

***Announcing***  
**The North Carolina Archaeological Council Spring Symposium**  
**Hanes Art Center, UNC-Chapel Hill**  
**Saturday, April 11, 2015**

Chapel Hill – Lectures, archaeological artifacts, and a panel discussion exploring the preservation of archaeological sites throughout the state will be featured at the North Carolina Archaeological Council's Spring Symposium, to be held at Hanes Art Center on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill, Saturday, April 11, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. This free public event will feature presentations of recent archaeological research at Town Creek Indian Mound and a panel discussion envisioning new models for cultural resource conservation in North Carolina.

Town Creek Indian Mound in Montgomery County is one of the most extensively investigated archaeological sites in North Carolina (<http://www.nchistoricsites.org/town/town.htm>), and decades of fieldwork there have produced an extraordinary archaeological collection that is housed at the Research Laboratories of Archaeology on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill (<http://rla.unc.edu>). Most of these materials date to an intensive Mississippian-period occupation when Town Creek was a regional civic-ceremonial center. Over the past five years, several graduate students at East Carolina University have re-analyzed artifacts and records from Town Creek to investigate this ancient community, and this research is featured in several presentations.

Dr. Tony Boudreaux of East Carolina University will present a synopsis of recent research at Town Creek Indian Mounds at 9:00 am, along with the results of studies conducted by several ECU graduate students into contemporary 'hinterland sites' thought to be inhabited by the Pee Dee people, the settlement patterns of the Mississippian-period inhabitants of the Carolina Piedmont, the characteristics of Pee Dee houses and cemeteries within the Mississippian-period village at Town Creek, spatial patterning in the distribution of pottery found in the plow-zone at Town Creek, and the characteristics of smoking pipes found at the Town Creek site (<http://www.uapress.ua.edu/product/Archaeology-of-Town-Creek,1879.aspx>).

An afternoon panel discussion beginning at 1:00 pm will explore the issues, policies, and procedures surrounding the conservation of cultural resources in North Carolina. A range of perspectives on the issues will be represented by government officials, NGOs, archaeologists, and educators with the goal of envisioning new conservation models for cultural resources in our state. About 12 percent of North Carolina's land is owned or managed by governmental agencies with regulatory provisions for the conservation of cultural resources. The balance of land in the state, some 44,000 square miles, falls under county and local government jurisdiction where no cultural resource regulation exists. In most of the state, archaeological sites are disappearing at an extraordinary pace.

Among 100 counties in North Carolina, two have cultural resource conservation provisions in their economic development plans. Discussions will investigate the circumstances that prompted

officials in these counties to adopt cultural resource conservation policies, how the language of their provisions is drafted, and how their regulations are implemented. Panelists from the Archaeological Conservancy and the Public Archaeology Corps will describe their how their NGOs preserve archaeological resources, and wildlife biologists from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission will explain the Safe Harbor Agreement and Green Growth Tool Box programs, and other public-private conservation initiatives. As the structural components of North Carolina's Departments of Cultural, Environmental and Natural Resources merge, shared resource conservation programs hold promise for conserving of the state's rich archaeological heritage. Join us for a lively discussion of these topics!

Hanes Art Center is located on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus near Franklin Street (map section 6E, ([http://www.maps.unc.edu/CampusMaps/PdfMaps/Central\\_Campus\\_Map\\_with\\_Index\\_11x17.pdf](http://www.maps.unc.edu/CampusMaps/PdfMaps/Central_Campus_Map_with_Index_11x17.pdf)); contact Joe Herbert (910) 396-6680 or email [joseph.m.herbert8.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:joseph.m.herbert8.ctr@mail.mil) for more information.



Figure 1. Public Archaeology Corps (PAC) volunteers excavate a cistern at the Fanning House in Wilmington. The PAC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of archaeological sites located on private land through public outreach, education and volunteerism ([www.facebook.com/PACarchaeology](http://www.facebook.com/PACarchaeology)).



Figure 2. East Carolina University students and volunteers excavate in the Mississippian period village at Town Creek Indian Mound (<http://www.nchistoricsites.org/town/town.htm>).





Figure 3. East Carolina University student maps post molds in the Mississippian period village at Town Creek Indian Mound (<http://www.nchistoricsites.org/town/town.htm>).