

**CURRENT RESEARCH IN TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGY  
16TH ANNUAL MEETING**

Friday, January 30 and Saturday, January 31, 2004  
Ed Jones Auditorium, Ellington Agricultural Center

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 30**

- 2:00 Governor's Archaeological Advisory Council meeting
- 3:30 Discussion Session: New archaeology e-journal, and future of the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology
- 5:00 Reception at home of Susan Hollyday

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31**

- 8:25 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
Michael C. Moore (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 8:30 **Steve, Nick, and Issac's Great Adventure or Mr. Mason Goes to Washington.**  
Steve Rogers (*Tennessee Historical Commission*)
- 8:45 **Swallow Bluff Island Mounds in the Tennessee River, Hardin County.**  
Paul D. Welch (*Southern Illinois University*)
- 9:00 **Digging in a Loophole: Artifact Mining in Middle Tennessee.**  
Nick Fielder (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 9:15 **Renewed Archaeological Investigations in the Chief's Mound at Chucalissa, Memphis, Tennessee.**  
Jay D. Franklin and Todd D. McCurdy (*University of Memphis*)
- 9:30 **Deep Testing and Phase II Excavations Along the Nolichucky River, Greene County, Tennessee.**  
Sarah C. Sherwood, J.J. Kocis, B.A. Creswell (*Archaeological Research Laboratory, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*) and C.B. Oakley (*MACTEC*)
- 9:45 **Digging the 1822 State Capitol Building (40Rd271) in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.**  
Kevin E. Smith (*Middle Tennessee State University*)
- 10:00 **Buffer Zones, Warfare, and Settlement Patterning: Mississippian Polity Spacing in the Tennessee Valley.**  
David Dye (*University of Memphis*)
- BREAK            10:15-10:30
- 10:30 **Survey and Testing at the Samuel Doak Plantation, Greeneville, Tennessee.**  
Nicholas Honerkamp (*University of Tennessee, Chattanooga*)
- 10:45 **The Bluff Creek Phase Component at the Swan Creek Site (40Ls20), Lewis County.**  
Guy G. Weaver (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)

- 11:00 **The Archaeology and Preservation of the Entrance Trench into the Residential Ridge at Chucalissa.**  
Steven Sharp, Todd D. McCurdy, Cheyenne Krull, and Jay D. Franklin (*University of Memphis*)
- 11:15 **Recent Evidence of Mississippian Occupations in Southwestern Virginia.**  
Eric Voigt (*The Louis Berger Group, Inc.*)
- 11:30 **Obsidian Research in Tennessee and Alabama.**  
Mark Norton (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 11:45 **The Ensworth School Project: Archaeological Investigations and Burial Removal at Site 40Dv184, Davidson County.**  
Aaron Deter-Wolf (*TRC*)

LUNCH 12:00-1:00

- 1:00 **Excavations at Mound A, Shiloh: The 1999 to 2003 Fieldwork.**  
David G. Anderson (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*) and John E. Cornelison, Jr. (*National Park Service*)
- 1:15 **Another One Doesn't Bite the Dust? Developing the Fewkes Site (40Wm1) as Part of Primm Park, Brentwood, Tennessee.**  
Christopher Hogan and Kevin E. Smith (*Middle Tennessee State University*)
- 1:30 **A Summary of Archaeological Survey on the Western Escarpment of the Northern Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee.**  
Jay D. Franklin (*University of Memphis*)
- 1:45 **Raising the Dead: Cemetery Exhumation Beneath Runway Charlie at the Memphis Shelby County Airport.**  
Warren J. Oster and Jamison P. Richardson (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)
- 2:00 **Preliminary Analysis of the Human Skeletal Remains from Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee (40Sy619).**  
Rebecca J. Wilson, Lee Meadows Jantz, M. Kate Spradley, Donna McCarthy, and Richard L. Jantz (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

BREAK 2:15-2:30

- 2:30 **Cagle Saltpetre Cave, Fall Creek Falls State Park, Van Buren County, Tennessee.**  
Sarah A. Blankenship (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*), Joseph C. Douglas (*Volunteer State Community College*), Sarah C. Sherwood, Nicholas P. Herrmann, and Jan F. Simek (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)
- 2:45 **Paleoindian Prismatic Blade Manufacture and Function at the Nuckolls Site (40Hs60): A Pilot Study.**  
Elijah C. Ellerbusch (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)
- 3:00 **The 2003 Cliffline Archaeological Survey Project at Big South Fork NRA.**  
Daniel Brock (*Middle Tennessee State University*), Tom Des Jean (*BISO, National Park Service*), and Kevin E. Smith (*Middle Tennessee State University*)
- 3:15 **The Greenwood Cemetery Project: The Application of Multi-Disciplinary Approaches in the Study of Historic Period Cemeteries.**  
Daniel S. Allen, IV (*Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University and Cumberland Research Group, Inc*)

3:30 **Recent Research at Fort Campbell, KY-TN.**

Christopher A. Bergman (*BHE Environmental, Inc.*), Richard D. Davis (*Fort Campbell*), Donald A. Miller (*BHE Environmental, Inc.*), and Richard V. Williamson (*Fort Campbell*)

3:45 **Fort Campbell Archaeological Site Database.**

Jennifer R. Boudreaux-Lynn (*Fort Campbell*)

## ABSTRACTS OF PRESENTATIONS

**Allen, Daniel S., IV** (*Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University and Cumberland Research Group, Inc.*)

**THE GREENWOOD CEMETERY PROJECT: THE APPLICATION OF MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACHES IN THE STUDY OF HISTORIC PERIOD CEMETERIES.** In the most recent volume of the *Journal of the Society for Historical Archaeology* 37(4):56, Johan Liebens demonstrates the research potential of accurate mapping and databases as fully interactive web sites for multi-disciplinary types of research of historic cemeteries. This presentation focuses on a comparable regional research project that adds robotic total station mapping to its Geographic Information System (GIS), ground-penetrating radar (GPR), electromagnetic induction (EMI), archaeological, and historical survey databases, gravemarker survey and conservation, and interpretation to raise public awareness of the historical significance of Greenwood Cemetery, the original nineteenth-century public burial ground of Columbia, Tennessee.

In active use from about 1809 until the latter 1800s, Greenwood is the resting place of many of Columbia's earliest settlers both free and enslaved, and is suspected to have been damaged by a portion of Union breastworks and skirmishing around Columbia during Confederate General John Bell Hood's ill-fated Nashville campaign in November and December of 1864, a question being addressed through archaeology. Abandoned by local whites after the Civil War probably as a result of its close proximity to a Reconstruction-era African-American Church and the expansion of the "black" section on the northern periphery of Greenwood, burial in the cemetery became restricted during the Jim Crow years and Greenwood was allowed to fall into an advanced state of disrepair until identified as a historic property associated with the Civil War and Reconstruction in the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (TCWNHA) and the decision to integrate the cemetery into Columbia Riverwalk, a project requiring modification of the historic river front between the Maury County Courthouse and Greenwood cemetery.

The multi-disciplinary research project is a cooperative effort between staff and graduate students of the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University and the Biosystems Engineering and Environmental Science Department of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and is funded by the City of Columbia with minor endowments by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. To be completed in June of 2004, the research is designed to result in a technical publication useful as a tool of proactive management and interpretation of Greenwood Cemetery. In addition, maps and databases generated by the project are designed for interactive online use as a tool of multi-disciplinary research.

**Anderson, David G.** (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*) and **John E. Cornelison, Jr.** (*National Park Service*)

**EXCAVATIONS AT MOUND A, SHILOH: THE 1999 TO 2003 FIELDWORK.** Large scale excavations have been underway since 2001 at the primary Mississippian mound at Shiloh Indian Mounds National Historic Landmark, following initial remote sensing and testing investigations in 1999. From May through November 2003 a third major field season of investigations were conducted by archaeologists from the Southeast Archeological Center, National Park Service. Almost 4000 person days have been spent to date in fieldwork documenting the mound's construction history. At least five major stages are evident in the seven meter high profile, several with well defined structures. Mound stage surfaces were not single episodes of building, use, and abandonment, but instead consisted of numerous successive stacked floors separated by thin layers of fill. Elaborate use of color characterizes many surfaces and filling episodes in the mound. Mississippian mounds, and mound stages, the work at Mound A indicates, can have highly complex histories, and also suggest that our traditional ideas about what these earthworks looked like are in need of considerable modification.

**Bergman, Christopher A.** (*BHE Environmental, Inc.*), **Richard D. Davis** (*Fort Campbell*), **Donald A. Miller** (*BHE Environmental, Inc.*), and **Richard V. Williamson** (*Fort Campbell*)

**RECENT RESEARCH AT FORT CAMPBELL, KY-TN.** This paper will discuss recent results of Site Detection survey and Eligibility Evaluation testing conducted at Fort Campbell, KY-TN. This research has used a number of methods and techniques new to Fort Campbell, including intensive close interval shovel testing, GPS recording at the shovel test and surface inspection levels, geomorphological investigations of alluvial settings, and a battery of analytical techniques including microwear and serological analyses. This paper will focus on the application of these techniques and resulting improvements in the cost efficiency and accuracy of data collection.

**Blankenship, Sarah A.** (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*), **Joseph C. Douglas** (*Volunteer State Community College*), **Sarah C. Sherwood, Nicholas P. Herrmann, and Jan F. Simek** (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

**CAGLE SALTPETRE CAVE, FALL CREEK FALLS STATE PARK, VAN BUREN COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** During the nineteenth century, the increasing demand for nitre, a vital ingredient in gunpowder, led to both large and small-scale saltpeter-mining operations in caves throughout Tennessee. Although the general procedures in the historic processing of saltpeter are fairly well understood, very little research has been undertaken on specific saltpeter-mining sites. As part of the UTK Fall Creek Falls Archaeological Survey, research is underway at Cagle Saltpetre Cave in Van Buren County. The research design is focused on establishing specific temporal parameters, studying changes in technology, and outlining the social history of saltpeter mining. Sites such as Cagle Saltpetre Cave, situated within the broader regional, national, and sociopolitical contexts of historic industrial development, saltpeter mining, and gunpowder production, are integral to a greater understanding of extractive industries in early Tennessee. Since the site is fragile and vulnerable, a further aim of the research is to develop effective measures to preserve it.

**Boudreaux-Lynn, Jennifer R.** (*Fort Campbell*)

**FORT CAMPBELL ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE DATABASE.** The Fort Campbell Cultural Resources Management Program has a more accurate and reliable inventory of its 1300+ archaeological sites than in the past due to the creation of an archaeological site database. The database is a comprehensive system with complete and up-to-date information on all the archaeological sites on the Fort Campbell Military Reservation. As a result, the archaeological site database has been valuable in making better management decisions. It is beneficial to the site monitoring and verification program. The database can also be an advantageous tool for researchers interested in the Fort Campbell region.

**Brock, Daniel** (*Middle Tennessee State University*), **Tom Des Jean** (*BISO, National Park Service*), and **Kevin E. Smith** (*Middle Tennessee State University*)

**THE 2003 CLIFFLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY PROJECT AT BIG SOUTH FORK NRRA.** Since 1996, the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (National Park Service) and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology (Middle Tennessee State University) have collaboratively sponsored a summer archaeological survey project. This summer internship program is specifically designed to identify and record rockshelter sites along the approximately 750 miles of clifflines in the NRRA. This paper reports the results of the 2003 survey project conducted by Daniel Brock, Paige Silcox, and Colby Parrott, which brings the number of sites recorded during the project to 251 along more than 70 miles of cliffline.

**Cornelison, John E., Jr.** (see David G. Anderson)

**Creswell, B. A.** (see Sarah C. Sherwood)

**Davis, Richard D.** (see Christopher A. Bergman)

**Des Jean, Tom** (see Daniel Brock)

**Deter-Wolf, Aaron** (*TRC*)

**THE ENSWORTH SCHOOL PROJECT: ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AND BURIAL REMOVAL AT SITE 40DV184, DAVIDSON COUNTY.** In July of 2003, a bulldozer uncovered prehistoric human remains on the grounds of the new Ensworth High School, which is being constructed along Hwy 100 south of Bellevue. These burials, which were associated with previously recorded site 40Dv184, were situated on land slated for use as construction fill during creation of the school's athletic facilities. Throughout the late summer and fall, TRC conducted excavations designed to identify and remove all human remains from the site. These investigations resulted in the identification of 335 prehistoric archaeological features, sixty-four of which were found to contain human burials. The largest portion of the burials date to the Middle Archaic, and a number of these yielded oversized Benton style cache blades. However, the site exhibits artifacts from nearly the full range of prehistoric human occupation. This paper will discuss the investigations at the site.

**Douglas, Joseph C.** (see Sarah A. Blankenship)

**Dye, David** (*University of Memphis*)

**BUFFER ZONES, WARFARE, AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNING: MISSISSIPPIAN POLITY SPACING IN THE TENNESSEE VALLEY.** A survey of Mississippian settlement patterns along the Tennessee Valley reveals a distinct arrangement in settlement choices. The location of civic-ceremonial centers and their subsidiary towns suggests that chiefly polities were spatially arranged, in part, to create buffer zones against hostile neighboring chiefdoms. In this paper I use a model formulated by Hally to assess the regularity over time in polity arrangement in the Tennessee Valley during the Mississippian period.

**Ellerbusch, Elijah C.** (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

**PALEOINDIAN PRISMATIC BLADE MANUFACTURE AND FUNCTION AT THE NUCKOLLS SITE (40HS60): A PILOT STUDY.** A lithic technological analysis of 319 Paleoindian prismatic blades and blade fragments from the Nuckolls Habitation Site suggests that blades were organized as complex economic systems that complemented bifacial technologies during the Paleoindian period in western Tennessee. Prismatic blade manufacture primarily occurred at habitation sites situated near high-quality lithic raw material sources. Concurrently, prismatic blades were manufactured most often from these local high-quality cherts and less often from “exotic” cherts found in other environmental regions. The high-power microscopic use-wear analysis of a 5% sample of suggests that prismatic blade utilization also occurred most often at habitation sites, while light, durable, and flexible blades could have been transported to extraction localities within mobile toolkits. Prismatic blades were used at the Nuckolls Site primarily to fabricate tools and secondarily to butcher game and process hide, demonstrating that they were multifunctional. This empirical observation challenges the assumption that Paleoindian blades were specialized butchery implements in the Southeast. Based upon these initial findings, it is argued that prismatic blade research is essential for understanding the complete lithic economic organization of Southeastern Paleoindian foragers.

**Fielder, Nick** (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

**DIGGING IN A LOOPHOLE: ARTIFACT MINING IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE.** State law allows a person to dig or collect artifacts on private land with the owner's permission. However, it a felony to knowingly disturb human burials. In Robertson County, relic collectors took this legal privilege to a new level when they leased a large Archaic site to mine for artifacts. In a bizarre twist, apparently other relic collectors planted a human skeleton in the backdirt, just prior to an unannounced visit by the Division staff. Tennessee's archaeology laws are compared to the state's hunting laws.

**Franklin, Jay D.** (*University of Memphis*)

**A SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY ON THE WESTERN ESCARPMENT OF THE NORTHERN CUMBERLAND PLATEAU OF TENNESSEE.** This presentation gives a preliminary synthesis of recent and ongoing archaeological research of the caves, rock shelters, and open air sites of the northern Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee. In short, nearly 200 sites were surveyed or revisited. Together, these represent more than 200 prehistoric cultural components in the project area. These components span the entire range of prehistory from at least Clovis through the Late Mississippian.

**Franklin, Jay D.** (see Steven Sharp)

**Franklin, Jay D. and Todd D. McCurdy** (*University of Memphis*)

**RENEWED ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE CHIEF'S MOUND AT CHUCALISSA, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.** The University of Tennessee conducted the initial archaeological investigations at Chucalissa in 1940. This was before the advent of radiometric dating, and virtually all of the field notes were lost. The dating of the Chief's Mound has been presumed to have been restricted to the Walls Phase based on ceramic chronology. Recent excavations aim to refine the chronology through the recovery and radiometric dating of charcoal samples from the various construction and destruction episodes revealed within the profile of the mound. In this presentation, we report our preliminary findings.

**Hermann, Nicholas P.** (see Sarah A. Blankenship)

**Hogan, Christopher and Kevin E. Smith** (*Middle Tennessee State University*)

**ANOTHER ONE DOESN'T BITE THE DUST? DEVELOPING THE FEWKES SITE (40WM1) AS PART OF PRIMM PARK, BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE.** Recently, the Primm family donated 30 acres to the City of Brentwood that is now under development as an historical park (Primm Park). The land includes most of the Fewkes Site (40WM1), a Mississippian period mound center and the Boiling Springs Academy, an 1833 brick schoolhouse. The City has consulted with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology and Middle Tennessee State University to develop the park in a fashion sensitive to archaeological concerns. During restoration of the academy, a significant sample of Mississippian and historic period artifacts were recovered from beneath the floorboards. This paper will provide an update on the park development and artifacts recovered.

**Honerkamp, Nicholas** (*University of Tennessee, Chattanooga*)

**SURVEY AND TESTING AT THE SAMUEL DOAK PLANTATION, GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE.** In the summer of 2003, four weeks of survey and testing was undertaken adjacent to the Samuel W. Doak plantation house in Greeneville, Tennessee, by the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Archaeological Field. Built about 1829, this still-standing structure housed a series of Doak descendants until the present. Despite continual occupation and modification of the plantation landscape, intact archaeological remains were identified at the site, including undocumented structural foundations that probably predate the house and an enigmatic and out-of-(temporal)-place delftware apothecary jar, complete with its intact and even more enigmatic contents. Finally, the problems and promises for future testing at this site are explored.

**Jantz, Lee Meadows** (see Rebecca J. Wilson)

**Jantz, Richard L.** (see Rebecca J. Wilson)

**Kocis, J. J.** (see Sarah C. Sherwood)

**Krull, Cheyenne** (see Steven Sharp)

**McCarthy, Donna** (see Rebecca J. Wilson)

**McCurdy, Todd D.** (see Jay D. Franklin)

**McCurdy, Todd D.** (see Steven Sharp)

**Miller, Donald A.** (see Christopher A. Bergman)

**Norton, Mark** (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

**OBSIDIAN RESEARCH IN TENNESSEE AND ALABAMA.** Recently, four obsidian artifacts found in Tennessee and north Alabama were submitted to the Northwest Research Obsidian Studies Laboratory in Corvallis, Oregon for analysis. The results indicate volcanic glass from California, Nevada, and Oregon was traded into this region, possibly as early as the Late Archaic period. The types of obsidian artifacts also reveal that cores, bifaces, and finished projectile points were traded. This presentation will provide all of the laboratory data and will hopefully lead to a better awareness of this exotic material.

**Oakley, C. B.** (see Sarah C. Sherwood)

**Oster, Warren J. and Jamison P. Richardson** (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)

**RAISING THE DEAD: CEMETERY EXHUMATION BENEATH RUNWAY CHARLIE AT THE MEMPHIS SHELBY COUNTY AIRPORT.** On March 4, 2003, a construction crew working on runway improvements at the Memphis Shelby County Airport unearthed a casket containing human remains. Following a chancery court order allowing for the excavation of the cemetery, Weaver & Associates archaeologists began an intensive program of monitoring, probing, and burial excavation. A total of 65 graves were located and exhumed between March 5 and March 27. Archival research indicates the cemetery was affiliated with the Providence Missionary Baptist Church, an African-American church that stood on the site from 1899 to ca. 1935. This paper

presents the methodologies and preliminary findings of our investigations and explores questions raised by the loss and recent discovery of the graveyard.

**Richardson, Jamison P.** (see Warren J. Oster)

**Rogers, Steve** (*Tennessee Historical Commission*)

**STEVE, NICK AND ISAAC'S GREAT ADVENTURE OR MR. MASON GOES TO WASHINGTON.**

During the summer of 2002 archaeologist from DuVall and Associates worked to relocate a small family cemetery in Giles County, Tennessee. Thirty-nine burials were moved that included the remains of four adults and two children buried in six cast-iron coffins. The identity of five of the six individuals buried in the cast-iron coffins was known, however, the remains of one individual was not determined. The ensuing historic, forensic, and clothing analysis provide detailed information to positively identify the individual and offer a unique opportunity to study bone pathology, burial customs, and mortuary practices during the Civil War.

**Sharp, Steven, Todd D. McCurdy, Cheyenne Krull, and Jay D. Franklin** (*University of Memphis*)

**THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND PRESERVATION OF THE ENTRANCE TRENCH INTO THE RESIDENTIAL RIDGE AT CHUCALISSA.**

In this presentation, we outline a brief culture history of the residential ridge at Chucalissa. Further, we discuss the excavation and preservation history of the Entrance Trench into the ridge, including the intricacies of chronological resolution. Finally, we present our proposals for renewed archaeological investigations and future preservation concerns.

**Sherwood, Sarah C.** (see Sarah A. Blankenship)

**Sherwood, Sarah C., J.J. Kocis, B.A. Creswell** (*Archaeological Research Laboratory, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*) and **C.B. Oakley** (*MACTEC*)

**DEEP TESTING AND PHASE II EXCAVATIONS ALONG THE NOLICHUCKY RIVER, GREENE COUNTY, TENNESSEE.**

The Archaeological Research Laboratory, in conjunction with MACTEC Engineering, conducted Phase II excavations for the Tennessee Department of Transportation's replacement of West Allen's Bridge over the Nolichucky River in Greene County, Tennessee. A program of hand-test excavations, mechanical backhoe trenching and hydraulic coring (Geoprobe) was used to investigate the potential for buried sites. The project resulted in the identification of deeply buried, former surface horizons associated with Mississippian to Archaic cultural materials at the Birdwell Site (40GN228) and the Neas Site (40GN229). Hand excavations revealed a significant Pisgah Phase refuse pit with a diverse assemblage of artifacts that included exceptionally well-preserved bone. Backhoe excavations could not reach the vertical extent of the sites, however, the Geoprobe was able to recover cultural deposits over five meters in depth. A comparison of these methods demonstrates that the hydraulic corer is the more informative, efficient and safer technique to identify buried archaeological deposits in an alluvial setting.

**Simek, Jan F.** (see Sarah A. Blankenship)

**Smith, Kevin E.** (*Middle Tennessee State University*)

**DIGGING THE 1822 STATE CAPITOL BUILDING (40RD271) IN MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE.**

While largely forgotten today, Murfreesboro served as the capital city of Tennessee from 1818-1825. As part of the Rutherford County Bicentennial Celebration, the 2003 MTSU Archaeological Field School located and investigated the remains of the original First Presbyterian Church of Murfreesboro (1820-1864) - a structure that served as the Capitol Building in 1822 when the Tennessee legislature first nominated Andrew Jackson for President. The results of the archaeological and historical investigations served to heighten community awareness of this important period in local and state history, and will be used to nominate the church site and surrounding Old City Cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places.

**Smith, Kevin E.** (see Daniel Brock)

**Smith, Kevin E.** (see Christopher Hogan)

**Spradley, M. Kate** (see Rebecca J. Wilson)

**Voigt, Eric** (*The Louis Berger Group, Inc.*)

**RECENT EVIDENCE OF MISSISSIPPIAN OCCUPATIONS IN SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA.** The Louis Berger Group, Inc., has completed archaeological data recovery excavations at two archaeological sites, Station Creek (44LE211) and Parkey No. 3 (44LE217), in Lee County, Virginia. The sites are located in the Indian Creek locality, less than 2 kilometers north of the Claiborne County line (Tennessee). The sites are located near sinkholes, features that are relatively common in the karst landscape that characterizes this portion of the Valley and Ridge province in Virginia. At the Station Creek Site, a Mississippian component was identified based on the presence of two chamber-and-shaft burials (one of which was dated to AD 1035-1245), Pisgah Plain sand-tempered pottery, shell-tempered pottery, Candy Creek limestone-tempered pottery, and a cannel coal bead. At Parkey No. 3, the Mississippian component is manifest as Pisgah Check Stamped and Plain pottery. The proximity of the two sites to the Cumberland Gap and the Tennessee River drainage appears to have facilitated interaction among local, late prehistoric groups in Virginia and regional groups involved in the Appalachian Summit Mississippian tradition. The presence of town-and-mound complexes, shaft-and-chamber burials, Mississippian pottery, and other aspects of Mississippian material culture indicates that Mississippian cultural influence in the area was significant and that it cannot be viewed as a mere cultural veneer adopted by the late prehistoric inhabitants of southwestern Virginia.

**Weaver, Guy G.** (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)

**THE BLUFF CREEK PHASE COMPONENT AT THE SWAN CREEK SITE (40LS20), LEWIS COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** In the summer of 2000, extensive archaeological data recovery was conducted at the Swan Creek Site, a large multi-component site impacted by the expansion of State Route 99. The site is located in the western Highland Rim on a tributary of the lower Duck River. Analysis of the feature distributions indicate structural remains and activity areas associated with the Wheeler horizon Bluff Creek Phase, dated ca. 900 BC. This paper describes the material culture and site structure of this component, and places it within an inter-regional context.

**Welch, Paul D.** (*Southern Illinois University*)

**SWALLOW BLUFF ISLAND MOUNDS IN THE TENNESSEE RIVER, HARDIN COUNTY.** Swallow Bluff Island in the Tennessee River in the western part of the state has on it a Mississippian site with two mounds. For at least the last decade, the larger of these mounds has been eroding into the river. An illegal and abortive attempt to develop the shoreline in the late 1990s increased the rate of erosion, and now only a small fraction of the mound remains. Shortly after the flood of May 2003, cleaning of the mound's profile revealed the stratigraphy of this about-to-disappear monument. Much about the site remains unknown, including its prospect for preservation.

**Williamson, Richard V.** (see Christopher A. Bergman)

**Wilson, Rebecca J., Lee Meadows Jantz, M. Kate Spradley, Donna McCarthy, and Richard L. Jantz** (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

**PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF THE HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS FROM PROVIDENCE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE (40SY619).** This presentation will discuss the analysis of the human skeletal remains from the Providence Missionary Baptist Church cemetery, a historic Black church in Memphis, Tennessee. Reconstruction of age, sex, and ancestry allows us to examine the population demography of the cemetery. Metric analysis of the crania and postcrania provides the opportunity to compare this population to others of the same period. Skeletal and dental pathology provide information on the overall health of these individuals and can allow insight into the life history of this historic community.