



**North Carolina
Archaeological Society**

N e w s l e t t e r

4619 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4619

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Department of Cultural Resources Reorganization includes the Office of State Archaeology

Stephen R. Claggett, State Archaeologist

Several major changes have taken place in the organization of the Department of Cultural Resources. After months of planning, it was recently announced that the department's operations are grouped into three offices (State Library, Arts, and Archives and History), each led by a deputy secretary. Dr. Jeffrey Crow heads the Office of Archives and History, retaining his duties as State Historic Preservation Officer.

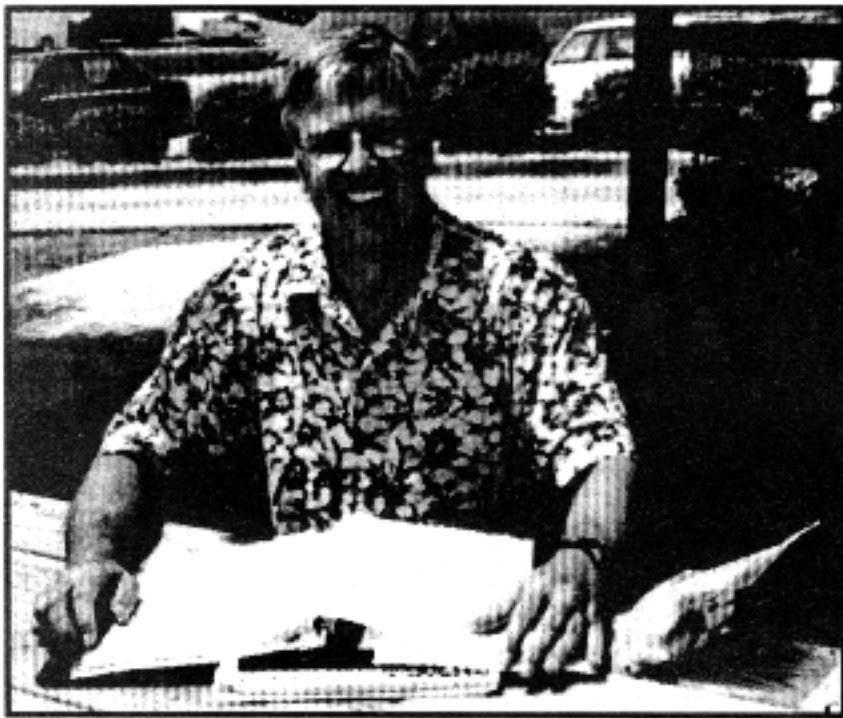
Three new divisions were formed at the same time with Archives and History, which present some the greatest shifts in the reorganization. Divisions of State History Museums, State Historic Sites, and Historical Resources each consolidate operations into logical agency groups, as reflected by those labels. The NC Maritime Museum, for example, now is part of the History Museums Division. David Olson is the newly-appointed director of the Historic Resources division, wherein the Office of State Archaeology resides, along with other sections for Archives and Records, Historic Publications, the State Historic Preservation Office. The

division includes a historical Research Branch and the Western Office in Asheville.

Addition of the former Historic Sites' Archaeology Branch to OSA marks the greatest recent change in all this for us. (The Office of State Archaeology officially became a section office, separate from the Historic Preservation Office last January). Dr. Linda Carnes-McNaughton joins the OSA staff, and we assume archaeology management duties for state historic sites. This action was recommended by the director's Task Force on Archaeology two years ago, but had not been acted on until the recent department-wide plans were announced. The "new" OSA has already undertaken Site-based projects at the Chowan County Courthouse, Somerset Place, and Bentonville Battlefield, and we are busy moving people, records, equipment, and artifact collections into the home office facilities in Raleigh. By mid-December, Linda should be at home in the Heartt House, where she can be reached at 919/733-7342 or by e-mail at Linda.carnes-mcnaughton@ncmail.net

Meet a North Carolina Treasure

What do microbiology and archaeology have in common? Phil Furman, a boyish scientist with a life-long love of archaeology.



Dr. Phil Furman, summer 2001

Phil Furman, now living in Durham, North Carolina, is an avid enthusiast of North Carolina archaeology. Phil grew up in Norwich, New York. As a boy, he first noticed arrowheads behind his uncle's house in a floodplain of the Chenango River. While in the sixth grade he found a Lamoka projectile point, sparking his interest in the people who first lived in his area. Each year after the cornfield behind his uncle's house was plowed, Phil collected more arrowheads and filled his pockets with pieces of chert. By the eighth grade, Phil had a full-blown interest in the Native Americans of the New York state area. His eighth grade history teacher, a member of the local archaeological society and well-known amateur archaeologist, introduced Phil to systematic excavation at the "White Site," an Owasco site. Phil's history teacher also provided an opportunity for Phil to work under the direction of Dr. William Ritchie, New York state archaeologist, further encouraging Phil's interest.

Phil continued maintaining his collection during his teen years and when his family moved to Florida, his archaeological interest continued. Phil found and reported sites while in Florida and took courses in anthropology at the University of South Florida. However, another career interest called Phil and he continued his schooling by completing a doctorate in microbiology.

Archaeology simmered on the back burner during Phil's college years. Then in 1975 he moved to Durham, North Carolina, and began to find artifacts on walks in the

countryside. Putting his scientific training into play, Phil began to document the areas in which he was finding artifacts, keeping records of the areas where he was collecting, and labeling his finds with site names and numbers.

Three years ago, a co-worker again sparked Phil's interest in a local collection and Phil was back into Native American cultures. Phil's love of archaeology reasserted itself and he made contact with Dolores Hall at the Office of State Archaeology. He wanted to check to see if the sites he was collecting had been reported to OSA. To his surprise he discovered "his field" had been listed in 1954! As Phil documented his collection, he saw the vast time span covered by the site. He was able to place some relative dates for his artifacts. Although Phil had joined the North Carolina Archaeological Society in the 1970s, his involvement had lagged. With his renewed archaeological interest, Phil rejoined.

Now Phil is off and running with his focus on North Carolina Native Americans. Maintaining collection proveniences and mapping information have become his passion. When a new site is located, Phil labels his surface collection with a description, a short site form, dates, and pictures of the site. He includes in this information labeled samples of rock from the site as well as site maps showing where he has collected artifacts. For each new site, he consults with OSA to see if the site has been registered and if not, he adds his information via site form to OSA's database.

In addition to safeguarding his information by registering it with OSA, Phil maintains tight provenience on his artifact collections. Each surface collection is washed and bagged by site. Within his sites, artifacts are grouped by classes and labeled with site numbers. Important pieces receive their own labels. Now Phil is working on compiling his collected data on a spreadsheet for comparisons of his information.

Phil's future goals center on establishing a chapter of the NCAS for the Durham/RTP area. "I see the focus of a new chapter being determined by the group's membership. My personal interest is in Native Americans and early North Carolina settlement. I would like to see meetings held bimonthly where interested non-professionals could compare knowledge and informally get more information from professionals about our favorite topics. Hopefully outside speakers would visit our meetings to share their research and enthusiasm. I would like the chapter to take on a yearly project that would be of value to archaeology and the OSA. Ultimately, the information data base would grow and end some of our ultimate frustration—not knowing."

[Phil Furman can be contacted at furmanpa@aol.com for those interested in forming a NCAS chapter in the Durham/RTP area.]

2001 Annual Fall Meeting

The fall meeting of the North Carolina Archaeological Society was held on October 5-6, 2001.

The Friday night reception was enjoyed by many at the Rankin Museum in Ellerbe.

The Saturday meeting was held at Town Creek Indian Mound with the following morning speakers:

Tony Boudreaux

"Recent Studies of Pottery from Town Creek"

Liz Driscoll

"Mortuary Patterning and Health at Town Creek"

The morning speakers were followed by a wonderful lunch catered by Jordan Catering, then an afternoon presentation on the North Carolina GIS Project by Scott Madry and Matt Wilkerson, followed by on-site tours and demonstrations.

Thank you Archie and staff for organizing such a well attended meeting.



2001 Election of Officers

The 2001 Election of Officers was held at the fall business meeting on Saturday, October 6, at Town Creek Indian Mound in Mt. Gilead.

Kenneth Suggs moved from Vice-president to President (replacing Michelle Vacca), Tom Beaman was

voted in as Vice-president, and John Hildebrand and Terri Russ replaced Jane Brown and Randy Daniel as new Board Members. Thank you Michelle, Jane and Randy for a job well done, and welcome Tom, John, and Terri.



2001 North Carolina State Fair

The archaeology exhibit at the 2001 North Carolina State Fair was a success. The Fair had a lower attendance this year than in the past due partly to the September 11th incident.

Wake Forest University did a wonderful job setting up the display for our booth this year. I hope some of you had the opportunity to stop by and see the booth.

**NCAS Newsletter
Publication Schedule**

All NCAS members are encouraged to submit articles and news items to Dee Nelms, Associate Editor, for inclusion in the *Newsletter*. Please use the following cut-off dates as guides for your submissions:

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| Spring Issue | February 28 |
| Summer Issue | May 31 |
| Fall Issue | August 31 |
| Winter Issue | November 30 |

NCAS Officers

President: Kenneth Suggs, 1411 Fort Bragg Road, Fayetteville, NC 28305.

Vice-president: Tom Beaman, 126 Canterbury Road, Wilson, NC 27896.

Treasurer: E. William Conen, 804 Kingswood Drive, Cary, NC 27513.

Secretary: Linda Carnes-McNaughton, Office of State Archaeology, NC Division of Historical Resources, 4619 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4619.

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

Associate Editor: Dee H. Nelms, Office of State Archaeology, NC Division of Historical Resources, 4619 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4619.

Executive Board Members: Barbara Brooks, Jane Eastman, Linda Hall, John Hildebrand, Terri Russ, Shane Petersen

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