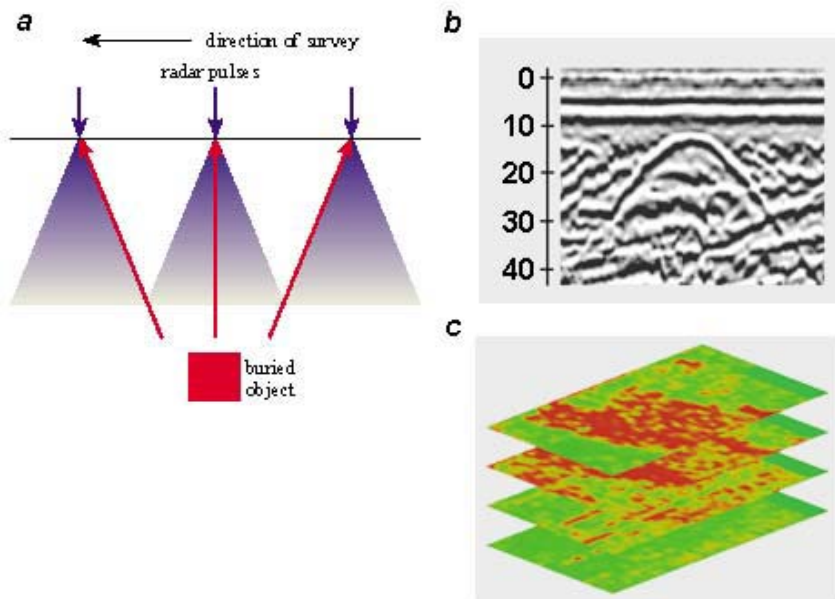
The Office of the State Archaeologist has been using several of these techniques to answer applied



Fort Motte site map with GPR lanes. (SCIAA drawing)

questions for almost a decade. With few exceptions, this work has been driven by fairly narrow questions resulting from immediate public needs. The results have almost always answered the questions at hand but have not provided that additional level of information useful for academic research. This is a problem common to all applied research. In our instance by incorporating the public outreach component into a larger research oriented program targeting prioritized sites throughout the state, the resulting data will have much greater impact and utility.

Individuals and groups interested in taking part in the initiative are encouraged to contact the State Archaeologist for more information.



GPR works by projecting radio waves across a subsurface feature and collecting the reflected wave (a). The resulting image produced by the wave's return is filtered to highlight the feature (b). Multiple scans of a large area containing many features are collated by software and can be examined by "time slice," which highlight the site patterns. In this case, a building floor plan (c). (Diagram courtesy of Physics World, May 2000)

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Announcement of New Report on Fort Motte

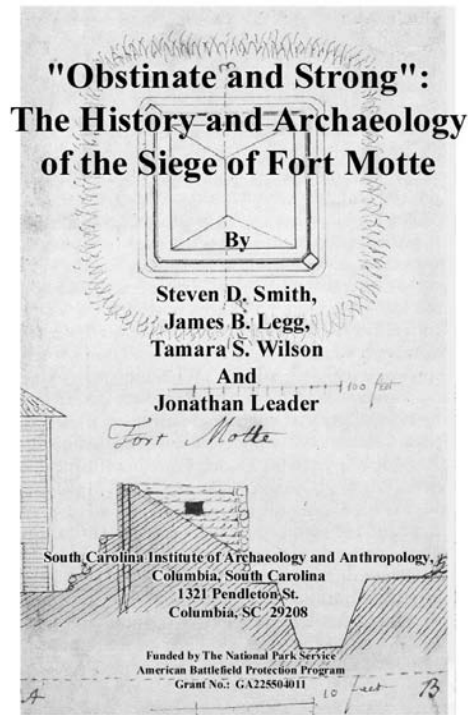
By Steven D. Smith

Obstinate and Strong: The History and Archaeology of the Siege of Fort Motte by Steven D. Smith, James B. Legg, Tamara S. Wilson, and Jonathan Leader is now available. Copies can be obtained for \$15. Send check to Steve Smith, c/o SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, 1321 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC, (803) 777-8170. Make checks payable to: USC Educational Foundation and specify Fort Motte.

The work was funded by The National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program, with additional funding from the South Carolina Society of Children of the American Revolution.

The report presents the results of battlefield archaeology at the site of the Revolutionary War siege of Fort Motte, located in Calhoun County, South Carolina. The analysis of historic documents, test excavations, and a controlled metal detector sampling

Legacy
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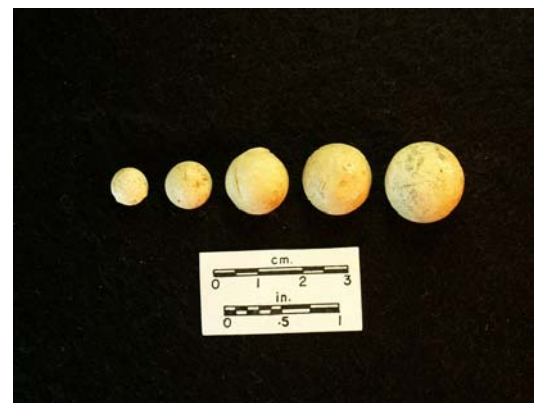


Cover of *Obstinate and Strong: The History and Archaeology of the Siege of Fort Motte* by Steven D. Smith, James B. Legg, Tamara S. Wilson, and Jonathan Leader. (SCIAA photo)

survey were combined to define the National Register Boundaries of siege activities. Archaeologists were able to locate the fort ditch, Rebecca Motte's house, and overseer's house. Archaeological evidence of the battle, locations of Marion's pickets, Colonel Henry Lee's camp, and the house of Loyalist Levi Smith also appear to have been located.



A "Rosa Americana" halfpenny of 1722 from Fort Motte. (SCIAA photo)



Range of lead shot sizes from Fort Motte, from buckshot (left) to a .75 caliber musket ball (right). (SCIAA photo)



Nathan Smith and Sean Taylor shovel testing at Fort Motte. (SCIAA photo)

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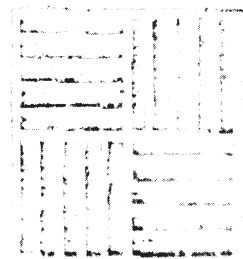
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