

6-2014

## Legacy - June 2014

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

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UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
College of Arts and Sciences

VOL. 18, NO. 1, JUNE 2014

# Legacy

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

## Albert Goodyear is Recognized with “Breakthrough Leadership in Research” Award

All of us at SCIAA are proud to join in the congratulations to Al Goodyear for receiving the “Breakthrough Leadership in Research” award. This is the inaugural year of these awards through the university’s Office of Research, so it is particularly gratifying to have one of our own recognized as one of the first recipients. Although Al has a lengthy and diverse record of research, his ‘Breakthrough Leadership Award’ was made with specific recognition of his contributions to scholarly and public outreach via his long-term research at major Paleoindian sites in Allendale County, SC that date to at least 13,000 B.P.

Since 1996, Al has had over 1,000 members of the public join in his excavations at the well-known Paleoindian (or Clovis) site of Topper, as well as at the nearby sites of Big Pine Tree and Charles. In 2012, all of these efforts led to the installation of a permanent exhibit at USC Salkehatchie. In partnership with Dean Ann Carmichael of that campus, a display featuring artifacts from these significant Clovis sites was installed in the Library. The exhibit is free to the public.

A national research community dedicated to addressing questions related to late Pleistocene adaptations has emerged from the contributions of avocational archaeologists working alongside professional archaeologists from several universities, including the University of Arizona, Texas A & M, Mississippi State University, and the University of Tennessee. Their work is tackling several provocative questions relating to the earliest human occupation of the Americas.

As examples, the Topper site has one of the best-preserved deposits of Clovis artifacts in North America, which are yielding important insights into patterns of Paleoindian mobility and stone tool production. Goodyear and

some of his colleagues argue (not without some controversy) that Topper also has a pre-Clovis component that significantly pre-dates traditionally accepted dates for the colonization of North America. Intriguingly, the Clovis deposit at Topper has provided key elemental markers indicative of the impact of a possible comet strike around 12,900 B.P.; some researchers believe this impact may account for a wide pattern of late Pleistocene extinctions.

In keeping with the mission of SCIAA to explore and share the heritage of South Carolina with as wide an audience as possible, Al’s work has had a considerable impact by virtue of engaging over 40 scientists from around the world, by leading to numerous theses and dissertations by graduate students, and by training a generation of avocational archaeologists from all walks of life. From all of your colleagues, thanks for a job well done!



Dr. Albert C. Goodyear Receives “Breakthrough Leadership in Research” Award from Vice President for Research Prakash Nagarkatti at awards banquet. (Photo courtesy of Office of Research, USC)

Thank you for your generous support of the Archaeological Research Trust (ART) Endowment Fund and the printing of *Legacy*. Please send donations in the enclosed envelope to Nena Powell Rice USC/SCIAA, 1321 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29208, indicating whether you want to continue receiving *Legacy* and include your email address. All contributions are appreciated. Please visit our website at: <http://www.artsandsciences.sc.edu/sciaa> to download past issues, and let the Editor know if you wish to receive *Legacy* by email.

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# Director's Note

By Steven D. Smith  
SCIAA Associate Director

Congratulations to Al Goodyear for receiving the "Breakthrough Leadership in Research" award for 2013. This award recognizes not only Al's research but also its impact on the national community. Al's outreach at the Topper site is an outstanding example of how archaeologists can engage the public in active research. The work draws outstanding avocational archaeologists like Tom Pertierra, who the Archaeological Society of South Carolina and State

Archaeologist recognized as Distinguished Archaeologist of the Year for 2013. Al is looking for volunteers right now for analysis and lab work on Topper artifacts, (see Page 4).

It is May as I now write this note, and I have to say, I love May. In May, the academic semester ends, SCIAA archaeologists scatter across South Carolina to begin fieldwork, USC baseball is in full swing, and did I mention, the semester ends? This May is special for a couple of reasons. First, I have finally recovered from hosting the Eighth International Fields of Conflict archaeology conference, which was held in March. This conference meets every



Figure 2: Scott Butler (left), Steve Smith, Eric Poplin, at Congaree Creek Battlefield. (Photograph by James Legg)

other year, usually in Europe, and for the first time since 2004, came to the U.S., specifically, Columbia, South Carolina. Generally a small intimate conference, this year we had 52 presentations and 15 posters. The conference was held in conjunction with a National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program workshop and ABPP helped significantly with sponsorship. I also thank the ART Board for providing a grant. The reviews are in, and it was a rousing success, and I learned a valuable life lesson...never host a conference. Second, in May, I get to be among the archaeologists escaping the office for fieldwork. Earlier in the month, Jim Legg and I teamed up with Eric Poplin

and Scott Butler of Brockington Associates, Inc., to conduct a KOCOA analysis of the Civil War Congaree Creek Battlefield. Right now, Jim and I are at Fort Motte again this year, and we have made some



Figure 1: USC Camp Aylum Field School students endure final day wrap-up presentation by Steve Smith. (SCIAA photograph)



significant finds, which I will report in detail in the next *Legacy* issue.

This issue of *Legacy* is a great example of the breadth and reach of SCIAA research. Chester DePratter reports on the successful excavations at the Civil War Camp Asylum in Columbia, while his son tells the story of five officers who escaped from another prison camp called Camp Sorghum. Chester mentions in his article that his excavations included a USC field school. This field school was in the Department of Anthropology with yours truly as instructor. With an active archaeological dig less than a mile away from campus, it was an opportunity not to be missed, and as it turned out, USC students agreed. A total of 20 students signed-on, and we had to turn away a number of disappointed late registrants. Frankly, 20 students were too many for the kind of one-on-one instruction needed in a field school. However, Anthropology Ph.D. graduate student Meagan Conway and three advanced undergraduates, Larry Lane, Katherine Carter, and Tara Smith, acted as field director and crew chiefs. Overall, the students got a good field experience, despite the weather not cooperating. Class was held on Fridays, and it seemed like every Friday it was snowing, freezing, or sleeting. I think we ended up losing most of February, so the students got a healthy dose of indoor “field school.”

I want to welcome Nate Fulmer, archaeologist and diver, to the SCIAA Maritime Research Division. I won't say he is replacing Carl Naylor, that's not possible, but Nate will be setting his own course within the black South Carolina waters in the “tradition” of Carl Naylor. As Carl would say, “Howdy!”

Finally, I said earlier, I would never host another conference, but, Charlie Cobb did not get my memo, and SCIAA is hosting the Southeastern Archaeological Conference November 12-15, 2014, in Greenville, South Carolina, with Charlie as General Conference Chair. Karen Smith is the Program Chair, and Nena Powell Rice is handling the local arrangements. He has roped me in for a tour of the Cowpens Battlefield.

*Legacy*, Vol. 18, June 2014

## Five Officers' Escape from a Columbia Prison, 1864

By Russell Shaw DePratter

In late 1864, five Union officers escaped from Camp Sorghum, a Confederate prison located across the Congaree River from downtown Columbia. Sorghum was established in October 1864, as the Confederate government struggled to keep its prisoners of war out of the hands of advancing Union armies. The group of around 1,500 Union officers at Sorghum had already been moved three times since May 1864, from Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia, to Macon and then Savannah, Georgia, and from Savannah to Charleston, South Carolina (see *Legacy*, Vol. 15, No. 1, March 2011).

Because Camp Sorghum had been so hastily established—Confederate officials in Columbia found out the prisoners were being sent there only days before their arrival—the camp had no stockade. The only delineation of its boundaries was a line of stakes driven into the ground and a perimeter of guards stationed every few yards. These conditions created the perfect opportunity for escape, and almost 400 officers attempted to escape. Most were eventually recaptured, but several dozen successfully reached Union lines. Five of these were Captains Chauncey S. Aldrich, Daniel A. Langworthy, and Lieutenant Josiah E. Terwilliger of the 85<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry; Captain George H. Starr of the 104<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry; and Lieutenant George S. Hastings of the 24<sup>th</sup> New York Battery.

Early in the morning of October 11, Aldrich, Langworthy, and Terwilliger waited near the guard line, watching for the perfect opportunity. Starr and Hastings noticed and joined them. When the guard stopped to tend the fire, the men quickly fled to the other side of a small rise just outside the camp. They stayed there through the next day, and then began walking northwest, guided by Langworthy's pocket compass. Two days out from camp, they heard the bloodhounds the guards used to chase down escaped prisoners. Langworthy had bought a bottle of turpentine from a guard at Macon, and used it to coat the officers' shoes, disguising their scent. The trick worked, and the officers continued.

On October 13, the men encountered their first southern civilians, a white woman and her three daughters. Hastings, who wore a Confederate jacket, went to talk to her. While he could not convince her that they were Confederate soldiers home on furlough, he found out that she had two sons in the Confederate army, one of whom had been captured and treated well in a Union prison. Using this information as leverage, he convinced her not to turn them in.

Five days later, on the 18<sup>th</sup>, the officers encountered an enslaved man, Charles Thompson, the first of many who would help them. Thompson fed them

**FIVE OFFICERS, See Page 32**



“Camp Sorghum” drawing by Robert J. Fisher. (Photograph courtesy of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum)

# Research Division

## Volunteer Opportunities Now Available for Working in the Topper Lab

By **Albert C. Goodyear**

For a number of years now, people have offered to come to the Institute to assist in the analysis of Topper artifacts. We are now in a position to offer lab work opportunities for two sessions in 2014. The first session will run from May 12-June 27, 2014. The second session will last from September 29-November 21, 2014. The lab is located in the Jones Physical Science Center across from the Law School on the USC campus. It is hoped that people will commit for at least a week, and they are welcome to stay longer if they desire. In order to operate the lab, there must be a

on the memo line. Please send checks in care of SCIAA-USC, 1321 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29208. At this time, space is available each week for both sessions.

Lab work will start by organizing and classifying all of the various digs on the terrace portion of the site.

Each two-meter unit will be analyzed by season from ground surface to preClovis where present. Volunteers will be taught how to recognize ceramic and lithic categories and prepare lab sheets for data entry into the computer.

Besides cataloging these collections, a number of research goals have been formulated with their respective analyses. First, is to reconstruct the occupational history of the site. The upper 30 centimeters contains minor Mississippian (1100-1400 AD) artifacts and a substantial Middle and Late Woodland occupation (2500 BP-1000 AD). Below that is a minor Late Archaic (4500-4000 BP) component with occasional heat-treated stemmed points (Figure 1) and steatite fragments. Fiber tempered pottery is seemingly absent. Prior to the Late Archaic, is an extraordinarily dense Allendale (AKA MALA) (4800-4500 BP) component, which is characterized by hundreds of broken and complete heat-treated bifaces and points (Figure 2). The Allendale people made heavy use of the terrestrial chert outcrops for their stone tool



Figure 2: Examples of Allendale (MALA) points common at Topper and Big Pine Tree. (SCIAA photograph)

technology rivaling the use of the Clovis people several thousands years before. Topper and Big Pine Tree are currently the largest known Allendale sites in South Carolina. The preceding Middle Archaic period is only represented by occasional



Figure 1: Example of a Late Archaic Stemmed point with heat treatment. (SCIAA photograph)

lab director present full time. This year, I am pleased to announce that Joe Wilkinson will be managing the lab for both sessions. Funds must be available to keep the lab open. A tax-deductible donation of \$275 is requested per person for each session. Checks should be made payable to USC Education Foundation and write Topper

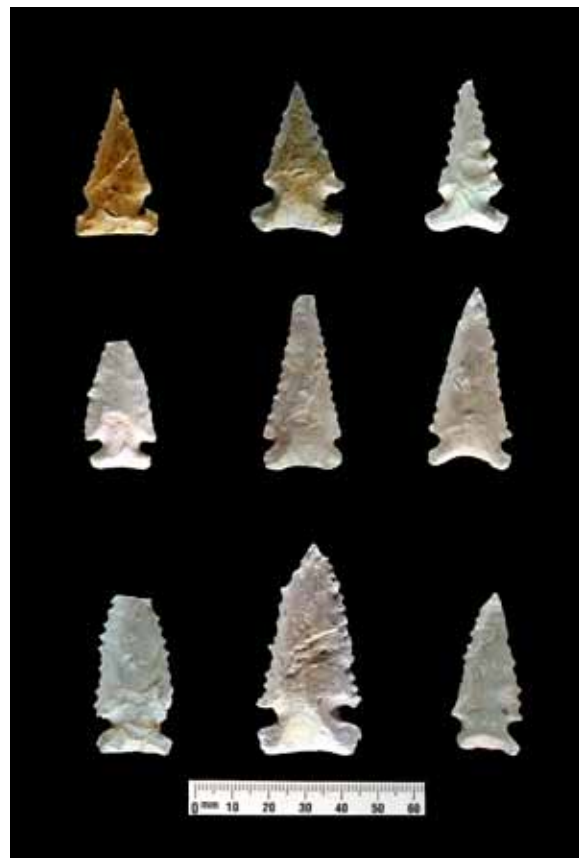


Figure 3: Taylor side-notched points from the Early Archaic component of Topper. (SCIAA photograph)



Figure 4: An Early Archaic flaked adze excavated from the Hillside at Topper. (SCIAA photograph)

Morrow Mountain points. Dating from about 7500-6000 BP, there was an apparent abandonment of Topper as a quarry or habitation site, although numerous Morrow Mountains have been recovered from nearby Big Pine Tree and throughout Allendale County. Immediately below the Morrow Mountain zone begins an extensive Early Archaic side-notched (10,000-9500 BP) occupation, typified by the well-made Taylor points (Figure 3). The Taylor occupation zone has been recognized through out the Topper site, and it will allow for tool kit reconstruction. Well made uniface scrapers and graters are present suggesting habitation activities in addition to quarrying chert. Also a classic Early Archaic flaked adze has been found (Figure 4), as well as dimpled stones or bolas. The function of the bola stones is not known but they may have been net spreaders for catching birds and small game. Early Archaic people may have been manufacturing bolas at Topper utilizing the small quartz cobbles available there. The Early Archaic zone at Topper represents the first discernible occupation after Clovis. Only one Redstone and one Dalton point have been found there from 854 square meters of hand excavation, which is very scant compared to Clovis.

From the end of Clovis some 12,800 years ago up through Dalton (12,000 -11,000 BP), there is little evidence Topper was occupied. Dalton is well represented at Big Pine Tree and over 100 have been found in the county. Compared to the later cultures at Topper, the Clovis occupation of the terrace and hillside is massive.

Three of the four Clovis points (Figure 5) have been found on the terrace. Clovis level units on the terrace need to be carefully gone through for unifaces and blades and other small tools to compare to the hillside assemblages.

Earlier (1985, 1986) excavations at Topper did not go below Clovis. Starting in 1998, the year of the preClovis discovery, units were excavated into the Pleistocene Alluvial Sands down to the top of the Pleistocene

Terrace. Several units in the Pleistocene Sands are yet to be analyzed and no doubt contain examples of bend breaks, flake tools, and possibly bladelets (Figure 6). Analysis of these Pleistocene age levels is critical to developing a comprehensive analysis of the preClovis occupations at Topper. We are fortunate that Doug Sain is analyzing the preClovis levels at Topper for his dissertation at the University of Tennessee. To date, he has analyzed all of the excavation levels in the Pleistocene Terrace and several units in the Pleistocene Sands.

Another research goal is to analyze the contact between the Clovis zone and the top of the Pleistocene Alluvial Sands. The previous OSL dates showed that the alluvium was covered by slope wash from the hillside around 14,000-15,000 years ago. It is not known by directly OSL dating this alluvium how old it is other than in is older than about 15,000 years. If there is a "late" preClovis occupation of Topper like Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Cactus Hill (17,000-14,000 years ago), it might be lying at the interface of the colluvial slope wash and the Pleistocene Alluvial Sands. Small, well-made bladelets have been observed in this transitional zone, which could be

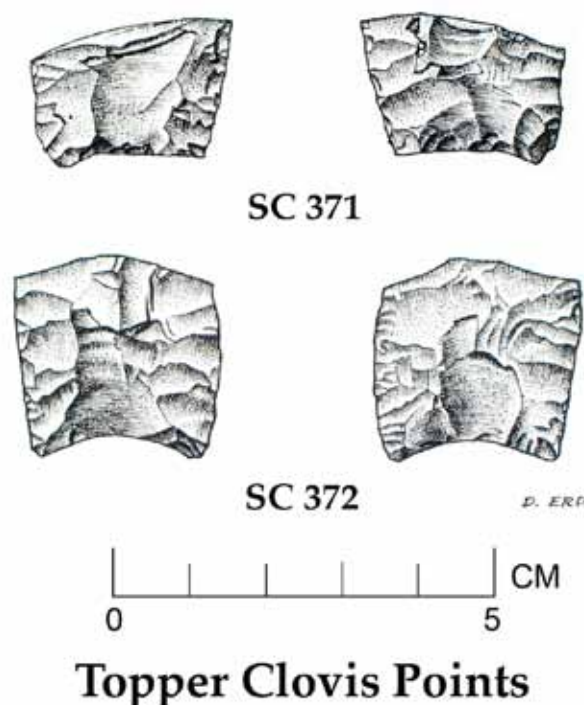


Figure 5: Two Clovis points excavated from the terrace area of Topper. (SCIAA photograph)





Figure 6: Examples of preClovis bendbreak pieces and blades from the Pleistocene Alluvial Sands at the Topper site. (SCIAA photographs)

either Clovis or preClovis. Two unusual points (Figure 7) have been excavated in the alluvium toward the river, which appear to be more like the Cactus Hill points or perhaps the Haw River points; the latter being a morphological type suspected to be preClovis in age. They do not fit typologically with Clovis or Early Archaic points and preforms. We have started a survey of such points referred to as USL's, Unidentified Small Lanceolates, to try to determine their time-space distribution.

A third goal is to document the presence of any bend break pieces in the Early Archaic and Clovis zones that lie above the Pleistocene Alluvial Sands. They have not been particularly noticed in previous examinations and accordingly have not been considered a source of artifacts bioturbated downward into the bend break rich Pleistocene sands. This observation needs to be systematically examined and quantified. Likewise, the incidence of river chert with its smoothed and stained cortex in the Early Archaic and Clovis zones needs to be further documented and compared with the evident lack of such chert in the preClovis levels. This is the strongest evidence yet for the artifactual integrity of the Pleistocene Sands as an assemblage that was not formed by artifacts moving down from above.

In April 2014, heavy-duty wooden shelves were constructed in SCIAA's storage facility to accommodate the numerous bags and plastic tubs of Topper artifacts. This shelving is allowing us to organize the artifacts from the numerous excavations and will help facilitate systematic analyses. Containers of artifacts will be brought over to the Jones Lab and returned upon study or sent to permanent curation.

It is undoubtedly the case that there are more artifacts lying in the level bags from the Holocene and Pleistocene levels, which were missed during field mapping, especially small ones. Thorough lab analysis will add to the artifact inventory of this important site and complete its archaeological documentation. While some amazing discoveries have already been made at Topper, there are no doubt more to come via the lab. Volunteers, many of who helped excavate these artifacts, are welcome and even needed to complete

the job. For those with no lab experience, procedures are in place to allow recognition of artifact classes. People with some patience and who are interested in puzzles are particularly welcome!

Those interested in participating in the lab should contact me at SCIAA at [Goodyear@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:Goodyear@mailbox.sc.edu) or (803) 576-6579. Maps and suggested motels will be sent by email. There are numerous motels within 20 minutes of the campus with a variety of restaurants. Daily parking is available on campus for \$3.00 per day in the university's Horizon Garage, only two blocks from the lab. Lunches can be brought to the lab and kept in a refrigerator. For those that wish to camp, a nice state park is only 12 miles away. The Sesquicentennial State Park has excellent camping facilities for tents and RV's with complete amenities. Price is \$22.46 per night. See [www.southcarolinaparks.com](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com). The address is 9564 Two Notch Road, Columbia; phone is (803) 788-2706. Large groups can be accommodated and there are permanent grills for large or small campfire cooking. For those who want to camp, it would be important to reserve a site in advance. For those who wish to come with friends, early reservation should allow them to camp adjacent to each other. Anyone who would like to be added to our program email listing to receive updates and announcements should contact Joan Plummer at [joanplummer51@gmail.com](mailto:joanplummer51@gmail.com).



Figure 7: Two typologically unknown small lanceolate points from the Topper site, possibly preClovis. (SCIAA photograph)

# Tom Pertierra—Distinguished Archaeologist of the Year

By Albert C. Goodyear

The Archaeological Society of South Carolina (ASSC) in cooperation with the State Archaeologist recognizes the outstanding avocational archaeologist of the year with the award of Distinguished Archaeologist of the Year. For 2013, the award was given to Tom Pertierra, an avocational archaeologist who lives in Greenville, Florida. Tom began working as a volunteer at the Topper site excavations in 2001. Over the 12 years he was associated with the Allendale Paleoamerican Expedition, he steadily made important contributions to the program as an excavator, hobby diver, supervisor, donor, provider of equipment, creator of the list serve and the web site ([www.allendale-expedition.net](http://www.allendale-expedition.net)), providing financial support for students to travel to meetings, taught flint knapping to students and volunteers, and rose to become the Director of Operations for the annual dig on the various chert quarry sites on what was then the Clariant Corporation property. In 2005, the Expedition expanded under the name Southeastern Paleoamerican Survey (SEPAS) with broader Southeastern U.S research goals. As a direct support organization, he founded SEPAS, Inc. intended to support scientific archaeological projects that utilized members of the public. He helped organize and produce two major archaeological conferences. One in Columbia in 2005, called Clovis in the Southeast ([www.Clovisinthesoutheast.net](http://www.Clovisinthesoutheast.net)) and the 2013 international conference Paleoamerican Odyssey ([www.Paleoamericanodyssey.com](http://www.Paleoamericanodyssey.com)) in Santa Fe, NM. At the banquet of the Santa Fe conference, he was given a special award recognizing his contributions to studies in the peopling of the Americas. His role in advancing archaeological research at Topper and Big Pine Tree and other related quarry sites can hardly be exaggerated. He worked tirelessly on the land excavations at these site, and was instrumental in helping produce several underwater



Tom Pertierra at the Topper site. (SCIAA photograph by Al Goodyear)

archaeology projects, as well. As such, he has made a major contribution to the study of early prehistory in the state of South Carolina and neighboring states. He also

serves as an outstanding example of what can be accomplished when professionals join forces with committed avocationalists.



Tom Pertierra at the picnic shelter during the 2012 field season at Topper site training folks in flintknapping. (Photograph by Bill Covington)



# Excavations at Camp Asylum

By Chester B. DePratter

During these past few months when temperatures dipped into the teens and the ground was sometimes frozen or covered with ice, my field crew and I were excavating at Camp Asylum on the Bull Street property owned by the

January.

With a paid crew that ranged between six and nine persons, we were able to open approximately 600 square meters by hand with an additional 460 square meters exposed by mechanical stripping.



Figure 1: "Camp Asylum" drawing by Robert J. Fisher. (Photograph courtesy of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum)

South Carolina Department of Mental Health (DMH). This property, slated for commercial and residential development in the coming years, was the location of a Civil War prison where between 1,250 and 1,500 Union officers were held prisoner between December 12, 1864, and February 14, 1865 (Figure 1).

My work on the Camp Asylum site was made possible through an agreement between Mr. Bob Hughes, the developer who is purchasing the property, the City of Columbia, DMH, and USC. USC provided the largest share of the funding for my research, with lesser amounts provided by Mayor Steve Benjamin and Columbia City Council, Mr. Hughes, private donors including ART Board members, and small foundations. My permit for field research allowed access beginning January 6, 2014, with all fieldwork to be completed by April 30, 2014. Four months in the field with the available funding was only a fraction of what would be needed to provide for an adequate amount of excavation coverage, but for now we know much more about the site than we did in

A one-day a week USC field school opened another 80 square meters. When all is said and done, we will have excavated approximately seven percent of the entire prison compound, which covers about 1.38 hectares (3.4 acres).

Despite the time and funding limitations of the Camp Asylum work, we have learned a lot about living conditions at the site in the winter of 1864-1865. Most of their prisoners had their personal possessions, including their shoes or boots, confiscated by their captors. Many of the Union officers had been prisoners for six months to a year or more before they arrived at Camp Asylum, so they possessed little in the way of material culture.

When the prisoners arrived in December 1864, many had no shelter whatsoever, and they were forced to dig holes in the ground to get out of the wind and cold. Others prisoners were lucky enough to find refuge beneath the two frame buildings on the site that were used as hospitals. Some fortunate prisoners were able to move into small barracks

buildings that were constructed by the prisoners themselves with construction materials supplied by Confederate authorities. During the worst part of the winter, tents were distributed as they became available. By the end of their two-month stay, all of the prisoners had some kind of shelter from the winter cold.

In our excavations, we have found simple holes in the ground where the prisoners lived individually or in small groups (Figures 2, 3, 4, and 5). We have also found a compacted tent floor surrounded by a complex network of drainage ditches. One of the habitation pits we have excavated was beneath one of the hospital structures, and another may have been dug beneath a conical Sibley tent. Many of these simple dwellings were covered with rubberized blankets, pieces of canvas, or roofs of wood, and most had stick and mud chimneys in which the prisoners burned their limited wood rations to cook and keep warm.

Our excavations have uncovered very few Civil War artifacts. An occasional uniform button, a broken comb made of Goodyear rubber, a bottle fragment or two,



Figure 2: Pre-excavation outline of pit (Feature 14), in which two soldiers resided. (Scale in centimeters)



Figure 3: Feature 14 after excavation with Tamara Wilson demonstrating how prisoner might have rested. (SCIAA photograph)

or a fragment of shoe leather might be the only items found in the excavation of a large pit where one or more soldiers slept (Figure 6). These men simply had very little to lose during their two-month stay at Camp Asylum!

Excavations at Camp Asylum were made difficult by the complex network of utility lines that crisscross the site. DMH could not provide a detailed map of those now-abandoned utility lines, so we had to excavate carefully in all of our units, as well as monitor the mechanical stripping. A ground penetrating radar study over a large part of the site by Drs. Victor Thompson and John Turck of the University of Georgia allowed mapping of some of the larger utility ditches over part of the site, but no excavations were carried out in that area due to the presence of deep modern fill and time constraints.

There is much work left to be done at Camp Asylum. We so far have not found any evidence of the 10 or 12 small barracks structures built by the prisoners, nor have we found any evidence of the privies or "sinks." We have found remains of only one of the two frame buildings used as hospitals (Figure 7). We have not yet found any evidence of the sutler's tent where prisoners could have purchased

food, writing supplies, clothing, and other personal items with money sent to them by their families in the North. And there are still countless holes in the ground, tent foundations, and temporary shelters where the Union officers lived and slept that we have not discovered.

There has been a great deal of press coverage of our work with numerous reports appearing in local print and broadcast media. An Associated Press article that took the story nationwide generated widespread national interest and resulted in many descendants of former Camp Asylum prisoners contacting me. A front-page story in *Civil War News* brought still more attention to our work and the time and money challenges the project faced.

Historic Columbia Foundation organized tours of the site on

Fridays. The two tours each Friday brought in visitors from South Carolina and nearby states, as well as others from as far away as Washington State. Some of these site visitors brought with them Camp Asylum-related documents, photographs of prisoners, and information on objects in museums or private collections made and used by prisoners. All those who attended these tours expressed great interest in our work and concern about the future of the site.

At this point, there is no way to know for sure if more archaeological excavations will be conducted on the site. All available funds have been expended, and there are no additional funds forthcoming. An access permit for additional work would have to be negotiated depending on the development schedule for the tract of land on which the prison camp sits. Without more work, much of what can be learned from Camp Asylum will be lost to the bulldozer during commercial development of the property.

There will be an exhibit on our work at Camp Asylum in the Confederate



Figure 4: Brandy Joy in linear pit (Feature 4), in which as many as four prisoners slept. (SCIAA photograph)





Figure 5: James Stewart excavating Feature 2, in which three or more prisoners lived. (SCIAA photograph)

Relic Room and Military Museum here in Columbia once the analysis of the collection has been completed. Although we did not find an abundance of artifacts, our excavations revealed an abundance of new information on the prison camp and conditions there in the winter of 1864-1865. As we often say in archaeology, "It's not what we find, but what we find out" that drives our work. At Camp Asylum, we have "found out" a lot, and there is still lots more work to be done.



Figure 6: Two combs and a button made from Goodyear rubber. (SCIAA photo)



Figure 7: Crew exposing area where one of the prison hospitals was located, beneath the present-day LaBorde Building. (SCIAA photo)



# Archaeology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

By Lisa Hudgins

In early April 2014, followers of the ASSC (Archaeological Society of South Carolina) Facebook page received a notification that volunteers were needed to help salvage a site in Camden, SC. Bulldozers were ready to dig a utility trench through town, and archaeologists had 24 hours to see what they could find before irreversible damage was done. I saw the notification at 3 PM. By 8 PM the next morning, a small group of archaeologists and volunteers were ready to go. Thanks to quick thinking, teamwork, and the use of social media, what would have been an archaeological tragedy became a victory for both the town and the archaeologists involved.

This scenario is fairly new to the field of archaeology. In the past, fieldwork was done in isolation. You raised funds for the work, hired your crew, and made sure the equipment was ready to go. Once you entered the site, there were no distractions, no crises. It was focused and often blessedly quiet work. At the end of the season, you published a report and everyone applauded the effort.

With the advent of social media and smart phones, the dynamic has changed

dramatically. Now, communication to and from the field is instantaneous. Images are uploaded

to the Internet and status updates are posted throughout the day. Data can be shared across a wider range of users through the use of online servers, wireless access, and Bluetooth. While communication

between platforms (iPad, Android, Windows, etc) is not perfect, it is gaining functionality.

Why all of the fuss? Because social media and newer technologies may create cost effective ways of reaching a broader audience. Websites are certainly an effective tool for getting information out to the public. But a proactive source like Facebook or Twitter enables users to promote information to an interested



Screenshot from the Archaeological Society of South Carolina (ASSC) Facebook page.

audience without the cost and time required to update a webpage. Daily or weekly status updates from sites like the Archaeological Society of South Carolina (ASSC), South Carolina Archaeology Public Outreach Division (SCAPOD), Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP) and "I dig the Kolb Site!" keep them in the public eye and remind the community of the importance of archaeology. Interested followers can stay abreast of new developments in the field. Archaeology becomes more real, more dynamic, when people see it day-by-day, or even minute-by-minute.

The use of social media does not replace the need for excellent planning and solid communication. You will still need well-designed media campaigns and a good relationship with local and national news outlets. But for breaking news, changes in schedule, or a last minute "call to arms," social media may be a splendid addition to your communication arsenal. Just ask the archaeologists and volunteers at Camden!

*(See Pages 24-25 in this issue of Legacy on a report of the archaeological salvage excavation conducted by dedicated archaeology volunteers in saving Historic Camden from the bulldozer.)*



Christopher Judge volunteering at the Camden salvage excavation. (Photograph by Lisa Hudgins)

# The Probate Record of William Wilson, Charleston Merchant

By Lisa Hudgins

The past is loathe to give up its secrets. As scholars, we waded through hundreds of probate records and wills, hoping for the shop door which is left ajar, or the window, which is left partially open to reveal the contents inside. Often, we are looking for the commonplace: the wooden chair in the corner; linens, which were left out to dry; or the pineapple teapot, which sits on the corner table. It is the “daily-ness” of things, which we seek, and that is most often overlooked in the attempts to gauge the “worth” of the individual. We are instead given an abridged version of the facts, and a bottom line—the assumed value of an individual’s worldly goods. In 1764, a door to the life of Charleston merchant William Wilson was laid open as his probate inventory was set forth in public record. Appraisers (and fellow merchants) John Vaux, James Fowler, and John Giles began the inventory of Wilson’s estate in November of that year, and documented an extraordinary list of the ordinary things, which made up the Charleston household. The detailed knowledge

about ceramics points to the appraisers’ occupation as merchants in Charleston, which can be validated through their advertisements in *The South Carolina Gazette*. John Vaux and John Giles had shops on Elliott Street, in the merchant district. Vaux advertised ceramics and Giles was a dry goods merchant. Their expertise would have been critical in the appraisal. The items found in Wilson’s shop were those you might find in any home: fabric and sewing implements, iron and tin utensils and cookware. Spectacles and looking glasses were listed alongside toys, wallpaper, and gunpowder. Ready-to-wear clothing for men and women, a recent phenomenon, could be had along with hosiery, gartering, and a large inventory of handkerchiefs made of silk or cotton were also available. In the “shew glass,” a display case or shop window, ribbons and silver buttons were displayed. Along with household items were food items—pounds of mustard, cases of sugar, and almonds. There were also cases of a concoction called “Stoughton’s Elixir,” a

compound of aloe, cascarilla, rhubarb, wormwood, germander, gentian, orange peel, (the occasional bit of absinthe) and alcohol, possibly rum or wine; it was first patented in 1712, and remained popular well into the mid-19th century. It was known for its properties as a tonic and stimulant. The living spaces attached to the shop were also inventoried and the appraisers again showed their expertise as

they presented a detailed list of furniture, including the wood used for each piece. Downstairs, we discover a walnut desk, some hickory chairs, two mahogany tables, and a gun cutlash and cartouch box. Upstairs were three bedsteads, a cypress table, and a backgammon table. The furnishings listed here suggest the lifestyle of an upper middle class merchant, with equipment for an office, entertaining, tea service, etc. Finally, we turn to perhaps the most impressive component of the inventory, the shop list of ceramics, enumerated not only by form, but also by ware type and price. Roughly 560 pieces of table and utilitarian wares made up Wilson’s ceramic inventory, which ranged from colorful tea wares to stone crocks and red ware milk pans. These items may appear to be middling class, but by the time of Wilson’s death, they could be found in nearly every household in colonial Charleston.

## Charleston Trade

By the mid-18th century, Charleston had become one of the most affluent cities in the American colonies, with roughly seven times the per capita wealth of Boston, and eight times the income of New York. Many residents could well afford the broad range of goods imported for resale in the Charleston shops. Wilson’s inventory was not necessarily at the very top of the Charleston economic scale; it was a modest sum by 18th century Charleston’s standards. Wilson’s total goods, listed as roughly 1,657 Carolina pounds, would be the equivalent of \$38,000 in 2007 dollars. At the time of the appraisal, advertisements in *The South Carolina Gazette* indicate that merchants were selling goods at eight-to-one and nine-to-one, a reference to the exchange rate between Carolina pounds and Pounds Sterling. If the economy warranted a dramatic cut in the exchange rate, then the goods in Wilson’s shop may have been appraised at that same “lower” rate.

Yet, based upon the contents of the



Figure 1: Leaf dish, soft paste porcelain. (Photograph by Lisa Hudgins)



probate record, his shop was certainly appealing to the middle and upper middle class households. Wilson might have tried to locate his shop near other middling class merchants, perhaps on Bedon's Alley, Elliott or Tradd Street. Previous research (Calhoun et al, 1985) points to the "geographic spread" of Charleston's merchant community, and teases scholars with the possibility of deliberate shopping districts on Bay, Broad, Tradd, and Elliott Streets. The location of the mercantile district close to the wharves on Bay Street in Charleston is no accident. "Rates of Carriage" listed in The South Carolina Gazette show a carriage fee of five shillings to Church Street, and seven shillings to Meeting Street. Depending upon the number of carts necessary to move cargo from the wharf to the shop, long distances away from Bay Street and the commercial wharves could prove to be costly to a busy merchant.

Indeed, it was the trade connections, which seem to have driven the mercantile system of Charleston. The South Carolina Gazette posted marine diaries—ships entering and leaving port. Advertisements boasted the latest goods arriving from the Northeast, London, and the Islands; and customs records form the major ports document ship's cargo ranging from rice and indigo to porcelain and tea. Merchants' records also point to the influence of trade patterns on availability of goods. From 1760-1766, an account book from Hogg and Clayton, lists ships and their cargo being imported, including the names of factors and wholesale markets in London for each shipment. When we compare account records with the names of known earthenware and porcelain dealers in London, we can match three of the companies to Charleston shipments. Isaac Ackerman and John Scrivener of Fenchurch Street, London, were glass and porcelain dealers whose goods were shipped to Charleston in the 1760s. Richard Addison and James Abernathy exported delft and refined earthenwares from their business at Wapping. Addison later joined with John Livie, also of Wapping, for sales of white stoneware, etc. Existing records for the London exporters may allow us to trace

the sources for their merchandise, providing a direct lineage from English potter to Carolina household.

### The Ceramics Market

At the time of William Wilson's probate, merchants were selling every type of ceramic available to the colonial customer, though trade restrictions and import duties may have caused some fluctuation. The ceramics available to Charleston buyers fell into three main categories, based upon cost and usage pattern. At the top, were tea and tablewares made of Chinese porcelain, including blue and white, enameled, and gilt wares. Extant porcelain dinner services in Charleston, as well as archival and archaeological evidence make it clear that porcelain was being imported. While the majority of Wilson's inventory was stone and earthenware, there is some question about the existence of porcelain in Wilson's shop. There are references to "blue and white" cups, and enameled wares, which may or may not point to sale of porcelain.

Wilson's shop inventory consisted primarily of refined earthenwares and white salt-glazed stoneware. Brightly colored creamwares in the shape of cauliflower, pineapples, and melons were imported from London and for sale in the shop, along with tortoiseshell or "clouded" wares. While occasionally employed in upper class households, these colors and shapes were quickly subsumed by the middling Charleston household. White salt-glazed stoneware was more durable and slightly less expensive than porcelain, making it more practical for everyday use. In Wilson's shop, we find tea sets made of

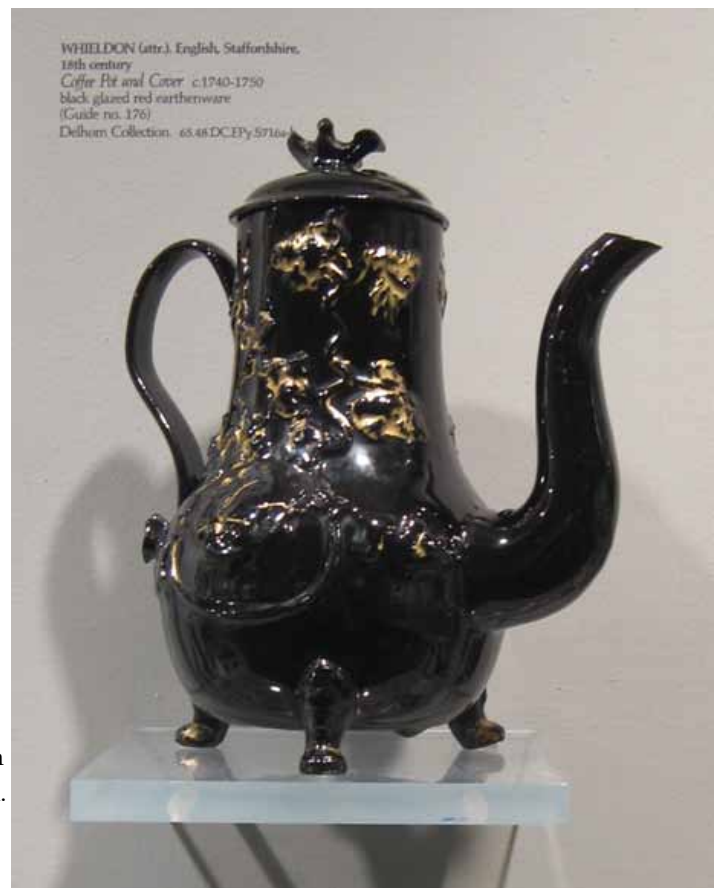


Figure 2: Coffee pot and lid, black glazed red earthenware. (Photograph by Lisa Hudgins)

earthenware, with white stoneware cups sold separately.

At the lower end of the economic range, were Delft (English or Dutch tin-glazed wares), and the utilitarian types: Nottingham and gray stonewares, and milk pans or patty pans made of coarse red earthenware. These wares, while not expensive, made up about one third to one half of the inventory of William Wilson's shop, and would have been found in every household. Cooking, dairying activities, and the regular day-to-day storage of food required a sturdy vessel. So, like the Pyrex, zip-loc, and corning ware of modern times, the redware and stoneware of our colonial predecessors was ubiquitous.

### Form and Function

The Charleston table could range from the informal to the sublime. At its apex, the formal table could employ dozens of dishes presented in a number of culinary deposits, each more lavish than the last. Merchants like William Wilson had to provide wares for both the formal dinner party of the plantation owner and the





Figure 3: Hand painted teapot, cream-colored earthenware. (Photograph by Lisa Hudgins)

simple family dinner of a craftsman.

The formal dining table was a *mélange* of vessel forms. Meals would have included fruits and vegetables, meat (both wild and domestic), fish, poultry, turtles, and grain products (corn or grits, rice, breads, cereals, etc.). Fish could be found fresh, dried, or salted. Meats, including pork, veal and beef, were often preserved, except during the seasonal slaughtering. Vegetables were served fresh, boiled, baked, or preserved as pickles or sauces. Fruit, including plums, oranges, and nectrons, was pickled, but was also available fresh from local orchards.

The primary table service, usually of porcelain, white stoneware, or a refined earthenware, consisted of a soup/serving tureen with matching dinner and soup plates, saucers, pickle dishes, etc. Other specialty pieces filled out the table or were reserved for specific courses. Table 1 shows the variety of forms sold in William Wilson's shop. The elegant nature of this dining experience was further defined by the strict rules of etiquette, which were embraced by the colonial elite and mimicked by those aspiring to become part of the Charleston "select." Good manners and appropriate behavior became so important that recipe books began to include discourses on table settings, and guides to good behavior were written for the aspiring young gentleman or gentle-

woman. Knowledge of these subtle rules determined one's status among Charleston social circles.

### The Tea Table

By the third quarter of the 18th century, the network of taverns was appended by a series of new coffeehouses and teahouses as annual tea consumption in Britain went from 3.8 million pounds in 1767 to 7.1 million pounds in 1770. The account book of Hogg and Clayton, Charleston importers, shows a shipment of 28 chests of tea arriving in a single shipment from London in April 1766, amounting to over 700 pounds. Charleston was already embracing tea culture at the time of Wilson's death, as evidenced by the inclusion of at least 56 teapots or tea sets in his shop inventory. The introduction of tea brought a new facet to the societal hierarchy in the colonies. Initially, the use of tea was limited, as it was too expensive for many households; tea drinking may have been embraced by the upper classes as an elitist phenomenon. The ceremonial aspect of tea was imported from the East and grafted into "civilized" society. As tea drinking moved from public venues to the home, elaborate tea service "rituals" began to define the level of respectability attained by a young lady or gentleman. Eventually, however, middle class aspirations and economic fluctuations allowed tea drinking to become *de rigueur*

in many social circles, and tea wares became a standard in many Carolina homes. Staffordshire historian John Thomas suggests that if tea had not become popular in Europe in the 18th century, ceramics would never have developed at the exponential rate that occurred in the 18th century. According to one local tavern owner, "Tea from pewter was too hot, tea from wood was not pleasant, and horn 'tot' was not suitable." The clay body in porcelain and stoneware acted as an insulator against the scalding hot tea, and was readily accepted as the vessel of choice for the new beverages. As the popularity and ritual significance of tea drinking combined with the increasing importation of Chinese porcelains, European potters were encouraged to meet the challenging and lucrative market, which was unfolding before them.

The concept of the tea set changed in the 18th century as focus shifted from the traditional Chinese to a more Western assemblage. In the Oriental style, teacups did not have handles, were usually two to two and a half inches high. The saucers were deep, and teapots were squat and round. Sugar and milk were not added to the teacup by the Chinese, so the associated creamer or milk pot and sugar bowl were later additions, as use of tea with sugar expanded in Western circles. Forms introduced by early East Indies traders evolved to meet Western standards of consumption. By the 1760s, the set might consist of a teapot, which was low and round, and/or a coffee pot, which was tall and slender (ht:10-12 inches); six to 12 cups or teacups with or without handles, six to 12 saucers, a slop bowl, a lidded sugar dish, a lidded milk pot, and caddy. The tea service was often manufactured and purchased as a single set, with the lidded milk pot assuming a similar form to the coffee or teapot, only smaller (approximately five inches in height). There were actually several types of cups used for beverage service. Teacups as defined above, were smaller than the handled coffee cups. Chocolate cups were similar in style, but could have two handles, and usually matched the chocolate pot.

In Wilson’s inventory, we find tea sets consisting of the teapot, sugar dish, milk pot, and slop bowl. The cups and saucers were listed separately, and were primarily made of white salt glaze stoneware. A reference to breakfast china is used to distinguish the special use sets from the regular tea wares. Breakfast china, also referred to as a petit dejeuner service (from the French term for breakfast) or cabaret were usually smaller sets of tea wares, designed to be carried to the bedroom or breakfast room. The set included a matching pot, cup and saucers, milk pot and sugar bowl, and a tray. It is clear that the gentlemen assigned to probate Wilson’s estate were aware of current trends in fashionable tea services and understood the nuances of fine dining in Charleston’s upper classes. They left an exquisite snapshot of the latest trends in Charleston ceramics. While we still know little about William Wilson’s personal life, the probate of his estate has shed a light on his business. Through advertisements, inventories, and archaeological remains, we can confirm that the diversity of goods found in his shop mirror that of Charleston’s economic landscape. The bright colored wares reveal a local passion for the latest botanical styles. Porcelain sherds are a reminder of Charleston’s great wealth. Remnants of coarse earthenware pans and crockery reflect the need for practical, utilitarian wares. Likewise, the presence of tea accoutrements confirms the use of tea or coffee in many of the Charleston households. The Charlestonian and his family attended to the necessary social requirements of a planter or merchant class household, providing distinguished guests with afternoon refreshment as the occasion warranted. From the inventory of William Wilson, it appears that Charleston merchants were able and willing to meet the demands of this socially adept group of consumers.

Inventory of Ceramics in the Estate of William Wilson	
34 Delf bowls & 33 Delf plates	1 Coleflower tub & stand,
21 Black and Enamd Tea Potts	1 pineapple ditto
3 doz Quart Stone Muggs No 1,	1 coleflower Sugar dish and milk pott,
2 doz & 7 ditto No 2	1 Tea pott & milk pott
3 doz & 9 pint ditto No 4	1 Tortoiseshell Tea pott 2 sugar boxes,
8 doz white Stone Cups and Saucers	3 milk potts & 3 slop bowles
1-1/2 doz milk potts &	3 enameled Tea potts
1/2 doz mustard potts	3 sugar dishes & 2 milk potts
8 Flower horns & 11 Sugar dishes	1 Doz Black Gilt [teapots]
8 Butter boats & 5 pr Salts	1 Pr large faces & 2 pr smaller ditto
1 Large Tureen	3 Barbers basons 3 bottles and stands
1 doz Stone plates & 8 Stone fruit dishes	2 large oval dishes 3 smaller ditto
1 doz pint Stone muggs &	4 round ditto
3 Chamber pots,	1 doz Stone plates
5 Wash hand basons	6 Large Black Gilt Tea Pots 6 small do
2 Green fruit dishes & Stands	3 white stone butter boats
2 ditto tea potts & 2 Milk potts	3 Tortoiseshell ditto 3 ditto Tea potts
1 Butter tub & stand & 1 Sugar dish 5 fruit dishes	3 ditto Ditto
12 doz Stone cups & Saucers	3 do Barl pint mugs & 1 smaller ditto
2 Doz Blue & White ditto	6 Black half pint ditto
1-1/4 doz Stone Coffee Cups	1 Blk Bbl Quart mugg
2 painted glass flowerpots,	1 doz Notingham Quart mugs
16 Common wine Glasses	2 doz white Quart ditto
1 doz small green plates, 1 Doz larger,	1 doz Dutch pint ditto
2 large Oval Dishes 4 smaler ditto	1 doz Notingham pt do
4 smaller ditto 6 large pickle leaves	1/2 doz white Stone pint Do
4 Smaller ditto 4 Small pickle leaves	1 doz 3 pt Bowles
1 Doz large Tortoiseshell plates,	1/2 Doz Galn Do, 1 Doz qut do
1/2 doz smaller ditto	1 doz patty pans
1 Doz Blue Dutch plates, 1 doz Breakfast ditto	
Table 1: Ceramics from William Wilson’s Probate Inventory.	

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# Savannah River Archaeology Research

## Dating Mound B at the Hollywood Site (9Br1)

By Adam King, Christopher L. Thornock, and Keith Stephenson

The Hollywood site is a Mississippian period (AD 900-1600) mound town located on the Savannah River near the present-day city of Augusta, Georgia (Anderson 1994; Thomas 1894) and is one of the few sites in the Savannah River drainage to produce objects associated with the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex. The term Southeastern Ceremonial Complex, or SECC, is used to refer to a set of Mississippian decorative styles, ritual themes, and artifact forms that were traded and carried throughout the Southeast and Midwest and are found at sites from the Central Mississippi Valley to Atlantic Coast (King 2007).

Henry Reynolds excavated the SECC objects from Hollywood in 1889, under the direction of Cyrus Thomas for his Smithsonian Institution's mound builders project. For that project, Thomas hired local archaeologists across the Southeast and Midwest to excavate in earthen platform mounds with the goal of learning that built them (Thomas 1894).

Reynolds focused his efforts on Mound B at Hollywood, where he exposed two

surfaces containing human remains and associated artifacts (Figure 1). The lower surface contained a series of extended burials and clusters of SECC goods laid out on a prepared surface and arranged near a central fire. It was in this burial set that Reynolds found the elaborate, non-local materials that have made Hollywood famous. This surface was covered with mound fill and a second mortuary deposit was placed on

a second surface. It consisted primarily of burial urns and extended burials arranged around a second large fire. Only one person in this upper deposit was interred with non-local goods consisting of fragments of a

copper plate. Reynolds himself argued that both upper and lower burial deposits were part of a single construction effort (Thomas 1894:319). Subsequent interpretations of the mound and its dating (Anderson 1994; Anderson, Hally and Rudolph 1986; Brain and Phillips 1996) have left open to question when Mound B

was constructed and if the two surfaces within it were contemporary. In attempt to resolve this question, King and Stephenson (2012), examined the pottery vessels from each of the two mortuary deposits and confirmed that both contained vessels local to the middle Savannah belonging to the Hollywood phase (AD 1250-1350) as defined by Anderson, Hally and Rudolph (1986). In addition, they obtained radiocarbon dates on soot samples from three pottery vessels and materials associated with three SECC objects spanning both mortuary deposits (Table 1). As the discussion below indicates, those dates confirm that both deposits in Hollywood's Mound B were created during the Hollywood phase.

In the lower deposit, soot from Pot 10 (Figure 2), a classic Hollywood phase vessel, with check stamping, two rows of punctates around the rim, and four punctated nodes (the only locally produced object excavated from the lower



Figure 2: Pot 10 (Accession 135194) from Hollywood Mound B. (Photograph courtesy of Adam King)



Figure 1: Upper and Lower Burial Deposits, Mound B Hollywood. (Thomas 1894, Fig. 174)





Figure 3: Owl Effigy Pipe (Accession 135217) from Hollywood Mound B. (Photograph courtesy of Adam King)

deposit), returned a 1 sigma calibrated date range of AD 1400 to 1430 (Beta-320928), which falls just outside the Hollywood phase. The 2 sigma calibrated date, however, does overlap with the Hollywood phase, returning a date range of AD 1320 to 1340 and AD 1390 to 1440. Soot from a ceramic pipe found with Burial 5, made in the form of an owl (Figure 3), returned a 1 sigma calibrated date range of AD 1270 to 1290 (Beta-322825). Woven cane, taken from the copper plates of an Underwater Panther copper plate (Figure 4), returned a 1 sigma calibrated date range of AD 1260 to 1280 (Beta-322826). Finally, a small piece of wood from the haft of a copper celt (Figure 5) returned a 1 sigma calibrated date range of AD 1300 to 1360 (Beta-322827).

In the upper deposit, soot from Pot 6 (Figure 6), a classic Hollywood phase burial urn with filfot scroll stamping, two rows of punctates around the rim, and four punctated nodes, returned a 1 sigma calibrated date range of AD 1280 to 1300 (Beta-320926). And soot from Pot 8 (Figure 7), another Hollywood phase burial urn, this time with filfot cross stamping, returned a 1 sigma calibrated date range of AD 1320 to 1350 (Beta-320927).

There are two important inferences to be drawn from these dates. First, as

Reynolds originally observed, there seems to be little evidence for the passage of much time between the placement of the first and second burial sets. Therefore we argue that Mound B was built in a single effort over a relatively short period of time.

The second inference is that Mound B was built entirely during the Hollywood phase. The dates discussed above (with the exception of Beta-320928) clearly fall within the Hollywood phase date range. Furthermore, they are consistent with three radiocarbon dates obtained on soot from Hollywood phase pottery sherds excavated by Clemmons DeBaillou (1965) in a trench on the north side of Mound A at Hollywood (Table 1).

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Figure 4: Underwater Panther Copper Plate (Accession 135227) from Hollywood Mound B. (Photograph courtesy of Adam King)



Figure 5: Copper Celt (Accession 135228) from Hollywood Mound B. (Photograph courtesy of Adam King)

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Figure 6: Pot 6 (Accession 135???) from Hollywood Mound B. (Photograph courtesy of Adam King)



Figure 7: Pot 8 (Accession 135???) from Hollywood Mound B. (Photograph courtesy of Adam King)

Site No.	Sample No.	Context	Measured C14 Age	C13/C12 Ratio	Conventional C14 Age	Calibrated Date (1 Sigma)	Reference
9R11	Beta-134794	Mound A	550±40	-23.1	580±40	AD 1310 – 1410	Stephenson 2011:129
9R11	Beta-144165	Mound A	770±40	-25	770±40	AD 1235 – 1280	Stephenson 2011:129
9R11	Beta-145333	Mound A	690±40	-25	690±40	AD 1280 – 1300	Stephenson 2011:129
9R11	Beta-320926	Mound B, Upper	na	na	670±30	AD 1280 – 1380	SRARP 2012:94
9R11	Beta-320927	Mound B, Upper	610±30	-27.6	570±30	AD 1320 – 1410	SRARP 2012:94
9R11	Beta-320928	Mound B, Lower	540±30	-25.6	530±30	AD 1400 – 1430	SRARP 2012:94
9R11	Beta-322825	Mound B, Lower	710±30	-25.1	710±30	AD 1270 – 1290	SRARP 2012:94
9R11	Beta-322826	Mound B, Lower	740±30	-25.1	740±30	AD 1260 – 1280	SRARP 2012:94
9R11	Beta-322827	Mound B, Lower	580±30	-23.7	600±30	AD 1300 – 1400	SRARP 2012:94

# 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual South Carolina Archaeology Month Poster

By Karen Smith and Keith Stephenson

We are delighted this year to help design and assemble the South Carolina Archaeology Month Poster around the theme on the Woodland Period. To this announcement, Al Goodyear remarked —without missing a beat—“Nothing says Woodland like Pottery!” So with Al’s comment in mind, we designed a poster front that features a great example of a recently reconstructed pottery vessel from a South Carolina site. In fact, the glue is barely dry on this Cape Fear Fabric Impressed vessel from the Ashe Ferry site, 38YK533 (Riggs and Davis 2014)! Beyond

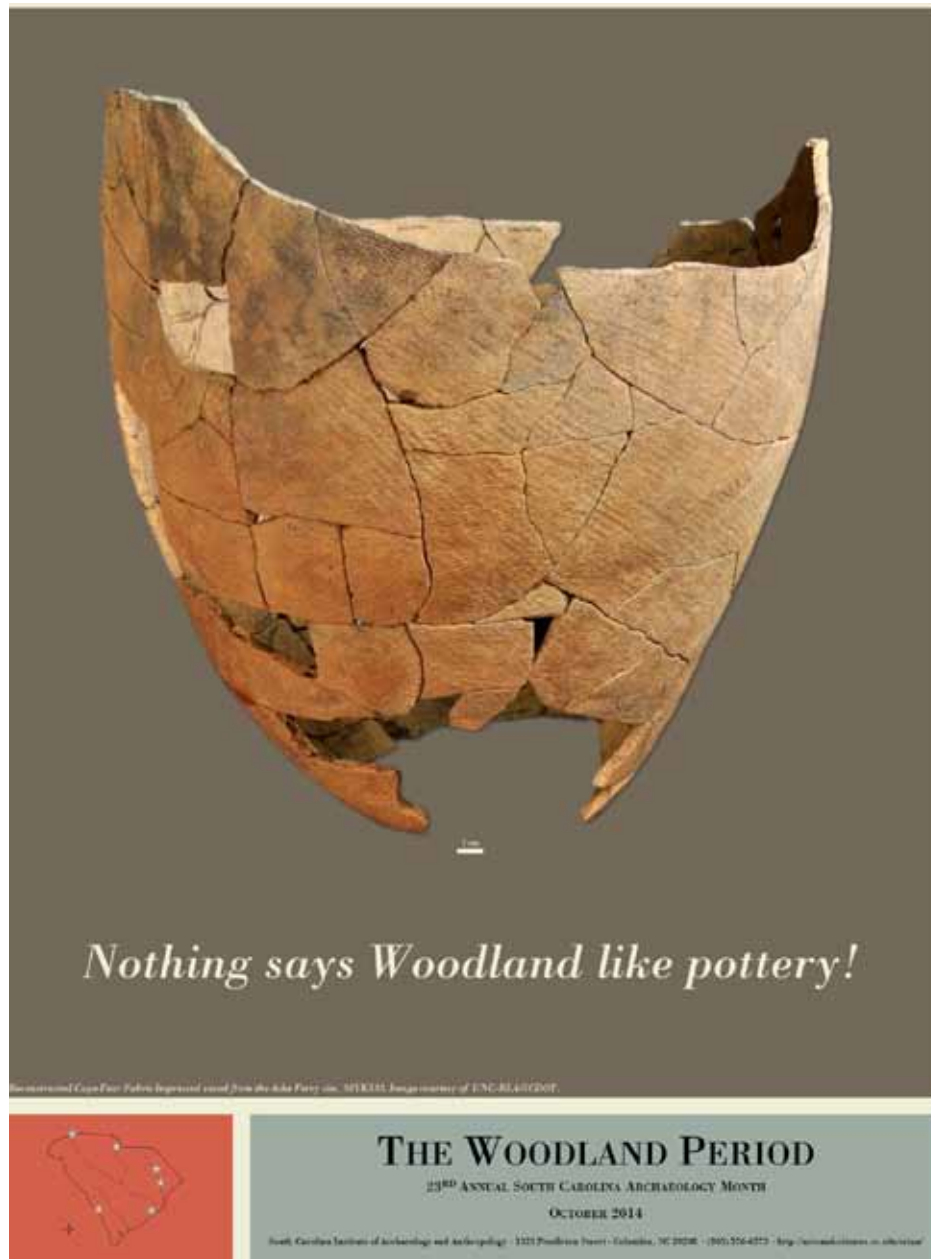
the pottery, there is much about the Ashe Ferry site that says Woodland Period, and we are happy to showcase it. Thanks go to Chad Long, SCDOT, and Brett Riggs, UNC-RLA, for contributing the image. The back matter will feature photography and text vignettes on Woodland Period sites stretching from the coast to the mountains and from the Savannah to the Great Pee Dee Rivers. We hope the content will be both artistic and educational. You’ll soon get to judge for yourself.

Along with the poster comes the usual long list of great archaeological sites and

events that happen during the month of October 2014. We hope especially to promote events that are in line with the theme. Stay tuned for more information as the summer progresses!

## Reference

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2014 Archaeology at Ashe Ferry: The Late Woodland Period in the Lower Catawba River Valley. *Research Report No. 36*, Research Laboratories of Archaeology, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.





# Maritime Research Division

## Charleston Harbor Stone Fleets Research at the National Archives

By James D. Spirek

The Internet is a historical researcher's dream, especially for those used to thumbing through countless books and scrolling through newspaper microfilm in search of scraps of information concerning their topic of interest. A Google search gathers an impressive number of articles, books, documents, and images, some germane, others not so much, and some, well completely not relevant. Where the internet particularly shines is in locating obscure resources otherwise undetected by researchers due to time, location, or financial restraints.

Despite the wonders of this modern online informational age, a vast number of historical resources remain unavailable on the Internet. Accessing these non-electronic resources require a trip to an archival repository, and in our case a trip to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to support our Charleston Harbor Stone Fleets project funded by a National Park Service Historic

Preservation grant administered by the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

Barely a month into his new job, Nathan Fulmer, our new underwater archaeologist in Charleston, got to "vacation" in DC with me, to look for materials at the archives related to purchasing, outfitting, and sinking the two

stone fleets. These two stone fleets were intended to obstruct the primary channels to prevent Confederate blockade runners from entering and exiting Charleston Harbor during the Civil War. Nathan and I drove to D.C. in mid-February of 2014 to spend a week at the archives. We had postponed our trip by a week because weather forecasts from the area suggested wintry mix throughout our planned week. We did not want to lose any valuable time at the archives due to snow, and therefore delayed our trip to the following

government in the D.C. area. Despite the set-back, Nathan and I managed to peruse a number of archival resources including navy vessel logbooks, correspondence between the purchasing agents and the navy, and a trove of paperwork associated with the sale and outfitting of the vessels destined for the stone fleet.

Our first research priority centered on the logbooks of those U.S. navy vessels engaged in sinking the First and Second Stone Fleets off Charleston Harbor. While the First Stone Fleet, sunk in late December

1861, received the most attention, particularly by newspaper reporters that accompanied the expedition, we hoped to learn more about the sinking of the Second Stone Fleet in late January 1862. There is a dearth of specifics related to the Second Stone Fleet as by this time European criticism of the First Stone Fleet apparently dampened the Federal Administration's desire to publicize the sinking of another obstruction

off Charleston Harbor. For those that have not reviewed a naval or merchant vessel's logbook, there are basically two kinds depending on the information written down by the crew. The first type of logbook contains metrological information of sea states, wind direction, latitude and longitude, and perhaps a mention or two of any unusual activity aboard the



Figure 1: Nathan perusing a logbook from one of the navy vessels involved with the two stone fleets (SCIAA photo)

week. Unfortunately, like two pedestrians walking towards one another and not sure which way the other is going, end up bumping into each other, so too did we end up smacking into the snow storm for the ages, at least so proclaimed by the *Weather Channel*. Consequently, we lost a day and two hours of research time at the archives due to the shutdown of the U.S.

vessel. Information contained in this type of logbook may excite a climatologist, but not a historical archaeologist, unless wind direction or currents figure into the research of a particular shipwreck. The second type of logbook that addresses the ship's activities and surrounding events form the basis by which to construct a historical narrative or to guide archaeological investigations. These were the logbooks that we sought, and fortunately, the majority of the logbooks we examined fell into this latter category.

The numerous entries in the logbooks from the disparate vessels combined to form a good image of the events surrounding the two stone fleets. The logbooks noted the chaotic arrival of the first contingent of 25 stone fleet vessels off Tybee Island and Port Royal Sound in early December 1861. There several of the vessels grounded or wrecked on the shoals and others lacked suitable ground-tackle requiring assistance from the Union blockading force. Afterwards, the navy vessels spent time marshalling these vessels at Port Royal, and then escorted or towed them for scuttling at the Main Bar off Charleston. The logbooks also referenced the arrival of the second contingent, numbering 20, at Port Royal during the interval between the two sinking's, as well as the events surrounding the sinking of the Second Stone Fleet at the entrance to Maffitt's Channel. Other specific information included the scuttling of several vessels to form breakwaters to facilitate the landing of Federal troops at Tybee Island, Georgia, the scavenging of sails, blocks, and other accoutrements off the hulks by navy vessels, and the diverting of several vessels for logistical purposes to serve as floating store houses or machine shops. The logbooks of those vessel's actively engaged in sinking the stone fleets recorded their actions of towing the hulks into position, recovering sails and spars for later use, or in one instance, having to go back to one vessel since the sailor's had forgotten to open the plug to sink the hulk. Of particular archaeological importance, Nathan located a reference to lashing and

sinking two vessels together of the Second Stone Fleet. This proved of interest, as during our survey operations last year the sonar generated an image of a ballast mound extremely close to a previously documented ballast mound. One hope of this project is to provide a name to these anonymous ballast mounds, and with references like that, will help in our quest to provide a history to these shipwrecks. These logbook entries are valuable bits of information that will help to develop our historical narrative and guide our archaeological explorations of the two stone fleets.

After mining the logbooks for nuggets of information, we turned our attention to a cache of documents concerning the navy's purchase of these merchant vessels. We found a number of materials associated with the purchase of each of the vessels, except for the bark *Peri*. These documents consisted of bills of sale, ship registries, and Custom House declarations clearing a vessel for sale. One associated document in particular proved of extreme interest: a spreadsheet created by Richard H. Chapell, charged with purchasing and outfitting the vessels for their intended use as part of the stone fleet. The spreadsheet listed expenses to purchase stones, make repairs, buy provisions, crew the vessels, and a plethora of other items. Additionally, Chapell sold items no longer required by

the vessels, including copper sheathing stripped from the hulls, whaling gear, anchors and chain, and navigation gear. Of particular interest was that Chapell oftentimes sold an expensive anchor or chronometer and then turned around and bought cheaper replacements for use on the voyage south. For instance, he sold a chronometer for \$100 and then bought one for two dollars. Apparently, he attempted to defray the total costs of the vessel to the U.S. Government by these means. A couple of unique documents were also found: an inventory of all the supplies aboard one of the vessels, and the original secret sailing instructions that each captain received prior to heading south. At the end of one of the boxes containing these documents, we found a letter by Chapell to Gideon Welles, the Secretary of the Navy, summing up in good detail his efforts to assemble and outfit the two stone fleets. As above with the logbooks, these documents, combined with all our other research, will assist us to develop the historical context and to guide our archaeological inquiry of the two stone fleets sunk off Charleston Harbor. Currently, we are conducting visual reconnaissance of each of the 29 wrecks composing the two stone fleets. Look to subsequent issues of *Legacy* for progress reports concerning these efforts.

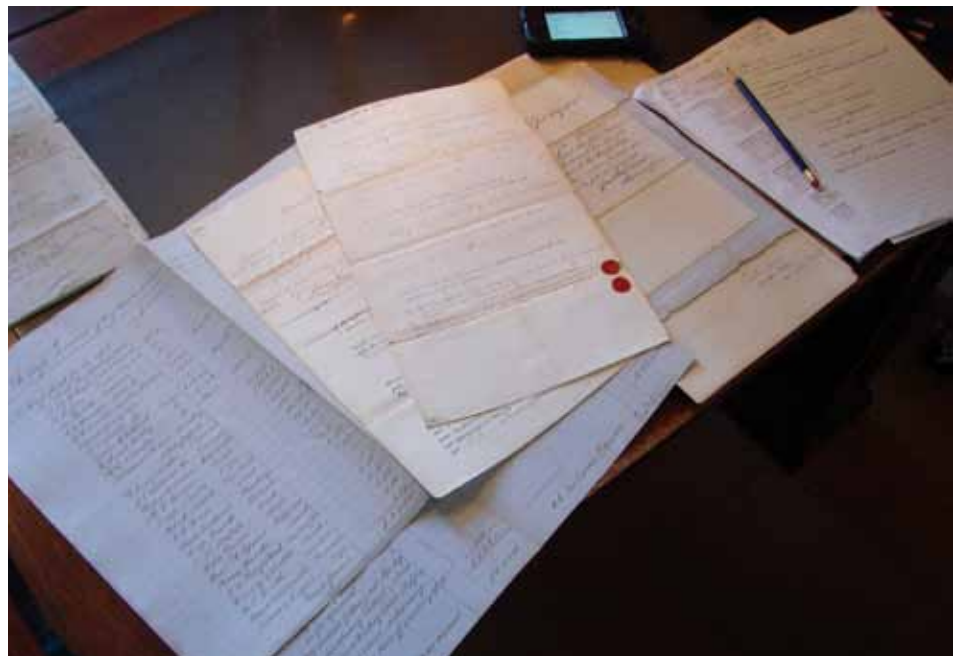


Figure 2: Bill of sales, Chapell spreadsheet and other documents associated with purchasing and outfitting the two stone fleets (SCIAA photo)



# Nate Fulmer Joins the Division

By Ashley M. Deming

The Maritime Research Division (MRD) is very pleased to welcome Nate Fulmer as a secondary archaeologist for the Charleston Office. Nate is a South Carolina native and a 2012 graduate of the anthropology program at the College of Charleston. He has worked on both terrestrial and underwater sites. Nate has been diving since 2003 and has extensive black water experience, making him right at home with the division. Recently, Nate excavated a Cold War fallout shelter in his sister's backyard in Aiken and produced a short documentary film about the investigation. This film was featured at the 2013 Arkhaios Film Festival and will also feature in an upcoming International Film Festival sponsored by The Archaeology Channel in 2014. The full video may be accessed on YouTube under "Helter Shelter: A Backyard Time Capsule in the Shadow of the Bomb Plant."

In addition to his work with local archaeologists, Nate has also been involved with the Maritime Research Division for the past few years. He has taken the Field Training Course Part II, written newsletter articles, given a lecture for our October Lecture Series, organized and participated in a College of Charleston MRD Artifact Identification Workshop, even been named Hobby Diver of the Quarter. He worked with us as a volunteer for the 2013 Field Training Course: Part I, and participated on the Hampton Plantation Project with the S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism and worked on the Black River Project. Nate has also teamed up with other volunteers to go explore various underwater sites in South Carolina.

Nate will be working alongside me for the MRD Charleston Office. His main responsibilities will be managing the hobby diver licenses and databases, conducting research, managing the archaeological equipment, and aiding in the education and outreach initiatives for the division.



Nate Fulmer preparing to dive. (SCIAA photograph by Ashley M. Deming)

Nate will be working hard to streamline the reporting process even more to make licensing and reporting even easier. He will also be available to conduct underwater and foreshore site assessments

and identify artifact collections.

We are thrilled to have Nate joining our crew, and we hope that you will welcome him to the program. You can reach Nate at (843) 762-6105 or email him at [fulmern@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:fulmern@mailbox.sc.edu).



Nate Fulmer preparing to dive. (SCIAA photograph by Ashley M. Deming)



South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology  
Maritime Research Division  
University of South Carolina

## Field Training Course Part I

The Maritime Research Division (MRD) is offering our annual field training course in underwater archaeology. This course is designed for any sport diver who wants the chance to get more involved with underwater archaeology.

Part I is a two-day, weekend course that consists of basic technique training that can be used in the field to observe, report, and record underwater sites. This course will be a mixture of hands-on activities and lectures designed to teach the average diver how to be a first responder to sites discovered while diving.



SATURDAY & SUNDAY

June  
**28**  
&  
**29**

Saturday- 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fort Johnson Marine Resource Center, Charleston, SC

Sunday- 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Underwater training facility, Mt. Pleasant, SC

Register by June 13, 2014

\$175 (checks and money orders payable to USC)

There are only 10 places available for this course  
Register today!

Email us at [mrd@sc.edu](mailto:mrd@sc.edu) or call 843-762-6105 for  
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UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
College of Arts and Sciences

# Office of the State Archaeologist

## Historic Camden Saved from the Bulldozer

By Jonathan M. Leader

It will undoubtedly come as a surprise to the reader, as it did to the rest of us, that the site of Historic Camden town could come under threat. This is an historic site of national significance, the reason for the second historic district in the State (after Charleston, SC), and a major tourist attraction. Yet, in April 2014, that is exactly what happened. The successful effort that saved the site brought together professionals from multiple disciplines, local citizens, and the focus of several national institutions.

Historic Camden had suffered for years from the placement of a city owned faulty sewage pump near its southern boundary. Off days were, well, off. Needless to say, visitors and staff could immediately determine the problem. Requests to repair or move the pump were not acted upon for a variety of good reasons, but clearly something would eventually have to be done. Imagine the joy then when the day finally arrived, when the problem would be corrected. Unfortunately, the shouts for joy were a little premature.

The board and staff of Historic Camden thought that the pump would be moved and the original pipes, with a small addition, would be reused. The City saw this as an opportunity to correct, modernize, and extend the sewage and force main pipes in a wholly new direction. Both groups were very clear in their understanding of the situation, but had inadvertently failed to convey their thoughts to the other group. This left in play a diametrically opposed set of viewpoints. As it also turned out, the document signed by Historic Camden was apparently not complete and missing several important appendices. The stage was set for a perfect storm of no one's choosing.

The arrival of the pipes into an area that Historic Camden did not think would be under development heralded their acknowledged first inkling that things were not as they seemed. A phone call to the City of Camden was quickly followed by the delivery of a computer-generated and printed map. The staff at Historic

Camden was then apprised of some of the discrepancy, but not all of it.

Maps are funny things. Most people who have no cartographic background are blissfully unaware of the science and art that goes into making sure that the colors used for the map, boundaries, and features are appropriate. In this instance, some of the lines used to demark construction were so close to the color used for showing the foliage that they disappeared from view. They were visible on a computer screen, due to enhanced color support from the graphics card, but invisible in the physically printed form due to the limitations of the printer. The result was another layer of misperception.

The original route determined by the City, and misunderstood by Historic Camden, had the pipe trench running down the front of the property in a borehole well underneath the historic layers and surfacing for a short length just before the municipal property near the stadium. It wasn't optimum, but it was survivable from the Historic Camden view. However, it would appear that one of the appendices that the Historic Camden staff said was not attached at the time of signing showed an alternative route that crossed the street to the primary Historic Camden site and cut a swath across it. It was this alternative route that had been decided by the City Council and engineers over the objections of Historic Camden.

Luckily, Chad Long, a longtime resident of Camden and the SCDOT archaeologist saw the initial reports of the problem in a local paper. The staff of Historic Camden was in the process of making calls appealing for help, and he immediately volunteered. Both Chad and the staff separately contacted me, and I stepped in to assist. Chad, as the local archaeologist, put out an appeal for assistance that was immediately responded



Figure 1: Historic Camden Site under threat. (Photograph by Jonathan M. Leader)





Figure 2: The trench line at Historic Camden. (Photograph by Jonathan M. Leader)

to by the archeological community (see Lisa Hudgins' article in this issue of *Legacy*, Page 11). All told, 14 professional archaeologists became directly involved with another similar number acting in reserve. While Chad was coordinating the onsite fieldwork, I worked with the staff and the Historic Camden Board to see what mitigating information might exist to swing the project route away from the irreplaceable areas under threat. Dr. Charles Ewen, President of the Society for Historical Archaeology, was on standby to provide assistance through the international society, if need be.

The staff of Historic Camden and I found a mitigating factor as we reviewed the Historic Camden and city documents. The City's preferred alternative route would not only have gone through the most important parts of Historic Camden but through land that had been owned by the Camden Cemetery Association and listed by them as containing burials. South Carolina burial laws are quite explicit as to what can and cannot be done, and the time to be allotted for any necessary work. This was both complicating and costly for the construction project, so the City shifted the route back across the street to where it was much less damaging.

Meantime, Chad and the team had done a remarkable job of mitigation archaeology in the path of the heavy equipment. And, it must be acknowledged that Mr. Henry Walker, the surveyor for the project was very helpful in the careful removal of overburden so that features could be quickly assessed. Historic Camden was extremely well served by their action.

So, the disaster was narrowly averted and Historic Camden continues. It must be remembered for the future, that no site, no matter how important, no matter how well known, is immune from threat. Great care must be taken to ensure the preservation of these sites, planning for disasters, and the "unthinkable" must be undertaken before they actually occur.

A vote of thanks should be given to the following people who volunteered at the drop of a hat to answer the call and came to save the Historic Camden site: Jeff Craver, Jim Errante, Meg Gaillard, Tariq Ghaffir, Ramona Grunden, Lisa Hudgins, Chris Judge, Bill Jurgelski, Chad Long, Tracy Miller, Sean Norris, Carl Steen, Sarah Stephens, Sean Taylor. Although Ken Lewis was not on site, as the archaeologist who has done so much of the work at Historic Camden, his contribution through emails and telephone conversations was essential.



Figure 3: Meg Gaillard and Carl Steen (on the screens), and Sean Taylor excavating at Historic Camden. (Photograph by Jonathan M. Leader)



# Bat Creek Tablet Research and Exhibit at the Cherokee Museum, Cherokee, N.C.

By Jonathan M. Leader

Earlier in the year of 2014, the Bat Creek tablet became available to the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation's Museum of the Cherokee Indian through a Smithsonian Institution loan. A number of experts, tribal elders and interested people were assembled by the Museum to assist in the production of the exhibit. I was fortunate to be invited to assist and take part. The Cherokee have had an interest in the tablet ever since its initial excavation from a burial mound by the Smithsonian Institution in 1889. The loan of the tablet, therefore, resonates on several levels and has reawakened a rather heated controversy.

One could easily be forgiven for thinking that since the work was done under the over-all supervision of the redoubtable Cyrus Thomas of the Bureau of Ethnology's Mound Survey, the fieldwork being accomplished by John W. Emmert, that in terms of the archaeology at least there wouldn't be all that much to discuss. The controversy would then be the more familiar, but no less important one of repatriation of a burial or associated burial object. But this would be a mistake. Practically everything about the tablet and the excavation has been and still is open to discussion and conjecture.

The ferruginous siltstone tablet itself isn't all that large or intrinsically interesting except for the fact that it is engraved. It is the engraving that is the focus of the controversy. It has been suggested by various authorities to be either a form of early Cherokee syllabary, paleo-Hebrew/Canaanite, or a fraud. The latter is the official stand of the Smithsonian based on their own research and bolstered most recently by the work of

Robert Mainfort and Mary Kwas that was published in 2004.

Unsurprisingly, there has been a great deal of "push-back" against the Smithsonian position from individuals who are either looking for the trans-oceanic connection to the Americas or who have a deeply held religious basis for their belief. Being inclusive, the Cherokee Museum made sure that people who espoused these perspectives were also invited to take part in the meetings at Cherokee, and several did.

Many of the arguments that come from this group aren't operational in terms of scientific endeavor, being matters of deeply held belief and untestable. But, there are some that can be operationalized and tested. Probably the best representative of this subset has been the work of J. Huston McCulloch, a professor emeritus of economics from Ohio State University, who was at the meeting. Unlike many of his colleagues, Huston has published his perspective in mainstream peer reviewed publications and then dealt with the ensuing discussions and fall-out. Even though his conclusions have not been supported, one can admire the integrity of putting forth a thesis in the proper way, rather than the less meaningful publication in the alternative press.

The importance of the artifact being either real or fraudulent cannot be underestimated. There are real world implications to the Eastern Band, the Smithsonian, and the larger community. Repatriation issues, the primacy of Sequoyah's syllabary and the integrity of aspects of the BAE's Mound survey are all in play.

My part in this has been to provide expertise on the metal artifacts that

are also a part of the loan, and no less controversial, to suggest and discuss the merits of tests that are most likely to support or refute the core questions (e.g., did the tablet actually come from a human burial environment) and to assist in the philology based on his earlier work on Near Eastern texts with T. H. Gaster and others. A follow up article covering the results of the research will be made available in the near future.

## Selected References and Additional Readings:

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2001 *Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries: Science and Pseudo-science in Archaeology*. Mayfield, Mountain View, California.

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1993a The Bat Creek Fraud: A Final Statement. *Tennessee Anthropologist* 18:87-93.

1993b Archaeologists Remain Unconvinced. *Biblical Archaeology Review* 19:18, 76.

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1993a Did Judean Refugees Escape to Tennessee? *Biblical Archaeology Review* 19:46-53, 82-83.

1993b McCulloch Responds to McCarter. *Biblical Archaeology Review* 19:14-16.

1993c The Bat Creek Stone: A Reply to Mainfort and Kwas. *Tennessee Anthropologist* 18:1-26.



Figure 1: Bat Creek tablet showing controversial engraving. (Photograph courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution)

# Peteet Canoe Completed and on Display at Oconee Heritage Center

By Jonathan M. Leader

In 2002, Peter Peteet discovered an early historic period canoe in the Chattooga River. The next two years would see the very careful documentation and planning that eventually lead to the canoe's successful recovery in 2004. To say that this was a difficult undertaking and required the assistance of a large number of volunteers and professionals is something of an understatement. The photo of the 1,000-pound canoe's move through the river and eventually to the conservation treatment tank at the Oconee Heritage Center in Walhalla, SC is iconic (Figure 1). It is also very representative of the level of commitment, civic spirit, and concern for both the cultural and natural environment that is the hallmark of this portion of the upstate. And, now in 2014, the canoe is successfully conserved and on display.

The Institute involvement was a joint venture of the Maritime Research Division (MRD), then under the leadership of Christopher Amer, State Underwater Archaeologist, and myself as State Archaeologist, Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA). This tag team approach had been a common occurrence for the last 24 years. Chris, as State Underwater Archaeologist, had the legal responsibility for the artifact, and with his very capable colleagues in MRD, the know how for the recovery. My expertise lay in the support for the legal initiative

undertaken by Amer and in the conservation of the wood canoe. The latter being the result of his having been a trained objects conservator and a Past National Chair of the Wooden Artifacts Group of the American Institute of Conservation for Historic and Artistic Works.

The canoe was analyzed for structural preservation and a polyethylene glycol treatment, based on the work from the Canadian Conservation Institute, was tailored to its specific needs. Staff and volunteers at the Oconee Heritage Center provided the day-to-day monitoring and care under my supervision. Their dedication to the project ensured its success.

The treatment cradle for the canoe was designed to become the final exhibit support after the treatment was completed (Figure 2). In this capacity, it has proven itself to be perfect and a testament to the local carpenters who produced it. The well-crafted pine canoe is now a valued and important component of the Oconee Heritage Center. If you wish to visit the canoe or to see the many other exhibits, the Center's address is 123 Browns Square Dr, Walhalla, SC 29691 (864) 638-2224.

It's not possible to thank everyone



Figure 2: Early historic canoe completed and on display. (SCIAA photograph by Jonathan M. Leader)

individually for their hard work and contributions to the project. Everyone who took part is deserving of praise. That said, there are several people who need to be specially recognized for their contribution to the project's success. Please recognize Peter Peteet, Buzz Williams, Dave Martin, Paul Burris, Kent Wiggington, Mark Fischer, Leslie White, Jennifer Moss, Jim Bates, Nick Gambrell, and the archaeologists of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation for their outstanding efforts.

## Partnership Organizations:

Chattooga Conservancy  
Cherokee Creek Boys School  
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation  
Goddard Institute for Space Studies,  
Columbia University  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Oconee Heritage Center  
Office of the State Archaeologist, SCIAA,  
USC  
Maritime Research Division, SCIAA, USC  
Mathematics Department, Clemson  
University  
South Carolina Department of Archives  
and History  
U.S. Forest Service, Andrew Pickens  
Ranger District  
U.S. Forest Service, Sumter National Forest  
Watermark, Inc. Archaeological Research  
The Board of Trustees of the



Figure 1: 1,000 pound historic canoe being moved up the river by volunteers. (Photograph courtesy of Butch Clay)



# Archaeological Research Trust (ART) Grants For 2014

Compiled By Nena Powell Rice, Secretary ART Board

Archaeological Research Trust (ART) made decisions at the November 2013 meeting to fund ten SCIAA researchers for the year 2014. A total of \$21,025 was given to support the following researchers and projects.

## Sponsorship of "Fields of Conflict" Conference and the Southeastern Archaeological Conference

Steven D. Smith received \$2,000 to assist with support of a very successful "Fields of Conflict Battlefield Conference," the Eight Biennial Conference on Battlefield Archaeology held in Columbia in March 2014. This biennial conference focused on battle and military archaeology. Traditionally, this event has been held in Europe and has been dominated by European archaeologists, and it covered an extensive time range from Classical Antiquity wars up to World War II.

Charles Cobb received \$2,000 to assist with support of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference to be held in Greenville, S.C. in November 12-15, 2014. This annual event usually draws an average of 700 to 800 archaeologists with their families, that is the largest regional conference in the country. Paper topics encompass just about everything archaeologists do in the Southeast, from Pre-Clovis speculations at one end of the time-line to the archaeology of industrialization in more recent times. Traditionally, many of the archaeologists from SCIAA and the Department of Anthropology (including students) attend this conference.

## Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis of Pre-Contact Ceramics from the G.S. Lewis-West Site, Aiken County, South Carolina

Keith Stephenson and Karen Smith received \$2,400 to have 75 pottery samples from G.S. Lewis-West site analyzed by the Archaeometry Laboratory at the University of Missouri's Research Reactor (MURR) where archaeologists and other scientists use instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA) to

characterize the elemental composition of materials for sourcing studies. The technique has been used successfully for decades in the Southwest but has been slow to find acceptance in the Southeast until recently. This analysis will show that pottery compositions made from clays within Southeastern coastal plain drainages are sufficiently distinctive from neighboring clays and drainages and begin to discriminate local pottery from non-local pottery.

## Understanding Pre-Columbian Settlement on Waccamaw Neck

Karen Smith received \$3,840 to reanalyze Dr. James Michie's collection from Hobcaw Barony. Today, Hobcaw Barony's archaeological resources and the stories they may be uniquely suited to tell are only faintly known. Beyond historical records and oral traditions, the only sources of information about the history and prehistory of the 17,000 acres on the southern peninsula of Waccamaw Neck—this unique and diverse landscape and its past people—are found in one brief

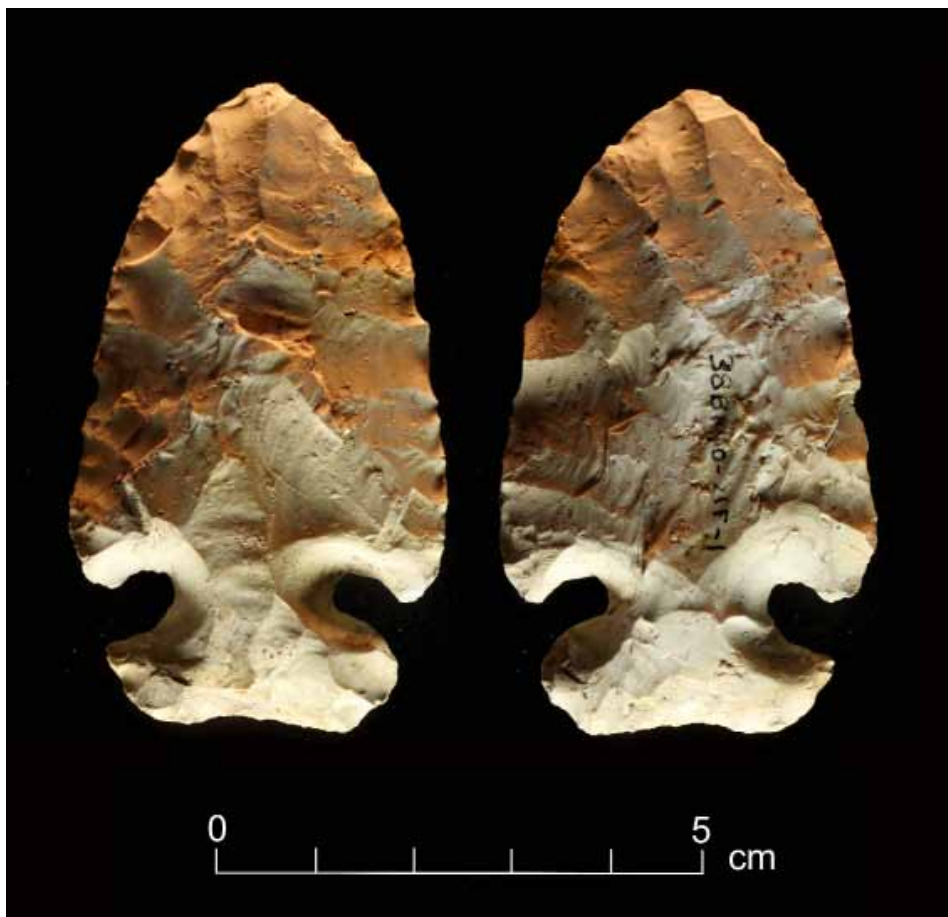
archaeological survey by archaeologist Dr. James Michie (1991), an equally brief hobby diver survey for artifacts in Winyah Bay (see SCIAA Sites Files for 38GE111), and a historic resources report of the Hobcaw Barony Historic District on file with the National Register of Historic Places. In short, much more work is needed.

This year, SCIAA archaeologists, SCETV, and Professor Emeritus Leland Ferguson, with permission from the Belle W. Baruch Foundation, initiated a collaboration to address the gap in archaeological research on the property. Efforts are underway to secure funding for additional systematic fieldwork in and around the Hobcaw House complex. All paper records associated with Dr. Michie's work at Hobcaw will be scanned. Maps will be scanned and georeferenced in ArcGIS. The shovel tests Michie excavated will be located in real space with ArcGIS and artifact inventories will be assigned to them. This will allow them to study artifact distributions using the latest spatial statistical methods. To create the artifact



Hobcaw research team retraces Jim Michie's steps along a road north of the Hobcaw House at Baruch; (left to right): Leland Ferguson, Walter Wilkinson, Betsy Newman, Karen Smith, Bob Mimms, Charlie Cobb (back to camera), Jo Baker, George Chastain, and Patrick Hayes. (Photo by Eileen Keithly, *South Strand News*. Printed with permission of *The Georgetown Times*)





Kirk point with residue used in the sample study of Christopher Moore's ART grant research. (Photograph by Christopher Moore.)

inventories, Applied Research Division staff will physically examine the artifacts contained within the collection. They will verify identifications by drawing on our own knowledge and on the lifetimes of expertise shared by SCIAA research staff. During the process, all artifacts will be transferred to archive-quality containers following SCIAA curation standards and guidelines.

### **Hobcaw Barony Waterfront Cultural Continuum Project**

James Spirek received \$4,293 to tie end with Karen Smith's work at Hobcaw Barony (see above grant description). Under direction of Jim Spirek, the Maritime Research Division (MRD) will implement an underwater archaeological survey of the neighboring coastline to document the prehistoric and historic occupational continuum hidden beneath the waters off Hobcaw Barony. Not only will the project benefit from the simultaneous coordination of underwater and terrestrial work, something that

is rarer in archaeology than it should be, but also from the educational and documentary expertise provided by our collaborators who are committed to helping the larger program take root, making timing for the funding of the underwater component a critical detail.

### **Immunological Analysis of Stone Tools in the Central Savannah River Area: Evaluating Diachronic Trends in Animal Species Selection and Availability over the Last 13,000 Years**

Christopher Moore received \$3,750 to analyze 50 temporally diagnostic stone tool samples for protein residue or immunological analysis from crossover eletrophoresis (CIEP) from the Central Savannah River Area. The specific objectives/questions of this research program are: 1) To determine if protein residues are preserved on a variety of temporally diagnostic prehistoric stone tools in the Central Savanna River Area (CSRA), including Paleoindian, Archaic, and Woodland/Mississippian Period

projectile points. 2) If protein residues are preserved, what are the identifiable animal species indicated by immunological analysis? 3) What are the diachronic trends in animal prey species selection and availability as evidenced through protein residue analysis of a broad suite of temporally diagnostic artifacts in the CSRA?

### **Radiocarbon Dating of Clovis at the Topper Site**

Albert Goodyear received \$2,742 to pay for three radiocarbon dates from charcoal samples found in the Clovis deposit on the Hillside at the Topper site. A recently dated sample from there came back 10,958 +/- 60 BP, which demonstrates Clovis age charcoal is present. The association of this charcoal with definitive Clovis type artifacts is very good. Funds are requested for four AMS type radiocarbon dates (\$2,400) to bring the study total to 10. Funds for the other six dates have been donated and pledged. It is necessary to conduct floatation and paleobotanical analysis of sediment samples to derive a corpus of radiocarbon datable charred botanicals. Funds are requested to pay for this study by an outside consultant (\$942). The prospects for being the first to radiocarbon date Clovis in the Southeast are very high and would constitute a major breakthrough in Paleoindian studies.



Tariq Ghaffir carefully excavates a Clovis floor at the Topper site. (SEPAS photograph by Meg Gaillard)

*All of the above projects will result in articles that will be published in future issues of Legacy. If anyone is interested in seeing the full background description of each these proposals, please contact Nena Powell Rice (nrice@sc.edu).*

# ART / SCIAA Donors Update August 2012-May 2014

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ART Board tour of Graniteville, in celebration of SCIAA's 50th anniversary, November 2, 2013. (Photograph courtesy of Nena Powell Rice)





### FIVE OFFICERS, From Page 3

cornbread, sorghum, and bacon, and gave them directions to the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, which would lead them toward the mountains. After passing through Greenwood and Belton, South Carolina, they found the Greenville and North Carolina Turnpike and followed it north.

Near Marietta, South Carolina, a freedwoman named Betsey Turner baked bread for the men while her husband John gave them detailed directions to the state line. They passed through Jones Gap into North Carolina on October 26, and followed Turner's directions to the home of William Case near Cedar Mountain. Case, a white Unionist, told the group that they would have no hope of reaching the Union lines without a guide, but that there was a group of Unionists and Confederate deserters who were planning to make the trip in early November. He then sent them eight miles up the road to a man named Ed Merrill.

At Merrill's, the officers found a state of affairs uncommon even in the contested Appalachian region. Although a slave, Merrill had been given control of his master's business and family affairs while he was away fighting in the Confederate army. Merrill fed the officers and then led them to the house of Robert Hamilton, the sheriff of Transylvania County.

Hamilton, because of his occupation, was exempt from the Confederate draft. He put on a show of tracking down deserters by day, while hiding several different groups of escaped officers from Columbia. On November 1, Aldrich, Hastings, Langworthy, Starr, and Terwilliger were reunited with Captain Lester Cady of the 24<sup>th</sup> New York Battery and an unidentified Lieutenant Masters,

both of whom had escaped from the train between Charleston and Columbia. On November 5, Hamilton led all seven officers to meet with a third group that included 19 deserters and refugees and three more escaped officers, Captain William F. Dawson, Lieutenants Isaiah Conley, and William Davidson of the 101<sup>st</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry.

Although there was some safety in numbers and their guides undoubtedly knew what they were doing, the group was far from safe. While waiting near the Mills River for more refugees, Confederate soldiers attacked. Only a few of the Unionists were armed, but they formed a firing line and allowed the rest to escape. Hamilton decided that it would be too dangerous to wait any longer, and he led them over Mt. Pisgah to Spring Creek Gap near Hot Springs. On November 9, they crossed the border into Tennessee.

At the next place they stopped, several men were digging a grave for a Unionist who had been shot by a Confederate sympathizer the previous day. On the 10<sup>th</sup>, they were stopped by a Unionist named Milt Spurgeon, who had gathered a group of his neighbors and fortified a bluff as a defense against Confederate attack. He was suspicious of the group's identity, and claimed to have enough men to "blow them to hell in a minute," two of the officers recalled. On the 11<sup>th</sup>, they passed through Sevierville. Half of the group continued the last few miles to the Union line at Strawberry Plains, while the rest spent the night with a generous widow. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, they too crossed the picket line. At Strawberry Plains, they borrowed horses from the 10<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry and rode to Union headquarters in Knoxville. One of the first things they did,

after getting paid, was to have their picture taken (See page 2).

After the war, Starr and a few of the others sent Sheriff Hamilton a box of gifts in thanks for his service. As did many of their fellow ex-prisoners, several of the officers wrote memoirs or spoke publicly about their experiences in the war. In 1892, Starr delivered an address to the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States that covered everything from his enlistment in 1861 to his arrival at Knoxville in November 1864. Langworthy published *Reminiscences of a Prisoner of War and His Escape* at the request of his friends and family. At least a few of the group stayed in touch into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and Langworthy noted at the end of his memoir that as of April 3, 1915, he and Starr were the only two members still living. Starr died in 1916, leaving Langworthy the final surviving member of the group, until his death in 1919.



The five officers who escaped from Camp Sorghum. (In Langworthy, *Reminiscences of a Prisoner of War and His Escape*, 1915)