

**CURRENT RESEARCH IN TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGY
11TH ANNUAL MEETING**

Friday, January 22 and Saturday, January 23, 1999
Ed Jones Auditorium, Ellington Agricultural Center

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

- 1:00 Archaeological Advisory Council, Quarterly Meeting
- 2:45 Tennessee Anthropological Association, Business Meeting (immediately following the Advisory Council meeting)
- 3:00 Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology, Annual Meeting (immediately following the TAA meeting)
- 4:00 Reception Sponsored by the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology (immediately following the TCPA meeting)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

- 8:35 **Welcome and Introductory Remarks**
Mike Moore (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 8:45 **Archaeology at Bledsoe's Station, 1998**
Kevin E. Smith (*Middle Tennessee State University*)
- 9:00 **Phase III Data Recovery on the Cheek Site (40Ce28), Claiborne County, Tennessee**
Rick Alvey (*University of Tennessee Transportation Center*)
- 9:15 **The Ridley Graveyard (40Wm208) Relocation Project, Williamson County, Tennessee**
C. Andrew Buchner (*Panamerican Consultants, Inc.*)
- 9:30 **Geoarchaeology and the New Madrid Seismic Zone: Radiocarbon Assays from the Lindamood Site, Lake County, Tennessee**
Steve Carlson (*University of Arkansas*) and William Lawrence (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 9:45 **Archaeological Investigation of a Civil War Site in Loudon County, Tennessee**
Charles Bentz (*University of Tennessee Transportation Center*)
- 10:00 **Horn Springs: An Exercise in "Archaeo-Geography", Wilson County**
J. Douglas Heffington (*Cumberland University/Middle Tennessee State University*)
- BREAK 10:15-10:30
- 10:30 **Salvage Archaeology at the Kelley's Battery Site (40Dv392): A Mississippian Village in Western Davidson County, Tennessee**
Scott Jones (*DuVall and Associates, Inc.*)
- 10:45 **Continuing Research Concerning Historic Period Pottery Manufacture in Tennessee**
Samuel D. Smith (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 11:00 **A Preliminary Seriation of Dallas Ceramics**

Lynn P. Sullivan, *New York State Museum*, and Timothy Baumann (*University of Missouri-St. Louis*)

11:15 **Cannons, Cannonballs, and the Bomb Squad: A Recent Discovery in Downtown Nashville**
Nick Fielder (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

11:30 **Disturbed Primary Burials Versus Disturbed Secondary Burials**
Thomas E. Bodkin (*Hamilton County Medical Examiner*)

11:45 **Recent Excavations at the First Hermitage, Davidson County, Tennessee**
Jillian Galle and Larry McKee (*The Hermitage*)

LUNCH 12:00-1:00

1:00 **Prehistoric Cave Mineral Mining in Tennessee**
Jan F. Simek and Erin Pritchard (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

1:15 **The Westview Plantation Site (40Wm178), Williamson County, Tennessee**
C. Alan Longmire (*University of Tennessee Transportation Center*)

1:30 **Current Research in Tennessee**
Guy Weaver (*Weaver and Associates*)

1:45 **Historical Archaeology at the Ames Plantation: A 19th Century Slave and Emergent Tenant Cotton Plantation in Southwest Tennessee**
Daniel S. Allen, IV (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

2:00 **Remote Sensing and Diver Investigation of the Battle of Johnsonville Site**
Michael C. Tuttle (*Panamerican Maritime L.L.C.*)

2:15 **Phase II and III Archaeological Investigations of the Tipton/Dixon House Site (40Ld179), Loudon County, Tennessee**
Todd Ahlman (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

BREAK 2:30-2:45

2:45 **1998 Archaeological Investigations at the Fewkes Site (40Wm1), Williamson County, Tennessee**
A. Merrill Dicks, Christopher Hazel, and Shane A. McCorkle (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

3:00 **The Cultural Resource Program at Fort Campbell**
Dorothy Humpf (*Cultural Resource Management Program*)

3:15 **Recent Archaeological Investigations at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky-Tennessee**
Eric Albertson (*Panamerican Consultants, Inc.*)

3:30 **Phase II Excavations at Ft. Campbell, Stewart County, Tennessee**
Andrew P. Bradbury (*Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.*)

3:45 **Archaeological Testing at Five Sites in Lewis County, Tennessee**
Gerald P. Smith (*University of Memphis*)

ABSTRACTS OF PRESENTATIONS

Ahlman, Todd M. (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

PHASE II AND III ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE TIPTON/DIXON HOUSE SITE (40LD179), LOUDON COUNTY, TENNESSEE. The Tipton/Dixon House site in Loudon County, Tennessee is on an older alluvial terrace of the Bat Creek Peninsula that extends into the Tellico Reservoir. Phase II archaeological testing of the site by the University of Tennessee revealed prehistoric and historic period occupations. The prehistoric component appears to be a small Middle and Late Woodland upland campsite. The recovered artifacts consist of Middle and Late Woodland pottery and projectile points. A few prehistoric cultural features, primarily shallow pits, were encountered. The historic period occupation began around 1820 when William Dixon settled the property, and continued through the 1960s. During Dixon's tenure a house on the property served as the first Circuit Court for Monroe County. During the Antebellum period, John B. Tipton, a large landowner and politician who owned several slaves, occupied the property. During the 20th century the property was occupied by a series of tenants until it was purchased by TVA. Phase III archaeological excavations were recently undertaken to address questions relating to the prehistoric component, the construction sequence of the house, the activities in the backyard, and where the African-American slaves may have resided.

Albertson, Eric (*Panamerican Consultants, Inc.*)

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT FT. CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE. During the past calendar year, the Memphis office of Panamerican Consultants, Inc. has conducted three large-scale survey projects at Fort Campbell under a contract with the National Park Service. Approximately 9400 acres have been surveyed utilizing an intensive 20-meter interval site detection strategy. A large number of sites have been identified during the course of fieldwork, ranging from Paleoindian encampments to an upland Mississippian period farmstead, as well as late Historic rural residences. Significant findings are presented from a cultural-historical perspective.

Allen, Daniel S., IV (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE AMES PLANTATION: A 19TH CENTURY SLAVE AND EMERGENT TENANT COTTON PLANTATION IN SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE. Ames Plantation is an area of great significance in the study of culture change during the historic period of the American southeast. During the antebellum period, agricultural units ranging from large cotton-producing plantations to smaller farmsteads and subsistence farms occupied the region. Postbellum changes to the political, social, and economic environments of the region are represented in a shift to tenant and sharecropper farming on smaller land bases. The study of Ames history and archaeology are especially critical to interpreting regional African-American history as the documentary record provides minimal insight into the lives of slaves and freemen. This lecture presents the results of three years of historical archaeology on the circa 18,000 acre land base of the Ames Plantation, an emergent tenant plantation located on the North Fork of the Wolf River of southwest Tennessee. Analysis of contexts and artifacts associated with historic occupation of the landscape provides new insights into highly critical periods of transition for pioneer farmers and African-Americans of West Tennessee.

Alvey, Rick (*University of Tennessee Transportation Center*)

PHASE III DATA RECOVERY ON THE CHEEK SITE (40CE28), CLAIBORNE COUNTY, TENNESSEE. Phase III data recovery was conducted on the Cheek site (40Ce28) between November 8, 1996 and February 20, 1997. This investigation was performed in conjunction with the improvement of SR-33 (US 25E) from 0.8 km north of Indian Creek to 1.6 km north of the Powell River in Claiborne and Grainger counties, Tennessee. The work was conducted by the Transportation Center at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville for Neel-Schaeffer, Inc., and the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The site was located on the north bank of the Powell River. Ten block areas of varying sizes were investigated. A majority of the 119 cultural features excavated were of prehistoric origin. A major Early Woodland component was identified. Seven radiocarbon dates derived from features containing Early Woodland artifacts ranged between 770 and 1170 BC. Early Woodland diagnostics included Swannanoa ceramics and a number of projectile points/knives. A new PPK cluster, the Powell River cluster, was defined. In addition, minor Archaic, Middle Woodland, and historic components were identified.

Baumann, Timothy (see Lynne P. Sullivan)

Bentz, Charles (*University of Tennessee Transportation Center*)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF A CIVIL WAR SITE IN LOUDON COUNTY, TENNESSEE. Archaeologists from the Transportation Center at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville conducted an intensive Phase I survey and limited testing of site 40Ld211 within the right-of-way of a proposed access road in Sugarlimb Industrial Park in Loudon, Loudon County, Tennessee. The archaeological investigations resulted in the identification of 11 Civil War related features on "Button Hill" on 40Ld211. During the Civil War, the railroad and river crossings at Loudon were important in controlling the movement of troops and supplies in East Tennessee. This is evidenced by the complex of earthworks on both sides of the river near the railroad bridge, including site 40Ld211. The sampling of five features at 40Ld211 revealed the intact remains of Civil War "wintering huts" or other related structures on "Button Hill."

Bodkin, Thomas (*Hamilton County Medical Examiner*)

DISTURBED PRIMARY BURIALS VERSUS DISTURBED SECONDARY DEPOSITS. On June 29, 1998, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, skeletal remains were found on top of a backfill pile at a construction site. The Medical Examiner Office responded to the scene and determined the remains were of cultural resource significance, and the State Archaeologist was then notified. The property owner claimed that the remains were already mixed in the previous fill dirt and not the result of disturbed primary burials. The difference in determining whether primary burials or secondary deposits have been disturbed could determine future land use for the property owner. How to determine primary versus secondary deposits after the deposits have been dug up will be discussed.

Bradbury, Andrew P. (*Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.*)

PHASE II EXCAVATIONS AT FORT CAMPBELL, STEWART COUNTY, TENNESSEE. In March 1998, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. conducted Phase II excavations at Fort Campbell. A summary of two of the prehistoric sites excavated in the Stewart County portion of the base is presented. Excavations at 40Sw357 revealed a single component of an undetermined temporal period. Analysis of the recovered materials suggests a limited activity loci used on a short-term basis. Investigations of 40Sw346 revealed a single component Mississippian occupation (ca. AD 960). Artifact analysis indicate that the site likely served as a short-term occupation, limited activity loci during the fall/winter months. Activities represented at the site indicate a focus on the procurement of animal resources.

Buchner, C. Andrew (*Panamerican Consultants, Inc.*)

THE RIDLEY GRAVEYARD (40WM208) RELOCATION PROJECT. Multi-disciplinary investigations at Ridley Graveyard (40Wm208), located on the TDOT proposed I-840 loop south of Franklin, are discussed. The Ridley Graveyard is an unmarked Afro-American burial site that was used from ca. 1880 to 1940. A total of 47 burials was excavated, examined in a field lab, and reburied during July 1998. Detailed analysis of the coffin hardware was conducted and will be a focus of this paper. Other significant project results, such as oral, archival, and biocultural data (recovered by Dr. E. Breitburg, TDOA), as well as the experimental use of OCR dating, are also mentioned.

Carlson, Steve (*University of Arkansas*) and **William L. Lawrence** (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

GEOARCHAEOLOGY AND THE NEW MADRID SEISMIC ZONE: RADIOCARBON ASSAYS FROM THE LINDAMOOD SITE, LAKE COUNTY, TENNESSEE. Recent geomorphology investigations in the Reelfoot Basin suggest that surface deformation along the Reelfoot scarp intersects both limbs of a single abandoned meander and its former oxbow lake. Surface collections of temporally diagnostic ceramics from sites both inside and outside the meander have been used to constrain the age of the meanders terminal position. The Lindamood site (40Lk5) is a large Late Woodland/Emergent Mississippian village situated along the western edge of the Reelfoot scarp. Recent small-scale excavations at this site were conducted to obtain suitable samples for radiocarbon dating.

Dicks, A. Merrill, Christopher Hazel, and Shane A. McCorkle (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

1998 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT THE FEWKES SITE (40WM1), WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE. On behalf of the Tennessee Department of Transportation, DuVall & Associates conducted detailed data recovery on portions of the Fewkes site (40Wm1) which is located near Brentwood in Williamson County, Tennessee. Major occupation of the Fewkes site dates to the Mississippian period. Archaeological remains associated with this period include four earthen mounds

surrounding a large plaza, a formal stone-box cemetery, and extensive residential areas. Recent investigations were focused in the residential portion of the site where the well-preserved remains of numerous domestic structures and associated activity areas were carefully documented and excavated. Also discovered were the remains of a defensive palisade and several structures of as yet undetermined function. Extensive deposits of midden and numerous pit-like features were excavated that resulted in the recovery of a massive amount of material data from controlled context. The course of proposed analysis will focus upon the elucidation of material patterning associated with the reconstruction and documentation of change and consistency at the household level.

Fielder, Nick (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

CANNONS, CANNONBALLS, AND THE BOMB SQUAD: A RECENT DISCOVERY IN DOWNTOWN NASHVILLE. Blasters working on a subsurface parking garage for a new building in downtown Nashville uncovered an interesting assemblage of metal artifacts, including 30 black powder-filled cannonballs, an unfinished cannon, pig iron, foundry sand, and other materials. The results of archival research will be presented to determine any associations and possible explanations of why they were there.

Galle, Jillian and Larry McKee (*The Hermitage*)

RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT THE FIRST HERMITAGE. The Hermitage Archaeology Program continued excavation at the First Hermitage in 1998. The site was home to Andrew Jackson and his family from 1804 until 1821, after which it became a quartering area for Hermitage slaves. Work in the past year went on within the interior of one standing cabin at the site, around the exterior of a second cabin, and in outlying areas in a search for remnants of other related structures. The presentation will also discuss a week-long magnetometer survey recently conducted at the Hermitage, the impact of the April tornado on the site, and the results of a short study of a standing log cabin located at Cleveland Hall, a neighboring plantation.

Hazel, Christopher (see Merrill Dicks)

Heffington, J. Douglas (*Cumberland University/Middle Tennessee State University*)

HORN SPRINGS: AN EXERCISE IN "ARCHAEO-GEOGRAPHY". As a joint classroom project at Cumberland University and Middle Tennessee State University, excavations at Horn Springs served as a focal point for exposing students to the mutual relationship geography and archaeology have shared for decades. Limited testing at this historic Wilson County spa site provided hands-on experience for students in the CU "Introduction to Archaeology" class but also provided geography students at MTSU an opportunity to explore the application of archaeologically generated data to the examination of some fundamental themes of their discipline. Testing at Horn Springs was not a "research" project, but simply an applied exercise for students to better understand the interconnectedness of the social sciences. This brief presentation summarizes the fieldwork and intended outcomes of this joint exercise.

Humpf, Dorothy (*Cultural Resource Management Program, Environmental Division*)

THE CULTURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM AT FORT CAMPBELL. Fort Campbell, Kentucky is located in Trigg and Christian Counties, Kentucky, and Montgomery and Stewart Counties, Tennessee, and is the home of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Since 1995, the installation has maintained a cultural resource management program, responsible for surveying approximately 5000 acres per year and ensuring compliance with federal, state, and Army regulations regarding cultural resources and Native American concerns. This presentation briefly describes the program and goals and the surveys that have been conducted at the installation since 1980.

Jones, Scott (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

SALVAGE ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE KELLEY'S BATTERY SITE (40DV392): A MISSISSIPPIAN VILLAGE IN WESTERN DAVIDSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE. The Kelly's Battery site is a large, multi-component site located in western Davidson County on the Cumberland River. Salvage operations revealed Early Archaic through Civil War period archaeological remains. Of particular importance in the excavations is a large Mississippian village. Two formal stone-box cemeteries, numerous structures, and large pit features were investigated. Analysis is currently in progress.

Lawrence, William L. (see Steve Carlson)

Longmire, C. Alan (*University of Tennessee Transportation Center*)

THE WESTVIEW PLANTATION SITE (40WM178), WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

During the late summer of 1997, archaeologists from the Transportation Center at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville conducted Phase III data recovery at Westview Plantation (40WM178). Westview was an antebellum plantation in eastern Williamson County dating from ca. 1805-1889. Preliminary findings were presented at the 1998 Current Research meetings. This year, more in-depth results will be presented.

McCorkle, Shane A. (see Merrill Dicks)

McKee, Larry (see Jillian Galle)

Pritchard, Erin (see Jan Simek)

Simek, Jan F. and Erin Pritchard (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*)

PREHISTORIC CAVE MINERAL MINING IN TENNESSEE. Prehistoric use of sulfate minerals, extracted from speleothems found in deep cave environments, has long been known from Mammoth and Salts caves in Kentucky. There, large-scale mining is associated with widening trade systems and more complex social interactions linked to the Woodland period Hopewell culture. In Tennessee, this kind of prehistoric activity has previously been unproven, with only circumstantial evidence from Big Bone Cave in Van Buren County suggesting such ancient industry here. Recent discoveries in Hubbards Cave (Warren County) show conclusively that gypsum mining did occur in southern Tennessee on an impressive industrial scale. Native miners worked wall crusts for several miles below the ground surface and removed great quantities of sulfates as their product. Radiocarbon dating implicates Early Woodland people in this endeavor, roughly contemporary with mining in the Mammoth/Salts complex.

Smith, Gerald P. (*University of Memphis*)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING AT FIVE SITES IN LEWIS COUNTY. Five sites, four prehistoric occupations and a late nineteenth century cemetery were tested last summer in Lewis County for TDOT in conjunction with the proposed widening of SR 99 east of Hohenwald. The prehistoric sites are primarily Late and Terminal Archaic in age, but one also includes Early and Middle Archaic components as well as a minor Woodland occupation of unknown affiliation. While two of the prehistoric sites turned out to have little surviving sub-plow zone evidence of activities, the other two had cylindrical pits, multiple other pits, and a possible structural postmold pattern at one of them. The other of these sites had a large number of pits and appears to also have some surviving midden under the turnrow at the edge of the site. Initial lithic analysis suggests the existence of two sets of lithic resource area usage patterns, one oriented to the west and northwest within the Western Highland Rim and the other to the south towards the central Tennessee River area. The nineteenth century cemetery was relocated by use of a combination of local oral tradition and late 1940s aerial photography with extensive backhoe trenching. Grave outlines are quite clear below the plow zone and upper soil horizon, but bone preservation appears almost nonexistent due to soil conditions.

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

ARCHAEOLOGY AT BLEDSOE'S STATION, 1998. The 1998 MTSU Archaeological Field School completed a third season of investigations at Bledsoe's Station (40Su32), one of the first fortified Euroamerican and African-American settlements in Middle Tennessee (ca. 1783-1806). This paper will provide an overview of the project, including the identification of five additional structures on the basis of subfloor "root cellars" (bringing the total to twelve) and investigations of the trench for the palisade enclosing the community.

Smith, Samuel D. (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

CONTINUING RESEARCH CONCERNING HISTORIC PERIOD POTTERY MANUFACTURE IN TENNESSEE. In the late 1970s the Tennessee Division of Archaeology conducted a statewide survey of late 18th to early 20th-century pottery manufacturing sites (163 Tennessee operations were identified). This was the first study of southern pottery sites at the level of an entire state. A publication concerning this work was completed in 1979 and served as the catalyst for an evolving information exchange network composed of archaeologists, local historians, genealogists, and ceramic collectors. During the following twenty years, several more previously unknown potteries were discovered, a few kiln sites became the subjects of salvage excavations, and a great deal more was learned about the wares produced by Tennessee potters working in both small and large manufacturing establishments. A much expanded, revised version of the original survey publication is planned, and this paper serves as a kind of prospectus for this intent, providing a summary of the information collected since the 1970s.

Sullivan, Lynne P. (*New York State Museum*) and **Timothy Baumann** (*University of Missouri, St. Louis*)

A PRELIMINARY SERIATION OF DALLAS CERAMICS. Dating from ca. AD 1300 to 1600, the Dallas Phase is the major Late Mississippian complex in the Upper Tennessee Valley. Lack of fine-grained chronological control makes tracking culture change across these centuries difficult. We are completing a formal seriation of Dallas ceramics, modeled after Steponaitis's Moundville study that correlates suites of attributes with early, middle, and late segments of the Dallas Phase. Our work will enable a more detailed understanding of chiefdom development through time. We present our preliminary results to solicit feedback from colleagues interested in this time period and region.

Tuttle, Michael C. (*Panamerican Maritime L.L.C.*)

REMOTE SENSING AND DIVER INVESTIGATION OF THE BATTLE OF JOHNSONVILLE SITE. During 1998, archaeologists with Panamerican Maritime, L.L.C., of Memphis, Tennessee conducted an intensive remote sensing investigation and diver inspection on portions of the historic Tennessee River channel in Kentucky Lake off the submerged town of Johnsonville, Tennessee. The investigation was conducted in order to locate the remnants of U.S. Naval vessels lost by the Union during a raid by the Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest on Johnsonville in 1864. Numerous magnetic anomalies and side scan sonar images were acquired and analyzed for indications of submerged cultural properties in the form of shipwrecks. Twelve sites were chosen for diving operations. Three watercraft were represented among the targets dived. The remains of each seem to represent a separate and distinct temporal period. Although there was no direct evidence of a Civil War era vessel, the three examined still have a historical interest. The collection of vessels encountered seem to represent an evolution in construction techniques and materials that indicate the use of new and different technologies to meet the conditions, both riverine and economic, on the Tennessee River.

Weaver, Guy (*Brockington and Associates, Inc.*)

CURRENT RESEARCH IN TENNESSEE. This paper reviews projects in Tennessee undertaken by Weaver and Associates during 1998, including testing and data recovery at the Hilderbrand House, a nineteenth century plantation complex in Memphis. Other projects include a Phase I survey of a portion of Martin Luther King-Riverside Park in Memphis; and advanced planning survey of a number of bridge locations in Middle and East Tennessee, and salvage excavations of an abandoned cemetery at the Federal Express hub near the Memphis International Airport.