



## "Educational Webpage Feature: Voices of the Sandhills"

*Voices of the Sandhills* Educational Video Launched by Fort Bragg's Cultural Resources Management Program. Project Manager Dr. Linda Carnes-McNaughton answers questions about the video and its creation and long-term purpose. 2014.

### 1. Why is archaeology so important to protecting Fort Bragg's cultural resources and why are cultural resources important to Fort Bragg's mission?

Archaeology is the scientific study of people who lived in the past through the excavation and interpretation of artifacts and features they left behind. Archaeology is one of the few ways we can learn about people who left no written records. In North America, 95% of human history happened before there was writing on this continent. An archaeological site is any location or place where tangible, physical remnants of past human activities exist. Archaeologists excavate sites to unearth artifacts, soil features, and ecofacts that may be used to answer questions about when, who, where, how, and why people lived in the Sandhills during a particular time.

Fort Bragg's mission is to facilitate the readiness training of soldiers to fight for freedom and ensure our country's well-being. The CRMP's mission is to aid in this training by inventorying and evaluating the cultural resources found on the training lands. This is necessary to ensure Fort Bragg's compliance with Federal and State legislation and Army Regulations intended to foster excellent stewardship of these cultural resources for all generations, past, present, and future. Fort Bragg CRMP manages approximately 420 archaeological sites that contain useful information about the past. These sites reflect nearly 12,000 years of occupation in the Sandhills. These archaeological sites and artifacts exist today as fragile, non-renewable resources; it's up to us to protect them wherever and whenever possible.

### 2. What do you hope the *Voices of the Sandhills* project will accomplish? What is the desired use of the documentary and outcome?

Through consultation with American Indian Nations, state-recognized tribes, and local Sandhills descendants, Fort Bragg was encouraged to develop presentations that would (could) share our archaeology and American Indian history and culture with a larger public audience. These educational, electronic tools will highlight the scientific methods of archaeology at Fort Bragg, artifacts, types of sites, environmental contexts, and the cultural history synopses and perspectives on archaeology from contemporary voices. Two products were created, an interactive webpage which is already linked to the educational venues throughout the state and our own FBCRMP webpage, and a 20-minute video. The video is written and produced for use in North Carolina's 8<sup>th</sup> grade school curriculum as well as public television outlets across the region in order to reach multiple audiences. The desired outcome is to create a greater awareness and thus understanding of our state and country's diverse cultural past and our future united. Moreover, Fort Bragg has the responsibility to fulfill its obligation to protect cultural resources and promote stewardship of our collective histories.

### 3. What types of artifacts have you extracted from dig sites?

We prefer to use the word excavated, since this represents the slow, careful, and methodical nature of archaeological endeavors. In the 15 years our Cultural Resources Program has been in existence we have recovered over 300,000 artifacts related to human occupation and landuse in the Sandhills. Evidence of the earliest period, known as Paleo, is represented by stone tools and spear points known as Clovis types. Next the Archaic period is reflected by soapstone bowls, bone fish hooks, stones knives, axes, drills and spear points, along with decorative pendants. As the Woodland period

arrived Native Americans began to live in settle villages or hamlets and raise some crops. For this life they needed clay vessels or pottery for cooking, storing and consuming food. They also used clay to create tobacco smoking pipes, and invented a new hunting tool called the bow and arrow to hunt animals. Pottery sherds (or fragments), many types of arrow, spear and dart projectile points, along with ornamental items of bone or shell have been found on Fort Bragg Woodland period sites. During subsequent settlement by colonists from the western isles of Scotland, England, and Ireland, along with freed Africans and historic American Indians, the population of the Sandhills began another cultural phase. Artifacts from these early farmstead sites include a wide variety of artifacts including broken ceramics, bottles, buttons and clothing fasteners, metal hardware, tool, building materials such as bricks, mortar and pier stones of local sandstone. Certain artifacts also found represent the specialized cottage industry of naval stores and turpentineing (e.g., clay Herty cups, metal tools such as hackers or pullers, and

barrel remnants). Some site locations also yield evidence of Civil War activities which occurred in association with the Battle of Monroe's Crossroads (e.g., lead bullets, sword parts, rifle parts, uniform buckles and button, and firing pins from cannon).

#### 4. How can the general public view the documentary?

At present the Voices of the Sandhills webpage can be found linked to the Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program site; [www.bragg.army.mil/cr.aspx](http://www.bragg.army.mil/cr.aspx) and the North Carolina Archaeological Society webpage, under Educational offerings.

The video link can be found at Brockington and Associates, Inc. webpage [www.voicesofthesandhills.com](http://www.voicesofthesandhills.com).

The video is now available in most local and state libraries, cultural centers, and through the above-listed webpage.



## North Carolina Archaeology in the Digital Age

Ground penetrating radar (GPR) is just one of the many non-invasive techniques available to archaeologists when locating or studying sites. GPR transmits a radar signal from an antenna into the ground. This signal reflects off buried objects and some of the signal is transmitted back to a receiving antenna. The distance traveled and time elapsed is recorded by an associated computer. Multiple reflections are then used to create a three-dimensional image of the soil, sediment, and features below the ground's surface.

If you're interested in learning more about GPR, check out Lawrence B. Conyers' website, "Ground Penetrating Radar in Archaeology" (<http://mysite.du.edu/~lconyer/>). In addition to information about the technique itself, Conyers discusses examples of the technique in use, as well as providing links to some of the software available for GPR data processing. He also includes a list of recent articles that he has written about GPR. Some of the articles listed include links to a PDF version so that you can read them without having to find the journals mentioned.

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## Conference on Reconstructive and Experimental Archaeology October 17-19, 2014 - Schiele Museum of Natural History, Gastonia

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Conference on Reconstructive and Experimental Archaeology (RE-ARC) will be held at the Schiele Museum, in Gastonia, NC, during October 17-19, 2014. The program will begin on Friday evening with a meet-and-greet. On Saturday and on Sunday morning, both oral presentations and posters will be presented. In addition, there will break-out sessions scheduled for demonstrations and hands-on participation in ancient technologies.

The keynote speaker, on Saturday afternoon, will be Jean-Pierre Houdin, who will speak about his investigations of the internal ramp of the Great Pyramid in Egypt. The Groundbreakers Dinner will be held Saturday evening at a local restaurant. The goal of the conference is to bring together professional, student, and avocational archaeologists and historians who are deeply interested in how members of past human societies interacted with the world. Presentations about experimental archaeology, reconstructions, educational projects, international projects, and related topics are welcome. Students, avocational archaeologists, and professionals are all welcome to submit an abstract for either a paper or a poster. The conference also welcomes individuals who would like to present demonstrations of primitive technology or experimental archaeology. There are opportunities to set up demonstrations either inside or outside.

The submission deadline for proposals is August 30, 2014. Please send an abstract of your presentation or poster, up to 150 words, to Dr. Bill Schindler (Washington College, Chestertown, MD) at: [wschindler2@washcoll.edu](mailto:wschindler2@washcoll.edu). If you can't contribute a paper or poster, please join us for part or all of the conference. Information about registration, nearby lodging, and the program will soon be available at: <http://www.rearc.us/>. You can also find the programs of past conferences on the website, so you can see what sort of activities are on offer. The conference is relaxed and open to all. It is a great opportunity to observe and work with flint knappers and other experts in ancient technologies and experimental archaeology.



Students from Coastal Carolina University practice flint-knapping at the 2013 RE-ARC conference (picture by Dr. Carolyn Dillian, Coastal Carolina University)

# FALL MEETING INFORMATION ATTACHED

## NCAS Volunteer Excavations at Town Creek

For five weeks during May and June 2014, East Carolina University conducted an archaeological field school at Town Creek. Fieldwork focused on the south side of Town Creek's plaza in an area that had been investigated by archaeologists in the 1960s. The goal of the ECU fieldwork was to excavate features associated with a building that had been exposed but not excavated when the area originally was investigated. On Saturday June 7, several volunteers from the NCAS participated in a "members-only" day of excavations that contributed to the ECU project. Volunteers removed the upper 10-20 inches of disturbed, previously excavated soil in three 10-x-10-ft units, a truly impressive amount of dirt. Once this disturbed soil was removed, undisturbed archaeological features from Town

Creek's Mississippian occupation (AD 1150-1400) were visible. In addition to helping reveal Town Creek's archaeological past, NCAS members were given a tour of the site, and they also were able to enjoy events associated with Town Creek's celebration of World Atlatl Day. NCAS members who participated (i.e., sweated and moved lots of dirt) include Suzy and Richard Everhart, Lee and Cori Johnson, Carol Lamphier, Ryan and Julie Tsolis, Scott Turner, and Bryan Wiggins. NCAS Board members Tony Boudreaux, Daryl Armour, and Hannah Smith directed excavations for the day, and they were assisted by ECU students Terry Barbour, C.J. Idol, Diana Johnson, Chris Johnson, and Alexis Richardson.



CJ Idol, Daryl Armour, and Hannah Smith removing previously excavated soil at Town Creek.



NCAS volunteers excavating at Town Creek.

### 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:

**Winter Issue – January 31    Spring Issue – April 31    Summer Issue – July 31    Fall Issue – October 31**

### NCAS Officers

**President:** Theresa McReynolds Shebalin, PO Box 676, Mebane NC 27302

**Vice-president:** Tom Beaman, 5210 Carr Road, Wilson NC 27893

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

**Secretary:** Linda Carnes-McNaughton, Directorate of Public Works (IMBG-PWE-DR CARNES), 2175 Reilly Road Stop A, Fort Bragg NC 28310-5000

**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:** Daryl Armour, Tony Boudreaux, David Cranford, Charles Heath, John Krebs, Hannah Smith

## **Fall 2014 Joint NCAS/NCAC Meeting**

**Organizers: Thomas E. Beaman, Jr., RPA, Hannah P. Smith, and Jim McKee**

### **Friday, October 17 – Southport, NC**

6:00 PM Walking Tour of Historic and Archaeology of Southport, North Carolina.

Join local Southport historian Jim McKee as he provides a one-hour walking tour of the notable historic and archaeological sites of Southport, North Carolina. Those interested should gather on the ocean side lawn of Fort Johnston, located on East Bay Street, by 6:00 PM. Public parking is available on Bay Street and other streets nearby. A comfortable pair of walking shoes, bug repellent, and a bottle of water are recommended. No advanced registration required.

7:00 – North Carolina Archaeological Council Reception at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Southport

9:00 PM

The North Carolina Maritime Museum in Southport is located at 204 East Moore Street. Follow Highway 211 into downtown Southport, where it becomes North Howe Street. The museum is located on the left before the stoplight, on the corner of North Howe Street and East Moore Street, which is about two blocks before the end of North Howe Street at Bay Street (and the Atlantic Ocean).

9:00 PM – Southport Bar Crawl  
Until?

Following the North Carolina Archaeological Council reception, for those interested a scenic tour through Southport's finest (and not so finest) bars will be offered. You must be 21 years of age to participate. Designated drivers will be provided to shuttle participants back to their respective hotels if needed.

### **Saturday, October 18 – Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site Visitors Center and Museum, Winnabow, NC**

9:30 AM NCAS Board Meeting in the Conference Room

10:00 AM Welcome and Introductions in the Audio Visual Room

NCAS General Meeting

Elections for Positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, and two At-Large Board Positions. Winners announced following Program.

10:30 AM – Program: Recent Research on Colonial Era Brunswick Town and  
11:30 AM Civil War Period Fort Anderson

10:30 AM: Jim McKee (Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site) –

“Reaching for the Channel: Historical and Archaeology Recovery of a Colonial Period Wharf at Port Brunswick”

10:45 AM: Hannah P. Smith (Independent Researcher) – “Top and Bottom and Nothing In Between: The Conservation of an 18<sup>th</sup> Century Cap and Two Shoes”

11:00 AM: Thomas E. Beaman, Jr., RPA (Wake Technical Community College) and Vincent H. Melomo (William Peace University) – “Searching for the Civil War Barracks at Fort Anderson: Physical Remnants and Artifact Patterns”

11:15 AM: Paul R. Shivers (Hifill Engineering) and Jim McKee (Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site) – “Archaeology Above the Ground: Surveying the Earthworks of Fort Anderson”

11:30AM – On and Off the Marked Trails: A Historical and Archaeological Tour of Brunswick Town and Fort Anderson  
1:00 PM

A guided tour of the Historic Site will be offered, with specific attention to historical, archaeological, and preservation issues of the excavation ruin beyond the standard visitor tour. Stops at the commercial district and Civil War barracks site—both in the woods, well off the marked paths—will be included. A comfortable pair of walking shoes, bug repellent, and a bottle of water are recommended. No advanced registration required.

1:00 – Lunch on Your Own  
2:00 PM

2:00 - Tour of Fort Caswell  
4:30 PM

By special arrangement, a historical and archaeological tour of Fort Caswell, a Third System brick and mortar fort constructed between 1827 and 1838, will be offered. Due to the limited access granted to Fort Caswell, advanced registration will be required. Please contact Dee Nelms @ 919-807-6552, by Friday, October 11, should you wish to participate. The entrance fee into Fort Caswell will be paid by the North Carolina Archaeological Society. Those interested will meet in the parking lot of Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site, and will proceed by vehicle to Fort Caswell. A comfortable pair of walking shoes, bug repellent, and a bottle of water are recommended.

### **Lodging Options**

#### **Comfort Suites**

4963 Southport Supply Road, Southport, North Carolina, 28461  
910-454-7444

A block of 15 rooms can be reserved at the Comfort Suites under the name of the NCAS. There are smoking and non-smoking rooms available with 2 queen beds or king beds for \$111.20 per night, (plus tax). This hotel is located 15 minutes from Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson and is 10 minutes from Fort Caswell.

#### **Hampton Inn**

5181 Southport-Supply Road Southeast, Southport, North Carolina, 28461  
910-454-0016

There are smoking and non-smoking rooms available with 2 twin beds or king beds for approximately \$120.00 per night (plus tax). This hotel is also 15 minutes from Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson and is 10 minutes from Fort Caswell.

#### **Wingate by Wyndham Southport**

1511 North Howe Street, Southport, North Carolina 28461  
910-454-0086

The Wingate Hotel is located in downtown Southport, an approximate 15 minute drive to Fort Caswell. Rooms regularly vary in price between approximately \$130 to \$190 dollars, depending on preferences of room or suite with different amenities. Slightly lower room prices may be available if booked on-line.

### **Directions to Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site**

From Raleigh and Points West:

- Take I-40 East toward Wilmington.
- After you pass the Castle Hayne exit you should see a sign for I-140. Exit RIGHT and take I-140 West/South across the Cape Fear River and all the way to 421.
- Exit onto 421 South. After you are on 421 South for a little while, you will once again go over a bridge, and you will see the city of Wilmington, the Cape Fear River, and the Battleship Memorial on your left.
- Going over the bridge, get in the RIGHT LANE, and STAY TO YOUR RIGHT. You will want to stay on 133 SOUTH.
- Go 1 ½ miles and take the exit for SOUTHPORT / OAK ISLAND.
- At the bottom of the ramp you will come to a STOP LIGHT, make a LEFT.
- Follow 133 SOUTH for about 12 miles, and you will see signs for Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson on the left hand side of the road.
- At the signs for Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson, turn LEFT onto the secondary road and follow it into the Historic Site.

**Local Options for Lunch will be Provided Upon Request at the Meeting**