CURRENT RESEARCH IN
TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGY

20TH ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, January 25 and Saturday, January 26, 2008

Ed Jones Auditorium, Ellington Agricultural Center
Nashville, Tennessee

Organizers:
Michael C. Moore, State Archaeologist and Director,
Tennessee Division of Archaeology
Kevin E. Smith, Professor of Anthropology,
Department of Sociology and Anthropology,
Middle Tennessee State University

Sponsored by the Tennessee Division of Archaeology
and Middle Tennessee State University

A copy of the 2008 CRITA program is posted on the
Tennessee Archaeology Network website:
http://www.mtsu.edu/~kesmith/TNARCH/index.html
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 25**

2:00 Governor's Archaeological Advisory Council meeting.

3:30 Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology business meeting.

5:00 Reception at home of Susan Hollyday (following TCPA meeting).

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 26**

8:25 Welcome and Opening Remarks

8:30 Placing the Castalian Springs Chiefdom in Time and Space: Sociopolitical Centers in the Eastern Nashville Basin of Tennessee.
Kevin E. Smith (Middle Tennessee State University) and Emily L. Beahm (University of Georgia)

8:45 Spatial and Chronological Distribution of Mississippian Shell Gorgets in Middle Tennessee.
Kevin E. Smith (Middle Tennessee State University) and Emily L. Beahm (University of Georgia)

9:00 Animal Exploitation at the Castalian Springs Site (40SU14): An Intrasite Comparison.
Tanya M. Peres and Teresa L. Ingalls (Middle Tennessee State University)

Samuel D. Smith (Tennessee Division of Archaeology)

9:30 The WKM Site: A Stratified Early Woodland Site on the Holston River, Sullivan County, Tennessee.
Jacqueline P. Thacker, Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University), and S. D. Dean (Kingsport, Tennessee)

9:45 Results of the 2006 and 2007 Field Seasons at the Link Farm Site (40HS6), Humphreys County, Tennessee.
William L. Lawrence (Tennessee State Parks), David H. Dye (University of Memphis), and Chester P. Walker (Archaeo-Geophysical Associates)

10:00 Archaeology at Ames Plantation.
Nicole Palmer (University of Memphis), Anna Inman (Weaver & Associates, LLC), Andrew Mickelson (University of Memphis), Ryan Byrne, Katherine Mickelson, Milton Moreland (Rhodes College), Guy Weaver (Weaver & Associates, LLC), and Jamie Evans (Ames Plantation)

10:15–10:30 BREAK

10:30 New Rock and Cave Art Sites in Tennessee.
Jan F. Simek, Sarah Ann Blankenship, Nicholas Herrmann (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), Sarah C. Sherwood (University of the South) and Alan Cressler (USGS-Atlanta)

10:45 The Nelson Site: A Middle to Late Woodland Habitation Locale on the Nolichucky River, Washington County, Tennessee.
Michelle L. Hammett, Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University), Douglas Idleman, and Renee B. Walker (State University of New York-Oneonta)

11:00 Continuing Research on the Averbuch Ceramic Assemblage.
Michael C. Moore (Tennessee Division of Archaeology) and Kevin E. Smith (Middle Tennessee State University)
11:15 **The Early Woodland Archaeology of the ASG Site, Hawkins County, Tennessee.**
Lucinda M. Langston (East Tennessee State University), Lacey S. Fleming (Middle Tennessee State University), and Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University)

11:30 **Archaeological Predictive Modeling of the French Broad Conservation Corridor.**
Lynne P. Sullivan (Frank H. McClung Museum), Michaelyn Harle, Nicholas Herrmann (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), and Sarah C. Sherwood (University of the South)

11:45 **Geophysical Investigations at Mound Bottom (40CH8), Cheatham County, Tennessee.**
Chester P. Walker (Archaeo-Geophysical Associates), David H. Dye (University of Memphis), and William L. Lawrence (University of the South)

**LUNCH 12:00–1:00**

1:00 **Reintroducing Fernvale, A Multicomponent Prehistoric Site Along the South Harpeth River in Williamson County.**
Aaron Deter-Wolf (Tennessee Division of Archaeology) and Jesse W. Tune (Middle Tennessee State University)

1:15 **A Zooarchaeological Reanalysis of the Fernvale Site (40wm51) Faunal Assemblage.**
Tanya M. Peres, Teresa L. Ingalls, and Lacey S. Fleming (Middle Tennessee State University)

1:30 **Archaeological Survey of Pogue Creek Gorge State Natural Area.**
Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University)

1:45 **Proposed SR 52 Corridor Studies, Archaeological Survey and Evaluation, Overton County, Tennessee, Overview.**
Lee Tippet (The Louis Berger Group, Inc.)

2:00 **Proposed SR 52 Corridor Studies, Archaeological Survey and Evaluation, Overton County, Tennessee, Lithic Analysis.**
Danny Gregory (The Louis Berger Group, Inc.)

**BREAK 2:15–2:30**

2:30 **Late Mississippian Archaeology at the David Davis Site, 40HA301.**
Lawrence Alexander and Mary Trudeau (Alexander Archaeological Consultants, Inc.)

2:45 **Recent Dendroarchaeological Investigations at Late Period Sites in Eastern Tennessee.**
Bobby R. Braly, Shannon D. Koerner, Henri D. Grissino-Mayer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), and Edward R. Cook (Columbia University)

3:00 **The Upper Cumberland Plateau Archaeological Thermoluminescence Dating Project.**
Sierra M. Bow and Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University)

3:15 **A Future for the Past at the Hermitage.**
Kevin M. Bartoy and Marcy K. Welch (The Hermitage)

3:30 **Preliminary Report of Testing at Three Prehistoric Sites (40PY288, 40PY289, and 40PY290), State Route 13 Bridge over the Buffalo River, Perry County, Tennessee.**
Guy Weaver, Anna Inman, and Warren Oster (Weaver & Associates, LLC), and Jason D. Windingstad (Archaeological Research Laboratory, UT-K)
ABSTRACTS OF PRESENTATIONS

Alexander, Lawrence and Mary Trudeau (Alexander Archaeological Consultants, Inc.)

LATE MISSISSIPPIAN ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE DAVID DAVIS SITE, 40HA301. A cemetery relocation project on South Chickamauga Creek in Chattanooga resulted in the recovery and documentation of a Late Mississippian settlement of at least seven structures organized around two open courtyards. Multiple burials within single features and sequential multiple interments in mortuary features occurred in 35 percent of the population. The site 40HA301 assemblage is closely associated with the Barnett Phase in northwestern Georgia and the Mouse Creeks Phase in Southeastern Tennessee.

Bartoy, Kevin M. and Marcy K. Welch (The Hermitage)

A FUTURE FOR THE PAST AT THE HERMITAGE. Over the past 30 years, more than 800,000 artifacts have been excavated at The Hermitage. These artifacts represent one of the largest and most significant collections of African American archaeology in the United States. These finds have offered new insights concerning life in and out of slavery that have helped to define our understanding of the development of African American culture. The Department of Archaeology at The Hermitage is now forging a new future focused on three primary goals: 1) The analysis, cataloguing, and uploading of all archaeological data to the free, online Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery (DAACS); 2) The creation of a GIS program to integrate all existing spatial data for research, management, and interpretive purposes; and, 3) The growth of Project Archaeology and other archaeology education programs. This presentation will highlight these current initiatives as we develop a future for the past at The Hermitage.

Beahm, Emily L. (see Smith, Kevin E.)

Blankenship, Sarah Ann (see Simek, Jan F.)

Bow, Sierra M., and Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University)

THE UPPER CUMBERLAND PLATEAU ARCHAEOLOGICAL THERMOLUMINESCENCE DATING PROJECT. This presentation will discuss a new and comprehensive methodology aimed at defining the prehistoric culture history of the Upper Cumberland Plateau. Our focus is on the Woodland ceramic sequence for the region. We highlight recent excavation and survey projects used to evaluate our approach. We suggest that this approach is applicable for both scholars and cultural resource managers and is especially useful for obtaining meaningful historical and chronological information from survey level projects.

Braly, Bobby R., Shannon D. Koerner, Henri D. Grissino-Mayer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), and Edward R. Cook (Columbia University)

RECENT DENDROARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT LATE PERIOD SITES IN EASTERN TENNESSEE. Dendrochronology, the science that utilizes tree-ring dating, is well suited to archaeological investigations. While this approach is often employed in the Southwest, the Southeast has seen relatively less work until recently. The primary focus in the Southeast has been on documenting and dating historic structures and artifacts. Poor wood preservation and sample size have previously inhibited prehistoric applications. Extant collections made by Florence Hawley and other WPA/TVA archaeologists in Tennessee during the 1930s and 1940s have been retrieved from collections at the Universities of Arizona and Tennessee. Samples from prehistoric sites in the Norris and Chickamauga Reservoirs were analyzed by the authors to construct a floating chronology, and acquire dates for samples from prehistoric sites. A master chronology dating back to the fourteenth century developed at Columbia University has enabled us to begin assigning calendar dates to many samples. This paper discusses preliminary results and provides an overview of the historical context of these samples.

Byrne, Ryan, (see Palmer, Nicole)

Cook, Edward R. (see Braly, Bobby R.)

Cressler, Alan (see Simek, Jan F.)
Deter-Wolf, Aaron (Tennessee Division of Archaeology) and Jesse Tune (Middle Tennessee State University)

REINTRODUCING FERNVALE, A MULTICOMPONENT PREHISTORIC SITE ALONG THE SOUTH HARPETH RIVER IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY. In 1985, staff from the Tennessee Division of Archaeology conducted data recovery excavations at the Fernvale site, situated along the South Harpeth River west of Nashville. The project resulted in the identification and examination of numerous prehistoric features including Late Archaic human and dog burials and several Mississippian structure footprints. Although a partial draft manuscript was prepared, artifact analysis was not completed and a final report on the site was never published. This presentation will reintroduce the Fernvale site, and describe new analysis being conducted by the Tennessee Division of Archaeology and Middle Tennessee State University.

Dye, David H. (see Lawrence, William L.)

Dye, David H. (see Walker, Chester P.)

Evans, Jamie (see Palmer, Nicole)

Fleming, Lacey S. (see Langston, Lucinda M.)

Fleming, Lacey S. (see Peres, Tanya M.)

Franklin, Jay D (East Tennessee State University)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF POGUE CREEK GORGE STATE NATURAL AREA. This presentation will highlight the first two winter field seasons of the archaeological reconnaissance survey of Pogue Creek Gorge State Natural Area, in Fentress County, Tennessee. More than 60 prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified and recorded. Most are rock shelter sites, and several are pristine. This presentation discusses the long-term research goals for the project including an effective chronological methodology for scholars and cultural resource managers.

Franklin, Jay D. (see Bow, Sierra M.)

Franklin, Jay D. (see Hammett, Michelle L.)

Franklin, Jay D. (see Langston, Lucinda M.)

Franklin, Jay D. (see Thacker, Jacqueline P.)

Gregory, Danny (The Louis Berger Group, Inc.)

PROPOSED SR 52 CORRIDOR STUDIES, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND EVALUATION, OVERTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, LITHIC ANALYSIS. The Louis Berger Group, Inc. completed an archaeological survey of two sites and the archaeological evaluation of eight sites in September 2007 for the Tennessee Department of Transportation. In addition to the general artifact analysis, an in-depth lithic analysis was performed on a sample of the assemblages of each site. The goal of the analysis was to determine if there were differences among the rock shelter sites and the open sites in terms of site function and lithic reduction activities. A study of the platform remnant morphology was used to identify variation in the reduction stage among largerdebitage samples and microdebitage samples. The similarity between the rock shelters and open sites in nearly all aspects of the analysis suggests that there are minimal, if any, differences in the lithic technology employed each site type through time (Early Archaic to Late Woodland). Though all sites may vary in functional organization or resource procurement, the lithic technology represented at each site is remarkably similar. This paper will focus on the behavioral and methodological implications of the study for future lithic research in the region.

Grissino-Mayer, Henri D. (see Braly, Bobby R.)

Harle, Michaelyn (see Sullivan, Lynne P.)
Hammett, Michelle L., Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University), Douglas Idleman, and Renee B. Walker (State University of New York - Oneonta)

THE NELSON SITE: A MIDDLE TO LATE WOODLAND HABITATION LOCALE ON THE NOLICHUCKY RIVER, WASHINGTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE. In this paper, we discuss the Middle and late Middle Woodland occupation of the Nelson Site on the Nolichucky River. Our focus is largely aimed at Middle Woodland ceramic typology and chronology in upper East Tennessee. We also discuss subsistence at the site, as evidenced by recovered faunal elements.

Herrmann, Nicholas (see Simek, Jan F.)

Herrmann, Nicholas (see Sullivan, Lynne P.)

Idleman, Douglas (see Hammett, Michelle L.)

Ingalls, Teresa L. (see Peres, Tanya M.)

Inman, Anna (see Palmer, Nicole)

Inman, Anna (see Weaver, Guy)

Koerner, Shannon D. (see Braly, Bobby R.,)

Langston, Lucinda M. (East Tennessee State University), Lacey S. Fleming (Middle Tennessee State University), and Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University)

THE EARLY WOODLAND ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ASG SITE, HAWKINS COUNTY, TENNESSEE. The ASG Site is a large open habitation site on the Holston River that was occupied at least seasonally from the Early Woodland through the Mississippian periods. This presentation will discuss the Early Woodland component at the site, highlighting material culture, chronology, technology, and subsistence.

Lawrence, William L. (Tennessee State Parks), David H. Dye (University of Memphis), and Chester P. Walker (Archaeo-Geophysical Associates)

RESULTS OF THE 2006 AND 2007 FIELD SEASONS AT THE LINK FARM SITE (40HS6), HUMPHREYS COUNTY, TENNESSEE. The Link Farm site, a large fourteenth century Mississippian mound complex, is located at the confluence of the Buffalo and Duck Rivers in Humphreys County, Tennessee. We report on research conducted over the past two years at the site. The field work resulted in a detailed topographic map of the mound complex and associated habitation area, a magnetometer survey of a large portion of the site, the discovery of an extensive and undisturbed stone box grave cemetery, and the relocation of a number of smaller mounds recorded by Charles H. Nash in 1936. In addition, excavations were conducted on two of the large platform mounds and ground penetrating radar was tested on a stone box grave cemetery. Three radiocarbon dates have been obtained from the two mounds.

Lawrence, William L. (see Walker, Chester P.)

Mickelson, Andrew (see Palmer, Nicole)

Mickelson, Katherine (see Palmer, Nicole)

Moore, Michael C. (Tennessee Division of Archaeology) and Kevin E. Smith (Middle Tennessee State University)

CONTINUING RESEARCH ON THE AVERBUCH CERAMIC ASSEMBLAGE. Last year's Current Research presentation focused on burial vessels recovered during the 1975-1978 Averbuch site excavations. This year's presentation will include a discussion of the ceramic wares and types identified from an analysis of over 32,000 vessel sections and sherds obtained from other contexts such as structures and pit features. Some interesting results include the presence of several non-local pottery types not previously observed in the mortuary sample, including specimens of Tolu Fabric Impressed, O'Byam Incised, and Moundville Incised/Engraved.
ARCHAEOLOGY AT AMES PLANTATION. Encompassing more than 18,650 acres in Fayette and Hardeman counties, Ames Plantation provides a unique setting for multidisciplinary research in both the social and natural sciences. In a joint effort by the Rhodes College Archaeology Program and the University of Memphis Department of Earth Sciences, archaeological and archival research was conducted this spring on two sites at Ames Plantation. Rhodes College faculty, staff, and field school students concentrated their efforts at the early nineteenth to early twentieth century Holcombe site (40FY446), addressing issues in plantation archaeology. Faculty and staff from the University of Memphis, along with Rhodes College field school students, sought to determine the temporal affiliation of the Ames Plantation Mound Complex (40FY7) and to generate a detailed map of the mounds and adjacent areas. This presentation provides the results of the 2007 investigations and discusses current and future research designs at Ames.

ANIMAL EXPLOITATION AT THE CASTALIAN SPRINGS SITE (40SU14): AN INTRASITE COMPARISON. Excavations at the Castalian Springs Site (40SU14) in Sumner County, Tennessee, have yielded features consistent with three types of activity areas. A peripheral manufacturing area, excavated in 2005, is located outside of the palisade wall, but in close proximity to the naturally occurring mineral springs. A circular semi-subterranean structure, partially excavated in 2006, is located near the mounds, and has been preliminarily interpreted as a sweatlodge. Most recently, a rectangular wall trench structure associated with an elite lineage group was identified to the east of the sweatlodge (excavated in 2006-2007). All three areas yielded adequate faunal assemblages, which serve as the focus of this analysis. This presentation will compare the faunal assemblages to one another and to similar Mississippian structures in the Southeast.

A ZOOARCHAEOLOGICAL REANALYSIS OF THE FERNVALE SITE (40WM51) FAUNAL ASSEMBLAGE. The Fernvale Site (40WM51) is a multi-component site spanning the Late Archaic through Mississippian periods. Archaeologists with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology (TDOA) conducted excavations in 1985, with artifact analysis following the fieldwork. Recently the TDOA has undertaken a re-analysis of the entire artifact assemblage as part of the production of a final monograph. Faculty and students at Middle Tennessee State University have been involved in this effort. The results of the faunal analysis from excavations of posthole testing, units, and features are presented here. Additionally, re-analysis of two dog burials excavated as part of the original project is included.

NEW ROCK AND CAVE ART SITES IN TENNESSEE. Over the past year, a number of previously unknown prehistoric open air rock art and dark zone cave art sites were discovered by archaeologists from and associated with the University of Tennessee. Included among these are the oldest directly dated pictograph from the eastern woodlands, found in a cave near Knoxville, several cave burial sites that have associated art, and a number of pictographs found high on the bluffs of the Cumberland Plateau. Variability in this prehistoric art is discussed and several patterns in their nature and distribution are documented.

PLACING THE CASTALIAN SPRINGS CHIEFDOM IN TIME AND SPACE: SOCIOCULTURAL CENTERS IN THE EASTERN NASHVILLE BASIN OF TENNESSEE. At the conclusion of the third field season in summer 2007, the Castalian Springs Archaeological Project...
has generated new insights into the internal structure of the community and a more refined sense of the overall chronological span of the site (including evidence of a Late Woodland component). In this paper, we present a summary of recent investigations at the site, preliminary interpretations of the spatial and chronological relationship with the nearby Dixon Springs, Rutherford-Kizer, and Sellars site, and new information on the 1916-1917 excavations resulting from a recent trip to the National Anthropological Archives.

**Smith, Kevin E. (Middle Tennessee State University) and Emily L. Beahm (University of Georgia)**

**SPATIAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL DISTRIBUTION OF MISSISSIPPIAN SHELL GORGETS IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE.** Two centuries of excavations have yielded dozens of Mississippian shell gorgets from sites throughout Middle Tennessee. Although the regional distribution of engraved shell gorgets has been treated in a number of publications, re-examination of curated notes, manuscripts, and the objects themselves permits a more refined presentation of their intra- and inter-site distribution in the Nashville Basin. Structural analysis of the elements and motifs of the more frequent Middle Tennessee gorget styles (Cox and Nashville) is also considered. Finally, seriation of gravelot assemblages, stratigraphic information from the Castalian Springs mound excavations, and radiocarbon dates permit a more refined examination of the chronological placement of these objects.

**Smith, Kevin E. (see Moore, Michael C.)**

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

**NITON ANALYSIS: STONEWARE AGE MAN MEETS THE RAY GUN.** The author’s early childhood experiences following World War II included helping his rural Middle Tennessee grandmother churn butter in a stoneware churn, like those used in Tennessee since the early 1800s. This same era was one of cultural discontinuity, and 1940s boys fantasized about owning ray guns, like those in the imaginary world of Buck Rogers. In early 2007, as a long-time student of Tennessee-made pottery, I learned that actual “ray guns” are now available and just beginning to be used for a variety of archaeological applications. This presentation will discuss some of these applications, focusing on the experimental use of a NITON hand-held XRF (x-ray fluorescence) analyzer for determining the composition of glazed earthenware sherds. These sherds represent wares produced at some of Tennessee’s earliest historic-period potteries. The NITON analyzer is well suited for studying the actual composition of lead-based glazes, which exhibit color variations related to the presence of other specific elements.

**Sullivan, Lynne P. (Frank H. McClung Museum), Michaelyn Harle, Nicholas Herrmann (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), and Sarah C. Sherwood (University of the South)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PREDICTIVE MODELING OF THE FRENCH BROAD CONSERVATION CORRIDOR.** The French Broad Valley in eastern Knox County retains some of the only untouched archaeological sites in the county because of the lack of urban development in this area. This situation is beginning to change, and as development in the area progresses, these archaeological sites become increasingly endangered. In 2006 the authors received funding from the Tennessee Historical Commission to develop a GIS predictive model to identify potential archaeologically sensitive areas along the French Broad River. The study area, known as the French Broad River Conservation Corridor, encompasses nearly 20 river miles from the French Broad’s junction with the Tennessee River upriver to the Knox County line. The goal of the predictive model is to provide the Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission with preliminary data that they can use to focus their conservation efforts. In this paper we discuss the results of the predictive model, along with information on its implementation and future research goals.

**Thacker, Jacqueline P. (East Tennessee State University), Jay D. Franklin (East Tennessee State University), and S. D. Dean (Kingsport, TN)**

**THE WKM SITE: A STRATIFIED EARLY WOODLAND SITE ON THE HOLSTON RIVER, SULLIVAN COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** The WKM Site was a stratified Early Woodland Site on the Holston River sluice in Kingsport, Tennessee. Salvage excavations were conducted at the site in preparation for building and green space construction. This presentation will discuss the excavations, ceramic typology, and culture chronology at the site.
Tippet, Lee *(The Louis Berger Group, Inc.)*

**PROPOSED SR 52 CORRIDOR STUDIES, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND EVALUATION, OVERTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, OVERVIEW.** The Louis Berger Group completed an archaeological survey of two sites and the archaeological evaluation of eight sites in September 2007, for the Tennessee Department of Transportation. Situated near the boundary between the Eastern Highland Rim and the Cumberland Plateau, the list of archaeological sites investigated includes three multi-component open air sites, five rock shelters, and two dark zone caves. The survey of the caves was completed by the University of Tennessee Archaeological Research Laboratory. This paper will describe a few of the most salient characteristics of each site based on the fieldwork, subsequent data analysis, and interpretation.

Trudeau, Mary *(see Alexander, Lawrence)*

Tune, Jesse W. *(see Deter-Wolf, Aaron)*


**GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT MOUND BOTTOM (40CH8), CHEATHAM COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** During November 2007 approximately 60,000 square meters were surveyed at the Mound Bottom site using a fluxgate gradiometer. Results from the magnetometer data are complex, but several patterns of anomalies are evident. We interpret these geophysical patterns as prehistoric structures, mound bases, and previous excavation units. Data is being collected in order to assess the potential of using magnetometers to survey the entire prehistoric landscape present within the Mound Bottom Archaeological Complex.

Walker, Chester P. *(see Lawrence, William L.)*

Walker, Renee B. *(see Hammet, Michelle L.)*

Weaver, Guy, Anna Inman, and Warren Oster *(Weaver & Associates, LLC)*, and Jason D. Windingstad *(Archaeological Research Laboratory, UT-K)*

**PRELIMINARY REPORT OF TESTING AT THREE PREHISTORIC SITES (40PY288, 40PY289, AND 40PY290), STATE ROUTE 13 BRIDGE OVER THE BUFFALO RIVER, PERRY COUNTY, TENNESSEE.** From October 1 to November 20, 2007, Weaver & Associates, LLC, conducted Phase II archaeological investigations at three prehistoric sites located on the Buffalo River in Perry County, Tennessee. Investigations were conducted for the Tennessee Department of Transportation in conjunction with the proposed widening of the Flatwoods Bridge on State Route 13. At the Elvis Riley Site, 40PY288, middens and features associated with a small settlement dating to the Middle and Late Woodland and Mississippian periods were defined, as well as a deeply buried Early Archaic period Kirk component. The Skelton Site, 40PY289, is a large Terminal Archaic/Early Woodland period occupation, although subsurface features and artifacts indicating Late Woodland and Mississippian period components were found as well. The Thomason site, 40PY290, is associated primarily with a late Middle Archaic period Benton occupation, but also has components dating from the Terminal Archaic, Late Woodland and Mississippian periods. This paper examines the environmental and cultural contexts of the Buffalo River sites and the preliminary results of the field investigations and on-going laboratory analysis.

Weaver, Guy *(see Palmer, Nicole)*

Welch, Marcy K. *(see Bartoy, Kevin M.)*

Windingstad, Jason D. *(see Weaver, Guy)*