

# FRIENDS OF NORTH CAROLINA ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.

109 E. JONES ST., RALEIGH, N.C., 27601-2807

WINTER 1990, Volume 6, Number 4

## NEWSLETTER

North Carolina  
Office of State Archaeology

### Hardaway Site Dedication Ceremony

On November 5, 1990 at a ceremony in Badin, North Carolina, the Hardaway site was officially designated as a National Historic Landmark. The ceremony was attended by professional archaeologists from across the state as well as several dignitaries including Jack Callaghan, Vice-President and station manager of WSOC-TV, eighth district congressman Bill Hefner and the Honorable Patric Dorsey, Secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources, and Dr. Joffre L. Coe who received a special award from the Center for Archaeological Research.

The Hardaway site was first discovered in 1937 by H.M. Doerschuk, amateur archaeologist, and Dr. Joffre Coe, eminent archaeologist at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. At the site, 12,000

year-old prehistoric Native American artifacts have been uncovered, offering "information crucial to the earliest periods of human occupation in the eastern United States," according to the Office of State Archaeology.

The site, on property owned by the Aluminum Company of America, is licensed to the State of North Carolina by the company to preserve it under the protection of the "Archaeological Resources Protection Act" of 1981. Designation as a National Historic Landmark automatically places a property in the National Register of Historic Places, and extends to it the safeguards and benefits provided by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and other Federal laws protecting historic properties.



Dignitaries attend ceremony. (Left to Right: Dr. Mark Barnes, National Park Service; Dr. Joffre L. Coe, Professor Emeritus, UNC-Chapel Hill; Patric Dorsey, Secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources, and Stephen R. Claggett, State Archaeologist, Office of State Archaeology)

## **POMEIOOC**

In the Spring of 1990 investigations were completed at the Amity site (31Hy43) in Hyde County. The excavations, directed by Paul S. Gardner, East Carolina University, were funded by a special appropriation from the North Carolina General Assembly and administered by the Division of Archives and History in coordination with the FNCA. Work at the Amity site actually began in 1985, under the direction of Paul R. Green, then at East Carolina, as part of the 400th Anniversary commemoration research program. The initial investigations recovered evidence which strongly suggested that the site could be the village of Pomeiooc, visited and drawn by John White in 1585. White's drawing depicts a cluster of 18 longhouses surrounded by a circular palisade or fence made of saplings. According to White and Thomas Harriot, the village was significant, in part, because it was a "chief's" town.

Between 1985 and 1989, excavations were carried out at the site to determine whether it was actually the village of Pomeiooc, and to collect information about that crucial period of initial English-Native American (Algonkian) contact. During the excavations, a portion of a palisade or fenceline and the postmold outline of at least two longhouses were identified. Glass arrowheads, glass "seed" beads, small pieces of copper, smoking pipe fragments, and numerous Colington Simple-Stamped potsherds were collected, all of which might be associated with a Contact period occupation. However, earlier materials were also collected, as were materials which could easily date to a somewhat later period. A series of radiocarbon dates were produced from charcoal samples, ranging from A.D. 1220 to A.D. 1647.

Although the Amity site is still considered highly significant, analysis of the excavation data lead Gardner to conclude that it is not the village of Pomeiooc, but an Algonkian village or farmstead dating to the early to mid-1600's. How the site occupants may have been related to the people of Pomeiooc is unknown.

It is possible that the people were Pomeiooc descendants. Following the introduction of Old World diseases, some of which may have been brought over by the Roanoke colonists, the native populations declined rapidly. The Amity site may represent a remnant of a decimated Pomeiooc people.

Work at the Amity site is complete for the moment, although much of the site area remains to be investigated. In addition, much of the area surrounding the site remains to be surveyed. The Pomeiooc of White's drawing may yet be discovered in a nearby corn field.

A report on the recent research is currently on file at the Office of State Archaeology and at the Archaeology Laboratories at East Carolina University. Copies may be available for general distribution later in 1991.

Mark Mathis

## **Graves Accidentally Uncovered at Airport**

Fifteen graves were uncovered during the excavation of a drainage ditch at the Craven County Airport. Although the excavation was part of a long planned airport expansion project, the discovery of the burials caused considerable stir among the local community. The Office of State Archaeology was contacted, in quick succession, by the airport manager, a representative of the local community, and the local press. A potentially tense situation was circumvented by procedures developed by the Office of State Archaeology after implementation of the North Carolina unmarked burial laws.

Staff members have twice traveled to New Bern to remove burials which were in immediate danger. Six burials have been removed to date. There are no plans to completely excavate the cemetery, or even to recover all the graves which have been identified. A rough analysis of the remains will be completed in house and reinterment plans developed in consultation with local representatives. Construction plans will be altered to assure that no further damage is done to the cemetery.

John W. Clauser, Jr.



## 1990 NC State Fair Exhibit

The archaeology exhibit at the 1990 North Carolina State Fair (located in the Kerr Scott building) featuring the Quaker Meadows, Jenrette and Worsley sites (McDowell, Orange and Edgecombe counties), was again a tremendous success. It appears from semi-official tallies that we reached over 30,000 people with the exhibit.

Cooperative, work-intensive efforts like the Fair exhibit benefit our group through new memberships and enhanced public identities. We attract people's attention by showing them artifacts and photographs. And then we can pass along the real "message" about the need for protecting and interpreting North Carolina's archaeological resources. Public education at its best.

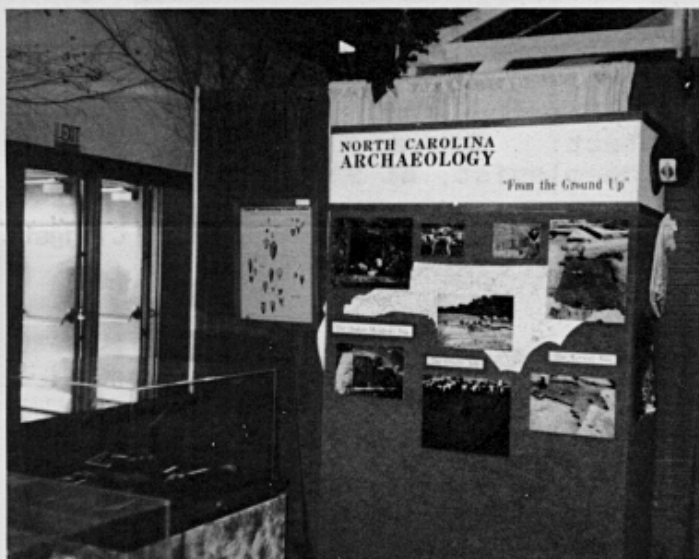


Photo by Susan G. Myers

## Coe Award Nominations

The Joffre Lanning Coe Award Nominations Committee will be reviewing nominations for the 1990 award in early March, to be presented at the Friends May 1991 Annual Meeting. If you would like to nominate someone for this award, please contact Dee Nelms, Friends of North Carolina Archaeology, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2807 or 919/733-7342, for nomination forms. The deadline for submitting nominations is February 6, 1991.

## From the President

Did you visit our booth at the State Fair? The exhibit reached some 30,000 visitors (over 100% increase from the past years). Thanks to all those who participated.

Friends is starting to help plan for ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK (instead of ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH) in North Carolina, which will be the first week in April 1991. We will again sponsor a reception for our legislators and Friends members scheduled for April 2, 1991. The reception is very important and we need your support to help cover the costs of food, flowers, and publicity. You will receive a calendar of all events sometime around early March.

I hope you all have a Happy Holiday.

Kirby Ward

## New Titles Offered Historical Publications

From paperback books about sports history, whaling, highway historical markers, and the early automobile in North Carolina to a recently published volume in its acclaimed Civil War roster series, the Historical Publications Section of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History offers a number of new titles that reflect the rich diversity of Tar Heel history. A 1990-1991 catalog that describes these and more than 150 of the section's other North Carolina related publications is now available to the public free of charge. Included are county histories, books about North Carolina's participation in military engagements from the War of the Regulation to World War II, periodicals, documentary volumes containing the edited papers of notable North Carolinians, maps, facsimile documents, posters, archival guides, and guides to five state historic sites. New titles and those of special interest to genealogists are designated. To receive a free copy (or copies) of the 1990-1991 catalog, write: Historical Publications Section, Division of Archives and History, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2807; or telephone (919) 733-7442.

## **National Register Site Vandalized**

The OSA received a report in early November that the mound at Spikebuck Town (31Cy1), Clay County, had been severely vandalized by pothunters who dug three large pits (the largest is approximately 12' long by 5' wide and 6' deep) in the side and top of the mound. Spikebuck Town is a large late prehistoric and historic Cherokee site located on the Hiwassee River in Hayesville. It is best known for its well-preserved earthen mound, which, unfortunately, has been the target of vandalism before. The Office of State Archaeology is working with the property owner and the Clay County Sheriff's Department to better protect this important site.

David Moore

## **New Federal Burial Protection Law and Collections Management Guidelines**

On November 16, 1990, President Bush signed into law the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (P.L. 101-601). The new law recognizes certain Native American interests in human remains and cultural items found on federal and Indian lands, requires repatriation of some remains held in museums, and consultation with Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian groups prior to excavation of graves on tribal or federal lands. Passage of HR 5237 (introduced by Morris Udall of Arizona) marks the end of a long series of compromises among archaeologists, Indians, and museum professionals on the treatment of Indian skeletal remains in the United States. HR 5237 successfully incorporated several bills introduced in previous sessions of Congress. The approved bill was sent to the White House with endorsements from groups who had been at the center of those debates and compromises, including the American Anthropological Association, Native American Rights Fund, Society for American

Archaeology, American Association of Physical Anthropologists, and National Congress of American Indians.

New federal standards were issued this fall for the proper treatment of archaeological collections and related records. All federal agencies, and many museums or state agencies like the Office of State Archaeology who maintain collections from federal projects, will be affected. The new regulations will help ensure that artifacts and records are properly handled, and will require considerable upgrading of existing storage and research facilities. OSA will be negotiating with the Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service, and N.C. Department of Transportation, regarding funding and facilities to undertake the mutual responsibilities for proper care of archaeological remains in North Carolina.

For more information on the above, or other laws and regulations affecting North Carolina archaeology, contact: Steve Claggett, State Archaeologist, at 919/733-7342.

Steve Claggett

## **FNCA Dues Reminder**

If you have not renewed your FNCA membership for fiscal year 1990-1991 (July 1 - June 30), please do so as soon as possible. Your continued support is appreciated.

## **FNCA T-Shirts**

FNCA T-shirts are available in four colors (black with a white design, ecru with a black design, navy with a white design, and white with a navy design) in all sizes (small, medium, large, x-large). They can be purchased for \$8.00 each (includes postage/handling) from FNCA, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2807 or (919) 733-7342.



## **Celebrate Wild Alaska**

On December 2, 1980, President Carter signed into law landmark legislation, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). This monumental Act established over 104 million acres of public lands in Alaska as national parks, wildlife refuges, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers and other protected areas. It was legislation built on compromise and contained unprecedented provisions for protecting federal lands on a massive scale. It included special subsistence provisions for Alaskan Natives. It made concessions for traditional access to wilderness in remote areas. And it set new management directives for the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management and Fish and Wildlife Service in the Department of the

Interior and the Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture. Now, ten years later, it is timely to celebrate the enactment of ANILCA, to reflect on its accomplishments over the past decade and to look at the potential that lies ahead.

The American Conservation Association (ACA) has initiated the Celebrate Wild Alaska project. As part of the project, a major conference will be held February 3-4, 1991 to bring together a variety of scholars, advocates, affected parties and interested members of the public.

The February conference is expected to attract 400-500 people. For further info write to: Celebrate Wild Alaska, 1333 Connecticut Avenue N.W. Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036 or (202) 293-0922.

## **FNCA Officers**

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Editor: Janet Foushee

Pubs Committee: David Moore, Dee Helms, Wayne Brooke

Pubs Schedule: March, June, September, December.

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We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you have any questions or comments, please write to FNCA, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2807. Annual membership in FRIENDS is \$10 for individuals or family senior citizens, \$15 for families, \$5 for senior citizens or students, \$25 for institutions, \$250 for corporations.

All contributions to FRIENDS are tax deductible.

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