

11-1994

## *The Goody Bag* - November 1994

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology--University of South Carolina

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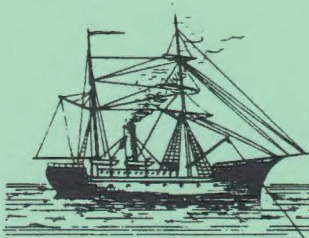
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# The Goody Bag

Volume Five, Number Four SCIAA, Underwater Archaeology Division November 1994

## Work Begins On B&B Project

By Doug Boehme

October marks the first anniversary of the discovery of the B&B shipwreck and the beginning of the sport diver phase of the B&B Project.

Work began on October 8 with a small group of volunteers from SCIAA's Underwater Archaeology Division's Field Training Course held in September. Scott Paris, Chris Gregory, and Dana Morris braved the elements and the local critters to begin surveying the vessel. If you missed the last few articles in *The Goody Bag* on the B&B, it's a shipwreck discovered by Robert Bush and myself in a small creek off the Cooper River, and it's probably a coasting schooner built in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century.

We have had the good fortune to have Harry Pecorelli III join our project. Harry is a graduate student with East Carolina University and is currently pursuing his master's degree in maritime history. Harry will be using the project as the subject of his master's thesis. All of us on the project are pleased to welcome Harry's expertise and resource connections.

Water temperature and visibility permitting, we will be mapping disarticulated timbers, excavating the port side of the ship, and mapping in newly-exposed timbers over the next few months. All artifacts discovered during the project will go to the Berkeley Museum. We have had several more volunteers sign up recently and are eagerly looking forward to the next few months' diving.

## Beaufort Divers Find Canoe Near Chowan Creek

Three Beaufort divers—James Cooler, Pete McComas, and Milledge Morris—reported finding the remains of a canoe near Chowan Creek in September. Deteriorated wood fragments of the canoe were deposited in thick mud on an oyster bed that was exposed at low tide. On September 28, Lynn Harris visited the site with the divers who assisted her in doing preliminary documentation of the surviving remnants.

Harris's assessment indicates it is a historic canoe, rather than a Native American model, since the wood sur-

faces were extremely smooth and marks indicate the use of an adze. Native American canoes were built using fire and stone axes (see accompanying story). The remains indicate a canoe that was 14 feet long, 22 to 25 inches wide, and 12 to 18 inches deep, with sides and bottom approximately 2 inches thick.

Two particularly interesting construction features were a wooden cleat-like block which was nailed to the bottom of the canoe near one end and a

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## Wando River Shipwrecks Visited By Divers, Staff

Hobby divers Hugh Myrick (hobby license #3044) and Steve Swavely (#3264) recently reported what they believed to be two shipwreck sites on the Wando River. The Charleston staff of the Underwater Archaeology Division of SCIAA visited the site with the two divers in September aboard their dive boat.

Upon inspection, the two sites appear to be the remains of one, very large vessel, at least 100 feet in length, that had broken into two separate hull sections. One larger section lies close to shore on the river bank (you could stand up on it and talk). The other appears to have broken off and slid further down into the channel. Structural components included frames, outer hull planking, ceiling planking, and lead sheathing. In the surrounding area artifacts such as

stoneware, earthenware, glassware, shot, and ordnance hardware had been found and reported to us through hobby diving quarterly reports.

Charleston staff compared the information and site location with our State Site Files and suspect that it is possibly the same site reported to SCIAA in 1980. However, we gathered new and important information about the site which had not been included in the former site report. More diagnostic artifacts have been found and we have a better idea of the actual construction of the hull since the 1980 report. This new information was submitted on behalf of Hugh and Steve as an official site update. The Charleston staff is also planning to photograph and inventory the

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# Letter To The Editor

To The Editor:

Enclosed you will find my quarterly reports. Diving has been enjoyable this year, and I'm pleased to share my experiences with you.

In early June we put our boat in at Bushy Park Landing near Goose Creek. As we headed for our normal destina-

tion on the Cooper River, the weather was stormy and the current strong. The storm slowly blew over and we anchored.

I had decided that I would dive an area opposite where I normally dive. As I descended it was obvious to me that visibility and the strong currents would limit my time on the bottom. I crossed the bottom of the river toward the old rice field. I came upon unusual "ledges," if you will, that were unlike the areas I had been diving. The bottom consisted of trees, rocks, and the usual large river bed materials, but had no real set organization as I was used to. I know, "organization"? What I mean is that you generally find river bed materials and an occasional fallen tree, etc., but things were so mixed up all over the bottom. In addition, there was sandy bottom connected to clay, then connected to river bed, then to what I call gravel. I quickly realized that there seemed to be unusual current in this area. It was not constant. It would be surging then nearly dead 20 seconds later. I'm nearly convinced an anchor was not needed in some areas. When there was current it was ferocious in nature and seemed much stronger than at the surface.

As I slowly searched the bottom I came upon what I thought was a sword. You can only imagine my excitement. The hard part is the find was at the beginning of my dive. I slowly tried to protect the article as I continued the dive. The entire outside was encased in what I thought was rust. But maybe petrified wood? In any event, the current tried to steal the item from me. I managed to hold onto the object by sticking it in the river bottom. Near the end of my dive I located two more of these things. I wonder if they could be some sort of spikes? I found three but only brought up two. Could they be from a ship? I will send photographs soon.

Also, just this past weekend in the same area, I found what may be a rock,

but it has a really strange shape and is heavy as can be. It's white/brown colored. Is it a rock or bone of some kind? I'll send pictures.

Incidentally, in May I was diving the same general area and in very strong current hung onto anything on the bottom for support. I came across an area that was clean (not muddy) but had systematic holes (like a peg may go into) directly on the bottom. They ran for about 10 feet before they stopped; some side by side but at least a single row nonetheless. (My imagination tells me they are the holes for pegs used on sailing ships as railing). Please don't laugh. Whatever they are, you could fan the sand from them and place your entire finger in them and not touch the back. Maybe a new find?

Thanks

Ron Glock  
1203 King Ave.  
Florence, S.C.  
(license # 3106)

**Editor's Note:** We have discussed these "holes" with a variety of experts (all on the state payroll) and the general consensus is that they are slots for an antenna used to gather extra-terrestrial radio transmissions. That, or they could be remnants of some sort of dock or tidal-control structure. As far as the "sword" and the "rock," we are eagerly awaiting the photos.

## Editor's Note

In the August 1994 issue of *The Goody Bag* we ran the first part of an article on South Carolina's Artificial Reefs. The second part of this article, planned for this issue, has been unavoidably held up and will appear in a future issue of *The Goody Bag*.

## The Goody Bag

*The Goody Bag* is a quarterly publication of the Underwater Archaeology Division of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina.

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Underwater Archaeology  
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Sport Diver Archaeology  
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Lynn Harris

Editors  
Lynn Harris  
Carl Naylor

*The Goody Bag* welcomes submissions from the diving community. We are especially interested in photos and information on artifacts you collect. Send your articles, suggestions, ideas, and questions about hobby diving related topics that interest you to: *The Goody Bag*, c/o SCIAA Underwater Archaeology Division Field Office, P.O. Box 12448, Charleston, S.C. 29422.



# Workshop Series Continues

The Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program (SDAMP) Workshop Series will continue on Saturday and Sunday, December 12 and 13, with two workshops dealing with nautical skills.

The Saturday, December 12, workshop is titled "Nautical Knots: The Role of Knot Tying as a Skill in Nautical History," and will be conducted by Dan Machowski from the Marine Resource Monitoring Assessment and Prediction Program (MARMAP) of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The workshop will be held at the Fort Johnson Marine Resource Center on James Island and consist of a lecture and a practical session where participants learn how to tie both useful and decorative knots and to perform a variety of rope splices. Cost of the workshop will be \$10 per participant and will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon.

On Sunday, December 13, a workshop titled "Maps, Charts, and Navigation" will instruct participants in navigational and piloting skills with the goal of learning how to map and accurately locate sites either in rivers or on the ocean. A lecture and practical session will cover a variety of conventional, non-electronic navigational instruments and their uses. Instructor for the workshop will be Joe Ashley of Furman University who has extensive offshore and coastal sailing and navigation experience. This workshop will also be held at Fort Johnson from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon and cost \$10 per participant.

Several workshops in the SDAMP Workshop Series have already been held and will be repeated in the future. On Saturday, October 15, Carl Naylor of SDAMP and Kristin Roberts from the Anthropology Department of the College of Charleston held a workshop titled "Identifying, Drawing, and Photographing Historic Ceramics," where participants learned to identify and distinguish between the types and subgroups of historic ceramics by their clay texture, glazes, and decorations. A lecture on the subject was followed by a hands-on section where participants were given a variety of ceramic pieces

and asked to identify and describe them using the techniques they had just learned. Participants also learned techniques for drawing and photographing ceramic pieces for exhibits, slide shows, and insurance records.

On Sunday, October 16, Lynn Harris of SDAMP and Doug Boehme, a research associate at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA), held a workshop titled "Identifying, Drawing, and Photographing Historic Bottles." This workshop consisted of lectures on techniques for identifying and dating historic bottles and a hands-on section where participants were given a variety of bottles and asked to identify them. As in the ceramics workshop, participants also learned techniques for drawing and photographing bottles.

While the workshops are open to the public, they are part of a four-tier educational program for the state's licensed hobby divers. The first tier or part of the program consists of SDAMP Field Training Courses (FTC) which are a two-and-one-half-day program of lectures and pool training and introduces the participants to the concepts and principles of underwater archaeology, the legislation pertaining to underwater antiquities, pre-disturbance surveying methods, and artifact and site types in South Carolina. Cost of the FTC is \$70

per participant. An FTC was held in Greenville in October at the invitation of Diver's World dive shop and while we are willing to hold FTCs in almost any location in the state, normally they are held in Columbia or Charleston because of cost factors. Due to the logistics involved, FTCs held away from Columbia or Charleston cost \$120 per participant. The next FTC is scheduled for February 24-26, 1995, and will be held in Columbia at SCIAA headquarters on the University of South Carolina campus. Another FTC is planned for the summer in Charleston. Stay tuned for further details.

Part Two of the educational program requires the diver to participate in at least three Specialty Workshops (including those mentioned above), participation in at least three Skills Sessions, and attendance of two Archaeological Meetings or one Archaeological Conference. The Skills Sessions cover topics such as drawing ship timbers, artifact labelling and cataloging, artifact conservation, and historic research. Archaeological Meetings and Conferences include the South Carolina Archaeological Society Annual Conference, the Annual Conference on Underwater Archaeology (CUA), South Carolina Archaeology Society Chapter Meet-

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend:

- ☐ Nautical Knots Workshop    ☐ Maps, Charts & Navigation Workshop  
☐ Feb. 24-26 FTC in Columbia    ☐ Summer FTC in Charleston

Send check or money order for \$10 to preregister for workshops, or \$35 deposit by Feb. 10 for February FTC to: South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, Charleston Field Office, P.O. Box 12448, Charleston, S.C., 29422.



## Turn Off That TV

# Volunteer For An Archaeology Project

By Kristin Roberts

Are you tired of watching old Jacques Cousteau and National Geographic reruns? Are you tired of waiting for the next "Indiana Jones" movie to hit the theatres? If you are then you may be wondering, "How can I get involved in an underwater or terrestrial archaeological project?" Well ask no more!

There are several different ways you can find out about archaeological projects in your area. If it is an underwater project you desire, then the item you need to read is what you are now holding in your hands, *The Goody Bag*. One important item *The Goody Bag* publicizes is the Field Training Courses (FTC) that are taught by the Underwater Archaeology Division at SCIAA. By taking this course a diver will be taught how to become aware of things they will discover while diving and learn various archaeological methods and techniques. It also qualifies the divers to participate in SCIAA underwater projects.

The land-lovers of archaeology can learn about projects through the Archaeological Society of South Carolina (ASSC). The ASSC is a state-wide organization in its twenty-sixth year, and a newsletter titled "Features and Profiles" is published regularly. Nine chapters of the ASSC are located across the state and most have active members who attend monthly meetings of these local chapters.

You may be asking yourself, "What type of background do I need for these projects? Do I need to be a certified Divemaster for these underwater projects? Do I need a sturdy brown Stetson hat, an old pistol, and a bullwhip?" The answer to these last two questions is NO! It is good for a diver to have taken the Field Training Course. Most volunteer divers will not be turned away from a project, but having divers who have not taken the FTC means that

SCIAA staff must teach the skills necessary for underwater projects on site. Surprisingly, the only items a terrestrial volunteer needs are rain gear and comfortable shoes. Other than that, no background is needed for land archaeology.

The time span of these projects differs from project to project. The Underwater Division of SCIAA gladly accepts volunteers for projects that usually run during the week. Sport diver projects are run by experienced hobby divers and typically take place on the weekends; however, the entire project can last on-and-off for months or years. Terrestrial workers labor on the week days on projects that often last for a month or more. It would be best if you could work for a week, not just a day, on

a project to get a real idea of the life of an archaeologist.

For information about archaeological projects in your area contact: South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology in Columbia at (803) 777-8170, or in Charleston at (803) 762-6105.

So turn off that TV and volunteer for an archaeological project; besides I believe the next "Indiana Jones" movie does not start production until next year! **Editor's Note: Kristin is an Anthropology student at the College of Charleston who is interning with the Underwater Archaeology Division of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology during the Fall semester.**

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## To Contact Your Local ASSC

For information about archaeological events and the chapter of the ASSC in your area then contact:

Abbeville	Jimmy Moss	(803)446-3868
Aiken	Darryl Boyd	W(803)952-5773
		H(803)652-3045
	George Lewis	(803)725-3623
Anderson	Gerry Campbell	W(803)348-2874
		H(803)348-2088
	Bill Westbrook	W(706)548-3121 ext.226
		H(706)376-9609
Beaufort	Barbara Brundage	(803)552-8535
Charleston	Myrna Rowland	(803)577-6440
Georgetown	Jim Michie	(803)248-8929
Hilton Head	Margie Tolly	W(803)681-6550
		H(803)785-5618
Walterboro	Barbara Hiott	W(803)549-2303
		H(803)549-2254
York	Lawanna Ellerbe	W(704)737-0212
		H(704)333-2027
	Rita Kenion	W(803)329-2121
		H(704)554-0761

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# Canoe

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carved, rudder-like "fin." In the center of the cleat there is a deliberate hole about the diameter of a broom handle. What could this cleat possibly be used for? Perhaps it held a tiller arm in place, or some sort of steering apparatus, or functioned as a mast step for a small, light, loose-footed sail.

Even more interesting was the "fin" carved into the end near the cleat. This is the first example of this type of design that we have encountered in South Carolina, and the function of this "fin" is also a mystery. It could not move like a hinged rudder, but may have made the canoe more stable for paddling in a nearshore coastal environment rather than in rivers. Perhaps it even balanced the canoe and allowed the canoe to attain a slight beam-reach if a sail were utilized.

Anyone having any ideas or information about the cleat and "fin," should write or call us with your information. In the meantime, we'll stick with our, er, hypothesis.



*Photo by Lynn Harris*

## Canoe Remains

Beaufort divers Pete McComas, left, and James Cooler pose by canoe they discovered near Chowan Creek.

# Canoe Use Common In Southeast

By Jenny Trombley

The Southeastern United States was a major area for canoe use in prehistoric as well as historic times. These canoes were multi-purpose crafts used for hunting, warfare, fishing, commerce, and transportation by North American Indians and as fishing and recreational craft by the colonists and their descendents.

The main construction techniques for canoes employed by the Native Americans consisted of fire and stone axes. These methods endured for centuries. In making a canoe several steps involving these processes were used. To begin with, a tree of good size and grain was chosen by the Indians who then detached the base from the roots by using a controlled fire. After the separation was complete the leafy top and any protruding limbs were burned off. Following this they laid the tree on wooden posts set into the ground and removed the bark. Controlled fire was used once again to create ashen layers within the hull of the canoe which could then be easily scraped away using shell shovels. This process was repeated until the desired depth was reached.

According to information from the

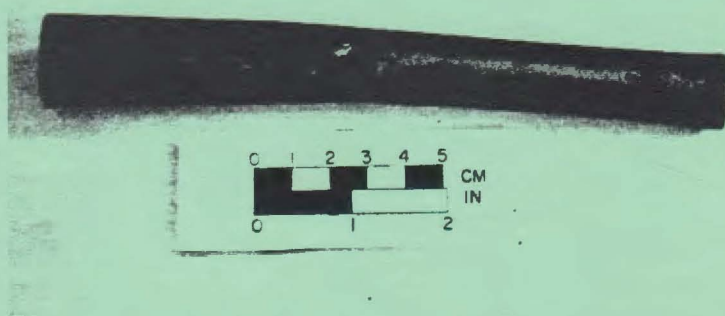
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# Wando

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entire artifact collection as part of a shipwreck site assemblage in the near future.

**Editor's Note:** Hobby divers are reminded that under the 1991 Underwater Antiquities Act only ten artifacts per day may be recovered from a shipwreck site (ie., on or near the hull). Divers are also required to map the locations of where the artifacts are collected. Additionally, no structural fastenings, fittings, or timbers may be removed.



*Photo by Lynn Harris*

Brass Pistol Barrel Found Near Wando River Wreck.



# Canoes

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State Archaeology Site Files pertaining to the canoes recovered and studied in South Carolina, cypress and pine tend to be the woods of choice. The dimensions generally run anywhere from eight feet to thirty feet in length and one and one-half feet to three feet in width. The hull thickness can range up to two inches.

Prehistoric and historic canoes differ only in detail. All the prehistoric canoes found in South Carolina have evidence of charring which results from the continuous burning out of the interior. Historic canoes are basically constructed in the same manner except that adzes were used instead of fire and stone axes. Another difference is the use of gauge holes in historic canoes. The exterior of the canoe was stripped of bark and the shape was fashioned. Along the bottom of the canoe wooden pegs of a desired length were driven in the hull. The vessel was then turned over and the hollowing out process was begun. When the builder struck or un-

covered a peg the allotted depth within the craft had been achieved. Prehistoric canoes yield no evidence of these depth gauges. In addition to the gauge holes some historic canoes show evidence of having been specialized for sailing and others have rudders.

According to the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, twenty-one canoe sites are on file in the State Site File. Seven of these are categorized as prehistoric, and the remaining fourteen are either historic or unidentifiable. Both types, prehistoric and historic, can be viewed throughout South Carolina in museums such as the South Carolina State Museum and the Charlestown Landing Museum.

**Editor's Note: Jenny is an Anthropology student at the College of Charleston who is interning with the Underwater Archaeology Division of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology for the Fall semester.**

# Workshops

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ings, and the South Carolina Underwater Discoveries Conference. The next CUA meeting will be held January 4-8, 1995, in Washington, D.C.

Part Three requires participants to attend additional Workshops, Skill Sessions, Meetings, and Conferences. In addition participants are required to take part in a SCIAA Field Project lasting at least seven days.

Part Four of the program is accomplished by a diver who actually formulates and conducts a Field Project of his or her own choosing. The project must have a duration of at least fourteen days. Completion of Part Four requires a completed written report on the project, lecture pertaining to the project at a meeting or conference, and an artifact and photographic exhibit of the project.

For more information on the workshops, meetings, conferences, or the SDAMP Educational Program contact Lynn Harris at SCIAA: (803) 762-6105.

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