
NEWSLETTER

Archaeological Society
of North Carolina

Friends of North Carolina
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Volunteer Divers Complete Work on Civil War Wreck

Kenneth Bland, Eddie Congleton, and Mitch Moore explore the river bottoms around their homes near Washington, North Carolina as a hobby. They have taken great pains to coordinate their work closely with the North Carolina Underwater Archaeology Unit (UAU). They report their finds to the UAU and in the past have volunteered on underwater archaeological excavations at the USS Pickett wreck in Washington, the Rose Hill wreck near Wilmington, and an oyster schooner wreck in Belhaven. They not only provide experienced dive labor but make available at no cost a tremendous amount of equipment including personal dive gear, boats, pumps, screen boxes, etc.,



Kenneth Bland (Center Left) and Eddie Congleton (Center Right) discuss grappling hooks recovered from the USS *Underwriter* wreck site with Leslie Bright, Conservator at the Underwater Archaeology Unit, and John Green, Curator at Tryon Palace.

Eager to conduct their own underwater research investigation, Bland and Congleton applied for and received an UAU permit to install a test excavation at the end of an old pier along the historic Bath water-

front. Their work during late 1985 and 1986 was closely coordinated with personnel at the Bath State Historic Site and resulted in the recovery of numerous whole bottle and ceramic pieces, several interesting logging tools, a gunpowder measure and a silver spoon. The latter two artifacts date to the Colonial Period. These finds are presently being incorporated into an interpretive display being designed by East Carolina University students for the Bath Historic Site.

During the winter months when it is too cold to dive Bland, Congleton and Moore often do historical research to help them better understand the rivers they explore. Several years ago one of their primary interests was locating the wreck site of the USS *Underwriter*, a Union gunboat that was blown up during a Confederate raid on February 2, 1864 at New Bern. A break in their research came early in 1987 when, in an obscure regimental history book, they came across a firsthand account of the vessel's sinking, which helped them pinpoint its location.

When the water finally warmed enough where they could stand it, Bland and Congleton made their first dive and almost immediately began to find wreck-associated artifacts, such as iron bolts and charred pieces of wood. As Congleton moved slowly through the murky water, he came upon a solid timber protruding from the bottom. Running his hand along the timber into the soft mud sediment, the diver realized he had found a wooden gun carriage. Historical research later confirmed that it was a wooden, four-truck, naval gun car-

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riage that once held the Underwriter's 8-inch Dahlgren cannon.

Immediately, Bland and Congleton reported their find to the staff members of the UAU, which prompted them to make an on-site investigation at the wreck site. An intense magnetometer survey was undertaken accompanied by land positioning. Soon after the gun carriage was successfully recovered and transported to the UAU conservation lab for treatment. Congleton and Bland were there to assist every step of the way.

The divers, in cooperation with the UAU, laid out a 200 foot rope reference line across the wreck site in preparation for a systematic excavation of the bottom for additional remains. It was learned from preliminary dives that the hull of the vessel was no longer at the site. Historical research likewise indicated that the USS *Underwriter* had been salvaged shortly after the Civil War. The existence of the gun carriage and other materials, however, demonstrated that many artifacts still existed on the river bottom in twelve to fifteen feet of water.

Beginning in June of 1987, Bland, Congleton and Moore, who joined them in 1989, spent 529 working hours at the wreck site under UAU permit #87NUR555 until completion in July of 1990. They also involved their children in the *Underwriter* project. Johnny Bland spent many of his Saturdays at the wreck site meticulously inspecting the sifter box for artifacts, while nearly all of the field notes and artifact inventory lists recorded over the four year period were prepared for submission to the UAU by Melissa Dawn Congleton. Their field operation consisted of the following tasks:

1. A rigid five-foot-by-five-foot square frame was placed over the bottom adjacent to the reference line and its position was recorded.
2. The soft, artifact laden sediments within the frame were carefully excavated using an induction dredge (similar to an underwater vacuum cleaner). Digging stopped at the hard bottom, which was six inches to three feet under the soft sediment.
3. Dredge spoils were piped to a screened

sluice box on the boat where they were culled through for small artifacts.

4. When a frame section was completed, artifacts were placed in labeled plastic bags for field storage. The sequence then began over.

In this manner, Bland, Congleton and Moore covered a three thousand square foot area of the river bottom at the wreck site. The numbers and variety of artifacts they recovered are truly remarkable. For example, they processed a total of 1,846 copper and brass tacks, 77 clothing buttons of assorted types, and 69 pieces of leather representing ten to twelve shoes and boots were.

Their meticulous digging and fine-screening operation allowed the group to find and preserve delicate items like brass straight pins, a thin gold-plated insignia eagle (4 inches tall) and numerous pieces of cloth. Several beautiful glass items such as a faceted wine goblet and a 'US Navy' pepper bottle were recovered intact.

Large artifacts were also present and once preserved are impressive museum pieces. Iron deck stanchions have been incorporated in the display of the gun carriage in the Academy Building at Tryon Palace. Also in the exhibit are two iron grappling hooks that may have been used by the Confederates to climb aboard the USS *Underwriter* prior to its sinking.

Personnel at the Caswell/Neuse State Historic Site in Kinston are currently developing plans that will utilize a wooden foot locker, recovered from the wreck site, to display artifacts. They have a keen interest in the project since it was on the Neuse River in Kinston that the party of Confederate soldiers started their sneak attack on the USS *Underwriter*.

As a whole, the artifact collection amassed by the divers is an impressive record of life on board a Union gunboat during the Civil War. Numerous fragments of tin cans and materials like rubber gaskets are examples of material culture that can provide insight on technological advances during the war. There were many personal items, the most noteworthy being several small rectangular

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lar panes of glass that had been etched in an oval shape. Someone on board was occupying his spare hours cutting glass to fit into portrait frames. Currently, the collection has been cleaned, bagged and catalogued, thanks to the faithful completion of the terms of their UAU permit, by Bland and Congleton. Overall, the time that these motivated volunteers spent on the project when considering travel time, field time, artifact cleaning and cataloging, some basic artifact conservation and record keeping is well over a thousand hours! On top of the time spent, they did not receive a penny for any operating expenses or supplies.

Kenneth Bland, Eddie Congleton and Mitch Moore have an unquenchable desire to learn about the history of the area they live in through histor

ical research and underwater exploration. Their devotion to this pastime is highlighted by an insistence on conducting their work carefully and properly rather than just bringing 'stuff' up from the river bottom for personal gain. When the UAU staff trusted them to carry out the *Underwriter* project with minimal supervision, they came through with flying colors. The project has been a model of cooperation between sport divers and underwater archaeologists from North Carolina that can be proudly displayed nationwide. The UAU staff offer their deep-felt appreciation for all the fine work Kenneth Bland, Eddie Congleton, Mitch Moore and their associates have volunteered to the program with hopes of continued success during their future underwater explorations.

Mark Wilde-Ramsing

ASNC T-Shirts

ASNC t-shirts can be purchased for \$6.00 each (plus \$1.00 postage and handling) from ASNC, c/o Research Laboratories of Anthropology, 108 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3120. Gray shirts (with black design) are available in small, medium, large, and x-large sizes; blue shirts (with silver design) are available only in the small size.

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.

From the President

Many of you are aware by now that the merger of Friends of North Carolina Archaeology, Inc. and the Archaeological Society of North Carolina is becoming more of a reality; there are a few minor details to be resolved. While this has been a most controversial issue, I cannot help but feel this will ultimately work to the best interests of both groups. Both organizations have much to offer and the blending of these will make for a stronger, more unified North Carolina Archaeological Society. I trust all of you will

pledge your full support and effort to enable the North Carolina Archaeological Society to become the best it can be.

Our annual meeting planned for May 18th at the Plantation Inn will again be a joint meeting. I urge each of you to make plans to attend now. After the success of last years meeting I know all of you are looking forward to this years event. I hope to see all of you in May.

*Kirby Ward,
FNCA President*

Digging The Past in Transylvania County: Deaver House Excavations

Yes, Dr. Frankenstein, there is a Transylvania in North Carolina. It's a county in the far western part of the state among the mountains. Perhaps you have heard of Brevard--it's the county seat. The county has an exciting past, beginning in prehistoric times when native Indian cultures, ancestors of the Cherokees, roamed the mountains, and including the time when the early white settlers began to stake out the mountainous country as their own. Last fall, Transylvania County was home to one of the first archaeological excavations conducted at a nineteenth-century residential and farmstead site in western North Carolina.

The excavations took place at the William Deaver House, one of western North Carolina's finest surviving examples of early- mid-nineteenth century architecture. Archaeologists Ruth Wetmore and Kenneth Robinson directed the project to recover information for the restoration of the house and farmstead. Restoration is being sponsored by the Transylvania County Historical Society. Only preliminary excavations were conducted last fall, but several excavation units were opened inside and outside the house, and there were some very significant findings.



Brevard College Students peruse excavation in yard of Deaver House.

The main feature of the site is the main house, a two-story, wood timber structure with a full two-tiered porch. The house sits atop a steep sided hill, overlooking an old Indian Trail which later became a main road for settlers into the Davidson River region of what was Old Buncombe County. William Deaver, a prominent mountain landowner, is thought to have built the house on the site around 1830, although there is some evidence that it may have been constructed in the first decade of the 1800s. The house was greatly enlarged sometime in the mid-nineteenth century.

There is no historical information that tells exactly when the house was first constructed, but an important piece of evidence recovered from the archaeological excavations has provided the first hard evidence as to when the additions were made to the house in the mid-1800s. The tell-tale artifact was a ceramic plate fragment found in the foundation trench which was dug out when the additions were made. The ceramic sherd had the name and mark of its English manufacturer--James Edwards--on it and a search of historical reference books showed that the maker's mark was not used prior to 1842, so the addition to the house could not have been built before that date. This date has helped pin down a part of the construction sequence of the house. Perhaps future archaeological study will produce evidence for the original construction of the house.

Inside the house, the ground surface below the floor boards and the area around the base of the chimney was investigated. Few features were found in the soil, but a great number of artifacts were preserved, most dating from the twentieth century, but some dating from the historic occupation of the house. The subfloor area was very dry and many paper artifacts from the 1930s and 40s were preserved. We found small fragments of sheet music, still readable. One

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notable twentieth-century artifact was a metal lapel button with a molded American flag and the words "REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR" on it. A "UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS" button also was found.

Excavations around the house showed how the foundations of the house were built. Several interesting artifacts also were found in the side yards of the house, including a French-made gun flint (from a flint-lock gun), and several pieces of tablewares dating from the nineteenth century. Some of the tablewares may be as old as the 1810s or 1820s.

Another important discovery was a "mystery" structure located on a hillside about forty feet away from the house. The structure consists of large stone slabs that seem to form a wall. The wall is buried under the hillside. It could be a cellar to a building or perhaps the foundations of an earlier house. No one knew this structure existed until the archaeologists, with assistance from a lot of volunteers, cleaned off the hillside where it was located. A tree growing in the middle of the feature indicates it must be at least 80 years old. Exactly what this structure was is anyone's guess. It will have to be excavated to find out its function.

A few prehistoric stone tools and pottery pieces also were found around the site, evidence that prehistoric Native Americans camped on this site at various times during the past 5000 years.

The archaeological information gathered from this project will contribute to the restoration and the interpretation of the site. Already, the results have been used to plan for certain restoration activities and the information will be used to plan future archaeological research on the site.

This archaeology project was aided by a great number of volunteers. Several members of the Transylvania County Historical Society rolled up their sleeves and helped clear vegetation, excavate, screen for artifacts, and catalog the artifacts. Many students from Brevard College's Inside-Out Community Service Program also lended their hands in the excavations. All told,

about 400 hours of volunteer assistance was given to the project.

We would like to acknowledge the Transylvania County Historical Society for sponsoring this project. Funding was provided by the Society through grants from Mrs. Marion Stedman Covington of Greensboro, a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and a Survey and Planning Grant from the National Park Service, as administered by the N.C. Division of Archives and History.

*Kenneth W. Robinson
Ruth Y. Wetmore*

Friends' members participate in a lot of different volunteer activities. One that you might not be aware of is helping the UNC Center for Public Television raise money annually during their March telethon called "Festival". Each year a group of members spends an evening answering the phones and taking pledges from viewers who wish to support N.C. public television.

Perhaps you've noticed that the Center for Public Television is showing more programs about North Carolina. A new series produced by NCSU called "Search", studies aspects of science and research in North Carolina. According to Bob Cairns of the NCSU Office of University Relations, four new episodes on numerous subjects are planned for 1991. Past segments of "Search" included the work being done by Richard Lawrence, Leslie Bright and the others at the Underwater Archaeology Unit at Fort Fisher.

The program has also reported on the ongoing work on the Eno River near Hillsborough, interviewing Steve Davis about that project. Friends' members are only too glad to help the Center continue to raise funds to air programming like this. So keep watching Public Television and keep an eye out for an archaeologist or volunteer you probably know.

Janet Foushee

Second Joint Meeting Slated for May

The Archaeological Society of North Carolina and the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology will hold its second joint members meeting on May 18th at the Plantation Inn in Raleigh.

Further information on the meeting is forthcoming. Please plan to attend.

Conetoe Site Work Continues

Volunteers are continuing to excavate the 18th century Worsley Site near Conetoe (Edgecombe County). The next site visit is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th. If anyone would like to participate, please contact Dolores Hall at 919/733-7342 or Loretta Lautzenheiser at 919/641-4111.

Archaeology Week 1991

The first week in April has been designated as "Archaeology Week" by Governor James G. Martin. Several activities are planned by FNCA and the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) to help make the public more aware of archaeological resources. For more information contact Dee Nelms at the OSA at (919) 733-7342.

ASNC Business Meeting Minutes

The ASNC business meeting was called to order by President Richard Terrell at 10:00 a.m. on March 2, 1991. In attendance were Robert (Whitey) Graham, Vice-President; Steve Davis, Secretary; Mark Mathis, Editor; Executive Board members Bill Terrell, Ken Robinson, Ann Tippitt;

and recent officers Doug Woodworth and Bill Moxley.

Steve Davis gave his final report as out-going Editor. The October, 1990 Newsletter was published jointly by the Society and the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology, Inc. He noted that this arrangement has worked well for our last two newsletters and has benefited members of both organizations by providing expanded coverage of archaeological issues relevant to North Carolina. He then reported that the latest issue of *Southern Indian Studies* (Vol. 39) also had been published and distributed. This issue cost under \$1,600 to print 600 copies, making it very affordable to the Society. Steve also informed the board that a few institutional subscribers had reported not receiving this last issue and had been sent additional copies. The board was in general agreement that the expanded format for *Southern Indian Studies* -- presenting multiple articles instead of a single article -- should be continued.

Steve then gave a brief report on ASNC finances and membership. He observed that the Society's financial picture remains healthy, with over \$4,200.00 in the bank and no outstanding bills. For the past two years, the Society has been able to keep its normal annual expenses in the \$2,100 to \$2,400 range while generating just over \$3,000 each year in revenue from dues and journal subscriptions. For 1990, ASNC had 149 active members, 29 families, 11 sustaining members, four complimentary members, two life members, 37 institutional subscribers, 15 complimentary subscribers, and 32 institutions receiving *Southern Indian Studies* on an exchange basis. While many members already have paid their dues for 1991, the board agreed that a more aggressive program of sending dues reminders to delinquent members might be beneficial.

Mark Mathis gave his report as incoming Editor. He said that he was working with Dee Nelms of Friends to compile the next joint Newsletter which should come out in April. He

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also stated that he hoped to provide more information on current archaeological research and was soliciting such information from professional archaeologists in the state. Mark then mentioned that two manuscripts had been submitted and were being considered for the next *Southern Indian Studies*, to be printed later this year.

Steve, on behalf of Vin Steponaitis who was sick and could not attend the board meeting, announced that Friends had invited the Society to hold a joint Spring meeting with them at Plantation Inn in Raleigh on May 18th. The board voted unanimously to accept this invitation. Vin and Dee Nelms will work out the arrangements and program details.

Steve then read a letter to Vin that had just been received from Kirby Ward, president of the Friends of North Carolina. In this letter, Mr. Ward stated that the Friends merger committee had recommended to their board that "FNCA accept the Archaeological Society of North Carolina's offer to join with FNCA, under terms and conditions set forth in the proposed by-laws and Plan of Merger (dated 4 December 1990) establishing the North Carolina Archaeological Society." He further noted that certain questions raised about the new Society's financial ability to continue publishing a journal had been satisfactorily answered. Finally, he noted that the entire Friends board had voted on February 3, 1990 to accept our proposal to merge our two organizations and hoped that this was still agreeable to the Society's board. Richard Terrell moved that the ASNC board reaffirm its desire to proceed with the merger process; it was approved unanimously.

At Vin's suggestion (conveyed by Steve), the board agreed that the joint Spring meeting might be an appropriate time to have a ceremony where the Plan of Merger is signed by the officers of both organizations. Once signed, the plan in its entirety will be presented to the ASNC membership for approval by mail ballot. Voting will proceed according to the ASNC constitution which requires ap-

proval by two-thirds of the ballots cast. If the Plan of Merger is approved, the actual merger of the Society and Friends will occur within 30 days thereafter. The board further agreed that households with Family memberships should receive two ballots.

In anticipation of an affirmative vote, Richard appointed a nomination committee to recommend certain officers in the new Society that are to be appointed by the ASNC board. The nomination committee consists of Bill Moxley (chair), Ken Robinson, and Robert Graham, and will recommend persons to fill the offices of Vice-President, Secretary, three Directors, and Editor (to be jointly named by both boards).

Steve asked the board to consider having ASNC join the Council of Affiliated Societies of the Society for American Archaeology. He noted that by joining now, we would become a "charter" member of this newly-established council which seeks to bring together those interested in American archaeology, both professionals and nonprofessionals. While the board thought that membership in this organization was worthwhile, Doug Woodworth questioned whether or not joining at this time might create a problem for the proposed merger. After some discussion, the board decided that the Society should go ahead and join, and send a letter to Friends inviting them to join along with us. If the merger is successful, we can then continue our membership in the Council as a single organization. The board further agreed to accept Vin's offer to serve as the Society's representative on the Council. The cost of membership in this organization is \$25 per year.

Steve presented a dues notice from the Eastern States Archaeological Federation (ESAF), asking that ASNC re-activate its membership in that organization. The board decided that this matter would be tabled for the present and could be reconsidered after the potential merger has been resolved.

Steve Davis
ASNC Secretary

Current Research

Schiele Museum

Dr. Alan May of the Schiele Museum and Mr. Bob Blanton of Gaston College will be conducting weekend field schools for credit through Gaston College on April 20-21 and May 4-5, 1991. For more information contact Bob Blanton, Gaston College 704/922-6200 or Dr. Alan May, Schiele Museum, 704/866-6900.

Volunteers and Field school students alike will have an opportunity this summer to excavate at a proto-historic site in the Catawba River Valley in York County, South Carolina. The project is sponsored by UNCC's Department of Sociology and Anthropology, under the direction of Dr. Janet Levy. Alan May, Schiele Museum, and Ms. Rita Kenion, Museum of York County, will assist in the project. The field school begins Thursday May 5 and ends May 17, 1991. A second season will begin Tuesday May 21 and continue through most of June on a Tuesday through Saturday schedule. For more information contact any of the above mentioned archaeologists: Ms. Rita Kenion, 803/329-2121, Dr. Alan May, 704/866-6900, or Dr. Janet Levy 704/547-2252.

The Schiele Museum of Natural History will have the grand opening of the new museum on the weekend of April 6, 1991 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. We are opening an expanded planetarium facility, five new exhibit halls, temporary exhibit hall, auditorium, and docent room. In addition to the planetarium showing, we will have films made with a special lens to be projected onto the dome of the planetarium to create the feeling of having the scene all around the viewer.

J. Alan May

Wake Forest University

Wake Forest University's Archeology Laboratories has focused its research attention on the late prehistoric period of the upper Yadkin River Valley, particularly the

area between Elkin and Wilkesboro. In 1990 excavations revealed an unexpected richness and variety of material culture. Included are wattle-and-daub house construction, net and cord-marked ceramics with both grit and soapstone temper; copper beads and shell gorgets, including one "Citico" type; spatulate celts, ceramic disks and exotic raw materials. These and other elements appear to represent an amalgam of "Siouan" and "Catawba" traditions, and current research plans involve further field and laboratory efforts to better define that relationship. Our current view, a result of the 1990 field work and analysis, is that there is no clear-cut boundary marking the western portion of the Siouan area. Rather, the notion of a "boundary" is a consequence of our notion of a culture center (also invalid), and the "center" is merely a result of earlier studies having been conducted in areas far apart. As the intervening areas are explored archaeologically we observe a gradient of change, a phenomenon very much in keeping with tribal-level social organization. In such organizations the nature of social relationships may change in direction, distance, nature and intensity over years, days or (literally) minutes. This means boundaries are determined by (a) the location of the observer and (b) the nature of the social interchange, so that there may be as many boundaries as there are "a's" and b's!" Our current objective is to isolate the archaeological indicators of social interaction between settlements and to understand the ecological causes of the detected interaction. In doing so, we have essentially abandoned the concept of ethnic boundaries in the upper Yadkin drainage during the Late Woodland period.

For more information on the Yadkin River project contact the Archeology Laboratories at Wake Forest University at 919/761-5117.

*Rhea J. Rogers
J. Ned Woodall*

Historic Sites Section NC Division of Archives and History

The Historic Sites Section Archaeology Branch recently conducted four small archaeological projects in Chowan, Washington, New Hanover and Surry counties. During demolition of a 1940's addition on the Ziegler House in Edenton, construction crews discovered two brick cisterns. The larger of the cisterns was intact while the other had been partially destroyed and filled with sand and dirt. Both were mapped and photographed; the smaller was also excavated. Research is continuing on the use of cisterns in the area.

Excavations were also initiated recently inside the smokehouse (ca. 1830) at Somerset Place State Historic Site in Washington County. A fine silt floor was removed, revealing two circular brick-lined hearths, one of which was in the center of the smokehouse. Further investigations will be conducted in the coming months.

Excavations also were recently conducted in the garden area at the Horne Creek Living History Farm near Pilot Mountain. The work involved both manual and machine-assisted excavations to locate features associated with the fence lines and fruit arbors described for the area by oral tradition. Information obtained through this research will be used in the restoration of the garden. Finally, excavations were conducted at Ft. Fisher State Historic Site to locate a palisade fence line. The palisade line was discovered under more than seven feet of sand dune. For more information on the Historic Sites Archaeology Branch, or these projects, contact Terry Harper or Linda Carnes-McNaughton at 919/733-7862.

Terry Harper

Research Laboratories of Anthropology UNC-Chapel Hill

The Research Laboratories of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is planning to conduct its 1991 archaeological field school at the Gravely

site (44Hr29) near Martinsville, Virginia. This site, located on the Mayo River, is believed to represent a palisaded village of the late prehistoric Dan River phase (ca. 600-800 years ago). Earlier excavations by the late Richard Gravely, Jr. of Martinsville revealed a substantial intact midden and numerous trash-filled pits. Excavations will commence on May 20th and continue through June 24th. Anyone wishing to visit the site during this period should contact Trawick Ward or Steve Davis at the Research Labs (919/962-6574) for more information.

Steve Davis

NC Office of State Archaeology

The Office of State Archaeology continues to conduct a variety of small scale, primarily salvage-related projects across the state. Over 25 one to five day projects have already been conducted in 1991, many of which have involved assistance from ASNC and FNCA members. For information about specific projects and areas of the state contact the OSA at 919/733-7342.

One project of small but notable interest took place in Currituck County in late 1990. On the Jarvisburg quadrangle map a cemetery was denoted near a proposed sand mine. No evidence of a cemetery was visible on the surface, other than a slight rise in the topography. Using a front-end loader to remove plowzone deposits revealed no grave outlines or other evidence of a cemetery. However, during the plowzone stripping approximately one-quarter of a prehistoric Middle Woodland (Mount Pleasant series) ceramic vessel was discovered. No other artifacts or features were observed anywhere in the vicinity. The site is located over 1000 meters from Currituck Sound, and at least that far from the nearest known prehistoric site. The find appears to be a example of what is sometimes referred to as a "pot bust", having been dropped accidentally or discarded during a collecting foray or while traveling to a nearby site.

Mark A. Mathis

Coastal Carolina Research, Inc.

During the summer of 1990, work was completed on an archaeological sample survey of the proposed US 17 Bypass in New Bern. During the survey 28 sites were recorded, 12 of which appear to contain significant archaeological information. Seven of the sites form part of a potential National Register of Historic Places district, dating to 18th and 19th centuries and possibly associated with the Palatine settlement of New Bern. In addition to several other historic period sites, one potentially significant prehistoric Middle Woodland site was recorded. The site was identified by a concentration of surface artifacts and two Hanover series (clay/grog tempered) vessel sections found *in situ* in an exposed bank of a sand mine. Coastal Carolina Research will continue survey in the area in the coming months.

Work with volunteer labor also continues at the 18th century Worsley site (31Ed89), near Conetoe. The site was discovered in 1989 during survey for the relocation of US64. The excavations have focused on exposing the remains of the brick cellar floor and walls, and on locating associated outbuildings.

Loretta Lautzenheiser and Jane Eastman also are presently involved in a project to consolidate ceramic typologies for the southern coastal plain region of North Carolina. For more information on this and other projects, contact Coastal Carolina Research at 919/823-5723.

Jane Eastman

Archaeology Grants in the North Carolina Mountains

The Office of State Archaeology is sponsoring several archaeological projects funded in part by Certified Local Government and Survey and Planning grants from the National Parks Service. Brett Riggs, a graduate student at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is conducting a survey of 19th-century Citizen Cherokee homesteads in Cherokee, Macon, Graham, and Swain counties. Mr. Riggs is locating the archaeological remains of homes occupied by

Cherokee Indians in the 1830's using survey maps prepared by the US government prior to the forced removal of the Cherokee from North Carolina. He plans to compare the households of traditional Cherokees with those of more acculturated Cherokees.

Dr. Larry Kimball, Appalachian State University, is conducting a study of buried archaeological sites along the Swannanoa River in Buncombe County. Dr. Kimball is using a backhoe to examine floodplain deposits for evidence of buried sites. The results will be used to develop a preliminary predictive model of sites in the Swannanoa valley. The project is co-sponsored by the Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County.

The Swannanoa valley project was stimulated by the successful results of a similar project along the Catawba River in Morganton. Kenneth Robinson served as the project director and produced evidence of four buried Archaic and Mississippian sites through the use of backhoe testing. Two of these sites are currently being tested by Ruth Wetmore. The project was sponsored by the City of Morganton under a Certified Local Government grant.

Future newsletters will provide information on grant projects in Yancey County, Cherokee County, and Transylvania County.

David G. Moore

National Register of Historic Places News

Three sites were recently added to the Study List for the National Register of Historic Places: the Bethania Town Lot, the Rose Hill Wreck and the Hilton Wreck. Bethania was an early Moravian town in Forsyth County. The Rose Hill shipwreck is located in the NE Cape Fear River in New Hanover County. The wreck is an early to mid-18th century vessel, and is the oldest recorded shipwreck in North Carolina. The Hilton wreck is a small 19th century schooner, also located in the NE Cape Fear River in New Hanover County.

Spikebuck Town Mound Stabilization

In early March, Dr. Robert Thorne, Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Mississippi, and Mr. Bennett Graham, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Norris, TN, met with David Moore and Mark Mathis, Office of State Archaeology, at the Spikebuck Town mound site near Hayesville. The mound is threatened by erosion from the Hiwassee River, which rises and falls rapidly due to discharge "pulsing" from the Chatuga Dam, located a few miles up stream. The group spent several hours examining the problem to determine possible actions to stabilize the mound. Dr.

Thorne is the Director of the National Clearinghouse for Archaeological Site Stabilization; Mr. Mathis is the East Coast Associate for the Clearinghouse. The group hopes to develop a plan for the mound stabilization over the next few months, which would then be implemented under a cooperative arrangement between the TVA, the NC Division of Archives and History, and the Clearinghouse. David Moore, based in the Division's Western Office in Asheville, will serve as the principal contact and director for the project. Hayesville resident Mr. Rob Tiger, accompanied the group to the mound and will serve as a local contact and coordinator for the project.

FNCA Officers

President: J. Kirby Ward, Stourbridge Circle, Cary, NC 27511.

Vice-President: Nancy King, 4339 Southwind Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612.

Secretary-Treasurer: E. William Conen, 804 Kingswood Dr, Cary, NC 27513

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ASNC Officers

President: Richard Terrell, Rt. 5, Box 261, Trinity, NC 27370.

Vice President: Robert (Whitey) Graham, 2140 Woodland Avenue, Burlington, NC 27215.

Secretary: R.P. Stephen Davis, Jr., Research Laboratories of Anthropology, CB# 3120 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599.

Executive-Secretary: Vincas P. Steponaitis, Research Laboratories of Anthropology, CB#3120 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599.

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We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you have any questions or comments, please write to: Friends of North Carolina Archaeology, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2807; or Archaeological Society of North Carolina, CB# 3120 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599.

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