2010 NCAS Fall Meeting

The annual fall meeting of the NCAS was a big success as we partnered with the North Carolina Conference on Piedmont Archaeology and the University of North Carolina’s Science Expo in Chapel Hill.

After conducting our membership meeting, I got a chance to attend several of the presentations at Hyde Hall. There were plenty of doughnuts and pastries to eat prior to the NCAS business meeting. I was especially interested in the point typology presented by Randy Daniel. Alan May's Schiele Museum presentation was informing and the humor of his days in archaeology. The event was well attended and thanks to Steve Davis for directing the conference and the tours of the Research Labs of Archaeology. There was so much going on all over campus, it was hard to take it all in. I did get to participate in a few science displays and the stratigraphy sand art. I spent the rest of my time at our NCAS display table. A lot of families came inside to participate in the hands on pottery puzzles and pot building Theresa McReynolds set up. What a terrific job she did with the help of students. I'm sure there was a good attendance Friday at the remembrance of Trawick Ward. We will surely miss him. Having to leave early was my lost, there was so much more to see.

Tommy Stine
President

Election of Officers

The 2011 Election of Officers was also held at the Saturday business meeting where Fritz Farrow and Joel Hardison replaced Scott Siebel as new Board Members. Thank you Scott for a job well done, and welcome Fritz and Joel.

Windows on the Past
Experience Archaeology

The North Carolina National Forest, Uwharrie Ranger District, will be hosting a 'Windows on the Past' archaeology dig. It will be held March 7-11, 2011 from 8:00AM to 5:00PM. All ages and experience levels are welcome to come and experience archaeology first hand. For further information on the dig, along with photos, maps, directions, and contact information, please see inserted brochure. Please keep this opportunity in mind and feel free to distribute this information. All are welcome to participate in this volunteer experience!
Henry Trawick Ward died on June 8th, 2010, following a heart attack. Trawick was born on August 28, 1944 in Bainbridge, Georgia and grew up in nearby Iron City. Seeking a life beyond the peanut fields of southwest Georgia, he headed to the Georgia Institute of Technology following high school, telling his father, ironically, that he would never again have dirt beneath his fingernails. After a brief academic career at Tech, he transferred to Georgia State University in 1962, where he discovered anthropology and came under the guidance of Lewis Larson and Jean Black Yarnell. During the summer of 1964, he was introduced to archaeological fieldwork at Etowah, which sparked a lifelong career in the archaeology of the American Southeast and a particular interest in native cultures of the Mississippian and contact periods. His promise as a future archaeologist was exhibited that fall when he presented his first SEAC paper, “Correlation of Mississippian Sites and Soil Types.” Following subsequent field seasons on the Georgia coast and in Missouri’s Stockton Reservoir, Trawick began his graduate training at the University of Missouri under the direction of Ray Wood. His Master’s thesis, completed in 1969, examined Mississippian influences in the Kansas City area.

Upon graduation, Trawick enlisted in the U.S. Army where he spent most the next two and a half years as an anthropology instructor in Fort Bragg’s Psychological Operations School. In the fall of 1972, he entered the Ph.D. program at UNC under the direction of Joffre Coe. After his first year at Carolina, Bennie Keel resigned his position as senior archaeologist in the Research Laboratories of Anthropology (now Research Laboratories of Archaeology), and Trawick was hired to replace him. He would hold that position until his retirement in 2000. For the next seven years, Trawick juggled the responsibilities of a full-time job, graduate school, and raising a family. While completing his coursework and dissertation, he conducted summer excavations at the Warren Wilson, Hardaway, and McDowell sites. His 1980 dissertation, titled “The Spatial Analysis of the Plow Zone Artifact Distributions from Two Village Sites in North Carolina”, was a methodological examination of the relationship of surface and plow zone assemblages to underlying site structure, and reflected his deep interest in the natural and cultural processes which affect patterning in the archaeological record.

During the 1980s and 1990s, Trawick was a driving force behind UNC’s Siouan Project, which examined the impact of Europeans on the native
population of the Carolina Piedmont, and he helped lead major excavations at the Fredricks, Wall, Mitchum, William Kluttz, Lower Saratown, and Jenrette sites.

While the Siouan Project continued until Trawick’s retirement, his efforts eventually shifted toward producing a synthesis of North Carolina archaeology for a popular audience. This endeavor was especially important to Trawick, who believed that being an archaeologist, particularly one employed at a state-supported institution, brought an obligation to give back to the public. The result was *Time Before History: The Archaeology of North Carolina*, published by UNC Press in 1999.

Trawick was a longtime member of the North Carolina Archaeological Society and was responsible for publishing the society’s journal, *Southern Indian Studies* (now *North Carolina Archaeology*), during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

With all Trawick’s accomplishments over a lengthy and productive career, he was most proud of the many students who passed his way and who are now respected members of the Southeastern archaeological community. As much as he liked doing archaeology, family and friendships clearly were the most important aspects of Trawick’s life. As a caring and loyal friend, colleague, and mentor, Trawick was truly the genuine article.

Trawick is survived by his wife, Frances Ward, of Chapel Hill; daughters Rachel Rueckeis of Berlin, Germany, Lydia Haren of Charleston, SC, and Catherine Harness of Charlotte; son, T. Spooner Ward of Atlanta; and eight grandchildren.

R. P. Stephen Davis, Jr.
Research Laboratories of Archaeology
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill

**Sandhills Archaeology Conference**

In conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the National Forests in North Carolina, The North Carolina Office of State Archaeology is pleased to announce the symposium, “Across the Border – An Archaeological and Environmental Discussion of the Sandhills Physiographic Province: A View from North and South Carolina.” Scheduled for August 20, 2011, from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. The conference will be held at Weymouth Woods State Park in Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The symposium will present the state of current research and provide suggestions for future studies for this unique physiographic region. Topics for discussion include prehistoric and historic settlement and subsistence practices, paleo-environmental studies, and military sites archaeology. Additional information forthcoming. For e-mail notification of updates, or with any questions, please contact John Mintz at 919-807-6555, or john.mintz@ncdcr.gov with the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology.
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  Fall Issue - August 31  
Summer Issue - May 31  Winter Issue - November 30

NCAS Officers

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