

1-2011

Quarterly Reporter - January 2011

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

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Things You Need to Know:

- 2010 Quarter 4 Reports Due January 10, 2011
- NEW Forms on Website
- Artifact Identification Workshop March 19, 2011

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"Helping to preserve and protect South Carolina's maritime heritage through research, education, and public outreach."

Virtual Update for SDAMP

By Ashley Deming

It has been brought to my attention over the past year that Hobby Divers would like a more interactive website and forms that are easier to fill out and submit. We are striving to improve our website and forms (both PDF format and electronic submissions). We want to make renewing/applying and reporting as simple and enjoyable for you as possible.

I have updated the forms once again, so please use the newest versions now available on our website at:

www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/sdamp_hdl_forms.html

We will no longer be accepting the older versions of the forms. You *must* use these new versions.

The new report form was created so that you can type directly into it and save the form. This will be helpful as you will be able to retain a copy of your form for future reference and you can send these to us via email attachments. If you are having trouble

with the e-form, this may be an easy alternative. Of course, you can always continue to print out our report forms and send them to us through the mail, fax, or deliver them in person. Your renewal forms are also updated to this new format.

In regards to the e-Artifact Report Form, if you do not receive a confirmation email from us, we did not receive your report. We try to send confirmation emails out as soon as possible, but please allow a few days for us to respond.

These are "quick fixes" to help you until we can further update our system.

The SDAMP website is being completely redone to be easier for you to find what you are looking for and report. The e-Artifact Report Form will be reformatted so that you can fill it out, upload pictures and files, and it will not use your email to send it to us, but our own system. This will be similar to submitting any other online form.

You will receive automatic delivery confirmations of your reports.

This will not affect how you renew or apply. Those applications and renewals will still need to be sent to us in the mail with your fee. We will not be able to process payments online.

We hope to have the new website up and running in time for your Quarter 1 2011 reports (but we are the State, so who knows...).

In the not too distant future, we will be developing an online database for the program. Hobby Divers will be able to log into their secure accounts and report, update their information, view their reporting history, access information about our program, and much more!

We are very excited about these virtual updates and we hope that you will find them useful to you. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email us at sdamp@sc.edu ■

January Quarterly Reports



Quarterly Reports due by January 10, 2010

This is a reminder that your 4th quarter 2010 reports are due by January 10, 2010. These reports should cover all of the collecting you have done between October 1st and December 31st of this year.

All report forms can be found on our website at:

www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/sdamp_hdl_forms.html

Please use the newest versions of the forms. We will no longer be accepting outdated versions.

Your *artifact* reports

should be sent to:

Artifact Report Forms
PO Box 12448
Charleston, SC 29422

You may also fax forms to: (843) 762-5831

Email forms to us at: sdamp@sc.edu

Or you can submit forms online at: www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/sdamp_hdl_eaqrf.html

Your *fossil* report forms should be sent to:

Chief Curator of Natural History
301 Gervais St.
Columbia, SC 29201

Make sure that you file reports with both agencies even if you have not done any collecting. Just tick the box that reads “No Recoveries Made This Quarter” and send it to the appropriate agency.

If you have any questions regarding reports, please visit our website at:

www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/sdamp_hdl_forms.html

Or give us a call at: (843) 762-6105. ■

March Artifact Identification Workshop

SDAMP is offering its first Artifact Identification Workshop of 2011. The workshop consists of a mixture of lectures and hands-on activities designed to help you identify some of the types of artifacts you collect from South Carolina waters. We hope to help you better understand and identify artifacts so that you can love your collection even more and report your finds more accurately to us.

Historic and prehistoric ceramics, bottles, Native American stone tools,

and much more will be covered. You will get the opportunity to work with real archaeological material. Please note that we will not be covering any paleontological material (fossils: i.e. shark teeth and bone). The details about the workshop are below.

SDAMP Artifact Identification Workshop

Date: March 19, 2011

Time: 9am-5pm

Location: Charleston, SC

Cost: \$30 (make checks payable to USC)

There are only 15 places available for this workshop so sign up now.

You may email me at deming@sc.edu or call us at 843-762-6105 to reserve your spot. I will need cash, check, or money order before I can put you on the official list. The deadline for fees is March 4, 2011.

This is going to be a really fun day. We look forward to having you join us! ■



SDAMP Artifact Identification Workshop



Upcoming Events

Artifact Identification Workshop

SDAMP will be offering another Artifact Identification Workshop on March 19, 2011. Please see previous page for details. The March 19th workshop will take place in Charleston, but we hope to hold another workshop in Columbia in June.

Annual Conference on South Carolina Archaeology

ASSC (Archaeology Society of South Carolina) will be sponsoring its annual conference on April 9, 2011 from 9am-4pm. This year's theme is

Archaeology of the Pee Dee Region.

The conference will take place on USC's campus in Columbia. For more information on the conference and ASSC, visit their website at: www.assc.net

CRMHT Buoys

SDAMP will be redeploying the Cooper River Maritime Heritage Trail site buoys sometime in April. We will probably need a couple of volunteers, so keep an eye out for emails about volunteering.

Allendale Project

SDAMP will be heading back to Allendale the

first two weeks of May to continue working with Dr. Al Goodyear at the Topper site. We will be using volunteers for this project. More information about volunteering will appear in the next issue of the *Quarterly Reporter*.

Charleston Harbor Fest

Charleston will be holding its 2011 Maritime Festival May 12-15. SDAMP will be present with a booth on May 14th. We will need a couple of people to help man this event throughout the day. Details will follow in the next issue of the *Quarterly Reporter*.

Field Training Course: Part I

SDAMP hopes to offer its second Underwater Archaeology Field Training Course in July 2011. This is a 2-day course that features both lectures and hands-on activities (above and below water) to further your understanding of maritime archaeology.

There will be many more events throughout the year. Please continue to read the *Quarterly Reporter*, emails, and our website for information about upcoming events and volunteering opportunities. ■

SDAMP News

It is important to us that our Hobby Divers are aware of the education and outreach we do throughout the year. We hope to keep you updated on all that we are involved in so that you too will get involved.

SDAMP is on [Facebook!](#) Be sure to look us up and get the latest info on what SDAMP is up to. We love to hear from our hobby divers and friends, so leave us a message on our wall.

October

•On October 6th SDAMP presented *Above and Below: The Maritime Archaeology of South Carolina Shipwreck*

Sites at the Charleston County Library for 30 members of the public.

•SDAMP attended Archaeology Day at Charles Town Landing for an all day field event. Volunteers Doug Boehme and Ted Churchill taught visitors about SCUBA gear and underwater writing.

•On October 28th, Carl Naylor attended the Wateree Dive Club meeting to help divers identify their artifacts.

November

•On November 2nd SDAMP gave a presentation about the program to 20 members of the Bottom Time Scuba Club in Florence.

•SDAMP removed the

buoys on the Cooper River Heritage Trail on November 5th.

•November 8-10 the Maritime Research Division conducted hydroprobing near Beaufort for the *George Washington*.

December

•Ashley Deming attended Archaeology Night at an elementary school in Blythwood on December 6th along with several other SCIAA archaeology staff. Around 100 students and parents learned about many different aspects of archaeology including how to write underwater.

•The Maritime Research Division met with the

Dive Safety and Control Board for the annual meeting on December 8th.

•SDAMP office closed from December 20th – January 3rd.

Upcoming...

March

•Artifact Identification Workshop in Charleston. Date: March 19th. See page 2 for details.

April

•ASSC Conference April 9th. See website for more details www.assc.net

May

•Allendale Project. More info to come! ■

Field Work

SCIAA'S Maritime Research Division Returns to Confederate Shipyard

By Christopher Amer

The Maritime Research Division's (MRD) work at the Mars Bluff Navy Yard continued this fall (for a history of the Navy Yard and CSS *Peedee* and our joint work at the site with East Carolina University's Program in Maritime Studies in 2009 see SCIAA's newsletter, *Legacy*, Volume 13, Number 2, August 2009, p. 1 and 4 through 8). In September 2010, staff of the MRD, along with volunteers Bob Butler and David Freeman, returned to the Great Pee Dee River to video two of the cannon from the ill-fated gunboat CSS *Peedee* (**Figure 1**). Bob, a hobby diver of long standing, is a member of the avocational research group, The Pee Dee Research and Recovery Team that initially located the guns in the 1990s and reported them to SCIAA. Dave

who owns the local dive shop, Palmetto SCUBA Connection, has actively supported and participated in our survey and diving at the site for the last two years.

The Pee Dee is a river of extremes. The water depth and flow can fluctuate wildly depending on the release of water from four dams upstream and, of course, the weather. In 2009, when we invited ECU to conduct an underwater field school at the site the river rose to over 20 feet giving the field school students and interesting dive experience, to say the least. In September of this year the water was so low that we experienced problems just launching our boats. As if a paucity of water depth was not enough, the river was choked with branches and cut logs that lay off

the landing from an ongoing operation to clear trees that had, over the years, piled against the highway bridge piers just upstream of the boat ramp.

Diving in the shallow water, we took little time to re-acquire the 6.4-inch Brooke Rifle and clear sediments to expose some of the diagnostic features of the nine-inch Dahlgren. Stills taken from the video footage revealed features characteristic of the nine-incher (**Figures 2 & 3**) and clearly show the letters "JMB" (John M. Berrien) inscribed in the end of one trunnion (**Figure 4**). The serial number FP 573 on the breach and Berrien's initials suggest the gun was cast in 1862 at the Fort Pit Foundry in Pittsburg. John M. Berrien was ordnance duty officer in Pittsburg between 1862-4 and would have marked each gun he inspected. The 6.4-inch Brooke Rifle was cast at the Selma foundry.

We spent the following day conducting a magnetometer survey of the site to monitor how the site had changed magnetically since the 2009 field school fieldwork and if the

flooding that same year had exacted an impact on the site. The survey could potentially suggest areas that may hide the missing third gun, a seven-inch Brooke Rifle that to this date has eluded detection. Earlier in summer 2010, the same crew, along with Dr. Larry Babits, director of the ECU program, spent nearly a week investigating magnetic anomalies at the site hoping that one of them would be the larger Brooke gun. While we encountered vast array of buried metal objects largely associated with the logging industry, along with numerous modern artifacts, we found no trace of the third gun.

The high point of the survey was reached when we moved the magnetometer survey downstream to investigate the reported location of the remains of the gunboat, CSS *Peedee*, from which the Confederate gun crews has jettisoned the cannon prior to scuttling the gunboat on March 15, 1865. Using the description of an eyewitness who actually saw the wreck in 1954 when the river was extremely low, we dropped the sensor into

(Continued on Page 5)



Figure 1

Volunteers David Freeman (left) and Bob Butler (right) discussing their findings after a dive.



Figure 2 (above)
The flared muzzle of the nine-inch Dahlgren gun.



Figure 3 (upper right)
The left percussion hammer/lock bracket on the nine-inch Dahlgren gun.



Figure 4 (lower right)
Left trunnion of the Dahlgren with the initials "JMB."

Confederate Shipyard (Continued from page 4)

the water and, almost immediately, picked up large number of magnetic readings suggesting scattered wreckage. A group of iron fastenings in timbers just visible through the turbid waters of the river confirmed the presence of a wreck. In November, we conducted a side-scan sonar survey of the site, which confirmed that most of the wreckage is buried beneath a sand bar that, over time, has accreted over the remaining iron and timbers of the wreck

(Figure 5). Is this scattered wreckage all that remains of CSS *Peedee*? Confirmation of the identity of the wreckage (if we are even able to do so from the remains) will have to wait for another day. Meanwhile, plans to raise the two cannon located at the Mars Bluff Navy Yard continue, with a projected raising date in late spring or summer 2011. ■

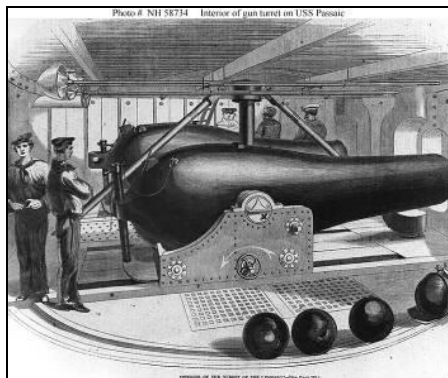
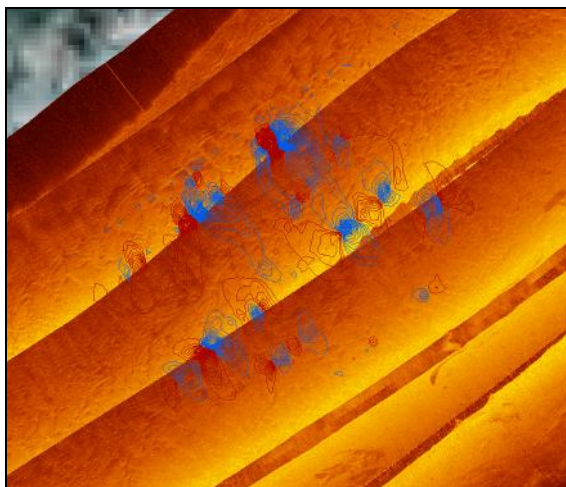


Illustration of the turret Dahlgrens on USS Passaic showing the percussion locks ready to fire.

Figure 5
Magnetic anomalies (red positive and blue negative) overlying sonar images of the sand bar that covers the wreck thought to be CSS Peedee. The magnetic anomalies span a distance of approximately 200 feet.



Feature Hobby Diver Article

Each quarter we would love to feature one or two articles by you, the hobby diver. Your article can be about an artifact or fossil you found, your collection, your research, your experience with the program, a humorous diving anecdote, or just something interesting that relates to South

Carolina's past. Feel free to include images that can be used with your article.

You should submit your articles to SDAMP for review and editing. Once we have approved your article, we will do our best to get it into the next issue of the *Quarterly Reporter*. If your article

is accepted, we will contact you to let you know.

We want to hear from you, so get writing! Submit your articles to:

deming@sc.edu or canaylor@sc.edu ■



Bar shot from the Lewisfield wreck

43rd WMD Civil Support Team Qualifies 5 Divers in Effort to Diversify Skills

By Jason M. Fowler, Sergeant First Class

The 43rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team is a South Carolina National Guard unit trained and certified by the Department of Defense to respond to any CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive) event or natural hazard. The unit supports the "First Responder" community and citizens of South Carolina on a daily basis.

Strenuous training is nothing new to this 22-person team, so when outgoing commander, Lieutenant Colonel Raymond Strawbridge,

asked some of the team members if they wanted to learn how to underwater dive, five were anxious to follow him. The SCNG soldiers undertook this diving training on their own, covering expenses out-of-pocket for certifications and equipment.

The 43rd CST now has eight qualified divers, many of whom are deep diver qualified, thanks to mentorship of instructor Robbie Bradley, and the unit's First Sergeant Richard Maynard. Maynard played a pivotal role in guiding the five

members qualified this summer, and led them on their first archaeological dives on the Cooper River, in search for artifacts and fossils.

The team, now commanded by Major Kelvin Brown, wears and uses SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) during training and responses, so adding the U (underwater) for SCUBA wasn't too hard of a transition. The soldiers and airmen of the team have taken to the water, are constantly exploring new dive opportunities and hope their

newfound skills will help them with the first responders they support. It's not a bad way to spend a day off together, searching the waters of the Cooper River for dispensary bottles, artifacts or giant Megalodon teeth! None of these trips would be possible without a good boat captain. Team member Master Sergeant Richard Haluska was at the helm for the various dives.

Current Qualified Members:
 1SG Richard "Mike" Maynard
 CPT Marion Yarborough
 2Lt Anthony "Tony" Whigham
 2LT John Ptak
 MSgt Matthew Sullivan
 SFC Jason M. Fowler
 TSgt Ron Griffin
 SGT Joseph Berendzen
 Boat Captain- MSgt Richard "Rick" Haluska ■



43rd Civil Support Team Divers

New Kid on the Block

By D. Daryl Adams, Ph.D, Professor Emeritus, Minnesota State University

Hello and greetings from a good ole Georgia boy who was crazy enough to take a professorship in Minnesota for over 20 years but smart enough to figure out a way to spend the winters on the Carolina coast. My degree is in Science Education and my role at the University was to train students to become effective science teachers. As a Professor Emeritus, I continue my work with teachers and schools to provide workshops that demonstrate our best understanding of how students learn and materials that enable teachers to have lessons that are “minds on” and have the best chance of making a significant impact on students.

I maintain a growing collection of items that teachers can access and use in their classrooms. The best items in the collection

are the ones that have a “WOW” factor with the students. These are things like meteorites, fossilized dinosaur tracks, insects in amber, items worn and used by the Colonists (shoe and knee buckles, cutlery, bottles, coins, and pipes) and soldiers during the Revolutionary, 1812, and Civil Wars (buttons, buckles, and plates), as well as artillery items such as bullets, cannonballs, and shells. I could really use some assistance with adding to this educational collection.

I am new to diving (I recently became a licensed Hobby Diver) and would like to gain some experience in shallow-water diving. I would love to accompany someone who could “show me the ropes” and guide me to some productive places. I have the time to collect

the artifacts but need help knowing where to go and how to properly search an area. The best-case scenario for me would be finding a few people willing to share their places and expertise so I could start a collection of artifacts for educational purposes.

I am looking to form a network of people that have a similar interest in preserving and sharing the fascinating history of South Carolina. I am working with SDAMP to make the contacts I need to both build a collection of underwater artifacts and a network of educators to use them. I have conducted hundreds of workshops for teachers and this collection will allow me to add a different dimension to what I can offer them.

I bring some things to the table for this venture. I have

100% liability coverage through my University. I can offer significant tax advantages to the owners of historical items. I can help offset the cost related to retrieving items. I am free labor to help clean, ID, and sort items retrieved by people much more skilled in diving than I am.

If you would like to help me build this collection by taking me to places where I can find things to be used for education, please drop me an email – d.adams@mnsu.edu. I want to make a difference with the artifacts I can find and I need some assistance learning a new way to collect.

I hope there are a few divers out there willing to teach and old dog a new trick and keep him from getting stuck in the fluff mud. ■



At work



In the UK



In Amsterdam

Conservation Corner

Responsibility in the Recovery of Marine Artifacts: Part 1

By Johanna Rivera, Conservator, HL Hunley Project, Warren Lasch Conservator Center, Clemson University

The last decades have seen an increased interest in the search and study of shipwreck sites. This includes the recovery of artifacts and structural elements belonging to a wreck through the salvage and raising of the entire vessel. Some wrecks can be found in a good state of preservation mainly due to the environmental conditions found at the wreck site. Sediment and sand protect the vessel and its contents from accelerated degradation.

A shipwreck is a valuable source of archaeological information. Its

contents can survive undisturbed in equilibrium with the environment even after centuries underwater. Problems arise when this equilibrium is disturbed and artifacts are recovered. When we break this environment and remove artifacts that have remained stable underwater, most likely, these artifacts will be damaged or destroyed in a short period of time. These artifacts –both metallic and organics- are structurally altered and become very unstable. Artifacts do not react very well when they are exposed to the atmosphere.

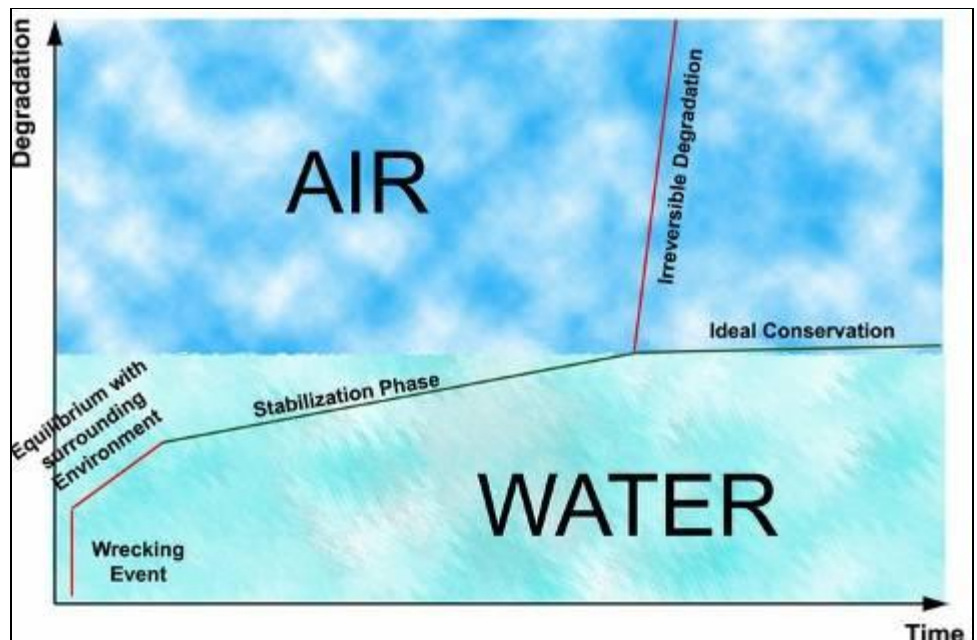
Without the proper care, without an appropriate plan for conservation, and without an understanding of the materials, these artifacts may be lost forever. This situation leaves us with only two options: Either leave these artifacts *in situ* (exactly where they were found) or take full responsibility for their preservation.

In the next *Conservation Corner*, I will be explaining the degradation and conservation of the different materials that divers may find underwater. ■



Johanna Rivera
Conservator

Degradation Steps
(P. deVivies)



Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program

The *Quarterly Reporter* is a quarterly newsletter from the Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program (SDAMP), part of the Maritime Research Division of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina.

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Letters to the Editors

If you have something that you would like to say about the program or have questions that you think others like yourself would like to have answered, look no further. This section of the newsletter is just for you. Send in your

questions, comments, and concerns and we will post them here. You can also send in comments responding to letters from other hobby divers. Ashley and Carl will respond to your comments and answer your questions

for all to read.

Just like your artifact report forms, you can email, fax, or send your letters to SDAMP. We look forward to hearing from all of you. ■

Notes from the Editor

According to our statistics for 2010 Quarter 3, we have ~450 active licensees. Of those 450 licensees, we only had ~200 reporting. While this number has continued to increase throughout the 2010 quarters, it is still only half! Please remember that you are required to report with both the State Museum and SDAMP even if you have not been diving and/or collecting. I realize this seems like a chore, but it really does matter. The more positive the feedback,

the better the program will be. With all of the economic trouble the State is having, it is not farfetched to think that they might cut more of the budget (we already have a \$0 operating budget) or cut the program all together. If we can present successful statistics to show that our program is working and you the Hobby Diver are participating 100%, we can keep fees low, volunteering opportunities available, and continue to share the incredible maritime heritage of South

Carolina with the public both locally and nationally. We need your help. We hope to see a huge boost in reports for Quarter 4 2010. Help us make this program great!

Thank you to all of you who continue to report. I especially would like to commend Catherine Sawyer for exemplary Quarter 3 reports. That Artifact Workshop really paid off! Congrats, Catherine on having the best reports this past quarter! ■



**Your SDAMP Staff
Ashley Deming
&
Carl Naylor**

Useful Website Information

For more information on

SDAMP: www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/sdamp.html

MRD: www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/mrd_index.html

SCIAA: www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa

SCIAA publication *Legacy*: www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa/legacy.html