



North Carolina
Archaeological Society

Newsletter

109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2807

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North Carolina Archaeology Month 1997 A Continuing Success

Kenneth Robinson, 1997 Archaeology Month Coordinator

This past October, North Carolina celebrated its first Archaeology Month in 8 years!! It is strange to hear this in the past tense, having spent so much time and effort planning and promoting its arrival...But it finally did arrive and what a month!

In addition to the production of a North Carolina Archaeology Month poster, the month was full of activities and events across the state: the Schiele Museum of Natural History hosted a wonderful NCAS/NCAC meeting, where Stanley South and Alan May spoke on public involvement in North Carolina Archaeology; volunteers manned the Archaeology Booth at the State Fair in Raleigh; the Underwater Archaeology Unit/Office of State Archaeology sponsored new and exciting investigations at *Blackbeard's Ship*; the Research Laboratories of Archaeology at UNC-Chapel Hill came out with a CD-ROM on the excavations at Occaneechi Town; the NC Archaeological Council put out a new publication, John Byrd's *Tuscarora Subsistence Practices*; the NC Archaeological Society published another issue of *North Carolina Archaeology* (formerly *Southern Indian Studies*); a Coastal Plain Chapter of the NC Archaeological Society was organized in Greenville; an open house for the Mill Prong archaeology project was held in Hoke County, organized Margaret Houston, St. Andrews College; archaeology displays were put up at the Edgecombe County Library by Loretta Lautzenheizer; site visits in the mountains were conducted by Ann Rogers of Western Carolina; a poster display was put up at Brevard College by Ruth Wetmore; and the Archaeology Month Poster and Activities List were posted on the North Carolina Archaeology Webpage (<http://www.arch.dcr.state.nc.us/>). These are just a few of the many events and activities which occurred during Archaeology Month.

Did Archaeology Month have an impact? Well, we experienced some of the constraints of any new effort. Our publicity efforts could have been better, but I think we did well under the circumstances. I appreciate everyone's efforts to spread the word in their communities. Three articles in *The News and Observer*, two on the poster alone, also helped to spread the word. Feedback from avocational and professional archaeologists so far has been very positive—most were glad to have the opportunity to be involved.

Public reactions to the Archaeology Month poster have been very encouraging. Here are some comments from the poster survey forms received to date: "impressed with the scope of archaeological activity in NC," "Internet Webpage is very good," "Interesting and resource-full," "Please continue sending posters annually," "Great poster!," "I would like to meet more of these people," "Any information to build [school] resources is appreciated," "several thousand people saw it at the John Blue festival in October," and "Thank you for helping to make NC history come alive." It seems we have been successful in getting the posters into schools, museums, and libraries across the state although I am sure there are many schools who have not been alerted to the poster's availability (please contact your local schools and let them know).

The Adopt-An-Archaeology-Book Program is just beginning so it is too early to assess its impact. Included in this newsletter is an announcement and order form for this effort. This program will be continued throughout the year with periodic announcements and updates. Check it out and order a book.

I do believe this year's effort to celebrate Archaeology Month has been quite successful. We certainly achieved what we wanted with the poster, our main event. One thing we have learned is that Archaeology Month is a

year-long effort—planning, organizing, and celebrating (or as Robert Earl Keen would say, “The road goes on forever, and the party never ends.”).

Where do we go from here? This year’s effort built some good momentum and the spirit seems to be contagious. Let’s keep the ball rolling and North Carolina Archaeology growing. Become involved and any ideas for future celebrations and activities would be welcome. Christopher Rodning (Research Laboratories of Archaeology, UNC-Chapel Hill) has agreed to head up next year’s 1998 Archaeology Month celebration, and David Moore (Western Office, NC Archives and History) has agreed to organize the event in 1999. Let’s look forward to supporting and being involved in their efforts, and building on what we started this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to some of the people and organizations that helped make Archaeology Month a success: NC Archaeological Council, NC Archaeological Society, NC Office of State

Archaeology, NC Humanities Council, US Forest Service, Chamblee Graphics, Steve Claggett, Bill Moxley, Dee Nelms, Tom Beaman (Head of Archaeology Month Poster Committee), Linda Carnes-McNaughton, John Mintz, Danny Bell, Homepage Guru Mark Mathis, Vin Steponaitis, Anne Rogers, Randy Daniel, Ann Tippitt, Faye Mitchell-Henderson, and Secretary of Cultural Resources Betty Ray McCain and Governor Jim Hunt for the Proclamation. Also, check out the special list of financial and academic contributors to the Archaeology Month poster presented elsewhere in this newsletter.

Archaeology Month Posters are still available from the North Carolina Archaeological Society, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611, 919/733-7342.

NC Archaeology WebPage:
<http://www.arch.dcr.state.nc.us>

Southern Indian Studies now *North Carolina Archaeology*

R.P. Stephen Davis, Jr., Editor

In April 1949, the North Carolina Archaeological Society published its first issue of *Southern Indian Studies*. The journal was established “as a medium of publication and discussion of information pertaining to the life and customs of the Indians in the Southern states, both prehistoric and historic.” This reflected not only the primary interests of the Society’s members, but also the prevailing attitude that the principal task of archaeology in North America was to study the ancient past, and thus only its Indian cultures.

Because the Society had only modest resources, *Southern Indian Studies* was published jointly with the newly revitalized Laboratory of Anthropology and Archaeology (now the Research Laboratories of Archaeology or RLA) at the University of North Carolina. Joffre Coe, who had only recently returned to Chapel Hill after a tour of duty in the Army Air Force and subsequent graduate study at the University of Michigan, became the journal’s editor and continued in that capacity until his retirement from the University in 1982.

Over the years, numerous articles important to the archaeology of North Carolina and adjacent states have been published in *Southern Indian Studies*. However, the journal suffered in two areas. First, there often was not sufficient material to publish in the journal; consequently, many issues either contained only a single article or were published on an irregular schedule, as acceptable manuscripts were submitted. And second, the journal seldom contained articles about historical archaeology

(including underwater archaeology), an area of the discipline that has grown enormously during the past three decades. One reason for this absence was that the journal’s name did not invite manuscripts that dealt with the archaeology of non-Native Americans.

During two meetings in February and August of 1996, your Society’s executive board visited the subject of changing the journal’s name. The board decided that, in order to make the journal more inclusive, a new name should be chosen, and it voted unanimously to change the name to *North Carolina Archaeology*, with the timing of that change to be left to the discretion of the Editor. The board’s action was announced at the Society’s Fall 1996 meeting in Chapel Hill.

The 1997 issue, which was mailed to all current members in October, represents the beginning of the North Carolina Archaeological Society’s journal under its new name. However, because it is not a new journal, the volume-numbering sequence of *Southern Indian Studies* has been maintained. Perhaps symbolically, this issue focuses primarily, but not entirely, on historical archaeology. The number of articles also is substantially greater, and I hope that this trend will continue. Much interesting and exciting archaeology is being done in North Carolina, and the goal of *North Carolina Archaeology* will be to bring the results of that work to the Society membership.

(from *North Carolina Archaeology*, vol. 46, pp. iii-iv)

Thanks for the Archaeology Month Poster!

The organizers of North Carolina Archaeology Month would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to the financial donors and academic contributors who made the 1997 Archaeology Month Poster a reality.

Donors: Agency, Corporate and Institutional:

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 National Forests in North Carolina, Asheville
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 North Carolina Office of State Archaeology
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 Archaeological Research Consultants, Inc., Raleigh
 Research Laboratories of Archaeology, UNC-Chapel Hill
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--submitted by Kenneth Robinson

RLA Changes Name to Research Laboratories of Archaeology

Vin Steponaitis, Director
Research Laboratories of Archaeology
UNC--Chapel Hill

As of July 1997, the Research Laboratories of Anthropology (RLA) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill were officially renamed the *Research Laboratories of Archaeology*. The main reason for this change, which had been contemplated for some time, was clarity. Archaeology is, after all, at the center of the RLA's mission. And having the word "Anthropology" in the name, particularly in the possessive construction, often caused people to assume that the RLA was administratively part of the Anthropology Department, which was never the case. Over the years, the latter misunderstanding gave rise to much confusion, both inside and outside the university. Our hope is that the new name will ultimately lessen this confusion; and it will still allow us to keep our tried and true acronym—RLA!

From a historical perspective, it's interesting to note that in the 1940s the RLA was officially called the Laboratory of Anthropology and Archaeology, and in the

1950s it became the Research laboratories of Anthropology. Joffre Coe chose the latter name, as he himself told me, "to give Anthropology a home" on the UNC campus. This was, of course, long before the Anthropology Department came into existence—the latter event did not occur until 1965. But once it did, then Coe's rationale for our former name became moot, and the seeds of the confusion that prompted our recent name change were sown.

The name change will in no way diminish our ties with UNC's Anthropology Department, which remain as strong and important as ever. The RLA depends on the Anthropology Department for most of its students and faculty Research Associates; at the same time, the Department relies on the RLA to provide virtually all the offices, labs, and equipment for its Archaeology Program. This synergistic relationship has worked to the benefit of both units for the past thirty years, and I'm sure it will continue working that way for many years to come.

Archaeology on CD-ROM Available

The University of North Carolina Press has just released *Excavating Occaneechi Town: Archaeology of an Eighteenth-Century Indian Village in North Carolina* (CD-ROM), edited by R. P. Stephen Davis, Jr., Patrick C. Livingood, H. Trawick Ward, and Vincas P. Steponaitis. This CD-ROM incorporates a remarkable body of information on the archaeological discoveries made at the Fredricks site, an eighteenth-century Occaneechi Indian community located in present-day Hillsborough, North Carolina. With detailed descriptions and interpretations, hundreds of color photographs, and complete data on all artifacts and archaeological features found at this important site, it will serve as both a valuable scholarly reference and a dynamic teaching tool.

Useful features include an easy-to-use browser, sophisticated tools for navigating and searching text, hyperlinks to bibliographic references and illustrations, extensive cross-referencing, and machine-readable databases for statistical analysis. Of special note is a unique "electronic dig" feature that allows teachers to simulate an archaeological excavation in the classroom.

Excavating Occaneechi Town requires an IBM-compatible computer with a double-speed CD-ROM drive, a 486/66 or faster processor, at least 8 MB of RAM (16 MB RAM for Windows 95), a VGA color monitor (640 by 480 pixels, 256 colors), a sound card, and 30 MB of available hard disk space. It runs equally well under Windows 3.x or Windows 95. A setup utility, tutorials, and extensive online help are provided on the disk.

You can order *Excavating Occaneechi Town* (ISBN 0-8078-6503-6) by calling UNC Press's toll-free number (1-800-848-6224) or by sending \$39.95 (plus 6% sales tax for North Carolina residents) and \$3.50 for shipping and handling to: The University of North Carolina Press, P.O. Box 2288, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2288. You also can visit UNC Press (<http://sunsite.unc.edu/uncpress/>) on the World Wide Web to obtain additional information about this CD-ROM and other titles.

(from *The University of North Carolina Press Fall & Winter 1997-1998 Catalog*)

1997 NCAS Fall Meeting

Thomas Beaman, Jr.

The fall meeting of the North Carolina Archaeological Society was held at the Schiele Museum in Gastonia. In keeping with the theme of North Carolina Archaeology Month, the focus of the meeting was celebrating public participation in archaeology. Dr. Stanley South of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology spoke on the continued use of volunteers at Santa Elena, a 16th-century Spanish site on Parris Island. He also discussed this past season's discovery of Charles Fort, a French fort which predates Santa Elena. In addition, Dr. Alan May of the Schiele Museum spoke on his use of volunteers in excavations in the Catawba River Valley over the past decade. Meeting participants were also treated to look at the Schiele Museum's new exhibit, "Journey Through the Piedmont Past." Two new publications, Dr. John Byrd's *Tuscarora Subsistence Practices* and a CD-ROM on the excavations of Occaneechi Town, were announced and made available for purchase at the meeting.

Dr. Stanley South was also recognized by both the North Carolina Archaeological Society and the North Carolina Archaeological Council with a certificate for "his outstanding contributions to North Carolina Archaeology, his dedicated scholarship in the field, and his devotion to promoting volunteerism in archaeological research for over four decades." Dr. South, a native of Watauga County, received his M.A. degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He served

as site manager of both Town Creek Indian Mound and Brunswick Town, and conducted numerous excavations on both prehistoric and historic archaeological sites across North Carolina in the late 1950s and 1960s. South continues his contributions to North Carolina archaeology with a long-awaited book on excavations at Wachovia (near Winston-Salem). It is being published by Plenum Press, and will be available in 1998.

North Carolina Archaeological Society President Bill Moxley also received recognition for his service to the Society. This was his last meeting as President. Bob Graham is now the President of the Society, and Michelle Vacca was elected Vice-President at the meeting. Wayne Boyko and Ricky Langley replaced Mark McCravey and Margo Price as new Board Members. Steve Davis (Editor), Dee Nelms (Associate Editor), Linda Carnes-McNaughton (Secretary), and Bill Conen (Treasurer) were all re-elected. Associate Editor Dee Nelms also received special recognition for her continued efforts in making both the North Carolina Archaeological Society and North Carolina Archaeology Month a success.

The meeting was well attended and enjoyed by all. Special thanks to Dr. Alan May, Dr. Ann Tippitt, and Dr. David Brose of the Schiele Museum, as well as Dee Nelms, John Davis, Dr. Janet Levy, and Christina Roberts who worked diligently to make the meeting a success.

Formation of the 'Coastal Plain Chapter'

Thomas Beaman, Jr.

The first meeting of a North Carolina Archaeological Society formative chapter in Greenville was held October 16 at the Phelps Archaeology Laboratory, East Carolina University. Twenty-two people were in attendance, including students, avocational archaeologists, and professional archaeologists. Dr. Harold Ocamb (Chapter President), Aaron O'Keefe (Vice-President), and Sabrina Buck (Secretary/Treasurer) were elected as officers. The name 'Coastal Plain Chapter' was decided upon. In addition, Dr. Randy Daniel spoke on his reanalysis of materials from the Hardaway Site, a talk which was immensely enjoyed by all in attendance.

The next meeting of the Coastal Plain Chapter will be held on Thursday, January 15, in Brewster Hall, East Carolina University in Greenville, Room B-102 at 7:30 PM. Dr. Larry Babits of the East Carolina University Maritime History Program will speak on the recent excavations near Beaufort of the *Queen Anne's Revenge*, flagship of the infamous Blackbeard the Pirate. For more information, please call the Phelps Archaeology Laboratory at (919) 328-6905. All are encouraged to attend!

1997 NC State Fair

The archaeology exhibit at the 1997 North Carolina State Fair was a success. The Fair had an attendance record of 634,140 this year. The display was on projectile points and other Indian tools from North Carolina (no specific site). I hope some of you had the opportunity to stop by the booth this year.

Executive Board Meeting Scheduled for January 1998

An executive board meeting is scheduled for January 25, 1998 at 1:00 PM at the Research Laboratories of Archaeology, UNC-Chapel Hill. All Society members are invited to attend.

Membership Counts

1994 = 428	1996 = 443
1995 = 453	1997 = 470

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:

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

NCAS Officers

President: Bob Graham, 2140 Woodland Avenue, Burlington, NC 27215.

Vice-president: Michelle Vacca, 125 N. Elm Street, Statesville, NC 28677.

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