

**CURRENT RESEARCH IN TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGY  
14TH ANNUAL MEETING**

Friday, February 22 and February 23, 2002  
Ed Jones Auditorium, Ellington Agricultural Center

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

5:30 Reception at the home of Susan Hollyday

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

- 8:40 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
Michael C. Moore (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 8:45 **Back to Bledsoe's Fort: Results of the 2001 Middle Tennessee State University Field School.**  
Kevin E. Smith (*Middle Tennessee State University*)
- 9:00 **O'Byam Incised: New Ideas for an Old Type.**  
William L. Lawrence (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- 9:15 **The Press, the Pit, and the Postholes: The Search for Andrew Jackson's Cotton Gin House and Press.**  
Elizabeth Kellar (*The Hermitage*)
- 9:30 **TRC Garrow Projects in Tennessee During 2001.**  
Larry McKee (*TRC Garrow Associates, Inc.*)
- 9:45 **Archaeology of a Civil War Fortification in Clarksville, Tennessee.**  
Ray Ezell (*Michael J. Baker Jr., Inc.*)
- 10:00 **Townsend Archaeology Project: Post Molds, Politics, and Pavement.**  
Nick Fielder (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)
- BREAK            10:15-10:30
- 10:30 **Excavations at Shiloh: The 2001 Season.**  
David G. Anderson and John E. Cornelison, Jr. (*National Park Service*)
- 10:45 **Where Was Widow Bell's Barn? Continuing Research at Shiloh National Military Park.**  
Ellen Shlasko (*University of Memphis*)
- 11:00 **Archaeological Investigations at the Stardust Sites (40Cy63-Cy65): Archaic and Woodland Occupations along the Upper Cumberland River, Clay County, Tennessee.**  
Marc Wampler, Ray Ezell, Larry McKee, and David Leigh (*TRC Garrow Associates, Inc.*)
- 11:15 **The Continuing Saga of Fairvue and the Archaeology of Isaac Franklin, Slave Trader of the Old South.**  
Daniel S. Allen, IV (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

11:30 **Variation in Stone-Box Cemetery Mortuary Patterns at the Kelly's Battery Site (40Dv392).**  
Scott Jones (*University of Kentucky*)

11:45 **Archaeological Survey in the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.**  
Tom Des Jean (*BSFNRRRA, National Park Service*)

LUNCH 12:00-1:00

1:00 **The Art and Archaeology of 12<sup>th</sup> Unnamed Cave, Tennessee.**  
Jan F. Simek, Alan Cressler, Nicholas Herrmann (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville*) and Sarah Sherwood (*Middle Tennessee State University*)

1:15 **The Brentwood Library Site Revisited: Continuing Analysis of a Fortified Mississippian Town in Williamson County, Tennessee.**  
Michael C. Moore and Suzanne Hoyal (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

1:30 **Middle Cumberland Mississippian: What Can We Learn about Big Sites from Small Collections?**  
Daniel Brock and Kevin E. Smith (*Middle Tennessee State University*)

1:45 **Vinca Minor, Medicine Bottles, and French Braids: Cemetery Relocation in Middle Tennessee.**  
Christopher Hazel (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

2:00 **The Tennessee Archaeological Trust: Purpose and Code of Ethics.**  
Maury Miller (*Tennessee Archaeological Trust*)

BREAK 2:15-2:30

2:30 **Recent Excavations at Memphis Cobblestone Landing.**  
Guy Weaver and Warren Oster (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)

2:45 **Archaic and Middle Gulf Formational Components on Swan Creek, Lewis County, Tennessee.**  
Guy Weaver and Bryan Stetzer (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)

3:00 **Excavations at 40Ld52: An Early Mississippian Hamlet in the Tennessee River Valley, Loudon County, Tennessee.**  
Richard Walling and Carl Kuttruff (*Alexander Archaeological Consultants*)

3:15 **Archaeology of the Battlefield at Lookout Mountain, Tennessee.**  
Lawrence Alexander, Elsa Heckman, and James M. Moore (*Alexander Archaeological Consultants*)

3:30 **History of Investigations at Moccasin Bend National Historic Landmark.**  
Lawrence Alexander, Julie Coco, and Russell Campbell (*Alexander Archaeological Consultants*)

3:45 **GPS and Gravestones: Mapping the Nashville City Cemetery.**  
Zada Law and Susan Finger (*Nashville City Cemetery Association*)

## ABSTRACTS OF PRESENTATIONS

**Alexander, Lawrence, Julie Coco, and Russell Campbell** (*Alexander Archaeological Consultants*)

**HISTORY OF INVESTIGATIONS AT MOCCASIN BEND NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK.** Moccasin Bend National Historic Landmark has been recommended for inclusion into the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. The Friends of Moccasin Bend and the National Park Service contracted with Alexander Archaeological Consultants to conduct an archaeological overview and assessment to provide baseline information for preservation, curation, and interpretation of cultural resources within Moccasin Bend. Civil War fortifications, and extensive Late Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian period components have been identified on Moccasin Bend. Early Spanish Contact Period trade artifacts recovered from Hampton Place contain evidence of Mississippian assimilation into the late sixteenth century cultural landscape.

**Alexander, Lawrence, Elsa Heckman, and James Moore** (*Alexander Archaeological Consultants*)

**ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE BATTLEFIELD AT LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE.** Confederate forces occupied Lookout Mountain from September to November, 1863. Although considered impregnable, Federal troops attacked from the west, driving Confederate troops east across Chattanooga Valley. In 1998, Reflection Riding Arboretum, located at the foot of Lookout Mountain, received an American Battlefield Protection Grant and contracted Alexander Archaeological Consultants to conduct a survey of the battlefield, identify portions of the battlefield requiring protection, and recommend strategies for interpretation and preservation. The results of the historical research and electromagnetic survey of 700 acres yield new information on the locations of historical settlements, battlefield positions, pickets, and post-battle Union encampments.

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

**THE CONTINUING SAGA OF FAIRVUE AND THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF ISAAC FRANKLIN, SLAVE TRADER OF THE OLD SOUTH.** During the 1820s, Isaac Franklin and his nephew by marriage, John Armfield, built one of the largest business empires of interstate slave trading in the history of the southeastern United States. This business captured nearly half of the coastal slave trade from Virginia and Maryland, to New Orleans and the Deep South. Their firm dealt especially in the trade of naturalized African-Americans following legislation banning the further import of slaves from outside the U.S. and its territories in 1808. Franklin and Armfield employed agents in most major cities of the slave states, maintained a small fleet of commercial ships, and also had slave pens at Alexandria, Natchez, and New Orleans.

During the last two decades, archaeological investigations have been conducted at the Alexandria slave pens, and also their Louisiana plantations. The most recent investigations have been at Fairvue, the home of Franklin and his young wife Adelia Hayes, in Sumner County. Franklin's death in 1846 left Adelia the richest widow in the region. Adelia Hayes Franklin would later remarry and become the renowned Adelia Acklen of Belmont in Nashville. This presentation is designed to provide summary information concerning ongoing archaeological investigations at Fairvue within the larger national context of the personal empire of Isaac Franklin.

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

**EXCAVATIONS AT SHILOH: THE 2001 SEASON.** Remote sensing, coring, and excavation were conducted in and near Mound A at the Shiloh Indian Mounds National Historic Landmark site during the summer of 2001. A multidisciplinary team of specialists led by archaeologists from SEAC found evidence for structures on and near the mound, as well as for internal construction stages. Science, consideration for Native American concerns, and public participation and outreach were integral aspects of the project. Numerous volunteers were used, and project results, with many illustrations, were posted daily to a public website. The work is revealing a great deal of information this little-known Mississippian ceremonial center.

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

**MIDDLE CUMBERLAND MISSISSIPPIAN: WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT BIG SITES FROM SMALL COLLECTIONS?** Periodic surface collection and limited investigations at several Mississippian sites in the Nashville Basin has yielded small but significant collections of diagnostic ceramics. This presentation presents an overview of collections from the Logan/Westgate (40Dv8) and Widemeier (40Dv9) sites. Examination of these small collections in comparison with other assemblages suggests several tentative but intriguing avenues for research on settlement patterning and chronology.

**Campbell, Russell** (see Lawrence Alexander)

**Coco, Julie** (see Lawrence Alexander)

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

**Cressler, Alan** (see Jan Simek)

**Des Jean, Tom** (*BSFNRRRA, National Park Service*)

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN THE BIG SOUTH FORK NATIONAL RIVER AND RECREATION AREA.**

**Ezell, Ray** (*Michael Baker Jr., Inc.*)

**ARCHAEOLOGY OF A CIVIL WAR FORTIFICATION IN CLARKSVILLE, TENNESSEE.** Fort Defiance is a rather large, well-preserved earthwork overlooking the confluence of the Red and Cumberland Rivers. This fort was initially constructed and occupied by Confederate forces in early 1861 before the fall of Forts Donelson and Henry. Archaeological investigations at Fort Defiance/Bruce (40Mt287) in Clarksville consisted of the excavation of a series of five meter auger tests to determine concentrations of cultural deposits and one by one meter units in apparent surface features within the fortification. Investigations at the site also attempted to isolate discrete Confederate and Federal construction episodes in the main defensive parapet by way of the examination of backhoe trench and hand excavated slot trench profiles.

**Ezell, Ray** (see Marc Wampler)

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

**TOWNSEND ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT: POST MOLDS, POLITICS AND PAVEMENT.** University of Tennessee Transportation Center archaeologists completed fieldwork in December 2001 on a highway project in Townsend, Blount County. The sites excavated are multi-component Late Archaic, Middle Woodland, Mississippian, and early historic Cherokee. In total, over 100 structures and 104 burials were identified. The Middle Woodland component contained burials, cremations, circular and rectangular structures, and three possible burial mound remnants. By agreement with the Cherokee and Chickasaw tribes, the burial treatment for this project was different from previous projects. No burial excavation was allowed. Instead, all human remains were left in place and covered with concrete slabs so that the roadway could be constructed over them.

**Finger, Susan** (see Zada Law)

**Hazel, Christopher** (*DuVall & Associates, Inc.*)

**Vinca Minor, Medicine Bottles, and French Braids: Cemetery Relocation in Middle Tennessee.** A previously undocumented cemetery in Rutherford County was identified and relocated by DuVall & Associates, Inc. during the past spring. The cemetery was almost entirely unmarked yet contained the remains of 83 individuals. A wide variety of coffin furnishings, clothing items, jewelry, and other funeral offerings were recorded from among the graves dating from the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The good preservation of cranial features as well as non-bone remains revealed something quite unique about the cemetery population. This well-organized and tightly packed cemetery contained the remains of both African and European Americans as well as a very high frequency of child graves. The range of datable artifacts indicated that this cemetery was occupied at least from 1876 to 1920. This cemetery may reflect changes in post-Civil War race relations in Middle Tennessee or be associated to a nearby "Pest House".

**Heckman, Elsa** (see Lawrence Alexander)

**Herrmann, Nicholas** (see Jan Simek)

**Hoyal, Suzanne** (see Michael C. Moore)

**Jones, Scott** (*University of Kentucky*)

**VARIATION IN STONE-BOX CEMETERY MORTUARY PATTERNS AT THE KELLY'S BATTERY SITE (40DV392).** Archaeological investigations conducted at the Kelly's Battery site (40Dv392) in 1998 included excavation of two formal stone-box cemeteries and associated habitation/village area. The site has been dated to the Thruston phase of the Middle Cumberland Mississippian culture. A total of 131 stone-box burials representing 161 individuals were removed from the site. Subsequent analysis of the structure and grave good associations of the two stone-box cemeteries revealed differences indicative of significant sociopolitical and/or political-economic variation within the site. Initial comparison of the two stone-box cemeteries suggests a greater degree of social differentiation during the Thruston phase than previously suggested.

**Kellar, Elizabeth** (*The Hermitage*)

**THE PRESS, THE PIT, AND THE POSTHOLES: THE SEARCH FOR ANDREW JACKSON'S COTTON GIN HOUSE AND PRESS.** During the 2001 field season, Hermitage archaeologists attempted to locate the original cotton gin house and press. Through researching Jackson family letters, documentary and cartographic resources, an approximate location for the cotton structures was established. Fieldwork conducted in a 64-acre field revealed the remains of a cotton pit press dug in ground to a depth of nearly nine feet, and nearby postholes associated with the original cotton gin house. The identification and location of these structures have allowed for a better understanding of the industrial activities that took place on the plantation.

**Kuttruff, Carl** (see Richard Walling)

**Law, Zada and Susan Finger** (*Nashville City Cemetery Association*)

**GPS AND GRAVESTONES: MAPPING THE NASHVILLE CITY CEMETERY.** Recent work at Nashville's oldest public cemetery is creating an interactive map of the 19-acre cemetery that includes a searchable relational database of architectural and style data for grave markers as well as genealogical information. GPS is used to map marker locations with sub-meter accuracy. Marker data and interment records are then attached to create a geo-referenced database. Logistics of using GPS for cemetery mapping as well as how a cemetery GIS can be a tool for understanding the historic past will be discussed.

**Lawrence, William L.** (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

**O'BYAM INCISED: NEW IDEAS FOR AN OLD TYPE.** This paper will examine the temporal and geographic distribution of Mississippian plate forms with sunburst motifs around the rim executed by fine line incising or engraving. O'Byam Incised (as these vessels are typed in the Mississippi/Ohio confluence region) will be compared to other regional plate forms, including Wells Incised in the American Bottom and Angel Negative Painted in the lower Ohio Valley. An examination of design themes, archaeological context, and a bit of ethnohistory, will suggest a possible function for these plates in the cosmological/ceremonial mindscape of the prehistoric Southeast.

**Leigh, David** (see Marc Wampler)

**McKee, Larry** (*TRC Garrow Associates, Inc.*)

**PROJECTS IN TENNESSEE DURING 2001.** This presentation will review recent Tennessee projects carried out by TRC Garrow beyond the two projects reported in individual presentations. The general slate of TRC projects in the past year were connected with transportation, power production infrastructure, and land development, but also included interesting work associated with cemetery preservation efforts. Specific projects reviewed here will include road and transmission line corridors in Williamson County, a resort development along the Tennessee River in Kentucky, reservoir surveys at Tims Ford and Douglas lakes, and a study of Nashville's first public burial ground, the City Cemetery.

**McKee, Larry** (see Marc Wampler)

**Miller, Maury** (*Tennessee Archaeological Trust*)

**THE TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST: PURPOSE AND CODE OF ETHICS.**

**Moore, James M.** (see Lawrence Alexander)

**Moore, Michael C. and Suzanne Hoyal** (*Tennessee Division of Archaeology*)

**THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY SITE REVISITED: CONTINUING ANALYSIS OF A FORTIFIED MISSISSIPPIAN TOWN IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** This site was discovered in July 1997 during initial grading work for a new Brentwood city library. Human burials, structures, refuse-filled pits, and two separate palisade lines were among the cultural features exposed before construction activity was suspended. Under a court order, the City of Brentwood hired a private consultant to remove 77 of the 90 uncovered human burials. The Division of Archaeology examined the non-mortuary remains (including 65 residential structures and over 100 pit features) exposed during the removal. Analysis of the excavation data and recovered artifacts is ongoing, but the preliminary results suggest this site dates to the Thruston phase (AD 1250-1450).

**Oster, Warren** (see Guy Weaver)

**Sherwood, Sarah** (see Jan Simek)

**Shlasko, Ellen** (*University of Memphis*)

**WHERE WAS WIDOW BELL'S BARN? CONTINUING RESEARCH AT SHILOH NATIONAL MILITARY PARK.** This paper presents the results of archaeological testing at Shiloh National Military Park, conducted by the University of Memphis. The goal of the survey was to locate historic buildings in a field adjacent to the Peach Orchard, the scene of heavy fighting during the battle of Shiloh. Historic maps place two structures in this area, but the exact location, age, form and function of the buildings are unknown. In order to recover this information, the researchers used both metal detector survey and shovel testing, with varying results.

**Simek, Jan F., Alan Cressler, Nicholas Herrmann** (*University of Tennessee*) and **Sarah Sherwood** (*Middle Tennessee State University*)

**THE ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF 12<sup>TH</sup> UNNAMED CAVE, TENNESSEE.** 12<sup>th</sup> Unnamed Cave, a limestone karst feature in the eastern Highland Rim of Middle Tennessee, contains one of the most extensive and elaborate groupings of prehistoric dark zone petroglyphs in North America. This paper will discuss the archaeological context of the site, which suggests a Late Woodland/Early Mississippian production. A series of new radiocarbon age determinations will be presented in its stratigraphic context. The art itself will be reviewed, and aspects of production variation, spatial distribution, content, and composition will be presented.

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

**BACK TO BLEDSOE'S FORT: RESULTS OF THE 2001 MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY FIELD SCHOOL.** The 2001 MTSU Archaeological Field School completed a fourth 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 nearly twenty structures and the entire palisade enclosing the community.

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

**Stetzer, Bryan A.** (see Guy Weaver)

**Walling, Richard and Carl Kuttruff** (*Alexander Archaeological Consultants*)

**EXCAVATIONS AT 40LD52, AN EARLY MISSISSIPPIAN HAMLET IN THE TENNESSEE RIVER VALLEY, LOUDON COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** Portions of an Early Mississippian hamlet were excavated. Previous occupation of the site was minimal, and once abandoned after a short occupation, appears to have never been reoccupied. Two discrete house structures were defined. A circular granary was associated with one structure along with eight pit features of varying types, and eleven similar features were associated with the second, providing the physical makeup of two household clusters. The materials and information recovered allows for a determination of the artifact assemblages perhaps associated with two individual households, and excellent faunal preservation and recovery of botanical remains provide information on family level subsistence.

**Wampler, Marc, Ray Ezell, Larry McKee, and David Leigh** (*TRC Garrow Associates, Inc.*)

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT THE STARDUST SITES (40CY63, 40CY64, AND 40CY65), ARCHAIC AND WOODLAND OCCUPATIONS ALONG THE UPPER CUMBERLAND RIVER, CLAY COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** This paper details the results of limited archaeological and geomorphological investigations conducted at three prehistoric sites (40Cy63, 40Cy64, and 40Cy65) located along the Upper Cumberland River in the northeastern portion of the Eastern Highland Rim in Clay County, Tennessee. Analysis of archaeological data obtained during the study provides information regarding Archaic and Woodland adaptations including technological, chronological, and resource exploitation concerns in a region that has previously received little archaeological attention. Geomorphological analysis provides clues to site formation processes and the presence of buried archaeological materials.

**Weaver, Guy G. and Warren Oster** (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)

**RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT THE MEMPHIS COBBLESTONE LANDING.** In 2001, Weaver & Associates conducted extended Phase II testing at the Memphis Wharf, commonly known as the Cobblestone Landing. Excavations focused on antebellum deposits present in the northern portion of the landing which predate the construction of the stone pavement. This paper examines the depositional history of the area, feature contexts, and the material record.

**Weaver, Guy G. and Bryan A. Stetzer** (*Weaver & Associates, LLC*)

**ARCHAIC AND MIDDLE GULF FORMATIONAL COMPONENTS ON SWAN CREEK, LEWIS COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** This paper presents the results of data recovery at the Hughes site (40LS20) and the Johnston I site (40LS22), located along Swan Creek, a tributary of the Duck River, in the western Highland Rim. Components dating from the Paleoindian through the Middle Woodland periods were identified, with major occupations dated to the Benton, Terminal Archaic and the Middle Gulf Formational periods. The material assemblages and feature distributions are discussed, as well as the results of the radiocarbon assays.