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ADAMSON SITE (38KE11)

by

Chester B. DePratter

On March 23-24, 1985, Dr. Chester B. DePratter mapped and surface collected the Adamson mound and village site (38KE11) with a crew composed of graduate students and volunteers. The crew included Kimberly Grimes, Chris Judge, David Babson, Ruth Wetmore, Michael Harmon, Mair Paulsen, and Leland Ferguson.

The site is located on a low, natural terrace that is approximately 100 meters wide and nearly 300 meters long. Parts of the site are buried beneath a recent layer of alluvium of undetermined thickness.

Mound A, the larger of two mounds on the site, is over 11 meters high with base dimensions of 53 meters by 41 meters. The first flat summit platform measures approximately 20 meters by 30 meters. Mound B, located 60 meters northeast of Mound A, is approximately 20 meters in diameter and nearly 4 meters high. The central part of Mound B was completely excavated long ago by persons unknown. A third, smaller mound is reported to have been located to the northwest of Mound A, but no trace of it exists today.

DePratter and his crew mapped the area southeast of the mounds, and the remainder of the site will be mapped in the near future. An area south of the mounds measuring 90 meters by 60 meters was surface collected in 10 meter-square units. A series of 22 posthole tests were also excavated in an attempt to locate a midden zone, but no distinct midden was encountered. The surface collection and excavated material indicate that the major occupation of the site occurred during the Pee Dee period between approximately 1300 and 1500 A.D.