Legacy - June 2006

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

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/leg

Part of the Anthropology Commons

Recommended Citation
University of South Carolina, "South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology - Legacy, June 2006". http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/leg/13/

This Newsletter is brought to you by the Archaeology and Anthropology, South Carolina Institute of at Scholar Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in SCIAA Newsletter - Legacy & PastWatch by an authorized administrator of Scholar Commons. For more information, please contact dillarda@mailbox.sc.edu.
Archaeologically Testing a Tabby Ruin on Callawassee Island, South Carolina
By Stanley South

At the invitation of William R. and Shanna Sullivan, Chester DePratter and I viewed a square tabby ruin in the Sullivan yard on Callawassee Island, South Carolina. The walls of the ruin stand eight feet high in places and slightly over ground surface in others. The width of the square outer wall is 40 feet. Two parallel interior partition walls divide the ground floor into three rectangular areas. The ruin is an integral part of a landscaped garden with wooden walkways running through it.

It was recorded as (38BU70) by Thomas Ryan (1971) in the site survey record of the University of South Carolina’s Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, and test holes were dug on the north and south sides by James Michie and Tommy Charles in their investigation of the cultural resources of Callawassee Island (Michie 1982:38-39). Three eroded and unidentifiable Indian pottery sherds, a fire-damaged chert scraper, a brown bottle fragment [stoneware?], and three clear glass bottle fragments were the only artifacts found in the two test holes. This is the only recorded archaeology on the site.

The tabby ruin has been thought to possibly be a dwelling built by James Hamilton, Jr. who began a new settlement in 1815, to raise cotton on Callawassee, and in 1816 he constructed a tabby sugar mill (Behan 2004: 50) (also see Trinkley 1991: 30, 33).
Spring is always filled with beginnings that are exciting and unpredictable. This spring has been an unusual one for SCIAA both in what we have accomplished and in the challenges we have taken on. On Friday, February 3, all of the SCIAA staff met together for a day long retreat. With the pace of work and the diversity of our staff this was the first opportunity most had had to come together with everybody at once to plan a common future. Over the next six months SCIAA is facing a great deal of change as we prepare to move into a new building, begin a national search for a new director, and take our place as a major research unit of the University. We needed a day to come together and make a commitment to each other and a common future. Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick met with us and while discussing in detail her vision for the College of Arts and Sciences made clear the important role she sees that SCIAA has in the future of the University.

We have made a great deal of progress in our plan to move to a facility that for the first time will provide enough space for the storage of all the artifacts that have been collected, as well as providing working space for all of our archaeologists and public space for those who want to come, work with site files, examine artifacts, and have access to the remarkable scientific resources SCIAA has collected and preserved for South Carolina. The facility is a very large warehouse in which we will be building offices, workspaces, and laboratories. Located at 305 Wayne Street, right behind the University’s new fraternity row, the building will provide us with a wonderful workspace that will be on campus and a part of the exciting new development the University is creating in Columbia. Over the past month representatives from all areas within SCIAA have worked with plans, met with the architect, and are excited about the possibilities.

As everyone knows who has ever bought a house, the exciting part is finding or building the house—then comes moving, which everyone dreads. Imagine moving all of your furniture along with tens of thousands of artifacts, many of which have been packed and stored...
for years and have to be carefully prepared for moving so as to preserve their scientific integrity. And then of course there are the artifacts that are in process—sherds from Santa Elena, ancient points from the Topper site, objects rescued from underwater that may or may not be a part of a critical historical puzzle, and one of the largest working libraries of archaeology around. I took a tour one day with Chester DePratter to try to get a sense of how we should prepare for the move and came away shaken by the huge task that lies before us. Last month Al Goodyear and I went up to Chapel Hill to talk with archaeologists there about their recent move into a new facility and begin a plan for ours. Working with the University’s Office of Research as well as supporters in the legislature and others across the state, we are developing a comprehensive plan for moving that will involve upgrading the way we maintain our artifacts and provide access to them.

Finding space for all of our artifacts to be stored is important, but more critical is for us to make our artifacts and site files fully accessible to archaeologists, historians, and other interested people throughout the state and the nation. We are already engaged in the process of digitizing our site files, which will allow researchers access to site file information through an internet interface. That project should be up and running by the time we get into our new building. As we begin to pack up our artifacts, we will be digitally photographing many of them to create a digital database that will interface with the site file database and provide the kind of access that South Carolinians and researchers across the country deserve.

Another major effort is the national search for a new director of SCIAA. Several weeks ago a search committee composed of representatives from the different divisions of SCIAA, and the University’s Office of Research under the leadership of Tom Leatherman, Chair of the Department of Anthropology, met and developed a job description and an ad that has gone out to national journals and archaeology programs both academic and professional across the country. Our aim is to find an outstanding leader for the next phase of SCIAA’s growth. When we bring our finalists to Columbia, we hope to invite them to meet many of our supporters and to give you a chance to give us feedback on the candidates.

It is an exciting and challenging spring, and we have been busy planting the seeds of our future. With the loyal support of our friends and colleagues, I believe that the harvest will be a rich one.
Digging It: South’s New Book Looks Back At 53-Year Archaeology Career
By Marshall Swanson

During his career, Stanley South has dispatched a menacing rattlesnake with a .32 caliber pistol, been chased by an alligator, exploded Civil War ordinance on the beach in North Carolina, and used scuba gear to help recover artifacts from Civil War blockade runners submerged in shark-infested waters.

Then there was the time he discussed the likelihood of archaeological ruins on the moon with Ronald Reagan and made homemade wine out of parsley, not to mention various other fruits and vegetables.

And that’s just the half of it.

Actually, the bulk of his 53 years in archaeology reflect his pioneering work at some 30 digs in North and South Carolina that have contributed immeasurably to each state’s history and led to several of the projects being designated as National Historic Sites.

He also developed a method for dating pottery sherds that became an industry standard (the Mean Ceramic Date formula), and he served as secretary-treasurer of the Society of Professional Archaeologists when it lobbied Congress to get the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act passed into law.

The law provides for up to one percent of the cost of any federally funded project to be spent on mitigating damage to cultural resources and is largely credited for the explosion in American archaeology since its passage.

South, an archaeologist with the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at USC, has documented it all in his new autobiography, An Archaeological Evolution (Springer), published this past April. The 418-page volume, which also partially doubles as a planet Earth “with a shovel in his hand.”

In fact, most of his work today entails working a transit to plot archaeological artifacts found at digs, directing crews who are doing the trowel work, and then creating maps of the sites.

South has had two heart bypass operations, but he wants to keep on digging, researching, and writing. Currently, for example, he is working on a couple of books that he’s had in progress for several years.

South is perhaps best known in the Palmetto State for his work with colleague Chester DePratter on Santa Elena, the 16th-century Spanish settlement on what is now the golf course at the Parris Island Marine Base near Beaufort, S.C.

But he’s also worked some 30 other archaeological projects in the two Carolinas, including Charles Towne Landing, Fort Moultrie, and Ninety Six in South Carolina, and Brunswick Town, Old Salem, and the Moravian settlement of Bethabara near Winston-Salem in North Carolina. He began his career studying under Joffre Coe at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In May and June of this year, he returned to Ninety Six with Chester DePratter, James Legg, Michael Stoner, and volunteer Laura Litwer to investigate a 1776 fort built around the town to defend it against Cherokee Indians. South first found the fort in 1971, but anticipated
money to continue his research didn’t materialize until recently.

South is a historical archaeologist (as opposed to an anthropological archaeologist) who works on problem-oriented research from the time Europeans discovered America. His work often seeks to answer specific questions, such as, “Why did the Spaniards settle at Santa Elena in the first place?”

He thinks of himself as a rarity—there aren’t many positions in America today for full-time, state-funded university archaeologists who do problem-oriented research—but is confident his type of work will continue through the Research Division at the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology.

“There are pressures from the Legislature and elsewhere to focus mainly on what has to be done (in cultural resource management), but I’m hoping problem-oriented research can be a major function of the Institute in the years to come,” said South, who has generated more than $1 million in grants during his career.

“Historical archaeology gives us a wonderful opportunity to examine the particulars of history and then project them against the broader scope that historians have written and other records have left us to gain a better understanding of how cultures evolve,” South said.

Reprinted from USC Times, the University of South Carolina faculty-staff newspaper, Sept. 8, 2005

---

**Announcement of New Books by Stanley South**

**Archaeology on the Roanoke**
The Research Laboratories of Archaeology at the University of North Carolina has published as Monograph No. 4, Stan’s MA thesis, *Archaeology on the Roanoke*. This book, on his survey of the Roanoke Rapids basin, is filled with photographs, maps, and drawings of Stan’s first professional dig. That project was carried out in 1955 with his wife, Jewell, assisted by Lewis Binford. The book describes the stratified Gaston site data he found, and the Archaic Period Halifax projectile point he named, which was associated with hearths buried five feet deep overlying a level with Guilford points, previously named by Joffre Coe.

The Thelma projectile point, also named by Stan on that survey, was associated with Stan’s Vincent type pottery. Clement and Gaston pottery types were also named by Stan during this basin survey project. R. P. Stephen Davis, Jr. has said, in the foreword of this volume, that this work “would have qualified as an acceptable doctoral dissertation.”

Steve’s flyer on the book is as follows:

---

**New Monograph on Roanoke River Archaeology Now Available**

*Archaeology on the Roanoke*, by Stanley South, Monograph No. 4, Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2005. xx + 253 pp., 43 figures, 54 plates, 25 tables, 8 maps, 5 appendices, biblio., index. (paper). (Also includes a foreword by R. P. Stephen Davis, Jr., and an article by Sydne B. Marshall comparing South’s investigation with modern cultural resource management studies of the reservoir.)

In 1955, the first major dam along Roanoke River was constructed at Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Prior to impoundment, a basin-wide archaeological survey and excavations at two prehistoric sites—the Gaston and Thelma sites—were undertaken by Stanley South and Lewis Binford, then graduate students at the University of North Carolina, who would go on to have prominent careers in the field of archaeology. While Joffre Coe later summarized the Gaston excavations, along with South’s discovery of deeply buried Archaic strata, in *Formative Cultures of the Carolina Piedmont* (1964), the full project report and analysis, which was originally prepared by Stanley South as his 1959 master’s thesis titled, “A Study of the Prehistory of the Roanoke Rapids Basin,” was never published.

Fifty years later, South’s account of the Roanoke Rapids Reservoir project is now available as *Archaeology on the Roanoke*. In this thorough, detailed, and richly illustrated monograph, the author documents archaeological evidence for three Woodland phases (Vincent, Clement, and Gaston) and three Middle-Late Archaic phases (Guilford, Halifax, and Savannah River). Using stratigraphic evidence, pottery seriation, and radiocarbon dating, South constructs a nearly 6,000-year occupational sequence for the middle Roanoke River valley.

To order, please send a check for $23.00 ($20 + $3 shipping & handling) to: Research Laboratories of Archaeology, Campus Box 3120, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3120.

---

Legacy, Vol. 10, No. 1, June 2006
Religion and the Modern Mind

In 1946, Stan South was a sophomore at Appalachian State Teachers College, now an university, where his English Literature teacher, David Hodgkin, was a great inspiration to him. He and a few other students began meeting at Hodgkin's home once each week, where evolution and other concepts, taboo at the time (but accepted by leading scientists of the first half of the 20th century), were discussed in a free and open inquiry. Hodgkin taught that:

Life, to modern man, is dynamic and self-creative, with every unknown potentiality—every new vista opening to others as yet unexplored. Hence truth can never—in the very nature of things—be a formula to be accepted as absolute and sacred, for truth itself must evolve (Hodgkin 2005, quoted in South 2005a: 23).

For many years, long after graduation, Stan continued to meet with Hodgkin each week. When he moved away from Boone, and would return for an occasional visit with his mother, he stopped by Hodgkin's home to continue those inspiring discussions.

In 1952, Hodgkin completed his book, Religion and the Modern Mind, and mentioned to Stan that he was looking for someone to type it for him. Stan volunteered to type it for him, which he did.

Recently, when he was working on his autobiography, he got the copy from his file. After doing a little research, he discovered there was no other copy of the book manuscript in existence, and because he so admired Hodgkin's work, he was determined to publish the book. After Stan had edited the manuscript he submitted it to Parkway Publishers in Boone, North Carolina, and they agreed to publish it. Edited by Stan, the book will appear this fall. The following description is quoted from the back cover.

This book, completed in 1952, is about using logical, "creative thinking in a creative universe," and that "man can "put away childish things," he "becomes at home in one universe." David Reid Hodgkin expresses the view that religious "dogma...has been like a blank wall against progress,"... and "is incompatible with the modern spirit," and that: "no faith can stand long except on the hard rock of facts." He believes that religious "Magic and ritual have...given way to reason and science," and that subjective "poetry and [objective] science have replaced ritual and magic." He states that "religions look to the past," and that "science is oriented toward the future..." and that, "religion must be poetry," "not supernaturalism" to be acceptable to the modern mind." This is creative thinking in a creative universe," and that it is "a poor faith which...isolates man from his fellows we have had too much of it."

In this book, David emphasizes that the sciences
have, "emancipated themselves from the supernatural," and that science is "a noble desire for unity and truth," and that the true scientist is "the most religious of all men known to history."

Through quotations from the greatest minds the world has known, we learn that "truth can never be a fixed formula," for "truth itself must evolve," and that "the pursuit of truth is the great endless adventure" but "the meaning must be found in the act of living." and; "It is now disruptive and dangerous for men... to stand righteously in the way of advancing knowledge.

The book can be purchased from Parkway Publishers, Inc., Box 3678, Boone, North Carolina 28607, for $20.00 plus $4.00 shipping (North Carolina residents add 7% sales tax).

The Ninety Six Fortification Search

Stan is currently working on a book on his recent expedition to the National Park Service, Ninety Six National Historic Site, where he was assisted by colleagues Chester DePratter, James Legg, and Michael Stoner, in his search for the two east bastions of a fort Stan found in 1971 but did not have time to map. The project was funded by the Archaeological Research Trust and SCIAA, through a permit and cooperation of the National Park Service’s Southeast Archaeological Center and Eric Williams, and his staff, at Ninety Six National Historic Site. Several volunteers helped with the archaeological research, particularly Laura Litwer, a junior at the University of South Carolina, who helped Michael Stoner dig and helped Stan with transit-mapping the data from the 77 slot trenches dug during the project.
In 1675, a traveling Quaker Minister named William Edmundson wrote from Barbados, "I have had good service for the Lord on this Island ... Many are convinc'd and Meetings are so full that the Meeting-Houses cannot contain the People. Many of the Blacks are convinc'd, and several confess to the Truth." Edmundson was in Barbados, after all, to promote the Quaker doctrine known to followers as the "Truth." But as his comments indicated, the Quaker population on Barbados was already well advanced. Edmundson's mission was preceded by two decades of Quaker missionaries, as advocated by the Quaker founder George Fox, and in 1665, Charles II's policy to resettle Quakers languishing in English jails, brought many of the "Friends" to Barbados. Carrying their central tenants of pacifism and evangelization of all people with them, Quakers spread "the Truth" to an unlikely pair—Barbadian sugar-planters and Afro-Barbadian enslaved peoples. So overwhelmed by the sect, the Governor of Barbados, Richard Dutton (1681), would find the Quakers "very numerous, insolent, and rich." Already ostensibly apart from Barbados' plantation society, Quakers would find other ways to distinguish themselves from their predominantly Anglican neighbors. Included among the distinctions was burial practices.

Shortly after the arrival of Quakers in Barbados, new converts to the faith began organizing themselves much in the same manner as their English Quaker brethren. Quakers in towns and in rural areas throughout the island met for worship in private homes. Eventually, they built meetinghouses to accommodate religious and business gatherings. The noted Quaker scholar Henry J. Cadbury wrote that in 1677, Barbados was home to six active meetinghouses.

Instead of interring their dead in traditional Anglican cemeteries adjacent to each parish church, by 1700, each meetinghouse had established an associated burial ground. Sometime after 1670, Barbadian planter and Quaker, Richard Settle, bequeathed "3,000 pounds of sugar" for construction of a meetinghouse and "a burying place for friends upon the Cliff" in the parish of St. Philip. "The Cliff" referred to by Settle was in reference to nearby Hackleton's Cliff, a calcified-coral stone outcrop along the island's east coast. Instead of interring their deceased in ground, Quakers of The Cliff employed craftsmen—likely enslaved Afro-Barbadians—to carve an approximate 6.5 X 6 meter rectangular hole down into the bedrock and proceeded to carve burial vaults into all four sides. As early as 1680, the Last Will and Testament of Barbadian Quaker Robert Taylor desired "that the vault which we have begun in Friend's burial place on the Cliff may be finished quickly wherein I desire my father and mother and my former wife's bones with mine own may be decently put."

In the fall of 2005, the Committee to Preserve the Quaker Burial Ground at the Cliff, St. Philip, Barbados, requested a site evaluation of the last intact Quaker burial.
University of West Indies’ graduate students, Carol-ann Prescod, Martina Alleyne, and Zetbada Campbell assisted in the 2005 evaluation of the Quaker burial grounds. (Photo by Michael Stoner)
Jubilee Gardens: Excavations in "The Great Market" of Bridgetown, Barbados

By Michael J. Stoner

In the fall of 2005, Karl Watson, University of the West Indies, and myself carried out archaeological investigations at the site of Jubilee Gardens, in downtown Bridgetown, Barbados. Named for an 1888 public promenade in tribute to the golden jubilee of Queen Victoria, Jubilee Gardens became a park in 1922 and seven years later, a bus terminus for the island's public transportation authority. Under a recent urban rejuvenation plan, the bus terminal was closed, and in 2005, work began to restore the area as a public park and garden. During the construction of the new park, Watson recognized the archaeological potential of the area and immediately undertook a salvage operation—at first with Frederick Smith from the University of Western Michigan and then with myself, a SCIAA research affiliate. We worked in small areas untouched by the heavy machinery, and found that Jubilee Gardens was in the middle of what was known in the 17th century as "The Great Market."

In the English Caribbean's lucrative sugar economy, Bridgetown stood as Barbados' chief port city and exporter of sugar and molasses beginning in the 1640s. Amid all the wealth and activity of international and colonial commerce, "The Great Market" or "Butcher's Shambles" was bustling with local trade. As Bridgetown's earliest marketplace, "The Great Market" harbored hucksters and hawkers touting their fruits, vegetables, and wares. Butchers slaughtered their cattle and fowl and sold their meat fresh, until 1668 when Governor Philip Bell ordered them out. Eventually, the butchers returned, but with only the remains of their livestock ready for sale. Standing in the shadows of St. Mary's Church and a notorious holding jail called "the Cage," "The Great Market" was not only the center of economic activity, but also city life. It was "The Great Market" where servants and slaves could exert at least some control over the economics of the colony. Likewise, planters and their families found highly sought after foreign goods in little supply on the island. "The Great Market" it seemed mirrored the surrounding island society that was both European and African, yet distinctly Caribbean Creole.

Excavations at Jubilee Gardens consisted of five five-foot test units and surface collecting. Excavated in arbitrary levels of approximately 0.5-feet, the test units revealed artifact deposition to more than 3.5 feet.
below surface. The geological sequence in each of the test units was strikingly similar, with the exception of Test Unit 1, which exposed a stone and rubble-filled wall along the western profile. With no apparent visible stratigraphy to separate levels of occupation, South’s Mean Ceramic Dating (MCD) formula was used to ascertain an approximate mean date for each excavated level. Not surprisingly, the mean dates of ceramic artifacts followed a chronologically declining sequence, beginning with a date of approximately 1777 in Level 1, and continuing to 1673 in Level 6. Although employing the MCD formula in a manner not originally intended by South, the resulting calculations appeared to produce useful estimations for determining approximate dates of manufacture for artifacts in each excavated level. This method was particularly helpful in determining dates for the ceramic collection’s most frequent constituent—Barbadian redware.

In the 1640s, sugar planters in Barbados began employing English potters to produce ceramic sugar moulds and molasses-drip jars to replace the supply of wooden sugar pots for the manufacture of sugar. The demand for these sugar wares increased as sugar manufacturing became more lucrative. Planters, therefore, found it necessary to indenture servant potters and build kilns to maintain an ample stock of these vital utilitarian wares for their sugar works. By the 1650s, the dwindling population of European artisans on the island forced planters to apprentice portions of the Afro-Barbadian enslaved population in various crafts, including potting. Enslaved potters in Barbados not only produced sugar wares, they also made domestic wares for use on the plantation, in the work place, and in their homes. With Barbadian redwares—both sugar wares and domestic wares—making up 43% of the entire ceramic collection at the Jubilee Gardens excavation, it would seem these island-manufactured ceramics were also part of the local economy at “The Great Market.” With their appearance in all six excavated levels, Barbadian redwares would appear to have maintained a continued presence in the marketplace. If artifact concentration is any indication of consumer popularity at “The Great Market,” Barbadian redwares were most widely available around the 1730s as Barbadian redware artifact frequency peaked in excavated Level 4. It is to note, that around this same time, Barbados had already grown into a multi-generational Creole society.

In 1800, “The Great Market” was so congested that vendors began spilling into the area’s adjacent streets. Shortly thereafter, “The Great Market” was moved closer to Bridgetown’s careenage and waterfront port to Trafalgar Square, now called Hero’s Square. Like the entrepreneurship of “The Great Market,” Barbadian redware would also exceed the limits of the local markets and, in fact, the entire island. For as reported by Joe Joseph and Theresa Hamby at New South and Associates, the 2004 excavations at the Judicial Center in Charleston, South Carolina (38CH1708), also recovered Barbadian redware and yet another link in the Barbados-Carolina connection.

Southern jewel-encrusted pendant recovered at Jubilee Gardens. (Photo by Karl Watson)
Maritime Research Division

Port Royal Sound Survey: Results from the 2004 Field Season

By James D. Spirek and Christopher F. Amer

The search continued in 2004 to discover the remains of Le Prince, a 16th-century French corsair, and other shipwrecks in Port Royal Sound. Funds to continue the project were obtained by a Robert L. Stephenson Archaeological Research Fund grant (RLSARF), a SCIAA in-house grant honoring a past director. The grant was slated to support three weeks of remote sensing survey operations and one week of ground-truthing. Problems with the boat engines, however, caused us to cancel dive operations for the foreseeable future. Instead, we diverted the remainder of the grant balance to retain the services of two researchers to transcribe and translate Spanish and French documents related to Le Prince. An additional influx of funds from the grant also allowed us to conduct a non-disturbance site investigation of the Station Creek Wreck (38BU2080).

Marine Remote Sensing Operations

For three weeks in August the MRD surveyed for the remains of Le Prince and other shipwrecks in the main offshore priority block. A couple of secondary areas were also surveyed due to inclement or deteriorating weather conditions (Fig. 1). In the offshore area, we covered another 3.2 square miles of bottomland. Currently, we have completed about three-quarters of the 26-square mile priority block. Several anomalies were detected and prioritized for diving, but engine problems caused us to cancel dive operations for the season. Providentially, we resolved this issue in early 2005 with the purchase of two 115-hp Mercury four-stroke engines. We look forward to years of reliability and fuel efficiency with our two new “employees” as we continue our remote sensing ventures in Port Royal Sound and around the state.

A change in survey protocols relating to the deployment of the magnetometer sensor occurred in this portion of the main survey block. Typically, when working in shallower waters, that is, from 25 feet to “do you think we can scrape by” depths, we operate at speeds between six to seven knots and float the magnetometer about 50 feet behind the boat. Working along the western edge of the Great North Breakers out to the dredged shipping channel, the water is deeper, ranging around 30 to 50 feet. Working in deeper water, we added a 10-pound weight to the magnetometer sensor and dropped our speed to

Fig. 1: Map of main priority survey block and area covered as of 2004 (SCIAA graphic).
between four to five knots and let out a substantial amount of cable. Decreased speed, increased weight, and lengthened cable permitted the magnetometer sensor to sink deeper in the water and closer to the bottom. Thereby allowing the sensor to better detect smaller magnetic anomalies possibly missed if floating the device on the surface and subsequently further from the magnetic source. The decrease in speed consequently affected the amount of survey coverage for the season, but the desire to leave no magnetic beacon undetected necessitated this change in survey parameters. We do have a theoretical magnetic signature in mind for Le Prince and other wooden shipwrecks, but there are too many cases of anomalous magnetic deviations to simply ignore anomalies that do not appear at first light to fit our preconceived notions.

Regarding work in the secondary survey areas, one block was simply prospecting along a navigational hazard Parris Island Spit, while the other one was related to a Civil War usage area. The Civil War survey block was centered around the location of Seabrook Landing on Hilton Head Island. During the war, the Army Quartermaster’s office operated a number of vessels from this landing. We hoped to detect the remains of several Army chartered vessels that are known to have been abandoned in the general vicinity due to their unsound hulls or worn-out machinery. Located on Skull Creek, the area was difficult to negotiate due to the presence of modern docks and shallow waters. Several anomalies were detected in this area and await future visual inspection by archaeologists.

**Le Prince Document Translations**

As mentioned above, due to our boat engine problems lasting into the foreseeable future, we opted to expend the remainder of the RLSARF grant award to translate French and Spanish documents related to Le Prince already in our possession. Dr. Karen Paar, a SCIAA Research Affiliate, translated several Spanish documents detailing Le Prince actions in the Caribbean and operations to hunt down the survivors around Santa Elena. One document, a detailed report by Don Cristóbal de Eraso, captain-general of the Indies Armada in 1576, mentions encountering Le Prince several times and chasing after the corsair, apparently to no avail. He also noted an unusually high number of powerful and well-armed corsairs of various nationalities in the Caribbean that year.

Using RLSARF, augmented with funds from the Underwater Archaeology Research Fund, we contracted with Dr. Bernard Allaire to photograph notarial documents related to Le Prince at the Archives départementales de Seine Maritime located in Rouen, France. (Fig. 2). These documents were ones that he had previously located for us four years ago on a previous RLSARF grant. Besides photographing the 28 documents, he also transcribed and translated them into modern French and English. The majority of the documents record the two principals of the voyage, Matteo Fapoco, owner of Le Prince, and Oratio Roux, captain of the corsair, as they assembled the funds necessary to embark on the 1575 voyage from Le Havre to Africa and the New World. Funds were
used to supply the vessel with food, drink, trade merchandise, and other necessities. In return for their loans, the investors, ranging from hotel keepers to the Queen's secretary, received a percentage of the voyage's profit based on their investment. Currently, the main strategy of the research project is to find the remains of the corsair. The opportunity, however, to translate the documents at hand and learn more about *Le Prince*, both from French and Spanish archival resources, will prove beneficial in the future by helping to interpret the archaeological remains once found, and by serving as a spur to look for other *Le Prince* related documents in Spain, France, and elsewhere.

**Investigation of Station Creek Wreck (38BU2080)**

In September 2004, we returned to the Station Creek Wreck with the objective of preparing a non-disturbance site plan of the vessel's remains. A graduate of the Sport Diver Archaeological Management Program's Field Training Course, Bill Floyd, also volunteered to assist us in our work for the week. Basically, we wanted to determine the length and breadth of the wreck site, amount and type of exposed structure, and associated artifact assemblage. Strong currents, especially noticeable during the low to high tide cycle, and poor visibility hampered recording operations, but did not thwart the objective of creating a preliminary site plan.

The longitudinal axis of the vessel is oriented along the creek shoreline, with the presumed bow pointed out towards Port Royal Sound. Resting on the slope of the creek bottom, the starboard side of the wreck near the marsh lies in approximately one meter of water, while the port side toward the channel is in about six meters of water, at low tide. The stem post of the vessel, i.e., the bow, was exposed at the forward edge of the ballast pile, but aft, the stern post was not located under the ballast or mud. The measured distance between the exposed forward structural element and end of the ballast mound was 27.4 meters (90 feet). Several exposed areas of the frames helped to determine the widest exposed breadth of the vessel at approximately 9.1 meters (30 feet). A number of artifacts were encountered on the site including a pulley sheave, several glass and ginger beer bottles, copper and iron fasteners, and some copper stripping. We also located a couple of large, amorphous iron concretions that most likely account for the magnetic anomalies detected by the magnetometer during the initial survey of the creek.

We believe the remains in the creek represent one of the vessel's used as a floating machine shop by Federal naval forces during the Civil War. As a U.S. navy shipwreck, the site is protected by Federal law which prohibits the disturbance or removal of artifacts from the site. Hopefully, with these preliminary measurements and the identification of wood species of different elements of the hull, we can determine through archival research whether the Station Creek Wreck remains represent the old New England whaler, *Edward* or *India*. We hope to continue our investigations at the site by locating the stern section of the vessel and by ground-truthing other nearby anomalies in the creek.

We wish to thank the trustees of the RLSARF grant for the funds to continue the Port Royal Sound Survey, specifically to conduct research into *Le Prince* and the Station Creek Wreck. If you would like to help sponsor additional field work or archival research activities for the continuing investigation of *Le Prince* and other shipwrecks in Port Royal Sound, please consider a tax-deductible contribution to the Archaeological Research Trust (ART) earmarked for the project. For additional information about the project, contact James Spirek (spirek@sc.edu) or Christopher Amer (amerc@sc.edu) or reach us by phone at (803) 777-8170.

**Station Creek Wreck**

![Visible planking and sheathing at the Station Creek Wreck](SCIAA_graphic)

Fig. 3: Extent of visible wooden structure and exterior metal sheathing at the Station Creek Wreck.
Mount Dearborn Project (38CS307): Initial Survey of an Early 19th Century Arsenal, Big Island, Great Falls, South Carolina
By Jonathan Leader

The Katawba Valley Land Trust and the Town of Great Falls joined with Duke Power, a division of Duke Energy Corporation (Duke), to explore the potential of one of the more interesting sites located on Duke land. Big Island is located in the middle of Duke’s Great Falls hydroelectric facility compound and is the location of historic Mt Dearborn. The island is approximately 594 acres in size and Mt Dearborn, an early federal period arsenal and armory, is located at the northern tip. Although 523 acres were purchased by the federal government for the establishment of the site, it actually comprises approximately 80 acres. This includes the core buildings and the original workmen’s staging areas that were partially inundated by the middle section of present day Great Falls Lake just down slope from the Town of Great Falls. The extant buildings on Big Island itself comprise very close to 40 acres. Mt Dearborn is believed to be a significant cultural property at both the state and federal levels.

The Office of the State Archaeologist, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, agreed to assist the Katawba Valley Land Trust in the conducting of an archaeological reconnaissance and testing at the Mt Dearborn site. The fieldwork produced an inventory of the site’s primary features, which were then checked against historic documentation to determine which of the original features had survived to the present. All the features were plotted on a 10-meter grid system with multiple datum points. The resulting map of the site permitted systematic controlled testing and provided data to assist resource management. Systematic testing of the site was accomplished through 10-meter interval shovel tests and selected 1 X 1 meter test pits, which provided information concerning the integrity of the site.

The survey methodology relied on tested techniques. The first technique was extensive walk through of the immediate and extended areas. This was greatly assisted by the die-off of the dense under-story vegetation in the immediate area during the fall. It must be noted that some locations, such as the area immediately north of the main arsenal compound, are remarkably dense even under winter conditions and were therefore inadequately visible during survey. These areas will need to be resurveyed after careful removal of under-story. The establishment of permanent primary and secondary datum points were then established. These permanent datum points were used to anchor the site grid system. This in turn anchored the shovel testing that was conducted every 10 meters across the main compound. All shovel tests were screened using 1/4-inch hardware cloth. The permanent grid extends

Fig. 1: Robert Mills water color of Mt. Dearborn. Artist is standing on hillside across present day Great Falls Lake and looking east. Original included in Mill’s Manual on Railroads in the Tulane University Archives, New Orleans, and believed to rendered in 1820s.
across the entire site, not just the main compound, but shovel testing was not extended beyond the main compound due to other constraints.

All major building foundations, datum points and secondary features of interest were shot in by theodolite and globally positioned with a Trimble GeoExplorer 3. The Trimble unit is accurate within three meters and has post-processing capabilities that bring it to sub-meter accuracy. Satellite acquisition for this area is difficult. Significant rectification after the fact was required to provide usable results. Future geographical positioning system work in this area should rely on higher quality equipment.

Three one-meter test pits were excavated in selected areas to provide additional data. One was dug in front of the Northwest barracks under what was determined to be its front porch. One was placed in the floor of a remnant-building floor down slope to the west on the terrace leading to the lake and corresponding to an unidentified structure shown on the Macomb 1809 military district map. And the final test pit was placed in another remnant building floor further down slope to the west on the terrace leading to the lake and corresponding to another unidentified structure shown on the Macomb 1809 military district map. All test pits were screened using 1/4-inch hardware cloth.

Probes were used to identify buried rubble and architectural features, as well as possible burials. This was successful for the former, but not the latter. No burials were identified.

**Summary of Results**

The walk through provided the gross data for positioning the grid for subsequent tests and for the placement of datum points. Grid north was rotated 15 degrees east of true north to capture the majority of the site in the northwest quadrant. This facilitated orienting the volunteers and helped to minimize confusion as to which corner to use for all measurements (e.g., southeast). The permanent primary datum was placed off site to the south and east of the main compound in a natural cul-de-sac bounded by a very large boulder. It consists of a 3/4-inch iron rebar of 30 inches sunk 2/3 into the ground. The section proud of the ground is striped in orange and blue. Secondary permanent datum points, also comprised of 3/4-inch diameter, 30-inch lengths of rebar were placed for convenience along the north axis at mid site, in front of and slightly south of the round powder magazine, and in front of and to the south of the artillery shed. An additional permanent datum was placed at right angles to the mid site datum and centered in the parade ground of the compound.

Galvanized 12-inch timber nails with polypropylene circle tags permanently marked for grid coordinates were laid out along the north/south axis from prime to the artillery shed every 10 meters. In the course of the walk through and grid work a hitherto unknown building made from the same materials and using the same techniques as the foundations in the central compound was found almost exactly midway between the compound and the powder magazine. It does not appear on any map nor is it discussed in any texts researched to this point. It does appear in the 1820s watercolor done by Robert Mills of the abandoned site. The watercolor does label the various buildings. Unfortunately, the writing is illegible for this structure. Perhaps with advanced digital techniques, and the permission of Tulane University in New Orleans where it is housed, the writing can be made legible. Until then, the building remains a mystery.

The shovel tests (30 X 30 centimeters) were uniformly positive. The most common artifact recovered was fractured brick. The second most common artifacts recovered were nails. These ranged from small clinchers often associated with flooring to spikes often associated with heavier beam construction. Interestingly, many of the nails were of the later "B" cut variety that became available after the original construction and abandonment of the arsenal by the federal government (e.g., soldiers left in 1817, retrocede to state in 1829). This strongly suggests that the area was reused by others and kept in some form of repair. The exact extent of this use and repair has yet to be determined. The shovel tests were taken down to natural undisturbed layers as much as possible. In those instances were flooring was discovered or where fill dirt had been used to significantly level the landscape, an arbitrary limit of the floor or 30 cm was imposed.

It is interesting to note that with the exception of a single artifact, no American Indian artifacts were found in situ on site. This is surprising. There are lithic scatter sites to the north of this area and to the south roughly a mile away. The area meets the modeling criteria often used by archaeologists as being a prime location for prehistoric use. It is very likely that the sites are there, just not in the areas tested.

The three test pits provided mixed results. The two down slope structures were located in an area identified as a blacksmith's shop and...
a shed. Neither pit produced clinkers, ore nor other items normally associated with blacksmithing. Brick fragments, cobbles, and a very few nails at the surface were about it. Nothing was found at depth and no features were encountered. The profiles showed an undisturbed natural horizon. The test pit in front of the northwestern barrack, on the other hand, was much more interesting. Not only did it yield nails from the porch and beam construction of the barrack, but it also yielded a very nice square shovel dug posthole precisely where the federal building plans said one should be. Indeed, the federal plans were shown to have been followed very closely throughout the site, with the exception of the unidentified structure near the magazine. The lack of blacksmithing debris in the other two test pits may suggest that the buildings had other functions than the one originally intended. Additional excavation is necessary to prove or disprove this suggestion.

The test pit in front of the barracks also provided a remarkable dark organic fill. Macro fauna, such as deer bone, were visible in the fill as was the fragment of what was initially thought to be a bone handle to a utensil. Unfortunately, it later proved to be another fragment of deer bone. Flotation is clearly warranted for any future work in this area. Surprisingly, most of the shovel tests through the compound, while showing dark organic stains, did not produce large quantities of glass, ceramics, or bone. This leads to the possibility that discard may have been occurring in a removed area. Military establishments rarely want night soils, food items, or glass on their parade grounds. Since discarded trash was not found on the slopes to the west, it is suggested that they may have discarded items to the east down the considerably steeper slope and well away from any work areas. Again, this suggestion waits further testing to ascertain its accuracy.

A full regiment of soldiers, workers, servants and craftsmen were at this site according to federal records. Considerable debris should remain. Burials should be on or near site, not only as a matter of expectation for the times and remote location, but also as a statement of fact. Senf, the original engineer, tasked with constructing the site, is recorded as having been buried near there. Oral history has a private and several soldiers buried “hard by” the site as well. None of the burials were apparently marked with anything other than fieldstones. Unfortunately, no burials were found or identified during this fieldwork. Due diligence would require that any alteration of the landscape be carefully monitored to ensure that the graves are identified early and protected.

The arsenal originally extended to the west across the creek, which is now Great Falls Lake. This site has been recognized in the state archaeological site file and the site record places the boundaries up the slope across the lake to the west. This area has not been investigated. In addition, there are several structures that may have been drowned by the formation of the lake, including the arsenal. Please contact me if you have any questions.
SCIAA GIS Site File Digitization Project Update
By Jonathan Leader

The Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) at SCIAA continues to implement the joint SC Department of Transportation and SCIAA GIS Site File Digitization project. This project is designed to provide a fully interactive GIS enhanced site file database for researchers and other clients. Every section of the current site form will be independently targetable once completed. The acquisition of state trinomials will be facilitated as well.

Most recently OSA has purchased and placed the two servers that will carry GIS data layers and ESRI software with the College of Arts and Sciences computer services division at the University. This equipment will cover the needs of both the SC Department of Archives and History and the SCIAA. Additional funding through the Robert L Stephenson Fund is allowing Christopher Gillam, with the assistance of an intern, to update the basic location polygons for the state. This will facilitate the final implementation and upload of attribute data.

A partial reorganization of the Institute has resulted in the freeing of a staff position. This position will become the new permanently funded Site Files GIS position. The job announcement is going through the university and will be posted shortly. It is intended that the individual who is hired for this position will have a solid background in both GIS/IT and in archaeology, thus permitting them to act as a colleague in research, not simply a servant to technology.

Several meetings have been held with ESRI in Charlotte, North Carolina, to ensure that the final product will meet the expectations of both the SCIAA and the client base. Meetings will be scheduled with staff and select client representatives to ensure that ESRI has the most accurate and complete input as to needs.

Graduate students are already being solicited and identified to act as data uploaders in what will undoubtedly be an intense final phase of the project. It is expected that two shifts will be necessary to put the attributes into the matrix in a timely fashion. Once this is done, the SCIAA GIS Site File Digitization Database will be online and available to subscribers. There will be more on subscription and use in the next Legacy.
South Carolina Archaeology Month was celebrated during September in many locations throughout South Carolina. Events and programs were developed by dedicated professionals and organizations in order to bring our state's colorful past to life for all ages. Through such public outreach efforts, the archaeological community hopes to build regional and local public support for the preservation of our Native American, African, European, and other heritages.

Coordinated by the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina, tours, conferences, lectures, demonstrations, exhibits, canoe trips, and open excavations were offered during September, October, and November in several communities and state and national parks around South Carolina. The theme for the 14th Annual SC Archaeology Month poster was Military Sites Archaeology.

Archaeology Month activities culminated with the 18th annual South Carolina Archaeology Discovery Day held at Historic Camden on October 1, 2005. Sponsored by the Archaeological Society of South Carolina, the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, and hosted by Historic Camden, this major event offered a series of workshops and demonstrations of prehistoric and historic technologies and an Archaeology Discovery Trail where the public visited a re-enactor and an archaeologist who interpreted each of the time periods representing a Prehistoric Camp, Spanish Settlement, Revolutionary War Camp, a Catawba Indian Village, and a Slave Settlement. There were also demonstrations of flotation techniques, Colonial Iron Works, and Basic Archaeology Skills.

The 15th Annual South Carolina Archaeology Month October 4-November 4, 2006 will offer a series of events held statewide. The Archaeology Field Day will be held at Santee State Park on Saturday, November 4, 2006.

Please come by the Institute to pick up your free poster!
TABBY RUIN, From Page 1

Thomas Ryan noted that 75 feet from the southeast side-doorway of the square ruin was a brick and tabby footing for a possible kitchen. There are at present no visible signs of this second structure (Ryan 1971).

DePratter and I expressed an interest in following the observations of Ryan and Michel with a more detailed archaeological study, and the Sullivans agreed to fund such a project. The goal was to transit-map the ruin to provide a plan drawing, and to measure and record the standing wall profiles, photograph the ruin, and excavate test squares and shovel tests with minimum encroachment onto the landscaping plants in and around the ruin. This was done with the idea that ceramics and other refuse thrown from a domestic household would allow the structure to be archaeologically dated and compared with the tabby sugar mill ruins located elsewhere on the island.

For three weeks in January 2006, Michael Stoner and I, assisted by volunteers, Bill Behan, Dick Schwarz, and Jim Scott conducted test excavations around the tabby ruin in expectation that refuse deposited at the doorways of the structure would indicate that it was likely used as a domestic household dwelling. Such refuse would also allow the time period of use to be determined through an analysis of the ceramics recovered. The absence of domestic refuse would suggest another function, in which case artifacts might reveal what that was, whether storage, outbuilding, store, barn, etc. The virtual absence of domestic refuse found suggested to Stoner and me that the structure represents other than a domestic household—perhaps an office and storage facility on this deep water point for bales of cotton and sugar mill products awaiting loading onto vessels for transport to market. The two or three ceramic fragments, recovered from 50 holes Stoner dug all around the ruin, date from the mid-19th century, but they certainly do not suggest a domestic household is represented by it.

Another goal of the project was to locate the outbuilding ruin observed by Ryan 75 feet east of the main ruin. Probing there was not successful in locating a foundation wall. Perhaps this ruin was removed by driveway construction.

I will write a report and the artifacts will be curated at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina.

References Cited

Behan, William A. 2004: A Short History of Callawassie Island, South Carolina.


Ryan, Thomas 1971: SCIAA Site Survey Record, 38BU70.