Progress Report from the "Pumpkin" Site

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Progress Report from the "Pumpkin" Site
By Tommy Charles

The "Pumpkin" site, recorded as ethnobotanical remains were
archaeological site 38GR226, is located in the northern part of Greenville
in autumn of 1994 when it was County, South Carolina. The South
first visited and recorded as a Carolina Institute of Archaeology and
archaeological site by an Institute Anthropology became interested in the
archaeologist. Artifactual evidence
site in autumn of 1994 when it was
indicates human occupation of this site
to be that of the Connestee
began as early as 7500 BC and contin-
(A.D. 200-600), a culture of the Middle
ued periodically until 500 AD and
Woodland period whose habitats are
perhaps later. Test excavations
are more commonly found in the
revealed the predominant occupation
mountains of North Carolina.
of the site to be that of the Connestee
Field work at the "Pumpkin" site
(A.D. 200-600), a culture of the Middle
began in November of 1994 and
Woodland period whose habitats are
continued periodically until com-
more commonly found in the
pletion in December of 1995. Lab analysis
mountains of North Carolina.
of excavated cultural materials has
Analysis of these materials is being
been completed and analysis of the
done by Dr. Gary Crites, of Seymour,
ethnobotanical materials is in progress.
Tennessee, an expert in the field of

Ethnobotanical remains were
Dr. Crites' primary
recovered from twenty-three soil
archaeological interest is the Middle
samples collected from sub-surface
Woodland period, and he was elated
features—a combination of pits,
to receive such a large sample of floral
hearths and post molds. The
and faunal remains from a site of that
"floatation" process used to separate
period. The ethnobotanical samples
ethnobotanical materials from the soil
are the most extensive ever recovered
samples was under the direction of Dr.
from a prehistoric human occupation
Gail Wagner, Archaeologist/Ethno- site in the Piedmont of South Carolina,
obotanist at the University of South and Dr. Crites is hopeful that they will
Carolina Department of Anthropology, allow him to establish a botanical
The volume of recovered materials far
"baseline" for our area; presently there
exceeded our expectations, and it is
is none. The cost estimate for this
from these floral and faunal remains
analysis is $5,200, considerably more
that we hope, and expect, to get our
than anticipated and partly due to the
most informative data about this site.
unexpected volume of materials
The cost estimate for this
recovered. This will strain the budget
analysis is $5,200, considerably more
for "Pumpkin" and make it necessary
than anticipated and partly due to the
to postpone obtaining several radiocar-
unexpected volume of materials
bon dates from post molds and
recovered. This will strain the budget
features until additional funds can be
for "Pumpkin" and make it necessary
found. Given the importance of the

to postpone obtaining several radiocar-
ethnobotanical data in the overall
bon dates from post molds and

cultural analysis of the site the cost
features until additional funds can be
seems justified.
found. Given the importance of the

Archaeological research at "Pump-
ethnobotanical data in the overall
kin" is being conducted by SCIAA
analysis of the site the cost
project is provided by local citizens
working jointly with volunteers from
seems justified.
the Greenville area and with assistance
from archaeologists at SCIAA's
Savannah River Archaeological

Research Program. Financing for the
project is provided by local citizens


Historical Archaeology in Wachovia
Book Completed
By Stanley South

Through grant funding from the
Archaeological Research Trust in 1994
and 1995, Stanley South, assisted by
Lisa Hudgins, brought to completion a
book on archaeological work carried
out at the Moravian settlements of
Bethabara, as well as the Moravian
pottery made by Gottfried Aust and
Rudolph Christ that was recovered on
these mid-eighteenth century sites.

The manuscript has been submit-
ted for consideration for publication

PETROGLYPH AND ROCK
SHELTER SURVEY
By Tommy Charles

A survey of certain portions of Greenville
County (and possibly other Piedmont areas)
for petroglyphs, or "rock art", and rock
shelters will begin sometime in late fall/early
winter of this year. The exact date will
depend on when the leaves have fallen from
trees to afford better visibility. The hunting
season in those areas is also a factor that we
will have to plan around. More about this as
plans are finalized.