

7-1995

PastWatch - July 1995

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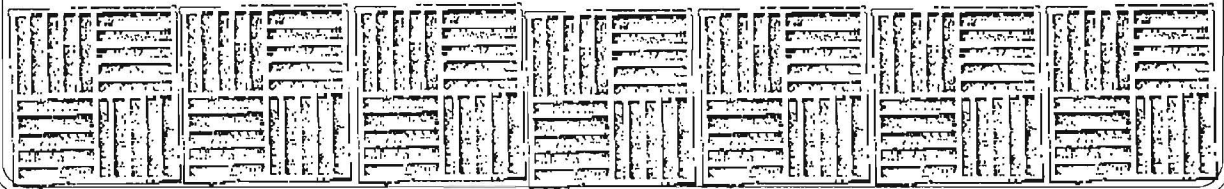
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Past Watch



Volume Four, Numbers One/Two, July 1995. Newsletter of the Archeological Research Trust of The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology & Anthropology, University of South Carolina

SCIAA EVENTS AT ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK

In celebration of the 4th Annual South Carolina Archaeology Week, the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology will host three major events in Charleston and Columbia. SC Archaeology Week kicks off at the Brittle Bank Park in Charleston on Monday, October 2 from 12 Noon to 2:00 PM with the Governor's proclamation, exhibits, a Confederate Naval Reenactment Group, and a welcome by Bruce Rippeteau, State Archaeologist. In celebration of our theme this year on Maritime Archaeology, Mr. James P. Delgado, Director of the Vancouver Maritime Museum will give a special presentation on the importance of maritime archaeology and history in South Carolina. Later that evening at 7:30 PM, the Institute and Patriot's Point Development Authority will sponsor a special lecture in the Yorktown auditorium by Mr. Delgado entitled, "The Archaeology of Pearl Harbor." The third event will be a special dinner and public lecture to be held in Columbia on Tuesday, October 3 at the Embassy Suites. This special event is sponsored by the Archeological Research Trust at SCIAA and will host a dinner and public lecture by Mr. James P. Delgado on "The Archaeology of the Atomic Bomb". The Kick-Off celebration and the lecture on the Yorktown is free and open to the public! The dinner and lecture at the Embassy Suites is open to the public and will cost \$25.00 per person. (Please fill in the form on page 12 to ensure your reservations for this special evening in Columbia.)

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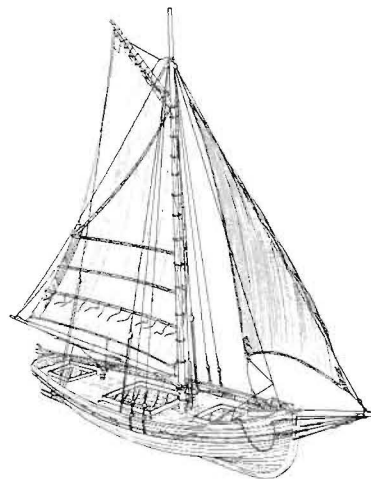
SOUTH CAROLINA ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK

By Nena Powell Rice

During September and October 1995, the South Carolina archaeological community will celebrate a series of statewide events designed to raise public awareness of the state's multi-cultural heritage and enlist public support and participation in resource conservation. The **Fourth Annual SC Archaeology Week (SCAW)**, will be held on **September 30-October 7, 1995**, and will culminate at Santee State Park for the **Eighth Annual Archaeology Field Day**, sponsored by the Archeological Society of South Carolina, on **October 7th**. The goal of the archaeological community of South Carolina is to promote public education and outreach statewide in South Carolina.

The archaeological community of South Carolina has continued to recognize a need for an organized and comprehensive public outreach effort toward the general public in providing a framework for regional and local public support for South Carolina's archaeological resources. Under the direction of Bruce Rippeteau, State Archaeolo-

gist and Director of SCIAA, Nena Powell Rice has been appointed for the fourth year to coordinate the statewide activities of South Carolina Archaeology Week.



*The Malcomb Boat
Excavated on the Ashley River
Drawing By Billy Judd*

This year, over 85 different organizations and individuals have been working together to coordinate over 130 programs in 50 different locations throughout South Carolina. A Calendar of Events booklet listing all programs and events will be published and distributed to over 9,000 people including every school, museum, and county library in the state. A proclamation has been signed by the Governor of South Carolina. Our theme this year for the poster and many programs is **Maritime Archaeology**. Look for your Calendar of Events Booklet in the mail in mid-August.

The public is invited to participate in the **4th Annual Kick-Off**, sponsored by the SCIAA, to be held in **Charleston on Monday, October 2, 1995**. Mr. James P. Delgado, Executive Director at the Vancouver Mari-

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1995 Excavation Team At The Big Pine Tree Site
Photo By Daryl P. Miller

**THE ALLENDALE PALEOINDIAN EXPEDITION
THE SEARCH FOR SOUTH CAROLINA'S
EARLIEST INHABITANTS
By Albert C. Goodyear, III**

It is hard to imagine such an event, but some 12,000 years ago, the ancestors of the American Indian walked from the present Siberian area of Russia to what is now called the United States. Furthermore, based on the presence of a distinctive fluted stone spear point archaeologists call Clovis, there is good reason to believe they arrived by 11,000 years ago in what is now South Carolina. These people, like many of their related kin groups throughout North America, would have seen the last of the now-extinct ice age megafauna such as mammoth, mastodon, camel, horse and bison. In places in the West, it is clear that they were not only contemporary with these large beasts but actually exploited them. The prehistoric archaeological culture associated with this terminal Pleistocene world is called Clovis after a site in New Mexico where the distinctive style of fluted stone spear was found with mammoth bones. Clovis culture along with several other distinctive archaeological manifestations which emphasized fluted lanceolate spear points and Old World Upper Paleolithic-type flake tools, are generally referred to as Paleoindian. Paleoindian simply means the oldest or most ancient of the prehistoric Indians. Based on radiocarbon dating, Paleoindian groups existed from about 11,500 to 10,000 years ago.

Because of a fluted point recording survey that has been going on in South Carolina since 1968, nearly 400 Paleoindian lanceolate points have been documented from throughout the state. A large percentage of these are of the Clovis fluted type. A favorite flint-like raw material for Paleoindian stone tools was a form of Coastal Plain chert known as Allendale. Large numbers of Paleoindian spear points made of chert including the Clovis type have been found in the southern part of the state in the vicinity of Allendale County indicating that this was a major source area. While isolated surface finds of these points have been found in virtually every county, finding a site with a concentration of artifacts sufficiently dense to warrant excavation has been very rare. In fact, Paleoindian studies in the South in general have lagged behind other regions of North America because of this problem. It seems that in the South at the end of the ice age, climatological and geological conditions were not generally conducive for burying these early sites on most land surfaces in ways that enhanced their contextual preservation. It has been established, however, throughout the southeast, that floodplains were the most geologically dynamic situations over the past 10,000 and thus a prime locality to be searched by archaeologists for buried sites.

DIRECTOR'S VISTA

By Bruce Rippeteau, Director and State Archaeologist

Greetings! I hope this issue of *PastWatch* finds you well and looking forward to a great summer.

Our *ART* has been busy as is apparent from the articles in this issue: Our new recurring *ART* Public Lecture Series is scheduled in 1995 for 03 October during the 4th Annual South Carolina Archaeology Week. Our second *ART* Field Trip to Belize, Southern Mexico, and Guatemala is scheduled for 11-25 February 1996. Our Board is currently reviewing other fund raising possibilities. Our next Board meeting is 13 July 1995 at SCIAA in Columbia, and we are considering the long-recommended conversion of *ART* to a yearly membership Trust.

If you are interested in serving on the *ART* Board, please let us know. We have three positions to fill for two year terms starting January of 1996: two are from the community

and are appointed by the Chairman, and one is from the Institute and is appointed by the Director. (One of the two Institute positions is eligible for re-appointment for one more two-year term and the member so desires to be reappointed. Thus we'll have two citizen and one Institute positions to fill.) Broadly the Board exerts oversight and direction on the Trust's activities and organization, with particular attention to the raising of endowment funds.

Let us welcome new Board Member Lynn Harris, whom I have appointed to fill the 1995 and 1996 remainder of Dave Crass' term. Dave cited work demands, but I thank him for his service to date, and we welcome Lynn.

We now have \$58,000 in our *ART* Endowment. Please consider contributing to our endowment to attain our \$100,000 goal by year-end.

PALEOINDIAN EXPEDITION (Cont.)

To remedy this situation I have been working with a soil scientist, Dr. John E. Foss of the University of Tennessee, on floodplain sites near the chert quarries of Allendale County in an effort to find sufficiently dense Paleoindian remains in a geologically meaningful context. These efforts have not gone unrewarded. At least three sites adjacent to the Savannah River or its tributaries have yielded buried Paleoindian stone tools in excess of a meter deep. At each of these sites, the chert material was located in the river or creek bottom adjacent to the site and was probably the main reason Paleoindians occupied the site. Thus, the two prime conditions for site formation have been met; the presence of a high-quality lithic raw material so valued by these early hunter-gatherers for their chipped stone technologies and alluvial deposition for site burial.

The Big Pine Tree Site (38AL143)

Our latest attempts to isolate Paleoindian remains have focused on a highly unusual site located on Sandoz Chemical Corporation land in Allendale County. This site has been known about since 1983, and in 1985 it was nominated along with several other chert quarries located on Sandoz property to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Allendale Chert Quarries District. In 1992, Sandoz excavated a boat slip in the bank of the site which is situated along Smiths Lake Creek. This fortuitously revealed a nicely buried stratified prehistoric site with deeper deposits than previously had been known. Controlled backhoe trenching by our team subsequently revealed Paleoindian lithic



*Paleoindian Fluted Preform
Found At The Big Pine Tree Site
Photo By Tommy Charles*

technology in abundance. From 1992 through 1993, various two and three day trips were made to the site to collect geological and pedological (soils) information to assess the overall stratigraphic condition of the site. In the winter of 1994, a four week dig was conducted to evaluate the integrity of the archaeological remains and to correlate it with the sedimentological and pedological horizons. A total of 18 square meters was excavated which bottomed out on the

Pleistocene terrace. Several fluted bifacial preforms and blanks were recovered from the lowest levels along with well-made unifacial flake tools typical of Paleoindian tool kits elsewhere. Above this fluted preform layer was a zone containing the easily recognized Taylor side-notched points with their associated flake tools. Evidence of a preceramic Middle Archaic midden was also found, itself an unusually early sign of sedentism for the Savannah River Valley which is home for the earliest prehistoric pottery in North America. Based on the positive results of this work, plans were laid to return for another month in 1995.

The 1995 Expedition to Big Pine Tree Site

This year the goal was to expand the amount of area excavated in the Paleoindian and Early Archaic levels and to evaluate more closely what appears to be a Middle Archaic midden. This midden is dominated by a corner-notched point called MALA which is suspected to be around 5,000 years old. Over 40 square meters were opened up due to the increased size of our crew and the help of some good

PALEOINDIAN EXPEDITION (Cont.)

volunteers. Two graduate students helped supervise the excavation, Myles Bland, who is doing his masters thesis at the University of South Carolina on the archaeobotany of the site, and Tom McIntosh, who will be analyzing the Middle Archaic lithic debris as part of his MA thesis at the University of South Florida. Two undergraduates participated, Erin Foley from the College of Charleston and Kara Bridgman enrolled for field school credit at USC. Dr. Ken Sassaman of the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program brought his crew to the site for the first two weeks to help excavate and record the MALA midden. Tommy Charles of

SCIAA helped round out the professional staff. Dr. John E. Foss, Head of the Plant and Soil Science Department of the University of Tennessee visited again this year and conducted reconnaissance survey of other interesting pedomorphological sites along the river valley. Dr. Gail Wagner of USC's Department of Anthropology gave extended help by excavating and advising on soil sample collection for flotation analysis. Dr. Wagner is an ethnobotanist who is overseeing Myles Bland's thesis research and she is helping us examine the MALA midden for evidence of burned plant remains.

The following is a brief summary of the stratigraphy and archaeological cultures that have been detected thus far.

From the present ground surface to about 15 cm below surface, there exists a 20th century occupation overlying what are 19th and 20th century flood sediments characterized by a light

red hue. The red color comes from the disastrous flooding and subsequent erosion of the Georgia and South Carolina Piedmont due to poor agricultural practices over the past 150 years. Piedmont red clay even found its way down to the Middle Coastal Plain of the Savannah River!

From 15 to 60 cm below surface exists a slightly weathered soil (a Bw) which contains Woodland period potsherds and projectile points. The most common decorated sherd is Refuge Simple Stamped which dates from 3,000 years ago to AD 500. Woodland triangular arrowpoints and potsherds are found lightly distributed in this soil



*Al Goodyear Pointing To Paleindian At The Big Pine Tree Site
Photo By Nena Powell Rice*

zone suggesting brief camping episodes. A cache of Woodland arrowpoints was found this year in the top of this zone. It consisted of six medium-sized triangular and two small stemmed points. These points were all found in an area about the size of a hand. This cache would seem to indicate that both triangular and stemmed points were used together during the Woodland period.

Beginning at about 60 cm and continuing to 90 cm below surface, is a dark organic layer which has been referred to as the MALA midden. MALA because most of the diagnostic projectile points are a heat treated corner-notched point called MALA; midden because of the high concentrations of

organic matter and burned fragments of wood and nutshell. No bone has been seen in this midden or in any of the sediments of the site. Some features have been seen in the midden consisting of concentrations of burned rock which are probably Middle Archaic. It is known from radiocarbon dating burned nut shell from two pit features that a Late Archaic occupation existed at the top or above the MALA midden. These have dated approximately 3,700 and 3,400 years ago and intruded down into the midden. The features are somewhat enigmatic in that Late Archaic pottery and projectile points are relatively rare from the site thus far. Dr. Foss has

classified the MALA as a Bw/Apaleosol. Apparently, there was a long period of landscape stability where a B horizon began to form over a former A horizon surface. Much of the dark color of the horizon is attributable to quantities of wood charcoal and

charred hickory nut shell no doubt from native American fires. The midden is loaded with broken heat-treated biface blanks and the typical multicolored thinning flakes which result from their production. Based on the cortex type represented in the waste flakes, the Middle Archaic people were obtaining chert from the nearby hillsides rather than from the sources in Smith Lake Creek as was the case with the earliest inhabitants. Perhaps this indicates a change in the river or creek course.

The functional nature and radiocarbon age of the MALA midden are important research topics since the deposit is ceramic and presumably preceramic. By 4,500 years ago, Late

PALEOINDIAN EXPEDITION (Cont.)

Archaic peoples were making pottery and living on habitation sites such that middens full of shell, bone and organic debris were being created. What kinds of sites and activities were present immediately prior to that is essentially unknown. MALA is thought to be the culture just prior to the Late Archaic Stallings Island culture so famed for its early fiber-tempered pottery. To find a true midden associated with MALA stone artifacts would be a step toward understanding the cultural condition among Archaic peoples in the Savannah River valley prior to the Late Archaic period. Flotation samples were taken from the midden for archaeobotanical analysis and charcoal samples were taken for radiocarbon dating.

From about 90 to 100 cm below surface exists a transitional zone with diagnostic projectile points spanning about a 2,500 year period. These include Morrow Mountain stemmed, possible Kirk stemmed and Kirk Corner-Notched points. This is likely a time when the Savannah River was not flooding as energetically through Smiths Lake Creek and little soil was accumulating on the site. Dr. Foss has recognized a paleosol (BC) extending in part in this level which may also indicate a period of landscape stability.

An Early Archaic Taylor Side-Notched level is evident from 100 cm to 115 cm below surface. Five Taylor points, one Edgefield scraper, and two side-notched Waller flake knives have been found in this interval. The flake tools for the Early Archaic are in many respects like that of the preceding Paleoindian period. Side-notched points have been dated around 10,000 years

ago and earlier in other places in the Southeast indicating their origin out of a Paleoindian base. Prismatic flake blades, often a hallmark of fluted point sites in North America, have also been recovered with the Taylor occupation at the Big Pine Tree site. In the Taylor level, discrete feature-like lithic concentrations have been encountered, some indicating specific activities such as biface manufacture and scraper usage.

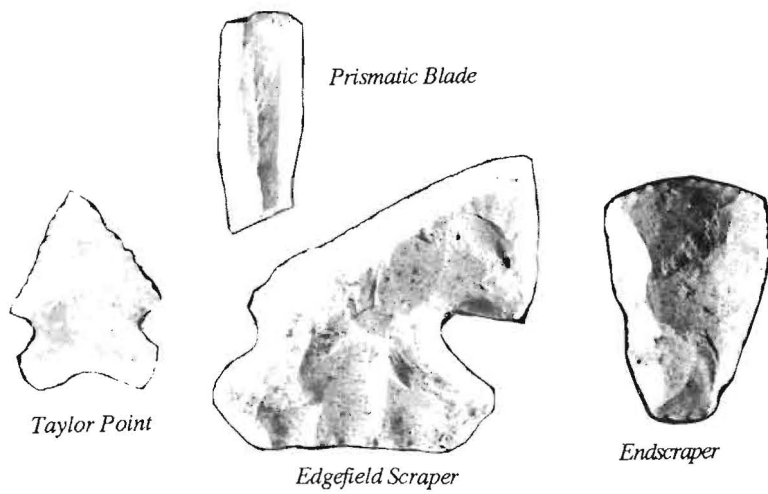
From 115 cm to 135 cm below surface exists the Paleoindian level, so called because of nearly a dozen well-fluted bifaces that have been excavated during the 1994 and 1995 seasons. No

microblades. Prismatic blade cores and their fragments have also been found indicating on-site production. Like the Taylor occupation immediately above, feature-like concentrations of artifacts occur, some bearing witness to behaviorally specific events such as biface manufacture, core reduction and scraper using. It is clear from the brown, water-smoothed cortex of the flakes, the Paleoindians and the Taylor folk were getting most of their chert from the quarry source in the bottom of Smith Lake Creek. No doubt they had first access to these high quality flint-like rocks.

The Paleoindian artifacts are situated essentially in the sands of the first floods of the Holocene or modern climatic period. In some places on the terrace, these artifacts are associated with pedogenically unmodified sands only 10 to 20 cm above the Pleistocene terrace. There is a bed of archaeologically sterile flood sand between the lowest artifact bearing zone and the Pleistocene

terrace indicating that at least one flood had occurred prior to human habitation. Small lumps of charcoal for radiocarbon dating have been recovered from strategic areas of the Paleoindian level and the sands above the Pleistocene terrace. Because of their small size, dating will have to be by the accelerator (AMS) method. The cost of such a date is \$560, and they need to be carefully selected according to context.

The 1995 season was supported by SCIAA, in-kind services from Sandoz Chemical Corporation (our gracious host), and \$1,765 in private donations by individual supporters through the Archaeological Research Trust.



Artifacts Found At The Big Pine Tree Site
Photo By Tommy Charles

finished projectile points have yet been recovered, although some nearly finished preforms, some with flutes and some without, have been found. Many of the bifaces are fluted blanks with large (6 cm +) flutes or basal thinning flakes removed. It is clear that a major flute flake was not the last flake removed from some of the points as is conventionally thought. Other associated Paleoindian artifacts include numerous well-made unifacial flake tools such as endscrapers, sidescrapers, graters, laterally retouched flakes, and prismatic blades. These blades are relatively small (< 8 cm) and delicately thin, perhaps preparations for

*The Archaeological Research Trust of the
The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology is proud to present*

BELIZE - MEXICO - GUATEMALA

**TRAVEL TO BELIZE, SOUTHERN MEXICO, AND GUATEMALA THROUGH THE HEARTLAND OF THE
MAYA WITH THE
SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

Towering pyramids, sculpted temples, carved stele, and broad ball courts of ruined cities such as Tikal and Lamanai are testimony to the richness of the Western Hemisphere's greatest ancient civilization - THE MAYA. Belize, Mexico, and Guatemala are lands of natural wonder and ecological diversity that nurtured the magnificent Maya culture. Their lush tropical rainforests, subtropical pine savannahs, mountains with countless caves and cascading waterfalls, mangrove swamps, coastal marshes, and the great barrier reef of the blue Caribbean team with wildlife, supporting over 500 species of exotic birds, 250 varieties of orchids, and the last stands of the elusive jaguar. From the misty, pine-covered mountains and dense jungles with five-foot iguanas leaping into crystalline rivers, howler monkeys screaming in the jungle canopy, and ancient temples reaching to the sky, the Yucatan Peninsula offers the traveler an unprecedented opportunity to experience a wealth of unspoiled tropical environments in the homeland of THE MAYA.

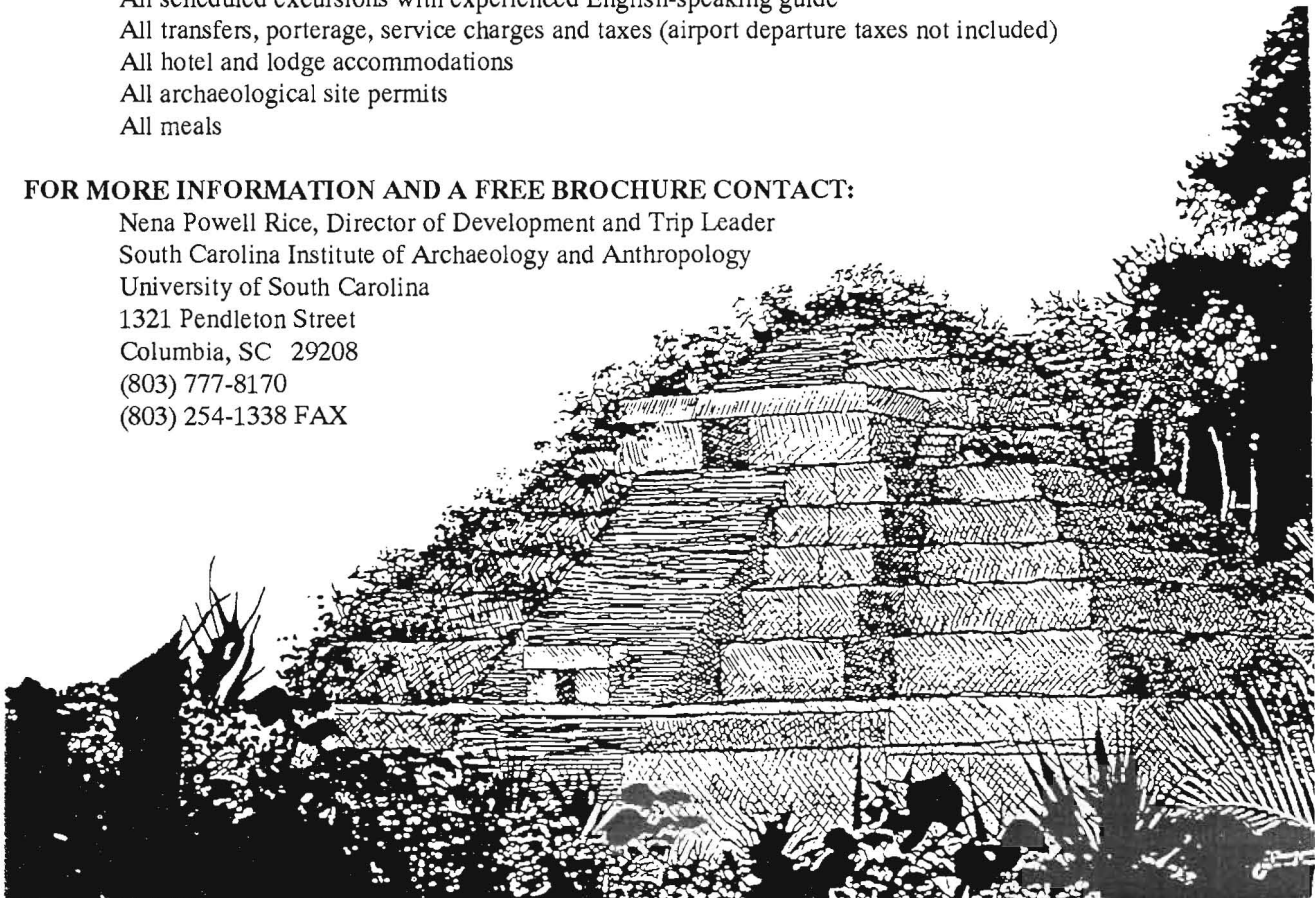
**15-Day Archaeological Expedition February 11-25, 1996
\$3000 All-Inclusive From Columbia, South Carolina**

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- Services of International Expeditions, Inc., for complete pre-departure information
- Round-trip airfare from Columbia, South Carolina
- All scheduled transportation in Belize, Mexico, and Guatemala
- All scheduled excursions with experienced English-speaking guide
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- All hotel and lodge accommodations
- All archaeological site permits
- All meals

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND A FREE BROCHURE CONTACT:

Nena Powell Rice, Director of Development and Trip Leader
South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
University of South Carolina
1321 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29208
(803) 777-8170
(803) 254-1338 FAX



A GLIMPSE INTO THE ANCIENT MAYA HEARTLAND

By Nena Powell Rice, Trip Coordinator

Belize, Southern Mexico, and Guatemala, known as the Yucatan Peninsula, were the center of the ancient Mayan civilization for over 1,500 years. The landscape harbors some of the most pristine rain forest preserves in Central America. Through special arrangements with the world-renowned organization, International Expeditions, Inc., SCIAA has planned another **ART** supporter tour of some of the most important archaeological sites in the heartland of THE MAYA. The fifteen-day tour is scheduled to start on Sunday, February 11 when the tour group will leave Columbia, SC, fly to Miami, and connect with an afternoon scheduled jet to Belize. Upon arrival we are met and transported north to Orange Walk Town, then to the New River where our boats are waiting to take us upstream to Lamanai Outpost Lodge, set amidst the magnificent Maya site of Lamanai, which stately rises from the jungle-lined banks of a huge lagoon. **Lamanai** affords visitors a chance to study a site inhabited continuously for two millennia.. We spend the second day exploring the ruins, the lagoon, and the jungle of Lamanai, highlighted by a 100-foot pyramid, large sculptured masks, tremendous birdlife, howler monkeys, and three wonderful home-cooked meals. We then leave Lamanai and travel north to explore the ruins of **Cuello, Santa Rita,** and across the Corozal Bay by boat to the archaeological site of **Cerros.** For two nights we stay at Tony's Inn on Corozal Bay, and from there travel across the border into Mexico to explore several small ruins in the undulating landscape of Quintana Roo and Campeche provinces. We visit **Chicana,** known for the elaborate serpent mask that frames the entrance to the main palace; **Becan,** which was occupied from 550 BC to AD 1000; and **Kohunlich,** a Maya site inhabited during the Preclassic and Classic Periods. The fifth day will take us to the Maya ruins of Altun Ha, a Classic Period center important as a southeastern trading post linking the Caribbean coast with the Mayan cities of the interior. We continue south through mangrove swamp and pine savannah, alive with exotic birds and orchids, then we continue westward through the Belize River Valley to our accommodations deep in the Mountain Pine Ridge region at a permanent tent camp adjacent to Slate Creek Preserve, where we spend two nights. The camp is in moist subtropical broadleaf forest and has spectacular views. Here we enjoy activities at a more relaxed pace. For the next two days we travel to **Caracol,** the most exciting new archaeological find in 50 years; explore the magnificent **Rio Frio Cave** in the Chiquibul rainforest, and later swim in cascading freshwater pools before returning to our camp for a delicious home-cooked meal. On the seventh day we travel to the Belize River valley and ferry across the



crystalline Mopan River to reach Xunantunich, site of the largest Maya ruin in the valley and the longest established site in Belize. We then visit the Center for Mayan Culture Preservation and Women's Development at Succotz Village, a rural community organization. Later we canoe down the Macal River to Ix Chel Tropical Plant Research Center, location of the world renowned Panti Maya Medicine Trail where we learn about the ancient Maya's use of medicinal plants, and we see these plants in their natural habitat. We overnight at DuPlooy's, a charming ranch facility that grows tropical fruits and has walking trails, as well as swimming, canoeing, and birding opportunities. Mid-morning the next day, we cross the border into Guatemala and travel to **Tikal National Park,** the first park of its kind in Middle America. The 222 square miles of the park include 3,000 separate constructions within the six square miles of ruins that have so far been investigated. We spend two nights at the Tikal Inn. On the ninth day we awaken to the cacophonous and raucous chorus of the jungle. There are 285 species of birds including toucan, motmot, hawks, and parrots, as well as howler and spider monkeys, peccary, deer, coatimundi, jaguar, ocelot, and puma. The sheer immensity and towering structures of Tikal make this day a powerful experience. In the early afternoon of the next day we recross the Belize border and travel east to Belmopan, the capital of Belize, then west on the Hummingbird Highway to Pooks Hill, a beautiful new lodge in a relaxing setting. The next morning we visit **Blue Hole National Park** where the birding is excellent and is a great place to swim. Our destination this afternoon is south to Sittee Point and our accommodations at the Jaguar Reef Lodge, overlooking the beautiful Caribbean Sea. Here we spend a full day by boat traveling to several southern cayes and have the opportunity to snorkle among 220 types of fish, manatee, dolphin, sea turtles, and magnificent coral sea life. On the thirteenth day, we visit the **Cockscomb Basin Jaguar Reserve,** a unique sanctuary that is the only protected area managed specifically for this largest of the felines. We visit a recently discovered site called **Kuchil Balam** (site of the Jaguar) and in the late afternoon board boats on the Sitte River into Anderson's Lagoon, where we search for manatee and alligators before continuing on to Jaguar Reef Lodge. Our last full day is focused on barrier reef, mangrove, and tropical island ecology with plenty of time to snorkle. On our last night, Garifuna drummers and dancers come to the lodge to provide a dramatic finale to the trip. Our midmorning flight from Belize City on the last day provides a spectacular view of the blue Caribbean and verdant tropical jungles of Belize, a beautiful memory to take home.

THE PUMPKIN SITE (38GR226)

By Tommy Charles

The "Pumpkin" site, recorded as archaeological site 38GR226 and located in the northern part of Greenville County, South Carolina, has a long history of occupation by various groups of prehistoric American Indians. Artifactual evidence indicates human occupation of this site began as early as 7,500 BC and continued periodically until AD 500 and perhaps later. The single most identifiable cultural component, and the one of greatest research interest for the time being, is the Connestee culture that occurred between AD 200-600.

Archaeological research at "Pumpkin" is being conducted by the SCIAA working jointly with volunteers from the Greenville area and with assistance from the SCIAA/Savannah River Archaeological Research Program archaeologists. Financing for the project is provided by local citizens through the Archaeological Research Trust.

Exploration of the "Pumpkin" site is in its infancy, having begun in November of 1994 with a single test excavation. This first excavation revealed a dark organically stained midden overlying red clay sub-soil. A pit feature—extending down into the red clay sub-soil, was exposed in the east wall of the test unit. Excavation of the pit feature was rewarding beyond expectations. Artifacts recovered were a steatite (soapstone) elbow pipe, small sheets of mica, fire-cracked rocks, Connestee pottery and charcoal. Carbon removed from the pipe bowl and loose charcoal recovered from the pit feature's fill were Carbon 14 dated at AD 440 for the pipe and AD 470 for the loose charcoal—dates consistent with those

for Connestee pottery. These findings are important in the field of archaeology as carbon dates for the Connestee are not common. I have not extensively searched the records, but I think this is only the second Connestee carbon 14 date for South Carolina and certainly the first from a pipe.

Encouraged by findings in the initial test excavation, a series of shovel tests were excavated over the entire site in January-February 1995. These test excavations revealed an extensive array of sub-surface features extending into the red clay sub-soil. Features appearing to be post molds indicated a possible presence of prehistoric structures.

To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric structures, an area measuring approximately 22 X 90 meters was stripped of its plow-damaged midden to reveal the sub-soil. This procedure uncovered approximately 500 features including numerous post molds and a number of large pits; all were subsequently plotted using a surveyors transit. Drawing of the site map is in progress, and hopefully it will reveal patterns of houses constructed by the Connestee. Excavation of the pit features is ongoing. Analysis of recovered materials has not begun. Work on the "Pumpkin" site will continue as time, money and local interest dictate.

I would like to thank all donors who contributed to this important archaeological project.

Persons interested in participating with the excavation of 38GR226 and/or extending financial support may make inquiries to the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, Columbia, SC 29208 (803) 777-8170.

SCIAA EVENTS AT ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK (Cont.)

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF PEARL HARBOR

On Sunday, December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy launched a surprise attack on the US Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Within an hour, the aircraft and submarines of the IJN had crippled the Pacific fleet as smoke and flames rose from the devastation of Battleship Row, and the scores of ruined aircraft caught on the ground. Among the shattered fleet was the battleship ARIZONA, which had sunk after a spectacular magazine explosion ripped her apart.

James Delgado was a member of a National Park Service/US Navy team that spent five years surveying the sunken hulk of USS ARIZONA and the battleship UTAH at Pearl Harbor. He also participated in a search for a sunken Japanese midget submarine in 1,000-foot deep waters off Pearl Harbor's entrance, where alert antisubmarine forces sank it an hour before the main attack commenced. With rare underwater views, and images from "the day of infamy," he recreates the attack and its aftermath, while offering a rare look at the sunken ships. 54 years after the attack, fire hoses still lie across buckled decks, portholes hold air trapped when the battleships sank, and oil leaks from ruptured bunkers. After more than half a century, ARIZONA's wounds still bleed.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ATOMIC BOMB

In 1946, the United States conducted highly-publicized, but classified tests of the newly developed atomic bomb at Bikini Atoll in the mid-Pacific. A fleet of nearly 100 ships was blasted by nuclear explosions from above and below the sea, sinking or contaminating the ships. Aircraft carriers loaded with planes, battleships, destroyers, cruisers, submarines and landing craft were sent to the bottom, where they lay for decades, too radioactive to handle.

In 1989 and 1990, a joint US Navy/National Park Service team went to Bikini with ABC television and National Geographic to explore the nuclear ghost fleet. James Delgado, the historian with the team, worked at depths of nearly 200 feet with archaeologists and naval explosive ordnance demolition divers, swimming beneath crushed, overturned battleships, penetrating the hanger deck of the carrier SARATOGA to bring back the first underwater images of the sunken fleet in nearly 50 years. Ships lost since 1946 in radioactive silt and the depths of Bikini's lagoon were re-discovered. With many never before seen photographs, including declassified military images from the tests and underwater scenes of the ships today, Delgado recreates the tests and the birth of the nuclear age, while offering new

PALEOINDIAN EXPEDITION (Cont.)

Without their financial contributions we would not have been able to fund this year's expedition. These individuals and organizations are:

Charleston Area Chapter of the Archaeological Society of South Carolina

Mrs. Elsie S. Goodyear
Mr. Ernest L. Helms III, MD
Mrs. Carol S. McCanless
Mr. Mark Permar
Mrs. Betty Stringfellow
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Mr. John S. Whatley, Jr.

Funds are currently needed to obtain radiocarbon dates for the Paleoindian level and the MALA midden, and for paleoethnobotanical analysis of the charred plant remains.



Crew Excavating At The Big Pine Tree Site
Photo By Daryl P. Miller

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

By Roland C. Young

I would like to bring to your attention the fabulous people that we call donors whom are making it possible for us in the Archaeological *Trust* to continue our mission. Please make an effort to participate in activities offered during the 4th Annual South Carolina Archaeology Week, especially our very special **ART** sponsored dinner and lecture on October 3. Also travel with Nena to Central America in February 1996. It will help in preserving resources right here at home. Please do not forget our financial goals, and do the State a favor to protect our non-renewable resources, adopt your favorite archaeologist!

SCIAA EVENTS AT ARCH WEEK (Cont.)

insights and new interpretations of the tests based on the evidence that still lies on the ocean floor.

Please join us for these exciting programs during Archaeology Week and for further information contact Nena Powell Rice, SC Archaeology Week Coordinator at (803) 777-8170.

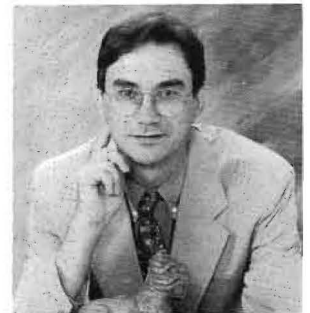
The 1996 Allendale Paleoindian Expedition

Plans are currently being made to return to the Big Pine Tree site for a four week excavation in May of 1996. The 1996 season will be funded by interested members of the public who wish to register for a five day experience. The registration fee will be \$275 for the five days. The dig begins Tuesday morning and is over Saturday afternoon each week. Participants will help out in all aspects of the excavation and laboratory analysis. Evening lectures on the archaeology of the Savannah River Valley and South Carolina will be provided by staff archaeologists and other visiting scientists. Some tours to nearby sites are also being planned. Free camping is available at the Sandoz Recreation Center, including hot showers and a full kitchen. Each person must supply their own tent and bedding. Lunch and supper will be provided as part of the registration fee and a cook will prepare the evening meal. Motels are available within 25 minutes of the site for those that do not wish to camp.

If you are interested in participating in the **1996 Allendale Paleoindian Expedition**, please contact Dr. Al Goodyear or Nena Powell Rice at SCIAA, 1321 Pendleton Street, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208 (803) 777-8170. There will only be 20 slots available, five people a week for four weeks. The first week begins Tuesday May 7, 1996 and is over Saturday afternoon May 11th. The last week begins May 28th and is over Saturday afternoon June 1st. Application materials will be sent upon request. All applications must include a \$35 nonrefundable application fee. The balance is due on or before March 1, 1996.

KEN SASSAMAN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

In November 1994, Dr. Kenneth E. Sassaman, Archaeologist at the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, SCIAA, was honored by receiving the highest award which is given to archaeologists working primarily in the Southeastern United States. Ken received the prestigious C. B. Moore Award at the last Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC) in Lexington, Kentucky. Ken's PhD dissertation from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst was published by the University of Alabama Press which is entitled, *Early Pottery of the Southeast*. The book is a comprehensive coverage of the earliest pottery of North America, that of fibered-tempered ware. He has also published a number of significant articles and reports and is the editor of three other books which are scheduled to be published in the near future.



NATIONAL CSS HUNLEY TEAM FORMED BY STATE OFFICIALS

The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) at the University of South Carolina and state officials have formed a team to handle the wreck of the *CSS Hunley*, discovered off Sullivan's Island last month, USC officials said.

"This group will work closely with the federal government to ensure that all work on the site is conducted by the most informed and skilled team possible and that the vessel is afforded the very best protection available," said Dr. Bruce Rippeteau, State Archaeologist and Director of the Institute.

Representatives from the state and from the USC Institute have begun discussions with Dr. William Dudley, director of the navy's Historic Center in Washington, DC. It is important that the best advisors in our fields of expertise assist us in this undertaking," Rippeteau said.

In addition, three national scientific societies and five universities have been asked to advise the team on

underwater archaeology, conservation and ocean engineering.

The Institute's representatives to the Hunley Project Working Group are Christopher Amer, Deputy State Archaeologist for Underwater Archaeology; Dr. Jonathan Leader, Deputy State Archaeologist and Conservator, who will coordinate the conservation and stabilization of the vessel; and Dr. William Still, a noted Civil War historian, who will oversee and coordinate the historical research.

The University of South Carolina Educational Development Fund has received donations for the *CSS Hunley* from the public, including the Sons of Confederate Veterans Palmetto Sharpshooters Camp of Anderson.

The 40-foot *Hunley* sank on February 17, 1864 after ramming the Union warship *Housatonic*. All nine men aboard were lost. The wreck, which was discovered early in May in about 18 feet of water off Sullivan's Island, is considered priceless because of its historical significance.

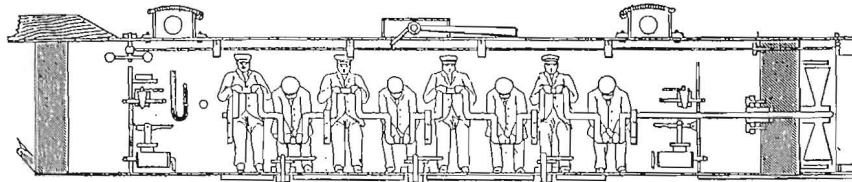


Illustration Of The CSS Hunley

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK (Cont.)

time Museum, in British Columbia has been invited to be our distinguished speaker at the opening ceremonies. Mr. Delgado, formally the maritime historian for the US National Park Service, will also offer two exciting lectures on the underwater archaeology of the atomic bomb tests at Bikini Atoll and the archaeology of Pearl Harbor. These lectures will be held in Charleston on Monday evening and in Columbia on Tuesday evening. (See details of both of these exciting talks on page 8.)

South Carolina Archaeology Week 1995 is a major event supported by the archaeological community in South Carolina including state and federal agencies, historical societies, museums, libraries, schools, private businesses, and professional and avocational archaeologists. During the seven-month planning stage of events for South Carolina Archaeology Week, the Institute becomes a clearinghouse of information which is funneled to all the various organizations involved to better serve the public in all corners of South Carolina.

The Calendar of Events booklet can be used as a resource guide to the many archaeological activities that take place throughout the year. If you are a teacher, this booklet will be especially valuable in identifying expertise in particular periods of time during prehistory and history in the state. If you do not receive a Calendar of Events booklet by mid-August 1995 and would like one, please contact the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, 1321 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29208 803-777-8170.

I have just spent a very gratifying time in Minneapolis at the 60th Annual Society for American Archaeology meetings where I participated in a Forum Workshop on Archaeology Weeks. It appears that what we are all doing in South Carolina is being well received across the nation. Let us keep the momentum and make this the best Archaeology Week ever!. Thank you for your participation and support.



Scott Jones Demonstrates Stone Tool Marking At Archaeology Field Day
Photo By George S. Lewis

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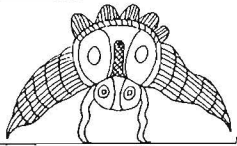
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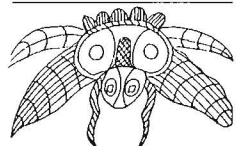
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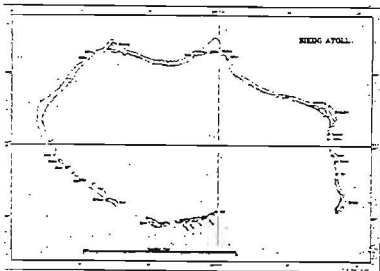
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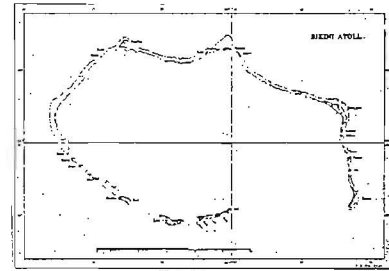
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