South Carolina's Underwater Archaeology Public Education Program and International Outreach Initiatives

Lynn Harris

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South Carolina's Underwater Archaeology Public Education Program and International Outreach Initiatives

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Excavations, Training, South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act, Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program, South Carolina, Archeology

Disciplines
Anthropology

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SOUTH CAROLINA'S UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY
PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM AND INTERNATIONAL
OUTREACH INITIATIVES

1996 MANAGEMENT REPORT: PART I and PART II

RESEARCH MANUSCRIPT SERIES NO. 223

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
by Lynn Harris
February 1996
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Introduction

In the national arena, South Carolina was one of the first states to recognize the potential benefits of public and professional co-operation in the management of submerged cultural resources. The concept that recreational divers have the potential to be the archaeologist's worst enemies or best allies has often been part of the professional outlook, although the state's approach to working with the diving public has evolved considerably since the 1970s. Since the formative years of underwater archaeology as a specialization within the context of the broader discipline of archaeology the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA), the administrative repository for state's archaeological site inventory, has actively worked towards developing a rapport with local diving community and including the public in state-sponsored maritime archaeology projects. In 1989 the Underwater Division's Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program (SDAMP), with a full-time position devoted to public education, was established specifically to address the role of sport divers and to meet management needs in regard to the state legislation, submerged resource inventory, and research objectives. A beneficial two-way exchange of information, ideas, and shared historical appreciation between avocationalists and professionals in South Carolina has resulted from this program, in addition to an extension of the training program to international venues.

Underwater archaeology is labor intensive and costly. There are only three professional underwater archaeologists in South Carolina - a situation shared by most other states in the United States. Trained scuba divers provide a large and effective workforce in a time of dwindling state budgets. It has already been convincingly demonstrated that in South Carolina amateur divers find the majority of sites by virtue of their numbers and frequency with which they dive. Combining professional and avocational skills is considered necessary by many archaeologists to maximize the potential information from our underwater resources. In order to efficiently utilize sport
divers as an avocational workforce resource, it is essential to provide the basic archaeological training and information.

In return, divers use archaeology as a new recreational direction to apply practical diving skills and gain new insights and appreciation of submerged historical sites. Education programs targeting diving communities promote a better understanding of the necessity for site preservation and the enforcement of antiquities legislation restricting certain destructive activities on underwater sites. The perception that underwater sites are managed only for historical research objectives is often considered too abstract and esoteric by the general public. Additionally, preserving and enhancing sites for public recreation and boost for heritage tourism and local watersport businesses must become a vital part of the message.

**Legislation and Site Management**

The South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act of 1991 (Article 5, Chapter 7, of Title 54) permits small-scale, recreational, non-mechanical, surface collecting in state waters by divers licensed through the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. The conditions of the "hobby" license require responsible collecting and reporting of sites to the state. Quarterly reports on finds are assessed by staff of the Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program and followed up by site visitation, collections documentation, and finally the submission of site data to the SCIAA Information Management Division for inclusion in the South Carolina State Site Files. Divers are entitled, through the legislation, to keep their finds while in return archaeologists gain information on the locations and types of cultural resources located within state waters.

This legislation, which amends the 1976 Act, is distinctive to South Carolina's underwater site management and often presents a controversial ethical issue to many professionals who do not have a comfort level with the concept of private ownership of
SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
HOBBY DIVER QUARTERLY REPORT

NAME: 
LICENSE NO: 
MONTHS REPORTED (circle):
No Recoveries Made During This Quarter: Ja Feb Ma Ap May Jn Jl Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

BODY OF WATER: 
DATE OF DIVE: 

LOCATION (Be as precise as possible):

HAVE YOU INCLUDED (PLEASE CIRCLE): Copy of topo. map or chart showing site location  Site plan Highway map  Photographs  Drawings  More detailed descriptions of finds

PLEASE INDICATE QUANTITY FOUND:

PREHISTORIC POTTERY: Decorated sherds  Undecorated Sherds  Complete vessels  Total
Can't identify  Describe:

STONE TOOLS: Projectile points (Arrowheads)  Can't identify  Other  Total
Describe:

HISTORIC CERAMICS: Earthenware  Stoneware  Porcelain  Can't Identify  Total
Describe:

PIPES: Bowls  Stems  Complete pipes  Total
Describe:

GLASSWARE: Bottles  Decanters  Glasses  Sherds  Can't identify  Total
Other (describe):

HARDWARE: Agricultural  Furniture  Nautical  Military  Can't identify  Total
Other (describe):

ORDNANCE: Cannon  Rifles  Shot  Parts  Can't identify  Total
Other (describe):

WAS THERE A SHIPWRECK OR STRUCTURE IN THE VICINITY OF YOUR FINDS?
WAS IT A (PLEASE CIRCLE): Canoe  Barge  Wooden Vessel  Iron-hulled Vessel  Other
Describe:

If you need assistance with identifying artifacts or filling out this form contact the SDAMP office at 803-762-6105.
Photocopy this form for additional dives
Dear New Member:

Enclosed please find your sport diver license for artifact and fossil collecting in South Carolina waters. Thank you for your application and interest in our state’s interesting past. You have taken the first step towards making a contribution in understanding South Carolina's past by joining our program.

Through your participation and support of the Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program, we hope to continue to compile information about new sites and the peoples who lived there. The willingness to dive and collect under a license in the state of South Carolina comes with responsibility to "collect responsibly." Mainly, we ask that you report what you find, when and where you find it, and that you learn to think like a protector and preserver of the material remains of the past rather than as merely a collector. The past belongs to everyone!

ARCHAEOLOGY TRAINING COURSES:

One way you can learn to collect responsibly is by attending one of our field training courses. These are weekend courses covering a wide range of topics including what we know about South Carolina's past from archaeology and how to record and report a new site. There are two practical sessions on surveying techniques used to record archaeological sites underwater, one dry land and one pool session. The fee for the course is $70 and an additional certification is available for $50 from the Nautical Archaeology Society, an international organization dedicated to training, research, and study of nautical archaeology. SCIAA now offers the dual certification several times a year. The Flotsam and Jetsam has information about upcoming course dates.

PROJECT PARTICIPATION

After attending a training course, you may participate in field training projects in and around South Carolina's waters. These projects are designed to record and register new sites in the State Site File Office, located at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology's offices in Columbia. By continuing your involvement in archaeology with independent projects, attending conferences and participation in SCIAA projects you can advance to a Course 4 Level of field training certification.

NEWSLETTER

More information about our program and its activities can be gained through The Flotsam and Jetsam, our quarterly newsletter, a copy of which is included for your review. Also enclosed are some materials that help explain the legislation that makes this program possible and the appropriate artifact and fossil forms for reporting your collecting activity. Of course, if you have any questions, you can contact our Charleston Office at (803) 762-6105 and speak directly with a program representative.

Thank you for taking the time to join our program and report your collecting activities. We look forward to sharing with you what we learn about South Carolina’s past and how we learn it.

Sincerely

Lynn Harris

1321 Pendleton Street • Columbia, S.C. 29208-0071 • (803) 777-8170 • 734-0567 • 799-1963 • FAX 254-1338
SUMMARY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA UNDERWATER ANTIQUITIES ACT OF 1991
(Article 5, Chapter 7, Title 54, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976)
June 12, 1991

It is the intent of the South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act of 1991 to preserve and encourage the scientific and recreational values inherent in submerged archaeological historic properties and paleontological properties for the benefit of the people of the State.

The act declares as property of the state, all submerged archaeological historic property, which has remained unclaimed for fifty years or more, and paleontological property (both cited hereafter as 'property') located on or recovered from submerged lands over which the State has sovereign control.

The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (Institute) is the custodian of archaeological materials. The South Carolina Museum Commission (Museum) is the custodian of paleontological materials. The State Budget and Control Board is the custodian of all other things of value.

The act provides that persons desiring to remove, displace, or destroy submerged archaeological historic property or paleontological property must first obtain a license from the Institute. The Institute grants licenses to individuals if it is in the best interests of the state, and may enter into agreements with licensees concerning the disposition of recovered property.

A license is not required to inspect, study, explore, photograph, measure etc. or otherwise use and enjoy such property as long as the activity does not involve: excavation, substantive injury or disturbance of the site or its environment, endanger other persons or property, or violate other laws. Neither the Institute nor the Museum are required to obtain licenses.

A Hobby license is required for persons wishing to conduct temporary, intermittent, recreational, small scale, non-commercial search and recovery of submerged property. It is a state-wide license. Recovery of submerged property must be by hand and must not involve mechanical devices or excavation. Hobby divers may recover a reasonable number of artifacts and fossils from submerged lands over which the state has sovereign control, but may recover only ten artifacts a day from a shipwreck site. Two types of Hobby licenses may be issued, individual or instructional. The licensee must report his finds to the Institute (for artifacts), or the Museum (for fossils) and, within 60 days of receipt of the report, the Institute must release title to all finds to the licensee.

The act provides that the Institute may issue two types of exclusive licenses for the disturbance or excavation of submerged property, if it is in the best interests of the state, and the applicant has completed application which includes specific research plans. An Intensive Survey license, which may be issued for up the 90 days, permits the licensee to carry out intensive survey of a specific area which the applicant believes may contain submerged property. A Data Recovery license, which may be issued for up to one year, permits the licensee to conduct excavation and data recovery on submerged property, if the applicant has submitted positive results of an intensive survey. Renewal of both types of licenses may be requested by the licensee.

The act provides that a public hearing may be required, and that the Institute must consider certain criteria to determine whether to issue an exclusive license. These include:

1) the degree of scientific importance, and public educational potential;
2) the date the application was received;
3) the degree and scope of planning by the applicant;
4) the degree of training and experience of the applicant;
5) the thoroughness of the application; and
6) the necessary equipment possessed by the applicant;
7) the public benefit versus the degree of harm to the state's property.
It also provides for a representative of the Institute or Museum to visit the proposed location with the applicant to verify information.

The act differentiates between commercial and non-commercial applicants for exclusive licenses, and provides that issuance of an exclusive license can be delayed until certain conditions are met. If a license is not issued, the Institute must issue a written notice of denial. If aggrieved by the decision an applicant may request a reconsideration hearing within 30 days of denial.

Each exclusive license issued by the Institute must contain certain provisions including:
1) the duration of the license;
2) the boundaries of the area;
3) a scope of work;
4) a list of key personnel;
5) a plan to restore the submerged lands following completion of the licensed activity;
6) that prior written consent by the Institute is required for all changes in the license (e.g. financial support, personnel, equipment, sub-contracting of work), the recovery of large artifacts (e.g. cannons, anchors etc.) and complete fossil specimens, and for the use of grossly destructive devices (e.g. air-lifts, prop-wash, explosives etc.);
7) that the continued presence of the licensee and a field archaeologist or field paleontologist on site at all times when the licensed activity is taking place. The licensee is responsible for costs associated with the field archaeologist or paleontologist;
8) that the licensee must maintain logs and records and file a report to the Institute;
9) that the licensee is wholly responsible for work done on the site;
10) only one exclusive license may be issued per person at one time;
11) that the licensee is responsible for costs associated with storage, transportation, and stabilization of artifacts and fossils, and after a division, all costs associated with conserving the licensee's share of recovered property;
12) that the licensee must not impede navigation;
13) that the licensee must remove all waste from the site;
14) that the licensee may be required to show his license at any time upon request;
15) that the license may require monitoring of the licensed activity. If so, the state is responsible for costs associated with the monitoring activity;
16) that the Institute may suspend operations under a license, or revoke a license, at any time for just cause.

With respect to a non-commercial Data Recovery license, the State may retain the state's title to recovered submerged property, or enter into a disposition agreement with the licensee. With respect to a commercial Data Recovery license the State shall enter into a disposition agreement, giving fair treatment to the licensee, and providing that the licensee receive at least fifty percent of the recovered submerged property. The act further provides that if the finder of a shipwreck, if other than the commercial licensee, the finder must receive twenty-five percent of the licensee's share.

Further, the act provides penalties for violations, contains provisions regarding the discovery of human remains, and provides that the Institute shall maintain an educational program and insure that at least one staff member is qualified in underwater archaeology. The act also stipulates that all license fees be used only to implement the act.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE SCHEDULE</th>
<th>OUT OF STATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hobby License</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-month</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-year</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>36.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional License (1-year)</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional weekend license</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(issued by dive stores or clubs)</td>
<td>5.00 and a portion of the fee goes to the store or club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey License (3-month)</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Recovery Lic (up to 1-year)</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>1000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
artifacts and random public collecting without a coherent research design. As state archaeologists, under the law we do not condone collecting, yet realistically we cannot effectively harness it given the budgetary and staff constraints of our profession. This legislation contrasts to that enacted for terrestrial archaeological sites in the state. The reasons for the discrepancy is that most terrestrial sites are either situated on private property (where there is no regulation, except for grave sites) or on regulated state or federally owned land such as parks, forests and reserves. Underwater sites are all located on largely unregulated state land. The assistance of state wildlife officers to enforce the law is a help, but not entirely satisfactory. The answer lies in greater efforts towards public education, rather than enforcement alone. Furthermore, the state hobby licensing system also allows the state to manage the collecting activities of sport divers. Assessments on how much collecting is taking place and to what extent the resources are being impacted can be monitored. This is conducted through quarterly reports, liaisons with dive shops, and encouraging and directing sport diver projects. Balancing the loss of artifact state ownership with management information and a long term investment in public education in preservation principles is a price the state has decided to pay.

The Education Program

The central characteristic of the licensing system, is that it does not work unless it is accompanied by a strong education program to equip divers to make preliminary site assessments and acquire meaningful management information. The Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program (SDAMP) provides a number of services to the diving community including educational literature, a field training certification course, workshops and conferences. A field manual familiarizes sport divers with archaeological concepts and the objectives of the Program (Harris 1990). It also describes and explains affordable ways to record the locations of sites and artifacts, lists basic conservation techniques, and provides detailed information on artifact identification. Lists of
UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY
FIELD TRAINING COURSE

SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Weekend underwater archaeology field training courses are run on a quarterly basis. The primary objectives are to increase active participation in maritime preservation projects, to improve the quality of hobby diver license reporting, to enhance appreciation of submerged historic sites and to promote cooperation between diverse public and professional interest groups.

Who are the participants? SCUBA divers, museum curators, university students, archaeologists, anthropologists, historians, high school students, law enforcement officers, lawyers, environmentalists, housewives, sea scouts, boaters, historians, executives, technicians and anybody else with an interest in maritime preservation.

Where are the courses held? In the SCIAA Columbia or Charleston offices, dive clubs or stores or by public invitation at any location where the appropriate facilities can be provided.

What will be taught? The SC underwater antiquities legislation, concepts and definitions in maritime archaeology, pre-disturbance underwater mapping and surveying skills, watercraft construction, shipwreck interpretation, topics on South Carolina's submerged history, and artifact conservation. The course combines theoretical lectures with practical training sessions.

Who teaches the course? SCIAA staff, SCIAA certified hobby divers, SC State Museum staff, visiting archaeologists, internship students and nautical specialists.

Do participants have to be divers? No, although a pool training session is held for certified SCUBA divers to practice skills in an underwater environment, an equivalent session is held on land for non-divers. Many shipwreck sites lie on beaches and riverbanks.

Are there future opportunities for participants to be involved in archaeology? Yes. SCIAA holds ongoing specialty workshops and SCIAA or SCIAA-sanctioned Sport Diver Archaeology projects advertised through our newsletter, the Flotsam and Jetsam. Affiliation options with other local, national and international archaeology societies are introduced.

Are there costs involved for participants? Only nominal fees to cover our expenses. This fee varies depending on the type of project being conducted or workshop offered.

Where do I apply or receive more information about SCIAA underwater archaeology activities? Contact: Lynn Harris or Carl Naylor at the Underwater Archaeology Division, Charleston Office, P.O. Box 12448, Charleston, SC 29422. Phone: (803) 762-6105 Fax: (803) 762-5831.

Or contact: Chris Amer, Joe Beatty or Mark Newell at the Underwater Archaeology Division, Columbia Office, 1321 Pendleton St., Columbia, SC 29208. Phone: (803) 777-8170 Fax: (803) 254-1338.
references for further reading and names of people with speciality interests to contact are included. The quarterly newsletter, the *Flotsam and Jetsam* (previously the *Goody Bag*) keeps divers apprised of conferences, workshops and fieldwork opportunities and includes articles by both professionals and avocationals (Harris and Naylor 1990-1996). An annotated bibliography provides a useful reference guide to local repositories and maritime collections in South Carolina for non-divers and divers who any interested in becoming involved in historical research (Naylor 1990). A number of site and survey reports by divers who have graduated from the state's archaeology training courses are continually being added to our compilation public educational materials.

The literature produced by the program is complemented by annual field training courses and a continuing education program. This South Carolina certification system consists of Course 1 to 4. Course 1 is the only formally taught course that combines a theoretical and practical component. A series of lectures and are given by SCIAA staff and advanced former students. This preliminary weekend session is aimed at familiarizing the participants with archaeological concepts and underwater archaeology techniques. It provides a broad-based view of the subject, yet draws on experiences of the training staff at local sites and through participation in projects. The objectives of the course at the end of Course 1 are that participants should:

* be introduced to the basic principles and aims of archaeology
* appreciate the need for the recording, protection and preservation of the underwater heritage.
* be familiar with state legislation and the types of sites and artifacts likely to be encountered in South Carolina waters.
* have the necessary knowledge to undertake a basic pre-disturbance survey of a site.

Lectures are complemented with a practical session in artifact identification, and a series of pool training exercises on a replica shipwreck and scattered artifact assemblage simulating an underwater site. This exercises familiarize students with methods of
recording ship construction components and conventional mapping and surveying techniques.

Course 2 and 3 require continued involvement in projects, workshops, archeological meetings and conferences. To obtain higher certification credits, students receive a logbook to list further fieldwork experience, site report submissions, workshop or conference attendance. Workshops are offered by SCIAA on a monthly basis and include topics such as:

* artifact identification (pre-historic and historic, water-controls structures, docks, and watercraft), drawing and photography.
* ship construction
* site photography
* drafting
* artifact labelling and cataloging
* conservation
* historical research

Specific fieldwork skills obtained during project participation include:

* the use of surveying and remote sensing equipment
* site stabilization
* excavation and dredge operation
* taking lines from watercraft
* using a grid

By attending six workshops and five field training sessions, students advance to the highest Course 4 level which involves directing a project lasting a total of 14 days in duration or participating in a SCIAA project for a similar timeframe. The final product of Course 4 requires a written project report, a lecture delivered at a meeting or conference and setting up an artifact or photographic exhibit.
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 24 - Graduate Classroom, DNR, James Island

5:30pm  Registration
6:00   Introduction: Course Objectives and Function
6:30   Underwater Archaeology: Definitions and Principles
7:00   Our Legislation and Underwater Heritage in South Carolina
7:30   BREAK
8:00   Historic Ceramics and Bottles
9:00   Prehistoric Artifacts

Saturday, May 25 - Graduate Classroom, DNR, James Island

8:00   Site Interpretation and Ship Construction
8:30   Mapping and Surveying Techniques
9:00   Search and Survey: Methods and Equipment
10:00  BREAK
10:30  Dry Run Practical Mapping Session
12:00  LUNCH
1:30   Pool Session at St. Andrews Family Recreation Center
5:00   BREAK
8:30   Future Workshops, Projects and Opportunities.

Sunday, May 26 - Graduate Classroom, DNR, James Island

8:30   Drawing up Results of Pool Session
11:00  Artifact Conservation
12:00  BREAK
1:00   Practical Session: Artifact Identification and Report Filing. The SCIAA Site Files Office.
4:00   Future Workshops, Projects and Opportunities.
To date 120 members of the public have been certified through South Carolina's training program. The majority of participants are locals from around the state. However, an increasing number of out-of-state divers from Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee have enrolled because similar programs are not currently offered in these states. Student groups have included scuba instructors, museum curators, university students, terrestrial archaeologists, anthropologists, high school students, law enforcement officers, judges, historic preservation officials, environmentalists, sea-scouts, boaters, historians, executives and other diverse professionals with a common interest in maritime preservation. Non-divers are encouraged to attend these courses as many shipwrecks and other submerged cultural resources are located in marshes or intertidal areas like beaches. Underwater projects also require dry work such as establishing land-based datums, and post fieldwork tasks such as artifact sorting, cataloging and photography.

Upon completing Underwater Archaeology Course 1 divers receive a South Carolina certificate which enables them to partipate in local projects, as well as having the option of additionally receiving an international accreditation from the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) for an extra fee. SCIAA incorporates components of the NAS syllabus in the course and promotes the use of the very comprehensive textbook and fieldwork guide *Underwater Archaeology - The NAS Guide to Principles and Practice*.

Research Projects

Two projects have been conducted by advanced certified divers to date. In 1990, a project directed by Hampton Shuping was initiated with the idea of conducting historical and archaeological research in the waterfront area of the three Georgetown area plantation sites - Richmond Hill, Laurel Hill and Wachesaw (Harris 1992). The primary goal was to document architectural features of four barges, the plantation workhorses, which would reflect the carpentry techniques used by the builders and the possible
function of the vessels. Each watercraft displayed significant architectural distinctiveness which could be attributed to either the work of a master carpenter or apprentice on the plantation. Alternatively, the boats may have been utilized for different work tasks. Limited surface artifact sampling was conducted to provide some insights into activities and date ranges associated with the local riverine area.

This project was also intended as an opportunity for the Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program to teach volunteer sport divers about concepts in underwater archaeology, barge construction and documentation methodology. Divers from around the state assisted in all aspects of the project which ranged from conducting simple surveying tasks, keeping field log books, search techniques, excavation, hull documentation, artistic renderings of the site and hull components, artifact cataloging and producing a final report. An equally important goal was the creation of a glossary or nomenclature for the various architectural components. In the past, ship terminology had been adapted to small watercraft. Unusual features (like stretchers and end logs) associated with the rectangular hull of design of these craft required more specific definition.

In 1993, local divers, under the direction of Jimmy Moss conducted a preliminary archaeological and historical survey of the west branch of the Cooper River, one of the most popular recreational diving areas in the state (Moss 1993). South Carolina's inland riverine waterways were the historical highways and dieways for watercraft, many of which were wrecked or abandoned or became casualties of military conflict. Rivers were also and economic arteries for native Americans, plantation owners, and African slave communities. The objectives of the project were two-fold. First, to involve divers in an avocational riverine archaeology project to promote diver education. Second, to systematically locate and assess the underwater cultural resources in this historically significant two-mile stretch of the river. Sites included pre-historic and historic artifact scatters, dock structures and shipwreck sites. Participating divers were involved in a
range of tasks which included historical research, plotting sites on topographic maps, cataloging and labelling artifacts, and compiling the project report.

Unpublished literature about past archaeological surveys (previously undertaken by SCIAA) This background study also instigated a closer look at SCIAA's early site inventory system. The reviews identified various site management problems that would be pertinent for future work on underwater sites in the state. Based on the results of the survey, some ideas were gleaned about underwater site distribution and fluvial processes in relation riverine geomorphology and terrestrial topographic features. An analysis of artifact samples reflected distinctive assemblages relating to plantation sites on the nearby river banks. This ground-breaking project, conducted and directed by sport divers, provided an ideal opportunity to combine public outreach and education with research, an important goal of the Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program.

Non-diving member of the public who participate in the state's program also have opportunities to become involved in maritime projects, such as documenting boats in museum collections or vessels embedded in rivers banks or beaches. In 1992, SCIAA conducted a terrestrial excavation of a small historic sailing craft, the Malcolm Boat (38CH803) in a mud bank of the Ashley River (Amer et al 1993). The investigations revealed that the vessel was a small ocean-going hull dating to the last quarter of the 18th century or first quarter of the 19th century. The project provided information about the vessel's age, method of construction and function as a coastal or possibly inter-islander trader. The project placed the site within a regional maritime historical context in shipbuilding practices and typology of small craft. Methods of site stabilization for intertidal zones were also explored using the site as a testing ground. Members of the public were included in all aspects of the project including excavation, documentation and site stabilization.
Heritage Tourism

Recently the development of a South Carolina heritage corridor concept by the National Park Service has provided incentives for further partnerships between the state and the canoeing, maritime and diving private sector communities. One of the goals of the heritage corridor is ultimately to take a special brand of preservation driven tourism to rural communities in the state. This could not only boost the local economy, but also enhance the historical identity of the community through greater appreciation of more diverse local cultural resources. For example, the elegant mansions of historic downtown Charleston and the coastal shrimping communities or the cotton mill towns of the upstate regions would become tourist attractions under this concept. Inland submerged historical sites are frequently a neglected aspect of heritage tourism because they are not as visible or as accessible as those on land. There is a large boating and diving community in South Carolina that would potentially utilize these resources, including out-of-state tourists. A great variety of vernacular watercraft litter the banks of rivers in South Carolina that might be linked with a variety of historical themes. For example, the ethnic achievements of the skilled African-American carpenters, shipbuilding—which was one of the largest colonial industries in South Carolina, agriculture usage such as the transportation of rice, cotton, lumber and indigo, and technology including the structural adaptations of watercraft for specific usage in a riverine environment.

A project to establish self-guided historic riverine trails to view shipwrecks and other cultural waterfront features like wharves is currently underway on the historic Ashley River. This heritage tourism effort will hopefully serve to introduce a new brand of recreational tourism by adding underwater sites to mainstream tourism at the historic plantation sites that line the water's edge. A range of possibilities exist to make maritime site information available to various interest groups, such as: brochures showing site location and thematic affiliation, heritage canoeing routes to view sites on riverbanks, underwater trail maps for divers, underwater on-site information plaques, and land-based
story boards. This management concept has already worked successfully in other countries and states in the United States. The trained public workforce will assist to provide baseline information for signage and trail maps, on-site maintenance and monitoring, or act as heritage tour-guides.

**International Outreach Program**

**South Africa:**

As part of an international consultancy, from 1993 to 1994, SCIAA was invited to assist in laying the groundwork for a public underwater archaeology training program for the National Monuments Council (NMC) in South Africa. This program was established in conjunction with the development of a national shipwreck database. At present there are an approximately 2,000 historically known shipwrecks within South African territorial waters representing an international heritage. These include 17th and 18th century British, Dutch, Portuguese and French East Indiamen, 19th century British troopships, passengers and mail steamships of the latter part of the century, and a variety of 20th century shipwrecks such as Taiwanese and Japanese fishing vessels and bulk cargo carriers. Diving on shipwrecks is a very popular recreational pastime, and diver visitation to these sites has escalated rapidly with increased tourism during the last few years. Unless the public is educated about preserving submerged natural and cultural resources, these sites will not be a viable source of income or future attraction. Rather than dismantling shipwrecks for the recovery of portholes and other momentos, these sites could potentially be managed as underwater museums, training ground for educational programs, and sources of potentially useful information for the national shipwreck database.

During the one-year consultancy period with the National Monuments Council, SCIAA/NAS training courses were offered around the country in coastal centers such as Cape Town, Knysna, Port Elizabeth, East London and Durban. Over one hundred
I. SITE LOCATION

What do you think the wreck, site or find is?

Which best describes the condition of the wreck: add comments if required.
- Hull intact/largely intact proud of seabed
- Hull broken up into sections proud of the seabed
- Elements of coherent structure proud of seabed
- Structure collapsed and jumbled
- Isolated artifact/artifact scatter
- Burial prevents good judgement

Please note any makers marks on artefacts or equipment

Have you noticed any changes in the site of time?

II. DIVE DETAILS

Date of latest dive or survey

Dive time in:  (24 hour clock)

time out:

Depth recorded during this dive

Depth recorded by:
A. Maximum depth of wreck........m depth gauge:
B. Minimum depth of wreck........m dive computer
C. Height above sea level...........m echo-sounder estimate

Dive conditions:

Current
Knots

Weather

Underwater Visibility...........m Usual visibility...........m to ..............m

Dive base:
How often is the site dived:
shore
club boat
own boat

Your dives on the site:
How many: From: 19 to 19

Give longitude and latitude of site:

Longitude:
S

Latitude:
W/E

Position fixed by: Site Submerged in:

Special Site Conditions:

Transits
GPS
Decca
Estimate

sea water
high tide only
fresh water

access difficult
slack water diving only
site is buoyed

SITE LOCATION:

Please sketch the position of the site relative to the shore. Draw transits if possible and include names of prominent landmarks.
NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL SHIPWRECK DATABASE

This form was adapted from the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) recording form produced by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England with their kind permission. The information will be entered into the national shipwreck database to help us to manage our underwater heritage properly.

Thousands of sport divers visit shipwrecks around the extensive and rugged South African coastline. The conditions of these sites may change due to many factors. Divers are well placed to note important information about these changes. Regular reports about individual sites will help to improve our understanding of the pace and causes of such change. Completing this form will also assist in providing a better record of the location and identification of shipwrecks sites around the coast. It is important to understand our maritime past and by filling in this form you can help.

It may not be possible to enter information in every part of the form. Don't worry! Just complete as much as you can. There are guidance sketches and notes to help you with questions. Please feel free to make notes in the margins or on additional sheets of paper. The report can be filled in by an individual or a group leader and entries can be based on one or more dive.

Name:
Address:
Date form filled in:
Diving experience:

This is your envelope!

SHIPWRECK DATABASE
NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 4637
CAPE TOWN 8000
3. HISTORICAL DATA

Ships Name: 
Nationality: 
Owner: 
Agent: 
Vessel Type: 
Captain: 
Crew: 
Tons: 
Date Built: 
Location Built: 
Last Port: 
Port of Destination: 
Date Wrecked: 
Place Wrecked: 
Cargo: 

Literature References:

4. SITE CHECKLIST

Hull is made mostly of: 
Wood: 
Metal: 
Composite: 
Concrete: 
Fibreglass: 
Can't tell: 
Visible ship structure: 
Keel: 
Keelson: 
Frames: 
Hull Planking: 
Flush: 
Overlapping: 
Metal Hull Plates: 
Stem/stern: 
Winches: 
Knees: 
Mast/Mast step: 
Cabins: 
Artefacts: 
Bells: 
Navigation Instruments: 
Ceramics: 
Glassware: 
Cutlery: 
Clothing: 
Coins: 
Casks: 
Pipes: 
Foods: 
Lumber: 
Jewelry: 
Buttons: 
Textiles: 
Ordnance: 

Wreck is fastened with: 
Wooden trenails/pegs: 
Copper bolts: 
Iron Bolts: 
Riveted: 
Welded: 
Can't tell: 
Ships Gear and Fittings: 
Anchor: 
Anchor chain/cable: 
Engine/Boilers: 
Steering Gear: 
Gun/Armament: 
Ballast: 
Propellers: 
Rigging Materials: 
Superstructure: 
Hatches: 
Portholes: 
Decking: 

5. SITE ENVIRONMENT

Sea bed shape: 
Flat: 
Sloping: 
Undulating: 
Gullies: 
Outcrops: 
Mobile: 
Sea bed type: 
Bedrock: 
Boulders: 
Cobbles: 
Gravel: 
Sand: 
Mud: 
Dangers: 
Collapsed Rock Structure: 
Fishing net/line: 
Dredging: 
Sharp edges: 
Currents: 
Navigation hazards: 

How much of the site or wreck do you think might be buried: 
%

Estimate how much of the site might be buried by vegetation: 
%

Have you seen any evidence of the following at or near the site?

Pollution: 
Angling: 
Coastal Defence Works: 
Anchorage: 
Potting: 
Marina Developments: 
Waterports: 
Trawling: 
Oil/gas industry: 
Salvage: 
Dredging: 

How did you find out about the site? Do you know of any other information?

Books/magazines: 
Old documents: 
Club/other divers: 
Fishermen: 
Chance find: 
Search: 
Hydrographic charts: 

Can you direct us to published information?

Can the above information be made available for study?

Would you like advice on how to survey and monitor the site?

Flush plankling (Carvel) 
Overlapping plankling (Clinker)
participants were certified including historical archaeologists, museum curators, historians, wildlife officers, hydrographic surveyors, and other professionals who would be working closely with the diving community. An essential ingredient for offering courses in regional centers was the inclusion on the program of an invited local historian or scuba diver who was familiar with the history and submerged resources of the area. Discussions with participants were geared towards how the archaeological techniques and management concepts taught in the courses would be applicable to that particular cultural and natural environment. In the larger setting, the South African shipwreck legislation (Act 28 of 1969), the necessity for a national resource management, availability of funding for underwater archaeology, and level of expertise for regional consultation and guidance was discussed within the context to what could realistically be achieved on a local level within the existing infrastructure.

In contrast to the legislation in South Carolina, South Africa's law does not permit recreational collecting. Activities on shipwreck sites are restricted to surveying exercises such as photography and mapping. Commercial salvage permits are issued through the NMC provided that the applicants have the co-operation of a local museum and a professional archaeologist to oversee the project. Currently there is only one maritime archaeologist, Mr. Bruno Werz, working in South Africa through the University of Cape Town (Werz 1994). The majority of activities on underwater sites are monitored by regional museum historians and curators. State funding for maritime archaeology is non-existent and any financial support is likely to be derived from the private sector. The political agendas and basic economic priorities of the new South African government are improvements to housing and education, not archaeology.

Any preservation efforts on underwater archaeological sites in South Africa will of necessity have to be generated by a local community with historically orientated rather than commercial goals. Guidance by local interdisciplinary specialists with a common or overlapping management objectives would be the desirable course of action.
Nationalities of ships wrecked along the South African coastline

Other
Danish
Italian
Portuguese
Norwegian
French
American
South African
Dutch
British

N = 803

Percentage
Dates of ships wrecked along the South African coastline

Centuries:
- 1500s
- 1600s
- 1700s
- 1800s
- 1900s

Percentage

N = 2,044
For example, sport divers surveying shipwrecks in the Simons Bay area of Cape Town are affiliated to, and supervised by, the South African Institute of Maritime Technology. Underwater mapping and surveying exercises provide application-testing opportunities for equipment and methodologies developed by the Institute for hydrographic surveying in general. The project team included archaeologists from the South African Maritime Museum the National Monuments Council. Both agencies were interested in obtaining historical information and trained scuba divers who had attended the public archaeology training course and were keen to utilize their newly acquired skills to move onto a more advanced certification level.

Divers who attended courses were also encouraged to utilize skills to independently conduct preliminary, non-destructive surveys of sites and submit data reports listing specific categories of information to the NMC database. This data could also be utilized for shipwreck route which is also being developed around the Cape Peninsula. This route would consist of underwater trails for dive charters visiting shipwreck concentrations. Laminated underwater sheets with site plans would serve to orientate divers with the site layout and familiarize them with the history and legislation. The route will be used as an educational training ground for future underwater archaeology workshops and as a boost to maritime tourism. The project is being funded by the local tourism board and business community. Trained volunteers play an important role in collecting information from these sites to produce underwater trail maps and displays, land-based storyboards, and interpretation centers. The route displays will provide information on the marine flora and fauna as well as shipwreck features, thereby highlighting both cultural and environmental preservation issues.

Namibia:

The Underwater Federation in Namibia, a neighboring African country which is well-known for its diamond mining history, also requested underwater archaeology
educational courses for divers. This agency is responsible for training recreational divers and as well as commercial diamond mining divers who work in the alluvial deposits of the west coast surf zones. The training course was followed by an expedition composed of the trained participants to inventory shipwrecks along the Skeleton Coast. This area is named as a result of the numerous shipwreck skeletons which litter the treacherous coastline adjoining the Namib desert. The dynamic geomorphological processes along these beaches and littoral dunefields have resulted in many shipwrecks lying as much as a kilometer inland. These sites have not been inventoried and the expedition would serve as the first part of a local management plan.

Surveys in this remote area were undertaken on foot, by vehicle, and light aircraft. Wreckage was plotted using GPS units, drawn and photographed. This data was linked to historical research conducted by the group historian, and a report was submitted to the Namibian National Monuments Council. Shipwrecks and disarticulated wreckage located during the survey included artifacts from an 18th century Dutch vessel, hull components of American whaling vessels, supply watercraft associated with the diamond mining settlements of the 19th century, and the remains of early 20th century fishing vessels. Additionally, the locations of diamond mining settlements and whaling stations were recorded, including features such as houses, paraphernalia associated with diamond mining, human graves, supply wagons and vehicles. The littoral dunes yielded evidence of trade or shipwreck scavenging activities of the indigenous Khoisan peoples. Shell middens contained coins from the Dutch shipwrecks which had been made into a form of jewelry and hull sheathing shaped into a projectile tools.

Conclusions

Experiences in three distinctive geographic, cultural, and administrative environments supports the notion that the archaeological discipline is most likely to succeed by successfully integrating public education, trained volunteers, private sector
involvement and tourism with the research objectives management strategies of state and national organizations. Although it is possible to transplant basic concepts of cultural resource management to another state or country, the program has to be adapted to the local variations within the particular infrastructure.

Many countries, like South Africa which lack funding and professional expertise, have a wealth of archaeological resources as yet to be inventoried at a baseline level. This is the ideal phase to enlist the help of trained volunteers and combine research with public education. The creation of a full-time position to coordinate such a program is highly recommended. A suitable arrangement is combining site assessments and database processing to the position description.

By working within established public programs like that of South Carolina, we might be able to achieve a very viable worldwide network of research cooperation and communication. In terms of shared cultural resources, shipwrecks very prominently represent an international heritage. Many vessels were not wrecked at their port of origin, but on distant shores of other countries. These sites have important implications for trade, economics, and other cultural interactions between nations.
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Database Management Report on the South Carolina Hobby Diver Licensing System and Submerged Site Inventory

1996 Management Report: Part II

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
Research Manuscript Series No. 223
by Lynn Harris
June 1996
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During the past six years, several individuals employed by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology have contributed many hours of hard work towards the Underwater Archaeology Division's databases. David Beard, Jamie Brown and Carl Naylor played an instrumental role in designing the formats of the databases. Elizabeth Collins, Carl Naylor and numerous College of Charleston internship student assisted in the compilation of data. David Beard was primarily responsible for the historical research. He initiated the concept of a broader based database which included site types such as ferry landings, plantation landings, forts, mills, and shipyards.

This manuscript is simply an attempt on my part to provide report on the status of these databases and the type of information which is currently available for submerged cultural resource management purposes.
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INTRODUCTION

A report on the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) Underwater Archaeology Division's site and hobby diver computer databases is long overdue. We have finally reached a point where the backlog of data from 1990 to 1996 has been entered, enabling some basic manipulations useful for evaluation of underwater archaeology programs. The databases are stored in a Filemaker 4 application. There are three separate databases - for shipwreck sites, other types of multi-component sites - like landings and artifact scatters, and hobby diver information. (Figure 1A, B & C).

Information from hobby diver quarterly reports that document finds well enough are submitted to the SCIAA Information Management Division (IMD) for assignment of permanent site numbers. Since January 1995 quarterly reports have been processed by the Charleston office staff each month, and the quantitative data is compiled on survey forms which are submitted to the IMD (Figure 2). Sites which were submitted to SCIAA in the past, which do not meet the submission criteria --usually due to dubious or inadequate locational information, are listed but not assigned a site number.

Data for the shipwreck and site databases are derived from a variety of sources including archival records (72%), hobby reports (5%), and the site files (22%). The hobby report contribution is an under estimate and somewhat misleading since many of the sites reported by SCIAA archaeologists are site assessments based upon hobby reports. Since the Underwater Archaeology Division has been offering field training courses, more divers are starting to submit their own site file forms. The numbers should start reflecting the true contributions of the sport diving community to the state's database in the near future.

These databases do not represent a final product. In the future, the data will hopefully also be utilized within a Geographic Information System (GIS) to assist in data management from a spatial or geographical perspective. In the meantime, these databases will continue to be updated and used by the Underwater Archaeology Division to gauge patterns of licensed diver activity and manage site data. This manuscript has been used to present some of these trends and make some general management recommendations.

SHIPWRECKS

There are a total of 343 shipwrecks in the database. Sailing vessels represent 44% and steamships 16%. Of this total, 20% are unknown vessels - (these are simply listed as "wooden vessel" or "vessel remains" in the database). The remainder of listed wrecks are barges, canoes, and modern fishing trawlers and freighters. Some of this data was derived from NOAA charts where the locations of unknown wrecks were shown.
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This manuscript is simply an attempt on my part to provide report on the status of these databases and the type of information which is currently available for submerged cultural resource management purposes.

Database Management Report on the South Carolina Hobby Diver Licensing System and Submerged Site Inventory

1996 Management Report: Part II

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
Research Manuscript Series No. 223
by Lynn Harris
June 1996
Sita
Name:
Site Type: Shipwreck
Shipyard
Landing
Ferry
Bridge
Causeway
Wharf/Pier
Mill
Fort
Artifact Scatter
Site Number:

Period:
Prehistoric
Historic
Colonial
Rev.
Post Rev.
AB
Civil War
Post CW
Modern
Specific Yr.

Location:

Waterbody:

NOAA Chart:
Topo:

Latitude: E:
Inventory Number:
Longitude: N:

Related Industry:
Commerce
Naval Activity
Shipbuilding
Rice
Lumber
Cotton
Indigo
Phosphate

Source:
Comments:

Contact:
Collection:

Vessel Type:
Vessel Use:
Port Of:
Place Built:
Master:
Date Lost:
Cause:
Cargo:
Length:
Beam:
Draft:
Year Built:
Tonnage:
Net Ton.:
Builder:
Owner:
Bound For:

Figure 1A. Shipwreck Site Form
Site Name:
Site Type: Shipwreck Shipyard Landing Ferry Bridge Causeway Wharf/Pier Mill Fort Artifact Scatter
Period: Prehistoric Colonial Rev. Post Rev. AB Civil War Post CW Modern Specific Yr.
Latitude: E: Inventory Number:
Longitude: N:
Related Industry:
Commerce Naval Activity Shipbuilding
Rice Lumber Cotton Indigo Phosphate
Source:
Comments:
Contact: Collection:

Figure 1B. Site Form
Figure 1C. Hobby Diver Information Form
Hobby Report Data Survey

Month: Year:

Total No. of Reports: Reports with no recovery: Reports with topo. quads or charts:

Reports with photos or drawings: Total sites: Transferred to SCIAA Site Files:

Site visitations by SCIAA: Collections photographed: National Register Eligibility Nominations: 0

Reports: Shipwreck: Shipyard: Landing: Artifact Scatter: Fort: Mill:

Ferry: Bridge: Pier: Tidal Structures: Multiple:

Other (describe): Fossils

Total reports in following areas: Riverine underwater: Riverine intertidal: Ocean offshore:

Harbor or Sound:

In Rivers: Cooper: Wando: Waccamaw: Ashley: Pee Dee: Black: Edisto:

Combahee: Ashepoo: May: Savannah: Wateree: Other: Charleston Harbor

Comments:

Figure 2.
The majority of these shipwrecks fall within the historic time period (Figure 3). Archival research yielded information primarily about Civil War and postbellum shipwrecks—but not much data on pre-historic craft or vernacular historic vessels. Although the database has been designated the term, "shipwreck," it is also possible that many sites may be abandoned derelicts, vessels scuttled in the Civil or Revolutionary wars or even subject to historic period adaptive re-use in riverbank stabilization. Furthermore, many are not large "ships" in the nautical context, but more correctly—"watercraft" or "boats."

Most vessels located in inland waters have been found in the Cooper or Ashley rivers. Both rivers were important economic historic arteries flowing into Charleston Harbor. The Cooper is a longer river and incorporates the Santee Canal lock system which was utilized in the 1800s, facilitating boat traffic right up to the Fall line city of Columbia (Newell 1989). The Ashley River headwaters for sailing vessels was situated at Bacons Bridge, four miles above Fort Dorchester, and for steamboats at Cedar Grove, opposite Middleton Place (Charleston Daily Courier, 1857).

Another reason for the higher number of vessels reported in these two rivers can be attributed to the selective activities of state archaeologists and sport divers. The Cooper River is one of the most popular inland recreational SCUBA diving venues in the state. The visibility is relatively better than other local rivers and it reputedly yields a higher number of artifacts and fossil collectibles for licensed hobby divers. Both the Ashley and the Cooper rivers have been targeted by professional and avocational archaeologists for surveys and specific projects in the last five years (Harris et. al 1993). The Ashley River is especially convenient for projects because the Underwater Archaeology Division Field Office is located in Charleston, making work on the Ashley River a day-trip and therefore more affordable on a low budget.

Geographically, more wreck sites are located in major rivers (55%), than offshore (19%), within Charleston Harbor (8%) in smaller creeks (16%), or in inlets, bays or sounds (1%). Again, this may reflect archaeological emphasis on these areas than actual historic distribution patterns of any significance.

OTHER SITE TYPES

This database consists of 859 entries and includes shipwrecks (as part of multi-component riverine sites) plantation landings, ferry landings, bridges, artifact scatters, causeways, wharfs, mills, shipyards and forts (Figure 4). Much of this information comes from historic sources such as Mills Atlas (Mills 1979), the McCrady Plats (Maps and Muniments Collection, 1591-Present), and the SCIAA site files.
Shipwreck Types in South Carolina

![Bar chart showing the percentage of various types of shipwrecks in South Carolina]

- Unknown
- Fishing boats
- Ferries
- Freighters
- Canoes
- Barges
- Steamships
- Sailingships

Figure 3.
Underwater Sites Types Listed in Database

Figure 4.
Landings represent that often overlooked interface between land and water (Barr 1993, Beard 1991 & 1993).

Many of the sites included in this database are not necessarily submerged sites. Sites like a shipyard, wharf or mill site, are tidally exposed or situated adjacent to a waterway. Many sites in South Carolina contain both a terrestrial and underwater components which need to be considered in a more holistic archaeological context (Errante 1993).

The majority of these site types are listed as situated along the Cooper, Ashley, Edisto, Pee Dee, Savannah, Saluda, Broad, Santee, Stono, Ashepoo, Combahee, Waccamaw, and Wando rivers.

**HOBBY DIVER LICENSES**

Two-year hobby diver licenses (93%) are considerably more popular than six month licenses, family, or instructional licenses (Figure 5). The highest number of licenses during 1995 were issued in the May to July period. Inhabitants of the coastal areas, especially Charleston, were issued the highest number of licenses (Figure 6 and 7). Divers from Georgia (39%) and North Carolina (31%) represent the highest number of out-of-state participants in the program (Figure 8).

**HOBBY DIVER REPORTING**

Of the hobby reports received by SCIAA during 1995, 75% listed artifact scatter sites as their primary diving venues. This is a phenomenon associated with the hobby diver licensing system, which was designed primarily to regulate the collecting activities of the public, rather than encourage non-disturbance reporting of a range of different site types. Shipwrecks (25%) were also reported, probably because these remains were encountered during artifact collecting activities. The majority of collecting takes places in the Cooper and Ashley rivers (Figure 9).

Although maps and drawings of sites and artifacts are not required by the South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act of 1991, 25% of the quarterly hobby reports contained this additional information. This might be as a result of encouragement given during SCIAA Underwater Archaeology Field Training Courses. Unfortunately, the fieldschools did not have the effect of improving the reporting responsibilities of the diving community. Of those who attended the courses since the inception, only 24% reported collecting activities with regularity, 44% have reported sporadically, and 33% have not submitted reports at all. Of the 24% who reported regularly after the fieldschool, the information contained in their reports was of a higher quality in terms of locational, identification, and descriptive information.
Percentage of Hobby License Types issued During 1996

Figure 5.
Distribution of Hobby Licenses issued to Geographic Regions of SC

Figure 6.
Distribution of Hobby Licenses in Coastal Areas

Figure 7.
Distribution of Out-of-State Hobby Licenses in 1995

Figure 8.
FIELD TRAINING COURSES*

From 1990 to 1995, 123 members of the public have participated in the Underwater Archaeology Field Training Courses offered by the SCIAA Underwater Archaeology Division. Of these, 73 were licensed hobby divers and 50 were not - primarily because they did not collect artifacts. Many were more active in dive travel vacations or offshore wreck and reef diving for photographic and sight-seeing recreational purposes. These non-collecting participants expressed an interest simply to learn more about underwater archaeology or in volunteering on SCIAA projects. Collectors who participated had an interest mainly in knowing more about what they were finding and in collecting/reporting the "right way." During the last two years most classes included from 1 to 4 non-divers who were interested in either volunteering with office work, topsides boat work, or working on projects on riverbanks or beaches.

Of the total number of Field Training students 98 were male and 25 were female. The smallest class held was attended by 8 students and the largest by 28. Classes were comprised primarily of advanced, experienced local divers. Diverse professionals who participated in the courses included SCUBA diver instructors, dive store personnel, doctors, historic preservationists, nurses, firefighters, teachers, anthropologists, judges, lawyers, and mechanics. A few high school students and anthropology undergraduates also attended. At least two students per class were from other states - mainly Georgia and North Carolina.

CONCLUSIONS AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The site database was originally designed as a compliance tool, to assist SCIAA staff in more systematic management of known and potential submerged sites. The database is now at a stage where it can be more effectively utilized and refined through usage to answer specific types of management questions which are of value to the Underwater Archaeology Division's mission. Another useful exercise might be to take a cross-section of sites, which were entered using historical information and maps, to test the predictive ability of the database. Entries made in the SCIAA site files in the '70s and '80s also need to be verified and updated.

More detailed historical and archaeological site information needs to be added to the entire database, especially to categories of information such as the offshore Civil War shipwrecks. Continued research can also be devoted to old maps and plats for potential site locations. More attention needs to be given to sites located offshore and the harbors, bays

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* See 1996 Management Report Part I, SCIAA Research Manuscript Series No. 223 for detailed information on the Underwater Archaeology Field Training Courses.
and inlets of South Carolina coastline. It might also be worthwhile to check older out-of-date navigation charts which might show wrecks and obstructions which do not feature on more recent charts because they no longer present enough profile to be a navigation hazard.

Recreational diving preferences for the the Cooper and Ashley rivers has skewed site information in the database. There appears to be a higher number of underwater sites in these two rivers than in any of the other rivers in the state. This trend reflects the necessary initial reactive behavior by SCIAA archaeologists to hobby reports, and the absence of a more academic secondary level of investigation in accordance to a state-wide research design to locate and assess sites in other waterbodies. These two historical rivers do have a great deal of potential for heritage tourism opportunities, such as shipwreck diving and canoeing trails, to detract attention from collecting as a primary recreational activity.

The hobby diver licensing system needs to be carefully re-assessed (after 23 years of operation and 6 years active public education within the sport diver community) for its true contribution to cultural resource management. How much information is SCIAA receiving from the diving community, and how much are we losing in the process? What quantifying criteria can we use to make this judgement and how can the database be used effectively for this purpose? Furthermore, do divers actually have to be allowed to collect to bait or motivate voluntary information contributions to the state database? In other countries, like Great Britain, sport divers who have been through the Nautical Archaeology Society education scheme, submit information as part of nationally accredited recreational non-disturbance surveys. This manuscript is a very preliminary attempt to answer some of these questions.

Fossil collecting has not been discussed in this report, but is definitely a significant contributing factor in initially peaking sport divers' interests in collecting as a hobby. Although the collecting of paleontological material is covered by the South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act and the licenses are issued by SCIAA, these quarterly fossil reports and the data is managed by the South Carolina State Museum. It is very likely that many sport divers only collect fossils, and not artifacts, under the joint license allowing the collection of artifacts and fossils which is issued by SCIAA. If so, it might have implications for reconsidering SCIAA's role in the licensing process. There needs to be greater coordination in hobby report processing by SCIAA and the Museum staff. In the future, there could be more feedback from the Museum staff to the sport diver community through public education, contributions to newsletters, workshops and a museum-based data management report.

The trend which is apparent from the database and artifact quarterly reports at present is that divers generally visit the same Cooper River sites again and again for collecting purposes. If a site is "hot" for collecting, why go elsewhere until it has been depleted. At the
same time, the advantage is that new sites are not being impacted constantly. Workshops and Field Training Courses seem to be effective in improving the quality of information in reports and for motivating the submission of site files in addition to the occasional non-disturbance survey by a commendable few. The courses do not motivate greater adherance to more responible collecting by divers who had a bad record prior to attendance.

One of the major problems encountered with teaching public courses in underwater archaeology principles and concepts in South Carolina is that it is contrary to the principle of the hobby collecting system. Divers are usually confused and leave with ambiguous ideas about how legalized collecting and archaeology are compatible and desirable. Another problem area is the use of trained volunteers on SCIAA projects who can return to important new sites and collect once the project is over. This also has a negative effect on the attitudes of professional staff from other divisions within the Institute who might otherwise use trained sport divers in their projects. As a result, the training of volunteers can be a frustrating endeavor where divers are keen and eager to help, but the opportunities outside of the Sport Diver Archaeology Management Program, do not exist.

There is no doubt that the hobby licensing system and education program has made us many friends among the general public and especially the diving community. Divers from other states come to South Carolina specifically because our law allows collecting. Local and non-local divers have cooperated far beyond expectation and provide an almost too willing workforce for avocational and professional projects. They have donated time, equipment and expertise. Perhaps the time is ripe for some carefully considered adjustments to the license system and possibly the legislation. Renouncing the entire hobby collecting system would make us the perceived enemy. We need to tread carefully. Most dive stores use artifact collecting river charters as a drawcard for customers and an attraction unique to recreational diving in South Carolina. We would be jeopardizing local businesses that have a close rapport with the diving community. The old argument of lack of effective enforcement for restrictive legislation will arise again. The consideration of information loss (but are we actually losing information, and not just friends?) versus clearly promoting the conventional archaeologically acceptable philosophy will prevail.

Financially the program is a success. The hobby licenses bring in around $2,500 annually and the Underwater Archaeology Education Program around $3,000. This funding is legally designated for continued use within public education and has contributed towards essential office and educational supplies, small project expenses, site assessments and purchase of occasional field equipment.

To date, the hobby diver reporting system has played an important part in submerged cultural resource management in South Carolina. As a result, an assessment of the present
information contained in the site databases has to take recreational souvenir collecting and site reporting trends of the diving community into consideration. As demonstrated, hobby diving interests will be reflected in the types of sites reported and the geographical distribution of sites. As new database technology such as GIS becomes available to SCIAA, it will allow better storage, retrieval, and manipulation of the Underwater Archaeology Division's information. It will not take the place of data collection or submission, a professional approach to record keeping, informed decisions in site use studies, or basic cultural resource management. The inclusion of a small core of trained sport divers in professionally directed initial data gathering activities could be a potential asset.
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