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Piedmont Research.Update

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Research

Piedmont Research Update

By Tommy Charles

Two new petroglyph sites were recorded this fall and winter, one each in Greenville and Fairfield Counties. Another pictograph site was also recorded, bringing the total number of pictograph sites found in our state to three. The pictographs consist of eight quadrupeds, depicting fox or cat-like animals of various sizes. An oddity is that they are grouped in pairs of two that face each other. The drawings were done with rust-red ochre and are located in a rock shelter that protects them from the environment. Several of the drawings are extremely faint, but others are quite well preserved. There are still a few things to do before completing the survey for this season, but basically, the Petroglyph Survey is winding down until next fall and winter season.

Summer does not mean vacation time; I have just completed a draft of a chapter on the Rock Art of South Carolina for inclusion in *Rock Art of the Eastern United States*. The book will be published by the University of Alabama Press and is scheduled for completion this fall/winter. I have also scheduled for completion this summer a text and photograph manual on the prehistoric stone tool types of South Carolina. The manual(s) will be placed in the SCIAA Research Library and available to students and others who are interested in stone tool technology. A similar publication for the public may be forthcoming in the future.

A third, and more immediate project involves testing of a prehistoric archaic period campsite in



New pictograph discovered in Pickens County, SC. (SCIAA photo by Tommy Charles)

Spartanburg County this summer. Dr. Terry A. Ferguson, Director of Instructional Technology Laboratory at Wofford College, and I are planning this excavation as a joint venture between SCIAA and Wofford. We plan to initially evaluate the site, perhaps using ground-penetrating radar, coupled with some excavations. Test results will determine our plans for future research at the site. We will be using volunteers whenever possible, and Terry is attempting to arrange for their use of camping facilities at nearby Camp Croft State Park. There will be no costs for working at this

site, but we desperately need funds to support this project. Those wishing to make monetary contributions may do so by sending them to me, made payable to the USC Educational Foundation. Stipulate that the contribution is for the Piedmont Research Fund, account number 1-A-3868. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Dr. Ferguson is creating a web site for the project, but until it is up and running feel free to contact me at <charlest@sc.edu> or call (803) 777-8170. We hope you will come and take part in researching this intriguing site, or just visit.