In October 2005, the North Carolina Archaeological Society (NCAS) sponsored a very successful public archaeology dig at the newly discovered Twiddy-Saunders site in Currituck County, North Carolina. The site is located on private property scheduled for residential development. Found on the dune rim of a Carolina Bay formed during the Pleistocene epoch, it holds important archaeological and geological information about climate changes over the last 126,000 years.

Carolina Bays are shallow, oval depressions found throughout the east coast of the United States, from Florida to Delaware. The smallest can be less than 1 acre and the largest over 5,000 acres. Their origin has been a topic of great debate, with explanations ranging from craters of a meteor shower to giant fish nests. Today geologists and archaeologists feel they formed in late Wisconsinan glacial time as wind deflation hollows, or ‘blowouts’. Several of these bays are found along the southern part of the Currituck Peninsula. They have white sand rims and are thicker on the southeast edge. Over the centuries humans have visited and camped on these rims to exploit the bay’s resources.